

MEETING **HEWORTH WARD COMMITTEE**

VENUE **Tang Hall Explore Library**

DATE/TIME **Saturday 09 May 2026**

PRESENT **COUNCILLOR Claire Douglas (Chair)**
COUNCILLOR Bob Webb
COUNCILLOR Anna Perrett

IN ATTENDANCE **PCSO Katie Lowther**
Community Officer Sam Watling

Total attendance:
5 Residents

APOLOGIES

1. MAIN MEETING – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (10:00)

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Claire Douglas who welcomed everyone and set out the housekeeping rules and reminded residents that the meeting was non-political.

2. Discussion around Anti-Social Behaviour

- Due to lower numbers an informal circle discussion took place around Anti-Social Behaviour including perspectives from the local PCSO Katie Lowther and a representative of The Friends of Glen Gardens who shared their experiences having been victim to vandalism in the park twice in the past year.
- The Friends of Glen Gardens representative spoke of the kiosk damage last year being an attempt at 'burglary' and North Yorkshire Police had no suspicions this was a youth ASB related issue.
- The recent damage in Glen Gardens, noticed on the afternoon of Friday 1st May but could have happened Thursday night, included plants being pulled out and benches being damaged and the suspicion is that this may be related to groups of youths loitering with the reasoning suggested as mischief and/or 'damage in a bid to gain ownership'. (It was agreed that this was mostly speculation/historic understanding due to not seeing groups in the park during open hours very often these days – The park is locked at sunset).
- Lots of young people reportedly use the courts and the park and will be respectful and leave the park at closing time when asked.
- Discussion around new problems emerging in Derwenthorpe including fires and allegations of youths carrying knives. Young people in the area report 'not feeling safe' to socialise together in that area as much due to this and may be travelling in.

- NYP report that often there are groups of young people who will travel over borders into other areas, but that at the moment much of the anti-social behaviour seen in the Heworth Ward is being caused by Young People from the ward. Therefore provision successfully directed to Young People in the area should have a positive impact on the problem.
- The main cohorts for anti-social behaviour were described as being a primary age range of 9 -11 year olds and then a 13-14 year old group as being engaged in some form of ASB or another, and that would also benefit from a youth provision.
- Suggestion that North Yorkshire Youth could staff an offer including pool tables, games consoles, sports where it's safe, phones can be charged etc. Could have young people volunteering to take ownership of it – Discussed the excellent model used at Cornerstone in Hull Road as well as a model called 'CATCH' in Harehills, Leeds.
- Discussed the potential locations of a provision. St Wulstan's Church have a great space for hire but discussed the presence of damageable/irreplaceable items may mean it is not appropriate.
- Discussed whether a Portakabin could be placed on Melrosegate field.
- Discussed including new local providers such as the emerging project with Boxing in New Earswick and MMA in Hull Road.
- Tang Hall Community Centre was raised as being right in the heart of the community and not facing vandalism or ASB in the way other areas nearby have suggesting a connection to those individuals.
- Question over whether the current Youth Provision at Tang Hall Community Centre is 'speaking to the young people enough in its current format, and that we might work with North Yorkshire Youth to maximise what is already in place as well as considering new provision.
- Point raised that wherever the provision goes, consideration should be given to transportation for those who would need to travel.
- Some feedback given on the recent Heworth Youth Provision Workshop which brought together 28 local parents, practitioners and, providers to discuss what is the current state of affairs. Early information suggests there is lots of local provision albeit a sense that there is something missing that speaks to the young people who perhaps are most in need of it, especially one that diverts young people from causing ASB. All in attendance at the event wish to be better connected and understand each others offerings so signposting can be done more effectively. Further information will be due soon.
- The group discussed using Heworth Trinity Church Hall, Melrosegate as a potential location for youth activities in the area. Discussed that it is busy but that it is situated in the right area and is a large/blank space which could be useful for a provision.

3. Ward Funding

- Sam Watling, Community Officer for Heworth gave an update on ward funded projects over the last year and shared a Ward Funding Report (attached)
- The group discussed a potential green project in Melrosegate/East Parade area.