

# **EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL** ([www.earswick.org](http://www.earswick.org))

## **July 2016 – NEWSLETTER**

### **Annual Parish Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

The Annual Meeting of Earswick Parish held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 was disrupted by a number of residents who towards the end of the meeting stated that they wished to raise a question under Any Other Business (in order to call for a Parish Poll) and film that part of the proceedings.

The Chairman ruled that this issue could not be raised under this section of the meeting and that filming of this meeting was not allowed. As a result of the ensuing disturbance the Chairman closed the Annual Meeting of the Parish as a matter of Public Safety.

The Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) has confirmed that any business to be discussed at an annual parish meeting must be specified on the agenda prior to the meeting, it is not possible for a poll to be claimed on a matter that does not appear on the notice of the meeting.

The YLCA also confirmed that while legislation gives power for members of the public to record Parish Council meetings there is NO power for members of the public to record the proceedings of a parish meeting (ie a meeting of residents of the parish as opposed to a meeting of the Parish Council), including the annual parish meeting.

The Chairman was therefore quite correct, and acting in accordance with local government law, in disallowing the question of a parish poll to be put to the meeting and in refusing to allow filming to take place.

### **City of York Council Local Plan**

City of York Council has recently published its revised Draft Local Plan ahead of a formal period of public consultation.

The good news for Earswick residents is that the need to safeguard Green Belt land for future development is no longer necessary and as result the site at Earswick, adjacent to Willow Grove, where it was proposed to develop over 2,000 homes, has now been removed from the Plan. No other development sites have been identified within our village.

As you are aware the Parish Council has fought to have this site for proposed development removed from the Local Plan and has continued to fight against having an area of land on this scale being “safeguarded” for potential future development.

The Parish Council and your Ward Councillors are delighted that the planners at City of York Council have listened to our arguments and have accepted our case for removal of this site from their new draft Local Plan.

The consultation process on the Local Plan opens on Monday 18 July and closes on 12 September 2016.

The "Preferred Sites Consultation" document can be viewed on the Council's website or by following this link - [Local Plan Preferred Sites Consultation Document](#) and download a comments form for posting; or pick up a comments form for posting from the City's Council Offices or libraries; or you can complete a comments form on-line via the website; or send an email to [localplan@york.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@york.gov.uk).

**The Parish Council would urge you to support the proposal of no development on the greenbelt within Earswick Village by giving your support to the draft Local Plan.**

### **Earswick Neighbourhood Plan**



The Earswick Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by residents and members of Earswick Parish Council working as part of a Neighbourhood Planning Working Party with support from City of York Council and consultants, Yourlocale. The process has involved a number of key steps:

#### *Designation and Raising Awareness*

Earswick Parish Council took the decision to produce a Neighbourhood Plan at its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 in response to the Government's publication of the Localism Bill. Following a community introduction workshop in March 2015, to which all residents of the village were invited, the Parish Council formally agreed to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Earswick at its meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

In order to produce this plan the Parish Council established a Working Party, formed from members of the local community and parish council representatives to oversee a process that will result in the preparation of a plan that will be put to a public referendum. Terms of reference and membership of the Working Party were approved by the Parish Council at its Annual Meeting in May 2015.

In December 2015 Earswick was designated by City of York Council as a Neighbourhood Planning Area.

Progress on the Plan has been communicated to residents by newsletters, on noticeboards, through open meetings and on a section of the Parish Council website dedicated to the Neighbourhood Plan.

### *Consultation and Evidence Gathering*

During 2015/2016 over 150 people attended four public open meetings held in the parish. To ensure the consultation process was as inclusive as possible the working party also sought the views of Earswick residents via two detailed Neighbourhood Resident Surveys. In both cases over 60% of those surveyed responded.

### *Vision and Objectives Development*

After analysing the findings of the August/September 2015 consultation exercise the Working Party drafted a Vision and Objectives document for the Neighbourhood Plan. The findings were grouped into five themes, with each of these themes identifying the local issues for the topic and the proposed actions to address them. The Vision and Objectives document was sent to every household in the Parish during April 2016.

### *Draft Plan Creation*

Throughout July and August 2016 the Vision and Objectives proposals, responses to community engagement exercises, feedback from the open public meetings, and local evidence will be used to develop the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Consultants Yourlocale are supporting this process. A copy of the Draft Plan will be submitted to the Parish Council and then be available to every household in the Parish, either by viewing on the Parish Council website or in hard copy on request. A public exhibition of the proposals will also be held in the village hall (dates to be determined).

### *Final Plan, Submission and Examination*

Following this local consultation exercise all the comments will be analysed and fed into a final version of the proposed Draft Neighbourhood Plan. The final Draft Plan and its supporting documents will then be submitted to City of York Council for a further six week publicity period and, following that, will be subject to independent examination.

Following the successful examination the Plan will proceed to a local referendum where the community of the Parish will be asked whether it wants City of York Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Plan area. If a favourable response is received the Plan will become part of the statutory 'development plan' for the area and, with the Local Plan, become the starting point for deciding planning applications in Earswick.

The Earswick Neighbourhood Plan Working Party will recommend that there should be no development of the greenbelt and the areas of conservation, sport and recreation should all be protected.

**The Parish Council fully accept and endorse the recommendations of the Working Party, and residents' views, as identified in the findings of the village-wide surveys, that there should be no development of the Green Belt within our village and this will be clearly reflected in the draft Neighbourhood Plan.**

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

There have been no reported incidents in Earswick during the last two months. However, North Yorkshire Police has warned of a series of thefts from cars in the North of Huntington recently. The Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators have been asked to warn their neighbours.

Vic Bradshaw has been a coordinator for the river end of the Village Road since the scheme was formed in the 1990s but he is due to move shortly from the village and the Parish Council would like to record the thanks of the village for his support over the years. Bill Gambold, the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for the village, is looking for a replacement for Vic's area. A volunteer has now taken over the vacant position on Lock House Lane but Bill is still looking for someone to cover the southern part of Strensall Road.

**Contact Bill Gambold if you would like more information (765024)**

## **Earswick Scented Garden**

Alongside the Village Hall is Earswick Scented Garden. The Garden has a number of flowerbeds with an amazing array of colour throughout the gardening year. There are lawns and benches where you can go to sit and enjoy the peace and beauty of the garden. This year two new picnic tables have been installed, so it is a great place to take your lunch on a warm day!

The scented garden committee and the helpers hold regular plant sales throughout the year and these are a great opportunity for the locals to go and buy new plants for their own garden. The proceeds of these sales help to develop and enhance the garden further.

As you know, gardening is a never-ending task and needs constant upkeep. So the committee are very keen to enrol more volunteers! So if you have a free morning or afternoon and would like to do a bit of weeding or pruning in this lovely garden you would be most welcome to join the workforce.

**If interested please contact Irene Jones Tel 01904 769166**







### **Earswick Village BBQ Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Earswick celebrated the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a BBQ on the open spaces around the Village Hall. 240 people attended and were entertained with music by Bejazzled and Stan Graham, Craig Stephenson enthralled people with close up magic and Pete White and his Suitcase Circus had people on the edge of their seats with his juggling and many other circus skills.

Local butcher D & Y Taylor provided the BBQ. We were lucky enough to have no rain at all which with the weather this summer was very lucky. This allowed people to enjoy the open spaces and wander around the Scented Garden taking in the area planted to commemorate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Thank you to sponsors Your Move Anscombs and Piglets Adventure Farm, the organising committee for all their hard work and to everyone who supported this event making it a thoroughly enjoyable Sunday lunchtime.

In the hustle and bustle of our busy lives it was really good to get together with friends and neighbours in the lovely open spaces which make up part of our village and whilst enjoying ourselves we raised £432.50 for York Against Cancer.



## **Coffee Mornings**

Our monthly Coffee Mornings continue to be held on the first Monday of the month between 10.30- 12.00. We try to keep them as informal as possible and consequently do not invite speakers to attend or arrange other events. This allows us to have more time to chat! It also means residents can pop along at anytime during the period and choose to stay for 10 minutes, or up to an hour and a half – as many of us choose to do! One thing is for sure – coffee (or tea) and biscuits will always be available, and sometimes you may even get a slice of home- made cake!

We are very grateful to the residents who continue to host the mornings on a rota basis and in particular to one of our residents who not only organises the rota each month but also makes greetings cards for sale and brings pre owned books for sale. Sales of these items together with donations made for tea/coffee enables us to make donations to charity. We have recently given £100 to Lollipop who were delighted to receive an unexpected donation. Lollipop is a local York charity providing activities for children with hearing loss.

If you have recently moved into Earswick, this is a good opportunity to meet other residents. We look out for “new faces” coming through the door, so please do not be put off if you come on your own. It is not a club, so residents can come along occasionally or regularly – whichever suits. All ages welcome!

If you would like a lift to the village hall please contact one of the Councillors.

## **Future dates-**

1 August “Yorkshire Day”  
5 September  
3 October  
7 November  
5 December

## **Public Open Space**

The fencing around the pond has now been replaced and looks very smart and the overgrown area adjacent to the pond is due to be cut back enhancing the area further. Certainly the ducks seem quite happy in the pond, as also do the frogs!

As always we wage a constant battle against the vigorous growth of the vegetation in our Open Space, and seemingly even more so this year, as the Spring/Summer season has produced some sun and warmth and plentiful rain resulting in constant growth of trees, shrubs, grass, weeds etc!

Whilst we employ a contractor to look after the main areas – mowing, clipping etc, we are always seeking volunteers to help make the Open Space a little bit nicer – and that includes Diamond Wood, Flower Meadow, Centenary Wood as well as the Sports Field. Can you give some occasional help please?!

Finally, as ever, a big thank you to those residents who help keep the areas tidy by picking up litter etc while out and about. You are much appreciated.

## **Dogs**

If you are out walking a dog, please remember to clear up after it and also, just as important, keep it under close control on the Open Space if there others about without dogs, who may be fearful of dogs – particularly small children.

Indeed other dog owners may also be apprehensive if an unknown dog bounds up to them. Please think of others.

The Open Space is for the whole community but mis- use could result in some restrictions being put in place in the future.

Last but not least please always keep your dog on a lead when walking along public pavements/footpaths for their own safety as well as members of the public.

## **Home Library Service**

If you still love reading but find it difficult to get to your local library, the Home Library Service offers you the chance to get the books that you love to read delivered straight to your door.

You can choose from a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction in a range of formats including regular print, large print and audio books.

These will be delivered to your home on a regular basis. A Royal Voluntary Service volunteer will visit you to discuss what types of books you enjoy reading and organize a regular time to visit.

**Just ring Sarah Wallis on 07469378205 to make an appointment.**

Large selections of e-books are also available and tablet computers can be loaned already pre-loaded with e-books.



### **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 Graham Tate – 30 Stablers Walk – Tel: 01904 769312

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

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

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

### **Parish Council Meeting Dates in 2016**

12th September

10th October

7th November

5th December

All Council meetings take place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm and are open to the public. An informal “Members of the Public” session takes place prior to the Parish Council meeting at 7.15pm.

### **Parish Council Vacancy**

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

### **Date for Your Diary:**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November: York Against Cancer, Christmas Fair, Earswick Village Hall 2-4pm