

# EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

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

**April 2014 - NEWSLETTER**

## **Council Tax – Annual Parish Precept**

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 and Village Hall Committee.

The precept for this coming financial year will remain unchanged at £14,250. Over the 4 year term of office of the current Parish Council the annual parish precept has been reduced by 15%.

Whilst in part this is due to good financial governance by the Parish Council we have been able to keep maintenance costs to a minimum due to the unselfish hard work of a small band of dedicated volunteers (mostly parish councillors and their families) who regularly give up their time and effort in order to help keep Earswick a pleasant environment for us all to live in.

## **Public Open Space**

We hope that you will agree that the Public Open Space looks in good shape for the start of Spring. During the winter, work has been carried out both by contractors and a few volunteers with the aim of improving the area we live in.

Dead wood has been cut down and consequently some areas have been opened up to enjoy more sunlight. Some grass seed has been scattered in these areas. Regular litter picks have ensured that there is no build up of litter or dog mess.

The kissing gate leading into Diamond Wood from Stablers Walk has been replaced and a stile has been installed at the end of the Wood leading onto Strensall Road to facilitate a circular walk for residents.

With the coming of Spring the focus will now be on planting.

We would welcome ideas for “Planting Earswick Yellow” (encouraged by City of York Council) to celebrate Le Tour de France on 6 July. Suggestions of what to plant and where would be welcome and hopefully something we can enjoy in future years. Hopefully those residents who have gardens facing onto Strensall Road will particularly join in to mark this event by planting something significant in their own gardens. Any ideas please contact one of the Councillors.

Looking ahead we would like to plant crocus and daffodil bulbs in the autumn and hope residents will help with this on a week end to be arranged nearer the time.

In the meantime thank you to all residents (and non residents) who help keep our public space free of litter and mess. It is much appreciated as sadly there are still people using our public areas who do not abide by the Countryside Code.

## Coffee Mornings

Five monthly coffee mornings have been held so far in Earswick Village Hall and take place on the first Monday of the month from 10.30am to 12.30pm.. They have been much enjoyed by those who have been coming along for a friendly chat and banter. It has been agreed that they will continue and we hope to see newcomers at future dates.

If anyone needs transport to get there please contact one of the Councillors. If anyone is unsure where the hall is please do ask us!

Keeping with the spirit of le Tour de France (York!) there will be a collecting box for Marie Curie (partner charity of Le Tour) at the coffee mornings for the next 3 months. During this time there will continue to be no charge for your coffee !

Dates confirmed so far are:

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> August
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	

## Orienteering in Earswick

You may have seen a number of people running round Earswick over the last few months and wondered what they are up to. Well, they are orienteering. So what is Orienteering?

Orienteering is a challenging outdoor adventure sport that exercises both the mind and the body. The aim is to navigate in sequence between control points marked on a unique orienteering map and decide the best route to complete the course in the quickest time. It does not matter how young, old or fit you are, as you can run, walk or jog the course and progress at your own pace.

Orienteering can take place anywhere from remote forests and countryside to urban parks and school playgrounds. It's a great sport for runners, joggers and walkers who want to improve their navigation skills or for anyone who loves the outdoors.

Orienteers use an accurate, detailed map and a compass to find the checkpoints on a specially designed course. A standard orienteering course consists of a start, a series of control sites that are marked by circles, connected by lines and numbered in the order they are to be visited, and a finish. The control site circles are centered on the feature that is to be found; this feature is also defined by control descriptions (sometimes called clues).

On the ground, a red and white control flag marks the location that the orienteer must visit. The control flag marks the spot that is circled on the map and the flag is usually hung from a fibreglass stake stuck in the ground. It is made of nylon fabric hung on a triangular kite-like wire frame. To verify a visit, the orienteer uses an electronic chip to 'punch' a box located on the top of the stake on which the control flag is hanging. Attached to or near the control flag is a card with the "control code". Each flag is assigned a unique control code, usually a two-number combination (letters may also be used). These codes allow the orienteer to determine that the control is in fact the correct one. The codes are usually listed in the control description list for each course. The route between control points is not specified and is entirely up to the orienteer; this element of route choice and the ability to navigate through the forest are the essence of orienteering.

Most orienteering events use staggered starts to ensure that each orienteer has a chance to do his or her own navigating, but there are several other popular formats, including relays, night events and events in which the orienteer must find as many controls as possible within a specified time.

A short video showing the different types of orienteering can be found using the following link:  
<http://www.britisshorienteering.org.uk>

Eborienteers, the York orienteering club, mapped Earswick during 2012 and have held 4 very successful events here since (day, night and relay events).

The next event will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April and will be starting from the village hall from 11.00am (Registration 10.15 am).

If you would like to come along and watch or have a go please do, you will be made to feel very welcome. Further details are available by contacting Nev Myers on 01904 767677 or at 23 Lock House Lane, Earswick or Suzanne Relton on 07803 938171.

## 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 2014

12<sup>th</sup> May  
16<sup>th</sup> June  
14<sup>th</sup> July  
15<sup>th</sup> September  
13<sup>th</sup> October  
10<sup>th</sup> November  
8<sup>th</sup> December

All Council meetings take place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm and are open to the public

## PLANT SALE



**EARSWICK VILLAGE HALL**  
**SUNDAY 6 April 2014**  
**Doors Open 10.30**



## 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



**Space for York Motorsports Village Adve**

