

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

GOOD NEIGHBOURS GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2016  
at 17:00 in room H/G21, Heslington Hall

Present: David Duncan (DD), Registrar & Secretary (**Chair**)  
Nick Allen (NA), Heslington Village Trust  
Pauline Bramley (PB), Heslington Parish Council  
Peter Hall (PH), Heslington Parish Council  
Cllr Keith Aspden (KA), Heslington & Fulford Ward  
Cllr David Levene (DL), Hull Road Ward  
Tony Barge (TB), North Yorkshire Police  
Rory Dalglish (RD) Heslington Church/Badger Hill Residents  
Scott Dawson (SD), YUSU Welfare & Community Officer  
Imran Shah (IS), GSA Vice-President, Postgraduate Community  
Kevin Whelan (KW), Head of Estates Operations

Apologies: Cllr Neil Barnes, Hull Road Ward  
Rob Aitken, Head of Colleges

In attendance: Sara Bailey, Registrar & Secretary's Office

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|----------------|--|----------------------|
| <b>15-16/1</b> | <b>Welcome</b><br>David Duncan welcomed all to the meeting.  | <b><u>Action</u></b> |
| <b>15-16/2</b> | <b>Notes of the meeting held on 16 March 2015</b><br>The notes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.  |                      |
| <b>15-16/3</b> | <b>Matters arising from the notes</b><br><u>Car Parking</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It was noted that enforcement notices were now sited at the Outgang; parking was being monitored, with no concerns at present.</li><li>• Road lining work was currently under consultation with local residents.</li></ul>   |                      |
| <b>15-16/4</b> | <b>Noise issues</b><br><u>Night Bus</u> - Concern was expressed about noise in Boss Lane and Main Street from students getting off the night bus and using the back footpath rather than the main road. SD agreed to advise students to use the main road and KW undertook to arrange for First Buses to be contacted about drivers reminding students to be considerate about noise when they alighted. | <b>SD/KW</b>         |
|                | <u>Lawrence Court</u> – PB noted that raised voices around Lawrence Court had caused recent disturbances; DD undertook to raise this with College staff.   | <b>DD</b>            |

Badger Hill park – disturbance from rowdy teenagers was reported; it was confirmed that the police and University Security were aware.

**15-16/5 Litter**

In response to concerns about litter in Badger Hill park, Boss Lane and Main Street, SD agreed to put out further messages to students about litter generally.

**SD**

**15-16/6 Cycles**

A lack of lights and reflective clothing by cyclists was noted, despite accessories being available at subsidised prices at the YUSU shop.

University Road cycle track – the dangers of cyclists continuing to use the main road rather than the cycle path, and weaving between traffic, was a serious concern. The following points were noted:

- DL reported that the current scheme would be reviewed in the coming months;
- the track was not wide enough for split pedestrian/cyclist use, particularly around bus stops, which is why some cyclists were reluctant to use it;
- options around the shared/changed use of the layby (currently used for offloading to Nisa supermarket) could be considered;
- there was not enough space between the current bus stops for a dedicated pedestrian crossing;
- more painted signs on the cycletrack may be beneficial, and possibly broken lines to split it between pedestrians/cyclists.

It was agreed to investigate extra signage and the use of the layby.

**KW**

**15-16/7 Traffic and Parking**

Main Street West – in response to a query raised about the efficacy of the chicanes on Main Street, it was noted that an exercise in 2012 looking at reconfiguration of traffic calming measures has found all solutions to be unsatisfactory. Hall Park and Holborn's Court residents were generally in favour of the chicanes to assist their access to Main Street.

Parking – PB reported that yellow lines had been extended along Heslington Lane, opposite the Golf Club. KW reported that ad hoc spaces had been created around campus and the rigour of penalties had been relaxed to encourage users to park on campus rather than on local roads. A proposal for a two-storey car park was being considered, together with ongoing initiatives to use buses/bikes, to try to alleviate parking issues.

Single/central point of contact – DL suggested that a central point of contact for any issues would be of benefit to residents and authorities alike. The Council's ASB (AntiSocialBehaviour) Hub was already picking up complaints and it might be of benefit for the University to pool resources and designate the University Security Office as the first point of contact for community issues. DD undertook to talk to Security colleagues about this. It was noted

**DD**

that University Security has no remit outside of campus.

A joint initiative with the Council to deal with personal documents left behind by student residents, risking ID fraud, was welcomed; Security would be notified.

DD

Broadway - a residents' ballot on part of Broadway was reported, in the hope of convincing the Ministry of Defence to provide dropped kerbs.

Heslington East - conversations continued about changes to traffic/parking arrangements; it was considered that most residents would support this.

Heslington Church - RD drew attention to the untenable state of the ground being used for parking by parents and others, often to the detriment of bona-fide church users. The University was asked to take the lead with Lord Deramore's School, given that the current situation was not working or sustainable. KW noted that a meeting was planned with Church and School representatives, and would report back.

KW

#### **15-16/8 Neighbourhood Plan**

In response to a query about what will constitute the boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan, it was noted that the Parish Council's preferred position would be to include all of the Parish excluding all of the Heslington East Campus built area, the parts of the Heslington West campus which lie to the north of the Heslington Conservation Area and Halifax College. If the Neighbourhood Plan Parish were to include any built part of the campus, the costs of consultation would be huge.

The Registrar indicated that he would prefer if the Neighbourhood Plan excluded any part of the campus (built or not) and the area south of the East Campus lake which the University would like to preserve as future expansion space.

#### **15-16/9 Fitness Trail**

DD outlined a proposal from the York Sport Union President, Grace Clarke, for a fitness trail, for implementation over the next 2-3 years. It was envisaged that the trail would include a series of individual fitness stations running between the two sports facilities. There was no intention to have a defined pathway, just appropriate surfaces around the equipment, and the trail would be open to all, not just students. Grace was due to talk to the next Parish Council meeting.

#### **15-16/10 Community access to events and facilities**

Access to the Library - the introduction of card access to the library was due to a requirement for data on its use and also to limit public usage at peak times.

Events - many campus events were open to the public and advertised on the University's website. It was agreed that links should be shared for the Church magazine and the Parish Council, together with a link for events in York.

SB

Post-meeting notes:

**Events in York:** <http://www.visitork.org/7daysinyork.aspx>

Links to information about all events on campus are available at <http://www.york.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/>

Alternatively, go directly to the following webpages:

**Public lectures** (including information about joining the mailing list):  
<http://www.york.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/public-lectures/>

**Concerts:** <http://www.york.ac.uk/concerts/programme/>

**York Student Cinema:** <http://yorkstudentcinema.org/>

**Term dates:** <http://www.york.ac.uk/about/term-dates/>

**Graduation dates:**

<https://www.york.ac.uk/students/studying/graduation/day/ceremonies/>

**15-16/11 Letting signs**

In response to comments about the adverse impact of letting signs, DL outlined a voluntary agreement with landlords to limit their use. Following a study, which highlighted security concerns for students, a campaign was being run in the Hull Road area to remove letting boards, for which a response was awaited. The University and Police supported this initiative.

**15-16/12 Christmas Hosting Scheme**

DD outlined a scheme by the Student Support Service and the Graduate Students' Association to encourage staff members to host students over the Christmas period, given that 15% of students stay in York. It was agreed that contact details would be circulated for anyone who might be interested in finding out more.

**SB**

*Post-meeting note: Further information can be found at*

<http://www.yorkgsa.org/site/community/winter-hosting-scheme>

*or contact Peter Gorbert (e-mail: [ceo@yorkgsa.org](mailto:ceo@yorkgsa.org); tel: 01904 32 2707)*

**15-16/13 Any Other Business**

It was noted that Langwith College arranged ad hoc events to which Badger Hill residents were invited, and DD agreed to consider a proposal that residents might be represented on College councils.

**DD**

It was agreed that representatives from the Goodricke, Langwith and Halifax Colleges should be invited to join the Good Neighbours Group.

**DD**

**15/16/14 Future meetings**

It was agreed that termly meetings of the Group should be arranged for:

**SB**

- Summer term – end of June [13 June 2016]
- Autumn term – end of September, before start of term [5 September 2016]
- Spring term – mid-term [6 February 2017]