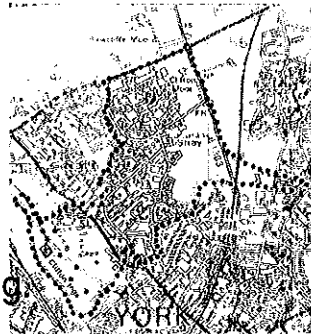


Help us to help you – Let us know what is needed to make a difference – Together building community

In this issue:

- An invitation
- Budget, Precepts, spending & Double Taxation.
- Play areas.
- Plans & developments
- Community Ranger & Policing



This is your invitation to -

The Parish Council meets every month, except August, on the second Wednesday of the month. At present meetings are held in Canon Lee School and begin at 7:15 PM. Meetings are open to all members of the public who are most welcome, and an opportunity is made available, as appropriate, for all views, opinions and concerns to be shared.

Annual Parish meeting 6:45 pm
Wednesday 12th March at Canon Lee School
Let us know, come along, make a difference

££££

Budgets, Precepts, Spending & Double Taxation.

Whilst expanding the spending budget for the coming year the Parish Council has kept the precept at the present rate of £32,000 by using reserves should expected grant funding not be forthcoming. One "new income stream" expected is being pursued from CYC, is associated with what we believe to be double taxation associated with such activities as grass cutting, park cleaning, graffiti removal and bus shelters. We all appreciate that CYC is short of cash, but that is no reason to discriminate, certain areas of the city receive such double taxation grants, we are due to it too.

Community Land - Rawcliffe Lane Play Area.

We are delighted to share the news that the Parish Council play area in Rawcliffe Lane (next to the library) has been awarded The Winner in a York & North Yorkshire Playing Fields Competition for the year 2007. The Parish Council regularly inspects the general tidiness of the grounds, litter problems and equipment and the playground is locked up overnight. Unfortunately, like a number of other venues, we are troubled with under age drinkers and at times suspect more serious abuse. We try to keep this in check with the help of residents reports, the community ranger and police services.



Planning

Parish Councils are among the statutory bodies that by English Law have to be consulted concerning planning applications. Over the last year we dealt with 102 such applications. The most controversial of which is the proposal to build a residential care home on commercial land adjacent to Tribune Way. We supported local residents who fear this proposal will, at best turn their quiet cul de sac into a pedestrian thoroughfare, at worst into a staff car park.



Matters concerning the former Clifton Hospital site, Dormouse Tree and the Grain Store site, all as reported in our August issue are still very much in the frame and receiving critical attention from the Parish Council.

However, perhaps by far the biggest planning issue to hit the area over the past 20 years is the proposed "ECO Town" on the other side of the ring road (A1237) opposite the Tesco site. Whilst only a small part of the land required is within the Clifton (Without) Parish boundary, we have a great concern and strongly object to this proposal.

Community Ranger, Policing, Quality of Life and public safety.

The Parish Council will continue to totally fund the services of the Community Ranger through the coming year. The Ward Committee deciding against supporting us against a public vote that scored the scheme top in Clifton (Without) and third overall in the ward. Do use the service if you see anything out of order in your street. Like many other areas of life these days, statistics drive change and it is the volume of reports that will help drive changes to our policing system. (As this goes to print, I see that The Press are reporting we will be in a DIY situation before long as regards policing our streets, so let's all get involved by reporting the trouble spots now).

Don't forget the numbers:

Crime reports ring 999

Ranger 24 hour number – 0800 783 7537

Non emergencies 0845 60 60 24 7



Animal Welfare – Don't Poo Poo It

Dog fouling of footpaths, verges and other public places are always close to the top of any public complaint list – is it getting worse? If so it isn't because the K9 population has risen dramatically, although I do know of a couple of Christmas

arrivals. The mess is clearly the responsibility of irresponsible owners. It's a mess to look at, it's a public health concern, and if you happen to stand on it – well its just not worth talking about.

If you are a dog owner, please clear up your dogs mess. A clean area is of benefit to everyone.