



Newsletter 13 - April 2019

The Badger Hill Residents' Community Group says hello to all new long-term and short-term residents. Please visit our website, which has undergone a substantial update, at <http://www.badger-hill-residents.org>. It gives you information about local amenities and links to bus timetables, bin collection times, shops, surgeries, schools and more.

We hope you'll attend our AGM, express your opinions and look for opportunities to contribute in 2019.

All residents are warmly invited to attend the
2019 Annual General Meeting
on Friday 17 May at 7:30pm
in Heslington Church
please bring this document with you for the Agenda

Provisional Agenda for AGM

1. Welcome
2. last year's meeting / Minutes
3. Chairman's Report, Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report
4. Committee Election
5. 2019 and beyond - including HMOs, Parking, 'Eyes and Ears', Badger Hill inBloom
6. Questions for Councillors
7. York Local Plan, other initiatives in York
8. AOB / Refreshments

We hope our new Ward Councillors will be in attendance post elections. Please send proposed agenda items, questions or nominations for Committee membership to the Secretary via bhrcg@hotmail.com.

2018 key issues -

- ✓ We again opposed requests to extend/establish HMOs (Houses of Multiple Occupation). One went to appeal with the Government - there is always something new happening
- ✓ Parking - by the shops, schools, on Sussex Rd, Eastfield Crescent and at the junction by the field
- ✓ we opposed the next Campus East expansion plan (1400 more residents) over parking
- ✓ our Councillors gave us hundreds of bulbs to plant around the field; 30 residents helped out
- ✓ advised CYC on playing field improvements
- ✓ Status of the Doctors' Surgery, Pharmacy and shops on Heslington East Campus
- ✓ attendance at two more local Group meetings

The main issues for 2019 onwards

✓ Things are changing, as ever, but the last year has been subtly different for us in a number of ways. The Committee is down to three from six. It will help us greatly if you approve the nominees on 17 May. HMO Planning Applications, our basic work, have somehow been harder to track on the Council database and we have consequently had less time to formulate replies but we have nonetheless been successful with several objections.. Landlords are regularly appealing against unfavourable decisions but our input is contributing to favourable reviews by Government.. There have been delays to seemingly straightforward projects concerning the playing field and the play park. We all showed what we are capable of achieving, though, when 30 of us planted several hundred bulbs which are now looking good on the field and several other parts of the Estate. Thank you!

✓ Parking is a dirty word. We know several of you have reported a wide range of issues and don't feel we are seeing much response. Please keep calling the Parking Hotline on **0800 1381119** and mail us and our new set of Councillors with details. Come to the AGM and vent your frustration (constructively) on us. We will share ours! However, we have learned a lot and are ready to put it into practice. We are looking to put together a strategy to tackle all the issues. Some people feel the answer is simple but I'm afraid we have not found it to be so and there is a new issue to consider.....

✓ There will soon be TWO further accommodation blocks for 1400 residents (and associated staff) on Campus East. The University says they won't have cars, the Council Planning Committee did not support our objections and request for (free!) Residents Parking. We guess there will be 100 cars cruising the streets looking for a home. Some may park and not move for 4 or 5 weeks at a time. If we do nothing or do not work together to find a sensible solution to this issue we will surely end up with many of those cars parked up on our narrow roads from Bishops Way to Badger Wood Walk via Kimberlow Woods Hill and the potential for accidents.

✓ *So please come to the AGM and sign up for email contact via our website. Photographs, analysis of annual traffic surveys and research into similar situations are part of the solution. Please help us find the rest.*

✓ We are liaising with the Council and Police over illegal, dangerous parking on the Deramore Drive junction which clearly needs sorting NOW. Even that is not proving straightforward. We are trying to learn quickly about responsibility and the law and to drive resolution.

✓ It also strikes us that we need to be more involved in the community (give me a better expression). Committee members are finding it harder to pick up quickly on HMO Planning Applications, University news, tree felling than in previous years. Too much time passed before we heard of the death early this year of our Treasurer, Brian Blanchard, a very kind and popular man from Deramore Drive. We believe the Estate could benefit from a couple of Committee members setting up an 'Eyes and Ears' network, that helps us generate more community spirit (/atmosphere?) and look after each other without being intrusive. Are you a "good neighbour" with imagination and a little time free to help others out? We look forward to discussing this with you at the AGM.

Contacts

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