



EARSWICK PARISH PLAN 2012



FOREWORD

Welcome to this first edition of the Earswick Parish Plan, the publication of which is the culmination of work that started in Spring 2011 with the issuing of the Village Survey, and in which every household in the village has had the opportunity to contribute. The plan set out before you represents the views of residents as to how we would like to see our village “in future times”.

The plan reflects what the majority of Earswick people think is of the most importance, what things need to be preserved and what facilities need to be provided. Most importantly it provides an Action Plan setting out what the village has decided is needed, how it will be tackled, who will be responsible, when it is required by and how it will be funded.

The publication of the Earswick Parish Plan does not mark the end of the process rather the beginning of an era of continuous enhanced community involvement. It also provides your Parish Council with a secure mandate to represent the village’s requirements when dealing with external bodies such as City of York Council and North Yorkshire Police.

I would like to thank all those involved with the production of the Plan and the process which led up to it but most of all I would like to acknowledge the residents of Earswick for embracing the concept of the Parish Plan which, I’m certain will over time enhance the community for the benefit of us all.

Derek Jones
Chairman, Earswick Parish Council
March 2012





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Entrance to the village from Huntington

Present Day Earswick

Earswick is a small, pretty North Yorkshire village on the riverside setting of the River Foss. Located on the York to Strensall road, Earswick is one mile south of Strensall and four miles north of the city of York. York's nearby outer ring road (A1237) offers access to the Leeds/Scarborough A64 and the Thirsk/Teesside A19 .

For many years the village was primarily an agricultural community but the late 20th century saw a decline in employment in agriculture that coincided with the growth of the village as home to a significant number of professional people working in the York area.

Like many small villages throughout the country, it has seen the disappearance of the village shop and has never had a church, school or public house.

Shops at nearby Strensall and Huntington cater for daily needs whilst the shopping centres of Clifton Moor and Monks Cross are less than 2 miles away.

Schools for both primary and secondary schoolchildren are located in nearby Huntington.

Earswick residents have burial rights in the cemetery in Huntington.

The village currently has around 360 residences with a population of approximately 800 people

There are several distinct areas of the village:

- The "old "village with 150 houses
- The Fosslands development with 125 houses
- The Garden village with 24 houses
- Strensall Road with around 50 houses
- Willow Grove with around 20 houses.

All the land outside the present built area is currently designated Green Belt.



Fields to the east of the village

Despite being so close to the city of York the village still provides an attractive rural environment in which to live surrounded by over 30 acres of public open space with designated footpaths and riverside walks, a Scented Garden, Tennis Courts, Play Areas, a Village Hall and Village Green complete with a maypole.

Earswick has its own website at:

www.Earswick.org.uk

Origins of Earswick

The ancient township of Earswick or Edresuic, as it was known before the Norman Conquest, is named from the Anglo-Saxon meaning "dwelling or farm of a man called AEthelric".

Over the centuries Earswick has been known by various spellings of its name: Edrezwyk and Edresuic (xi cent), Etheirwike, Etherswyk and Ersewyk (xiv cent.), Erstewycke, Estwyk and Arswiche (xvi cent.)

Earswick is also specifically mentioned in the Great Domesday Book (1086) where records show that "three geld carucates (about 360 acres) of land in Earswick

held of St Peter by Sasford and Godric before the Conquest belonged to the See of York and afterward formed part of the manor of Strensall”.

By 1322 the overlordship of Earswick had transferred to Ranulph de Nevill of Sheriff Hutton and from here onwards ownership descended with the lordship of Sheriff Hutton.

In 1543 much of the land in Earswick was owned by Sir William Gascoigne which had come to him from his grandmother, Joan de Nevill.

The land was later passed down to Sir William’s granddaughter, Margaret, then wife of Thomas Wentworth of Wentworth, and their son, Sir William Wentworth is recorded in 1599 as selling 6 houses and cottages with lands in Earswick, Towthorpe, Strensall and Huntington.

Sometime around 1650 the manor of Earswick was acquired from the Wentworths by William Weddell of Earswick who also acquired both of the manor houses and lands in Huntington.

From 1656 the manor and lands of Earswick remained in the same hands as Huntington manor through successive generations of the Weddell family.



Rose Cottage, located in The Village, built in the 17th century is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Earswick.

In 1792, Lord Grantham, Thomas Philip Weddell, held the titles of the manors of Earswick and Huntington. He later became the Earl De Grey and after his death in 1859 the titles came to his daughter, Lady Mary Vyner, whose son Robert Charles De Grey Vyner then succeeded to become lord of the manors of Earswick and Huntington.

In 1848 “A Topographical Dictionary of England” recorded Earswick has having

95 inhabitants and comprised of 1020 acres.

The National Gazetteer of 1868 refers to Earswick as “a township in the parish of Huntington, Earl De Grey is lord of the manor”. The inhabitants are described as being mostly in agriculture, with the land being principally arable and the soil clay.

By 1890, according to Bulmer’s “History and Directory of North Yorkshire”, Earswick consisted of 1,160 acres, including woodlands. There were 744 acres of land under assessment, of which the rateable value was £888 and the gross rental was £1,019.

The population was given as 148. The majority of the land in Earswick was chiefly the property of William Goldthorpe, Esq., 19, Monkgate, York; William John Rawdon, Esq., Bootham, York; William Hodgson of Haxby; James Mould, Leeds and Mrs Elizabeth Green (farmer) of Earswick house, Earswick.

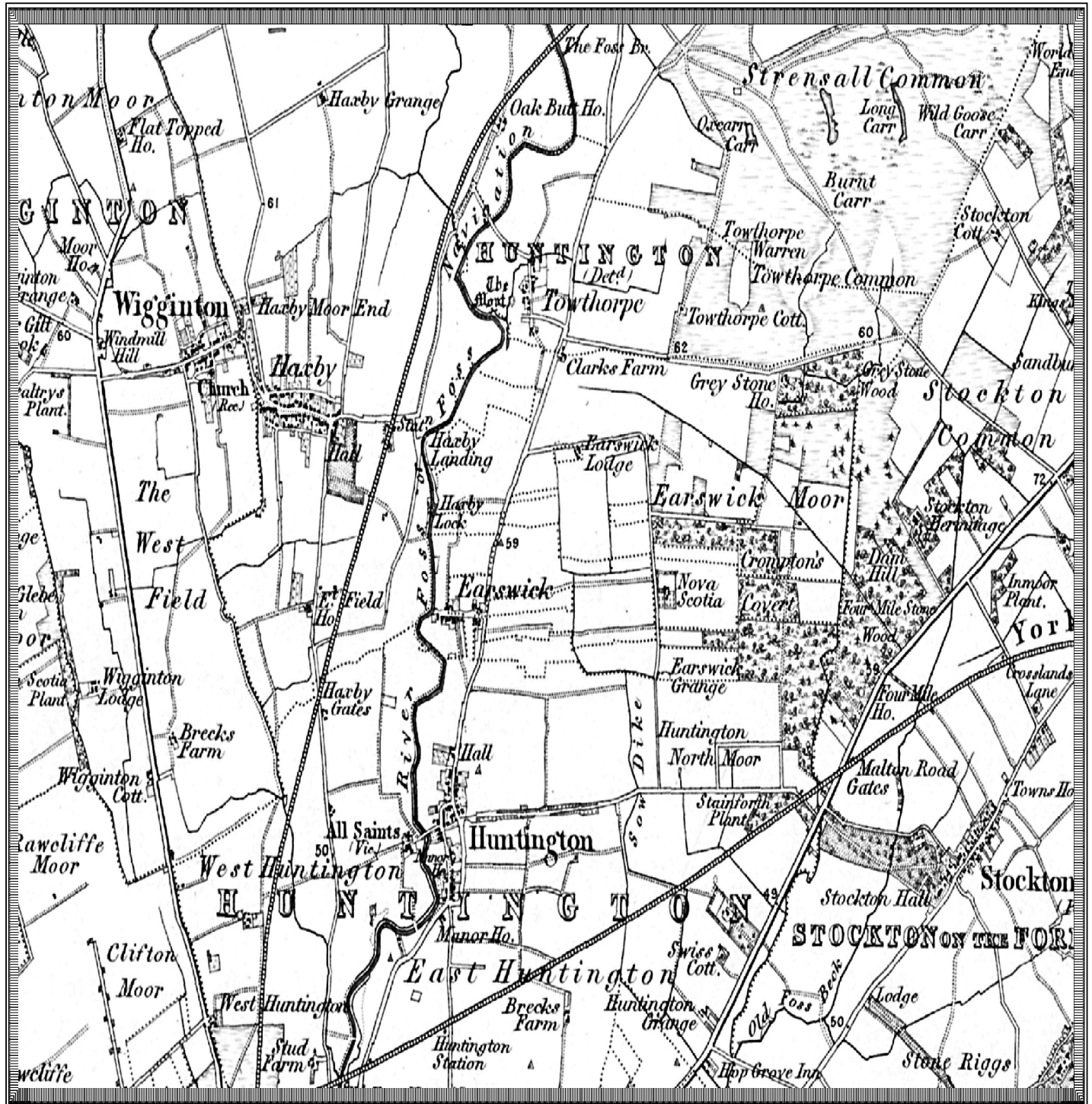
It is interesting to note that at that time in the village there were 3 market gardeners and a refreshment room, owned by a Mrs Mary Dunn, as well as 9 farms including Field house, Ilford house, Clarks farm, Earswick house and Earswick Grange and Hall farm.

The early and mid 20th Century saw Earswick change very little. It remained very much an agricultural village with the population increasing only slightly to around 230. Apart from several farms along the Strensall Road the majority of housing was still located on a ribbon of land off the main York to Strensall Road, leading down to the River Foss, known as The Village.

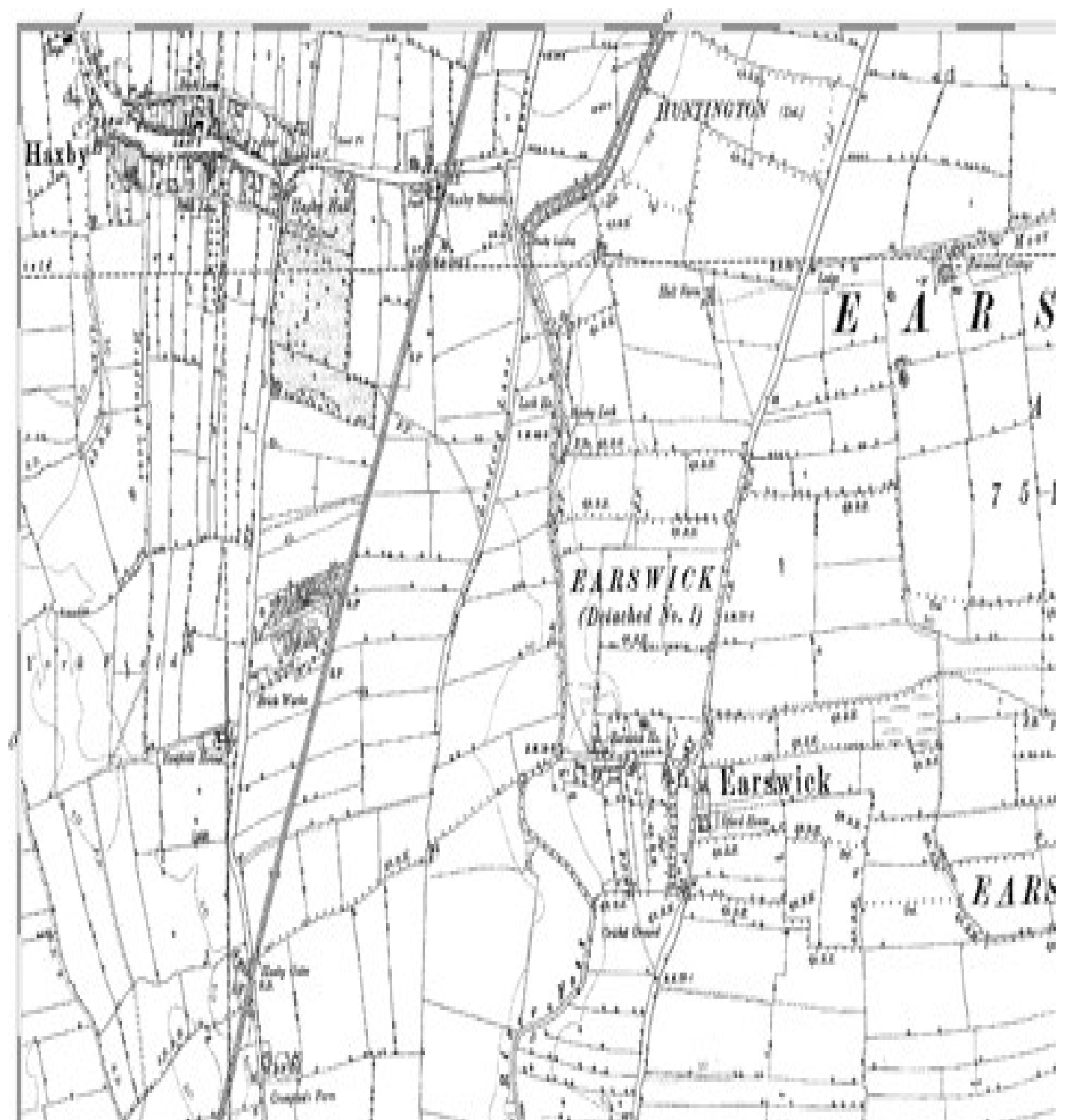
In the 1970’s the population increased considerably with the building of housing in Shilton Garth Close, Stablers Walk and Rowley Court

One of the most significant events in the history of the village occurred in the 1990’s when the local pig farm obtained planning permission for the construction of 125 homes on what is now the Fosslands estate, almost doubling the size of the village. It did however enable the village to gain a much needed village hall, tennis courts and a bowling green (now the Scented Garden) although it was at this time that it lost its village shop.

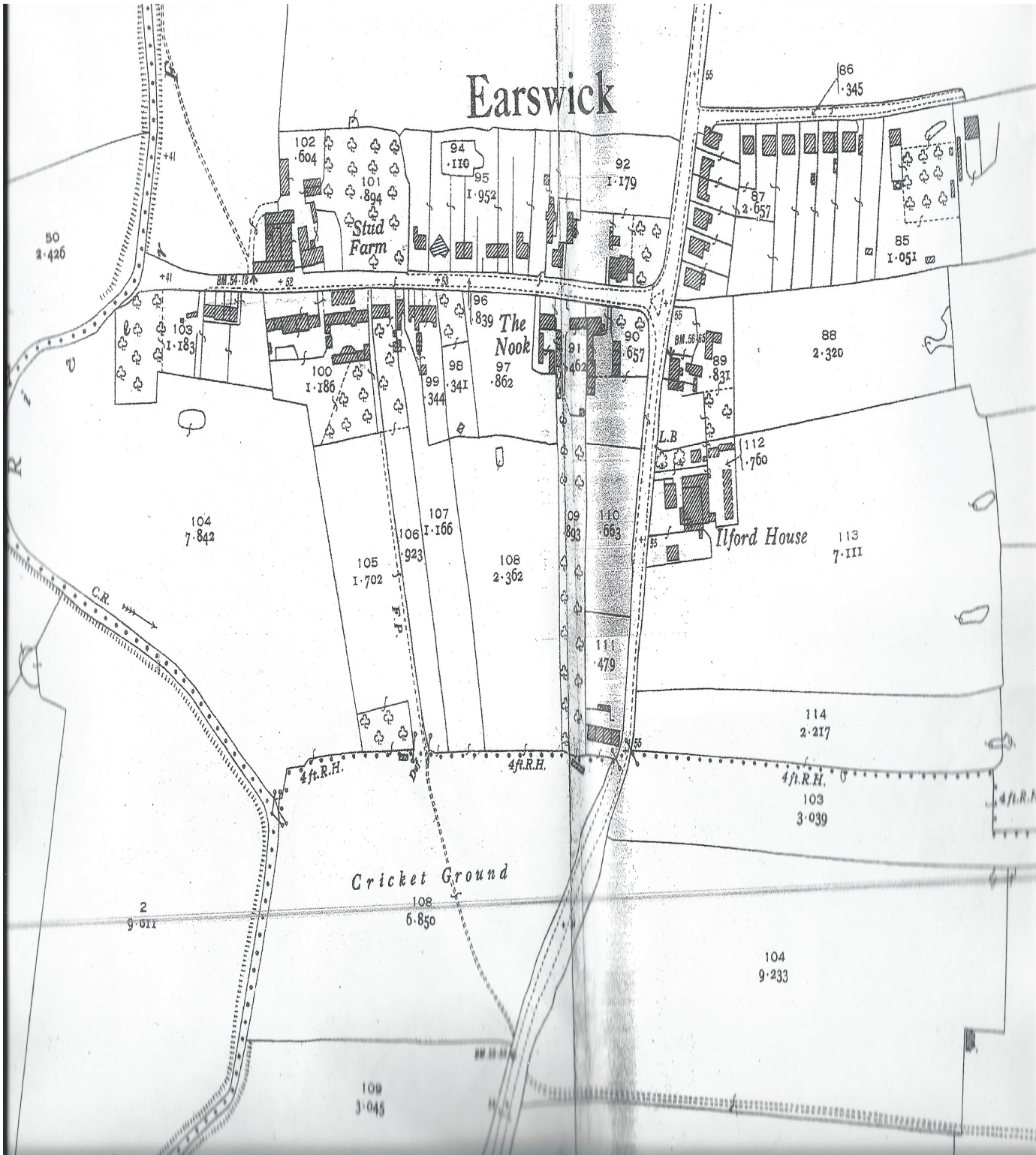
1858



1891



1936



2007



Parish Council

The Parish council is the first tier of governance and is the first point of contact for anyone concerned with a community issue.

In Earswick the council is made up of 5 unpaid, locally elected Parish Councillors, supported by a paid part-time Parish Clerk. (There are also 2 City of York Councillors who represent the Strensall, Earswick and Stockton on Forest Ward).

A Parish Councillor is normally elected for a term of four years. People of any political or religious persuasion are eligible to become a councillor, although their personal views should not extend into their parish council work. Individual councillors work together to serve the community and to help the Council to make decisions on behalf of the local community.

Councillors contribute to the work of the council by suggesting ideas, engaging in constructive debate and by responding to the needs and views of the community. Councillors comment on proposals to ensure the best outcome and vote to enable the council to make decisions. Councillors must accept the decisions of the Council as a whole even if they do not agree with it. In such circumstances a Councillor may ask for a vote against a resolution to be recorded. Councillors are required to behave in an ethical way and to declare an interest when necessary.

The Chairman is elected by the members of the Council at the Annual Council meeting and serves for twelve months. The Chairman's main role is to run council meetings. The Chairman is responsible for ensuring that effective and lawful decisions are taken at meetings of the council and, assisted by the clerk, guides activities by managing the meetings of the council. The Chairman is responsible for involving all councillors in discussion and ensuring that councillors keep to the point. The Chairman summarises the debate and facilitates the making of clear resolutions and is responsible for keeping discussions moving so that the meeting is not too long. The Chairman has a casting vote. His/her first vote is a personal vote as a member of the council. If there is a tied vote, the Chairman can have a second,

casting vote.

The Parish Council meets monthly to discuss council business and to hear from local residents. All Parish Council decisions are taken at Parish Council meetings and there is always the opportunity for any resident to apply to the clerk to speak on any agenda item. The Agenda is displayed on the notice board adjacent to the Village Hall prior to the meeting.

The Parish Council represents and serves the whole community. It is responsible for the services it provides. It establishes policies for action and decides how money will be raised and spent on behalf of the community. It is responsible for spending public money lawfully and achieving the best value for money. Except in certain circumstances council meetings are open to the public.

Each year the council decides the annual precept. This is the sum of money raised from parishioners to enable the Parish Council to fulfill its obligations to the community. Most of the precept is spent on maintaining the fabric of the village. This includes grass cutting, maintenance of the play area and 30 acres of public open space as well as the general upkeep and repair of council property such as bus shelters, litter and grit bins and the various benches located around the village. The Parish Council also gives financial support to local organisations such as the Scented Garden Committee and the Environment Group.

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 Kate Pace – 80 Earswick Chase – Tel: 01904 750719

Cllr Phil Sapsford – 7 Lock House Lane – Tel: 01904 767887

Mrs Sarah Millson – Clerk, 6 St Aubyns Place – Tel: 1904 638766

What is a Parish Plan?

The Government has stated that it wishes to give small rural communities such as Earswick more of an opportunity to run their own affairs.

The proposed Localism Act encourages communities like ours to develop a Parish Plan to:

- Show how we would like our village to develop
- Identify key facilities and services
- Set out problems to be tackled
- Demonstrate how to preserve the village's distinctive character and features

In broad terms a Parish Plan should:

- Cover all issues of concern to the community – social, economic and environmental
- Be community driven
- Use information from surveys, research and consultation
- Be action focused

So a Parish Plan initiative is a mechanism whereby a Parish Council can involve the whole community in setting out its aspirations for the future. The Parish Council can then proceed in the sure knowledge that it has the mandate of local residents in convincing other organisations such as City of York Council and North Yorkshire Police that it has the full support of local public opinion.

Process used in developing the Plan

From the outset the Parish Council were keen that in developing any plan, the focus must be on consultation with all residents of the village.

It was agreed that the best way to do this was by carrying out a detailed Village Survey, in the form of a Questionnaire, which was then distributed, in the summer of 2011, to all households listed in the Register of Electors.

The Questionnaire enabled villagers to comment on a wide range of issues relating to the village such as:

- Sport and Leisure
- Communication
- Travel
- Traffic
- Development
- Environment
- Crime

A total of 201 questionnaires were returned, a response rate of around 60%.

Analysis of all the responses was carried out in the autumn of 2011 and from these results an Action Plan was developed for each of the categories.

In the preparation of the action plan **every** subject raised by residents was examined. However some matters raised by only a few people will not be addressed in the short term and similarly other matters where there is an imbalance of costs and benefits will not be taken up in the near future.

A copy of the Village Survey results and the Action Plan were posted on the Parish Council website in late 2011 prior to the finalization of the Parish Plan.

The future management of the Plan

The Parish Plan was formally adopted by the Parish Council at its March 2012 meeting. This gives it an official status and forms a linkage for the Parish Council to provide financial support from the precept.

Implementation of the Parish Plan will fall primarily to the Parish Council and any sub-committees that it chooses to form to tackle specific issues.

It is anticipated that the Plan will be revised from time to time and new versions issued – this will be an ongoing process.

