



EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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Autumn 2017

City of York Council Local Plan

City of York Council recently published the latest draft of the Local Plan following a six-month delay in which it considered the implications of the closure of three MOD sites in the city. The main barracks at Strensall will be developed for the provision of 623 houses, together with a new primary school, whilst the area at Towthorpe Lines will be designated as a site for business and employment. The Parish Council, together with the Ward Councillors, are continuing to work closely with the City of York Council to identify measures to mitigate against any potential increased traffic flows along the Strensall Road through Earswick. The Local Plan will now be submitted to the residents of York for a final public consultation, (a period of 6 weeks provisionally earmarked to start mid September), before being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for final approval in mid 2018.

No development sites have been identified in the proposed Local Plan for Earswick.

Earswick Neighbourhood Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Plan for Earswick is being updated to reference the recently published City of York Local Plan. In addition the proposed Policy on the Green Belt is also being amended to reflect a similar Policy contained within the approved Upper and Nether Poppleton Neighbourhood Plan. The main advantage of basing it on a similar policy in an Approved Plan is that it greatly increases the chances it will be approved by the examiner.

The basic premise of the Earswick Neighbourhood Plan, that there should be no further development on the existing Green Belt, remains unchanged.

As a result of these changes it will be necessary to re-consult with residents and the necessary statutory bodies. Details of this re-consultation will be circulated in the next few weeks.

Diamond Jubilee Wood

City of York Council has contacted the Parish Council with regards to land required in connection with the proposed York Outer Ring Road Improvements. The proposal comprises a series of targeted highway improvements that will affect seven junctions around the York Outer Ring Road, including the Strensall Roundabout. In order to facilitate the changes to this roundabout and provide for an underpass across the Ring Road the Parish Council would be required to sell off around 50% of Diamond Jubilee Wood. The Parish Council is currently in talks with the City Council and their representatives. Any updates on these talks will be discussed at Parish Council meetings and included in the minutes.

Ward Funding

Following our successful applications for funding, two smart replacement Parish Noticeboards have been installed – namely in Stablers Walk and Northlands.

If you wish to advertise an event in Earswick – particularly in aid of charity please contact the parish clerk and the request will be referred to the Parish Council for consideration.

Ward funding has also met the cost of the installation of acoustic panels in the Village Hall, which has led to a marked improvement to the sound quality within the hall.

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

The old fitness equipment on the Open Space had to be removed after serving its purpose for about 20 years. It was not cost effective to pay for some remedial work that had become necessary. The P C is actively looking at costings for new equipment that is hoped will be more user-friendly for a wider range of residents, including older children.



Neighbourhood Watch

The Earswick Neighbourhood Watch Scheme has 21 Coordinators for the 360 houses. All residents benefit from being in a village with a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme by enjoying a very low crime rate and, in many cases, a reduction in their house insurance. However, it would be better if more residents would share the task by volunteering to become a coordinator and enable us to achieve having a coordinator for around 10 households in their area – so ideally we could do with another 10-15 coordinators.

The task of a coordinator is not onerous – today most households have computers and Internet connectivity and so information can be passed very quickly. The role involves encouraging your neighbours to be alert for unusual activity – get neighbours to keep an eye on each other's properties, take in the bins when they are out, ensure that they have time switches to turn on lights and radios around dusk so that the house looks lived in etc.

If someone suffers an incident, theft or break in please pass the information rapidly to Bill Gambold, the Village Coordinator, at gambolds@hotmail.com to ensure that all residents are warned as soon as possible. Over the years Earswick has enjoyed a low crime rate but occasionally we have had car thefts, house, garden and shed break-ins plus the odd spate of graffiti – so please consider joining the coordinators and supporting our scheme. If you have not done so please also ensure that Bill or your coordinator has your e-mail address.

Tennis courts

As indicated in the previous newsletter, the benches and posts have been painted and the nets renewed. In addition the playing surface has been cleaned and treated and re painted and is now included in a routine maintenance programme. Hopefully tennis players of all ages and abilities within Earswick will enjoy using our refurbished courts. Please remember that children are not permitted to ride bikes and scooters on the tennis courts, as this will damage the new surface.

Lock House Lane car park

Lock House Lane car park has now been fitted with security gates that are locked overnight.

Coffee Mornings

These continue to run on the First Monday of each month from 10.30 -12.00, although January 2018 will be the exception and will be held on the second Monday – 8th January 2018. There is always room in the hall to welcome more residents and we can hear each other speak more easily now due to the improved acoustics! So if that put you off before, please give it another try. Our regulars are very generous and through their donations, we continue to support local charities. We recently gave £200 to enable the son of a local resident to participate in the Special Olympics recently held in Sheffield.

As the Newsletter goes to print we are in the process of giving a donation to York Mind.

Overgrown Hedges

The Parish Council has received a number of complaints from residents who are unable to walk on the pavements around various parts of the village due to overgrown hedges and low hanging branches obstructing the pathways. CYC Highways own and maintain all adopted footpaths and require a fixed width. If a resident's hedge has grown over the concrete back plate to the footpath it is the responsibility of the resident to cut the hedge/tree back in line. CYC can theoretically cut this if it feels there is a health and safety issue. This year the shrubs/trees have grown twice as much as previous years and therefore need further trimming.

Scented Garden

Congratulations to the Scented Garden Committee who once again have gained an "Outstanding" award for the village's communal Scented Garden. A lot of effort goes into maintaining this garden for the benefit of residents and visitors alike and the Parish Council would like to express its thanks to all the volunteers for their hard work.

New Parish Councillor

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome Andrew Bell to the Parish Council. Andrew has recently moved into the village and is keen to get involved in village life.

Parish Council Vacancy

There is still one vacancy on the Parish Council so if you are interested in joining please contact either the Parish Clerk or any of the councillors.

Parish Councillors

Cllr Derek Jones – Chairman, 41 Earswick Chase – Tel: 01904 767767

Cllr Sian Wiseman – Vice Chairman, 10 Shilton Garth Close – Tel: 01904 761010

Cllr Pat Leveson – 9 Shilton Garth Close – Tel: 01904 764344

Cllr Gill Offler – 26 Stablers Walk – Tel: 01904 760898

Cllr Barry O'Connor – 36, The Village – Tel: 01904 766024

Cllr Andrew Bell – 3, Lockhouse Lane – Tel: 01904 764189

Mrs Joanne Fisher – Clerk, 24 Lock House Lane – Tel: 01904 758615

Parish Council Meeting Dates in 2017

All Council meetings take place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm and are open to the public. A public participation session also takes place between 7.15 - 7.30pm when members of the public can make representations and give evidence to councillors on any issues that they wish to raise including items included on the agenda. Meetings for the remainder of this year will take place on: 9th October, 13th November.

Christmas Fair

And afternoon tea

Sunday 12 November

Earswick Village Hall

2-4 pm

Christmas and greeting cards

Tombola

Cake stall

proceeds to



York Against Cancer

Free admission

