

Report to LoPRA
of the first meeting of the A65 Working Group

A semi- formal meeting of the A65 Working Group took place on January 13th 2005 in the resident's lounge of the Maypole Inn, Long Preston.

Present were; Messrs John Rodgers, Ian Evans, Robert Cater, John Goodall and Roy Newhouse. Mr Steven Loughlin did not wish to become a committee member of the A65 Working Group but indicated his willingness to help out with any other practical matters.

It was agreed that John Rodgers chair the meeting, Ian Evans would record the minutes and that the group would meet every three months and submit regular progress reports to the LoPRA committee.

The aims and objectives of the group would be to identify and to lobby the current authority responsible for the upkeep of the A65 Trunk Road (and when de-trunked).

To get urgent repairs done to the road surface throughout Long Preston, in particular on Kayley Hill where the road is subsiding, and to have the grates and kerbs through the village repaired, especially at the junctions of Station Road and Hartley Green.

To achieve long term repairs and resurfacing with "quiet tarmac" to reduce traffic noise throughout the length of the village.

To implement practical methods of reducing traffic noise and vibrations from passing HGV's to adjoining houses along the A65.

To ask Mr Holsworth to come to Long Preston, meet the Working Group and discuss the problems further.

As a result of this interesting and very positive meeting, a letter was sent from me to Peter Holsworth of the Highways Agency, expressing our concern about the various problems, the repeated floods in our area and the deteriorating condition of the A65. We also enquired as to what steps were being taken to remedy these problems. To date, no reply has been received from Mr Holsworth.

The above concerns were again expressed at a meeting on January 28th with David Curry MP. He has taken up the issues we raised about the A65 with Mr Mike Moore, the Director of Environmental Services at N.Y.C.C. who are submitting a programme of highway construction and maintenance to the Government for the next five years. Mr Curry has written to us to say that he will be in touch as soon as he has a reply from Mr Moore.