



# Heworth Without Parish Council NEWSLETTER

Summer 2018

## Stray Road Play Area

Your Parish Council works to ensure that the play area on Stray Road is a safe and enjoyable place for all ages. New equipment and signage has been added and existing equipment repainted over the past year, and the range of equipment in the playground is probably the best in York. Drainage improvement work to the lower areas and the football field is underway and the Parish Council has employed a new grounds person who will look after both the park and the football field.

Users of the park area are politely reminded:

- To use the large bin provided for litter.
- Not to use portable barbeques as they cause damage and are a fire risk.
- Not to park on the pavement in front of the park gates as this obstructs the entrance. (Parking bays are located in front of the community centre on Applecroft Road.)

Is there any additional equipment you would like to see in the play area? The possible development of a picnic area in a corner of the playing field is under consideration - please let us have your thoughts.

Finally, we would like to thank both Harry Tate, hard-working groundsman, and Michael Foster, litter picker at the play area. Both retired in the spring, although Michael continues as booking secretary for the community centre, and we would like to put on record our appreciation to the two of them for their stalwart efforts in keeping the park neat, clean and tidy. Litter is currently being collected by parish councillors on a volunteer rota basis.

## Contact us!

Keep in touch on Facebook (@heworth.without.parish.council), visit [www.heworthwithout.org.uk](http://www.heworthwithout.org.uk), email the Clerk to the Parish Council at [clerk.hwpc@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Sit and wait

After months of frustrating delays waiting for written confirmation and permissions needed from various authorities, the parish council finally have the seating installed by the bus stop on Stray Road. The parish council hopes that residents and those waiting for a bus will find it useful. Are there any other areas you feel that seating would be beneficial? Please let us know.



*New seating being used by all ages.*

## Blooming lovely



Hundreds of crocus and narcissus bulbs were planted in four of the grass verges last autumn which provided a colourful display earlier this year. Additional plantings are being considered for later this year. Let us have your thoughts on future planting and locations. Meanwhile, our reactivation of the parish allotments has been a great success. Of the twelve allotments, eleven are now under cultivation.

## Think before you park

Residents have expressed concern about inconsiderate parking on the roads and on verges around the school during the start and end of the school day. People dropping off children are asked not to block entrances to any properties. Residents who are blocked in should call the police to report the incident using the 999 service.

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## Get noticed!

There are four notice boards in and around the area on which you will find details of council matters and forthcoming events in the area. A fifth will soon be provided at the junction of Stray Road and Bad Bargain Lane. If you would like anything displayed on these notice boards, please supply posters (ideally no larger than A4 size) to the clerk whose details are given at the foot of the newsletter, and we will ensure they are displayed. Don't forget that we also have a website and a Facebook page, detailed below.

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To reflect the recent changes to the data protection law and to ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the parish council is committed to the protection of personal information. The privacy notice is available on the home page of the parish council website – see below.

## Read all about it

We have arranged for the mobile library to bring its books to the Stray Road Community Centre – details regarding times are on the notice boards. Sitting right on the edge of our parish is the new Burnholme Community Hub which opened its doors in June. Amongst other things the centre has a library, a reading cafe and a number of meeting rooms which are available for hire. To book, their telephone number is 01904 552655 or 01904 554403.

## Yorkshire Marathon 2018

The Yorkshire Marathon will take place on Sunday 14 October and as in previous years the route will totally enclose the Heworth Without area. The Parish Council has expressed concern about access to the area, particularly to ensure that residents and carers have access to their properties on the day of the race. The Parish Council contacted the organisers and their response is summarised in the enclosed supplement.

## What does your Parish Council do and how is it funded?

The activities provided by the council fall into three main categories: representing the local community, delivering services to meet local needs, and improving quality of life and community wellbeing. In York there are a total of 31 parished areas, Heworth Without being one of these areas.

Heworth Without Parish Council provides and maintains a number of local services including the play area, allotments, notice boards, benches and open spaces. Other services may include community transport schemes, community safety and crime reduction measures, events and festivals, footpaths, leisure and sports facilities, litter bins, consultation on planning applications, street cleaning and lighting, tourism activities, traffic calming measures, village greens and youth projects. These existing powers were recently strengthened by powers contained in the Localism Act including the extension of the "General Power of Competence" to eligible local councils

Parish councils are funded by levying a "precept" collected with the council tax paid by the residents of the parish. All parish councillors are unpaid members who are elected to serve for four years, unless a casual vacancy arises which may be filled by a by-election or by co-option. Currently Heworth Without has a full council with no vacancies. The precept for Heworth Without Parish Council was set at £18,600 for the year 2018/19. This year the council agreed to increase the precept by around 20% which sounds very high, but in reality a band D property in the parish now pays £21.79 per annum whereas last year it was £17.93. This is an increase of £3.86 per year or a little over a penny per day. We also currently receive income from City of York Council (a double taxation grant) in respect of work which we do (primarily grass cutting and play area expenditure) where the expenditure would be funded from the general council tax funding as opposed to funding via the precept. Other smaller levels of income arise from allotment rents and ward committee grants. The average parish precept in York for a band D property in a parished area is £23.95 so you will see that the Heworth Without Parish Council charge is a little less than the average.

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