



Committee Meeting, 23 September 2004

MINUTES

Present:	Gillian Jones	(GJ)	Chairperson
	Heather Thomas-Smith	(HTS)	Vice Chairperson
	Andrew Walkden	(AW)	Treasurer
	Gerry Allsopp	(GA)	
	Keith Grimshaw	(KG)	
	John R Mathews	(JM)	
	John P Rodgers	(JR)	
	Sam Glossop	(SG)	

1.0 Apologies

Gavin Dewar	(GD)	
Beverley Wrigley	(BW)	Secretary

2.0 Minutes

- 2.1 The minutes were agreed as a true record with the correction of 'JA' to 'GA' in parts.

3.0 Matters arising

- 3.1 **GJ** to approach Robert Cater regarding his offer to contribute geological engineering experience to LoPRA.
- 3.2 John Clark has contacted **HTS** with his address. **HTS** to forward details to **AW** to update the members' database with.
- 3.3 Susan Brookes has formally accepted the role of Patron to LoPRA
- 3.4 **GJ** to approach Andy Moon regarding his co-opting onto the LoPRA committee
- 3.5 **AW** reported that as at 22/09/2004, the membership of LoPRA stands at 94 people, living in 50 residences in the village, and 1 residence outside the village (John Clark). It was estimated that there may be of the order of 500 adults in Long Preston, to which the LoPRA membership should aspire
- 3.6 **HTS** has sent off an article to the parish magazine for inclusion in this month's edition. Circulation should commence next weekend.
- 3.7 **GA** has registered LoPRA with Solicitors Pro Bono group of Pudding Lane, London. They offer free legal aid, except in employment law. **GA** to send them a copy of our constitution in lieu of a business plan or a set of drawn

up accounts. Goad and Butcher in Settle are believed to participate in the Solicitors Pro Bono scheme.

3.8 **GD** is still in the process of receiving the Hartley Trust deeds.

3.9 **GA** has written to the A65 action group asking about a) the extent of resurfacing work in the village, and b) the progress of (any) detrunking of the A65, and will report back (letter sent week commencing 13/09/2004). **GJ** commented on the state of gully work and grid work leaving the grid covers ill fitted. **JM** commented that in raising issues with the A65 action group, the village needs to appreciate the value of the 30 m.p.h. speed limit through the village. Other villages further north aren't so lucky. General approval of the flashing 30 m.p.h. sign in Conniston Cold was noted.

4.0 Affordable Housing

4.1 **GJ** circulated a draft letter that could be sent to Dave Inglis (as Chairman of the Parish Council) stating LoPRA's willingness to work with the Parish Council, as the Home Housing Association had suggested at their last meeting. This was agreed with an alteration to make the invitation to cooperate more general (rather than specifically naming the Home Housing Association, say).

4.2 **HTS** moved that LoPRA should have at least one member in attendance at each Parish Council meeting. **JM** is attending the one on 4/10/2004.

4.3 **GA** reiterated concern over the recent housing survey, and reminded us of Jim Sheppard's encouragement to conduct our own.

4.4 **GJ** warned of Foundation Housing's survey being given precedence over any other, in the eyes of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

4.5 In the event of Dave Inglis declining the offer of cooperation, a copy of the letter could be sent directly to Steve Woodford of the YDNP.

4.6 **GJ** proposed that LoPRA should respond to Kathryn Hammond's letter in the Craven Herald. **GJ** circulated a draft, and will send it this week.

4.7 **GJ** suggested that LoPRA approach the Hartley Trust. **GJ** will 'phone Pauline Joyce to sound her out about 2 or 3 Hartley Trust members meeting with 2 or 3 LoPRA members

4.8 **GA** will attend the Rural Homelessness convention in Skipton on 24/09/2004 and will report back.

4.9 **SG** mentioned that if affordable housing *does* have to be built, then why not constrain it to be environmentally friendly at least.

4.10 It was confirmed that whereas Northern Heritage are not a Social Landlord, there is nothing to stop them setting up a separate concern that is registered as such, if the need arises. The chain of events is that Craven Council ask YDNP to provide an 'exception site' for development. YDNP ask Foundation Housing to advertise for a) land, and b) developers willing to build on the land. Land owners / developers come forward, and the development work is put out to tender.

4.11 **GJ** suggested that we need to see how an affordable housing model has worked elsewhere, e.g. Grassington. **KG** to find out about this, and **GA** to gather information from the Rural Homelessness convention on 24/09/2004.

5.0 Creation of a Company Limited by Guarantee

- 5.1 Steve Bird's daughter is able to help with company setup. **HTS** to forward her details to **AW**.
- 5.2 **BW** to be approached to use her house as the registered address for LoPRA.
- 5.3 **GJ, HTS, AW, and BW** (LoPRA officers) to be appointed as directors (a.k.a. Trustees) and company secretary of the new company.

6.0 Newsletter/Publicity/Stationery Design

- 6.1 **HTS** to distribute a LoPRA letter template. The template will change when LoPRA incorporate.
- 6.2 www.longpreston.info to host a LoPRA page. This page should have a) a membership form, b) information about officers (name, telephone, email) and committee members (name, email), c) a private 'committee' message board, and d) a public message board.
- 6.3 The inaugural newsletter will be distributed to each house in the village, with **HTS** taking responsibility for editing, **JM** taking responsibility for printing, and Peter Scott Smith to help with design. All committee members need to be producing articles for inclusion in the newsletter. Subsequent newsletters will be distributed to members only.
- 6.4 Newsletters will be quarterly.
- 6.5 LoPRA will wait to see if the need for a dedicated publicity role arises.
- 6.6 **JR** was given special instructions to boost membership

7.0 Lobbying

- 7.1 **HTS** circulated a lobbying letter for approval, for distribution to Peter Watson et al. at YDNP
- 7.2 **GJ** reported that John Finnegan has written to Daniel Childs regarding the state of the Town Head barn conversion, and has had no response.
- 7.3 **GJ** reported that she has written to Daniel Childs regarding the state of the builders compounds, and he replied using weak language about having written to the builders.
- 7.4 **JM** read a letter from Daniel Childs in reply to a letter of concern over the state of the building compounds. The letter answered **JM**'s questions, but again using weak language (e.g. '...the matter has been perused with the builder...').
- 7.5 **GA** confirmed that Northern Heritage should have been served notice on the builders compound at Hartley Green on 16/09/2004
- 7.6 **AW** to construct a database of contacts at YDNP, etc. **KG** to come up with people for inclusion in this database.
- 7.7 **HTS** to send a copy of the lobbying letter to high level people from the contacts database by next week (29/09/2004)
- 7.8 **JM, and JR** to attend David Curry's surgery when it's next on.

8.0 Proposed developments at Long Preston school

- 8.1 There was general uncertainty over what plans exist for developing the school. It was suggested that Anne Kaye (chair of the board of governors) and Pauline Joyce (chair of the Hartley Trust) should have a good idea.

9.0 A. O. B.

- 9.1 **GJ** has received a letter from the Environment Agency offering an opportunity to give input to the management of the Ribble Valley water resources (by 15/10/2004) and that this sort of thing is of interest to villagers, and should be included in the newsletter.
- 9.2 **SG** recalled that the ‘capping’ of the water hole on the Jubilee Croft / Hartley Green sites had precluded any excavation below 50cm, but that the subsequent development on the Hartley Green site could not have proceeded without exceeding this depth of excavation. Robert Cater will be consulted by **GJ** about this.
- 9.3 **AW** to forward Robert Cater’s details to **GJ** by email.

10.0 Dates of future meetings

- 10.1 Meetings will take place on the 2nd Monday of each month, with the exception that the October meeting will be held on Thursday 7th.
- 10.2 Diane Allen will be approached for use of the Magna Printworks site.
- 10.3 The quarterly public meetings will begin on 8th or 9th December, village hall availability pending.