

## Hessay Parish Council Newsletter - July 2021.

[www.hessayparishcouncil.org](http://www.hessayparishcouncil.org)

### Parish Councillors

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Olivia Johnson, (Vice chairman)

Mike Lord

George Ramshaw

Steve Mills

Clerk: James Mackman 01904 399277 [jmackman@gmail.com](mailto:jmackman@gmail.com)

### Ward Councillors

Anne Hook [cllr.ahook@york.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.ahook@york.gov.uk)

James Barker [cllr.jbarker@york.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.jbarker@york.gov.uk)

### Meetings

We have recently been able to return to Face-to-Face meetings, having hosted meetings online via Zoom throughout the Covid 19 pandemic.

Hessay Parish Council meetings are typically held at 7.30pm in the Methodist Chapel School room on the third Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Extra meetings are called if there is a planning application to consider. All meetings are public. Feel free to come along. Advance notifications of all meetings and general Parish Council business is communicated via the Parish Council noticeboard on Main Street, Hessay, and via the Parish Council website [www.hessayparishcouncil.org](http://www.hessayparishcouncil.org)

### Hessay Pond and Willow Garth

500 trees were secured by Hessay Wildlife Volunteers for planting in Willow Garth and around Hessay pond. The varieties hazel, hawthorn, silver birch, wild cherry, and dog rose were chosen to give food, shelter and colour. They were planted by residents to create a living boundary at the rear of Willow Garth. Small clumps were planted in both Willow Garth and around the pond, and to fill the gaps in the hedge at the front of Willow Garth. The trimmed branches from the pond area have been incorporated into the log piles in Willow Garth.

Funds have been secured to install a bench and improve the path and the pond area in general. We aim to do this as soon as is practical. The grass cutting frequency has been reduced to maximise the benefit to insects & wildlife. It may look a little untidier than in recent years though the grasses and flowers are potentially more important than we have previously appreciated. We intend to rebuild the island in the pond. If anyone has old scaffolding boards to donate, they would be most welcome.

Willow Garth has been for many years managed for the benefit of wildlife. One of the main benefactors are the numerous butterflies whose larvae feed on the nettles, (Red Admiral, Comma, Small Tortoiseshell and Painted Lady). Many of the fallen branches have been made into log piles. There is still some work to do over the coming winter. Hopefully, we will be able to organise a working party.

### Broadband

Hopefully, every house in the village should now be able to access broadband.

## **Footpaths**

We have petitioned the City of York Council to replace many of the stiles in the village with safer dog friendly stiles. We continue to ask that residents keep to the official footpaths and keep dogs under close control on a lead for the benefit of wildlife and livestock.

As a result of new housing developments along the A59 corridor there is long term potential that the A59 corridor may see some improvements. There may within this be the potential to create a safe cycle route of which we are supportive. It is the view of the Parish Council that the route most likely to succeed would be along the same route as the A59.

We continue to lobby the City Council re the condition of New Road. We have for some time lobbied on the subsidence issue of Atterwith Lane which has recently been attended to.

## **Parking**

We ask everyone to park with consideration to their neighbours. Please do not park on the footpath and keep junctions and driveways clear. Many of us are spending more time in the village though there are some who's physical or visual impairments require greater clearance to simply get about. There is much guidance on this. The suggested minimum is to allow 1.5m if possible or 1.2m as an absolute minimum. Obviously, if the pavement is narrower than this it should not be obstructed in any way.

## **Community Speedwatch group & Speeding vehicles**

Unfortunately, the covid pandemic has put the community speedwatch group on hold for now. There is still the will to see this up and running at the first possibility. When we held the meeting with the police, they suggested the most effective way of reducing speeding traffic was to park fully on the road. We encourage all residents to report speeding directly to North Yorkshire Police.

## **Community Payback**

We have used the services of the Community Payback Scheme to clear some of the footpaths in the village of vegetation and detritus. This is something we will look to continue to do in the future if possible.

## **Allotments**

There are three allotment plots on Low Moor Lane. Presently, these are all let. If you are interested in taking a plot, should one become available, please contact the Clerk, James Mackman.

## **Reporting problems to City of York Council,**

Below are two useful links, which can be used to report issues requiring attention, such as street cleaning, potholes etc to City of York Council. Alternatively, you can notify many things via their website or by telephone

<https://www.york.gov.uk/reportproblems>

<https://www.york.gov.uk/StreetsRoadsAndPavements>

If there is anything you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, please contact any of the councillors, or the Clerk.

Mark Barratt