



Newsletter 5, September 2011

Welcome to All New Badger Hill Residents

The Badger Hill residents Community Group would like to extend a warm welcome to all new long-term and short-term residents. The majority of short-term residents are likely to be associated with the University as either students or visiting members of staff. Please introduce yourselves and get to know your neighbours as soon as possible, and note who your committee representative is for your address (as indicated on the label and contact details on page 2). They welcome contact from all residents in their designated area. We would particularly encourage our new residents to visit the Badger Hill website at <http://www.badger-hill-residents.org> where they will find a wealth of information about amenities on Badger Hill and links to information on bus timetables, bin collection times, shops, doctors' surgeries, local schools and much more. We would also invite new residents to get involved with the work of the BHRCG by attending open meetings (dates of meetings are published in 'Outlook,' which is delivered monthly to all properties in Badger Hill). We think it would also be useful to have a student on the BHRCG Committee to represent the views of our student residents. As members of the committee are elected at the AGM this position would be on the basis of co-opted membership. Any student wishing to offer their input should contact the Secretary through our e-mail address (details on page 2).

The major objective of the BHRCG is to seek ways of building up relations between residents in order to encourage the continuance of a **'balanced, safe, and pleasant environment for all.'** In order to achieve this, everyone needs to be conscious of the needs and aspirations of their neighbours. Irrespective of who we are, this means paying due regard for one's neighbours and their right to go about their business in peace and enjoy the high quality of life we are accustomed to on Badger Hill.

The constitution of the Badger Hill community is constantly evolving as a result of rapid university expansion. This has provided both challenges and new opportunities for existing residents as the Heslington East campus develops. For example, we now have a vast open area on our doorstep with much wildlife and safe areas to walk and cycle in. The increased number of young people on Badger Hill should offer many opportunities for co-operation with existing residents. We feel it is necessary for established residents to recognise that students need a safe and peaceful environment in which to live and study, which is especially important when exam times come along in the Spring/Summer. They may also need practical support from local people. Conversely, we would urge student residents to bear in mind that their neighbours may have young children who need to go to bed early; many residents have busy and demanding jobs, some work from home, and there may be some elderly neighbours living close by who have long-term health conditions and also need to benefit from a peaceful environment – especially at night time. We recognise that lifestyles may be different among residents, but we all have a unique opportunity to do something positive in building up a vibrant and supportive community on Badger Hill.

Residential parking scheme

A limited scheme is now being introduced on the Field Lane slip road (to be converted into a cul-du-sac with a bollard at the Badger Wood Walk junction), Low Mill Close, Badger Wood Walk (South) and Deramore Drive up to the junction with Yarburgh Way. This falls short of what we hoped for but it is a step in the right direction. The areas covered will have parking restrictions from 8.00am to 6.00pm Mon-Friday. Because the signs require special authorisation from the Department for Transport there may be a 3 month delay. However, CYC is hopeful this will be resolved quicker than this and have it in place by October.

Biomass Heat and Power Unit on Heslington East

As residents will be aware, the BHRCG submitted a petition to CYC objecting to the siting of a biomass burner unit in close proximity to Badger Hill in April. In spite of us and our Councillors requesting an update from the Chief Executive, we have still not received any response; we are seeking clarification. The BHRCG has received

notification of a planning application to build two sub-stations on Heslington East that will be linked to the proposed power unit.

Update of Article 4 Direction

CYC completed evidence gathering on 19th July and is currently considering all responses received. BHRCG submitted a 15-page document of evidence. CYC Cabinet members will decide their future action on November 1st (or possibly in December). If the Direction is not significantly amended, it will take effect on 20th April, 2012.

Funding Application for BHRCG from Hull Road Ward

The BHRCG has submitted an application for funding from the Hull Road Ward Committee (financial year 2012-13) as a contribution towards the running costs of the group. **This is listed as item 11** in the latest edition of "Your Ward" (Hull Road Ward, Autumn, 2011) which has just been delivered to every household. We urge all Badger Hill residents who support our work **to vote in favour of this application.**

Volunteers Wanted!!

Badger Hill has a deserved reputation for being a litter-free residential environment. In order to maintain this high standard we would like to augment the efforts of the CYC environmental team by asking residents to consider picking up and removing litter in areas in which they live. If this suggestion receives support, the Committee will make application to CYC for the provision of appropriate equipment such as 'bags and grabs.' Area representatives will be delighted to hear from those wishing to offer their services.

Construction Site Working Hours

Residents may wish to know that the permitted working hours for construction on Heslington East are 8.00 am - 6.00 pm Mon-Fri, 9.00 am - 1.00 pm Saturday and no working on Sunday. Breaches have been observed recently. To report further breaches call the University Info Centre on 432222 or Security (out of hours) on 434444.

Communication from our Councillors

"Firstly, we'd like to thank the committee for enabling us to contact residents in this manner. We've really enjoyed working in Badger Hill since being elected – you have an area to be proud of and we want to stand beside you on the issues that concern you. In August, on a lovely sunny day, we held our first ever 'street surgery' across the western half of Badger Hill. This involved leafleting all houses and then revisiting on a Saturday morning to directly meet residents face-to-face. Many varied concerns came out of this, which we are continuing to work on – such as road-surfacing, the hedge along Field Lane, bus shelter, bin collections and student housing. The street surgery proved a great way of meeting residents and we hope to do this regularly across both halves of Badger Hill and meet many more of you.

We've worked on a number of concerns across the Hull Road Ward, but the ones that particularly impact on Badger Hill have involved the proposed new parking regulations and the potential introduction of new legislation around Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). We are pleased that action has taken place [on parking], but do share your disappointment of its current limits. Once introduced, we'll keep a keen eye on progress and will make suggestions for changes if the need arises. At time of writing, the issue of HMOs draws closer to a solution, but we are currently waiting to hear what options might be proposed by council officers as a result of the public consultation. If you ever wish to contact us, please don't hesitate to do so and we'll always endeavour to help or answer queries: Neil Barnes – cllr.nbarnes@york.gov.uk – 07984 912180 (SMS text only please as I am hearing impaired) Fiona Fitzpatrick – cllr.fitzpatrick@york.gov.uk – 01904 541220."

Date of Next Open Meeting

The next full meeting, which will be our AGM, will be on Friday 3rd February at 7.00 pm in Heslington Church. Our Ward Councillors will be in attendance. Any agenda items or nominations for Committee membership should be received by the Secretary (via e-mail below) not later than 25th January. All residents are warmly invited to attend. Reminders and further details will be published in Outlook. For further details please e-mail: bhrcg@hotmail.com, see our website <http://www.badger-hill-residents.org>, or contact one of the committee members:

Harry Telfer (Chairman) 58 Yarburgh Way.	John Nixon (Secretary) 2 Pinewood Hill.
Brian Blanchard (Treasurer) 46 Deramore Drive.	Malcolm Dewhirst (BH West) 44 Crossways.
Cathie Odell (BH South) 65, Field Lane.	Sarah Hartley (BH East) 49 Yarburgh Way.