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This is a quick email for Fulford and Heslington residents to update you on some local issues and my work as your local councillor. Please find some local stories below, which I hope you will find interesting.



Green Bin Reminder

Just a quick reminder that green bins will be once again collected throughout November. Residents may remember that winter collections were cut by the last Labour administration. They were reinstated by Liberal Democrat councillors in 2015.

Virgin Media still not resolving local issues

Virgin Media have still not resolved all of our local issues that arose following the fibre optic works earlier this year. Residents complained to Virgin Media about the state of footpaths and verges following the works during the summer.

Keith Aspden, councillor for Fulford and Heslington, has been pressing on Virgin Media to remedy the issues but some problems still haven't been fixed.

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[Virgin Media finished the](#)[damaged sensory pavement at crossings along Heslington Lane. When](#)
[fibre optic work, Keith called on them to repair and replace the sensory](#)

paving stones that had been replaced with tarmac.

Keith said: "Many residents have contacted me regarding how the works by Virgin Media affected them. If there is anything else local residents would like Virgin Media to fix please contact me and I will ensure any concerns are passed on."

Council backs Lib Dem campaign to protect York's libraries

A recent council meeting has backed a Liberal Democrat motion that called for York's local libraries, including Fulford, to be protected.

The future of the library service has come under the spotlight with the council's current five year contract with York Explore due to expire in March 2019. Councillors need to agree the specification for the new contract in March 2018 to allow the authority to run a tender process.

The Liberal Democrat motion called on City of York Council to ensure that any-re-procurement exercise does not lead to branch libraries closing.

Voting to support the motion, Cllr Keith Aspden said: "York's libraries are popular and well-used by residents - in terms of visits by library users the service is in the top 5% of councils nationally. I am pleased that Labour and Green councillors backed our motion and sent a strong message that we do not want to see local libraries close."



Keith at the Germany Beck/A19 junction

Keith's campaign for extra flood defences

Liberal Democrat Councillor Keith Aspden has reiterated his call for extra flood defence funding. Earlier this year, Keith collected signatures from Fulford residents for a petition calling for the completion of flood defence works in the area. Over 150 residents signed the petition, which was

submitted to City of York Council and the Environment Agency.

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Keith said: "Investment in flood defences is crucial to reducing the risk of a repeat of the chaos and disruption we experienced in the aftermath of Boxing Day 2015. I look forward to seeing progress on both the A19 works and sourcing funding and design options for Fordlands Road. I will continue to call for solutions to be found for the wider Fulford area."

Suggestions invited for local ward committee schemes

Liberal Democrats believe in local decision-making and thanks to York's Lib Dem councillors the council now allocates almost £1 million every year to the city's various Ward Committees.

The Fulford and Heslington Ward Committee can provide grants to voluntary groups and help to fund smaller projects - even something as simple as a tub of graffiti wipes!

If you have a suggestion for a local project or community group in Fulford and Heslington that the budget could support, please get in touch with Keith.

Thank you for reading my newsletter. As ever, please don't hesitate to get in touch if there's anything I can help with.

Best wishes



Keith Aspden

Liberal Democrat Councillor for Fulford and Heslington

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A newsletter from Keith Aspden, Liberal Democrat Councillor for Fulford and Heslington.

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