

**Notes relating to Harlow and Pannal Ash Residents Association Spring Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup>  
May 2018 at the Green Hut**

**Present:** Steering Group Members: Rene Dziabas, David Parry, David Siddans, Neil Hind, Godfrey Alderson, Vivien Alderson, Stephanie Thompson, Tim Gray,

Local Councillor: Cllr Jim Clark

Estimated that 70 Association members and local residents attended

**Apologies:** Steve Robinson (Steering Group), Alice Armitage, Cllr Rebecca Burnett, Cllr Victoria Oldham, No apologies received from Cllr John Mann

- In respect of the Local Plan, the specific aspects we commented on and felt could be challenged at the Public Inquiry were highlighted - however we do need to consult with other local groups to avoid unnecessary duplication of work.
- It's possible that after written submissions have been made diverse groups making the same/ similar argument could be grouped together.
- The current planning legislation isn't fit for purpose - we are awaiting revised National Planning Framework documentation to see if it helps our case in any way.
- Affordable Housing – why the reduction in numbers when the overall requirement increased?
- The Government wants more housing but is saying this has to be in line with the provision of adequate infrastructure - that doesn't square with building housing the equivalent to a new settlement while in effect leaving the residents to fend for themselves.
- The issue of air pollution needs to be included in our submission to the Public Inquiry.
  
- The West of Harrogate funding package – No detail yet of infrastructure improvements? Will the cycle path be shared with pedestrians or an on lane road? When will we be informed precisely when the work will be undertaken?
- There appeared to be little faith with regard to Intelligent Traffic Signals being the answer with the Parliament Street crossroads being highlighted as an example along with the Leeds Road/ M&S junction.
- Likewise the proposed cycle path along Otley Road didn't command support from the two cycling experts present, indeed they were highly critical of some aspects of the proposals and the fact that there appeared to have been no input from those expected to utilise it.
- Important that HAPARA registered an interest in being involved in discussions relating to the West of Harrogate package.
- Cllr Clark invited members to let him know their views on the overall scheme once the details had been published.(jim.clark@harrogate.gov.uk)
  
- Reference to the work associated with the culvert running under the road at the bottom of Whinney was raised in relation to the Banks planning application. The relevant Planning Notice is to be checked to ensure there is nothing untoward.
- Steering Committee member Stephanie Thompson reported that she understood that the formalities in respect of Planning Application for the former Police College site on Yew tree Lane were nearing completion.

- The subject of school buses parking on Beckwith Head Road was raised. Although the Steering Committee had been made aware of this practice, ostensibly there was nothing that could be done.
- The programme for Yorkshire Water's renewals on Otley Road and Beckwith Road were shown. Assuming resurfacing of Beckwith Road takes place, as promised, after the utility work, then disruption for residents could continue for most of the year. The strain on road network during housing development and remedial work by NYCC and YWA needs to be addressed.
- Cllr Clark was unable provide an indication on when the resurfacing of Beckwith Road would begin once YWA had completed their work.
- Bus Route 6 – We have had discussions with both operators but it is clear that neither is prepared to amend their schedules and relations between them are fractious. There was a possibility that the legislation relating to bus operations may change in the foreseeable future, in the meantime suggestions were made that residents consider a boycott of one of the two operators, invite the protagonists to a meeting and consider organising a petition to NYCC.
- A meeting with other groups is planned for late May/ early June. We need to focus on finding out how other groups intended to proceed, share information and spread costs wherever possible.
- There was clear support in relation to the funding of professional advice if needed albeit some of the comments in terms of the number of members who might contribute may have been overly optimistic.
- The difficulty of securing an appropriate firm to undertake the work we require was highlighted (this could include paying for professional representation at the inquiry).
- We must be aware that commissioning professional advice involves risk as we can't be certain that the firm concerned would come up with something that would benefit our case.
- Two methods of raising funds highlighted i.e. Pledge Campaign/ Crowd Funding. Much fine tuning required before we proceed and we won't commission any work till money is in the bank.
- Do we utilise our assets in the bank account?
- Terry Byrne sought to clarify the situation relating to defibrillator training in respect of the item noted on the 2017 AGM minutes before offering further session (s).
- Terry also mentioned the need to provide more housing for individual occupation, green ribbon spaces, green areas attached to new housing developments and the Otley Road waterworks site where he believed the view from Harlow would be obstructed and where "town houses" were to be built.
- The Cragg Lane development was discussed where it was suggested there would be 15 one bed houses – these could be affordable housing and the matter should be investigated.
- The topic of pot holes was raised. It was generally felt that this was a serious issue not only on urban roads but for rural routes also. It was highlighted that this was an issue that could take decades to resolve given the cost of repair nationally was estimated at around £12BN and that there is a shortage of the skilled manpower and equipment to undertake the work .
- A clear message was coming from residents that HBC had paid no regard to the views of the local community despite having requested their views and input at the various stages of the Consultation.
- Members in attendance at Royal Hall Council Meeting in December when the Local Plan was formally adopted were particularly critical of the way Councillors had acted.

**The meeting closed at 9.00pm.**