**EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 11th March 2024.

**Councillors present:** D Jones

G Offler

P Leveson

M Lumley-Holmes

A Bell

C Ellis

**Parish Clerk:**  B O’Connor

**Members of public present:** 18

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Wiseman, Ward Cllrs Fisher & Healey

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

Cllrs Leveson, Ellis & Offler, as dog owners, declared an interest in item 17.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes for the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 8th January 2024, were approved as an accurate record by the Councillors and duly signed.

1. **Member Of The Public Section**

Items 13 & 17 were dealt with at this point in the meeting after which the members of the public left the meeting

1. **Ward Councillors’ Reports**

N/A

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 PC meeting on 8th January 2024:-

* Clerk’s salary for January & February 2024
* British Gas payments for the Village Hall - £116.78, £122.08 & £100.96
* E-on Next payments for the Village Hall - £102.24 and £105.94
* For Village Hall cleaning: £210 (Jan) & £120 (Feb)
* Playground signs - £76.80
* Barclay’s Bank charges £8.50 x 3
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley-Holmes for pergola repairs in Scented Garden - £55.95.
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley-Holmes for Arbor repairs in Scented Garden - £54.78
* Mole Control - £120
* Cutting Riverside Hedge - £150
* Cleaning of tennis courts - £1,037.76

The following amounts have been received by the PC into the Barclays account since reported at the meeting on 8th January 2024:

* £972.50 in Village Hall Bookings
* £180 in tennis membership fees for 2024-5
* Interest on the Redwood Bank account £248.71 and £232.66

1. **Ratification of Payments**

The PC approved the following payments:

1. Reimburse Cllr Lumley-Holmes for parts for fence to help keep rabbits out of the central bed in the Scented Garden - £44.98 (£29.99 & £14.99)
2. **Planning Applications**

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

* N/A

The following planning applications were approved by City of York Council:

* N/A

Developments at the following sites were discussed:

* Land behind fire station accessed from Strensall Road– Earswick PC will monitor the situation – we are still awaiting the outcome of the City Of York Council’s application for a warrant to enter the premises.
* 258 Strensall Road – Earswick PC await a revised planning application.
* Enforcement Complaint 24/00038/NOCONS – removal of hedge at Eden House, Shilton Garth Close.

1. **Monthly Equipment Check**

A check was carried out by Cllr Offler and a report circulated prior to the meeting. This was discussed and it was agreed to spend up to £50 to securely attach existing nets to the football posts**. Action** **Cllrs Offler and Leveson**

1. **Brush For Use On Tennis court**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we could spend up to £27 on a sweeping brush for use on the tennis courts. **Action Cllr Leveson**

1. **Purchase Of Equipment For Use In The Scented Garden**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed to spend up to £60 + VAT for equipment for use in the Scented Garden (namely a spade, half-moon hoe and a brush). **Action Cllr Lumley-Holmes**

1. **Purchase Of Replacement Life Buoy**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we could spend up to £100 + VAT on 2 replacement life buoys. **Action Cllr Offler**

1. **Uncontrolled Dogs In Public Open Space Improved Signage**

Using emergency powers, it had been agreed that we could spend up to £300 on the purchase of improved signage to help control dogs. The meeting authorised a further £10 to pay for concrete to embed posts.

1. **Membership Of The River Foss Society**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we should renew membership at a cost of £33. **Action** **BOC**

1. **Repair Of Solar Light At Bus Stop Outside 344 Strensall Road**

The matter was discussed and that this would be deferred to the next meeting. **Action** **Cllr Wiseman**

1. **Actions/Expenditure Associated With The Potential Use Of The Government’s Parish Council Domain Helper Service**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed with a majority of 5 to 1 that we would not pursue this.

1. **Actions/Expenditure Associated With Setting Up Of Area Where Dogs Can Be Let Off Lead**

Cllr Lumley Holmes stated that he was not suggesting an off-lead area for dogs as implied by the agenda title. He explained that his proposal was to consider making the area from the public footpath/car park, up to and including the football pitch an "on lead" area for dogs with a separating barrier between this and the large open area beyond. This would be a preventative measure to improve the safety and security of children using this area.

Members of the public were allowed to express their views and after discussion Cllr Lumley-Holmes withdrew the proposal due to lack of support.

1. **Unauthorised Cutting Down Of Trees In Centenary Wood**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that no further action was needed at this time.

1. **Expenditure Associated With Use Of Green Bins In Scented Garden**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we would pay City Of York Council £46.50 for each of the 4 bins used in the Scented Garden, if required to do so.

1. **Pre-Authorised List Of Expenditure For 2024-5**

The list of expenditure to be pre-authorised was discussed and agreed. A signed copy is attached to the minutes. **Action BOC**

1. **Ratification of decisions**

The PC ratified the following decisions:

* + N/A

1. **Items for information**

* It was noted that on the day of the meeting Earswick PC received a letter from the City Of York Council saying that the planning application for the A1237 will be decided at the Planning Committee A meeting on 19th March 2024

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The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

**B O’Connor**

**Clerk To Earswick Parish Council**