

## **Cleaner Greener Fulford: First meeting of the Community Group**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
Old Library Social Hall, School Lane

**NEXT MEETING** Tuesday 14 June, 6.30-8.00 pm, Old Library, Social Hall, School Lane  
**ALL WELCOME**

**Present:** Parish Council: Juliet Koprowska, Andrew Vevers & Simon Marsh. Nicola Ward (St Nick's), Graham Hewson (Volunteer Danesmead & Green Corridors) Sara, Fordlands Road, Richard, Fordlands Road, Dan, previously Fishergate, Fulford since July 2021, Kay Ford, Barmby Road, Kate, Fordlands Road.

**Apologies:** Ray Haddock

**The goal of the meeting** was to share our interests and ideas, and to begin to build a shared understanding. Some of us were there in both personal and more formal capacities, i.e. living locally but also working for St Nick's or being a Parish Councillor; others were local residents with an interest in a variety of ecological issues. We had many ideas, and some questions that don't yet have answers! People had come across the notices for the meeting on FaceBook, not on the Parish Council noticeboards.

### **1. Green spaces**

- a. Juliet Koprowska spoke about tansy, tansy beetles, the Village Green (owned by the Parish Council), and the medium-term plan to improve the Social Hall. The Parish Council is also party to developments on the Parish Field as a sporting facility, along with the Sports Clubs, the City Council, and Fulford School. Both the improvements to the Social Hall and the plans for the School Lane Playing Fields and adjacent land owned by Persimmon will come to public consultation in time.
- b. Simon Marsh explained about the Parish Council's plans for Fordlands Road Playing Fields – to extend the tree planting and establish wild flowers – working with the Environment Agency and the Woodland Trust.
- c. Nicola Ward talked about St Nick's Nature Reserve at Tang Hall and the Green Corridor Project from Clifton Park & Ride to Designer Outlet. She also said York is the last stronghold of the tansy beetle. St Nick's are working with landowners including Natural England, they work with volunteers on the Millennium Fields, and have plans for New Walk. Nicola is also involved with the Community Orchard (adjacent to the Designer Outlet) which according to a recent child visitor is 'like a secret garden'.

### **2. Cycling**

- a. Sara brought in concerns about cycle paths. Getting into and out of Germany Beck and Fordlands Road is unsafe. She thought the new stretches of cycle path on the road crossing at the pharmacy are badly designed and dangerous.
- b. Kate highlighted the value of cycling to reduce the effects of climate change, given that transport is the biggest emitter. Cycling would be easier if there were an off-road route through to and alongside the river.

- c. Richard suggested a cycle route from Fordlands Road to Bleak House Farm and over Walmgate Stray.
- d. Andrew added that at one time a cycleway was planned along the edge of Fulford Ings. Chris Boardman, the Olympic cyclist, is heading Active Travel which is making its base in York – could he be a useful contact?
- e. It was also said that the last phase Germany Beck meant to be a cycle connection to Heath Moor Drive, and that there should be a good cycleway from Fordlands Road to Fulford School.
- f. We also discussed the number of sixth formers driving to Fulford School and there was a desire to engage with the school to reduce this activity. Could we engage with schools to have car-free days, or cycle to school days?
- g. The Heslington to Wheldrake cycleway was mentioned – we did not know when it was happening.
- h. Another suggestion was to find or create routes for cycles and share them on Community FaceBook – perhaps putting maps on noticeboards, similar to those for local footpaths.

### **3. Food production and sharing**

- a. Kay brought in ideas about planters in the areas and the idea of working with Edible York to have planters where food is grown. There are some at Low Moor Allotments on the main footpath near Walmgate Stray. Kay would like to help create something similar in Fulford. She was previously a member of Broadway and Neighbours' Friends, which was disbanded and has some remaining funds granted by the City Council.
- b. Nicola added that St Nick's have held a meeting on Fulford Cross allotments about wildlife and the plot holders there want a glut shelf; the plot owned by Yumi is also planning to turn it into more of a community space.
- c. Kay added that Edible York will collect gluts and distribute to Food Banks. She wanted to know more about where, what permissions are needed, and who is responsible.
- d. A Community Fridge has been suggested on FaceBook page in which people can leave spare food for others. Suggestion that the re-design of the Social Hall could include a Community Fridge.

### **4. Verges**

- a. Some are happy when they are not being cut, others regard them as messy. York's pollinators strategy – verges can't be left just to go wild, they have to be cultivated with a wider variety than just dandelions. Suggestion that streets adopt a verge, create mini-meadows and have responsibility for looking after them. Kay will approach on people on Barmby Avenue to plant and let the council know.
- b. Could we hold a workshop on meadow making?

### **5. Just One Thing**

The Parish Council has made a start on a project called 'Just One Thing', with ideas about how to reduce, reuse and recycle, to address the effects of climate change. This group could be the owner of the project, so those present were asked for their

views. We thought it a good idea and that the information should be released in bite-size chunks as people can easily feel overwhelmed. We also thought release times could synchronised with national events, such as the Count Your Plastic campaign by Friends of the Earth.

## **6. Other topics**

- a. Andrew asked about how litter-picking and recycling could be improved. St Nick's collect the 'awkward stuff' – plastic bags, crisp packets. Is there an index of where to find recycling places?
- b. Is a Repair Café , say once a month in the Social Hall, a good idea? Yes.
- c. Tool library – there is now one near Hazel Court Household Waste Recycling Centre. It is the Recycle Centre <https://therecycleprojectcic.com/>
- d. Could there be a community shredder?
- e. People need more information about air source heat pumps, solar panels.
- f. We could have a stall at Fulford Show – £15 bring your own table and chairs – pamphlets, launch the group more conspicuously.
- g. Hold sustainability events such as workshops, information drives, and also holding open house and gardens, showing sustainability initiatives, wildlife gardens, ponds etc.
- h. Could an allotment plot be created or given over to a wildlife garden and pond, showing people how it can be done?
- i. When is York Environment week?
- j. We decided on monthly meetings initially, to get established.
- k. We need to settle on a name for the group.

Date for next meeting.

Tuesday 14 June, 2022, Old Library, Social Hall, 6.30-8.00 pm.

Juliet Koprowska

5 June 2022