

Annual Report 2011/12

Your Parish Councillors

The Parish Council is made up of ten Councillors and a part time Clerk.

There was an opportunity to stand for election on 5 May, 2011. Cllr Elisabeth Alley decided not to stand as a Councillor again and retired at that time. However, the election was uncontested and eight Councillors were elected without a contest. Cllrs Davidson and Frankland were Co-opted to the Council at its meeting on the 20 June, 2011.

The ten serving Councillors are:-

Cllr Don Crawford (Chairman)	Cllr Elizabeth Jefferson
Cllr Vic Atkins	Cllr Richard Revell (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Tony Baker	Cllr Carol Runciman
Cllr Norman Davidson	Cllr Audrey Steel
Cllr Lorraine Frankland	Cllr Andrew Thorpe

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

Sally Bruckshaw
c/o The Folk Hall
New Earswick
York
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Financial

Our precept for 2011/12 was set at £20,000 a reduction of £2,000 on the 2010/11 year. 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 that any recommendations made by the auditors are carried out.

Donations

During this financial year grants totalling £9290.00 have been offered to a number of organisations as follows:-

		£
Huntington Scouts	Trace Heating	250.00
New Earswick Community Association	Replacement Chairs	2000.00
New Earswick Tennis Club	Equipment and Coaching	250.00
New Earswick Community Association	Christmas Party	700.00
Friends of Huntington School	Assistance with Start Up	100.00
Royal British Legion	Donation	150.00
New Earswick Community Association	Transport	840.00
New Earswick Community Association	Gardening Scheme	3000.00
New Earswick Primary School	Repairs to Clock	2000.00

Financial Agreement Forms are completed by the organisations, which specify that any unused funds (for the purpose for which they were donated) must be returned to this Council. Also, regular reports are requested by the Council on the progress of the projects.

Environment

Community Walkabouts take place with members from: New Earswick Parish Council, City of York Council (Street Scene and Ward Councillors), Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust (JRHT) and sometimes the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The group meet monthly and cover a designated area of the Parish each time. Any issues in the area (e.g. garden maintenance, litter, dog-fouling, traffic issues, pot-holes, Rights of Way maintenance, graffiti, bus shelters etc.) are then taken up by the specific organisation responsible and dealt with. Notes of the meetings are kept on file by the Clerk.

The Parish Council organised two Litter Picks during the year and were pleased that staff and pupils from the local Primary School were involved.

The two bus shelters maintained by the Parish Council were repaired and repainted during the year.

The Parish Council contributed financially towards essential repairs and maintenance of All Saints' Churchyard. This work was co-ordinated by Huntington Parish Council.

Membership

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

Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)
River Foss Society
Open Spaces Society
Rural Action Yorkshire
Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)
Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA)

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

Policing

The Safer Neighbourhood Team is made up of Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). The PCSO's regularly patrol the ward on foot and visit the schools and local groups/organisation to integrate into the local community more. Monthly crime figures are also sent to this Parish Council.

Consultation

The Parish Council is consulted by the City of York Council on planning applications for properties within the Parish. The Parish Council also responds to the City of York Council and other organisations regarding policies and proposals that concern the Parish.

Meetings

Please do come along and contribute to our meetings. They are held every third Monday in the month (except December) at our office in the Folk Hall, commencing at 19.00 hours.

Cllr Don Crawford (Chairman) 16 April, 2012