**EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 9th September 2024.

**Councillors present:** D Jones

 G Offler

 M Lumley-Holmes

 P Leveson

 BS Wiseman

**Parish Clerk:**  B O’Connor

**Members of public present:** 25 adults and 1 child

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Ellis

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 8th July 2024, were approved as an accurate record by the Councillors and were duly signed.

1. **Members Of The Public Session**

A members of the public session took place.

1. **Improving the safety of pedestrians using the footpath on the western side of the village, between The Village roundabout and Northlands Avenue**

Ms Bradley spoke on the matter.

The matter was discussed.

Cllr Wiseman proposed that in the first instance the Parish Council approve the hard cutback of the hedge at a cost of £2,800.00 + VAT and if this does not significantly improve the safety of pedestrians or any contractors, approval for the Parish Council to remove the hedge, and secondly that the Parish Council should engage in dialogue with City of York Council with a view to installing a pedestrian/cycle crossing on Strensall Road in the vicinity of Northlands Avenue to Willow Grove thus allowing the traffic bollards in the middle of the road to be removed and the road widened thus negating the need for the double hatched road markings and footpath slope, as well as considering other traffic control measures such as speed restrictions, improved speed signs, similar to those Strensall benefit from, and the possibility of imposing vehicle weight limits.

Cllr Leveson seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. The clerk was asked to inform the contractor that we accept the quote. **Action BOC**

Many of the members of the public left at this point.

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 8th July 2024:-

* Clerk’s salary for July & August 2024
* E-on Next payments for the Village Hall - £40.06 & £43.09
* Business Stream payments for Village Hall water - £10.65 & £67.72
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley Holmes for posters/card for use in the Scented Garden - £16.55
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley Holmes for purchase of magnets tools for use on the notice board in the Scented Garden - £8.99
* Public Open Space maintenance - £1,464 and £1,368
* For Village Hall cleaning: £165 (July) & £132 (August)
* Barclay’s Bank charges £8.50 x 2
* External Auditors - £378
* British Gas payments for the Village Hall - £23.07 & £15.41
* R Warriner – work on Scented Garden Lawn - £100
* Mole control - £120
* Reimburse Cllr Leveson for soap for use in Village Hall - £15.59
* RHP – boiler service - £99
* Domestic Chores – work in Scented Garden - £??????
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley Holmes for plants for use in the Scented Garden - £10.
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley Holmes for stump killer for use in the Village Hall grounds - £9.99
* Reimburse Cllr Lumley Holmes for daffodil bulbs for the Scented Garden - £16

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

* Village Hall Bookings £1.306
* Tennis membership fees £150
* Interest on the Redwood Bank account £248.71 x 2
* Interest on the Cambridge & Counties bank accounts £847.38 & £290.80
1. **Ratification of Payments**

The PC approved the following payments:

1. N/A

1. **Planning Applications**

The Clerk used delegated powers to record views of the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

* 24/00951/FUL 258 Strensall Road – various exterior work – no objection. However, there is an advert for 6 people to share this property and the clerk was asked to write CYC be make them aware. **Action BOC**
* 24/00972/FUL 28 Lock House Lane – single storey extensions to rear– no objection;
* 24/01217/FUL The Grange, 388 Strensall Road, Earswick – erection of 1no. two storey dwelling to rear with swimming pool and associated landscaping – objection as it’s within the green belt with no special circumstances.;

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

* 24/00487/FUL 356 Strensall Road - single storey extensions to rear – approved;

Applications where the CYC have outstanding actions:

* N/A
1. **Monthly Equipment Check**

A check was carried out by Cllr Offler and a report circulated prior to the meeting. This was discussed. No action required

1. **Possible Installation Of Wi-Fi Services In The Village Hall**

The matter was discussed. It was agreed in principle that we should install Wi-Fi services in the village hall. **Cllrs Lumley-Holmes and Leveson** agreed to sort out the details with a view to discussing at the next meeting

1. **Policy For The Maintenance Of Trees / Hedges In The Public Open Space**

The matter was discussed briefly and it was agreed that we should defer to the next meeting. **Action Cllr Lumley-Holmes**

1. **Dealing With Fallen Tree On The Boundary Of The Public Open Space And Mr Thompson’s Land**

The matter was discussed. It was agreed that no further action was required to deal with this tree but we need to inspect other ash trees nearby with a view to discussing at the next meeting if action/expenditure required. **Action Cllrs Wiseman & Lumley-Holmes**

1. **Cutting Tall Trees & Hedging In Diamond Wood**

The matter was discussed. It was agreed that we should check with the existing contractor to see whether or not he can do the work in a reasonable time frame. If he can’t then it was agreed that we should accept the quote from another supplier noting that the cost would be £990 + VAT rather than what was previously authorised. **Action BOC/Cllr Offler**

1. **Work To Maintain The Pond**

The matter was discussed. It was agreed that we would ask The Friends Of St Nicks to provide 2 day’s work at a cost of £600 + VAT. **Action BOC/Cllr Offler**

1. **Maintenance Of The Flower Meadow**

The matter was discussed. It was noted that the grass had been cut but not baled. It was agreed that at the next meeting we should review whether we should continue to ask for the grass to be baled or whether a ‘cut & Mulch’ would be more practical. **Action Cllr Lumley Holmes**

1. **Use Of Alternate Email Service**

The matter was discussed. No action required for now.

1. **Ratification of decisions**

The PC ratified the following decisions:

* + To write again to CYC asking for them to repair light above bus stop outside 344 Strensall Road
	+ To change from British Gas to business arm of British Gas for gas supply to Village Hall
	+ Not to sell Public Open Space land backing on to a resident of Stablers Walk
1. **Items for information**
* Cllr Lumley-Holmes gave a summary of a FIDB meeting.
* The following are to be added to the agenda of the next meeting
	+ The resignation of Cllr Bell
	+ The Flower Meadow
	+ The Bus Shelter
	+ POS Maintenance policy
	+ Wi Fi in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.

**B O’Connor**

**Clerk To Earswick Parish Council**