

---

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| MEETING       | GUILDHALL WARD COMMITTEE  |
| DATE          | 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2007  |
| PRESENT       | COUNCILLOR BRIAN WATSON<br>COUNCILLOR JANET LOOKER  |
| IN ATTENDANCE | 28 local residents<br>Mark Khan, Colin Sutherland, Kelly McTighe from North Yorkshire Police<br>Derek Gauld, Principal Development Officer<br>Jim Lowe, Treasurer's House Visitor Services Manager<br>John Wood, Street Environment Officer<br>Rachel Buxton, Waste Management Unit<br>Cindy Benton, Neighbourhood Management Unit<br>Michael Hawtin, Neighbourhood Management Unit |

---

## Surgery

- There was an opportunity prior to the formal meeting for residents to talk informally to ward members, officers of the council and representatives from other organisations as listed under attendance.
- A tour of the Herb Garden at the Treasurer's House was given during the surgery.

## Main Meeting

### Welcome

Cllrs Looker and Watson welcomed everybody to the meeting. A mention was made that the location was 'a very special location'. The Neighbourhood Action Plan documents were also mentioned and people were asked to look at them and give their ideas.

### 1. Police

Inspector Mark Khan attended to give an update on policing in the ward and the following points were noted:

- The aim of Neighbourhood Policing is to engage with the community and to speak directly to them. To find the community's issues and to try and resolve them.
- The dedicated Neighbourhood Policing team consists of 8 PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers), plus Sgt. Colin Sutherland, PC Kelly McTighe and PC Ray Milligan.
- The emphasis is on high visibility policing. The PCSOs have a target of 80% of their time being seen on the streets. It is expected that the residents will see a police presence more regularly.

- From the 20<sup>th</sup> July the Guildhall, Micklegate and Clifton teams will crew up together to target anti-social hot spot areas.
- The contact details of the teams will be published so they can be contacted easily.
- The non emergency Police contact number 0845 60 60 247.
- A Neighbourhood Policing Team is going to be based at Westfield School, if this project is successful the idea may be adopted in other areas.

A general discussion took place about local issues for the police, some of the points were:

- There had been dissatisfaction about Mayfair and their contract had been cancelled. All local policing was now entirely within the PCSO framework.
- There had been a Police surgery held in the Groves. Colin Sutherland said that he was looking into set up a surgery again as part of the open door policy.
- It was suggested that the new Hungate development have a similar police surgery.
- Cllr Looker said that both she and Cllr Watson met with the police regularly. If there were any questions or problems tell them and they would pass it on to the police.

## **2. Hungate Community Space**

A consultation sheet was made available for the New Community Space in York City Centre. This explained where Hungate was, a brief overview of the proposed development and some description of how big the space was and what it could be used for. Derek Gauld told the residents about the event to get involved with the developers that would be held on Saturday 14th July on the Hungate site from 10am to 3pm.

Derek Gauld talked about the Hungate development and the following points were mentioned:

- Outline planning permission had been given 5 years ago. Planning Permission was given 2 years ago. The first (of 5) reserved (deetailed) applications approved earlier this year. The final phase would be completed in about 5 years.
- To conform to the council's plan the development had to offer some employment opportunities, shops, flats, affordable homes, squares and the 8,000 square feet of community space. However this space could be spread over a number of levels.
- Some suggestions for the community space have included;
  - 1) Quite spaces
  - 2) Swimming pool
  - 3) Galleries
  - 4) Internet Café
  - 5) Lavatories
  - 6) Museum
- It is rare for developers to commit to so much space for a community focus.
- Whatever the community space was it would have to be sustainable and a vibrant part of the community.
- The space, as part of the focal building, will be built as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> phase of the wider development.

- There is a provision for discounted sale.
- There is just over 20% affordable housing within the development. This includes discount sales homes for local people as well as social rented.
- There is 60% car parking provision. Also substantial contributions to the James Street link road, York Car Club and green travel. There are also improved bus facilities. Residents may get bus pass discount or bike purchase discounts. There would be parking at shops and in the existing Haymarket Car Park.
- The first homes may well be ready to move into before the end of 2008.

Some of the points and question from the public were:

- Is there any provision for a discount for people who buy the properties to live in as opposed to buying them for rent? The answer to this was that there was none at the moment, nor was any planned.
- Will we be proud of the development in 10 years time or are we building the slums of the future? The reply was that the development is going to showcase York, it is a significant and inspirational development.
- One resident suggested that York was being raped, every scrap of land being built on. They couldn't believe it would take 18 months for the first people to be in their properties. The reply was that we have a housing land requirement to fulfill as set nationally and regionally. There is a national drive to build on brownfield sites like this rather than on Greenfield sites further away from services.
- We have to build new homes for people as household rates across the city continue to fall.
- As the development would be quite high density would there be a problem with noise. The reply was that there were significant improvements in insulation so there should be no problem with internal noise.

### **3. Treasurer's House**

Jim Lowe, Treasurer's House Visitor Services Manager, was introduced. He wanted to make residents aware that the house was there for them to use. The Herb Garden is open on Tuesdays and Saturday and could be place for social gathering etc. It is a free service. He had a plea for volunteers. At the end of the meeting he had got three more prospective volunteers.

### **4. Have Your Say**

Cllr Watson told the meeting that since Roger Pierce had become a councillor at the last elections there was now a vacancy on the Planning Panel. Anybody was welcome and there was room for at least 2 people on the panel. It is a perfect opportunity to have your say.

Other points raised were:

- The project to reduce the noise made by the students at York St. Johns has worked. It is now resolved.
- Some areas around Rowntree Wharf are used by drug addicts and for anti-social behaviour. It was explained that the area was not owned by the council. It was suggested that the weeds be cut down and that the railings under the footbridge be moved.

- There had been some problems with graffiti and anti-social behaviour behind the builders merchant as well.
- Would the police be able to respond quicker to calls? Mark Khan replied “If there is ever any problems with calling the police log it and report it and we will try to resolve it.”
- While many of the residents expressed the opinion that crime was high in the area Mark Khan said that York is safe and that Neighbour hood Policing will improve it even more.
- 2 PCSOs had confiscated drink from people drinking in the area.
- It was suggested that an alcohol exclusion zone be set up for the city centre and signs put up.
- Can there be a width restriction on Lowther St.
- Can Gillygate be made one-way?

Two people gave their names as volunteers for the Planning Panel.  
Mr A. Filby and Mr A. Gillott.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm