

Annex A

Earswick Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Area Application

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 30th 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

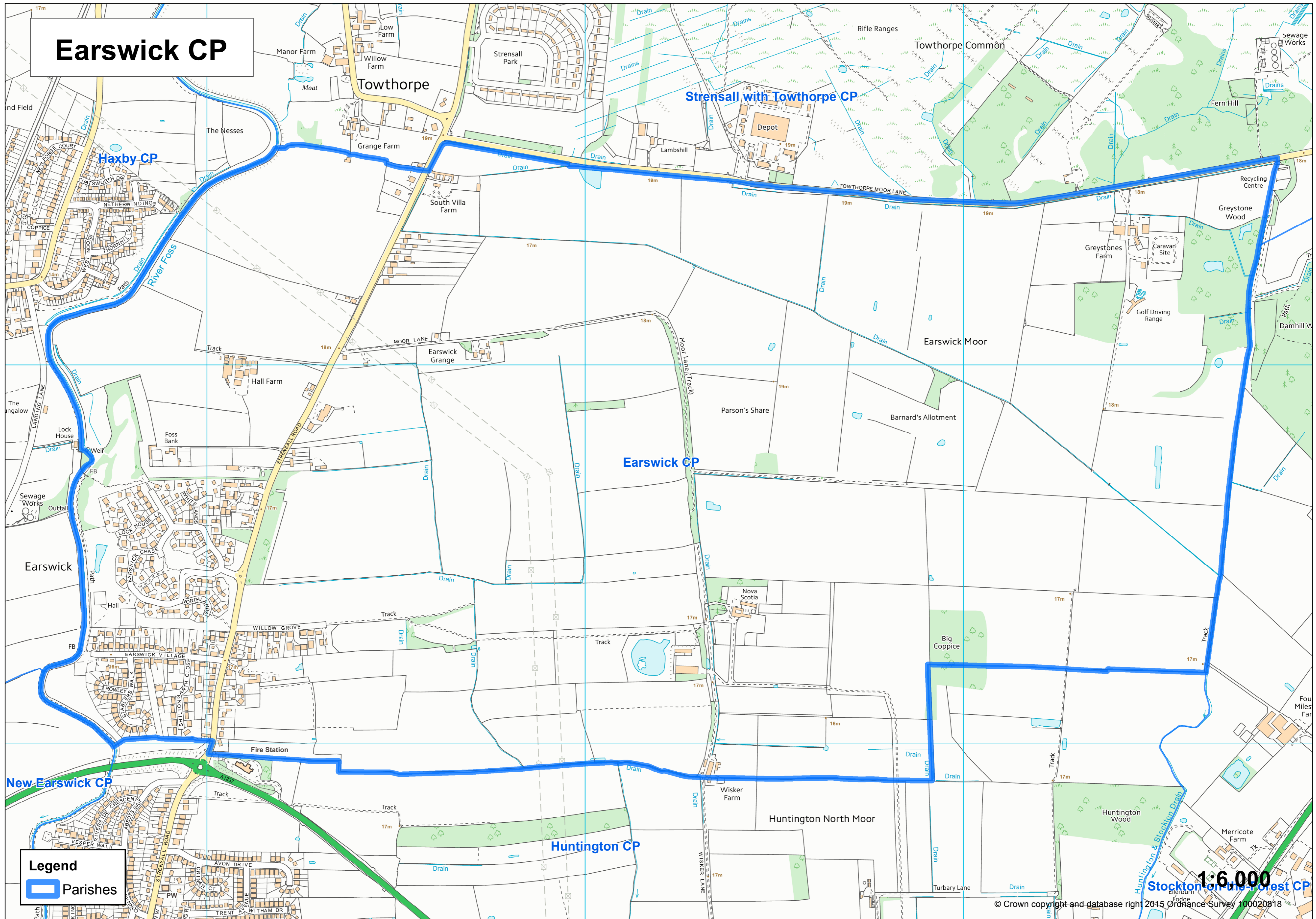
The Parish Council is the statutory first tier of government in this parished area and enjoys strong support in the local community. The Council together with the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party has a deep understanding of the area's planning opportunities and constraints. They know how these interact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

Earswick CP



Annex B
Earswick Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan
Responses received

[REDACTED]

From:

Sent:

Subject:

Attachments:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
neighbourhoodplanning@york.gov.uk

Representations: Designation of neighbourhood planning area: Earswick Parish

RepresentationsNeighbourhoodPlan.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your e-mail of 21 October 2015 and your invitation to people who live, work or conduct business in the area to comment within a statutory four week period ending 16 November 2015 on the application by Earswick Parish Council to create a neighbourhood planning area.

As we understand the relevant legislation, it provides an opportunity for residents "to make representations" about (1) the application AND (2) the proposed boundary, of the designated area. The nature of those representations is unspecified, but we feel we need to make comment about: lack of justification for a Neighbourhood Plan; the motivation and credibility of the Parish team; the inappropriateness of designating Earswick; and a proposed tri-parish collaboration to achieve a viable designated area.

A letter is attached in which we set out matters for consideration by the City Council and propose tri-parish collaboration between Earswick, Huntington and Strensall as a better solution for the Parish, the Ward and City of York Council in the interests of community cohesiveness. [A copy of the letter has also been sent by post].

Our understanding of the process is that after 16 November the Council has a four week minimum period in which to make decisions about the application, taking account of representations made.

We ask you to treat our joint submission as two separate objections and would appreciate an acknowledgement of this letter to indicate safe receipt, please.

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9 November 2015 [Copy of letter also sent by post]

Neighbourhood Planning
City & Environmental Services
Freepost RTEG-TYYU-KLTZ
City of York Council
West Offices
Station Rise
York
YO1 6GA

Dear [REDACTED]

**Representations: Application for designation of Neighbourhood Planning area:
Earswick Parish Council**

We refer to your invitation to people who live, work or conduct business in the area to comment within a statutory four week period ending 16 November 2015 on the application by Earswick Parish Council to create a neighbourhood planning area.

Our understanding is that the relevant legislation provides an opportunity for residents "to make representations" about (1) the application AND (2) the proposed boundary, of the designated area. The nature of those representations is unspecified. Therefore we make comment about: the justification for a Neighbourhood Plan; the motivation and ability of the Parish team; the appropriateness of designating Earswick; proposed tri-parish collaboration to achieve a viable designated area.

Justification for a Neighbourhood Plan

Despite repeated requests to the Parish Council we have not been supplied with any justification for developing a Neighbourhood Plan. This leads us to question the need to revisit our current Village Plan which was produced in 2012 under the auspices of the Localism Act. The Village Plan emerged from an in-depth study and a major village-wide consultation. In planning terms, a clear steer was obtained about future plans for the village. Over two-thirds of respondents expressed opposition to any housing development because of the potential for village overpopulation, reduction of

green spaces, increase in traffic congestion and pollution, and strains on infrastructure.

The proposed intentions for producing a Neighbourhood Plan are expressed in the Parish Council application as identifying aspects of life that will inform future planning with a view to enhancing quality of life and providing a framework for future land usage. All these issues were considered in the relatively recent 2012 Earswick Village Plan. As nothing has changed since its publication, it would seem to us unnecessary and unjustified to commit resources and expenditure to rake over the same ground. With an imminent draft Local Plan for York in prospect, that will guide future planning considerations for the village, it would seem prudent to await its publication before revisiting the 2011/12 local public consultation that underpinned the Village Plan.

Motivation and ability of the parish team

The Earswick initiative has a very parochial focus and we harbour suspicions/concerns that it is party-politically motivated. A Working Party of parish-selected individuals under the Chairmanship of a former Parish Chairman (who is a political activist) has been set up as a Sub-Committee of the Parish Council. Through its clumsy approach and its precipitate action (in publishing an action plan and conducting consultation ahead of designation) the group has successfully isolated sections of the village, alienated community representative groups and disengaged residents. We have no confidence in the ability of the Earswick Parish team to act fairly or to produce a consensual result.

Appropriateness of the proposed boundary

In our view the notion of designating Earswick is untenable: The parish is one of the smallest of York's 16 outer parishes with a population of under a thousand living in 360 households. The village has already more than doubled its number of households over the past 20 years. Every available space within the present built-up area has been subject to in-fill. It is a conclusion of the 2012 Earswick Village Plan that further expansion cannot take place without unjustifiably sacrificing recreational space or unacceptably encroaching onto designated Green Belt.

Self-reliance is another of our nagging concerns: Our village is essentially a residential community. It has few small businesses and no retail facilities. It relies for its educational and medical services and infrastructure on the adjacent parishes of Huntington and Strensall. It shares transport links and bus services common to all three.

Proposed tri-parish collaboration

A more sensible solution for the Parish, the Ward and City of York Council would be for Earswick Parish Council to be encouraged to pursue an option that I am not aware has been explored, i.e. to voluntarily coalesce with the adjacent parishes of Strensall and Huntington to produce a wider designated area in the interests of community cohesiveness.

As you will be aware all three communities have indicated their intention to engage with neighbourhood planning: Strensall is preparing to apply for designation; Earswick has applied for designation; and Huntington has recently been designated. Running the three projects together as a collaborative venture would be in the interests of residents and will produce all the benefits of overlap.

Combining the three parishes for Neighbourhood Planning purposes will produce the following major advantages:

- the initiative will be brought within the scope of the revitalised Ward Committee(s)
- a holistic view can be taken over facilities, services, infrastructure and transport
- housing provision can be considered for the combined northern sector of York
- a cross-parish team will engender the trust that is lacking in the Earswick Parish team
- cross-ward representation will dilute the party political influence in Earswick
- economies of scale will be achieved in resourcing three identical projects
- collaborative working and best practice exchange will avoid duplication of effort
- cross-boundary leadership will focus adequate emphasis on community consensus.

May we conclude by suggesting the application by Earswick Parish Council for designation as a Neighbourhood Planning area should be deferred at this stage and referred back to provide an opportunity to consider the more viable option of voluntarily combining with Strensall and Huntington parishes to create an amalgamated designated area.

Our understanding of the process is that after 16 November the Council has a four week minimum period in which to make decisions about the application, taking account of representations made.

We ask that you record this letter as two objections (one from each of the undersigned) and would appreciate an acknowledgement to indicate safe receipt, please.

Yours sincerely



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

12 November 2015

Freepost RTEG-TYYU-KLTZ
Neighbourhood Planning Team
City of York Council
West Offices
Station Rise
York
YO1 6GA

Dear [REDACTED]

Proposed designation of Earswick as a Neighbourhood Planning area

I write in response to the invitation to residents to comment by 16 November 2015 on the application by Earswick Parish Council to designate a neighbourhood planning area.

The Parish Council have not told us much about why we need a Neighbourhood Plan, though I understand it will replace our Village Plan which was only recently produced in 2012 and is on the Council website. At that time more than two-thirds of residents were against any housing development because of (and here I quote from the Village Plan) "the potential for village overpopulation, reduction of green spaces, increase in traffic congestion and pollution, and strains on infrastructure". I believe the Local Plan for York will guide future planning and feel it would be better to wait until it has been produced before doing anything else.

A Parish Working Party is looking at the idea and we have already been asked for views, even though the application to be designated has not yet been considered. It does not seem fair or proper that the Parish Council have "jumped the gun". I know people [REDACTED] are not happy about it and sadly it has caused a rift in the Earswick Action Group who are leading the village campaign against Green Belt development.

I believe it would be better for our village if we got together with Strensall and Huntington for neighbourhood planning. I understand Strensall is thinking about designation and Huntington has recently been designated.

I make this suggestion because our parish is too small to act on its own. It is one of the smallest in York with a population of about 800 living in 360 households. The village has already more than doubled in size over the past 20 years. Every available space within the built-up area has been subject to in-fill. I support the view in the Village Plan of 2012 that further expansion cannot take place without losing recreational space or Green Belt.

Our village is just a residential community with no businesses or shops, relying for schools and doctors on facilities in Huntington and Strensall. We all share the same transport links and bus services and traffic congestion is a major issue. Bringing all three parishes together to produce one Neighbourhood Plan must surely be more effective and efficient. Considering housing need for all three areas will produce financial and time savings, while working together for the benefit of residents in all three villages.

I suggest the area should not be designated as applied for, but that the matter be deferred and referred back to Earswick Parish Council to consider making a combined application with Strensall and Huntington to create one neighbourhood planning area.

Would you please acknowledge safe receipt of this submission, please.

Yours sincerely

████████████████████

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 November 2015 10:31
To: [REDACTED]
neighbourhoodplanning@york.gov.uk
Subject: Representations: Designation of neighbourhood planning area: Earswick Parish
Attachments: RepresentationsNeighbourhoodPlan.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

We refer to your e-mail of 21 October 2015 and your invitation to people who live, work or conduct business in the area to comment within a statutory four week period ending 16 November 2015 on the application by Earswick Parish Council to create a neighbourhood planning area.

As we understand the relevant legislation, it provides an opportunity for residents "to make representations" about (1) the application AND (2) the proposed boundary, of the designated area. The nature of those representations is unspecified, but we feel we need to make comment about: lack of justification for a Neighbourhood Plan; the motivation and credibility of the Parish team; the inappropriateness of designating Earswick; and a proposed tri-parish collaboration to achieve a viable designated area.

A letter is attached in which we set out matters for consideration by the City Council and propose tri-parish collaboration between Earswick, Huntington and Strensall as a better solution for the Parish, the Ward and City of York Council in the interests of community cohesiveness. [A copy of the letter has also been sent by post].

Our understanding of the process is that after 16 November the Council has a four week minimum period in which to make decisions about the application, taking account of representations made.

We ask you to treat our joint submission as two separate objections and would appreciate an acknowledgement of this letter to indicate safe receipt, please.

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9 November 2015 [Copy of letter also sent by post]

Neighbourhood Planning
City & Environmental Services
Freepost RTEG-TYYU-KLTZ
City of York Council
West Offices
Station Rise
York
YO1 6GA

Dear [REDACTED]

**Representations: Application for designation of Neighbourhood Planning area:
Earswick Parish Council**

We refer to your invitation to people who live, work or conduct business in the area to comment within a statutory four week period ending 16 November 2015 on the application by Earswick Parish Council to create a neighbourhood planning area.

Our understanding is that the relevant legislation provides an opportunity for residents "to make representations" about (1) the application AND (2) the proposed boundary, of the designated area. The nature of those representations is unspecified. Therefore we make comment about: the justification for a Neighbourhood Plan; the motivation and ability of the Parish team; the appropriateness of designating Earswick; proposed tri-parish collaboration to achieve a viable designated area.

Justification for a Neighbourhood Plan

Despite repeated requests to the Parish Council we have not been supplied with any justification for developing a Neighbourhood Plan. This leads us to question the need to revisit our current Village Plan which was produced in 2012 under the auspices of the Localism Act. The Village Plan emerged from an in-depth study and a major village-wide consultation. In planning terms, a clear steer was obtained about future plans for the village. Over two-thirds of respondents expressed opposition to any housing development because of the potential for village overpopulation, reduction of

green spaces, increase in traffic congestion and pollution, and strains on infrastructure.

The proposed intentions for producing a Neighbourhood Plan are expressed in the Parish Council application as identifying aspects of life that will inform future planning with a view to enhancing quality of life and providing a framework for future land usage. All these issues were considered in the relatively recent 2012 Earswick Village Plan. As nothing has changed since its publication, it would seem to us unnecessary and unjustified to commit resources and expenditure to rake over the same ground. With an imminent draft Local Plan for York in prospect, that will guide future planning considerations for the village, it would seem prudent to await its publication before revisiting the 2011/12 local public consultation that underpinned the Village Plan.

Motivation and ability of the parish team

The Earswick initiative has a very parochial focus and we harbour suspicions/concerns that it is party-politically motivated. A Working Party of parish-selected individuals under the Chairmanship of a former Parish Chairman (who is a political activist) has been set up as a Sub-Committee of the Parish Council. Through its clumsy approach and its precipitate action (in publishing an action plan and conducting consultation ahead of designation) the group has successfully isolated sections of the village, alienated community representative groups and disengaged residents. We have no confidence in the ability of the Earswick Parish team to act fairly or to produce a consensual result.

Appropriateness of the proposed boundary

In our view the notion of designating Earswick is untenable: The parish is one of the smallest of York's 16 outer parishes with a population of under a thousand living in 360 households. The village has already more than doubled its number of households over the past 20 years. Every available space within the present built-up area has been subject to in-fill. It is a conclusion of the 2012 Earswick Village Plan that further expansion cannot take place without unjustifiably sacrificing recreational space or unacceptably encroaching onto designated Green Belt.

Self-reliance is another of our nagging concerns: Our village is essentially a residential community. It has few small businesses and no retail facilities. It relies for its educational and medical services and infrastructure on the adjacent parishes of Huntington and Strensall. It shares transport links and bus services common to all three.

Proposed tri-parish collaboration

A more sensible solution for the Parish, the Ward and City of York Council would be for Earswick Parish Council to be encouraged to pursue an option that I am not aware has been explored, i.e. to voluntarily coalesce with the adjacent parishes of Strensall and Huntington to produce a wider designated area in the interests of community cohesiveness.

As you will be aware all three communities have indicated their intention to engage with neighbourhood planning: Strensall is preparing to apply for designation; Earswick has applied for designation; and Huntington has recently been designated. Running the three projects together as a collaborative venture would be in the interests of residents and will produce all the benefits of overlap.

Combining the three parishes for Neighbourhood Planning purposes will produce the following major advantages:

- the initiative will be brought within the scope of the revitalised Ward Committee(s)
- a holistic view can be taken over facilities, services, infrastructure and transport
- housing provision can be considered for the combined northern sector of York
- a cross-parish team will engender the trust that is lacking in the Earswick Parish team
- cross-ward representation will dilute the party political influence in Earswick
- economies of scale will be achieved in resourcing three identical projects
- collaborative working and best practice exchange will avoid duplication of effort
- cross-boundary leadership will focus adequate emphasis on community consensus.

May we conclude by suggesting the application by Earswick Parish Council for designation as a Neighbourhood Planning area should be deferred at this stage and referred back to provide an opportunity to consider the more viable option of voluntarily combining with Strensall and Huntington parishes to create an amalgamated designated area.

Our understanding of the process is that after 16 November the Council has a four week minimum period in which to make decisions about the application, taking account of representations made.

We ask that you record this letter as two objections (one from each of the undersigned) and would appreciate an acknowledgement to indicate safe receipt, please.

Yours sincerely



[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 16 November 2015 17:25
To: neighbourhoodplanning@york.gov.uk
Subject: Attn: Rebecca Harrison - Earswick Neighbourhood Plan

With reference to your letter dated 19 October 2015, I support the proposal for a neighbourhood plan area to be created in Earswick and agree that Earswick Parish Council be designated as the appropriate body to be involved in the administration of this.

I would like to be kept informed of any future developments.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Thank You
[Redacted]

█
█
█
█

Neighbourhood Planning,
City of York Council,
West Offices,
Station Rise,
York,
YO1 6GA.

12 November 2015

Dear Sir,

**Earswick Parish Council –
Application for Designation of Neighbourhood Planning Area.**

We refer to the application by Earswick Parish Council in connection with the designation of a Neighbourhood Planning Area.

We note that the process allows for residents to make representations within the statutory four-week period, ending 16 November 2015, and that such representations will be taken into account by the City Council in their determination of the application.

Locally there are many concerns around the make-up of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NHPWG) and the lack of transparency in the process that only appointed a select few to this role, concerns that we both share. A number of well qualified residents in terms of building, technical and local knowledge put their names forward but were not allowed to become involved or have had the courtesy of any feedback or explanation as to why not.

It should also be of concern to the City Council that ahead of your determination of this application, that the NHPWG have undertaken an extensive survey of Earswick residents, a survey that we understand to be invalid in any formal process going forward but nevertheless will have resulted in expenditure that will need to be covered, however it remains unclear how the costs for this piece of work are going to be covered and from where?

It is of further concern that if this survey sets the tone of any future formal activities of the NHPWG, should their application be determined in their favour, then it has already isolated sections of the village as all residents have not had the opportunity to respond, the survey having been undertaken on an individual household basis only. This therefore precludes members of households who may have alternative or varying

█
█, likewise many households have young adults, who are our future, and whose views are not being canvassed. These concerns have already been feedback to the NHPWG, however it is noted from the minutes of their recent meeting that, irrespective of these concerns, they have already decided to continue future surveys on an identical basis which will clearly disfranchise a

large majority of Earswick residents and bring into question the veracity of any subsequent results.

The application relates to the designation of the Parish of Earswick for a Neighbourhood Plan.

It must be noted that Earswick is one of the smallest villages on the outskirts of York with only approximately 360 households and a population of only 819, and is surrounded by dedicated Green Belt land.

Earswick has grown over 60% in the last 20 years with most if not all of this development encroaching onto Green Belt land, leaving its infrastructure, services and roads at saturation level.

There are no shops, pubs or other notable business interests in Earswick, other than a small veterinary surgery and a second-hand car dealers located on the boundary with Strensall Parish.

There is unlikely to be any commercial viability in any shops or other retail business being attracted to the area as they would be unable to compete with the nearby out of town shopping centres at Monks Cross and Clifton Moor.

Earswick residents are already served by medical and educational services in nearby Huntington, where there are further small retail outlets such as a newsagents, post office, chemist, betting shop, pub, hairdressers and garage.

Further retail and educational establishments can be found in nearby Strensall and Haxby.

A regular bus service serves Earswick running from the terminus in Strensall into York City Centre, via Huntington, and return.

It is understood that both Huntington and Strensall are in the process of looking to create a Neighbourhood Plan.

Due to the minute size and scale of the Parish of Earswick a more strategic option should be considered in forming a 'Multi-Parish Neighbourhood Area' by joining with either Strensall or Huntington or even both.

This will clearly reduce time and expense and provide a more holistic view of the respective Parishes, which all impact on each other in the terms of the local infrastructure, services, transport and housing.



Harrison, Rebecca

From: pcnewearswick@aol.com
Sent: 26 October 2015 11:07
To: neighbourhoodplanning@york.gov.uk
Subject: Earswick Parish Council

Good Morning - Members have noted the application for designation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Earswick.

Sally Bruckshaw
Clerk to New Earswick Parish Council
The Folk Hall
New Earswick
York YO32 4AQ

01904 758028