



Minutes

Thursday 8 March 2007

In the Residents Lounge at the Maypole Inn 7.30pm

Present: Keith Grimshaw (KG)
Robert Cater (RC)
Jackie Hunt (JH)
Keith McBride (KM)
Heather Thomas-Smith (HTS)

- 1. Apologies:** Elizabeth Gray, Gill Jones, Andrew Walkden, Helen Firth, Gavin Dewar
- 2. Minutes of previous meetings:** read and approved
- 3. Matters arising:** regarding Post Office it was noted that the concern over setting up a co-op if ours to close would be preferable if included shop but could be on any local premises (in some villages the PO is run from a house or the Pub). John Mathew had said that there is a PO we could visit, which has done something similar in South Yorkshire (check?). HTS will write a letter to Daniel Child regarding concerns over YDNP's LDF, future plans and maintaining present building line, etc. KG to follow up land search re land behind Jubilee Croft. Re pt 10. KG and KM mentioned problem at railway station, which includes vandalism as reported at this week's PC meeting – i.e. kids throwing bike onto railway track.
- 4. Correspondence:** email from Irene Constantine expressing concern over using chemicals to eradicate Signal Crayfish. HTS has also been in contact with landowner and Keith Wilson on same issue (see item 7).
- 5. Membership review (& offer by Peter Scott-Smith):** 93 members at present with another promised. It was agreed that we could take up Peter's offer to help with a marketing campaign to promote LoPRA and attract further members (both

on association's remit to watch land, development, lobbying etc and also social side, ie TRAMPS), possibly as an A5 leaflet to slip in with A65 Public Meeting notice.

6. Trees (removal of Horse Chestnuts, etc): JH awaiting reply from YDNP after sending her own letter airing concern over removal - and examination criteria - of trees; they admitted that the risk of the West End HC was high enough to remove tree although did not know if core was rotten. JH's concern was that trees should be properly examined before removal in case can undertake preventative rather than final measure i.e. crowning, removal of limbs instead of total removal. YDNP agreed that there might be need to look at other options although this was not posed to PC. JH said that there is technology to accurately examine the trunk, costing £150, which may be better than just an opinion given by single external appraisal. KG added that where there are strong winds trees could be completely uprooted whether diseased or not. PC has had large no of trees inspected already but NYCC have taken own action on conifers by Methodist Church as on their own land and beyond PC's remit. PC looking at replanting of indigenous trees to replace those cut down.

7. American Signal Crayfish: KG said that Environment Agency rep at PC meeting reported that the crayfish are all in Bookil Gill Beck and were actually introduced prior to introduction of species becoming illegal. The agent was confident they were not in LP Beck as live in colonies and that indigenous species of crayfish are still present. The technique proposed for their removal relies on them burrowing into the river bed, damming upstream and downstream to dry out the relevant section of river, removing all other species (i.e. fish, salmon fry), then spraying with a biocide prior to re-flooding to allow poison to seep into affected bed (everything in that area is then killed). As the poison has brief ½ life does not last for many hours. The EA expect to eradicate the American Signal Crayfish in Bookil Gill Beck this summer, when the river level is down, to prevent the problem escalating or may result in killing many other species.

8. A65: leaflet and joint Public Meeting with PC: PC have agreed that a joint Public Meeting and leaflet are a good idea but they wish to gauge the HA and NYCC's view of A65 issues first and for LoPRA to draft a leaflet, using condensed

version of notes HTS brought to meeting, for PC to agree. The PC has asked for draft of the leaflet to be ready for April and suggested the Public Meeting could be in May if they can get a representative from NYCC for the meeting. KG suggested that we ask if David Heather would act as our representative on A65 issues at NYCC meetings, etc. KG to approach. Leaflet needs to encompass different options and possible outcomes (including: 'no action' ; objection to detrunking; start badgering NYCC for minimum length bypass now on assumption that A65 will be detrunked; other ways to ensure a peaceful village with traffic calming, lower speed limits i.e. 50mph between villages) and reiterate importance of residents offering their views, either at the meeting or via comment box on leaflet. HTS to draft and will need to have ready for next PC meeting on 2 April. Additionally RC to seek help of A65 group. Also discussion re Pegasus crossing and potential traffic calming effect.

9. TRAMPS, next film?: possibly 'The Queen' for next film - 2 months? - and then Miss Potter for next shared license film (with Austwick). Could ask Elaine Clayton if would do a bar (has said she can do this as she is a licensee), Maypole provide sale or return and check with Stewart Robertshaw if okay **or** go for raffle and free glass of wine or juice per strip.

10. Review of Craven's Sustainable Community Strategy- response deadline 10/04/07: HTS to divide into sections and send out for each committee member to decide if requires response or further feedback.

11. Emerging Strategic Preferred Option Consultation Report: HTS briefed committee re final report. Possibly await Gill and send letter regarding one-sidedness of report (see housing – this section shows bias to words of Craven Housing Association rather than rest of workshop group or the additional written response that Gill and HTS sent in).

12. Mayday Stand: see 13 and also have raffle, basic info on what LoPRA is about on display boards, what we have been up to, etc. Need committee members to get involved with helping to organise and run. Could also approach Magna Print books for use of display boards again (GD ask?) – also borrow Andrea's gazebo (HTS ask)?

13. Charity Calendar: photography competition with scenes from Long Preston and environs – possible use winner of

Mayday event for front cover or 'best of set'? - aim for 2008 at tops or 2009 if feel can't get sponsorship for each page/ calendar set up fast enough. GD investigating costs and min order with Lamberts. Each committee member to agree and seek sponsors when have agreed a price for type of calendar we wish to produce. Monies raised from the calendar would go to the Playing Fields and Mayday Festival.

14. Village Trust: Peter Scott-Smith had suggested that a group set up a trust to buy land in the village, through private donations, to keep land for village – ie as amenity areas, landscaped car park or for grazing etc. There was some debate over if it could work – but possible if initially have a reasonable donation to get trust going to encourage others. If not enough to buy land after reasonable time then could close and put money to hanging baskets or benches in village etc. This is a subject that would need to be seriously considered at a Public level as it would require a dedicated group to make it work.

15. Any other business: none

16. Date of next meeting: Thursday 12 April at 7.30pm in the residents' lounge at the Maypole. Advance apologies for April and May meetings from HTS.