

NEW EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Report 2021-22

Your Parish Councillors

The Parish Council comprises ten Councillors and a Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer who works part time based at the Parish Council Office at the Folk Hall. Cllr Glenton was voted on as Chair at the Zoom meeting in September 2020. Christine Cooke expressed an interest and was appointed to a Casual Vacancy on the Parish Council. Following the resignation of Cllr Fiona Blyth and Cllr Fiona Crawford there are two vacancies remaining.

Your Councillors are:-

Cllr Sue Glenton (Chair)

Cllr Roy Love (Vice Chair)

Cllr Christine Cooke

Cllr Christine Durrant

Cllr Darren Newton

Cllr Yvonne Orton

Cllr Carol Runciman

Cllr Audrey Steel

Covid 19

Following the Government decision to rescind permission for virtual meetings in Autumn last year the Parish Council has reverted to face to face meetings, socially distanced and masked by preference. (The first meeting was held in May 2021.) This meant that the current office was not suitable so the monthly meetings have taken place in other available rooms in the Folk Hall.

Community Support Project: The project ended in May 2021 following concerns about distribution of fresh food and the fact that COYC were delivering to residents in need in the village (and throughout the York District). The project was an attempt to resolve the issue of residents struggling financially through the pandemic but as COYC had action in place the Parish Council decided to end their input.

Finance

The precept for 2021-22 was set at £28,000. This sum was arrived at by looking at the expected expenditure for the forthcoming year and taking into account the reserves of the Council. Each year the accounts are examined at an independent internal audit and then passed to the external auditors. The accounts are available for inspection by prior arrangement with the Clerk. The Finance

Committee of the Council meets regularly and ensures any recommendations made by the auditors are carried out.

Grants

During each financial year, Parish Councils are able to offer grants. If your organisation would like to be considered for financial support, please contact the Clerk for an application form or download one from our website. This year grants totalling £7650 have been awarded. Organisations including The Swimming Pool, The Nature Reserve, St Andrews Church, The British Legion and The Sports and Social Club have received support.

Environment

The Community Walkabouts have not been reinstated but as reported last year the responsibility for acknowledging and referring problems within the village could still be met by each councillor as the group is spread out across the village. Initial contact with the Clerk was advised to highlight any issues for referral to the Trust or COYC. Former Councillor Crawford has agreed to continue to inform the Clerk if any of the footpaths need attention. One Councillor has taken up the mantle of addressing localised environmental issues and is working closely with JRHT and the library to raise awareness. Vandalism and anti social behaviour are still prevalent and the Parish Council has held, and attended, multi agency meetings in an effort to address this problem. The bus shelter near Station Avenue, three benches and a grit bin have all been replaced during the year.

Membership

We continue to be members of various local and national groups and societies that are relevant to the work of the Council including:-

City of York Council - Ward meetings

Friends of New Earswick Swimming Pool (FoNESP)

New Lodge Liaison Group

Open Spaces Society

River Foss Society

Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA).

York Bus Forum

Members of the Parish Council regularly attend meetings of these and other external organisations.

Policing

The Parish Council receives a monthly update relating to incidents and the initiatives that are being undertaken by the Police. In addition there are police attending our meetings to introduce new members of their team or offer advice on the current situation. They also offer crime prevention advice to residents and property marking schemes. The village of New Earswick continues to be a relatively low crime area, however should contact with the police be required the details are listed below:

To make contact: - Telephone 101 or you can email:- snayorkouter@northyorkshire.police.uk

Consultation/Community

The Parish Council is consulted by COYC on planning applications for properties within the Parish. The Parish Council also responds to COYC and other organisations regarding policies and proposals that concern the Parish. The majority of requests relate to tree works in the Parish. A new Local Plan is still being developed by COYC for the future development of housing. Current planning applications are being considered by COYC in relation to 'The Old School Field' and two more areas in the village in Acacia Avenue and Garthway. The Parish Council has discussed and responded to all of these. The Parish Council has been considering projects for the celebration of the Queens Jubilee in June 2022 and will be considering planting a tree in the village with support from JRHT Gardening Team, supplying commemorative gifts for the Primary School children, a mug or a coin to be decided and to support the JRHT Big Lunch at the Folk Hall.

Meetings

Parish Council meetings have almost returned to normal, although the meeting room is not suitable for social distancing. However all residents are welcome to attend meetings of the Parish Council which are held every third Monday in the month (except December) commencing at 19.00 hours at the Folk Hall. Agendas and minutes from meetings are displayed on the Parish notice boards and are available on the Parish Council web site.

Contact

To contact any of the above Councillors please do so via the Clerk in the first instance: -

Sally Bruckshaw Telephone: 07391 665639 c/o The Folk Hall New Earswick York YO32 4AQ

Email: pcnewearswick@aol.com

www.newearswickparishcouncil.org.uk

Cllr Sue Glenton(Chair) April 2022