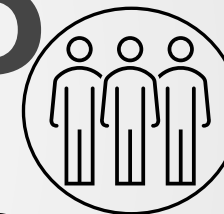


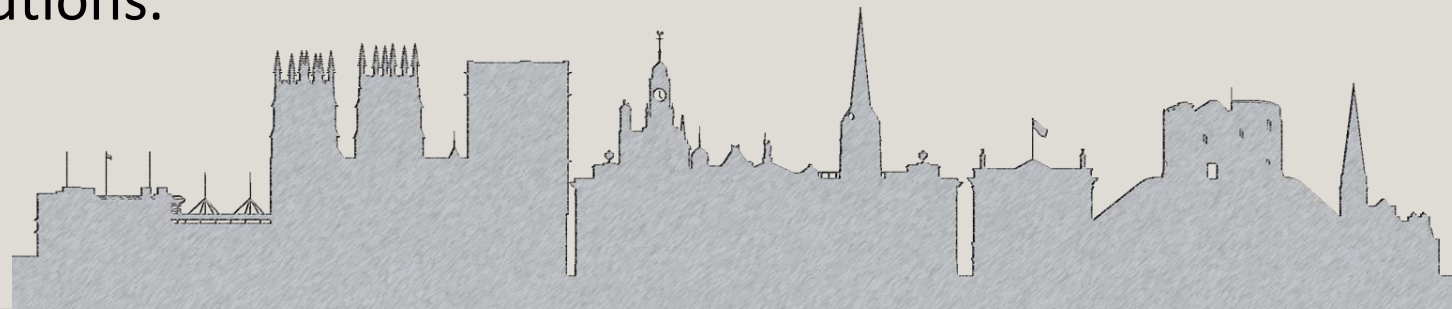
DRINGHOUSES AND WOODTHORPE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN



Neighbourhood Action Plan is a collaborative effort to improve local areas and provide residents with tools and knowledge to be able to lead happy and healthy lives.

Ward Team partners come together to discuss, plan and deliver projects that help to address ward priorities.

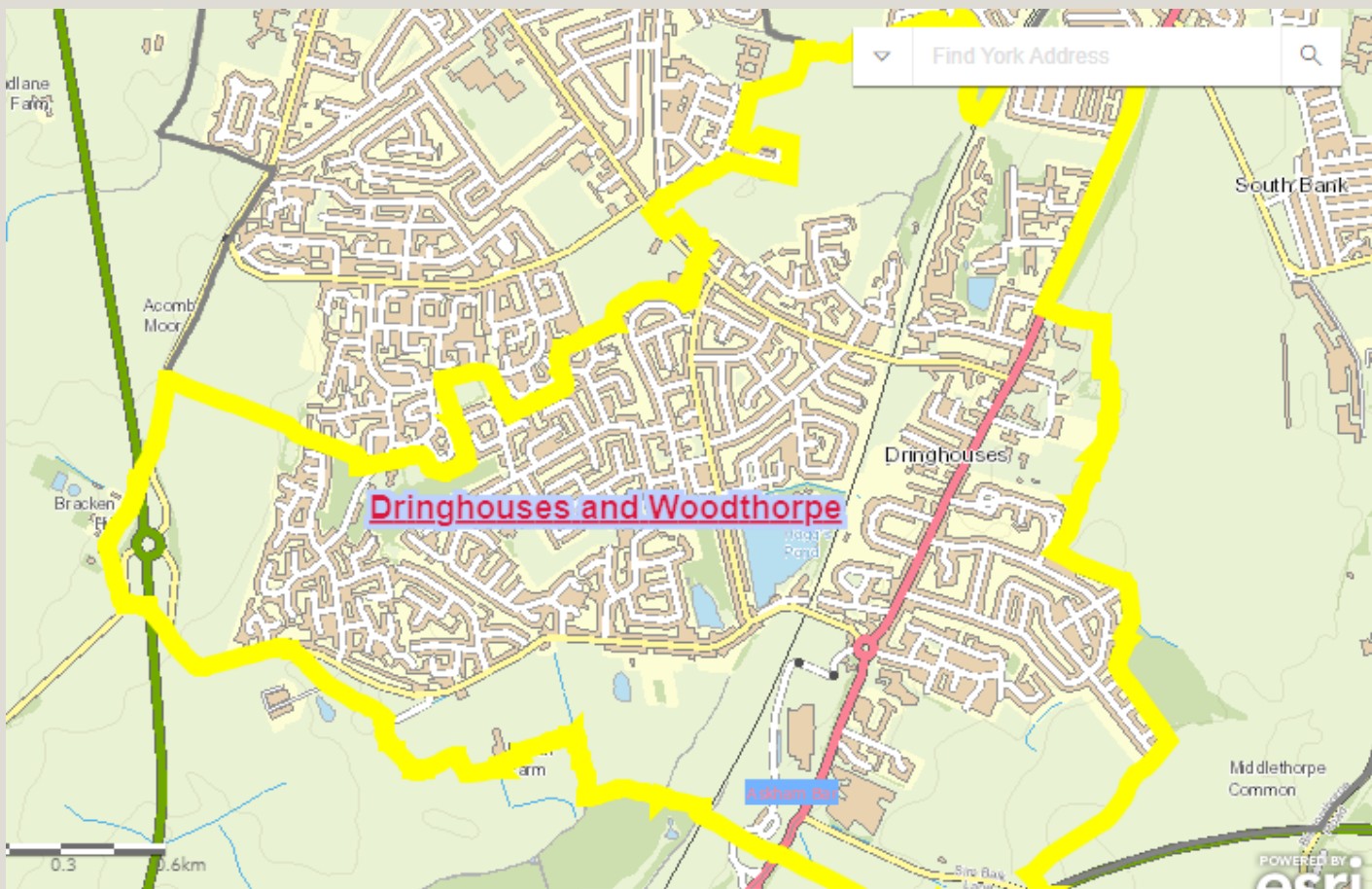
Facilitated by Ward Councillors and Community Officer ward networking events provide an opportunity for local groups to connect, build relationships and explore opportunities to collaborate, whereas team meetings and multi-agency focus groups concentrate on specific issues and solutions.



THE **A.B.C.D.** FRAMEWORK **ASSET - BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

- **Focus on what is strong and not what is wrong**
- **By naming assets and resources, we can identify what is strong and how it can all play part in addressing challenges of the community**
- **Community led solutions**
- **Recognising talents, skills and uniqueness within community**
- **Building connections and solving problems together**
- **Ward funding is available for people to get ideas going and make changes**

STORY OF THE PLACE



- Story of the place is best told by residents. A person can describe it as a place where they live, work, raise their children, make new friends, learn, exercise, shop and volunteer.
- All of the above are positive statements linked with a well-balanced and constructive life. However people will also have negative experiences such as being a victim of anti-social behaviour.
- How do you feel about Dringhouses and Woodthorpe Ward?

ASSETS

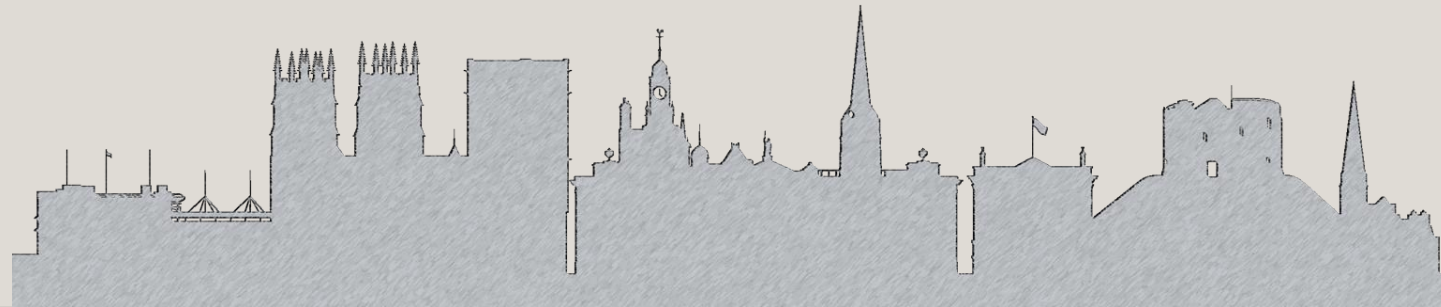
By naming assets and resources, we can identify what is strong and how it can all play part in addressing challenges of the community.



Health and wellbeing - including promoting activities and volunteering opportunities available locally

CHALLENGES

- 19.6% of Reception age children are overweight, comparing to 22.5% for York as average.
- There are 515 children in Dringhouses and Woodthorpe aged 0-5 vs 410 on average for York wards.
- Limited free to access constructive and healthy activities for children and young people within the ward.



SOLUTIONS

York City FC Foundation provision of free to access football themed activities on Woodthorpe Green and Chesney Field over the summer 2024 (ward funded).

Successful bid for funding from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Community Fund towards healthy and structured activities for young people reinforcing positive behavioural choices. Collaboration with partners is ongoing. York RLFC Foundation Off the Bench programme is planned to start at York High and Millthorpe during this term, Henry's Boxing Gym is already delivering monthly sessions and York City FC Foundation commenced delivery of additional football sessions at Vale of York Academy and are looking for another facility in the West of York.

SOLUTIONS

York Acorn Sports and Social Club, Dringhouses Sports and Social Club, York and District Indoor Bowls Club offer a range of sports activities for all ages, including team sports such as cricket, football, rugby; and activities for individuals such as running and indoor bowls.

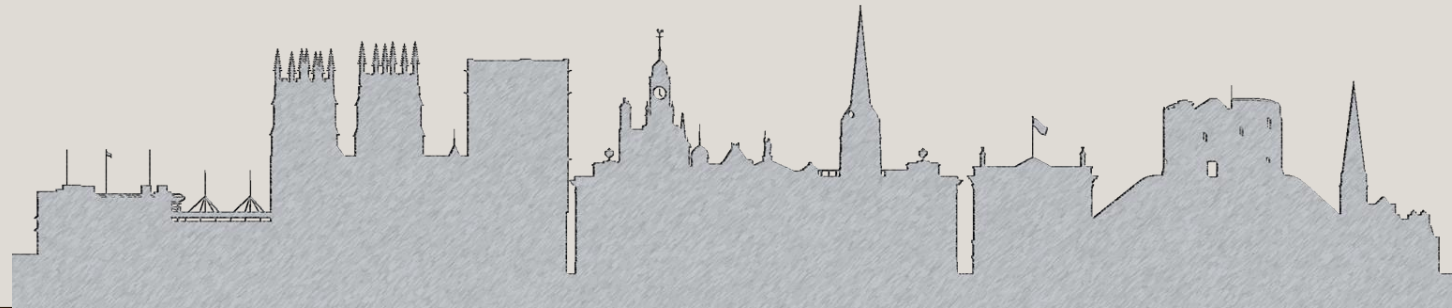
York RLFC Foundation provision of multisport sessions for young people incl. snacks and drinks at York Acorn Sports Club and on Woodthorpe Green over the summer 2024 (ward funded).



Health and Wellbeing / Tackling the Cost-of-living crisis

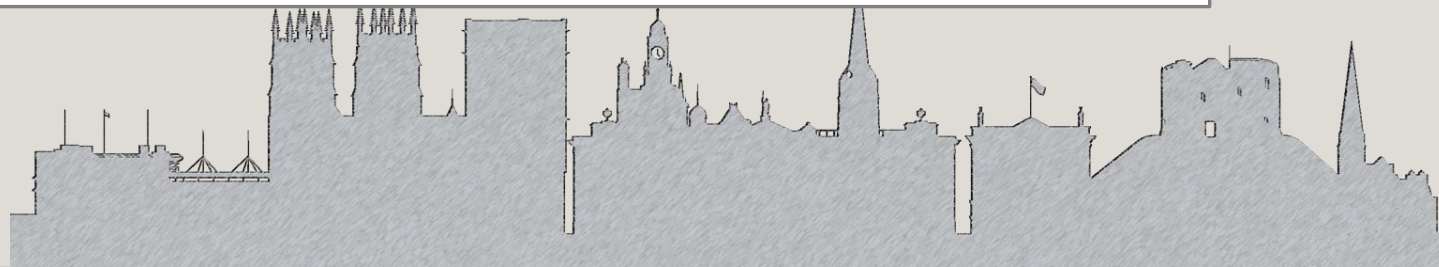
CHALLENGES

- Percentage of residents feeling socially isolated and feeling that they don't do anything of value with their time is slightly above York's average.
- Residents worried about money and struggling to make ends meet.



SOLUTIONS

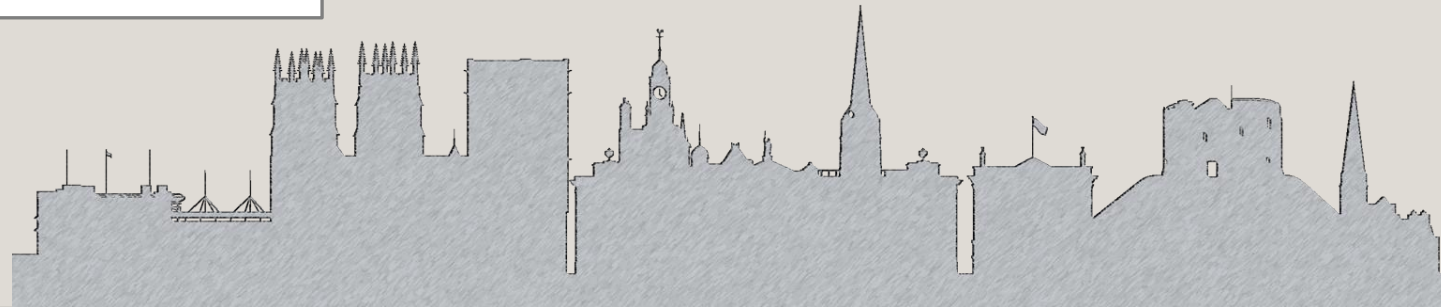
Community café at St James the Deacon Church is open on Thursdays term time between 9am and 12pm. Sessions provide an opportunity for social interaction and to obtain information about services and support. There are children toys and food parcels. Some sessions are themed i.e. Ukelele Band performance, or women's wellbeing workshop. Foodbank element of the project is supported with donations from the Woodthorpe School community, Church congregation and the Council's Support For Families Fund. Non-perishable food donations are always welcome, as the demand is high.



SOLUTIONS

Although just outside the ward boundary Foxwood Hub is open on Fridays between 11:45am and 2pm and offering opportunity for social interaction while enjoying a 'pay as you feel' lunch and crafting activities. CAY outreach advisor attends the Hub regularly offering information and advice.

Ramblers Wellbeing Walk takes place on the 1st Friday of each month from the war memorial in front of St Edward the Confessor Church. Routes are being decided on the day.



SOLUTIONS

West Thorpe Church hosts Craft and Chat group on Friday mornings, term-time between 9:30am and 11am. The group focuses on activities such as crochet, water painting and knitting. Refreshments, biscuits and a warm welcome is guaranteed, and new members are always welcome.

Dringhouses Library is open for everyone, offering warm, welcoming space, access to computers and traditional library service. Opening Times are Monday 2pm to 6pm, Tuesday 9:30am to 12:30pm, and 2pm to 5:30pm, Friday 2pm to 5:30pm, Saturday 9:30am to 1pm.

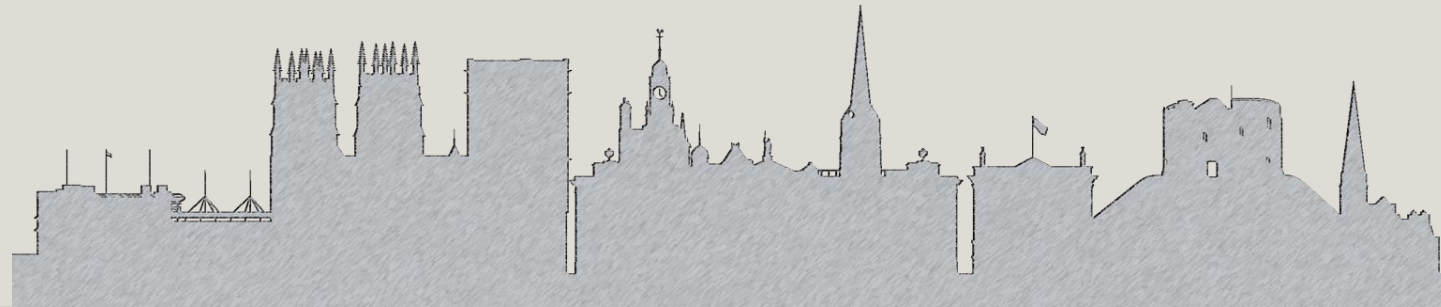


SOLUTIONS

St Edward the Confessor Church on Tadcaster Road is open Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 3.30pm serving tea/coffee @£1, and cake @50p.

Every Tuesday between 10.30am and 11.30am there is a Happy Hour with free tea, coffee and cake.

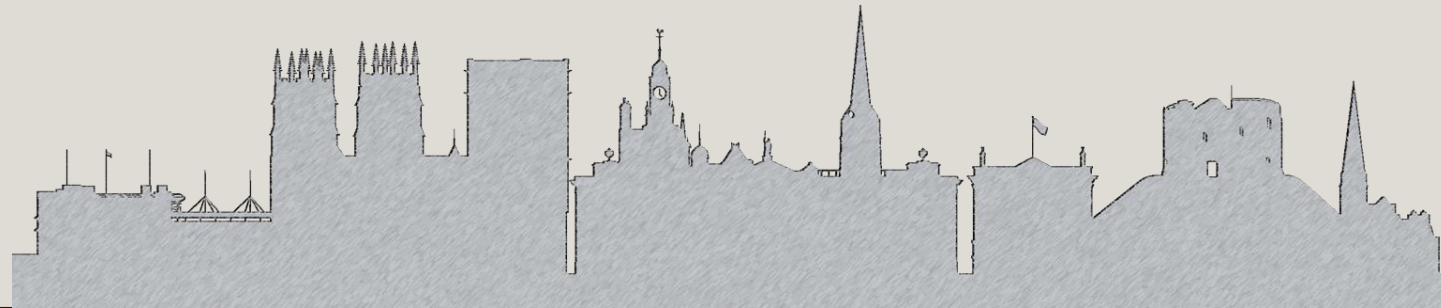
Stop by for a break, chat with one of the friendly volunteers and find out what's on at the Church.



Equality of opportunity - including supporting organisations providing low or no cost activities locally

CHALLENGES

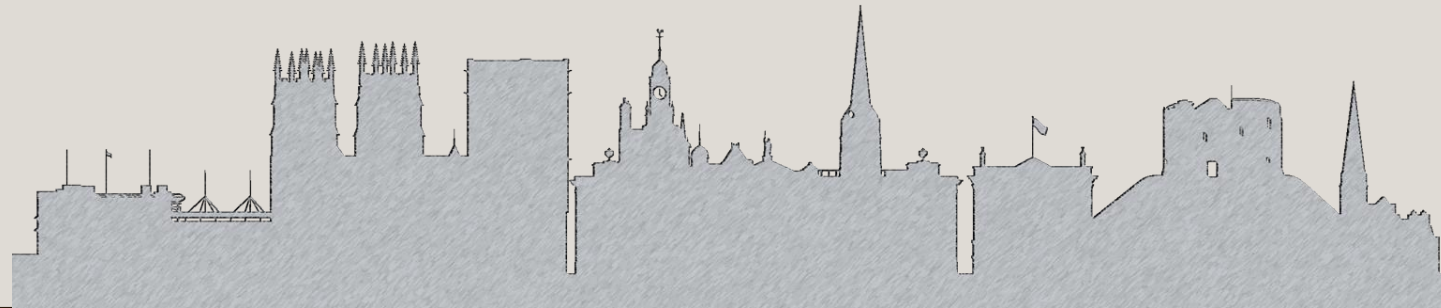
- Communicating about services and activities available locally to encourage participation.



SOLUTIONS

Calendar of events – managing an online calendar of one-off events in the ward to avoid date clashes and use as a point of reference. The calendar is on the ward page on the CYC website

<https://www.york.gov.uk/wards-1/dringhouses-woodthorpe-ward-1/5>

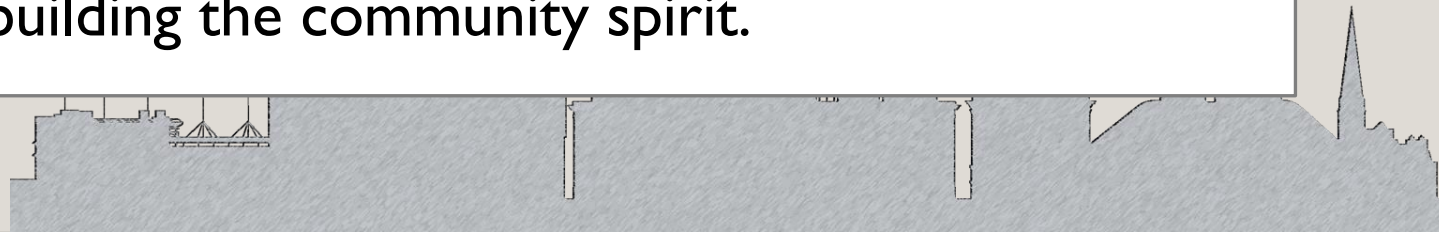


SOLUTIONS

Foxwood Family Funday took place on Saturday 31st of August between 11am and 2pm within the Community Centre and Foxwood Park grounds.

It was a second event of this nature, organised jointly by the Community Centre, the Residents Association, CYC and JRHT.

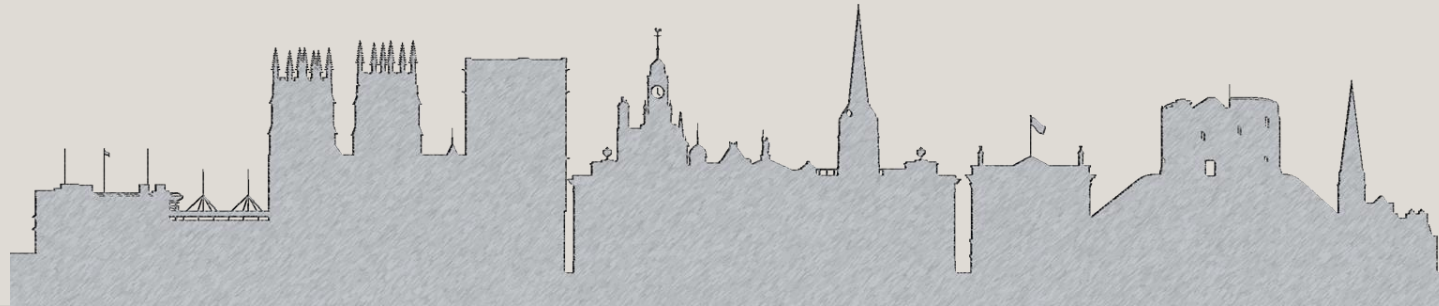
The event aimed to showcase the Community Centre, the Foxwood Residents Association work and projects, enable York Youth Council to explore the Community Centre as a safe social space for young people, offer Holiday Activities and Food taster and bring local people together to help building the community spirit.



Environment and climate emergency

CHALLENGES

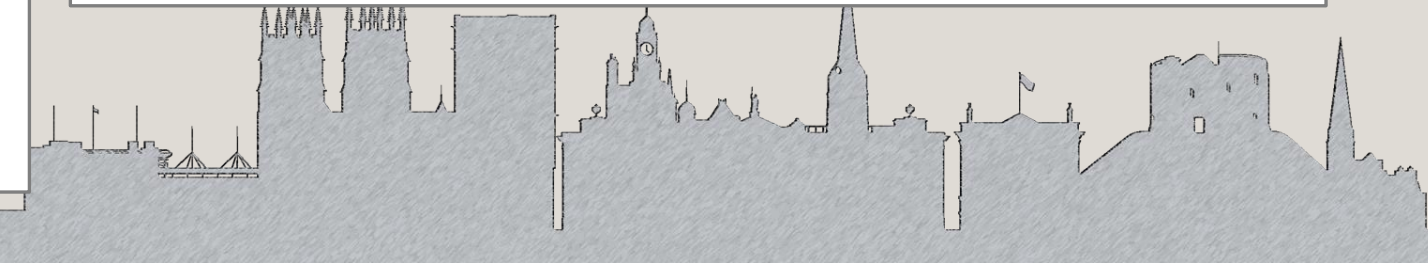
- Protecting and improving local green spaces and strengthening biodiversity.
- Improving play and recreation spaces.
- Making sustainable modes of travel (public transport, cycling, walking and wheeling) easier, safer and more convenient.



SOLUTIONS

Work with Woodthorpe Primary School and CYC officers to alleviate issues with inconsiderate parking and road safety outside the school at drop-off and pick up times. A potential of trialling the use of Foxwood Community Centre as a park and stride site is being explored.

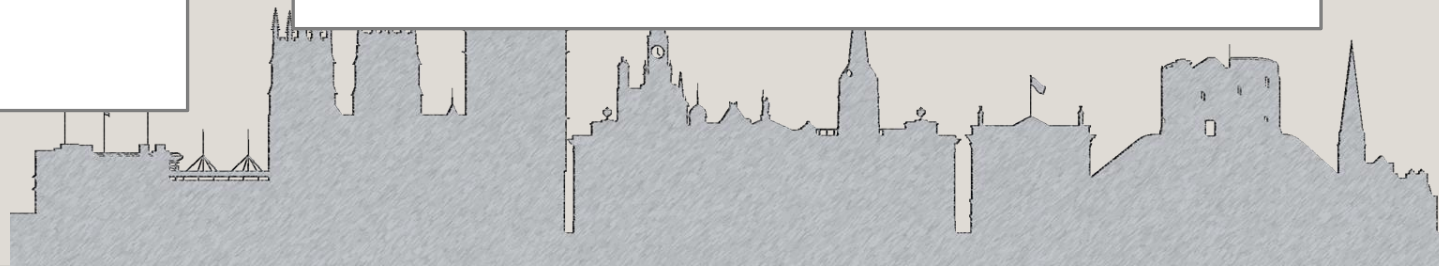
Volunteer led Mayfields Community Trust manages the public open space incl. woodland, wildflower meadow and paths located north of Nelsons Lane. It is popular with walkers, runners and cyclists alike. Few benches located at key locations within the site provide space to rest and closeness to nature.



SOLUTIONS

Chapmans Pond comprises 7 acres of land with a fishing pond and woodland situated off Moor Lane. The site is open to all and provides a relaxing green space to enjoy. Outdoor classroom within the site is offered to local schools, nurseries and playgroups to use as a nature area. The site is owned by CYC and managed by Chapmands Pond CIC volunteers.

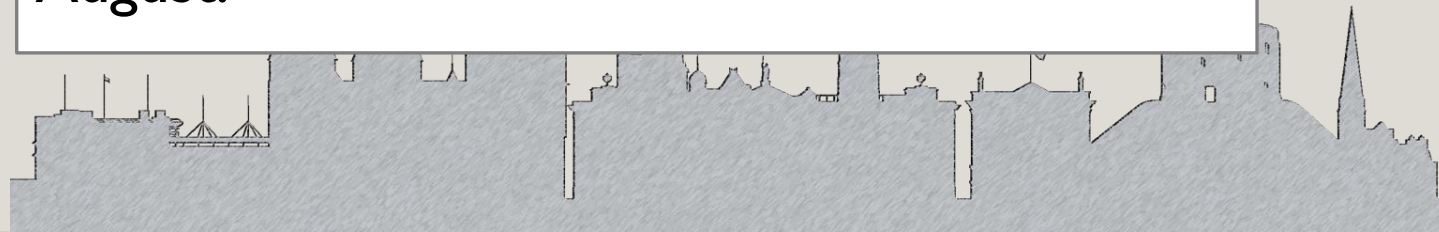
York Railway Pond and Reserve is a scenic pond with waterlilies surrounded by woodland located south of Nelsons Lane. The site comprises a few fishing platforms and is looked after by volunteers who aim to ensure safety of the site for visitors and a haven for wildlife.



SOLUTIONS

Acomb Wood nature reserve is ten-acres of mixed woodland and ancient meadow green oasis in the middle of a large housing estate. Few volunteers are actively involved with maintenance, litter picking and planting within the woodland.

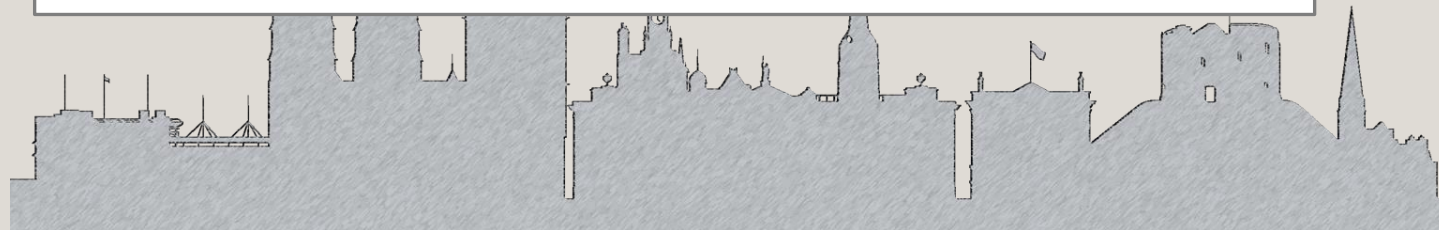
Hob Moor Local Nature Reserve is the largest green space within the ward. The land is unimproved pasture which is traditionally grazed over the summer months by cows. The stock was not present on site in 2024 and the meadow was mown by a tractor recently. Friends of Hob Moor organise events such as the July's wildflower walk, or the bat walk in August.



SOLUTIONS

Although just outside the ward boundary the Knavesmire is a large, marshy undeveloped area hosting regular events such as York Parkrun, which are enjoyed by ward residents.

Woodthorpe Green features grass space with small goal posts for recreational use. It is surrounded by mature trees and has a well-equipped play area adjacent on the western end. The space is used by Woodthorpe York Community Group to host their annual summer fair which is a highlight in the community calendar.



SOLUTIONS

CYC Environment and Community Officers (ECO's) work with volunteers to help maintain a cleaner, safer, greener environment in the ward, create attractive neighbourhoods with a real sense of community and improve health, and wellbeing. The team supports individual volunteers, local volunteer groups and one-off volunteer sessions through corporate volunteering and charities. They work particularly closely with York Cares and Good Gym York. Current volunteering opportunities in the Ward include:

- litter picking in areas that may otherwise be neglected;
- Snow Warden Scheme - helping keep residential pavements clear of snow and ice;
- Leaf clearing to keep drains and paths clear of leaves.

LOCAL CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR ACTIVITY WHICH HELPS TO ADDRESS WARD PRIORITIES

- Woodthorpe York Community Group runs projects and activities such as the summer festival on the green, garage sale, Easter Egg Hunt, or Halloween Party. The group is an active participant of the ward team and takes part and/or leads on projects such as consultation and implementation of play area improvements, installation of new benches, updating notice boards, or anti dog fouling campaigns.
- Dringhouses Library and Friends of Dringhouses Library host events through the year inviting all residents to take part in activities such as opening of the patio, outdoor games, knit and natter, Lego club, under 5s storytime, or reading group.



OUTCOMES AND MEASURING PROGRESS

- People report feeling less lonely.
- People feel a sense of belonging to their local area
- Partners understanding of the importance of being well connected with the community
- Community led solutions - people identify and work together to bring about the changes they want to see
- Community connectors are as diverse as the local community
- Community connectors link with people who are receiving high levels of care services and have not yet been able to share their gifts and passions
- Case studies and funding reports
- Feedback from residents, local businesses and professionals

Source: [Asset Based Community Development in Leeds Common Evaluation Framework](#)

Terminology Community Connector = local volunteer, organiser, leader of a community group, or community champion

HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE & ANY OTHER FEEDBACK

- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...

