

properties built before 1 October 1937 are legally deemed 'Section 24' matters, which makes them the responsibility of United Utilities, whose responsibility it is to carry out the necessary repairs at no cost to the householder. Anyone with a problem of this nature should phone United Utilities on 0845 746 2200 and ask for the Waste Water Department.

4. A few folk wondered when a Bus Shelter was going to be put in place – apparently the PC have met with the relevant people and it will go ahead, albeit progress is slow.
5. There were grave concerns over Craven District Council's recent record of activities and the fact they are looking at building over the government quota of houses required for Craven, despite a downturn in the housing market, in return for funds as part of the Leed City Region Growthpoint Plan. However, as the majority of Long Preston is within the National Park it is YDNP's planning proposals that will have to be closely watched as their Local Development Framework evolves. It was agreed that the Parish Council and LoPRA will both have to remain vigilant regarding housing requirement for the Parish (ie type of housing, housing stock available and where housing goes).
6. Elizabeth Gray added to the issues arising from Craven's problems noting, in particular, the loss of funding for adult classes at Long Preston School and Hellifield Village Well; such losses lead to further deprivation of facilities in rural areas and should be fought for. Heather Thomas-Smith said that at a recent CPRE meeting Betty Boothroyd had stressed the importance of seeking advice from and lobbying those in the House of Lords, not just local councillors and MPs and this is something which LoPRA will take on board in future.

Chairperson: Keith Grimshaw 01729 840283

Vice-chairperson: John Mathew 01729 840604

Treasurer: Andrew Walkden 01729 840074

Secretary: Heather Thomas-Smith 01729 840113

Correspondence address:

Croft Close House, School Lane, Long Preston, North Yorkshire BD23 4PN



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## **Minutes of the LoPRA General Meeting, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

Following the AGM a number of issues were discussed, many of which lie under the jurisdiction of the Parish Council. These included road matters, footways, bus shelter, drainage, the implications of Craven District being part of the Leeds City Region, Planning and deprivation in rural areas. More details of some of the issues are given below.

1. The mirror at the Wigglesworth turning is not the correct material for the purpose and often clouds over with condensation – moreover it gives a poor view of what is coming. Overall the turning is a very dangerous one. The Parish Council are trying to go ahead with improvements to this but Ian Evans pointed out that the HA do not like the mirror or wish to take responsibility for it as if cited as the cause of an accident this would make them (the HA) liable. It was added that a sign is required at the bottom of Kayley Hill to warn of the Wigglesworth turn. John Mathew suggested seeking the help of 'fixmystreet', an organisation which research and help with issues via their website.
2. Concerns over the poor state of Long Preston's footways were raised and Philip Johnston was asked if the Parish Council could put the issue onto their agenda, taking on board work that has been previously been undertaken by Gavin Dewar and Keith McBride. Peter Scott-Smith added that there are a number of footways under 1m wide and that maintenance thresholds should be checked. It was agreed that footway issues, those of the mirror, traffic calming measures and limiting access would be taken up with the Parish Council and HA by Ian Evans and Gavin Dewar.
3. Keith Grimshaw briefly discussed drainage and the fact that sewage from School Lane – and possibly other parts of Long Preston – may be going straight into the beck. Although DEFRA is supposedly going to be responsible for this in future it is an issue that the Parish Council are already looking into. Concerns were also raised that Yorkshire Water appear to be offering insurance for drainage beyond a household's private supply – surely an unnecessary cost! Peter S-S also pointed out that, currently, sewerage problems relating to

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