



Heworth Without Parish Council NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

Stray Road Play Area

Nationally many play areas are closing down due to funding constraints. Our play area is fairly costly to maintain, however we continue to be proud of it, and the joy it brings to families, and are doing everything possible to improve it. Our groundsman David has brought great energy and initiative to the job and the play area, the football pitch and the Jubilee Wood are looking splendid. If you see David in the park, please don't hesitate to tell him how much he is appreciated!



Regular safety inspections have to be made which can then necessitate repairs. Last year we had most of the equipment at the front area repainted and, following requests for some new equipment, a set of chin up bars (for upper body strength) were installed – this was funded with Section 106 monies provided by grants made by property developers. Unfortunately during one of the regular inspections last year, the old “baby” swings near to the entrance

were deemed unsafe. The council looked into a possible repair, but this was not acceptable to our insurers as they considered the integrity of the unit would be compromised so the unit had to be removed. The good news is that these swings will be replaced during the next couple of months. The new swings won't be quite as large as the original ones but will be purely for the little ones.

The council is looking at the possibility of implementing the offer of an all weather playing surface together with new goal posts and basketball hoops (Multi Use Games Area) where the current football pitch is located. This could be a great improvement as the present pitch gets very boggy during the winter and spring months. The funding for this would come from central monies which could be made available and which are specifically earmarked for parks and sports areas. The council needs to take into account the impact such a development would have on surrounding residents, and in the longer term any ongoing maintenance costs. These costs would have to be funded by the precept which is the relatively small levy which HWPC makes on the Council Tax and which all residents pay annually. This funding has to pay for everything we do in Heworth Without and it is unfortunate that we have recently seen mindless damage to the existing facilities by people lighting fires in the area and such damage to an all weather pitch could be prohibitive to repair.

Do let us have your views on this issue please.

A recently erected information board by the gate from the play area into the Jubilee Wood explains about the birds and insects you can find there. Do take a walk through the paths which lead you through the woodland area.

Contact us!

Keep in touch on Facebook (@heworth.without.parish.council), visit www.heworthwithout.org.uk, email the Clerk to the Parish Council at clerk.hwpc@gmail.com or telephone 07410 976367. The Parish Council meets on the third Monday each month at the Heworth Without Community Centre, 34 Applecroft Road, York YO31 0HG. If you have a matter you would like the Parish Council to discuss, please come along – no need to pre-book, just turn up for 7pm.

Residents are requested not to take dogs into the play area and a number of recent posts by residents on our Facebook page support this stance. Dogs and small children do not always mix well, some children may be allergic to dogs and there is a risk of disease from dog faeces.



North Yorkshire Allotment Association who are providing us with guidance in this respect. Their chairman, Phil Gommersall has visited us on a couple of occasions and spoke at our annual Parish Meeting in April. There are still a couple of spare allotment plots available. If you are interested in taking one, please contact the clerk for further details.

Former Councillor Chris Perrett

We regret to record the death, on June 26th after a short illness, of former councillor Chris Perrett. Chris was a retired engineer, surveyor and craftsman of great skill, enthusiasm and experience whose practical expertise, determination, integrity and force of character made him an invaluable member of our Council and of the Foss Drainage Board. He will be much missed as both a friend and colleague. His memorial, as he wished, is a plaque on the seats – for which he long and tenaciously campaigned – by the bridge bus top where Ashley Park Road meets Stray Road.

HWPC Allotments

We are continuing to look at ways to improve the parish allotments and have implemented a better management system to run them. Unfortunately the allotments cost a significant amount to run when taking into account monies spent on clearing brambles and rubbish removal. Considering that there are only a dozen allotments, which benefit a relatively few individuals, the council has to consider very carefully what money is spent in this area. We are hoping that the allotment tenants will be able to set up a working group to better run the site in conjunction with the Parish Council.

We are also looking into ways of providing a water supply for the allotments and we have joined the



Chris Perrett

Mobile Library

Do remember that we have arranged for the Mobile Library to visit the Community Centre every fortnight – dates and times are on the Parish notice boards. Use it or lose it!!

Contact us!

Keep in touch on Facebook (@heworth.without.parish.council), visit www.heworthwithout.org.uk, email the Clerk to the Parish Council at clerk.hwpc@gmail.com or telephone 07410 976367. The Parish Council meets on the third Monday each month at the Heworth Without Community Centre, 34 Applecroft Road, York YO31 0HG. If you have a matter you would like the Parish Council to discuss, please come along – no need to pre-book, just turn up for 7pm.