

## **EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

### **APPLICATION TO CITY OF YORK COUNCIL FOR DESIGNATION OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA**

#### **Introduction**

Earswick Parish is situated approximately four miles north of the York city centre and lies within the Strensall ward of City of York Council. It comprises the village of Earswick and surrounding farmland. The area that is the subject of the Neighbourhood Plan is the entire parish, and as such directly follows the parish boundaries. (Parish map enclosed).

#### **Statement Explaining Why The Parish Is Considered To Be An Appropriate Neighbourhood Area**

Earswick Parish Council plays an important and active role within the community and its declared objective is to represent effectively all the people who live in the parish. The Parish Council works alongside City of York Council on a number of matters including road and footpath maintenance and street lighting and is a statutory consultee on all planning applications within the parish. It is also represented on the local Burial Board, the Foss Internal Drainage Board and works closely with the local Police team on law enforcement matters. The Parish Council is responsible for the maintenance of over 30 acres of Public Open Space, the Village Hall, Pond and Tennis Courts. It gives financial support to various village groups and actively keeps parishioners informed through its website, notice boards and regular newsletters.

In 2012 the Parish Council consulted with residents on a Parish Plan with over 70% of residences responding. Consultation carried out to date shows a strong desire from parish residents to expand this process into developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. The proposal to do this has been advertised to residents by newsletter, on noticeboards, on the Parish Council website and discussed at Parish Council meetings since November 2014. A community introduction workshop to the Neighbourhood Plan was held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015 following which a Neighbourhood Plan Working Party was formed from members of the local community and representatives of Earswick Parish Council. Responsible to the

Parish Council, this working party has been selected in such a way as to ensure there is fair representation from all parts of the village and includes the current Chairman of Earswick Parish Council.

### **Earswick Parish Council As The Relevant Body**

The Parish Council is the statutory first tier of government in this parished area and enjoys strong support in the local community. The Council together with the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party has a deep understanding of the area's planning opportunities and constraints. They know how these interact with the aspirations and concerns of the residents in this parish.

It is anticipated that the Plan will cover a wide range of issues, including development opportunities, transport and traffic issues, amenities and the preservation of the rural character of the Parish.

### **Conclusion**

Earswick Parish Council looks forward to receiving formal designation of its neighbourhood plan area and to working with the City of York Council in completing its Neighbourhood Plan.