



**EARSWICK**

PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY

*February 2016*

## A Vision for the future of Earswick



### Welcome to the Earswick Neighbourhood Plan Update

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with an update on progress to date including a summary of the results of the Survey concluded in October, provide information on what will be included in the second, and final, Survey and identify the steps and actions to be taken by the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party during the coming year.

#### **The Survey**

A public meeting was held in the Village Hall in December attended by approximately 50 people. The results of the independently analysed survey were presented by the consultants, YourLocale. Detailed results of the survey and YourLocale's report are available online at: [www.earswick.org](http://www.earswick.org)

The results identified that approximately 84% of residents are happy with the village as it is whilst on the question of future housing, 61% of the respondents said they would not like to see any housing developments in Earswick as opposed to 35% who were in favour of some development (4% of the respondents did not answer this question).



In the survey residents also highlighted other areas that were important to them:

- Security (including crime) 93% of respondents
- Open spaces, 87% of respondents

Representatives of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party recently met with officials working on the City Council Local Plan and discussed with them the results of the residents' survey. At this stage the City Council were unable to give any indication as to whether or not some housing development would be earmarked in the Local Plan in Earswick.

Whilst the brief of the Working Party is to represent the wishes of the residents of Earswick, as identified by the first survey, it is also equally important that we highlight the potential consequences of taking forward a Neighbourhood Plan with zero growth over the next 15 years. There is a possibility that such a strategy could result in the Neighbourhood Plan being overridden if it does not allocate at least the minimum amount of development detailed in the Local Plan/Government Guidelines.

A policy to refuse any development in Earswick, could be a developer's dream as this could be considered unreasonable by a future Planning Inspector and the developer could win on appeal.

Lets be realistic, if Earswick had zero growth over the last 15 years, half of us would not be living here.

It is good practice, and common sense, therefore to ensure that any plan that is being developed for a period as long as 15 years into the future should be robust enough to cater for any eventuality.

For that reason the second residents' survey will still include sections relating to potential future housing development. These would only become applicable in the event that any such developments become mandatory.

## Second Survey

Over the next two months the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party will draft a second residents survey with technical support from Yourlocale and City of York Council. Results of this survey will once again be shared online and at a future residents' meeting following which a draft neighbourhood plan will be produced. This draft Plan will be subject to a public referendum, at which it is necessary to gain a more than 50% 'yes' vote of those voting in a public referendum in order to bring into force. This referendum will be open to residents on the Electoral Roll. **Therefore if anyone in your household is not already on the Electoral Roll and they wish to take part in this referendum, now is the time to ensure that they take the necessary action to be included on the Electoral Roll.**



The primary goal of the second survey will be to identify residents' levels of support for the key objectives identified from the first survey:

1. Maintaining and improving local facilities for existing and new residents
2. Seek on-going improvements to transport (including provision of cycle-paths)
3. Prioritise local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth
4. Protect green space, the landscape and support nature conservation
5. Continue to ensure that Earswick remains a low crime and secure area

And as a safeguard against potential future development:

6. Delivery of pragmatic housing growth strategy tailored to the needs of the village (including location, style, type etc.)
7. Sensitive development that protects and enriches the landscape.

The second survey outcome will form the basis to provide a solid foundation on which to develop the final document for submission to City of York Council, incorporating the results of the referendum.

## Final Neighbourhood Plan

Our Final Neighbourhood Plan will provide clear guidance on how you, the residents, want any new development to be addressed including identifying where, when and how much development should take place. It should also identify the necessary improvements required to the local infrastructure and traffic management whilst protecting the facilities that we all appreciate.



### Members of the Working Party:

Bill Gambold (Chairman), Fir Tree Close

Ian Yeowart, High Garth, The Village

Francis Martin, Willow Grove

Derek Jones, Earswick Chase

John Williams, Garden Village

Sian Wiseman, Shilton Garth Close

Jim McTurk, Earswick Chase

Graham Tate, Stablers Walk

**Further Information** on the Earswick Neighbourhood Plan Working Party or any other aspect of the Earswick Plan, is available on the Earswick Parish Council website: [www.earswick.org](http://www.earswick.org) under the sub-heading Neighbourhood Plan.

Please continue to write to us at [earswickneighbourhoodplan@aol.co.uk](mailto:earswickneighbourhoodplan@aol.co.uk) with your views and comments.

