**EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 15th May 2023.

**Councillors present:** D Jones

G Offler

P Leveson

Co-opted on to Council M Lumley-Holmes

**Parish Clerk:**  B O’Connor

**Members of public present:** 1

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Bell, J McTurk

1. **Co-option Of Martin Lumley-Holmes**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that Martin Lumley-Holmes should be co-opted on to Earswick Parish Council.

Councillor Lumley-Holmes duly completed and signed the Legal Declaration of qualification to hold public office, the declaration of acceptance of office and the register of interests.

1. **Declarations of Interest and Any Other Declarations**

None.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes for the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 13th March 2023, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

1. **Ward Councillors’ Reports**

None

1. **Clerk’s Finance Report & Authorisation Of Expenditure**

The following pre-authorised payments (incl VAT where appropriate) have been made from the Barclays bank account since the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 13th March 2023:-

* Clerk’s salary for March & April 2023 (£636.50 x 2)
* Replacement of lights in Village Hall - £374.40
* Membership of the River Foss Society - £28
* E-on Next payments for the Village Hall - £51.09 & £92.85;
* Business Stream payments for Village Hall water - £15.21 & £7.30
* Installation of ‘wet-pour’ under swing in playground - £7,164
* British Gas payments for the Village Hall - £106.36 & £17.35
* For Village Hall cleaning: £220 (March) & £200 (April)
* Maintenance of Willow Trees - £1,960
* Barclay’s Bank charges £8.50 x 2
* £325 for YLCA membership;
* Public Open Space maintenance - £1,716,

The following amounts have been received by the PC into the Barclays account since reported at the meeting on 13th March 2023:

* £14,244.50 precept from City of York Council;
* £4,338 grant from City of York Council for playground equipment. This figure included £700 paid to Earswick Parish Council in error.
* £1,475.50 in Village Hall Bookings
* £500 in tennis membership fees;
* Interest on the Redwood Bank account £248.71 & £240.68
* VAT refund £4,191.34

1. **Ratification of Payments**

The PC approved the following payments:

1. Village Hall roof repair - £50 (authorised using clerk’s emergency powers)
2. Reimburse Cllr Leveson for Village Hall supplies - £32.48
3. Reimburse clerk for stationery expenses - £15.23
4. Printing newsletter - £232.63
5. Paying £700 to Strensall PC that we were sent in error by CYC (see above).
6. **Annual Governance Statement 2022/23**

The PC approved the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 which was signed by the Chairman and Responsible Finance Officer.

1. **Accounting Statements 2022/23**

The PC approved the accounting statements for 2022/23 and these were signed by the Chairman and Responsible Finance Officer.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr J McTurk to formally thank him for his work as auditor. **Action BOC**

1. **Planning Applications**

The Clerk used delegated powers to record no objections from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

* 23/00674/FUL 23 Earswick Chase Single storey rear extension, single storey side infill extension, 3no. dormers to front and 3no. dormers to 2rear – no objection;

The Clerk used delegated powers to record objections from the Parish Council on the following planning application:

* None

The following planning application was approved by City of York Council:

* 23/00487/CLU - the 'Certificate of Lawfulness for use of land as curtilage ancillary to main dwelling’ was granted

1. **Monthly Equipment Check**

A check was carried out by Cllr Offler and a report circulated prior to the meeting.

**Cllr Leveson** agreed to arrange for the goal nets to be put back up.

The clerk was asked to write to HuntCatchKill to find out whether they have any comments on the work being done on or near the football pitch, especially in light of the increase in the number of molehills. **Action BOC**

1. **To discuss request for River Foss Society to erect a gazebo on POS as part of a recruitment drive**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that the River Foss Society would be allowed to erect a gazebo and publicity boards on parish land (by the footbridge adjacent to Haxby Weir) on Sunday 2 July 2023 between 0900 and 1300.

It was also agreed that the River Foss Society volunteers could have use of the Village Hall car park & toilets if they book the hall. They would be charged community service rates.

1. **Spring Clean Of Village Hall**

The matter was discussed. **Cllr Leveson** was asked to get a quote for the work required so that it can be discussed at the next meeting.

1. **Painting Of Village Hall Doors and Fencing**

The matter was discussed, **Cllr Jones** was asked to get a quote from Domestic Chores for the work required so that it can be discussed at the next meeting.

1. **Renewal Of Hallmaster Licence (For bookings of Village Hall)**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we should renew at a cost of £199 + VAT. **Action BOC**

1. **Maintenance / Planting In Scented Garden**

The matter was discussed. Cllr Jones outlined a plan for the work to be done in the Scented Garden along with associated costs in addition to those in the list of pre-authorised expenditure. It was agreed to pre-authorise the sum of £1500, without the need to obtain approval for individual items. This includes the costs of a contractor being paid for 1 day / month for 5 months (approx. £800). It also includes an allowance for miscellaneous maintenance and planting.

We have received a quote for £2,980 to take down the central part of the garden. It was agreed that we have made the area safe and do not need to do this work for the time being.

1. **Celebrating River Foss Event**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that **Cllr Offler** represent Earswick Parish Council at the event on 24th June.

1. **Spare Keys For Garden Village Notice Board**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we should purchase 4 keys at a cost of £15 **Action BOC**

1. **Purchase Of Village Hall Supplies**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that £150 be authorised to allow items to be purchased without needing to get individual requests authorised.

1. **Ratification of decisions**

The PC ratified the following decisions:

1. To accept quote from D&J Stead for the maintenance of the flower meadow. The clerk was asked to formally notify the supplier. **Action BOC**
2. **Items for information**

Both traffic speed signs on Strensall Road, Earswick need cleaning. The Clerk was asked to write to CYC on the matter. **Action BOC**

The clerk was asked to write to the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator to see whether he still lives in the parish and whether he is prepared to give or send a report to the Annual Meeting Of The Parish on 29th May. **Action BOC**

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

**B O’Connor**

**Clerk To Earswick Parish Council**