**Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council**

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

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Chairman Councillor Keith Marquis

**MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12th January 2016 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall, Strensall**

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

All members were in attendance

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None given other than it was noted that all members had a personal interest in item 9 (d)

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting and the Finance meeting held on 4th January 2016 had been circulated beforehand. These were approved without amendment and the Chairman signed with full approval **Resolution 120116/01**

4. PRESENTATION

Amanda Gaines of the City of York Council Public Health Department gave a presentation on a study taking place in the Ward of people’s health issues and also social problems. All members had been sent a copy of the presentation and were asked to submit any comments and suggestions to the Clerk who could then forward them to Amanda. This was to include a list of activities already at the Village Hall, any activities that could be suggested to improve the health and mobility of the residents. The possible provision of a regular community bus to Haxby was also something the Council felt would be well used. All these and any other suggestions could be sent via the clerk, if possible by the end of January **Resolution120116/02**

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public had an interest in road safety measures but would prefer not to speak at that time but speak if permitted when the item was discussed. The Chairman agreed to permit this

1. ONGOING ISSUES

(a) **Playgrounds**

The Chairman of the Playgrounds Working Group felt that the report circulated to members was self-explanatory and that the Clerk was progressing an application to Yorventure for funding to assist with creating new playground at Northfields Junior to make it more maintenance free although it will be more expensive in grass cutting. Cllr Marquis confirmed that he had requested the s106 funds held by CYC to be released. As soon as a design has been planned it will be sent to Cllrs for approval. In view of the constraints to be placed on the s106 expenditure, it would seem a sensible plan to do this.

(b) **Footpath Brochure**

Cllr Plant confirmed that no progress had been made to walk the routes in view of the very wet weather but it was hoped that as soon as the weather permitted it could head towards completion.

(c) **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Chairman confirmed that option 1 on the boundary had been agreed and progress with compilation of the Neighbourhood Plan could now be made. A meeting with Rebecca Harrison of City Council was booked or next Tuesday 19th January at 7pm in the Hampshire Room of the Village Hall

(d) **Road Safety**

Cllr Mattinson reported on his attendance at the meeting at West Offices where he felt the officers dismissed his submission as irrelevant. The Parish Council as a body were astounded that they were perceived as not representing the residents of the parish. It would seem that a previously submitted petition of over 300 residents was also classed as not representing the views of the village. Whilst the Parish Council is aware of the measures which the City Council are determined to force on the village, they are trying to make officers understand that the people of the village have other priorities which are being dismissed without consideration. Cllr Mattinson and the Clerk to put a response together to send to Neil Ferris (include Ward Cllrs, MP, Ian Gilles together with a further copy of the survey). A letter relative to issues on Sheriff Hutton Road to be sent to Ben Potter to seek an update on his progress **Resolution 121016/03**

(e) **Tree Risk Assessment**

Cllrs Chapman and Hill had begun a visual inspection of the trees within land for which the Parish Council is responsible. They were eager to complete this following the advice of Dan Calvert of CYC. A small number of mature trees had been identified as requiring felling, together with removal of dead branches of others, and once a full list was compiled a tree surgeon would be commissioned to deal with this. The Clerk to seek a “daily rate” fee from three tree surgeons for consideration at the next meeting. Cllr Marquis requested that the trees be identified on the available maps so that the documented evidence of survey etc was on file. This work will postpone a full Tree Risk Assessment for a year or so. **Resolution 120116/04**

(f) **Notice Boards**

The notice board outside Station House was to be repaired by Neil Jackson before the end of January at a cost of around £180 which was more cost effective than purchasing new one.

The Notice board outside the Post Office will require relocation on 30th January when the existing Post Office closes. This has been agreed to be relocated on the right hand wall of the library building and will comply with the Library Management conditions. The Parish Council are very grateful for the agreement of the Library Management. **Resolution 120116/05**

(g) **Flooding Issues**

Cllr Marquis reported on his involvement on 26th December from a call from Cllr Fisher who had spent about over 3 hours knee deep in cold dirty water trying to stop motorists from driving irresponsibly and sending bow waves of water into properties on the corner of The Village and Sheriff Hutton Road. There are photographs of the flooded areas which will be available to the public inquiry that has been promised by CYC. Cllr Plant advised the meeting of the flooding issues the residents of Lords Moor Lane had experienced and this would be included in any submission made. Almost all Councillors were happy to volunteer to be called upon in an emergency if available should a similar event occur. The evidence of raw sewage from the recently installed manhole allied to The Tannery development located close to the entrance to the Ship car park was of grave concern to members.

(h) **Defibrillator**

Cllr Smith reported on her meeting with Ward Cllrs Helen Douglas when she was able to answer most of the questions and concerns. The application for funding was approved and can now progress. Cllr Smith to contact the organization who were prepared to provide the paint for the box and organize volunteer painters **Resolution 120116/06**

1. **Ward Grants**

Ward Cllrs Doughty and Douglas confirmed that the applications for the One Off York Pride tools list (£575), the assistance with the Carnival (£750) and the defibrillator (£1750) had been approved. The request from the Local History Group to provide a board was agreed if the Parish Council would agree to fund the installation Reference to this item is in the report by the Finance Committee Item 9.

(k) **Village Design Statements**

The Clerk reported that there were several boxes of these that have remained unsold. To encourage distribution it was agreed that some would be placed in the Library, Hirst Hall, Village Hall and Redmayne Lodge **Resolution 120116/07**

(l) **Consultation on Joint Waste Strategy**

Cllr Fisher had put together a comprehensive response which was approved and the Clerk requested to send to NYCC **Resolution 120116/08**

1. POLICE REPORT

This had been circulated previously and was noted. The change of officers was also noted and Cllr Smith and Fisher expressed their appreciation of the work PCSO Hannon had done in the village. The Clerk reported that a youth had been apprehended and issued with a fixed penalty for the possession of a prohibited drug and his parents had been informed. Cllr Chapman was delighted with this news as he had been instrumental in the collection of used drug use materials on a regular basis.

1. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Chapman reported on the 5 applications discussed and the 6 decisions received. The recommendations were approved **Resolution 120116/09**

1. FINANCE

The following invoices were approved for payment **Resolution 120116/10**

(i) Clerk’s salary £ SO

(ii) Talktalk mobile £7.50 DD

(iii) Village Hall hire £365.25

(iv) R Cartmell grass cutting £502.00

(v) Mr J Chapman expenses £35.00

(vi) Mrs S Nunn (stamps) £9.72

(vii) Mr K Marquis (Internet security renewal) £24.00

(viii) Mrs S Nunn p/o domain name £8 .38

(b) Receipts

Cemetery 90.00

Interest 21.42

(c) Account Balances:

Treasurers Account £8,434.84

Cemetery Account £7,392.09.

Contingency Account £29,088.13. + £15,000 Bond

Premium Account £18,369.46 + 10,000 bond

The account balances have now altered following the move of £12,500 from the Contingency account to Treasurers.

(d) The report of the Finance Committee meeting of 4th January 2016 including the budget predictions and costings were discussed and that the precept was recommended to remain the same as the previous year were all approved **Resolution 120116/11**

(e) Cllr Marquis reported that he and Cllr Chambers had undertaken a three month check and found everything to be in order

(f) on 4th January Cllrs Marquis and Chambers had undertaken the Clerk’s annual review and was signed by all parties. **Resolution 120116/12**

10. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter of confirmation from Post Office on the changes decided was noted
2. E-mails from the owners of the Firs were read to the meeting and it was decided that a response was not necessary. ~~to the last one~~
3. An e-mail had been received from Pearson and Ward, Solicitors, regarding Sevenoaks and the Clerk was to speak to them asap

11 ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY MEETING

12. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 9th February 2016 at 7.15pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed ……………………………………….Chairman 9th February 2016