

EARSWICK ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Monday 8th May 2017

7.00pm

EARSWICK VILLAGE HALL

Draft Minutes

Present:- Councillor Jones (Chairman of the Parish Council), P Leveson, B S Wiseman, B O'Connor, W Gambold, J Gambold, I Jones, I Yeowart, S Yeowart, F Jones, G Rowe, A Rowe, B Driver, P Young, K Clipston, T Cahill, R Cahill, P Clark, I Clark, D Ridley, V Gill, D Yeomans, J Yeomans, J Torrington, B Torrington, K Pace, D McKeever, Cllr P Doughty, S Leveson, A Wiseman, E Lowery, M Woodward, N Eden, S Royle, A Royle,

At the commencement of the meeting the Chairman made the following points:

The purpose of the meeting was to allow parish electors the opportunity to raise any subject that they believed affected the parish and which they wished to discuss, debate and potentially influence.

In accordance with the Local Government act 1972 (Schedule 12 Part 111) no vote, question or poll could be requested on an issue unless it had been specifically itemised on the Agenda.

There is NO legislative right to film or record a parish meeting (in a parish where there is a separate parish council).

If anyone did wish to film this particular meeting this would be decided by a majority vote of those parish electors present.

No-one wished to film or record the meeting.

1. Apologies

J Fisher, G Offler and A Charlesworth

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 23rd May 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23 May 2016 are approved as a true and correct record.

3.To receive a report on Community Events

A report was received on community events that had taken place during the past year. (Appendix 1)

4. To receive a report from the Village Hall Committee

A report was received from a member of the Village Hall Committee. (Appendix 2)

5. To receive a report from the Scented Garden Committee

The Chair of the Scented Garden Committee presented a report outlining events that had taken place during the past year. (Appendix 3)

6. To receive a report on the Neighbourhood Watch

The village Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator gave an update on how the Neighbourhood Watch operates and made a plea for someone to cover the last remaining area within the village without a co-ordinator – east Strensall Road between the ring road and Willow Grove. (Appendix 4)

7. Parish Precept: to seek justification of year on year above inflation increases

The resident who requested this agenda item was absent and there was no detail from them as to what they wished to raise.

No-one else present wished to discuss this issue.

The Chairman explained that whilst there had been a 10% increase in the parish precept for the last two years this was due primarily to the low rate of return received on the S106 bond (reduced from around £5,000 pa to £2,500 pa) and an increase in the cost of the maintenance contract. It was also pointed out that the 10% increase equated to just 35 pence per month per household (£4.50 pa) and that over the past seven years the precept had increased by just 0.64% year on year.

8. Earswick Neighbourhood Plan: to determine its cost and question its value for money

The resident who requested this agenda item was absent and there was no detail from them as to what they wished to raise.

No-one else present wished to discuss this issue.

The Chairman pointed out that no money has been spent from the parish precept on the Neighbourhood Plan. All costs had been covered by government grants.

At the request of the Chairman the Ward Councillor gave an update of those issues that might affect the parish:

The draft City of York Local Plan had been delayed to late summer/early autumn due to consideration of the potential housing developments at the city's two Ministry of Defence sites.

Representations had been made to reduce the speed limit on Strensall Road coming into the parish from 60mph to 40mph. The issue has been included in a citywide study on speed limits.

At the request of some Earswick residents and the Ward Councillor, City of York Council officers were investigating the possibility of widening the public footpath on Strensall Road, north of Towthorpe crossroads.

Meeting closed at 7.38pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Community events.

In June last year Earswick celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday by holding a BBQ with music, a children's entertainer and magician. Over 200 people attended, the rain held off until everything was packed away and a good time was had by all. The profit made at the event was given to charity.

The coffee mornings held on the first Monday of each month have been well attended. A very big thank you to the groups of people around the village who take it in turns to make the coffee and cakes. Attendees make a donation for their coffee and several charities have been supported over the year. Helen Mead wrote a lovely piece in the The York Press extolling the virtues of the Community spirit in the village including how nice it was to see people talking and not playing on their phones! In February instead of a coffee morning we had lunch followed by a play. This was a lovely way to spend a winter's day and everyone enjoyed themselves .

If you are free on the first Monday morning of the month come and join us in the village hall for a coffee and chat. We have people from different parts of the village and people who have lived in the same road for years but didn't know each other until they came to the coffee mornings and now enjoy a monthly get together.

EARSWICK VILLAGE HALL REPORT TO THE PARISH MEETING

The Village Hall continues to be popular with various Organisations and Individuals hiring it. This is usually undertaken by e-mail now. It is also a welcome and much used venue for parties. Some of the current regular bookings include a Sewing, Dance sessions for children, Puppy training, Pilates, Yoga, Woodcarving, Drama and also Wood Turning. Parish Council Meetings and the Monthly Village Coffee Morning are also held in the Hall along with it being used as the Village Polling Station for elections.

Following a few problems last Summer Security has been improved and there are now double gates at the entrance to the Car Park. The Hall now has a beautiful wooden sign above the main doors and Road signage to direct traffic via Earswick Chase. This was requested so as to avoid confusion for people who are not familiar with the Fosslands development. There was already a sign on Strensall Road just prior to the mini roundabout.

Re-decoration of the Hall has been undertaken and new wall lights installed in recent years. New pvc windows have also been installed. Old mis-matched crockery has been replaced by the purchase of new mugs personalised with the words "Earswick Village Hall" the kind generous donation of new White Plates plus the purchase of other items. All Crockery now matches. The Hall Committee decided to change the taps in the Toilets to press activated ones. This was undertaken to prevent taps being accidentally left on and thus save water and heating charges.

The 200 club has, for this year been discontinued due to declining numbers of people willing to participate. Further consideration will be as to whether it re-commences.

The usual annual Quiz was cancelled due to lack of ticket sales but a Wine Tasting evening which included Cheese, Biscuits, Celery and other

nibbles was a huge success with all available tickets sold. There is the possibility of another Charity event in July done, this time, with a slight twist – “Call My Bluff” Wine tasting so watch out for further news all Wine Connoisseurs – and those that just enjoy a “tipple”.

The Village Hall Committee in conjunction with the Parish Council are currently investigating the possibility of improving the acoustics in the building.

The finances for the Hall continue to be healthy.

Finally, huge thanks must be offered to Jenny Cook who, unfortunately could not attend this evening. Jenny is the first point of contact, undertakes the Bookings looks after the day to day running of the Hall and is the Treasurer.

Earswick Scented Garden Report 2016

2016 was another busy year for the Scented Garden.

At the beginning of the year we entertained the Flaxton Garden Club, giving them a talk on the history and development of the garden from its beginnings as a bowling green. The evening ended with refreshments.

We have erected an information notice board into the garden giving details of the types of bugs and birds that can be seen in there. This was funded by a grant from City of York Council.

Two nesting boxes and a bug-house have also been sited in the garden.

The garden celebrated the Queen's 90th Birthday with a special red/white/blue floral display, bunting and flags.

Both a Spring and a Summer Plant Sale were held to raise funds and these were very well attended with a number of comments being received from regulars on our good quality, value for money plants. All plants are donated.

The garden entered the RHS Britain in Bloom competition – Neighbourhood Category. The judging took place in July with awards being declared at the presentation (not before). We were awarded the top accolade of Outstanding. Helpers of the garden attended to collect the award.

Help in the garden is never refused.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH BRIEFING – 7 MAY 2017

ARRIVED IN EARSWICK IN 1994

PC WANTED SOMEONE TO SET UP A NW SCHEME – VOLUNTEERED

BEFORE FOSSLANDS – VILLAGE HAD LESS THAN 150 HOUSES

AIMED AT HAVING COORDINATOR FOR 10-20 HOUSES

AS FOSSLANDS & GARDEN VILLAGE DEVELOPED GOT COORDINATORS AS EACH AREA WAS OCCUPIED

AIMS:

ENCOURAGE NEIGHBOURS TO LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER'S PROPERTIES

WATCH OUT FOR SUSPICIOUS VISITORS

RECOMMEND TIMERS TO SWITCH ON LIGHTS AND RADIOS AT DUSK

TAKE IN BINS / OPEN & CLOSE GATES ETC

THE WAY IT WORKS

I GET INFO FROM RESIDENTS OR POLICE AND PASS IT TO ALL COORDINATORS

THEY PASS IT TO THEIR HOUSEHOLDS – NORMALLY ON E-MAIL

CURRENTLY WE HAVE OVER 20 COORDINATORS FOR THE 370 HOUSES

NEED SOMEONE FOR EAST STRENSALL ROAD BETWEEN RING RD AND WILLOW GROVE

INFORM YOUR HOUSE INSURERS THAT YOU ARE IN A NW SCHEME AND IT SHOULD REDUCE PREMIUMS.

QUESTIONS