



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007

Minutes

THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 7.30PM
LONG PRESTON VILLAGE HALL

Cttee Present: **Keith Grimshaw** **Chairman**
 John Mathew **Vice-Chair**
 Andrew Walkden **Treasurer**
 Heather Thomas-Smith **Secretary**
 Gavin Dewar
 Gillian Jones
 Keith McBride

Welcome from Keith Grimshaw and Apologies (Robert and Gail Cater, Peter Scott-Smith, Frankie Wells, Jackie Hunt, Graham & Carol Bettridge, Andrea Dewhurst)

1. **AGM 2006 Minutes:** these were presented by Heather Thomas-Smith and seconded by Keith Grimshaw as a true record. They will be made available on the LoPRA website (see Appendix 1).
2. **Annual Reports:** the Chairman's report was presented by Keith Grimshaw (see Appendix 2).
3. **Treasurer's Financial Statement:** this was presented by Keith Grimshaw (see Appendix 3)
4. **Election of Officers and General Committee Members:** the nominations below were proposed by Stewart Robertshaw and seconded by Jean Rodgers and several other members. The majority of members' voted in agreement.

Nominations:

Keith Grimshaw	Chairman
John Mathew	Vice-chairman
Andrew Walkden	Treasurer
Heather Thomas-Smith	Secretary
Robert Cater	
Gavin Dewar	
Jackie Hunt	
Gillian Jones	
Keith McBride	
1x elected vacancy	
2 x possible co-opted vacancies	

5. **Election of Auditor:** it was proposal that Chris Wilcock be re-elected auditor by the newly elected Chairman; this was seconded & voted for by members present.

6. **Consideration of Items Previously Notified** – the following items, regarding changes to the constitution, required a members vote:

1) Proxy vote; to allow members to vote by proxy should they be unable to attend an AGM or EGM. This would mean that items requiring their vote, including committee nominations, would be made available on request at least 2 weeks prior to an AGM or EGM and their voter would then need to be submitted to the secretary no later than 24 hours prior to the AGM or EGM.

Members discussed this option with **the final proposal being:** to allow members to vote by proxy should they be unable to attend an AGM. This would mean that they could vote on items 1-5 (1.AGM Minutes from previous year; 2. Annual Reports; 3. Treasurer's Financial Statement; 4. Election of Officers and General Committee Members; 5. Election of Auditor) ONLY and that these items, including committee nominations, would be made available on request at least 2 weeks prior to the AGM. The member requesting a vote by proxy would then be required to send a signed letter, with the name of the person who would vote on their behalf at the meeting, to the LoPRA secretary AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE AGM. This motion was proposed by Keith Grimshaw, seconded by Heather Thomas-Smith and voted for by majority of members.

2) Membership: As long as the AGM is held within one month of the end of the membership year it may be deemed to have been held within the membership year and memberships will reflect this [by being valid up to, and including, the date of the AGM]. Proposed by Heather Thomas-Smith, seconded by Keith Grimshaw voted for by members.

7. **Subscriptions:** 1 item regarding subscriptions requiring vote regarding the present surplus of money in the account. There were three possible options put forward with a fourth added at the meeting by Rachel Wilson:

i) to waive the 2007-2008 fee for existing members wishing to renew and review on an annual basis – no proposer, no votes.

ii) to make donations to other village groups (history project) and review on an annual basis – this was voted for fairly equally both ways.

iii) to hold the money in the investment account as a "fighting fund" and to cover administration costs, but to review openly on an annual basis. **This option was voted for by an overwhelming majority and was therefore carried forward.**

iv) Rachel Wilson proposed an amendment in that item iii) should be carried forward but with the addition that a tithe of 10% of the fund should be used to support the Relief in Need Fund. This was seconded but received a majority of votes against.

Following discussion of item iv) Heather added that LoPRA already helps local organisations raise money through events such as raffles/coffee mornings/film shows, etc. Additionally Ian Evans asked that we examine how we deal with offering money to village organisations regarding making profits and potential losses when undertaking to offer events such as TRAMPS.

The motion proposed by Gavin Dewar was: that LoPRA will continue to offer events that, where profit is made, will raise money for village organisations but that LoPRA will withstand a loss from their own fighting fund account should this occur. However, the committee would take such an occurrence extremely seriously. **This was seconded and voted for by an overwhelming majority.**

8. AOB: None.

Appendix 1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006 - MINUTES

THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 7.30PM

LONG PRESTON VILLAGE HALL

Cttee Present:	Keith Grimshaw	Chairman
	John Mathew	Vice-Chair
	Andrew Walkden	Treasurer
	Heather Thomas-Smith	Secretary
	Gillian Jones	
	Keith McBride	

The meeting welcomes all LoPRA members and Long Preston Residents.

Keith's opening and apologies: (Hilary Baker, Gavin and Nita Dewar, John Rodgers, Samantha Glossop, Philip Johnston, Helen Firth, Robert Cater, Joan Mummery)

1. **AGM 2005 Minutes*** - seconded by KG and passed by Members
2. **Annual Reports*** - see Chairman's report, Gavin's report (Traffic Counts)
3. **Treasurer's Financial Statement*** – accounts audited by Chris Wilcock – income down - see Treasurer's report and graphs, etc
4. **Election of Officers and General Committee Members** – see nominations*, proposed by Heather, seconded by Keith and accepted by members present.
5. **Election of Auditor** – Chris Wilcock re-appointed
6. **Consideration of Items Previously Notified** - none
7. **Subscriptions** – briefly mentioned household membership and that had decided to maintain individual membership as may cause difficulties regarding present voting procedures
8. **AOB** – none

* see below

Item 1:

AGM Minutes, 22 Sept 2005

7.30pm, Long Preston Village Hall

Cttee Present: **Heather Thomas-Smith** **(HTS)**
 Vice Chairperson
 Keith Grimshaw **(KG)**
 Gavin Dewar **(GD)**
 Samantha Glossop **(SG)**
 Andrew Walkden **(AW)**
 Treasurer
 John Mathew **(JM)**
 John Rodgers **(JR)**

- 1.0** **Apologies:** see Chairman's/Vice-chairman's notes
Also adding Jean Rodgers and James Rodgers (LoPRA members)
- 2.0** **Thanks:** see Chairman's/Vice-chairman's notes
- 3.0** **Annual Report:** see Chairman's/Vice-chairman's notes
- 4.0** **Treasurers Report:** (From Andrew Walkden)
- 5.0** **Election of Officers:** Proposed by: Heather Thomas Smith
Seconded by: Andrew Walkden. Members voted in favour of accepting the nominations for Officers, committee members and the Change of Chairman after six months if no co-opted volunteers for Secretary were forthcoming in that time.
- 6.0** **Election of Auditor:** Chris Wilcock Proposed by: HTS Seconded by: John Rodgers, members voted in favour.
- 7.0** **Consideration of items:** none submitted
- 8.0** **Amendments to Constitution:** the following were the proposed amendments agreed in committee on 12th May 2005 to submit to the AGM.

(7a) Quorum at Cttee. meeting to become 5 including 1 officer as opposed to 5 plus one officer.

(12a) Notice of AGM 56 days prior – to become – 28 days prior.

(12b) Agenda of AGM published 28 days before– to become – 14 days before.

(16) Change Quorum at the AGM to be 20% of Paid up members.

(5) Membership open “only” to residents of Long Preston (omit “only”)

(5b) Addition of affiliated membership at discretion of committee.

(9) Patron – change ‘long serving officer’ to ‘LoPRA member’

(11) Remove “October”

(18) Subscriptions – change membership to run until 30th September.

(Numbers refer to numbered sections in the constitution)

After much discussion on each point the members voted in all the above except (16) where the members would not accept a reduction of the Quorum at the AGM from 25% to 20% of paid up members. The members voted in favour of retaining the 25% of paid up members to attend an AGM to make it Quorate.

The amendments were proposed by Heather Thomas-Smith and seconded by Keith Grimshaw. The members voted in favour of the above amendments to the constitution and the retention of point (16) in the original constitution.

9.0 Subscriptions – report from Andrew Walkden

10.0 A.O.B. – **Moved to the Open meeting part of the proceedings.** Before moving on to the General meeting Elizabeth Gray wished to propose a thanks to the Committee from the Members for all the hard work they have put in over the past twelve months on behalf of the members and the Village.

Item 2:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

21ST September 2006

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Thank you all for attending tonight.

I would like to open the meeting by emphasising the importance of LoPRA and its membership.

LoPRA was formed over two years ago when the threat of unsuitable development in the village seemed uncontrolled. It seemed that Long Preston, being on the very edge of the National Park boundary, could be sacrificed or even disregarded. Elected members appeared to show no interest in Long Preston.

Over the last two years we have contributed vigorously to various debates – development – affordable housing – A65 bypass and detrunking issues, and various others. We have not minced our words.

At the same time we have built up a relationship with both elected members and the chief officers of authorities with responsibilities for our area. In particular, members, the Chief Executives and officers of the National Park and Craven District Council have attended LoPRA meetings and have said on several occasions that it is refreshing and helpful to them to have real feedback and live debate on local issues.

LoPRA has supported and worked with the Parish Council. LoPRA is helping to make local democracy work better by choosing issues that need to be addressed and applying expertise in ensuring that there is a proper debate before decisions are made.

All communities need their champions. Communities where there is no public debate deserve what they get, and it probably won't be what they want, or need.

This is why LoPRA is valuable and why it needs to continue its efforts. It has put Long Preston on the politicians map and we need to make sure that it stays there.

The last year has been very much a continuation of the previous year's issues and projects, but has nevertheless been demanding and productive, with some issues such as the outcome of the public inquiry into the revocation of the line of the Long Preston bypass still awaited.

Matters dealt with have been varied and include:

Sustainable Communities Initiative

A65 inquiry attended and representations made

A65 resurfacing issues

CDC Local Development Framework consultation documents response.

Long Preston Endowed School - Dog Poster competition

Clean up and village tidy day.

YDNP listed buildings workshop attended.

TRAMPS cinema arrangements made.

Funding of village hall black out curtains

Neighbourhood Watch open presentation.

Planning issues.

I hope all agree that this work needs to continue and that we all need to maintain our membership and actively encourage others by spreading the word!

Finally, thanks to all who have supported and helped us. I wish to thank Helen Firth our district councillor who shows her support by attending almost every committee meeting and providing her expert advice. The committee and officers have provided sterling efforts over the year, which brings me to my final point, a reinforcement of my introduction. Long Preston is on the political map and it needs to stay there. This will rely on your continuing support and a continuing willingness of people coming forward to serve on the committee.

LoPRA belongs to Long Preston and we need to expand its support!

A65 Traffic Counts

Last year LoPRA undertook an extensive traffic count survey, recording vehicles through the village over more than 100 hours to give a representative picture to present at the Public Inquiry into the Revocation of the Bypass Orders. This showed that on typical Mondays to Thursdays, just over 11,000 vehicles passed through, rising to about 13,500 on Fridays and more at weekends; where peak flow rates of over 1,400 vehicles per hour were recorded - that is more than 1 every 3 seconds.

During the week HGVs and coaches make up typically 13% of the total. The weekends show a fall off in HGVs by Saturday lunchtime together with a marked increase in motorbikes; typically up to 10% on a fine Sunday. It should be noted that these figures did not include a sunny summer weekend let alone a Bank Holiday.

Item 3: Treasurer's report: for financial summary see separate pdf file

Item 4:

AGM 2006 committee nominations:

Keith Grimshaw	Chairman
John Mathew	Vice-chairman
Andrew Walkden	Treasurer
Heather Thomas-Smith	Secretary
Robert Cater	
Gavin Dewar	
Jackie Hunt	
Gillian Jones	
Keith McBride	

1x elected vacancy

2 x possible co-opted vacancies

Appendix 2

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4th October 2007

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, and thank you for your attendance. Since the last AGM committee members have had full involvement and participation in local affairs, which will determine the character and development of the village and the local environment for years to come.

Immediate threats of ill-considered development may be receding somewhat with the apparently looming economic downturn manifested, for example, by the Northern Rock affair.

The A65 bypass is now history and all that is awaited is the expected detrunking with change of highway authority from the highways agency to NYCC.

Times move on and new issues emerge. In the immediate future new issues may not appear to have the same overarching importance as those of the last few years, but there are still changes afoot where not only can a vigilant and informed group like LoPRA help to safeguard the communities interests and environment, but can take advantage of early consultations sought by the authorities in developing their future policies.

Your committee and members of LoPRA have in the last 12 months been involved in consultations and meetings with the Craven District Council in the development of the Local Development Framework (now in place) and with the YDNPA in its own LDF development due to be put in place next year. You will recall that the LDF is a government requirement and replaces the old Local Plan with a framework system allowing local policies to be reviewed and changed as circumstances require. In many

ways this is a sensible thing, but it can also be a threat because it means that constant vigilance and response is required. Previously, one could be confident that the plan would not change during its period of currency.

Closely linked with the LDF is the issue of Affordable Housing, which can appear in many guises. The most threatening are those concocted by developers simply as a means of opening the door to larger development.

Affordable Housing is an essential objective, particularly so in a community such as ours where house prices have risen to match almost any location in the country.

LoPRA has been active in investigating and developing schemes of shared equity and the like and has had consultations with the Management Board of the Skipton Building Society.

We have attended meetings and taken part in the Settle Area Transportation Strategy consultation process and will continue to represent the village's interests in this.

We have monitored the local development of the Pennine Bridleway, and are watching very carefully the progress of the announcements of Post Office Closures. We will vigorously oppose any threat to our own post office and seek the best measures to keep it open.

We are also monitoring the development of the Ribble Catchment Area Plan coordinated by the Rivers Authority. This is in an early stage of development with a preliminary information document published and consultation proposed for the future.

Coupled with all this we continue to develop strong links with the Parish Council and benefit greatly from Parish Councillor Keith McBride sitting

on the LoPRA Committee as a co-opted member. We are always pleased to be asked to carry out tasks, carry out research, and prepare reports for or in support of the Parish Council.

Through our links with the Parochial Church Council, with two members on the LoPRA committee, we have offered, and look forward to helping in the Church bells project and the linked village history project. I should also add that Heather Thomas-Smith, our secretary, has personally raised over £1,400 for the bells fund by her solo walk across Scotland, and I would like to offer my personal congratulations to her on that feat and contribution.

We need to ensure that LoPRA continues in its efforts to focus on the interests of the community as a whole and I would like to encourage an interest from younger members of our community so that they can ensure that our efforts and objectives are taken forward.

Appendix 3

Treasurer's Financial Statement

Account Summary

Overall

- 1) Membership at 94 (c.f. 123 last year (-29))
- 2) Income for 2006-07 £743.48 (c.f. £662.04 last year (+81.44))
- 3) Outgoings for 2006-07 £604.58 (c.f. £251.68 (+352.90))

Analysis of Outgoings

- 1) Staging 2 Film Shows account for 49% of outgoings (£298.14)
- 2) Charitable donations (Village hall, School) account for 24% of outgoings (£147.61)
- 3) Printing costs account for 22% of outgoings (£134.83)
- 4) Venue Hire for meetings accounts for 4% of outgoings (£24)

Analysis of Income

- 1) Revenue from the Film Shows accounts for 52% of income (£388.50)
- 2) Membership Fees account for 40% of income (£295.00)
- 3) Charitable donations from members account for 8% of income (£59.98)

Cash Position : £1,121.40 (signed off by Christopher Wilcock, 29/09/2007)