

A voice for your village

ALL RESIDENTS OF FULFORD are warmly invited to view work completed so far on Fulford's Village Design Statement (VDS) – and to play your part in the final consultation on its content and the design guidelines for your village.

The parish council is supporting consultation on the illustrated draft of the VDS, which is the fruit of many residents' work and varied input over several years. It will be on show (in poster form on display boards) on 16-18 July in Fulford Social Hall, School Lane.

When completed, the document will play a vital role in guiding future development within the village as it will be adopted by City of York Council as supplementary planning guidance, as well as made available to guide residents.

Work on Fulford's VDS was renewed last year following some unavoidable delays in progress. Earlier, public consultation took place through newsletters, stalls at

Fulford Show, and a local questionnaire, while a steering group has drawn together all the material and finalised the draft.

The VDS describes the whole parish of Fulford – its history, setting, settlement pattern, landscape and environment, diverse building styles, community, identity and more.

Members of the VDS group will be on hand at the display to listen to your views and answer questions. Comment forms will be available.

Your opinions on what makes Fulford special are vital. So do take this chance to view the draft, see if it meets your expectations, and submit any final comments and suggestions.

■ **ACTION** Drop in to the public consultation at Fulford Social Hall, School Lane on either:

- Friday 16 July: 3pm – 8pm**
- Saturday 17 July: 10am – 4pm**
- Sunday 18 July: 2pm – 4pm.**

We look forward to seeing you!

Fulford VDS Group



FULFORD ONLINE



FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL has launched a freshly designed, comprehensive web site – now offering the fastest and most convenient way for parishioners to keep up to date with village news, information and events, and to get in touch with the council.

At the web address above, you can find out more about your local council, councillors and council officers; and consider whether you'd like to join them! And you can take a look at any planning applications that affect the parish, via a link to City of York Council's web site.

Full agendas and minutes of Fulford parish council meetings can be downloaded; and there are details and contact information for facilities such as the social hall, allotments, Fulford cemetery, Fulford Show, the riverside village green, our local playing fields and Fulford's community orchard.

You can learn more about the council's work on sustainability, or historic events, such as the Battle of Fulford. And we're establishing photo galleries, illustrating aspects of village life.

■ **ACTION** Do explore the site – and send us your comments to help make it even more useful! And if you have any photos or other information that might be included, please contact the Parish Clerk via the web site.

THE BATTLE BAG



A VALUABLE PROJECT aimed at banishing the plastic bag from Fulford has been supported by the Parish Council, while enlisting the inspiration of local children.

Members of St Oswald's Primary School were asked to contribute a design and slogan for a durable cotton bag, and the design chosen was submitted by Shaun Hill, a Year 6 pupil. The slogan recalls Fulford's famous battle of 1066. Funding for production of cotton bags has come from City of York Council's waste services department.

All Fulford householders will be receiving a cotton bag and local shops and outlets will be selling or giving them away in order to discourage the use of plastic bags – which, discarded and indestructible in zillions, are damaging the environment.

Make the most of the bag and help us to cut down on the ubiquitous plastic ones, which create unnecessary pollution. We know part of the challenge is remembering it when you go shopping, but practice makes perfect!

Sustainable village thinking

Meanwhile the Council's Sustainability Sub-Committee has been 'walking the parish' to build a picture of all the environmental and community assets we enjoy; and to pinpoint possible sites for tree planting. Locations in Glen Close and on Main Street have been chosen for planting some trees in the autumn. It is hoped that more trees on Main Street will help to improve air quality. See the article on air quality opposite.

■ **ACTION** If you would like to help promote the Fulford bag or have other suggestions about sustainability for Fulford please contact us via the Parish Clerk (see back page contact details).

Village green manoeuvres

A BATTLE OF FULFORD was enacted in new style by a band of volunteers recruited by the parish council who tackled clearing the village green last October.

Fifty young soldiers from Harrogate arrived in mini-buses wearing matching red sweatshirts and marched on the site carrying their weapons for the day: rakes, saws, and polythene bags. The Big Tidy-Up was a sight for sore eyes!

During the event, organised by British Trust for Community Volunteers, the soldiers removed rubbish, trimmed back the willow, cleared the Beck and burned cuttings on a huge bonfire, all of which they seemed to enjoy thoroughly.

The village green, which is on the banks of the Ouse at the bottom of Landing Lane, has been designated

a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) – a designation used to protect areas of importance for wildlife and needed in this case because the green is home to the tansy beetle.

Fulford Parish Council hopes to organise volunteers to repeat the process this year. However, ecologists have recommended weed-killing the area and re-seeding. So please don't panic if it seems that the vegetation has been destroyed – rest assured that the tansy and its beetles will be protected.

City of York Council, in partnership with Fulford Parish Council are currently working to produce a development plan for the area. Meanwhile a sign has been erected on the green to inform the public about the importance of its most distinguished resident.



Changes on the parish field

IN REMEMBRANCE of parish councillor Sandra Hutton, who died suddenly in July 2009 while still very much an active parish councillor, a flowering cherry has been planted on the School Lane parish field.

The cherry is one of several additional trees to have been planted along the north side of the playing field. A new bench has also been provided in order that the new plantings can be enjoyed.

A nest swing and a hurricane roundabout have been recent

additions to the play equipment on the field, and a balance board has also been installed to replace a similar item of equipment which was damaged beyond repair.

Unfortunately, it became necessary to decommission the new nest swing for the time being, as it attracted a group who caused a nuisance to local residents. Various options are being considered by the parish council to try and reinstall the equipment and ensure it is used for its rightful purpose.



SIGNING UP!

SPECIALLY DESIGNED, eye-catching, signs to mark the entrances to Fulford are being provided by the Parish Council, with funding from Heslington and Fulford Ward Committee and York Pride.

The new signs will help emphasise the village's distinctive identity and commemorate the important battle that was fought here in 1066.

The signs are cast in aluminium, with aluminium finials and steel fabricated posts. There will be a personalised sculptured emblem of crossed swords in the arched top area and the village name below. On a cross bar below will be written Battle of Fulford 1066.

We hope to have two signs installed by the end of the summer on the A19: one just north of the A64 ring road on the route north; and outside no 3 Main Street on the route south.

Clearing the air

FOLLOWING RESEARCH throughout 2009 on levels of pollution in the locality, and consultation with local residents, an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) has been proposed along a Fulford Main Street section of the A19 – adjoining existing AQMAs.

Diffusion tube monitoring work showed that concentrations of nitrogen dioxide exceeded acceptable levels in this area. The Fulford Roadside Air Pollution Monitoring Station is at the junction of Main Street and Heslington Lane.

The AQMA now extends all along Fulford Main Street, Selby Road and Fulford Road. The Environmental Protection Unit will draw up the official AQMA Order over the coming weeks and develop an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for the area within the next 18 months, to improve the situation.

Further details and background on Air Quality can be found at: www.jorair.co.uk

■ **ACTION** The Parish Council will work with City of York Council on this initiative. We invite comments from residents on the measures to go in the AQAP later this year. Contact the parish clerk: details overleaf.

NEWS IN BRIEF

BATTLE ACTION Charles Jones, who has researched the 1066 Battle of Fulford for many years, will be giving a talk about the latest evidence discovered about the battle on Friday 17 September 7.30pm in Fulford Social Hall. This will be followed by the opportunity for a walk round the battlefield to celebrate the anniversary of the battle on Sunday 19 September, starting at Fordlands Road playing field at 11am.

A GREAT VENUE – AT BARGAIN RATES!

At Fulford's Social Hall on School Lane the parish council continue their programme of annual improvements to ensure the high quality of this venue, bookable for a wide variety of events. Recent changes included decorating the entrance hall and installing new hall flooring. In addition to the main hall, there are newly decorated toilets, a modern kitchen, a courtyard and the Old Library Room with meeting facilities. With price reductions available to Fulford residents, why not book up soon for your next work, social or family event?

FULFORD COMMUNITY ORCHARD is now marked by a specially commissioned oak sign, and benches have been added courtesy of the British Trust for Community Volunteers. Nettles, thistles and Himalayan Balsam are being cleared from the site and the plum trees pruned with a view to making the orchard more attractive for residents of Fulford to enjoy over the summer. Anyone who would like to help with this project should contact



fulfordcommunityorchard@live.co.uk

BEAT THE BALSAM It may look pretty when in flower but Himalayan Balsam is invading the Village Green and the lngs to the detriment of indigenous plants, and must be brought under control. On **Sunday 25 July** a working party of residents will continue the task. If you can help please meet at the gate on Landing Lane at 10.30am. Or, if you can spare an hour or two at any point later, just come and join us – somewhere between the Village Green and the boathouse. Children welcome!



A space for natural burials

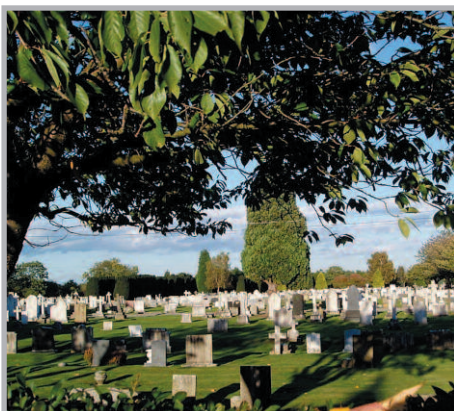
PLANS ARE IN PLACE at Fulford Cemetery to offer an environmentally-friendly alternative to the traditional funeral, through the addition of a natural burial ground.

Green burials, which are becoming more popular, provide for the use of biodegradable coffins in either a woodland or a meadow-style setting. Trees are planted to mark the graves rather than a gravestone or other manufactured memorial.

The end of the cemetery near the boundary with Cross Lane has been selected as a suitable site for green burials. It will be divided from the existing cemetery with a boundary fence and hedge planted with British native species. The aim is to create in time a peaceful and secluded

woodland site, to be entered through a lych gate.

Fulford Cemetery is the main burial site for York, owned and maintained by Fulford Parish Council. It is a 28 acre open-plan lawned cemetery, maintained to a high standard. It is open to people of all faiths.



A taste of the good life!

YOU'LL RECOGNISE THEM by their cheery "Hi", their bronzed look and the dirt under their nails! Yes, it's that time of year when Fulford allotment holders are out *en masse* digging, sowing, planting and weeding.

Fulford allotments are owned and run by the Parish Council and are located off Fordlands Road, next to Fulford Cemetery. All 28 allotment plots are currently taken, some divided into half plots for those who find a full plot too daunting.

However, Fulford residents have priority on the waiting list which is currently standing at about 12.

For many people, allotments provide a taste of 'the good life': great pleasure and satisfaction in green surroundings where you can harvest your own new potatoes,

bulging sweetcorn or tender young runner beans, and eat what many don't have the chance to taste – real food! No wonder allotmentees are a healthy lot – and wise too. It's a simple sum: a few pounds on seeds plus free exercise and a small annual rent can equal a year's fruit and veg for a family.

And there's a real community feel on the allotments. Experienced allotmentees are happy to pass on the wisdom of many years' gardening to those who don't know one end of a trowel from the other. It's a great place to meet different people in peaceful surroundings.

■ Look for more information on Fulford Parish Council website: www.fulfordparishcouncil.org.uk – or contact the Cemetery office.

Conservation area trees – and us

TREES ARE A VITAL FEATURE of Fulford's conservation area – and those on or close to Main Street contribute to its reputation as one of the most attractive approaches into York. They're also essential to helping maintain a healthy environment – a mature tree generates significant oxygen.

That's why **every** tree over a certain size within the conservation area is protected, in a similar way to having a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) placed on it.

For any tree with a trunk over 7.5cm diameter (or 10cm where thinning to help neighbouring trees) permission must be sought before carrying out any work. This includes pruning, felling, lopping or topping. Application is free and forms can be obtained from City of York Council (CYC). Any reputable tree surgeon is aware of this and will help with paperwork if necessary.

The conservation area is shown in the illustration and includes all of the historic core village.

Carrying out tree works without permission can lead to a fine of up



The conservation area, marking prominent trees – from St Oswald's road in the north to the Stone Bridge area at the south

to £20,000. So if in any doubt, do contact the environment technician for assistance. A practical guide for residents living within a conservation area can be obtained from City of York Council.

■ Useful numbers:

CYC Conservation section
(01904) 551671 / 551305 / 551329
CYC Tree environment technician
(01904) 551371

FULFORD PARISH COUNCILLORS

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JULIAN YOUNG

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f: 01904 635725
e: fulfordcemetery@fiscali.co.uk

SOCIAL HALL CARETAKER:

Helen McCabe (contact as above)

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK WITH ALL GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

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For further details of all Parish Council services and facilities, including minutes of meetings, summaries of local issues, and a directory of local organisations, please see our website: www.fulfordparishcouncil.org.uk