

# EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

[www.earswick.org.uk](http://www.earswick.org.uk)

February 2013 - NEWSLETTER

## Council Tax – Annual Parish Precept

The precept for this coming financial year will remain unchanged.

Most of the precept is spent on maintaining the fabric of Earswick, this includes grass cutting, maintenance of the play area and 30 acres of public open spaces as well as the general upkeep and repair of Council property such as bus shelters, litter and grit bins and seats.

The Parish Council also gives financial support to local organisations such as the Scented Garden, Environment Group and Village Hall Committee.

## New Councillor

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome Gill Offler to the Parish Council. Gill has replaced Phil Sapsford who resigned from the Parish Council last year.

## Traffic Management

One of the key actions highlighted in the Parish Plan was to install a speed control sign on the approach to the village from Strensall. This work has now been completed and a new vehicle activated speed sign, funded entirely by the Parish council, has been placed opposite the entrance to Garden Village. Early indications are that it already has had an effect of slowing traffic as it enters the village.



## Towthorpe Depot (Household Waste Recycling Centre)

City of York Council are considering various options for the future use of the Towthorpe tip which could result in a reduction of operating hours, closing on certain days of the week or even seasonal closure which could be from October through to March. The Parish Council is totally opposed to any changes to the operation of the tip as it provides an essential service to all residents in the north of York. Any alteration would result in an increase in fly-tipping and cause residents the extra inconvenience of having to use the City centre waste facility at Hazel Court. If you wish to register your opposition to these proposals you can do so on the Project Towthorpe Depot e-petition on the City of York Council website.

## Give A Thought

As Spring approaches, we will be turning more attention to our gardens. For those residents whose properties lie on corners of roads, please give thought to the height and depth of your hedges. For drivers it can be quite difficult to see what potential hazard is around a corner if there is a large hedge. Equally to drivers, please may we remind you to reduce your speed while driving in Earswick – particularly when approaching blind.

## Social Events

Would you like to do more in Earswick and meet your neighbours at the same time? If enough people are interested we could have regular coffee mornings, games afternoons e.g. scrabble, card games, knit and natter or mums and toddlers groups.

If you are interested please contact Cllr Pat Leveson on 01904 764344 or [p.leveson@btopenworld.com](mailto:p.leveson@btopenworld.com)

## Diamond Jubilee Wood



The area of public open space behind Stablers Walk has now officially been renamed Diamond Jubilee Wood. Some 700 trees have been planted on this land as part of the Queen's Jubilee Woods Project. The wood, which stretches from Strensall Road through to the River Foss can be accessed from the public right of way located at the end of Stablers Walk.

## Marie Curie Cancer Care's Great Daffodil Appeal

Marie Curie Cancer Care is appealing for people to donate an hour of their time this March, to collect for the charity's annual [Great Daffodil Appeal](#).

The Great Daffodil Appeal is Marie Curie's biggest fundraiser which encourages everyone to give a donation and wear a daffodil pin in March.

Street and store collections take place throughout March across the area and Marie Curie need lots of volunteers to help. Donating just one or two hours of your time to the appeal will allow Marie Curie nurses to provide more free care to people with terminal cancer and other illnesses in their own homes in this area.

To volunteer to collect for Marie Curie Cancer Care and support the Great Daffodil Appeal call 01904 436625, email [kyla.collins@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:kyla.collins@mariecurie.org.uk) or visit [www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil).

## Energy Smart Club project in York

Community Energy Direct is a non-profit co-operative dedicated to helping people reduce their fuel bills and increase energy efficiency - staying warm while spending less.

The Energy Smart Club (ESC) is a co-operative model through which consumers can work collectively to reduce their energy bills. It is supported by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), which has awarded start-up funds to the scheme. It is also supported by a number of affiliated local organisations, including City of York Council. In the short term Energy Smart Clubs will enable communities to collectively purchase their energy supplies. The larger the group, the stronger its power to negotiate reduced energy tariffs. For this project to have any impact on fuel poverty the size of its membership will be crucial. If you are interested you can sign up directly at <http://communityenergy.whichswitch.co.uk> (you will need to have your gas and electricity annual statements or bills to hand). There is no obligation; signing up simply means your household can be assessed to see if a better energy deal is available, and offered a choice of lower-cost energy providers within a few weeks. Funding is time-limited and will end on 31st March.

## Environment Group

The group would like to offer a big thank you to Geoff Lea for his gift of an owl box, various bird boxes and hedgehog homes. These have been placed around the green open space and pond area and will hopefully attract plenty of wildlife residents in the near future.

Thanks also to the small but active band of quiet volunteers who regularly pick up glass and plastic bottles, cans, sweet wrappers and stray recycling from our footpaths and green areas around the village. Without their selfless help our village would look much less loved.

**YOU can help. SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH. LITTER PICK. Meet at the Village Hall 10.30am**

Volunteers wanted to get under bushes and in the hedgerows before the Spring growth. It would be great to have a few teams of residents to pick along Strensall Road and really deep clean the area. Let's get Earswick back on the map as a village that really cares about getting rid of litter. With a good turn out an hour should see the village well and truly spruced, which will further allow the wonderful Spring growth to come through. If you can't give an hour then perhaps you could spare 5 minutes to look outside your gates, walls or hedges to drag out any hidden litter.

## Toxocariasis

This is a disease caused by the parasites commonly known as roundworm which are found in the digestive systems of dogs and foxes. Parasite eggs leave the host animal's body in faeces and can survive up to 5 years in the soil. They usually get into a person's system when that person has got the eggs on their hands from the soil, then touched their face or mouth. In the body the eggs hatch releasing larvae. The condition can cause a headache and a cough but in some cases the most severe infection can cause total blindness. There are an average of ten cases a year in children.

The reason for bringing this to your attention is that the village has a growing number of children who are enjoying the freedom to play in a safe and pleasant environment. An

environment where we, as residents, should feel some responsibility for that safety.

Since the wet weather began last October the increase in the amount of dog mess has escalated dramatically. Being in the middle of a public footpath between Hyntington and Haxby and having two car parks makes the village a magnet for dog walkers who enjoy exercising their dogs on the open space surrounding the village. Most of these like the majority of villagers are responsible dog owners and clean up after their dogs. Sadly there is a minority of people who do not leaving piles of dog mess on the sports field, river path and in the newly planted woodland. Some even leave a mess on the village footpaths and village green.

As Parish councillors we are desperately trying to put a stop to this disgusting and unsociable behaviour but we also need the help and co-operation of everyone in the village. Please be responsible and don't be afraid to ask others to Pick Up and use the dog bins provided throughout the village. Throwing bags full of dog waste into trees and hedges is just as anti-social as not cleaning up. Let's keep everyone Toxocariasis free and YOUR village a clean and enjoyable place to live, walk and play in.

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

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

## EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES IN 2013

**18<sup>th</sup> March**

**22<sup>nd</sup> April**

**13<sup>th</sup> May**

**17<sup>th</sup> June**

**15<sup>th</sup> July**

**16<sup>th</sup> September**

14<sup>th</sup> October  
11<sup>th</sup> November  
9<sup>th</sup> December

## PLANT SALE



EARSWICK



VILLAGE HALL

SUNDAY 17 March 2013 10.30 to  
2.30

**Home Made Cakes,  
Refreshments, Raffle**

The Scented Garden Committee's Plant Sale is  
to raise funds for  
The Garden which is a popular village amenity

Your support, and any plant donations,  
**(during the week before the sale please)**  
would be greatly appreciated

For further information contact  
Irene Jones on 769166 or Jennie Gambold on  
765024

