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MEETING	FULFORD & HESLINGTON WARD COMMITTEE
DATE	26 OCTOBER 2015
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS ASPDEN
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS

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**1. 5.30-6.30PM DROP IN**

Residents had the opportunity to speak informally to Cllr Keith Aspden, Claire Taylor, Neil Ferris and representatives from Fulford Parish Council and local community groups.

**2. 6.30PM FORMAL MEETING - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Cllr Aspden (KA) welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that this meeting was a non political committee of the City of York Council (CYC). The minutes of this meeting would be available on the CYC website or can be posted out upon application.

**3. WARD PARKING ISSUES**

Neil Ferris (NF), Acting Director of City and Environmental Services introduced himself. He explained that he had been at CYC for fifteen months and welcomed the invitation to talk to the residents to get a first hand understanding into their concerns. He said that there was no “magic wand” in respect of parking issues but was aware that the University was having an impact on parking and that it would be an ongoing problem in the area. NF said that the University had obligations associated with their planning permission, one of which was to carry out an annual survey across the campus where the number of cars parking increases by more than 20% a year, this year it was carried out in May/June. The survey showed that there had been more than a 20% increase and they are required to carry out a more details survey in the Broadway/Heslington Road areas in November. This survey will be carried out by consultants on behalf of the University. We will then be in a position to come back as a community to discuss options open to us.

The options currently available are double yellow lines, no parking notices, and time related restrictions. There was also the option to move to a Resident’s Parking Scheme. As part of the University planning requirement they are required to look at the number of people parking and mitigate the impact. The University have contributed to the Residents Parking in areas associated with the University for a

short period of time but this was dependent on the degree of parking problems as to how much they would contribute. The cost to a resident of this scheme would be £100 per annum. This did not give the resident a right to park outside his own home but it did give them the right to park within a designated area.

## Discussion

Q Resident asked about the ongoing parking impact since the new parking restrictions on Heslington Lane had been put in place.

A KA said that the yellow lines (paid for by the University) installed along Heslington Lane and Fulfordgate had improved parking issues considerably, but had generated new concerns from houses in Broadway, especially the first strip of MoD houses. It was felt that the University of York needed to carry out some further work in this area to identify the cause of the problems.

Q The issue of the arrangements for contractors' vehicles parking when the Germany Beck development got underway was raised. Concerns were expressed that unless arrangements were made they would be parking in Fordlands Road and other local roads.

A KA said that CYC were aware that provision needed to be made for contractors parking and they were having discussions with Persimmon Homes. He said that it was right that they should not park on local roads.

Q A resident asked whether it was legal to park on roundabouts and footpaths as that was what was happening at Westmoor Flats where four cars were regularly parked and also in Glenn Close. Would it be possible to have a scheme to remove the roundabout and provide parking bays?

A NF asked whether the Fulford Residents Association had reported this to the police.

KA said that these were long standing issues but that if a larger scheme could be brought forward it would be an improvement for Fordlands Crescent. As residents in these areas were council tenants it could fall under the EIG.

Q Would it be possible for Glenn Close to have a parking bay if the flowerbeds were cut back?

A NF said that moving paths, footpaths and verges could be costly. KA said that they were good ideas but that finding the money from CYC budgets and the Improvement Grant could be difficult. It was suggested that this should be discussed by Fulford Residents' Association.

Q Concerns were raised about the parking arrangements at the doctor's surgery as people were parking in Fulford Park on the junction with Main Street and there was a danger of accidents. The doctor's surgery car park was too small. It was noted that

there was an opening into Connaught Court from Fulford Park which people had started to use to park their cars.

A KA said there was a proposal to paint yellow lines at the end of Fulford Park to deal with this issue but that there was the possibility that it would push the parking further down Fulford Park. This issue would be further discussed with local residents in Fulford Park.

Q Concerns were raised about the parking bays on Main Street that were being used over long periods by cars with “for sale” in the window. These bays were originally experimental; perhaps a time limit could be put on these bays. This suggestion raised concerns that the cars would then park in the church car park.

A KA said that this had been reported to Trading Standards last week.

Q Resident raised concerns about the 7.5 tonne limit down Heslington Lane being regularly exceeded and why was this restriction not enforced. Lorries were going down Heslington Lane to the Industrial Estate and thump over the speed bumps on the road. Concern was expressed that this caused damage to the foundations of resident’s houses due to the vibration.

A KA said that the rubberised style of bumps down Heslington Lane were no longer being used across the city following a review and that there was a rolling programme to replace these with different rubber bumps. The new style of bump was designed to have less impact on smaller cars while still slowing traffic.  
NF said that if this was an ongoing problem (about HGVs) then the Parish Council and the Fulford Residents Association (FRA) should take the issue up with the police.

KA said that officers had been out to visit some of the houses on Heslington Lane in the past and agreed that we should be careful to use speed bumps that had a suitable level of impact on cars.

Q The University of York is constantly developing and was there not an understanding that construction workers at the University were not allowed to use Heslington Lane?

A The meeting heard that the University of needed to make sure that their suppliers, staff, and students were aware of the on-campus parking arrangements and local weight limits. KA said that often there was some capacity on Heslington East but it seemed that there needed to be more spaces on Heslington West.

Q Could the signage be looked at as of the many HGV’s travelling along Main Street, very few of them service Fulford they are mostly going into the City Centre. Could be directed off the A64 down the Hull Road.

A This issue has been raised a number of times, NF said that you could encourage people to take other routes but ultimately it is a public highway and people cannot be forced to do so.

KA thanked NF for attending the meeting.

## 4. NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING AND WARD BUDGETS

KA gave a presentation on the new Neighbourhood Working model and the ward budgets.

Listening to Residents: Ward Committees: -this is a new approach to community engagement through working with local neighbourhoods and the establishment of revised ward committees.

The Council's approach to neighbourhood working aims to empower local residents and to support ward members so that they can:

- Work with local communities to develop local priorities and help deliver on these
- Help empower local communities and devolve more budgets to residents

### **Ward Committees:**

What are Ward Committees and what do they do?

- tackle local issues in partnership with residents
- improve the Council's accountability to residents
- provide opportunities to influence services

They can do this by:

- Talking to residents on issues affecting the ward and the city
- Prioritising local issues
- Agreeing how to allocate ward budgets
- Supporting local projects that help address ward priorities
- Working with communities to help inform what local services are needed

There are 21 Wards in York.

Meetings will take place up to four times a year with a formal meeting at the beginning of the financial year (Autumn 2015). Further meetings can be in other formats depending on the need of the ward e.g. walkabouts, stalls at fairs, drop-in, consultations etc. This means that a wider range of residents can engage.

### **Ward Teams**

Ward Teams are led by Ward Councillors, ward-based partners will hold regular meetings to:

- Set priorities based on data, local intelligence
- Work on projects that address the ward priorities
- Liaise between ward partners (police, estate managers, voluntary groups, businesses, parish council)
- Supported by a ward co-ordinator

## **Devolved Budgets**

These are additional budgets to wards in order to create a pot that wards can use flexibly to help to address their priorities and develop community initiatives which benefit local residents and reduce reliance on council services. They are made up of:

General Ward Budget £3393 – this could be spent in two ways.

- Grants for funding projects from this fund should be made via an application form. They can be made from constituted groups and must show a benefit to the local community. Citywide organisations cannot apply to multiple wards
- Alternatively should a group or organisation want to commission a particular piece or work. Or both

Pride in York Fund (one off) £3926 – this money is allocated to wards, based on current grounds maintenance spending and could be used to provide grants to partner, community and voluntary organisations to develop initiatives that benefit the community and help reduce the reliance on Council services.

Pride in York Fund (recurring) £4524 – this fund is to commission projects and initiatives that improve the local environment and street level issues in the ward. It could be spent on council services if the ward wished and is allocated to wards based on a per capita basis

Community Care Programme £1697

- To support through community activity the prevention or delay of people needing to access formal care packages and statutory support
- Key areas identified which can help achieve this:
  - Reducing social isolation/loneliness
  - Prevention of falls
  - Nutrition
  - Transport
  - Practical support/handyperson services
  - Support for carers

Highways Programme £5655

- Highways improvements
- Reprioritising using local knowledge
- Resurfacing
- Footpaths/PROW
- Cycle way improvements
- Street lighting: improvements to existing lamp standards

## **Budget Discussion**

Q A resident asked whether these monies could be carried forward to another year.

A Under the previous system this may not have been possible but as communities need to plan ahead these monies generally can be carried

forward.

Q Do we get the Application Forms from CYC?

Application forms can be provided by Claire Taylor, CYC Community Involvement Officer, please contact her on 01904 551810 or alternatively email her at [c.taylor@york.gov.uk](mailto:c.taylor@york.gov.uk) . Claire has forms available this evening if anyone would like one.

Applications will be considered as and when they are submitted so please could any applications for funding be submitted as soon as possible so that the Ward Committee can make their decisions. Applications will be considered at the end of November and further applications would be considered in January. The Ward team would consider all the applications and discussion would take place between Fulford and Heslington residents as to how the money could be maximised.

Q Will Residents be asked to vote on the decisions?

A KA said that there would not be a ballot to every household as per the Ward Committee system prior to 2011. However, the Ward Team would very much welcome input from local residents and have set two deadlines for bids: November 2015 and January 2016.

Q Please could you clarify the difference between Ward Committees and Ward Teams?

A The Ward Committee is a public forum. Ward teams are a group of community representatives who meet more regularly than the Ward Committee. It is expected that in the Fulford and Heslington Ward there will be more Ward Team meetings than Ward Committee meetings.

Q Is proof required that the money has been spent?

A Yes. The rule is that the money has to be spent in the financial year it is awarded. Money can not be put in a bank account to be spent in later years.

Discussion took place on ideas for spending the monies:

#### Pride in York Fund

- Fulford in Bloom had made an application for new planters and bulbs
- Heslington Parish Council were submitting a bid to refurbish and replace benches
- The Telephone box on Main St would be included in the Lottery bid
- Possibility of bollards to stop people parking on verges
- Removal of Himalayan Balsam

KA said that in terms of community areas residents may want more rubbish collections or dog bins. Provision has to be made for staff to empty litter and dog bins which is an additional cost. Should any Ward Committee want to spend money on these services the cost of a dog bin or salt bin is approximately £750 per

annum. Alternatively it may be that community volunteers could empty the bins rather than CYC which would be a cost saving. The Parish Council could submit a bid for one off funding for more litter bins. The Parish Council could also apply for one-off funding to top up the money spent on cutting verges and this could be used to extend the area covered.

### General Ward Budget

- Cubs need a new floor in the scout hut
- Heslington scouts need repairs to the roof
- Local History Group - could apply for funding for a project. This could be split between, Fishergate, Heslington Village and Fulford Wards.

### Community Care Fund

- Transport for the Timeout Group for the elderly that meet in the Church Hall
- York Wheels could be funded on a monthly basis to bring more people to Timeout meetings
- Delwood Social Group (Silver Circle) money could fund some of their trips out.

### Highways

- Cherrywood Crescent
- Fulfordgate will be resurfaced by the Council
- Suggested that some of the grass be cut back to provide parking at Delwood but this idea was rejected.
- Glenn Close – some money for schemes there
- Footpath along the Ings – very boggy in winter, needed to be raised to make it walkable
- Germany Beck Lane towards the A64 used to be a public right of way, now it is very overgrown but it is an important route for walkers.

KA said that suggestions would go to the Ward Team meeting in November. The Ward Team would be asking local groups if they wished to make an application for funding.



## 5. **HAVE YOUR SAY**

A monthly Fulford Residents' Association meeting is held at Delwood on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 11am. Notifications had been put up around the area.

The next ward committee meeting would be held at Heslington Church on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 6.30pm.

, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.00 pm].