**STRENSALL WITH TOWTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Village Hall, Northfields, Strensall, York YO325XW

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Chairman : Mr A H Fisher

**MINUTES OF AN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors Present:** Andrew Bolton Tony Fisher1 Lawrence Mattinson Susan Nunn Daniel Pillai

**In Attendance:** Fiona Hill – Parish Clerk

**Public Present:** 2

1 City of York Councillor

1. **a) To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting:**

\* Chris Chambers

City of York Councillor Paul Healey **b) To consider the approval of reasons given for absence:** \*Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

1. **To discuss the ordinary and casual vacancies:** NTR
2. **To receive any declarations of interest under the Parish Council Code of Conduct or**

**Members register of interests:** None

1. **a) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 12th December 2023 and 09th January 2024:**

Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

**b) To endorse the approved Planning Committee minutes of 12th December 2023 and 09th January 2024** (The meeting on 23rd January 2024 was cancelled)**:**

Resolved / Endorsed (Unanimous)

1. **Public participation on any subject relating to the agenda:** The members of the public were seeking permission to use the area of grass, on right when walking from Kirklands to the play area, as a rewilding area. The Parish Council agreed to this in principle and would contact City of York Council, as the landowners.

**24/90 To receive matters raised by/with City of York Ward Councillors:**  Cllr Fisher gave an update on the latest budget.

**24/91 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action on matters arising/ongoing issues:**

a)North Yorkshire Police monthly reports - No report received

b) Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden The Parish Clerk is currently providing information, as part of the Royal Names Memorialisation application process, to the Cabinet Office Royal Names Team.

The Chapman family are delighted with the suggestion of a tree in memory of John. When the plaque is ordered, a wording draft will be forwarded for approval to the family.

 c) Year Two Tree works – consider quotations received and award contract The Parish Council had contacted five tree specialist and only received one quotation. Resolved / The Parish Council accepted the quotation from Jackdaw Tree Services for £5200.00 plus VAT (Unanimous)

 d) Post ROSPA works – consider quotations received and award contract The Parish Council had contacted four play area specialist and only received one quotation. Resolved / The Parish Council accepted the quotation from Ashfield Leisure for £3500.00 plus VAT (Unanimous)

**24/92 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action on matters raised since last meeting:**

1. Emergency Governance Committee – agree terms of reference and nominate members

Resolved / The Parish Council approved this committee with the Terms of Reference as follows:

 Proposed Terms of Reference

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Appointed by | Full Council |
| Number of Members | 3\* |
| Membership Renewed | Annually at Annual Parish Council Meeting |
| Minimum number of meetings | Only on a needs basis |
| Delegated authority for decisions | Yes |
| Delegated authority for own budget | No |
| Can appoint Sub-Committee | No |

1. The Committee will consist of the Parish Council Chairman, the Parish Council Vice- Chairman and the Planning Committee Chairman. However, should any of the above be unavailable, another Parish Councillor may be substitute.
2. In the event a Parish Council meeting is inquorate, this committee will only deal with the items on the agenda that cannot be deferred until another meeting.
3. Strensall Community Events Committee – the new defibrillator is situated on external wall of Redmayne Lodge
4. Proposed volunteer group “Friends of Strensall”

The Parish Council supported a volunteer group to assist with flower/tree planting. The group would not have any delegated powers, must seek permission before working on land owned/managed by City of York Council and any funding must be requested in advance, not retrospectively. The Parish Council approved wording for a letter/notice as follows:

*Dear Resident*

*As spring approaches, we look forward to an increasing display of spring flowers along York Road, thanks to the volunteers who planted them.*

*A resident has suggested that the village forms a “Friends of Strensall” like that in Dunnington to try to maintain our village as an attractive place to live.*

*Could you help by giving a small amount of time?*

*Do you have some grass verge outside your property that you could mow when you cut your grass?*

*Do you have a stone planter near your property that you could plant and maintain?*

*Would you be prepared to give some time to be part of a team to keep our village looking good?*

*We have six stone village signs and twelve stone planters situated around the parish.*

*If you are interested in helping with any of the above and have a few hours to space, please do get in touch.*

*Thank you!*

Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council

**24/93 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action, on any correspondence received:**

1. City of York Council – York Green Streets Tree Planting The Parish Council noted the content of the email dated 24 January 2024.

b) St Marys Church PCC Environment Group – grant request for further funding for churchyard works Resolved / The Parish Council agreed a grant of £700.00 (Unanimous)

**24/94 To discuss matters raised by/with Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO):**

a)Bank reconciliation, income received, payments made to date: 

b) Internal Controls Checks: This was conducted by Cllr Mattinson and everything found to be in order.

c) Yorkshire Local Councils Association: Information provided was circulated around Cllrs.

d) Payments Approval – None Phone Box – AR Decorating have emailed an update to say the work will be done possibly April, weather permitting.

Remembrance Service 2024 - TM Community Ltd have texted to confirm that they will assist the Parish Council again this year.

City of York Council has circulated York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Mayoral election 2024 Pre Election Publicity Guidance and says –

*“As you will be aware, the election will be held on 2 May 2024 of a Mayor for the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.*

*Although the election does not directly involve CYC or the parishes within our area, there are still some sensitivities to be mindful of in respect of pre-election activity, particularly in relation to members who may be standing as or supporting candidates/parties and any publicity that may be generated by councils during the election period.*

*The Notice of Election will be published on 26 March 2024, and this will signify the start of the Pre-Election period. I have attached, for information, a Guidance note which has been shared across the York and North Yorkshire area”.*

If a Parish Councillor is thinks they may be affected by this legislation, please speak to the Parish Clerk.

**24/95 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7.15 p.m.:** Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)