
Meeting	Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward Committee
Date	19 October 2011
Present	Councillors Gerard Hodgson, Reid and Semlyen
Apologies	-

1. Drop-in surgery 6.30pm

1. Residents had the opportunity to talk to their ward councillors. Matthew Ward from Neighbourhood Management. Sgt Iain Sirrell from Safer Neighbourhoods Team. Russ Broadbent and Liz Levett from Parking Services. Mark Hebblethwaite from Street Environment Services.

1.1 Representatives from local groups were also represented.
Hamilton Panthers Football Club
York Tree Wardens
Chapman's Pond
Dringhouses and Woodthorpe Planning Panel

1.2 Representatives from City of York Council attend to give the latest information on the Local Development Framework and the York 800 initiative

2. Parking in the ward

2. To inform residents on who deal particular issues regarding parking, Russ Broadbent, Parking Services Manager, Elizabeth Levett, Head of Environmental Enforcement and Parking Services and Sgt Iain Sirrell, North Yorkshire Police.

2.1 The structure of Parking Services
Liz Levett – Head of Service
Russ Broadbent – Manager of Parking Services
James Langley – Officer Supervisor at St Leonards Place
Roy Wilcox-Harrison – Parking control Supervisor at Foss Bank
12 Full and part –time clerical staff at 9 St Leonards

22 Civil Enforcement Officers

- 2.2 Parking Services enforce the parking restrictions but the restrictions themselves are not their responsibility. Parking Services do not decide where yellow lines should be or where a resident parking scheme should apply or how much to charge people to park in the car parks. These are strategic decisions that are made by the Transport Planning and Highway Management Teams of the City Strategy Department.
- 2.3 The enforcement of parking regulations have been operated by the City of York Council since 8th October 2000. When the City of York Council took up the powers of the 1991 Act and became responsible for enforcing almost all parking offences – except obstruction and dangerous parking.
- 2.4 On 31st March 2008, the 2004 – Traffic Management Act was implemented which introduced differential penalty charges of £70 and £50 and allowed Councils to enforce parking on pedestrian crossings.
- 2.5 These payments are halved if paid within 14 days.
- 2.6 The key objectives of Parking Services are enforcement of waiting and loading restrictions, bus stops, cycle lanes, taxi ranks, school keep clear zigzags to improve road safety and the movement of traffic. Enforcement of resident parking schemes to discourage parking by motorists who are not entitled to park in these areas. Meeting the needs of people with disabilities by enforcing the disabled bays and protecting access for emergency vehicles. Not to raise revenue.
- 2.7 The current parking restrictions in the city are 16 Council Car Parks (total spaces 2,569 cars and 62 Coaches) 53 Resident Parking Schemes (over 27,000 metres of restrictions) over 570,000 metres of Yellow Line waiting restrictions. Over 5,000 metres of other parking restrictions. A Total of over 600,000 metres (377 miles) of restricted parking in York. Over 800 different streets have parking restrictions of some description.
- 2.8 There are currently 22 Civil Enforcement Officer covering the city, this has reduced from 30 Officers over the past 5 years.
- 2.9 IN the financial year of 2010/11 the following Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) were issued.
- | | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Car Parks | 6,983 |
| Yellow Lines | 5,734 |
| Residents Parking | 4,901 |

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------|
| | Other on street offences | 1,359 |
| | Pay and Display bays | 1,277 |
- 2.10 This raised over £3m revenue, which is used for traffic related expenditure.

Breakdown of expenditure	£
Dial and Ride	100,000
Concessionary Bus Tokens	116,000
Shopmobility	13,000
Subsidised Bus Services	771,000
Highway Maintenance	2,031,000

- 2.11 What can CYC enforce?
- Council Car Parks – No payment, Expired ticket, parked in disabled bay etc.
 - Waiting Restrictions – Double Yellow Lines – No Parking at any time
 - Waiting Restrictions – Single Yellow Line – No parking during the times shown on the sign.
 - Loading Restrictions – Double and Single Kerb Markings.
 - Double – no loading at any time.
 - Single – no loading during times shown on sign, usually 8am-9:15am & 4pm –6pm in York.
 - Resident Parking Bays – no permit displayed or expired permit
 - On Street Pay and Display – no ticket or expired ticket
 - Parking in Specific Marked Bays – for example taxi ranks and bus stops.
 - Parking On School Entrance Markings
 - Parking On Pedestrian Crossings – the one offence that can be enforced by both the Council or the Police.
- 2.12 What can Police enforce?
- Parked causing an obstruction - for example parking on the pavement or verge. If a vehicle is parked on a pavement/verge where there are no yellow lines in the carriageway alongside them and is seen to be causing an obstruction the Council are unable to issue a penalty charge notice. Obstruction is a criminal offence and can therefore only be dealt with by a Police Officer. However, Police need to see that someone has been obstructed – insufficient to say that someone might be obstructed
 - Dangerous Parking is also a criminal offence and can only be dealt with by the Police.
- 2.13 To report illegal parking the parking hotline should be used. It is 0800 1381119. This is to a call centre which

then relays the incident via text message to the enforcement officers. This operates 7.45am to 9.30pm

Residents were given the opportunity to ask questions in regard to parking issues and concerns in the ward

Q - If there are less enforcement officers, why are they seen patrolling together?

A - After 6.30pm and in certain areas of the city, where there have been historic problems with enforcement, the officers double crew for safety.

Q - What is the situation on Ousegate, where there are double yellow lines but it is always busy with parked vehicles?

A - For loading purposes, any yellow line can be used, except where no loading restrictions are in place. Certain potentially dangerous locations, such as Blossom Street near The Windmill pub have no loading restrictions.

Q - The refurbished Doctors surgery in Woodthorpe has problems with parking, vehicles are parking dangerously in surrounding streets such as Bramble Dene.

A- If the incidents are reported using the parking hotline number then the officers will attend and assess the situation. Taskings for the enforcement team are decided on the received reports. We rely on residents input to help cover the city with a limited resource. Now the issues is known about it can be investigated.

It was mentioned by Cllr Reid that patrols of the area would be beneficial as the surgery had just reopened.

Q - Due to the parking on Moorcroft Road, buses are struggling to get through, one had to wait 15 minutes in the middle of the road as it couldn't get through.

A - Bus drivers are aware of the hotline and this should have been used in this situation. City Strategy who make decisions on parking restrictions are currently reviewing the bus situation.

Q - What is the situation with double yellows on cobbled areas? Such as Blossom Street near the take aways.

A - It has been difficult to enforce as many offenders drive off when they see officers approaching, the lines are also currently unevenly worn so need repainting. The decision

for allowing the takeaways there was a decision made by licensing.

Q - Is it possible to enforce some restrictions for term time only?

A - Although this has happened elsewhere it isn't something considered by CYC. There are problems with differing term times and increased signage required. The decision to bring in these restriction would be for Network Management to decide.

Q - There is an incentive in Essex to educate rather than fine, can this be done in York?

A - When new enforcement areas are agreed the education and warnings are used. For some situations such as dangerous parking it wouldn't be suitable. Discretion and common sense is used by officers.

Q - Why do only half the schools in York have restriction?

A - A big factor if available resources, there is now point having more restrictions than can be enforced, currently Enforcement Officer have to be accompanied by Police to some areas due to adverse reactions from car users outside schools.

Q - Why can't the two wheeled parking band in enforced in York? A newspaper article was shown outlining powers available to local authorities.

A - This is a law only enforced in London, the law may be there but it is for the authority to adopt if seen necessary. Two wheeled parking is seen as beneficial in some circumstances by the Fire and Rescue.

Q - Can the yellow lines on Blossom Street near the dental surgery be used for dropping off?

A - Yes double yellow lines can be used for drop offs, unless a no waiting/loading is enforced for safety.

Q - When the doctors surgery was upgraded, why wasn't the parking upgraded to match?

A - This was a matter for planning, the parking services only enforce what regulations are in place. Users of the surgery have been encouraged to use the parking behind the Co-op store but people choose to park as close as possible to the surgery.

At this point thanks were offered from a resident of the Chase Estate to the police for their attendance following a spate of burglaries on the estate.

3. Community Contracts launch

3.1 Kristina Davey – Neighbourhood Management Unit Project Officer gave an overview and the background information about community contracts.

3.2 The Neighbourhood Management Unit has been trialling a 12 month area-based working approach in six wards in the West of the city since October 2010. This is due to be rolled out across the rest of the city from October 2011. A key output of area-based working is to improve service delivery at a local level. Community contracts will offer the opportunity for residents to engage with service providers to improve services based on the needs of communities.

3.3 A community contract will provide a framework for residents to:

- Influence service delivery in their wards.
- Monitor the performance of service providers in wards.
- Hold service providers to account, identify gaps in service delivery and identify and help deliver solutions to those gaps.
- Have the opportunity to be included in the process regardless of age, race, gender, sexuality or socio-economic background in a way that suits their needs.

3.4 The key functions of a community contract will be to:

- Create a partnership between residents and service providers in each ward committee area.
- Provide residents with clear information on what services they can expect in their ward.
- Provide details of the outcomes of negotiations with residents on their responsibilities.

- 3.5 Community contracts will have vital impact on building community spirit and bringing cohesion to the community. 'Snow Wardens' initiative was brought up as an example.
- 3.6 York has a history of developing agreements on service delivery between service providers and residents. Bell Farm's estate agreement was the first in the country (launched in 1995) to be set up and is the longest running. Foxwood Neighbourhood Agreement was developed in 1998 and monitored by FCAG (Foxwood Community Action Group). Clifton Pride Neighbourhood Agreement was developed on the back of the Clifton Regeneration Project in 2004 and monitored by the Clifton Partnership.
- 3.7 Neighbourhood Management Unit will begin the process in the 3 ward committee areas. Residents will be recruited to form Ward Action Groups (WAP's). WAP's will identify problems, opportunities and monitor services delivery. Training for residents involved in WAP's will be provided by Neighbourhood Management Unit.
- 3.8 Environment Services to be the first service area to be included in a community contract.

At this point Kristina Davey addressed the meeting with four questions regarding community contracts. Residents were able to cast their answers with the aid of OptiVote.

Q 1 How do you think Community Contracts would benefit your ward the most?

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| A. Give residents information about service standards | <u>1 vote</u> |
| B. Improve service delivery | <u>1 vote</u> |
| C. Encourage residents' influence in service delivery | <u>1 vote</u> |
| D. Encourage community involvement | <u>2</u> |
| | <u>votes</u> |
| E. All of the above | <u>9</u> |
| | <u>votes</u> |
| F. I can't see a benefit | <u>1 vote</u> |
| G. Other | <u>0</u> |
| | <u>votes</u> |

Q 2 Would you go to regular meetings?

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| A. Held locally
<u>votes</u> | <u>14</u> |
| B. Held in the city centre
<u>votes</u> | <u>0</u> |
| C. I don't want to go to regular meetings
<u>votes</u> | <u>2</u> |

Q 3 Would you send in regular monitoring information by:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| A. Going to Ward Committee meetings
<u>votes</u> | <u>3</u> |
| B. Email
<u>votes</u> | <u>7</u> |
| C. Facebook | <u>0 vote</u> |
| D. Twitter | <u>1 vote</u> |
| E. Telephone
<u>votes</u> | <u>0</u> |
| F. Post | <u>1 vote</u> |
| G. All of the above | <u>2 vote</u> |
| H. I do not wish to monitor
<u>votes</u> | <u>2</u> |

Q 4 How would you like to get feedback information?

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| A. At Ward Committee meetings | <u>1 vote</u> |
| B. Your Ward / Newsletter
<u>votes</u> | <u>9</u> |
| C. Blog | <u>1 vote</u> |
| D. Facebook / Twitter
<u>votes</u> | <u>2</u> |
| E. Web page
<u>votes</u> | <u>2</u> |
| F. Poster
<u>votes</u> | <u>0</u> |
| G. Other | <u>1 vote</u> |

Residents were the given opportunity to ask questions.

4. Libraries

4. Fiona Williams, Head of Libraries and Heritage, explained the ranges of services available at York city libraries.
- 4.1 Apologies were given for missing the last meeting, and thanks were given to the ward committee for inviting Library to the meeting.
- 4.2 There has been a lot of press coverage about libraries and as a service we are open to suggestions and ideas from residents for development.
- 4.3 Dringhouses Library acts as a hub for the community and provides many services, praise was given to Pauline and her staff for the way the library is run and utilised.
- 4.4 Libraries are a statutory service and provide a wide range of facilities for everyone.
- 4.5 A service that is run by WRVS helps reach housebound people, there are book start schemes to get young people interested in reading, books are offered in numerous formats – large print, downloads, audio books, kindle and ebooks.
- 4.6 York libraries have a huge collection of books to borrow, and requests for new books which aren't in stock are taken.
- 4.7 Libraries provide study support and learning opportunities. Course are offered through Open University, rooms are used for adult education courses, informal learning opportunities are offered and even a free ancestry service is offered.
- 4.8 Digital inclusion, moving with technology, Wifi and free internet are available. Help to get on line if available, including setting up email address etc.
- 4.9 There are regular courses on offer, such as the Get online course running in November, where students will be explain to new users the benefits of the internet to increase understanding.
- 4.10 There is a great amount of information available at Libraries, vast resource are held, such as the latest developments regarding the council and historic artefacts.
- 4.11 Libraries act as a community hub, feedback regarding Dringhouses Library shows that residents like the atmosphere, staff and the safe environment provided and all for free.
- 4.12 2012 will be a very busy year for library services. The York800 project promises to be very interesting and inclusive for all residents of the city.

Residents were offered the opportunity to ask questions.

5. Planning Panel Elections

- 5. The planning panel elections – Apologies were given on behalf of the current Planning Panel Clerk, Roger Jennings. Peter Robinson supplied information on the planning panel.
- 5.1 The Dringhouses and Woodthorpe planning panel are a small group of local residents who meet to discuss all planning applications in the ward, and submit their views and concerns.
- 5.2 The panel meet monthly.
- 5.3 If there the panel is in any doubt over proposals, site visits are carried out, but usually the meetings are sufficient.
- 5.4 There are currently five members plus the clerk, more members are welcome to give a better representation geographically across the ward.
- 5.5 Members are from various backgrounds, there is currently a tree expert and architect who share their knowledge.
- 5.6 Training in planning law is available for new members and ongoing training is offered by the council.
- 5.7 All current members were willing to continue their roles in the panel and this was agreed by attendees of the meeting and the ward members. The attendees at the meeting were offered the opportunity to join the panel.
- 5.8 The members of the Planning panel are Roger Jennings(Clerk), Peter Robinson, Ann Grey, Ian Thomlinson, Val Plitt.

6. Ward scheme suggestions for 2012-13

- 6. The 2012-13 Scheme proposals were discussed the following was raised regarding the schemes.
- 6.1 Scheme 2, the board if it should get funding will mach others already present.
- 6.2 Scheme 3, the path at Chapmans Pond will improve accessibility and usability of the area.
- 6.3 Scheme 5, will include consultation with residents of Pullyen Drive.
- 6.4 Scheme 8 was highlighted as Sustrans are a national charity and is it suitable to be awarding funds to it.
- 6.5 Scheme 15 was questioned as the rangers haven't been functioning in the ward this year, are they needed?

- 6.6 Scheme 24 Funds for the gifted was mentioned as a very well used project in the ward.
- 6.7 Scheme 26, The proposed location for the youth cafe is 3 Little Stonegate.
- 6.8 Scheme 27, Cllr Reid declared an interest as a governor for Woodthorpe Primary School.
- 6.9 Scheme 29 with a history of Anti-social behaviour in the Nevis Way/Etive Place location it wasn't deemed suitable for play equipment.
- 6.10 Scheme 36 the Knavesmire Wood is a significant wood for the city and following the success of the tyburn information board, another board at the wood, would be equally useful.
- 6.11 Scheme 37 Hamilton Panthers are applying for funding as the team have many players in Dringhouses and Woodthorpe. 3600 people have benefitted from joining the club through its history and the development of a community facility would benefit many more.

7. Have your say

7. Have Your Say. Attendees of the meeting were offered the opportunity to raise issue regarding their neighbourhood.

Q - Has there been any progress with the Terry's site, as it is becoming an eyesore?

A - The site is owned by developers and they are progressing the build although it does seem to have slowed, possibly due to the economic climate.

Q - Has progress been made with the renovation of the Woodthorpe shops canopy?

A - The owners have agreed to the work and Suzanne Prance is working closely with them. Any updates will come to the ward committee and be available at the next meeting.

Q - Who owns the area behind the garages at Woodthorpe Shops?

A - This has been a long running debate and the enquiries will continue to find out.

Cllr Ann Reid, Chair

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and finished at 10.00 pm].