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Badger Hill Residents

# Newsletter September 2024

#### Welcome to the latest BHRCG newsletter.

The Residents Group expected 2024 to be its busiest year in a decade. CYC was to review our paper and petition on Permitted Development; Persimmons were due to represent their housing plans for the land opposite B & Q and the Residents Parking Contract was up for review in September. In truth it has been a 'quiet' year - we have queried progress on all these key projects, got no replies or no meaningful information, queried again and still had nothing conclusive in response. We had planned two newsletters but expected also to send out regular emails and Facebook updates.

We will continue to chase meaningful news and ask you regularly to check our Facebook Page. It is particularly important you are informed about and have input to Parking issues.

This, our second newsletter of the year, reminds you about our major topics and invites you to our AGM at Heslington Church, 7:30pm on 2nd October.

#### Agenda for 2 October AGM

please bring this sheet to the meeting

- Welcome
- 2) Minutes from 2023 & any Matters Arising
- 3) Reports from: Chairman; Treasurer; Secretary
- Committee Elections
- 5) **Environment: Ambulance, Trees,** 
  - Hedges and Pavements, Potholes and Verges
- Residents Parking Housing: HMOs , Permitted
- Development
- Questions for Councillors
- AOB
- 10) Refreshments / Donations

# Residents' Parking

When I moved to Badger Hill in 1988 there was one transport issue on everyone's lips. The tranquility of the Estate was regularly shattered by the sound of learner drivers crashing their gears - mostly second to third. Times have changed. Our roads are the same size but well worn; our potholes are not fixed; cars are a lot bigger and block our narrow roads; there is a lot

more traffic especially at school start and end time; we are a rat run for drivers cutting across to Heslington; we were a free car park for cars visiting the university, some of which stayed all term. Concern came to a height when an ambulance could not get along Eastfield Crescent one day and had to reroute.

Soon after this we introduced residents parking. Most feedback suggests this has improved our environment. Some do not see why there should be limitations on parking in front of their property especially as nobody ever parks there since Res Park was introduced. The majority of people are concerned they will soon be asked to pay for the privilege of parking outside their homes and want to work out if it is worth it.

#### What happens next?

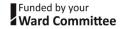
The Res Park Contract is due to be renewed in September. We have just been told there is a draft place contract in for discussion. The Council will not give us any detail until this is finalised. We have heard rumour the University will offer to pay



for the first yearbut then expect to pay half the cost for the rest of the contract.

The Residents Group does not think this is a good offer given the upheaval of the last decade, and has asked for 4 years at no cost. We are disappointed we have had no meaningful discussion when our homes and streets are affected.

We will continue to pursue a better offer, but need it to be based on the position at the AGM and your feedback - please come to the meeting. If we withdraw Res Parking we anticipate a return to substantial amounts of parking round the Estate. Lots of us may not see a car parked near our homes but could struggle to get out of the Estate if these motorists return to Badger Hill.





## School changes -



The Council is planning changes to the road and verge layout near the primary school. This is to counter regular dangerous parking and disagreements with residents.

# Permitted Development -

Our petition to close a loophole allowing landlords to add extensions to small houses is still to be assessed by CYC's Executive Committee. We have not been told when it will happen despite numerous requests - they can't blame the general election now!

#### **Persimmon Homes -**

The builders have had permission to present plans to build near B & Q since 2016. They are looking to go ahead now and build 110 houses. We have presented a paper with various suggestions. This includes Residents Parking to stop University staff parking there.

#### **Environment -**

It's good to see more babies and children around.

There is a lot we can do to help maintain the estate. There are options on the CYC website to report problems with noise, rubbish and vegetation or obstruction of the road and pavement. You can ring the Council West Offices or our Councillors direct. We will help you if you want. We've had some success getting hedges cut back and making pavements accessible again......

### The Ambulance -

A year has gone by since Committee member Glen Robinson first requested removal of the infamous Eastfield Crescent ambulance. After numerous phone calls and emails, a meeting with Rachael Maskell MP he has finally got it moved. We have to repeat the steps to remove another car, clear rubble that could be a health hazard and assess the remains of the garage.



#### Green Bin -

We are all disappointed to lose the free green bin service. You should have received a letter about this. Contact us via our website if you need any advice.

#### Trees and Wild flowers -

In recent years various charities and organisations have offered us plants and trees plus manpower to monitor their progress. We're hoping the Council will reseed the Hull Road with wild flowers.

### Shops -

Our local shops don't get a lot of publicity! Thank you for being there. It's a shame Perfect Paws has closed.

Get in touch if you'd like to do some litter picking sometime. This is one way we could acknowledge the shops' role on the Estate.

### **Planning Panel -**

At the recent Hull Road Ward meeting it was agreed to re-establish the planning panel for our area. The Panel is made up of local residents and comments on all planning applications and ensures that a community view is considered by the planners. The panel is looking for additional members as we meet every 3 weeks. Currently there are 2 members from Badger Hill and we would welcome more. If you are interested please contact the Chair (Andrew Mortimer on 07954 168146) or Clerk (Martin Emerson on 07868 580200)."

#### In Memoriam -

Some sad news - this year we lost Harry Telfer who founded this Group and Stephen Palmer, a former Committee member. We shall miss them greatly.

## **Facebook**

We have two Facebook groups for the local community to use. Please do join both groups to keep up to date with any local issues, businesses, sales, etc.

Badger Hill Residents' Group

A local community group for the residents of Badger Hill Estate in York, to keep up with local news, events, or to ask questions/advice from other locals.

Badger Hill Residents' - Sales Group

A local community group for the residents of Badger Hill Estate in York, to sell/donate and buy items, whether it be furniture, children's clothes/toys, appliances etc. Also, for advertising local and independent businesses.