**Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council**

**The Village Hall, Northfields, Strensall, YORK, YO32 5XN.**

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Chairman Councillor A Fisher

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL Held on Tuesday 14th November 2017 at 7.15pm at the Village Hall.

**PRESENT:**

Cllrs Fisher (Chair), Bolton, Maher, Baxter, Hill, Chambers, Chapman, Mattinson, Mrs H Cox, Mrs J Smith and Mrs D Hails.

Ward Cllr Paul Doughty and one member of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES** - received from Cllr Fleming, Ogilvy and Ward Cllr P Doughty.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none were received

3. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly Parish Council meeting of 10th October were approved and signed. The Council endorsed Planning Committee minutes of 10th and 24th October 2017 **Resolution 141117/01**

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – no members of the public present.

5. **ONGOING ISSUES:**

(a) Mrs Jayne Graham had expressed her wish to become a Parish Councillor. The members were delighted to approve the appointment and welcomed her. Her declaration was signed and witnessed **Resolution 141117/02**

(b**)** **Police Report** –noted

(c) **Appointment of a Clerk** The Chairman reported on the interviews and chosen candidate of Mrs Fiona Hill. This appointment was endorsed by the Council and Mrs Hill introduced and welcomed. She will take up her post on 10th January 2018. **Resolution 141117/03**

(d) **Printer –**the Clerk requested permission to purchase a new printer as the Canon still refused to function properly. An HP Officejet All in one printer/scanner/copier was her preferred choice at £69.99 with a three year warranty. This expenditure was approved. **Resolution 141117/04**

(e) **Replacement Planters -** The Chairman reported on his findings and cost and it was agreed that replacements would be purchased at a rate of two each year and concrete ones were the preferred option.

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The Clerk to request information from Haxby Town Council as to where theirs were obtained and the cost before a decision could be made

(f) **Speed gun –**Cllr Mattinson had purchased a speed gun and this was to be used to gather data to support the road safety measures the PC propose. The Councillors were reminded that Hi Visibility vests and identity badges must be worn when undertaking anything on behalf of the PC

(g) **Neighbourhood Plan** – the Chairman updated the meeting on progress with the NP and confirmed that they would require a character appraisal and a website. The expenditure of £5,350 for the preferred option for a character appraisal and £575 for the website were approved. That would leave little funds and some alternative funding sources needed to be explored **Resolution 141117/05**

(h) **Website for the PC** the draft design had been circulated and all comments and suggestions incorporated. Councillors were requested to view the final draft and give their comments/approval to the Clerk asap.

(i) The Clerk had requested payment of overtime worked over the past four months and this was approved **Resolution 141117/06**

(j) **Christmas trees** – Cllr Maher confirmed that these will arrive during the morning of Friday 1st December to the Village Hall. The main hall had been booked from 12 noon to 3pm to allow the lights to be put on and delivery to the various shops etc. Any Councillor able to volunteer an hour or so from12 noon would be appreciated .

(k) **Grass Cutting Contract –** the two quotes received were discussed and the clerk confirmed she had requested a more detailed quote with an extra cut on each site from York Landscapes but had not received one, which made it impossible to compare like for like. The five year option with Cartmell Gardens was approved to be paid in equal monthly instalments from January 2018 **Resolution 141117/07**

(l) **Old Humpy** –the 7.5 ton weight limit is being largely ignored and the Council suggested some dialogue with City Council to see if a solution can be found. Cllr Doughty to be approached for his views.

(m) **SCYSA AGM –**the report from the Clerk was noted.

7. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT –

Cllr Chapman reported on the applications received together with the decisions made. The recommendations of the Planning Committee were approved.

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8. FINANCE

(a) invoices approved for payment **Resolution 1412117/08**

(i) Clerk’s salary & overtime £. s/o

(ii) O2 mobile £18.47 DD

(iii) R J Cartmell £843.00

(iv) RJ Cartmell cemetery £416.00

(v) Village Hall hire £346.64

(vi) SCYSA S106 payment for sport £2,899.80

(vii) Tim Preston Tree Surgeon £5,850.00

(viii) BT telephone invoice £70.63

(ix) Image Playgrounds interim payment (swing surface) £408.00

(x) 1-2-3 Reg - business renewal 25.16

(xi) ROSPA annual inspection 243.60

(xii) Appletree website design 125.00

(xiii) Royal British Legion £50.00

(xiv) Browns nurseries £56.68

(xv) Image playgrounds (Kirklands) £8,616.00

(xvi) Etheringtons – trees £144.00

xvii) Mr J Chapman – compost £11.01

(xviii) Mr LMattinson – speed gun £94.50

(xix) Currys PCworld – printer £69.99

(b) Income:

Ward Grant for spring flowering bulbs £500.00

Ward grant for new strimmer and pole saw £537.50

VAT refund £1,735.42

Cemetery £410.00

Donation towards new trees –Miss J Roberts £80.00

© Account Balances:

Treasurers Account £68,729.33

Cemetery Account £10,772.19

Contingency Account £44,008.17 + £15,000 Bond

Premium Account £18,420.91 + £10,000 bond

8. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter from St Marys regarding grants

b) letter of invitation to Parish Councils “working together” meeting 29th November

c) notice of increase fees for YLCA subscription 2018

d) letter from BT on updated terms and conditions together with price increases

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 12th December 2017 at 7.15pm

Signed ………………………………………Chairman 12th December 2017

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