
Meeting	Micklegate Ward Committee
Date	8 October 2009
Present	Councillors Sandy Fraser, Gunnell and Merrett 56 Local residents

1. 7PM SURGERY

Residents had the opportunity to talk to Councillors Dave Merrett, Sandy Fraser and Julie Gunnell, Matthew Ward Neighbourhood Management Officer, Safer Neighbourhood Team, Representatives from City of York Council housing services.

And also had the opportunity to
View a scale model of the Grantside Terry's site proposal and talk to developers.

Receive light bulbs and timer switches as part of the lock up, light up campaign.

See the latest site developments for the St Clement's Hall Preservation Trust.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Dave Merrett welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced members of the ward committee.

2.1 The minutes of the previous ward committee ward agreed and signed.

3. POLICE UPDATE

Sgt. Neil Wood introduced himself and updated on the ward policing priorities. The following was noted.

3.1 The ward priorities are

- Anti-social behaviour
- Burglary Dwelling
- Speeding
- Race days

3.2 The lock up light up campaign is aimed to reduce burglary dwellings across the board.

3.3 Crime has reduced compared with last years figures.

- Auto Crime down 62%
- Theft down 13%
- Violence down 2%

3.4 Regular school visits are being carried out to get the team known throughout the ward.

3.5 PCSO Lee Johnston was introduced to update on the alleygating proposals for the ward.

3.5.1 The gates to go ahead are

- Kensington Street
- Trafalgar Street
- Scarcroft Hill
- Knavesmire Crescent
- Lower Ebor Street
- Ruby Street
- Balmoral Terrace is to be looked at

3.6 The ward committee offered thanks to the Safer Neighbourhood Team and expressed their gratitude for the previous work done by Sgt. Lee Pointon.

4. EDUCATION FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Rosy Tebbutt introduced herself and informed residents on the New Children's Centre at Knavesmire School.

- 4.1 Children's Centres are provided as part of a national public agenda – every child matters to improve and integrate universal services in early years, schools and health services.
- 4.2 Every Children's Centre will offer integrated early learning and childcare, support for childminders, family support, health services, outreach services and access to training and employment advice.
- 4.3 Children's Centres need to reach all families with children under five and the most excluded groups which are teenage parents, lone parents, children in workless households, fathers, minority ethnic families, disabled children, disabled parents with children under five, families with parent in prison.
- 4.4 Examples of services provides at York's Children Centres are community drop in, groups for young parents, dad's groups, ante-natal groups, groups for mums and young babies and adult education.
- 4.5 There are three localities in York, North, South East and West.
- 4.6 An outline for the Knavesmire Children's Centre was given.
 - contractor appointed and due to start building work mid October 2009
 - building work to be self contained from daily operation of primary school.
 - Estimated completion is March 2010
- 4.7 Knavesmire Children's Centre will consist of two main rooms.
- 4.8 A consultation questionnaire is to be distributed and public events are to be held in November 2009.

Early Years Provision was outlined. The following was noted.

Cllr Sandy Fraser declared an interest as he is a governor at Knavesmire School.

- 4.9 Last year there was a shortage of early year provision, due to a rapid rise in birth rate, York has been higher than average.
- 4.10 On paper there is sufficient provision of child care but not the choices of other areas.
- 4.11 The review of the admissions policy is annual and a paper will be with members in 2010.

Primary School Provision was outlined by Kevin Hall

- 4.12 There are two local pressures, these are Ofsted and the birth rate. This is especially associated with Knavesmire School.
- 4.13 In regard to catchments 95% parents get preference.
- 4.14 Knavesmire and Scarcroft have had to turn people away.
- 4.15 In relation to the Terry's development it is hard to gauge the exact figures but an initial figure is 60 for primary.
- 4.16 There are proposals to add 4 new classrooms under current proposals for Knavesmire School. Which will meet the demand locally.
- 4.17 Dringhouses and Woodthorpe schools have vacancies at present.

Cllr Fraser declared an interest in Knavesmire school as he is a governor and also has a grandson who was refused.

Residents were given the opportunity to ask questions the following were noted.

- a) A parent of a sibling who has a child at Knavesmire wanted to know why their son was refused although nine pupils in the class were from out of the catchment area? Over subscription was recognised but doesn't sibling count over catchment? Other places such as Leeds, Manchester operate with siblings been priority.
 - The governing body can review the policy every year and it needs to be looked at. There are variations across the country no set formula.

5. TERRY'S SITE DEVELOPMENT

Richard Beal, CYC Planning and Sustainable development, informed residents on the planning process and the latest planning application for the former Terry Chocolate Factory site. The following was noted.

- 5.1 The planning application was received five week ago.
- 5.2 The application will go to planning committee in December.
- 5.3 Comments are currently being accepted.

Residents were given the opportunity to raise concerns, the following points were raised.

Andy Chase, clerk of Micklegate Planning Panel, raised these concerns on behalf of the planning panel.

- It was firstly mentioned that the planning panel sees the development as a positive for the city.
- Anticipated traffic volume in the new application seems to be 20-30% then previous, even though the housing figures remain the same.
- The Bus service doesn't meet the set requirements, frequency is every 24 minutes rather than 15 minutes.

- a) Concern over traffic volume.

Event though there have been changes to the planning application it is expected the flow will be the same as previously outline.

Ken Hay supplied the flowing prediction of transport use.

52% - Van/Car

6% - pedestrian

8% - Bus

remainder – cycle

It was highlighted by residents at this point that similar areas do not reflect this pattern of usage.

- b) The site will lead to increased parking on Knavesmire Road. Fewer people use the buses than outlined due to poor service and poor frequency.
- c) The traffic figures are being underplayed.
- d) What is the situation with the upper level of the car park?
This is required to go through planning permission and is something that wasn't included in the initial planning application.
- e) Will there be cycle route provision>
This is up to the developers and depends on land ownership, it would also have to consider greenbelt land and agricultural boundaries.
- f) If planning is passed in December how quickly will work start?
Initial work could commence immediately once planning is agreed. Demolition would be the first stage and recycling of materials.
- g) What is the time scale for the development?
It would be a seven to ten year development.
- h) How have the traffic figures been estimated?
The figures are not an assumption and are measured using a standardised formula. This has previously been used for funding park and ride schemes in York. The evidence is available for scrutiny. Cycling figures are projected from cycle usage at the university.
- i) How is the process review initiated?
It has already started planning panel and ward committee have asked to meet with Highways.

6. TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Housing services attended to advise residents that they are overhauling their strategy for tackling anti-social behaviour. The following points were raised.

- 6.1 The current local issues for residents are the starting pointing for the strategy.
- 6.2 Some ASB issues are dealt with by police some are housing issues.
- 6.3 The new strategy is a government directive.
- 6.4 Public event will be held for people to come along and talk to the housing team

- 6.5 The strategy is to be in place by May 2010, there will be an action plan produced.
- 6.6 The strategy will be written in a readable understandable format, containing concise information.

Residents were given the opportunity to ask questions. The following were raised.

- a) Are resident associations being consulted?
Resident association are being sent questionnaires.

7. PROPOSED SCHEMES FOR 2010/11

The ward committee invited residents to ask questions of the proposed ward funded schemes for the 2010-2011 financial year. The following were asked.

- 7.1 Laura Potts had past on her apologies but wanted it to be known that the community orchard scheme was her suggestion. It would be run as a community development project and she is prepared to run it.
- 7.2 Pauline Bucannan spoke for St Clements Hall Preservation Trust. There has already been fantastic support for the project and the ward funding would help secure further funding for the project.
- 7.3 What is the budget?
The final budget isn't agreed until the new financial year, it is worked on the basis of the previous year which is approximately £35,000.
- 7.4 What has happened to the long running request for plastic recycling?
This is currently being looked into, and locations have been identified.
- 7.5 Representative from MIND outlined that the funding applied for will help them reach younger people in the ward.
- 7.6 Street sports York outlined there programme and stated that their sessions are well attended, usually with 20 participants.
- 7.7 Who will organise the seed swap?
If funding goes ahead the scheme proposer will be contacted and could be done in conjunction with the Scarcroft Allotment Association.

At this point it was mentioned for residents to fill in the policing priorities and street environment questionnaires to provide feedback.

8. HAVE YOUR SAY

Cllr Merrett invited residents to raise issues for the ward . The following issues were raised.

- 8.1 Are the councillors involved in the climate change strategy, What are the targets for CO2 reduction?

The strategy will come from the executive, there will be long and short term targets.

8.2 Can recycling for flats be arranged?

This is to be rolled out by the end of 2010, trials are already underway.

8.3 A resident had reported numerous incidents of damage on his vehicle and this wasn't reflected by police crime figure?

It was agreed that details of the resident and incidents would be taken and Cllrs would follow up outside the meeting.

Cllr Dave Merrett, Chair

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