**EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2023.

**Councillors present:** D Jones

 G Offler

 P Leveson

 BS Wiseman

 A Bell

**Members of public present:** 1

1. **Apologies for absence**

Ward Cllr Fisher

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

None.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 21st November 2022, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

1. **Ward Councillors’ Reports**

Ward Cllr Doughty gave a brief report, mainly on the progress of York’s Local Plan.

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 21st November 2022:-

* Clerk’s salary for November & December 2022
* Clerk’s backpay since 1/4/22
* PKF Littlejohn (ext. auditors): £240
* Hunt Catch Kill - £120
* E-on Next payments for the Village Hall - £58.59 & £69.10
* 2 months Barclays charges - £8.50 x 2
* For Village Hall cleaning: £200 (November) & £160 (December)
* British Gas payments for the Village Hall - £95.61 & £122.39
* Steel & Maw - £555
* Business Stream - £36.35 & £7.38
* VH drain cover (P Offler) - £15
* Cllr Offler – plants for planters - £24.98
* Andy Jones – web site hosting - £300

The following amounts have been received by the PC into the Barclays account since reported at the meeting on 21st November 2022:

* £1,353 VH Bookings
* £1,196.52 interest from Lloyds investment account.
* There has also been a transfer of the capital from the Lloyds account into our Barclays account. The Lloyds account is now closed.
1. **Ratification of Payments**

The PC approved the following payments:

1. £78 – Deighton Electrical Services – PAT Testing of equipment in Village Hall
2. SLCC Membership - £139 of which £120 was pre-authorised

1. **Planning Applications**

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

* 22/02430/FUL 21 The Garden Village – replacement of 2 external doors & 8 windows – no objections

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

* 22/02069/FUL 3 Lock House Lane – altering layout of agreed extension – approved
* 22/01586/FUL – Granary Foss bank Farm, single storey rear extension – approved
* 22/02080/FUL/TPO 5 High Garth – felling of Lime Tree – CYC have refused permission for this application

And to discuss and agree actions related to:

* Land registry for land near 5 Earswick Chase – CYC have provided an update but more work to be done.
* 258 Strensall Road – work seems to be in progress but we are still awaiting a planning application.
1. **A1237/YORR – to discuss/agree whether to negotiate sale of Diamond Wood or go down compulsory purchase route**

It was noted that the CYC have offered Earswick Parish Council some land in Huntington, south of the A1237. This was discussed at a meeting with CYC representatives, and the Earswick Councillors agreed that the land was not suitable and that we had no wish to pursue the offer further.

The sale of parts of diamond Wood was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that Earswick Parish Council would look to negotiate the sale of the land rather than force CYC to go down the compulsory purchase route. We would, however, look to have a clause to buy back the land for the same price that we sold it for if the scheme does not go ahead. The clerk was asked to write to Gary Frost (copying James Stephenson) to inform him of this, and a separate one to James Stephenson authorising him to negotiate the sale of the land. **Action BOC**.

1. **Monthly Equipment Check/Matting Under Swing**

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

The matting under the swing needs to be replaced. CYC have informally agreed to provide a full grant less VAT to do this work. Once the grant is confirmed, the Clerk was asked to arrange for the work to be done. **Action BOC**.

Cllr Offler was asked to get a quote for a larger area but with concrete edges far enough from the equipment for it to be safe, and also to fill in the gaps. **Action Cllr Offler**

1. **Earswick Tennis Club Fees**

The matter was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the 2023-4 membership would remain the same as for 2022-3 i.e. £30 & £55 for residents & non-residents respectively.

1. **Replacement Of Lights In Village Hall**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we should get a quote to replace the 3 light units in the hall, and those in the toilets. **Action Cllr Leveson**

1. **Maintenance Of 6 Weeping Willow Trees**

The matter was discussed. Cllr Offler proposed that that we should accept the quote from Steel & Maw to prune 6 willow trees at a cost of £1,960. Seconded by Cllr wiseman and unanimously agreed. **Action Cllr Offler**

1. **Dates For Parish Council Meetings In 2023/4**

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that we would provisionally hold meetings on the following dates:

* March 13th 2023
* May 15th, 2023. The Parish Council meeting will follow the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council,
July 10th 2023
* September 11th 2023
* November 20th 2023
* January 8th 2024
* March 11th 2024

NB The Parish Council Meetings will all start at 7:30 pm, and will be preceded by an informal session at 7.15pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on May 29th in the Earswick Village Hall.

1. **Ratification of decisions**

The PC ratified the following decisions:

1. To invest £85,000 with Redwood bank in a 2 year bond at an interest rate of 3.45% p.a.
2. **Items for information**

Items for information – to include any reports from Councillors attending meetings as representatives of the Parish Council, any updates on Neighbourhood Watch, and items for the next agenda.

* Cllr Wiseman gave a brief report on the Foss Internal Drainage Board
* At the next meeting to discuss how we can help get more volunteers for the Scented Garden
* Cllr Offler reported that 8 bird boxes have now been put up in Diamond Wood. The clerk was asked to write to Adrian Clay for making the bird boxes, and to Matthew Hammond for putting them up. **Action BOC**
* The clerk was asked to provide a map to Cllr Wiseman so that she can mark on it where the bird boxes are. **Action BOC**

The meeting closed at 8:00 pm.

**B O’Connor**

**Clerk To Earswick Parish Council**