

**MINUTES OF RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 6 OCTOBER 2014 IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor T Haward Chair	Councillor Mrs A Powell
Councillor K Clarke	Councillor Mrs H Butterworth
Councillor Mrs H Pasquill	Councillor C Valentine
Councillor R Syms	

IN ATTENDANCE: 21 members of the public, Julian Sturdy MP and Mrs S Warden (Clerk)

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and announced that he would be resigning as Chair at the end of the meeting

155 APOLOGIES ACCEPTED: Councillor P Leadley-Yoward, Ward Councillor C Steward

156 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST (not previously declared): None

157 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

KC proposed the minutes of 1 September 2014 which were seconded by AP. The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

158 THE DRAFT LOCAL PLAN, ITS EFFECT ON THE PARISH AND ACTIONS REQUIRED:

The three major issues affecting the Parish apart from the general attack on the Green Belt are the proposed Gypsy/Traveller site, Solar Farm and Housing behind Rufforth School off Middlewood.

At the Local Plan working committee group meeting on 22 September Cllrs Haward and Syms asked that these sites be removed from the plan and stated the reasons why this should be. This was reiterated at the Cabinet meeting on 25 September by Cllrs Valentine and Butterworth. Both the committee and Cabinet passed the Local Plan through. The Conservatives called it in and this will probably just serve to delay the process slightly.

After the Draft Local Plan has been signed off by the Executive it will go out to a six week consultation, this will probably be mid October to the end of November.

The proposed traveller site (GT1) is between Moor Lane (the lane running from the back of the lay-by on the B1224 and Harewood Whin tip, the Solar Farm is proposed for the adjacent field the other side of Moor Lane.

Planning reasons for objecting to the proposed traveller site include:

GT1 was a very late inclusion in the plan and hadn't been included in the first draft plan or the further sites consultation.

Peter Brett Associates were used by CYC to come up with a list of criteria for whether sites would be suitable for a Gypsy/Traveller site, they said that sites adjacent to Landfill were not suitable and on that advice CYC rejected the field adjacent to GT1 which is further from the Landfill site. GT1 is closer and larger than the one rejected.

The Environment Agency has listed flood zones and GT1 is in a flood zone and so fails on this.

Access from the lay-by was rejected by Highways as an entrance to Yorwaste.

Sites are usually for no more than 15 plots as otherwise problems occur, this is for 30 plots side by side.

There should be a 250m buffer zone around Harewood Whin, GT1 is inside the buffer zone. CYC have a duty of care not to have people living within that zone where they could be harmed by dangerous gases etc.

The Planners have already stated that there should be a green corridor along the B1224 to preserve the appearance of the Green Belt.

Industrial Estates have not been explored by CYC.

CYC will have to consider objections to the Local Plan and it is hoped they will listen. After consultation it has to be voted through by full council in early January. It will then go to Public Inquiry next year. The Westfield By-election might mean Labour no longer have a majority on the council.

All representations during the consultation have to be passed on to the Public Inquiry so the weight and numbers of objections are very important.

Julian Sturdy had met with Martin Granger (CYC Officer in charge of the Local Plan). The only arguments in favour of the site from CYC were that the site was under ownership of a gypsy/traveller but this site has to be judged on its merits not on who owns it.

Cllr Haward closed the meeting to allow the public to ask questions:

CYC need a requirement for gypsy/traveller sites but there are concerns over how CYC have calculated the requirement. Many more illegal camps would be seen if the requirement was as calculated by CYC. Sheffield and Leeds have less sites than York. The need needs to be challenged.

A number of Action Groups have formed against the Local Plan and it would seem sensible to have an overarching Action Group made up of all of these to come together against the Local Plan. An Action Group needs to be formed with members sitting on the Overarching Group. On 25 October there is a meeting in Naburn as there is a gypsy site proposed close to the Designer Outlet.

18th October: Julian Sturdy is holding a meeting at Rufforth School on the Local Plan and all members of the public will be welcome.

Cllrs. Powell and Valentine will head up the Action Group from the Parish Council with Cllr Butterworth as a sounding board. Julian Sturdy will get in touch with the various businesses in the locale that may be affected.

Roger Hildreth said that James Mackman had lots of Hessay email addresses for getting out information to residents.

2 members of the public expressed concerns regarding HGVs through Rufforth. Cllr Haward explained all that had been done in the past and what was ongoing and Cllr Valentine explained why the B1224 could not have a weight limit set on it. Mr Mate is prepared to sit outside his house and carry out a survey of vehicles with Registration numbers and come back to council. This was welcomed and the Parish Council would follow this up with Yorwaste.

Cllr. Haward restarted the meeting at 9.10pm

159 WARD COUNCILLOR COMMENTS: there was no Ward Councillor present.

160 CLERK'S REPORT:

- Jon Pickles (CYC) said that the Traffic Calming Gates, signage and an upgrade to the Zebra Crossing were in hand.
- CYC will not do anything further to cut back the shrubbery on the A1237/B1224 roundabout
- S106 monies: David Meigh was going to remind the Legal department of his enquiry as they had not got back to him.
- R Burniston has been instructed to cut Knapton recreational Field

161 PLANNING:

13/00041/FULM Land to the South of Yorwaste: the parish council will be strongly objecting to this as it is partly outside the bund but will say that it is appreciated that it is not intruding into the Green Belt as much as it was if CYC are minded to approve. It does double the tonnage of material that will be going along the B1224.

14/01928/FUL Algarth, Rufforth: there were no objections to this application

14/02031/FUL 14 Southfield Close: there were no objections to this application.

162 FINANCE:

The Clerk produced a monthly financial report, a copy of which is in the minute file.

Invoices for payment: It was agreed to pay the following: £120 for the External Audit and £15 to North Ainsty Team Area for printing cycle track flyers.

Receipts: £2.83 Bank interest, £1127 for a single NBG burial plot and reserved plot, £3775 – the second instalment of the precept.

Bank Balances - £25,474.94.

Funds available - £4,080.87

The Clerk's expenses will be agreed at the next meeting.

The Clerk will follow up with HMRC about the VAT claim as we have heard nothing back from them.

163 RULES FOR THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF RECORDING AT LOCAL COUNCIL MEETINGS: to go on next agenda

164 A DEFIBRILLATOR FOR RUFFORTH: to go on next agenda

165 HANDLING COMPLAINTS: to go on next agenda

166 CYCLE TRACK:

Cllr. Haward thanked all those who helped at the opening of the cycle track. Despite the weather it had been a good turn out. Cllrs. Butterworth and Valentine produced receipts for expenses and these will go on the next agenda. The next steps to establishing links with Rufforth and Knapton will go on the next agenda.

167 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:

Residents' Forum/Team Meetings: Cllr. Powell raised all the points requested of her and Cllr. Steward has taken all on board.

YLCA: This meeting focused on Internal Audits and the new Audit arrangements.

Rufforth Pond: TCV have said that the work needing to be done will cost around £5000. Cllr Valentine can now put in grant applications.

Crisis Management: In Cllr Valentine's hands

Archiving: Cllr Valentine is waiting to hear from Mr Coward about space for archiving.

Yorwaste: Yorwaste were of great help at the cycle track opening.

168 CORRESPONDENCE: None for noting.

169 COMMUNICATIONS:

The website is up to date.

Cllr. Mrs Powell will produce the newsletter but will need all items written for inclusion.

170 MINOR MATTERS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:

Cllr Haward said that he was resigning from his position as chair and would resign from the council at the next meeting. He was thanked for all his hard work as chairman.

The PROW officer has insisted that the cycle track is signposted as a bridleway.

171 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on Monday 3 November 2014 in Rufforth Village Hall at 7.30pm.

TH thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting at 9.55 pm.

172 PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

_____ Chairman _____ Date

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