



In this edition of the Parish Council Newsletter you will find news on recently completed and upcoming projects in Fulford, alongside information about the Parish Council, the community facilities it operates and some other local news. Contact information is at the base of each page.

The Parish Council meets on Tuesday evenings for 2-2.5 hours in the Old Library Room at Fulford Social Hall and meetings are currently held every 6 weeks. Every meeting provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise queries and address councillors on parish matters and residents are always welcome to come along.



Meetings are scheduled for 16th January, 27th February, 9th April & 14th May 2024 and typical business includes helping parishioners with local issues, often by taking up their problems with the City Council, Police or other agencies, commenting on local planning applications, managing Fulford Cemetery, our playing fields & village green and the Social Hall, and working pro-actively on local issues such as development, flooding, traffic, recreation and the environment.

Agendas are attached to the noticeboards around the parish to publicise the current topics under consideration. They are published to the website at least 3 clear days before meetings at <https://www.fulfordparishcouncil.org.uk/governance/minutes-agendas/> where you will also find minutes of earlier meetings.



Could you be a councillor?

The Parish Council has space for 11 councillors, and at the moment we only have 6!

Being a councillor does take some time and energy, but each councillor contributes what they can, which varies a bit over the course of a year. We are lucky to have an excellent Clerk, who takes on major responsibility for the running of the Council and the Cemetery is managed by the Superintendent with a team of four staff, but there is still quite a bit for councillors to do!

We review planning applications and make recommendations to City of York Planning. We oversee open spaces such as the playing fields at School Lane and Fordlands Road as well as the Village Green. We look after the Social Hall (see p. 3 for improvement plans). We have links with Greener Cleaner Fulford, a community group focused on sustainability, set up after the Parish Council's declaration of a climate emergency, and we work with St Nick's, local schools, sports clubs and others over common issues.

If you think you could become a councillor, then please get in touch at clerk@fulfordpc.org.uk / 07719 211979. We can have informal talks, you can observe a Parish Council Meeting – in other words, you can do some 'tasters' before deciding if it's the right step for you.

Plain Text, Large Print Versions of this newsletter are available electronically on the Parish Council website at

<https://www.fulfordparishcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/140/2023/11/PLAIN-TEXT-Fulford-PC-Newsletter-Winter-2023-1.pdf>

or by scanning the **QR Code**.

Printed plain text large versions may also be requested from the Parish Clerk at clerk@fulfordpc.org.uk / 07719 211979.



Another Year of fabulous floral displays from Fulford In Bloom

The Parish Council wishes to express an enormous thank you to the dedicated team of volunteers who work hard to keep Fulford blooming throughout the years!



The effort involved in creating and maintaining the various arrangements never goes unnoticed and they are very much appreciated by residents and visitors alike.



Congratulations Fulford School



Hot on the heels from attaining World Class School status last academic year, Fulford School galvanised its reputation for excellence this September with an Outstanding rating from Ofsted inspectors. The Parish Council wishes to congratulate the headteacher, Steve Lewis, all staff and pupils for this well-deserved achievement.



Local Transport Strategy Public Consultation

You're invited to take part in an important conversation about transport in York City of York Council would like to hear from you, whether you're a resident of York, a business owner, or someone who regularly visits or commutes into the city.

You can take part in the conversation by completing the questions on the website or by going along to a drop-in event / visiting the mobile local library service dates listed on the website. For more information see the website at <https://ourbigconversation.york.gov.uk/> or Email at ourbigconversation@york.gov.uk

Seeking a Germany Beck Resident

Join the Liaison Advisory Committee that considers issues related to the Germany Beck Development and what it means for Fulford as a whole.



It brings together Parish Council, Persimmon, City Council, schools, sports clubs, and residents of Germany Beck, meeting every 4 months for about an hour. There is one Germany Beck resident on the Committee, and we're looking for a second. If you're interested, contact Annie Stirk annie.stirk@persimmonhomes.com

Recycling & Waste Information Update

City of York Council collects the following types of household recycling at the kerbside:

- plastic
- tins and cans
- glass
- foil
- paper & cardboard (must be kept separate from the other items)

Can be mixed together



They cannot take black or dark coloured plastics, regardless of what label they have on them, as these plastics cannot yet be recycled.

You can also use recycling banks (<https://www.recyclenow.com/recycling-locator>) or take items to either Hazel Court or Towthorpe/Strensall Household Waste Recycling Centres.



Your waste and recycling collection day is changing this Christmas and New Year.

Most collections in York will take place the day after their normal collection date.

👉 Look up your collection day, or download your calendar at www.york.gov.uk/WasteCollectionCalendar

Exciting renovations planned for the Social Hall



Are you interested in getting involved in taking forward a project to improve and enhance our Social Hall?

We have ambitious plans for improving this substantial community resource. Although it is well used and has many interesting architectural features, there are many repairs and improvements needed.

Some of you were consulted for the study that was undertaken over the last year by the local architect firm 'Constructive Individuals'. This has resulted in various exciting design options which combine improving the usability of the building with the opportunity to carry out improvements to the building fabric and its energy performance. Consultations have since taken place to make adjustments to those options, and we now want to start the ball rolling.


We have also had a Condition Report completed by the local professional firm of surveyors, 'Gate and Bar' which highlights the essential and urgent repairs that need to be made to the fabric of the building.

Inevitably there are financial constraints, which does mean that the work has to be split into phases – not a bad thing as it means that the Hall will not have to be closed for long periods of time.

Although some repairs and improvements can be paid for from our annual budget, most of the changes will need external funding to be found. Looking for and applying for different funds is very time-consuming, and we have only a small number of councillors (there are at present 5 vacancies), so.....

We would love to set up a small group of local people who would like to get involved in and influence future developments to the hall and who may be interested in researching available funding streams.

So again, if this interests you, please get in touch and get involved!

Meanwhile, the Social Hall is very much open for business. Both the Main Hall and the smaller meeting room in the Old Library are available for events and free  is available on request.

Please contact admin@fulfordpc.org.uk / 01904 633151 for further information.

Hire Rates:

	Main Hall	The Old Library
General Hourly Rate	£16.00	£12.00
Fulford Residents' Discounted Hourly Rate	£15.00	£11.00
General Group 10 week pre-bookings reduced hourly rate	£15.00	£11.00
Fulford Residents' Group 10 week pre-bookings reduced hourly rate	£14.00	£10.00

Playing Fields Updates

New Signs:

Over the autumn, the Parish Council replaced the entrance signs at both playgrounds. The new signs include contact information and they reflect the change in policy about the presence of dogs on the fields i.e. that dogs on leads are welcome at School Lane and Fordlands Road playing fields, provided their people clean up after them.



Graffiti Clean Up:

The Parish Council recently arranged for cleaning of graffiti on litter bins and at the pavilion on the Parish Field. If you notice graffiti, please report it to the Parish Council and where possible, arrangements will be made to have it removed.

Fordlands Road Playing Field:

Basketball Half-Court:

At the request of residents, the Parish Council has installed New Markings at the basketball court at Fordlands Road to help players practice positioning and shots. It is hoped that a half court can also be accommodated in the plans for the School Lane Parish Field.



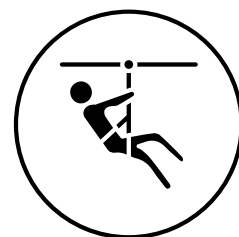
Playground Equipment:

Following recent inspections, repairs/repainting have been scheduled for some of the equipment. Please take heed of any "wet paint" signs. The Parish Council is also looking at options for some new play equipment.

School Lane Parish Field:

Zip Wire & Playground surfacing:

Both School Lane and Fordlands Road playgrounds have regular safety inspections and some issues with the surfacing at School Lane came to light from recent inspections. Hard concrete foundations from previous buildings were discovered and regrettably the zip wire had to be taken out of use.



Work to remove the concrete and remedy the surfacing issues will begin from mid December and it is hoped the zip wire and other equipment will be fully operational shortly after.



Project Update:

The Parish Council continues to work with the City Council and Fulford Sports Club on the plans for the Parish Field project and further updates will be announced on the Parish Council website and Facebook page once we have more news.

... and finally,



School Lane Kissing Gate Mystery:

The swing gate into School Lane field is proving to be a bit of a mystery, as we find people are attaching zip ties to it for some unknown reason. The gate is designed so that it can swing freely to allow a wheelchair through, but normally it's locked to prevent access to motorbikes - pedestrians go through the kissing section. Recently the lock had been left open. Nobody has commented, but we'd love to have your feedback if there is an issue we need to know about.