

STRENSALL with TOWTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Hall, Northfields, Strensall, YO32 5XW
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MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7.15pm at the Village Hall, Strensall

PRESENT

Cllrs Marquis, (Chair) Plant, Baxter, Harvey-Walker, Hill, Fisher, Mattinson, Ogilvy, Chambers, Chapman, Mrs J Smith and Ms T Flannery

Ward Cllrs P Doughty and Ms H Douglas

6 members of the public

Prior to the commencement of formal proceedings Councillor Marquis expressed thanks to Councillors Chambers, Chapman and Baxter for their involvement in the Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November.

1. APOLOGIES

Were received from Cllr Maher

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated, Council approved these, authorising the Chairman to sign them as a correct record. Council also endorsed the planning committee minutes for 13th and 27th October **Resolution 101115/01**

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nobody wished to speak in this session

5. ONGOING ISSUES

- (a) **Vacancy for Councillor:** The Clerk reported that she had received four applications and three of the candidates had attended the meeting. All three gave a brief appraisal of their backgrounds, interests and reasons for their applications. They briefly left the room whilst a vote was taken and Andrew Bolton, having received the majority of the votes, was invited to become a Parish Councillor, signed the Declaration of Acceptance and took his place at the table. The two unsuccessful candidates were thanked by the Chairman and hoped that their skills could be used as volunteers in the community. Should future vacancies occur then if they wished they will be contacted and advised. A third candidate, who had been detained and unable to take part, was also thanked for his interest and invited to apply for any future vacancy **Resolution 101113/02**

- (b) **Freedom of Information Publication Scheme** –The Clerk confirmed that she had updated the document in line with the legal advice given and this was approved. **Resolution 101115/03**
- (c) **Playground Issues**
Three letters of complaint had been received from residents and circulated to Councillors. It was agreed that further screening should be done and consultation with the contractor would assist. It had been noted that one of the holly trees planted at Kirklands had been dug up and stolen! There seems to be an increasing amount of litter on both playgrounds and evidence of drug use found at the village hall car park. Paint had been spilt on the artificial grass at Kirklands which has also been reported to the Police. This situation would require careful monitoring **Resolution 101115/04**
- (d) **Footpath Brochure** –Cllr Plant gave a short update on the progress of the booklet and Councilors agreed that the pages for Walk 1 was looking very professional and authorised Cllr Plant to continue with the remaining pages **Resolution 101115/05.**
- (e) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Marquis suggested that he invite a member of the Poppleton NP team to talk to the group at the next meeting on 24th November. This was agreed. John Millett from the Foss Society had agreed to join as had a member of the Local History Group. The meeting will follow the Planning Committee meeting and Cllr Bolton was invited to join the group. **Resolution 101115/06**
- (f) **Ward Meeting** The Clerk reported on her attendance at the Ward meeting to request funding from the One Off York Pride Fund, the Ward budget for the Carnival and Defibrillator. It was understood that the applications for funding would be decided at the next team meeting.
- (g) **Telephone Kiosk** – the inside had now been cleaned and the Clerk had found information on the paint. Mr Jakobsen offered to see if the paint was indeed lead based and to locate the correct paint and do the work. The Parish Council gratefully accepted his very kind offer. **Resolution 101115/07**
- (h) **Carnival** The Clerk reported on the previous meeting and updated Councillors on the date in 2016. The Committee were anxious to locate and recruit a Health and Safety Officer. Mr Morrison was asked if he would volunteer and he agreed. The next meeting is 11th November at 7pm in the Village Hall. The request to provide prizes and trophies was approved **Resolution 101115/08**
- (i) **Parish Charter** – amendments had been suggested and these would be put forward at the next meeting of the YLCA Liaison group.

- (j) **Cemetery** – It was agreed that, as fees had not been increased for five years, they should be increased from 1st January 2016. It was also agreed that a notice be placed on the noticeboard and on the gate at the Cemetery advising relatives that any personal items they wished to place on graves over the Christmas Period would be accepted but that anything remaining after 31st January 2016 would be removed to a place of safety for collection
Resolution 101115/09
- (k) **Road Safety** – the response sent to Julian Sturdy MP was discussed and all Councilors were angry that the wishes of the residents had been ignored. It was felt that a proposed second VAS sign in York Road would meet safety concerns of residents with one with flashing lights advising drivers to “slow down children crossing” should be located over the bridge between the Tannery and the Cemetery on Sheriff Hutton Road. It was also strongly felt that a cycle path on York Road was not as urgently required as one between the Six Bells PH and Huntington along Strensall Road. The comprehensive report prepared by Cllr Mattinson and sent to CYC had not been acknowledged or replied to by any member of CYC Highways team. It was agreed that a letter of protest be sent to Ian Gillies and copy in Neil Ferris. The Executive Decision meeting is on Thursday and Cllr Mattinson agreed to attend and voice the objections of the PC. **Resolution 101115/10**
- (l) **Christmas Trees** – The Clerk confirmed that several firms had been asked to quote for the trees and Browns was the best price received. It was therefore approved for the order of trees to be delivered to The Clerk’s home on Friday 4th December and would be erected by Cllrs on Saturday morning 5th December –hot drinks and bacon sandwiches would be provided for all volunteers. The Clerk reminded all Cllrs to wear their hi vis vests
Resolution 101115/11

6. POLICE REPORT

This had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. Again it was emphasized to report any incidents on 101. Ward Cllr Douglas confirmed that the lack of police presence in the vicinity is a direct result of the lack of reported crime in the area.

7. PLANNING REPORT

Cllr Chapman reported on the applications received, recommended responses and decisions from City of York Council. The Council approved the recommendations made by the Planning Committee **Resolution 101115/13**

Councillor Marquis also reported on the first meeting of a group from City of York Council and Parishes in respect of s106 payments.

8. FINANCE

(a) The Council approved the payment of the Clerk's overtime 12 hours
Resolution 101115/14

(b) the following invoices were approved for payment **Resolution 101115/15**

(i)	Clerk's salary	£	SO
(ii)	Clerk's overtime	£118.40	
(iii)	Talktalk mobile	£7.50	DD
(iv)	B T telephone and broadband	£77.19	DD
(v)	Staples	£29.56	DD
(vi)	Rob Cartmell grass cutting	£814.00	
(vii)	Rob Cartmell cemetery maintenance	£269.00	
(viii)	Mr A K Marquis (plants)	£23.80	
(ix)	Mrs S Nunn stationery	£40.05	
(x)	Amazon inks	£30.97	

(b) Receipts

(i)	Cemetery	£862.00
(ii)	VAT reclaim	£3,331.07
(iii)	Interest	£2.47

(c) Account Balances:

Treasurers Account	£34,459.08
Cemetery Account	£8,212.95
Contingency Account	£29,073.57+ £15,000 bond
Premium Account	£18,359.87 + 10,000 bond

(c) Carnival Funding:

The application for funding for the Carnival was approved and would be in the budget for 2016/17

(d) Request for funding for the Local History Group – once a definite figure had been confirmed this would be discussed and decided

(e) The Clerk was requested to organise a Finance Committee meeting early in January to set the budget and precept for 2016-17. *A meeting of the Finance Committee will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 4th January 2016 at 2.30pm*

9. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) An e-mail has been received from a resident of Terrington Court complaining about the amount of dog dirt on the footpath. Cllr Chapman confirmed that the signs were extremely hard to get hold of and on previous occasions he had only been given three or four. It was agreed that this e-mail should be sent in its entirety to the appropriate department at CYC. *This has now been done and the City Council have*

acknowledged receipt confirming they have replied in detail to the resident.

- (b) The complaints from residents at Pasture Close had previously been discussed and the situation will be monitored

10 AGENDA ITEMS FOR DECEMBER

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9 .10 pm. The next meeting to take place on Tuesday 8th December 2015 at 7.15pm

Signed.....8th December 2015

Appendix 1 – Ward Meeting

The Clerk attended the Ward meeting chaired by Paul Doughty and Helen Douglas on 15th October at 6.30pm.

Cllr Judy Smith was also in attendance and spoke in support of a Ward Grant towards a defibrillator for the telephone box recently purchased by the Parish Council adjacent to the Manor House. The applications for Ward funding included:

SwT Local History Group for an information board adjacent to the telephone box

SwTPC for tools to assist with the maintenance of open space from the York Pride One Off fund

SwTPC for funding towards a Neighbourhood Plan

SwTPC for funding for a defibrillator

SwT Carnival Committee for funding towards A Carnival for 2016

It was suggested that the Strensall Church Group apply for funding for the monthly lunches and Christmas Party from the Community Care Fund – SN to speak to Pauline Chambers or Dot Hicks on this as transport may be funded in this way.

The Clerk spoke on the three applications put forward for tools, NP and Carnival, Shirley Jenkins spoke for the information board and Judy Smith for the defibrillator. It was suggested that there may be a possibility of joint funding for the information board between the PC and the Ward Cttee.

The next Ward Team meeting was to be arranged when the applications will be discussed and the funding decisions made.

Appendix 2

REPORT ON CARNIVAL FOR 2016

Attended the first meeting of the Carnival Committee to decide whether there are sufficient volunteers to organise a carnival for 2016.

Lynette, Sam, Mike, Chris and myself had put their names forward to assist once again and some new faces volunteered for roles previously undertaken by one of us. Sam would continue as Chairman with Lynette as her deputy. A secretary was appointed and John would continue as Treasurer.

The date set for the Carnival is Saturday 25th June 2016. The theme to be a voted decision. Geoffrey to organise the school e-mail system and parentline in order select the categories and collate the answers. Other groups would be asked for their preferences.

In addition to the Anscomb trophies I was asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to give trophies and gift tokens to the winners in three categories yet to be chosen.

The Carnival committee would request the permission of the Parish Council to use the field at Northfields and also the Parish Council insurance as in 2015. A request for a grant of £800 plus the employment of St Johns Ambulance Service paid for by the Parish Council would be requested, in addition to a grant application from the ward committee of £750. There is some money left from 2015 and together this would enable the hire of canopies for the food court which will be in the car park.

The Committee would very much value the input of Cllr Mattinson on Health and Safety issues if he was able to join the working group.

A suggestion was made as to alcohol provision and I confirmed that it is an alcohol free area. It was suggested a beer tent on the car park with the food outlets with the Landlord of the Ship providing this service on a sale or return basis under his licence. I said that the police would have to be consulted on this and I undertook to do this before the next meeting. Having spoken to PCSO he confirmed that this could be possible only if it were on private land and no alcohol was taken away from the beer tent. Licenses would need to be obtained. He personally would not be in favour of this as it is a family and community event with the introduction of alcohol a potential problem.

Costcutter would once again be asked to sponsor the event with banners, posters and programmes. All stallholders will be advised that there will be no parking facilities at the Village Hall for this event, they would need to unload on the field within a certain timeframe and find their own parking place.

Appendix 3 - Cemetery

Councillors will be aware that the cost of maintaining the Cemetery increases each year and the charges have only been increased once in all the time this facility has been open and this was five years ago.

I would propose to increase the fees in line with below and the attached Christmas notice on the notice board, Gate and shed window so there can be no misunderstanding! This is in line with York Cemetery whose idea I stole.

Perhaps you would consider this so that a decision can be made in November –the notice to go on immediately and the fee increase on 1st January 2016. Chris has looked it over but as we are the only two members of the committee, it was felt appropriate to ask the PC.

Fees

STRENSALL AND TOWTHORPE RESIDENTS

Adults:	Single Grave	£175.00	£195
	Adjacent Grave	£175.00	£195
	Reservation fee	£175.00	£195
	Interment charge	£100.00*	£120

**carried out during normal hours. If a Coroner or Registered Medical Practitioner advises that immediate interment is necessary then this will be carried out promptly at a time arranged with the Clerk to the Burial Authority and may incur additional fees.*

Children:	Up to 12 months	£10.00
	From 1 year to 12 years	
	Single grave and interment	£100.00

Headstones:

Erection	£45.00	£55
Charge for inscription	£12.00	£18
Charge for inscribed vase	£25.00	£30

Cremated Remains

Adult:	In existing grave or designated area with interment	£100.00	£120
Children:	in designated area	£40.00	£55
Plaques	On all cremated remains	£40.00	£55

Other fees

Administration fees:	for interment etc	£25.00 per person
Search fee	Register of Burials	£20.00 per person

All Burial or Cremation fees for non-residents of Strensall are treble those applicable to residents of the parish and acceptance is at the discretion of the Burial Authority.

WILL VISITORS PLEASE NOTE

STRENSALL WITH TOWTHORPE BURIAL AUTHORITY

ARE HAPPY TO ACCEPT CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

ON THE GRAVES DURING THE FESTIVE SEASON
BUT PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE

MUST BE REMOVED BY 31ST JANUARY 2016

ALL DECORATIONS, WREATHS, TOYS
AND ALL OTHER OBJECTS WHICH ARE NOT
PERMITTED WILL BE REMOVED

TO A PLACE OF SAFETY

ON 1ST FEBRUARY IF THEY REMAIN
FOR COLLECTION BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT
WITH A MEMBER OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

[Appendix 4 – Road Safety and Speeding Issues](#)

A site meeting with Trish Hirst and Ben Potter in April, which was convened after the submission of a petition from worried parents and residents whose children cross the Sheriff Hutton Road twice each day on their way to and from school,

resulted in all the proposals put forward by the Parish Council being rejected for one reason or another.

The only positive was that Ben Potter agreed to look at the provision of gating so that the footpath, which presently leads straight onto Sheriff Hutton Road with no barrier, would be safer for children and prevent them running into the road. It was suggested that a large gate, suitable to allow the passage of an ambulance or other emergency vehicle, a single gate to allow someone with a bicycle or pushchair/pram to get through and the widening the pathway and clearing of the weeds to enable the use of the kissing gate already there for pedestrians.

Ben asked that I provide him with a detailed drawing of what was suggested and he would see if funding was available. It had been at the back of my mind for some months and the onset of autumn, together with the e-mail of 4th September considering the provision of a second VAS on York Road and a partial cycle lane, gave me the reminder. In my view a VAS sign would be more use between the Cemetery and Tannery warning drivers to slow down children crossing.

The attached drawings were sent to Ben to see if funding was available as this appears to be the only Safety measure available to the Parish Council. The parents and residents of the village would prefer prevention of any child being injured or worse rather than statistics to show the accident rate.

I pointed out to Ben and Trish that the path from The Brecks area to Sheriff Hutton Road was well used and, in the absence of the provision of a lollipop person (too dangerous apparently) something to prevent children running out into the road is essential. I have suggested that if this is provided, the School may look at a "safe walk to school" along that route, thus cutting down on congestion of cars around the school entrance as parents feel able to allow their child to walk to school supervised by an adult.

I also spoke to Julian Sturdy to update him on the lack of progress of any safety measures and he has promised to add his weight to our cause. He also asked me about the traffic survey to which I confirmed there has been no response at all. As Councillors are all aware, that footpath, recently taken over from Persimmon by City of York Council, is well used although in a dreadfully neglected state. I understand Ben Potter is not at work until early November, so maybe I will receive a response by the meeting

Appendix 5 – Police Report

Appendix 5 – Police Report

Burglary	2	Theft	2	Arson	1	Drugs	1	Violence	6
Other	2								
TOTAL	14								

As you can see there were 14 crimes reported across the Ward during October.

The first burglary was what we call a 2 in 1 burglary where a property in Earswick was entered , car keys taken and the car on the driveway stolen. The vehicle was later recovered by Police. The second Burglary was an attempted burglary to an Industrial Unit at Stockton on the Forest although no entry was gained and nothing taken.

The first theft occurred at a building site in Strensall where equipment left insecure on the Site was taken overnight. The other relates to a theft of cash at the Golf Club and the offender was arrested and dealt with.

The arson was a burnt out vehicle found at Towthorpe. This is linked to the theft of the ATM Machine from Heslington earlier this month as the vehicle was used to transport the ATM away and remains of ATM were still in the back of the vehicle.

The Drugs job relates to a vehicle stopped within the Ward where the occupant was discovered to have a small quantity of drugs on their person.

The violence jobs are three in relation to a Public House, two at Stockton Hall and one that is related to a domestic incident.