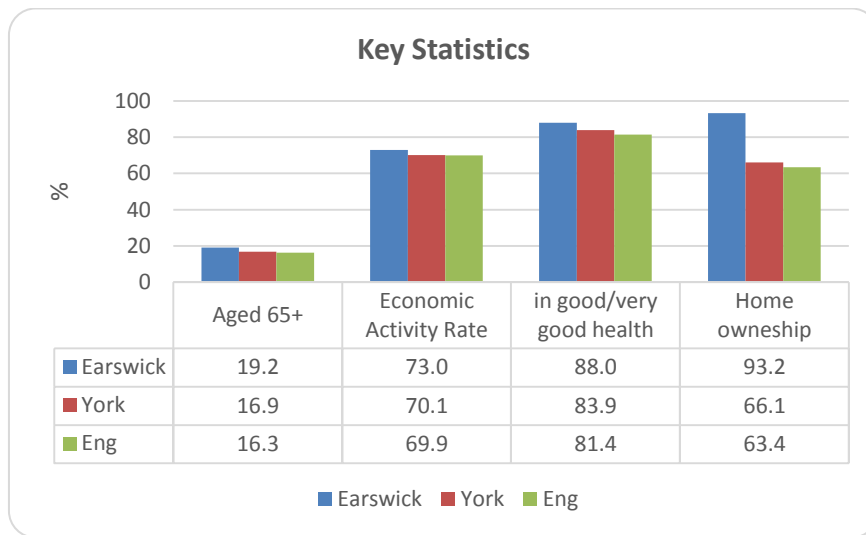




## Introduction to Earswick

Earswick is a parish situated on the edge of York. It had a population of 876 and 346 households at the time of the 2011 Census. The Parish has a higher than average proportion of older residents, with over 19% aged over 65 compared with 17% for York as a whole and the 16.3% national average. The economic activity rate is higher than that of York and England as a whole, and 88% of residents reported to be in good or very good health which is also somewhat higher than the York and national averages. Home ownership levels are particularly high with over 93% of households being owned outright or with a mortgage or loan against 66% for York and the 63% national average. Privately rented households represent just 5% of households compared with 17.9% for York and 16.8% for England as a whole.



## The Survey

The Earswick Parish Neighbourhood Plan Working Party carried out a household survey of parishioners to assist in the preparation of its Neighbourhood Plan. The Working Party is keen to engage with the whole community and the survey was conducted during August/September 2015.

A questionnaire was produced by the Working Party and delivered to households throughout the Parish. To maintain anonymity the completed questionnaires were collected in unmarked envelopes.

A total of 219 completed questionnaires, 1 blank return and 1 letter of objection were also received. The number of valid returns represents a 63% household response rate. The printed survey responses were entered into an online survey analysis tool (survey monkey) by independent analysts.

The following section provides a summary of the key findings.

**Q1: In the context of our village now and in the future, what is important to you and your household?**

What is important to you? In the context of our village now and in the future, what is important to you and your household? For each category, please rate its importance by placing a tick in the appropriate box.

Answer Options	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High	Response Count
Security (including crime)	0	1	14	70	130	215
Open spaces	1	7	17	81	107	213
Road and pathway conditions	1	4	31	103	77	216
Public transport facilities	3	11	51	86	63	214
Health facilities (eg doctors and dentists)	18	25	50	74	48	215
Housing supply (type)	31	29	36	49	59	204
Community facilities (eg school, library, village)	16	25	92	49	30	212
Sports and leisure facilities (for all)	14	34	100	51	12	211
Housing supply (quantity)	60	45	41	19	40	205
Shopping facilities	22	57	82	38	16	215
Village social events	17	50	110	31	4	212
Other - Please describe						38
<i>answered question</i>						<b>217</b>
<i>skipped question</i>						<b>2</b>

Table ranked by the highest propensity of total of high/very high responses

- Residents placed the greatest importance on security (including crime), closely followed by a high value of open spaces.
- Roads and pathway conditions, public transport and health facilities were also recognised as important factors to those responding to the survey.
- Although all answer options were considered important to many residents, village social events and shopping facilities were considered less important by some respondents.
- Respondents were asked if there were other features not listed in the questionnaire, which were important to them. 38 made a comment, these were coded and the following additional issues were raised:
  - Road safety (12)
  - Green transport links (eg cycleways/footpaths) (8)
  - Retain village characteristics (5)
  - Traffic issues (4)

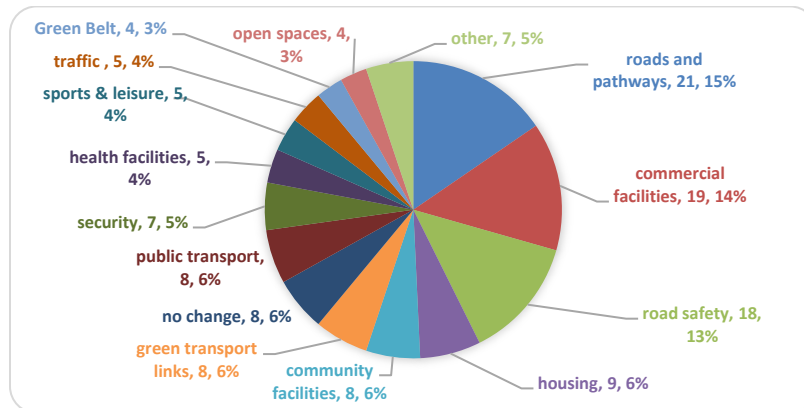
**Q2, what's good and what needs improvement?**

	very poor	poor	ok	good	excellent	Response Count
	needs significant improvement	needs some improvement	no need for improvement			
Open spaces	2	6	39	75	90	212
Security (including crime)	1	26	63	90	34	214
Public transport facilities	7	24	79	76	30	216
Sports and leisure facilities (for all)	4	24	116	47	18	209
Community facilities (eg school, library, village hall)	4	27	111	50	19	211
Village social events	4	19	125	43	12	203
Housing supply (quantity)	12	23	62	42	69	208
Housing supply (type)	14	26	44	49	74	207
Road and pathway conditions	12	49	74	56	25	216
Health facilities (eg doctors and dentists)	14	41	87	40	28	210
Shopping facilities	28	50	79	31	19	207
Other (please describe)						52
	<i>answered question</i>					217
	<i>skipped question</i>					2

Table ranked by the highest propensity of ok/good/excellent responses

- Open spaces and security (including crime) were again ranked the top 2 in terms of what's good about living in Earswick. Some 42% of respondents gave an excellent score for open spaces with very few indicating a need for improvement.
- Although security (including crime) attracted a relatively high level of satisfaction score, it appears this is an area could be improved with over 12% of respondents which could indicate a need for significant or some improvement.
- The results show that over half of survey respondents are highly satisfied with the current housing supply with over 56% indicating a good/excellent score for housing type and 51% for the quantity of housing. Some residents, however, indicated they would like to see improvements with 16% wishing improvements be made to the current housing quantity and 18% to housing type.
- The lack of shopping facilities was identified as an area which requires the most significant improvement with 36% of respondents stating shopping facilities were poor/very poor and needing significant/some improvement.
- Roads and pathways (28% of respondents) and health facilities (25% of respondents) were also identified as areas requiring the most improvement.
- Respondents were also asked if there were other features not listed in the questionnaire which were important to them. 52 made a comment, road safety/traffic issues were the main additional points raised.

## Q2A. Comments for any areas requiring improvement



This was an open ended section which asked for people's comments on any areas requiring improvements. The responses were categorised and the overall results show roads and pathways, commercial facilities and road safety attracted the highest number of comments regarding improvements. The following points were raised:

**Roads and Pathways:** Many residents complained about the poor state of pavements and highways, with many requiring resurfacing and repairs. Strensall Road and the Village Road were identified by a number of respondents as needing improvements.

**Commercial facilities:** A relatively high number of residents highlighted the lack of shopping facilities in the Parish. There doesn't appear to be high demand for large scale retail offer within the Parish, but a number would welcome a small village shop or convenience store.

**Road Safety:** This was a specific cause for concern with many residents wishing to see traffic calming measures introduced. Strensall Road was identified by a number of respondents as an increasingly busy road, which deters cyclists and pedestrians, especially as there is no safe way to cross.

**Housing:** There was a mixed response regarding housing provision with the majority indicating they didn't want any future developments compared to others who declared an appetite for generally some smaller scale developments. Those resisting future housing developments voiced concerns about protecting the green belt/open spaces, infrastructure issues and retaining the current village characteristics. Others acknowledged the demand for more homes and the importance of having a good quality supply to include sustainable and affordable, housing to cater for all age groups.

**Other:** There is some appetite for improved community facilities with some stating that they would like to have a good quality pub or restaurant in the Parish. There was also some demand for improved facilities for cyclists and pedestrians. There is also an appetite for better public transport with some suggesting demand for a bus service to Monks Cross/Vanguard. The following are examples of some of the comments received:

*"Roads and pathways in poor state of repair."*

*"Better playground equipment for children ages 5 to 15 years."*

*"Would be nice to have a shop we could walk to."*

*"A bus service to Monks Cross would be good."*

*"Further speed restrictions measures required on main road."*

*"The Village needs some low cost/affordable housing for the many young people who will have to leave the area otherwise."*

### Q3. Vision for Earswick

This was an open ended question, which asked for people's views on how they would like to see Earswick Parish over the next 10 to 15 years. 155 people responded and 310 comments were categorised. The following priorities emerged:

1. Retain village characteristics (96 responses, 62% of total)
2. No development (43 responses, 28% of total)
3. Green belt/open space (32 responses, 21% of total)
4. Small scale change (31 responses, 20% of total)
5. More facilities (19 responses, 12% of total)

Examples of comments received:

*"A village that preserves its strengths - housing similar with any development small scale and gradual on brown field sites. Village Hall, tennis courts, children's play areas, river access. A community spirit with some community/village functions e.g. bonfire night, summer parties. Village green to remain as present."*

*"Largely unchanged with up to date services and a rural feel."*

*"I would like to see plenty of open spaces, places to walk. No issue with a few houses being built. Really would like to see a bit more commerce and community, a new shop and medical centre."*

*"No development, maintain Green Belt and public open spaces thus retaining character of the village."*

*"Not a lot of change from today - it is very good as it is."*

*"Earswick should NOT BE PART of an URBAN SPRAWL. It should maintain its country aspect, open spaces with tree planting and the present standard of housing should be maintained."*

*"At the moment it is just a suburb. No facilities at the moment for all age groups, needs to be more of a community."*

*"A Village where residents can live in homes which are suitable for all age groups."*

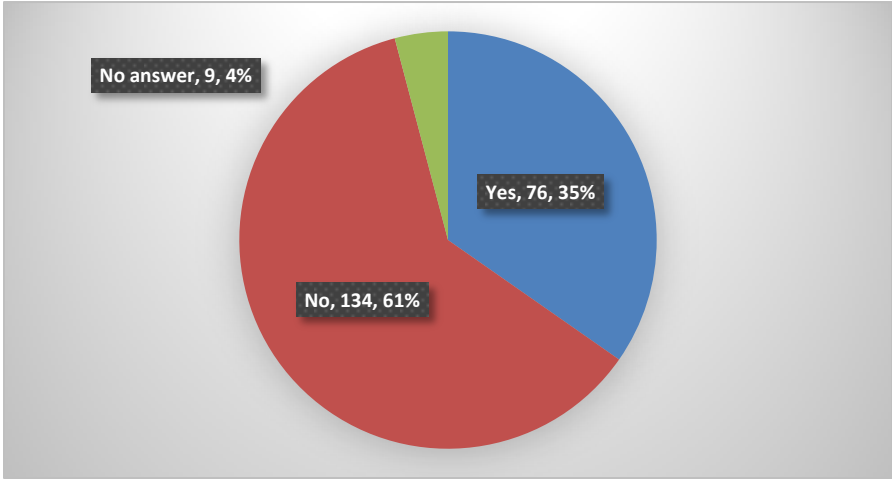
*"A village school would give a focal point to what is basically a road between two large villages. Some low cost housing may be in bring families with young children. As it stands it resembles a retirement village" ..*

*"I see the village remaining the same size. There are sufficient brownfield sites to accommodate further development for housing. The road (Strensall Road) could not cope with extra traffic. We have adequate services (doc/doctor/shops) within a short walk/bus ride. Why create need for more?"*

*"To keep the village feel I think we need modest development of mixed housing catering for first time buyers and residents wishing to downsize but stay in Earswick."*

### Future Development

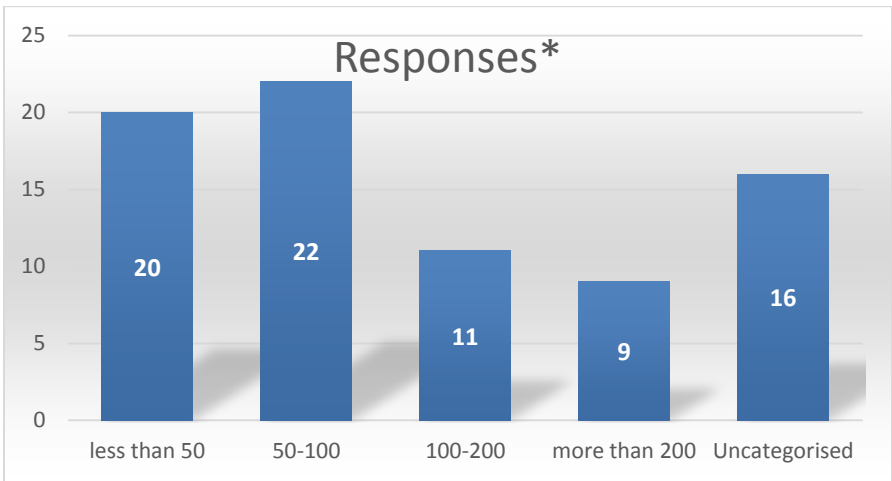
#### Q4a. Would you like to see housing development in Earswick over the next 15 years?



The majority of respondents some 61% said they would not like to see housing development in Earswick over the next 15 years against 35% who answered yes. 4% of respondents did not answer this question.

#### Q4b. If yes, how many new houses you like to see in Earswick over the next 15 years?

The results show that the majority of those wanting to see housing developments in Earswick over the next 15 years would prefer to see smaller developments with no more than 100 new homes. There is a lesser appetite for those wanting to see larger scale developments, however, a small number said they would like developments of more than 200 homes.



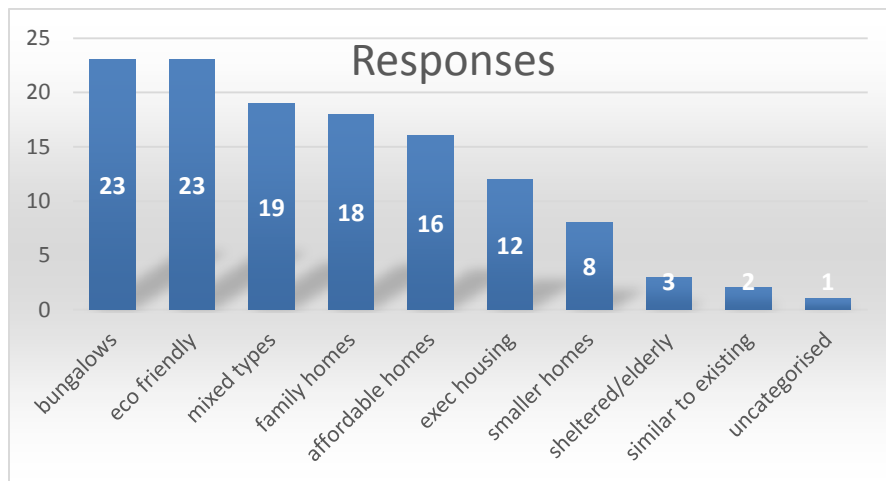
It was not possible to categorise all responses. Six respondents indicated they would like to see a 10% increase, but without knowing their perception of current stock and whether they were referring to a total 10% or annual growth rate this figure is too ambiguous to quantify. One respondent said they would like to see less than 10% and another said 15%. Other comments included “as infrastructure support”; “as needed”; “good quality small developments”; and “selected housing.”

\*Please note that 4 people who responded that they would not like to see no housing development in Earswick also answered this question.

**Q4c. Again, if yes, what type of housing would you like to see, please provide details (e.g. large family houses, bungalows, affordable houses or eco-friendly homes).**

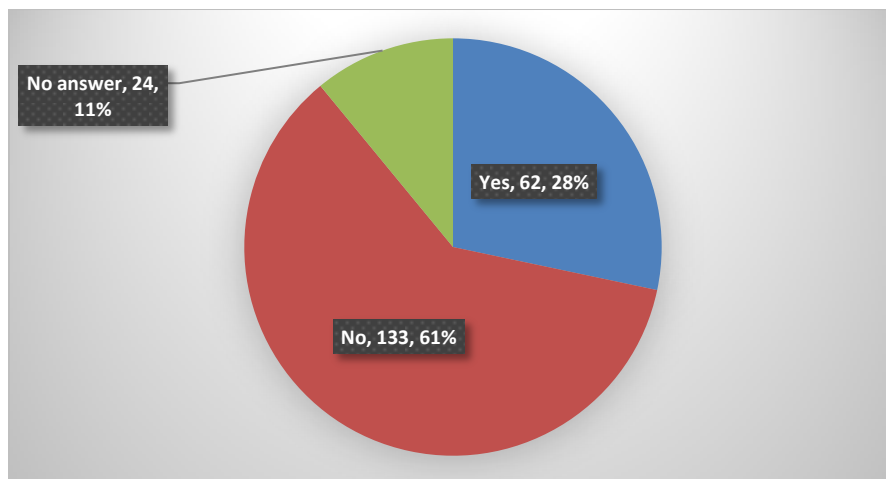
The responses revealed that bungalows and eco friendly homes attracted the highest number of responses., followed by mixed types and family homes.

Respondents also made comments on other questions about the need for housing to cater for all age groups, as well as more specifically the need for affordable housing to cater for all age groups. Many have also mentioned their liking for high quality executive type housing and for future housing to be in line with existing housing stock.



**Q4d. Would you like to see any other development in Earswick over the next 15 years?**

Respondents were asked if they would like to see any other developments (non housing) in Earswick over the next 15 years, with 61% stating they would not like to see any other developments compared with 28% saying yes.

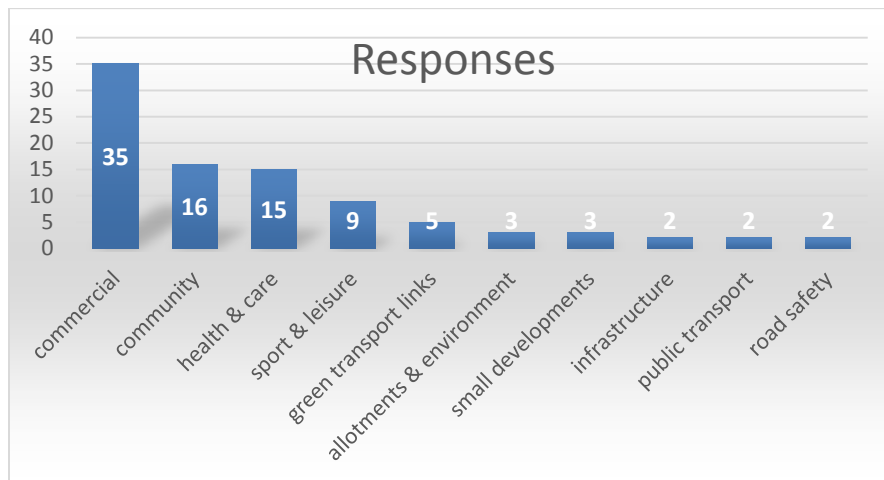




**Q4e. If yes, types of other development in Earswick over the next 15 years?**

This was an open ended question and the responses were categorised revealing a similar pattern to those stating a preference for housing developments with 61% stating they would not like to see any other developments compared with 28% saying yes.

Commercial developments attracted the highest number of responses amongst those indicating they would like to see other types of development in Earswick. A village shop was the most popular requirement. Other developments included a pub, restaurant, health care facilities such as a doctor or dentist surgeries, play areas, sports facilities and improvements to local infrastructure and public transport.



**Key Issues**

**5. What do you consider to be three issues that our Neighbourhood Plan should address?**

Respondents were asked to provide brief details in order of importance. This was another open ended question responses were categorised and weighted.

The survey shows that development control (e.g. responses relating to limiting development, keep village same or similar size etc.) and the importance of the green belt and open spaces were the two most important issues to be addressed in the Earswick Neighbourhood Plan. The two issues are intrinsically linked. Some respondents voiced concern about over development and the importance of retaining the current characteristics of the village. A high number of responses referred to the importance of living in a predominantly rural environment and valuing open space and the green belt which should be protected by effective development control measures.

Security was identified as the 3<sup>rd</sup> most important issue. The comments suggest that security of open space is a particular cause for concern to combat anti social behaviour and trespassing.

A high number of responses referred to the importance of maintaining and retaining Earswick’s village characteristics. It is evident that a high proportion of residents are very satisfied with the current state of the neighbourhood and ensure that any future development is complementary and in line with the existing style and characteristics.

Housing is ranked in the top five issues that a neighbourhood plan should address. Respondents indicated that housing needs to be of good quality, eco-friendly, affordable, and generally that it should provide a mix of housing types and sizes to ensure that all housing requirements are catered for.

Some concerns were expressed regarding increased traffic and associated issues such as road safety and pollution if additional housing is permitted. Improvements to the infrastructure, such as highways, education, public transport and broadband provision would also be required.

Rank	issue	responses			weighted score
		1	2	3	
1	development control	51	27	8	215
2	green belt/open space	43	26	20	201
3	security	21	17	16	113
4	maintain village character	26	13	6	110
5	housing	18	12	5	83
6	road safety	7	15	12	63
7	traffic issues	11	11	8	63
8	road & pathways	11	9	4	55
9	public transport	8	5	6	40
10	infrastructure improvement	7	6	5	38
11	good maintenance	5	3	12	33
12	no development	7	2	2	27
13	community facilities	3	4	7	24
14	commercial facilities	3	5	4	23
15	childrens facilities	2	4	4	18
16	green transport links	2	3	6	18
17	health	1	3	4	13
18	organic growth	3	1		11
19	dog contol	2		3	9
20	accepting change	2		1	7
21	better broadband	1		2	5
22	environmental issues			5	5
23	sport & leisure	1	0	2	5
24	street lighting	1	0	1	4