**STRENSALL WITH TOWTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Village Hall, Northfields, Strensall, York YO325XW

e-mail: strensalltowthorpePC@outlook.com

phone: 01904 491569

Chairman : Mr A H Fisher

**MINUTES OF AN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 13th MAY 2025 AT 7.45 PM**

**Councillors Present:** Andrew Bolton Thomas Carmicheal Chris Chambers David Dale Tony Fisher1 Graham Green Simon Hide Lawrence Mattinson Alan May Susan Nunn John Shirbon

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

**Public Present:** 0

1 City of York Councillor

1. **a) To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting:**  Daniel Pillai **b) To consider the approval of reasons given for absence:**  Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

1. **To discuss the ordinary and casual vacancies:** David Dale was co-opted at the A.P.C.M. prior to this meeting, so there are now two vacancies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest under the Parish Council Code of Conduct or**

**Members register of interests:** 7A – Cllr Fisher, 8B -Cllr Bolton

1. **a) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 08th April 2025:**

Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

**b) To endorse the approved Planning Committee minutes of 08th and 22nd April 2025:**

Resolved / Endorsed (Unanimous)

1. **Public participation on any subject relating to the agenda:** None

**24/240 To receive matters raised by/with City of York Ward Councillors:** Cllr Fisher was asked to report to CYC the lack of white lines on the road between Earswick and Strensall. Cllr Fisher reported that the West End bins had not been emptied due to parking near school.

**24/241 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action on matters arising/ongoing issues:** a)North Yorkshire Police monthly reports – April 2025 report circulated.

b) Community Memorial Garden – Governance, Signage, Christmas Tree, Future Planting Costs – Still awaiting legal documentation. The Parish Council would obtain quote for establishing a water supply on site.

c) Update of bus shelter outside the Fish & Chip Shop Resolved / The Parish Council agreed that the bus shelter should be replaced at a cost of £6000.00, including removal of the old shelter, of which the costs will be split 50/50 between City of York Council and Parish Council. (Votes – 8 In Favour, 3 Against)

d) City of York Council Counciltation – Smoke Control Area for whole of York Resolved / The Parish Council would respond as follows:

Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council robustly objects to the City of York Council proposal to designate the whole of York area as a Smoke Control Area.

Strensall is a rural village sitting on the outermost North-Eastern boundary of the York area.

Strensall is surrounded by open countryside on all sides.

The prevailing winds in the area are from the South-West, taking any smoke away from the populated areas of York.

Future development protection is given as one of the reasons for expansion of the SCA.

There are no plans within the recently approved local plan for any future significant quantity of new homes with the Strensall with Towthorpe Parish. Therefore, the density of housing within Strensall will not increase.

The Affordability Impact Assessment data included in the proposal is out of date (March 2022). Households will have been burning more in recent years due to cost-of-living crisis.

The world has changed since March 2022. The cost of gas and electricity have increased signifyingly and continue to do so. The cost-of-living crisis and high levels of inflation mean that more and more households are struggling to 'make ends meet' and are turning to alternative ways to stay warm and heat their homes.

The government has removed the winter Fuel allowance for the majority of pensioners.

Log burners and open fires allow residents to stay warm without incurring high utility bills.

The proposal cites the November 2023 campaign, "Fuel for Thought" claiming that 34% of people surveyed used their stoves less than in previous years. Again, this data is out of date and due to the cost of gas and electricity caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the British government’s imposition of 'Green levies'.

Concentrations of PM2.5 within the York Area are already below the UK health-based Air Quality objectives and will be even lower in a rural village on the periphery of the York boundary.

There is no evidence to indicate that there is a Particulate Matter problem in Strensall. Either in the past or present or future, as there is no large scale housing development in the local Plan for Strensall.

There is no smoke pollution problem in Strensall.

The current SCA zones and map are not confusing as commented recently by a City of York Councillor. They are crystal clear and can be easily found on the City of York Council website.

The Parish Council are not aware of a single complaint about smoke emissions in Strensall.

It is unnecessary to include Strensall within these proposals.

Using inaccurate EPC data from 3 years ago as a basis for impact assessment is flawed and unacceptable.

There is no problem in Strensall. There are no more large developments planned for Strensall. It is unnecessary to apply restrictions, anxiety and more financial pain on it's residents.

Strensall with Towthorpe Council requests that this Parish on the North Eastern of York is removed from the proposal.

**24/242 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action, on matters raised since last meetings:**

1. Purchase of summer bedding plants Resolved / The Parish Council approved expenditure of £300.00 (Unanimous)
2. Business signs on Parish Council land Resolved / The Parish Council requires businesses etc to write to them to seek permission before fixing their signage on land owned/managed by the Parish Council. (Unanimous). Therefore, the Parish Council would write to York Golf Course.
3. Cemetery Hedge Cutting

Resolved / Quote accepted of £650.00 including VAT to tidy and cut the hedging surrounding the cemetery, removal of all waste from site and leave in tidy, respectful condition. (Unanimous).

**24/243 To discuss matters raised by/with Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO):**

a) Bank reconciliation, income received, payments made to date: These reports showing bank accounts totalling £110722.25 were circulated around Cllrs.

b) Payment Approval: None

c) Financial Management - Policy Review/See APCM

d) Yorkshire Local Councils Association – NTR

e) Monthly Report from Parish Office: The bench adjacent to the golf course has collapsed, so will be replaced by the one in the bus shelter adjacent to Redmayne Lodge, which needed removing, because CYC are upgrading the bus shelter, which will include a bench.

**24/244 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 10th June 2025 at 7.00 p.m.** Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)