

Welcome to the latest BHRCG newsletter.

Our Residents' Group seeks to make life in Badger Hill better. The Committee is now nine strong and we have the resources and knowledge to get involved in a number of issues. Housing and Traffic are the main priorities but we also cover a range of environmental issues from noise levels to tree planting.

Community Picnic and Rounders - 14th June

This year we have organised our first community event to be held on the Badger Hill Field. If you can please join us for a picnic at 12:30 (please bring a chair) and a game of rounders at 1-30pm. Full details are overleaf.

If you want to know more about what we do please look at our website and come to our AGM and ask lots of questions about what we do. We hope to have our ward Councillors join us for the meeting.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be earlier this year taking place on **Wednesday 9th July starting at 7-30pm**. It will be held as usual at Heslington Church:

Agenda for AGM

- Welcome
- Minutes from 2024 & any Matters Arising
- Reports from: Chairman; Treasurer; Secretary
- **Committee Elections**
- 1) 2) 3) 4) 5) 7) 8) Environment : Trees, Hedges and Pavements, Potholes and Verges
- **Residents' Parking**
- Housing: HMOs , Permitted Development
- **Questions for Councillors**
- 9) AOB
- 10) **Refreshments / Donations**

Residents' Parking

The residents parking agreement for the Badger Hill area runs out in August/September this year. The University and Council are preparing an update but have not accepted our request for a meeting to discuss the issue. We know there will be a 'consultation' on the proposal - basically a yes or no vote, but are not sure how much background information will be provided. We thought it would be helpful, especially for new residents, to remind you of the situation before Residents Parking was introduced.

Five years back Badger Hill was a glorified car park with cars being driven round looking for spaces, blocking access and often left for days on end. Surveys showed it was mainly due to University traffic. As a result the council implemented a Residents' Parking Scheme (Res Park) which helped solved this problem. As a result we've seen no repeat of an ambulance being blocked on its way to an urgent call and much easier access for local residents.

Res Park also introduced controlled parking by the shops. It isn't perfect, but now there is less traffic, it is safer, you can park at or near your house and for visitors you can purchase temporary permits or change the registered owner for a few hours online.

Some people have told us that they do not agree with charges or limits to parking in front of their houses. We understand that Res Park has some negative aspects such as possibly having to pay at some point in the future and the inconvenience of having to phone the council to make changes if you aren't online. But on balance we think it works and most people benefit with it in place.



Res Parking cannot in itself stop the dangerous waiting/parking and aggressive behaviours we now consistently see near the schools. But regular reporting of the problems has introduced some control and led to a review of the primary school situation under the 'York Active Travel Plan'.

Housing

Our monitoring of planning applications is more organised. Andrew Mortimer and Glen Robinson have joined the recently reformed Hull Road Planning Panel and help the regular monitoring of all planning applications. The Panel are looking for more members so if you are interested in helping out please let us know.

City of York Council lost our petition on Permitted Development (!) but eventually considered it alongside the new Local Plan.

We have urged the Council to use laws to bring vacant properties on the estate back into use which will help address the shortage of housing in York.

Environment

Some residents have told us that you have been inconvenienced by neighbours having noisy late night parties or hedges growing out across you pavements. Don't forget you can report such issues direct to the council using their website or giving them a call on 01904 551550. Contact us if you need advice. Remember we have no direct powers of enforcement but we know how to report issues and chase them up if you see no action.

This year the council have planted new trees, wild flowers and bulbs round the Estate. We worked with them to make sure they were put in the right location.

We have also begun discussions with the ward councillors about provision of community notice boards, benches and picnic tables on the field.

Community Allotment

New volunteers are needed to help with the community allotment on the field. Please get in touch if you are interested in helping.

