



Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on 10 November 2005

Present: Heather Thomas-Smith (Chairman), Gavin Dewar, Robert Cater, Keith Grimshaw, Gillian Jones, John Mathews, Malcolm Beresford, Andrew Walkden, John Finnigan and Cllr. Helen Firth.

Apology: John Rodgers.

Minute

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Following minor amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October were accepted as a true record.

2. Matter arising

Regarding membership renewal, it was agreed to await response from the membership form in the forthcoming newsletter, before soliciting continued membership from the 50 or so of those who appear to have lapsed. Household membership was discussed and supported.

3. Newsletter

A draft was presented. With suggested minor amendment it will be distributed to all properties in the village within a few days. The layout, content and 'wordiness' of articles in future newsletters was discussed.

4. Planning application at 1 Pendle View

JM reported on the Parish Council's response to the application at its meeting a few days previously, viz. that it objects on access issues only. The Council had however welcomed the possible opportunity of constructing two small dwellings.

Discussion covered members' regret that the application appeared to concern 'local needs' housing rather than 'affordable' housing. It was agreed to make an objection on the grounds of awkward access from Back Lane, restricted parking at the dwellings, possible damage to a tree and diminution of the character of the village by the loss of an Edwardian glasshouse, as well as the issue of 'local needs' versus 'affordable housing'. HT-S is to respond and advice was proffered on the emphasis to be given to each aspect.

5. Public meeting

It was agreed to hold this on Tuesday 13 December. Margaret Bentham has been invited to speak on setting up Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the village to

supplement the three existing small ones. It was further agreed to solicit support for setting up a TRAMPS film scheme (GD to explore) and youth involvement in village activities.

6. Updates

i. Town Head development

Following LoPRA's concerns about incremental retrospective planning applications at the site, the decisions reached at the recent YDNP Planning Committee meeting were presented, viz. that only an inappropriate small wall is to be reconstructed at the site. All other retrospective planning requests were accepted.

GJ reported that at the YDNP peer review meeting concerns were expressed by others that no improvements were yet apparent to the poor procedures followed in reaching planning decisions, and which had been highlighted in the audit report.

ii. A65

GD reported that traffic counting was now essentially completed. Traffic speed and noise measurements were yet to be made. JR was requested to call a meeting of the group to plan our response for the pre-enquiry meeting, which is likely to be held in early January and for the public enquiry itself, scheduled for mid-February.

iii. Housing Needs survey

HF indicated that Craven DC's full report will shortly be available on its web site. The main outcome is that 50+ affordable dwellings will be needed in Hellifield and Long Preston combined over the next five years.

7. Any other business

JM reported that Daniel Child (Planner YDNP) is to be invited to attend the Parish Council meeting on 5 December to address a number of issues raised by the Council. It was recommended that LoPRA members attend, although they would not be able to speak at the meeting until its end.

There was limited discussion concerning the securing of regional/national grants for village activities.

8. Next meeting

This was agreed for Thursday 8 December at 7.30pm at The Maypole.