

DRAFT

Minutes Of The Annual Meeting Of The Parish held on

Monday 26th May 2025 at 7:30pm in the Earswick Village Hall

There was 1 member of the public present.

1. Apologies received from Cllrs Offler, Leveson & Ellis
2. It was agreed that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on 20th May 2024 be adopted as a true & accurate record and were duly signed.
3. Cllr Jones gave a report on Community Affairs – see appendix 1
4. Cllr Jones gave the Neighbourhood Watch Report on behalf of Linda & Tony Murphy – see appendix 2

The meeting closed at 07:35pm

Appendix 1

Community Report 2024-2025

Whilst this is not a designated parish council meeting I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the members of the Parish Council and the Clerk for their commitment and dedication to the task of overseeing the various official requirements and issues that have arisen in the village over the past year.

My thanks also go to Jim McTurk, for continuing to act as the Parish Council's Internal Auditor.

Two new members have recently joined the council, Gill Offler and Ian Yeowart bringing the Parish Council up to its full complement of 7 councillors.

The Parish Council continues to review its expenditure and wherever possible reduce costs through the use of good financial management and prudent budgeting and as a result the Parish Council has been able to limit the increase in the parish precept to 1% for the second year running. The majority of the precept money is spent on maintaining the 30 acres of public open space as well as the general upkeep and repair of parish council assets such as the village hall, scented garden and the tennis courts.

The public open space continues to be well used by residents and visitors alike, particularly dog walkers. Thanks must go to those residents who help keep the area tidy by picking up rubbish on their daily walks. Dog owners are reminded to keep their dogs on leads whilst on the public footpaths and in the car parks. With the help of volunteers from St Nicks the area around the pond has been cut back and given a general tidy up.

The fence around the children's play area has been replaced this year.

A second defibrillator has been installed at the side of the vets on Willow Grove.

Bookings for the village hall continue to grow with a wide range of classes/activities taking place on most days. Residents are able to participate in all of the classes though in most, if not all, a fee would be payable.

Wi-fi is now available in the hall.

Current activities include:

Monday evenings- Pilates class

Tuesday mornings (alternate weeks)- Sewing/upholstery club

Tuesday evenings- Flower Arranging (monthly) Adult Ballet classes.

Wednesday mornings- Pilates class

Wednesday evenings- Puppy/Dog Training

Thursday evenings- Puppy/Dog Training

Saturday mornings- Drama Kids drama classes for 3 ranges of year groups

Under the guidance of the Parish Council the Scented Garden is now being run by a small, but extremely dedicated, group of volunteers. These include Martin Lumley-Holmes, Jackie Holland, Lesley Edington, Judith Stevens, Vanessa Gill, and David Jones.. The volunteers would love for other residents to join them and everyone is welcome to come along to meet them on the first Friday morning of every month. This year a new concrete pathway has been constructed between the village hall car park and the garden to allow easy access for all residents.

The tennis courts have recently had their annual spring clean and continue to be used by a keen core of residents. All residents in Earswick can use the courts for a very small annual fee of £35. This allows EVERY member of the household entry to the tennis courts and each member can be accompanied by guest players within the same fee. Details can found on the parish website earswick.org.

The Earswick Coffee mornings that are held on the first Monday of the month in the Village Hall from 10.30-12.00 continue to be well supported throughout the year. Around 25-30 residents attend regularly and once a year a lunch is held instead of the normal coffee morning. This year attendees were treated to an interesting and highly informative talk on the charity, York Against Cancer, by Professor Steve Leveson. Over 50 residents attended the coffee morning held in May that was themed to coincide with the celebration of 80 years of VE day. The collection raised was donated to the British Legion.

Thanks go to Pat Leveson and Gill Offler for continuing to organise the coffee mornings, Di Ridley, Geraldine Covell and Judith Stevens for helping out in the kitchen and to Vanessa Gill and Dave Scobie for their delicious cakes. The next coffee morning will take place on Monday 7 June.

The proposal for the dualling of the A1237 Outer Ring Road and improvement of the Strensall Roundabout still remains unclear. It is unlikely that the dualling of the road will go ahead in the near future although plans to enlarge the existing roundabout and approach roads, with a new pedestrian and cycle underpass constructed linking Huntington and Earswick, is still under consideration. A parallel pedestrian and cycle zebra crossing may also be constructed on Strensall Road about 150m north of the roundabout.

Finally I would urge everyone, where they are able, to play an active part in village life from helping at the coffee mornings and in the Scented Garden to supporting events in the village hall or by just simply helping to keep the village looking clean and tidy.

Appendix 2

Earswick Neighbourhood Watch. Annual report 25th May 2025

Staying Safe and Sound

Please find enclosed our review of the Earswick Neighbourhood Watch, as always we have focused on how we can all work together to keep our community safe and enjoyable.

Addressing Noise Nuisance Proactively

Last year, we experienced some evenings of excessive noise on the field next to the Village Hall overflow car park, particularly after secondary school exams ended. Thanks to everyone who reported these incidents to the Police on 101 (or 999 when truly disruptive) – your calls led to a swift response and resolution each time.

While we all want to see people enjoying themselves, there's a clear line when noise becomes a disturbance. To prevent a repeat this year, we're emailing North Yorkshire Police in June to request increased patrols and visits to the area both before exams finish and during the school break-up period. This proactive step aims to address potential issues before they escalate.

Staying Ahead of Scams and Fraud

The landscape of crime is constantly evolving, with a significant increase in online and phone-related scams and fraud. We continue to circulate national and local Neighbourhood Watch information to help Earswick residents stay informed and protected. Remember, if something feels strange, it probably is. Always be cautious about unsolicited calls, emails, or messages asking for personal information or money. If in doubt, terminate the call or close the web site. Always take your time, fraudsters often work using the surprise or by trying to bring a sense of urgency in conversations.

Recent Local Incidents

We've had a couple of recent reports that highlight the importance of vigilance:

Suspicious vans: Incidents of suspicious vans being present in the neighbourhood or calling at properties have been reported.

Individual looking into property: A resident reported an individual moving through bushes looking into people's gardens through the rear fencing .

Please continue to report any suspicious activity to us, and where appropriate, we'll circulate the information via email to keep everyone aware. Your keen eyes are our best defence!

We're always here to offer advice, support, and help whenever we can. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have concerns or need assistance. Let's continue to work together to maintain our safe and friendly community in Earswick.

Tony & Linda Murphy

Earswick Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

