



OPEN GENERAL MEETING

Minutes

**Thursday 21 September 2006 following AGM
Long Preston Village Hall**

The meeting welcomes all LoPRA members and Long Preston Residents.

1. **Apologies:** *Hilary Baker, Gavin and Nita Dewar, John Rodgers, Samantha Glossop, John Rodgers, Joan Mummery, Helen Firth, Bob Cater*
2. **A65:** issues to date – Keith Grimshaw (KG) covered Inquiry (and that still awaiting response from the Inspector/government). Ian Evans (IE) covered issues including the Matrix (results did not show much in the way of speeding at West End) and road to be re-surfaced. Also discussion followed regarding reasons for Matrix being placed at West End as other positions may have shown more vehicles speeding (ie Kayley Hill, straight section through village) but IE said this had been because the width of the pavement had made it difficult in other spots and that it was originally thought that entry to Long Preston at West End would be the most suited. Further discussion regarding bypass as to the effect of vehicle noise/vibration/traffic calming measures and IE mentioned that police resources are usually only put where there is a history of serious accidents/deaths. Peter Scott Smith (PSS) suggested using Human Rights (European Directive) regarding ‘peace and quiet’ – cited example of couple near A1 under flight path: they got nowhere on planning issues but with a new lawyer their case was successful using Human Rights issues. IE added that we did use Human Rights argument at Public Inquiry but double-edged sword – ie rights of residents’ peace versus rights of lorry drivers and their livelihood. PSS asked if ever a likelihood of bypass in next twenty years – IE pointed out that we cannot know the answer to this but if land stays with HA and bypass line remains there is still a chance (or government [policy])

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change). Also asked if by resurfacing A65 lose even further chance of bypass but resurfacing was on cards anyway and as expected life is only 10+ years probably won't make big difference. John Mathew (JM) added that should be grateful for 30mph through village as many other villages further along A65 have higher speed limits. IE said the Highways' Agency has made A65 into non-core trunk road but it is still a short cut from M6 – road is not suitable for traffic (size and volume) as is. Unfortunately as our volumes are far lower than other areas (ie 25-30,000 vehicles per day) unlikely to be on Government's bypass agenda at present. However, as another resident pointed out other trunk roads may be much larger than ours (dual carriageways), which makes volume comparison difficult.

3. **Housing response** to Craven District Council's (CDC) '**Local Development Framework for Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Core Strategy Issues and Options**'. (Gill Jones) – see Gill's report ([copy?](#)). GJ re-iterated issues from past on housing and formation of LoPRA – followed by our response to above relating to Shared Equity. Cited examples of purpose built houses in Tosside, where 50% ownership. Our view, however, would be on commercial basis using present housing stock on market, not 'new-build' (see report). GJ noted response from David Butterworth (CE of YDNP), Skipton Building Society (SBS) and that we have had zero response from CDC and Craven Housing. GJ mentioned SBS's pledge (made last year?) of £10 million for local needs/key worker housing and how useful it would be if they took this route forward. General discussion – Susan Brookes (SB) said we should take the lead and make more 'noise' on issue. John Sellers (JS) added that if this model taken forward would stop developers using 'housing need' for building purposes. We added that a 'need' for 50-60 houses has been put forward regarding most recent Housing Needs Survey. PSS said such figures were 'plucked out of thin air' and that there is evidence to back this up which he could provide if we wished. Keith McBride (KM) said that the Parish Council (PC) should be having follow up with CDC and this needs to be followed up with Helen Firth.
4. **TRAMPS:** possible dates include 20th/21st October – film suggestions – Pirates of the Caribbean 2, Tom Brown's School Days (original), Pride and Prejudice 2006.
5. **AOB:** (ie interest in forming Neighbourhood Watch (NW) groups after recent spate of burglaries). Susan Brookes enquired as to what the

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'spate' was and we heard that there have been two more burglaries since the previous three two weeks ago. According to one resident affiliated to Cumbrian police the A65 has been targeted seriously over the last few weeks. KG and HTS reiterated need to keep NW interest going and to encourage people to join as this really can make a difference. HTS also mentioned the new hierarchy of Government (Regional, city regions, sub-regions, district councils, etc) and that it is becoming more and more difficult to know with whom to deal with (as CPRE have found), which makes it all the more important to be heard by 'them all'. KM agreed and GJ added that this makes it all the more important for us to work with the PC as we need to be able to form a big enough group to cope with this. IE brought up consultation Document (from Environment Agency?) on Ribble Water Catchment area (which covers bore holes, abstraction, pollution, recreation, farming, housing, etc) that requires response by November, which IE will pass on to PC and LoPRA. HTS also said would set up NW on her road. Finally resident added that the site of the [Trafalgar Day] bonfire on moor presently full of scrap metal, etc – requires clean up session. KM to take to PC although resident has offered to clear.

Meeting concluded at 9.30pm.

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