

STRENSALL with TOWTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor A H Fisher
The Village Hall, Northfields, Strensall, York YO32 5XW
Tel: 491569 E-mail: clerk-strensallpc@btconnect.com

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 14th February 2017 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Strensall

PRESENT

Cllrs Fisher (Chair) Bolton, Chambers, Maher, Hill, Ogilvy, Baxter, Jakobsen
And 4 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Received from Cllrs Mattinson, Chapman, Harvey-Walker, Mrs D Hails and Mrs J Smith and the reasons given were accepted

Ward Cllrs P Doughty and Ms H Douglas and Mrs J Smith

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Chambers declared a personal interest in item 5(g)

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 10th January were approved and signed. The Council endorsed the approved Planning Committee minutes of the 10th and 24th January **Resolution 140217/01**

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A lady stood up and spoke for two minutes on the situation at Kirklands playground. She was asked to sit down before she reached the end of her speech as she was over the time permitted and her remarks had become personal.

5. ONGOING ISSUES

- (a) **Parish Council Vacancy** – the clerk had received two enquiries regarding the vacancy but no application as yet
- (b) **Annual Parish Councils meeting with Julian Sturdy MP**
Attended by Cllrs Chapman and Jakobsen when the issue of a zebra crossing was discussed. That morning the Clerk had received information from City Council. The Chairman asked that this be circulated for comment as soon as possible.
- (c) **Police reports** – The problem with youths on Friday and Saturday evenings continues and the perceived lack of police presence is

concerning residents. A meeting at Athena House in Clifton has been arranged for 13th March at 7PM – the Clerk, Chairman, and Mrs Smith were hoping to attend. Any other member wishing to do so could inform the Clerk before the end of the month

- (d) **Neighbourhood Plan** The Chairman updated the Council following his representation to Stockton on the Forest PC. He had put the request in writing and this letter was approved to be signed and sent. **Resolution 140217/02**

(e) **Playgrounds**

(i) Kirklands – the situation has been made complicated by the lack of written response by the Insurance Company to the solicitors acting for the two residents who have taken legal action against the Parish Council. The PC was told not to communicate with the complainants as this would be done direct. Following confirmation by-mail of the decision, the Clerk is actively seeking a buyer for the “cage” whilst several parish councils have expressed an interest, no offer received as yet. There are various options to explore and a decision required as to what would happen to the site. It was suggested that the Playground committee looked at the budget to see what would be achieved with funds available. There was a unanimous wish not to revert to the previous situation as it was agreed that signage forbidding ball games served no purpose. A meeting of the Playgrounds Committee had been suggested but not fixed.

(ii) Northfields Junior - the interactive play table had now been installed and this completed the site. The contractors are aware of the uneven surface in places and lack of turf but this will be remedied as soon as the weather permits. The playground is so popular that the surface never has chance to restore itself.

(f) **Playground maintenance contract**

A quote for a three year contract for Northfields Junior Playground has been received in the sum of £870 (£58 per visit) which is a slight increase on previous years but there is more hand mowing required now. The quote was approved **Resolution 140217/03**

- (g) CCTV – it was agreed that some cameras were required on the back and side of the Village Hall and Cllr Chambers would progress this and obtain costings.

- (h) **Replacement Trees** the Chairman confirmed that he would call on the resident concerned to agree the purchase of three replacement trees.

The five year risk assessment quotes was discussed and the chosen expert to be notified **Resolution 140217/04**

- (i) **Annual Parish Meeting** – on Tuesday 4th April at 7pm commencing with a brief welcome from the Chairman and followed with presentations from Kidz Klub and Carnival Committee. The Clerk has requested a police presence to answer questions from residents. Ward

Cllrs have also been invited. As this is not a parish council event there is no requirement for councillors to attend other than as residents

- (j) **Allotments** The annual rents for the allotments had not been increased for five years and an increase had been recommended by the Finance Committee. It was agreed that the current rents be increased as follows:

Present concession £7.50 increase to £9.00
Present rent £10.00 increase to £12.00
Present concession £15.00 increase to £18
Present rent £20 increase to £24.

These increases to take effect from January 2018 and would not be increased again for at least three years. Cllr Chambers will inform the allotment holders. **Resolution 140217/05**

- (k) **The Newsletter** – the draft had been circulated and following discussion, approved for inclusion in the next edition of Outreach. **Resolution 140217/06**

- (l) **Highways and Road Safety** The Clerk had received confirmation that the VAS sign on Sheriff Hutton Road would be erected this week and that the emergency access gate would be completed at the beginning of March. The general feeling was that it was sited too near the bridge but the residents of Foss View Close would no doubt have comments to make as they would be the most affected. The pedestrian crossing suggestions were circulated for response asap.

- (m) The request received from the Carnival Committee for the use of the field and the PC Public Liability Insurance cover was approved **Resolution 140217/07**

6. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

In the absence of the Chairman the Clerk reported on the following decisions:-

- (i) 17/00001/TCA – fell a tree at 5 Princess Road – APPROVED
(ii) 16/02814/FUL – single storey rear extension to 7 Lakeside Gardens- APPROVED
(iii) 16/02712/FUL – extensions to 12 West End -APPROVED
(iv) 16/02853/FUL- extension to 7 St Marys Close – APPROVED
(v) 16/02746/FUL –two storey side extension to 4 Balfour Way -APPROVED
(vi) 16/02922/FUL – extensions to 5 Orchard Way -APPROVED

The possible breach of planning regulations on the Library signage was discussed, which, as it was not illuminated, did not require permission but Explore had suggested a more subtle colourway for the sign which was agreed and the Clerk requested to thank Explore for their consideration **Resolution 140217/08**

7. FINANCE REPORT

(a) Invoices for payment approved:- **Resolution 140217/09**

(i) Clerk's salary	£	SO
(ii) O2 mobile	18.00	DD
(iii) R Cartmell grass cutting	528.00	
(iv) Jupiter Play –interactive table	£1,926.00	
(v) Mr J Chapman	12.33	
(vi) Dog fouling stickers etc	46.86	
(vii) Hall-Fast notice board	789.09	
(viii) Stoneplan Ltd (notice board fixing)	220.32	
(ix) J Chapman plans and sacks	30.25	
(x) Park Lane Services	4,361.64	
(xi) Mrs S Nunn (postage stamps)	27.48	

(b) Income:

Cemetery	£560.00
Double taxation (part payment)	£7,513.59
Neighbourhood plan grant	£3,000.00
Allotment rents	£150.00
VAT reclaim	£475.50

(c) Account Balances:

Treasurers Account	£46,931.84
Cemetery Account	£8,288.55
Contingency Account	£38,976.48 + £15,000 Bond
Premium Account	£18,402.14 + £10,000 Bond

(d) three monthly check had been carried out by Cllrs Fisher and Chambers and all was in order. The Clerk's annual appraisal had been carried out at the same time.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) On The Foss Newsletter – Cllrs Hill, Bolton and Maher
- (b) Report to City Council of shrinking footpath from Towthorpe Crossroads –Cllr Hill will investigate
- © Letter from resident on irresponsible parking in The Village- Cllr Fisher to progress
- (d) White Rose Update from YLCA
- (e) Letter and map from CYC prior to consultation on pedestrian crossing

There followed a short closed session requested by the Chairman

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7.15pm

Signed..... 14th March 2017

Chairman