**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 08th JULY 2025 AT 7.00 PM**

**Councillors Present:** Andrew Bolton 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:** 1 – Anthony Drake

1 City of York Councillor

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

1. **To discuss the ordinary and casual vacancies:** Resolved / Anthony Drake was co-opted on to the Parish Council (Unanimous)
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 10th June 2025:**

Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

**b) To endorse the approved Planning Committee minutes of 10th June 2025:**

Resolved / Endorsed (Unanimous)

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

**24/260 To receive matters raised by/with City of York Ward Councillors:** Cllr Fisher gave updates on Haxby Station, Ring road improvements, anti-social behaviour, sink hole repair. Cllr Fisher reported that North Yorkshire Police are launching a 101 Live Chat. Cllrs discussed the impacts of recently approved large developments close by. Cllrs noted the suspension of parking along the village, as CYC are using a camera to inspect the drains from Lords Moor Lane, under the railway and along the village. Cllrs were impressed by the workmanship of teams changing the street lights.

Resolved / The Parish Council would write to Cllr Claire Douglas, CYC as follows: (Unanimous)

*“At the Parish Council meeting of July 08th Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council unanimously passed a resolution to condemn the decision of City of York Council not to allow the display of military equipment at the Armed Forces Day on July 05th.*

*Strensall has proudly being home to an army base since late 19th Century. The village has strong links with the army community and considers the decision made by City of York Council to be disrespectful both to the serviceman and village community.*

*We understand that some people may not agree with the display of military equipment but do not feel that the protest would have a significant enough consequence to justify the decision made.*

*We request that at future such events this mistake is not repeated”.*

**24/261 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action on matters arising/ongoing issues:** a)North Yorkshire Police monthly reports – June 2025 report circulated.

 b) Community Memorial Garden – Governance, Planting, Etc Cllr Fisher would chase up Dave Meigh, CYC regarding the lease agreement.

**24/262 To discuss and, if necessary, agree action, on matters raised since last meetings:**

1. Handyman Services

The Parish Council discussed if it would benefit from the help of a handyman to help with planting trees/bulbs, painting/staining benches, cleaning play equipment/signs, raking play bark etc. The position would be self-employed, with the contractor holding their own public liability insurance and using their own tools, maybe loaning PC equipment if/when necessary. Cllrs would send suggested tasks to the Parish Clerk who would forward month job sheet to contractor. The hourly rate TBC.

Resolved / The Parish Council agreed in principle, so the Parish Clerk would post an article on social media and contact those who advertise locally. (Unanimous)

1. Government withdrawal of Neighbourhood Plan funding The Parish Council acknowledged that:
* Neighbourhood planning empowers local communities to shape the development and growth of their areas through the creation of Neighbourhood Plans.
* The preparation of Neighbourhood Plans requires significant time, expertise, and financial resources, often placing a burden on parish and town councils.
* Neighbourhood Plans contribute to more democratic, locally-informed planning decisions and support the delivery of sustainable development aligned with community needs and aspirations.

 Resolved / The Parish Council would: (Unanimous)

1. Call upon His Majesty’s Government to provide increased and sustained funding to support the development, review, and implementation of Neighbourhood Plans.
2. Request that the Government ensures funding is accessible to all communities, to promote inclusivity and fairness in the planning process.
3. Write to the local MP and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government to communicate this resolution and advocate for enhanced support for neighbourhood planning.

**24/263 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 £198698.44 were circulated around Cllrs and are shown below. In addition, a report showing actuals, full year estimates, alongside budgets were circulated and shown below. The Parish Clerk was content that at this stage there were no areas of concern.

b) Payment Approval: None

c) Financial Management – Resolved / The updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were adopted (Unanimous) The draft CCTV Policy would be prepared ready for adoption at the next meeting.

d) Yorkshire Local Councils Association – Nothing to report

e) Monthly Report from Parish Office York Golf Club had signed the license agreement for the sign as agreed at the last meeting. However, the Parish Clerk reported that another sign had appeared, so the Parish Clerk was in the process of getting another license agreement signed. Resolved / The Parish Council agreed that should York Golf Club fix anything else on Parish land, without first obtaining permission, then all license agreements will be revoked and York Club would be asked to remove all signage. (Unanimous).

**24/264 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12th August 2025 at 7.00 p.m.** Resolved / Approved (Unanimous)

 

