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MEETING	FISHERGATE WARD COMMITTEE
DATE	3 FEBRUARY 2009
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS D'AGORNE AND TAYLOR
IN ATTENDANCE	22 RESIDENTS CLAIR BAILEY-LANE, STREET ENVIRONMENT OFFICER, RUSSEL TREWARTHA & MARY LODGE, DISCUS BUNGALOWS, SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM, NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT UNIT

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### 1. WARD SURGERY

This was an opportunity for residents of the ward to talk to their local Councillors, Street Environment Officer, the Neighbourhood Policing Team, members of the Discus Bungalows Project Steering Group and Kristina Davey from the Neighbourhood Management Unit, and a chance to meet new Neighbourhood Management Officer Oliver Collins.

### 2. WELCOME AND MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

### 3. WARD TEAM UPDATES

#### Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Sgt Andy Haigh gave an update from the Safer Neighbourhoods Team:

- Since April of last year there was a 15% overall reduction in crime figures (100 fewer crimes).
- Figures on burglary reported in The Press are inaccurate. Reported figures included burglaries of sheds and garages. Burglaries of dwellings are actually down by 5% (2 burglaries).

#### Police priorities

- Speeding
  - Lack of evidence of a problem in Fishergate indicates that speeding is not a major priority. Anyone feeling otherwise can obtain a form from the Safer Neighbourhoods Team.
  - Question: Does time of day have impact on number of speeding offences?
  - Answer: Yes, it has an impact.
- Cycling on footpaths
  - Exercise undertaken on Fulford Road. Tickets and warnings given for cycling on the pavement and dangerous cycling, education of public and foreign students on UK cycling laws.

- Anti-social behaviour
  - Hotspots have been targeted, particularly Millennium Bridge area and along the river. Improvement shown. In November 83 reports made, down to 23 in December.

Q: Is anything being done about car speeding?

- Current plan to train local officers in the use of speed guns.

Burglaries and autocrime

- Warning given about leaving valuables on display in cars.
- Operation Machine: Around 30 officers patrolling the Hull Road corridor, giving advice, education, checks on cars for insurance, mot, etc.

Q: Why was Hull Road chosen?

- Hotspot for criminals. Part of a two part process – moving crime elsewhere.

Q. Has crime risen elsewhere?

- Too early to tell, but it has fallen in Fishergate. Data from Operation Machine yet to be fully analysed.

Q. Cycling on footpaths. Parked Cars make cycling on roads dangerous, particularly at Heslington Lane – Fulford road junction.

- Plans for cycle lanes on Hospital Field Road and Fulford Road. Consultation has taken place with residents to be affected. Part of overall strategy.

Q. Are police aware of the planned areas that will be designated shared use cycle/pedestrian paths?

- Yes they are aware.

Immobilise website

- All valuables should be registered on the internet with serial numbers.
- Safe site. Home Office website. Data will be protected.
- Increases ability to return stolen items, even from other areas of the country.
- Sheffield example cited where return of goods was successful.
- More information available online and from Safer Neighbourhoods team

Q. Was there a blitz on motorists? A crackdown on use of mobile phones, not wearing seat belt, etc?

- Yes there was. Undertaken in conjunction with the crackdown on cyclists mentioned earlier.

Q. Will it continue?

- Yes. This scheme is included in the police priorities for the next three months.

Street Environment Officer

Clair Bailey Lane local street environment officer gave a situation update:

- New notice board at new walk, including map, historical and environmental information, space for notices and a vandal proof case is being designed in association with Friends of New walk and is set for completion in February or March.

Q. Who has the keys?

- There are six people with keys who live approximately two minutes walk away from the board, all phone numbers will be provided.

Q. Is that the actual size of the board? ( in reference to the image shown via the power point presentation)

- The board will be 1525x1040mm which is larger than the current board.

Q. Isn't the board going to be liable to flooding?

- Hopefully it should be above the flood level it will be positioned higher than the current board.

- New notice board installed at Broadway shops to replace the old one which had rotted away.

- New planters outside St George's and Alligator to replace the previously vandalised pots. They will be planted twice a year (summer/winter) and will be monitored regularly.

- TAGGY website to combat graffiti now set up. It allows interested agencies, including the Police, to update a database of graffiti tags appearing across the city which is assisting in investigations and providing important intelligence regarding offenders.

Q. Could a copy of the map used in the new notice board at New Walk be sold in local shops?

- A previous version of the trail route is already available for sale, future sales of the revised version is up for consideration if interest exists.

#### **4. DISCUS BUNGALOWS PROJECT**

Russel Trewartha and Marie Lodge gave an outline of the current status of the Discus Regeneration Project.

- CYC owns 100 bungalows housing around 50 elderly residents. These bungalows fall below Decent Home Standard. Plans made to redevelop and create new homes. Resident consultation has taken place. Tees Valley Housing, York Housing Association and Southdale Homes was selected by City of York Council and the Discus Bungalows Residents' Committee to deliver the project.
- Plan permission given in November
- St. Anne's site. Features Bistro, Hairdresser and other facilities. 46 apartments with extra care and 12 bungalows for existing residents.
- Regent Street site. 58 Properties – 24 bungalows for existing residents
- Richmond Street site 85 properties including bungalows and apartments.
- Work on St Anne's will hopefully begin in the third week of February, with a view to completion by the end of 2009. An additional 18 months are expected to be taken to build the apartments. 2 years expected completion.

Call for comments and questions.

Q. Will bicycle bars be considered

- Yes, that has been taken into consideration

Q. Are the properties eco-friendly?

- They will meet level three of the national standard. Renewable energies of some kind will be included. Options being considered. Results pending. Homes will be highly efficient to maintain and built to lifetime standards.

Q. What about electric buggy storage/charging?

- Provide for all bungalows.

Q. Are the properties available to York residents?

The council will continue to manage allocation, working closely with Housing Association.

## **5. ELECTION OF PLANNING PANEL AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THE INDEPENDENT FACILITATOR**

Planning Panel

- Outline of Planning Panel duties and schedule given.
- Call made for interested volunteers.
- Announcement made that only one volunteer stepped forward thus far, importance of the planning panel as a voice for the ward and the urgency of the need for volunteers stressed.
- Stated that planning applications are now available online.
- Contact NMO if interested. Tel: 01907551812

Independent Facilitator

- Role is to improve meetings act as a mediator and keep to time.
- Nominations invited, even as deputy.
- Contact NMO if Interested. Tel: 01907551812

## **6. PROPOSED SCHEMES FOR 2009/10**

- Outline of three ambitions as laid out in *Your Ward* given and process explained. Non-approved schemes handout also indicated.
- Councillors note that where possible, scheme selection was based on ballot results.
- Notable exception in the case of donation to Cemetery Trust (£300) and Friends of New Walk (£400) which were missed off last issue of *Your Ward*, hence voting was not possible.
- Comments raised by audience regarding numbering of these schemes (FS-09-28, FS-09-29). Existing references taken by rejected schemes. Agreed this would be amended.

Call for comments and questions.

Q. The funding for 6 schemes has been reduced. Are these still viable with the reduced funding? E.g. FS-09-25 where funding has been halved.

- Costs based on estimates, also some funds may be added to this project from the youth fund.

Q. Re: FS-09-25. Why do we need to spend £1000 when a goalpost already exists?

- Two goalposts are needed. The land on the area needs levelling for safety reasons.

Q. Does this area have a problem with flooding?

- The area around is vulnerable, but not the pitch itself. Funding has been allocated, and the police are keen on the project.

Q. Is vandalism likely to be a problem?

- Possibly, but we should not stop attempting things otherwise nothing would get done

### Recycling

Q. Can an improvement be made to biodegradable bags? Their lifespan seems to be too long or too short.

- Other bags are available from supermarkets and shops.

Q. How do we store these bags?

- To avoid degrading too quickly, store them in a cool, dry and dark place.

Q. Can recycling be collected from flats/apartments?

- A popular issue. Trials are happening in other wards. Yet to reach FG, but will inevitably take place due to central government policy. This was part of the last budget.

Q. FS-09-23. Net nil. Why was money spent on this?

- The tree has been cut down, and the process already started. It was felt that it was worthwhile going ahead with the project and creating a piece of art for the ward.

Q. Where will it be located?

- Approx. 20 yards from the Blue Bridge gates.

Q. Does it really require £2000?

- Similar projects exist elsewhere. Estimates have taken those into account. Special skills are required to create sculptures, which unfortunately cost money.

### Road Safety

Q. What is the current situation with Broadway shops?

- Currently not ideal. The roadway is collapsing and the Council have done some repairs. Issues remain. Discussions have taken place with the shops to urge action. The Council view this area as privately owned, but hopefully an agreement can be reached between shop owners and the council. Costs are prohibitive, meaning that only the Co-Op is likely to be able to afford it. Short term action therefore seems unlikely.

### Shop Local Logo

Issue explained. Need to support local shops. There is money in the budget to spend on promotional material. Two suggested designs displayed on projection. Call for comments and questions.

Comments/Questions:

- Bag lines on both logos look like an 'A'
- Could the 'l' on design 1 be raised/moved?

Q. could a cross-ward scheme be considered?

- Other wards are not contributing to our scheme, but a booklet will be produced outlining all local shops and issues.

Q. Instead of stickers, couldn't we produce a cotton bag which would be more practical and saleable?

- Shops will be consulted on schemes. Stickers are in this year's budget, plans for next year's scheme are still up for discussion

Q. Could an alternative title be 'use us or lose us'? (murmurs of agreement)

- A point worth considering. Again, schemes for next year's budget are still up for consideration.

Action: Vote taken.

Logo 1 is unanimously preferred.

Other schemes

Q. Re: Bird and bat boxes. How will the money be spent? On identifying suitable locations? If the boxes are in the wrong place, then it's a waste of money.

- Sensible locations are an important consideration. We don't want to put them where they are not needed.

Reserve Schemes

No further comments/queries

Action: Call for formal budget approval

Budget approved.

The following schemes were approved:

FS-09-01	Continue schemes to increase household composting and to support York Rotters to encourage composting.	£900
FS-09-02	Fund doorstep garden waste collections and other recycling initiatives	£3000
FS 09-04	Fund to support setting up 'Freecycle Event.'	£150
FS 09-05	A grant to York Playground Action Group to organise a multi-sports day and fair on Fulford Ings at May half term	£825
FS-09-06	Grant to Street Sport York to provide a series of sessions at various locations throughout the ward	£2000
FS-09-07	Grant to Accessible Arts and Media - Melbourne film makers to support their scheme for young people to learn about film-making and animation and to make a film	£1200
FS 09-09	Grant to Older Citizens Advocacy York to fund an outreach service in the ward. The organisation provides independent advocates to support older people to speak up on issues that are affecting their lives.	£2000
FS-09-10	A fund to provide activities for young people in the ward and encourage participation	£2000
FS-09-28	A grant to Friends of New Walk to support the development of a Wildflower meadow and a planting event involving local schoolchildren	£400
FS-09-29	A grant to York Cemetery Trust towards resurfacing the pathways in the cemetery to improve accessibility for	£300

	those with mobility problems.	
FS-09-16	A fund to produce Green Travel guides for primary schools in the ward and to promote safer routes to school	£500
FS-09-17	A contribution to a partnership scheme with traders and improve safety outside Broadway shops	£2000
FS-09-20	Community cleanup/planting events. 3 in the ward during the year	£600
FS-09-22	Set up a 'Fishergate in Bloom' award for the best terraced street and suburban garden in the ward	£500
FS-09-23	Creat a wildlife sculpture or seat out out of the 'totem' tree stump at the Blue Bridge end of New Walk	£2000
FS-09-24	A fund to support the Fishergate Planning Panel to cover out-of-pocket expenses and venue hire.	£50
FS-09-25	A fund for a project involving all partners to create an informal football pitch, well away from houses on the field south of Millennium Bridge	£1000
FS-09-26	Development of the 'Shop Local' scheme	£500
FS-09-27	A scheme to provide bird and bat boxes to residents	£300
<b>Reserve Schemes</b>		
FS-09-08	Upgrade the gate leading to Walmgate Stray from Low Moor allotment to allow buggies and bikes with child trailers through	£2500
FS-09-14	Make a cycle lane on Broadway from the shops to Fulford Road junction	£1000

## 7. HAVE YOUR SAY

Call for any other business

Q. What is the situation with the crocodile? Why has it been moved?

- Originally it was located by the river, but was vandalised several times hence the decision to relocate to its current location at cemetery road play area.

Explanation of leaflet distributed regarding climate change event. Tickets available.

Q. what happened to the Help Shape Activity exercise?

- Suggestions were used to form ambitions for Neighbourhood Action Plan.

Explanation of kids' allotment event. Handouts available.

Terry's

Attention drawn to the Terry's factory update handout. Including current situation and site plans. Public consultation on 14/02/2009

Q. Issue regarding railway station?

- Ticket barriers to be introduced. Would reduce accessibility and detract from the appearance of the station. The original scheme has been amended and is available online and at 9 St Leonard's.

Q. Why are the barriers necessary?

- Government regulation and National Express hope that it will cut down on fraudulent behaviour.

Jonathan Tyler, Independent Facilitator

[The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 9.00 pm].