

NORTHERN PARISH FORUM MEETING NOTE

Held in West Burton Village Hall on Monday 23 April 2018 from 7pm-9pm

Parish Attendees:

Aysgarth & District	Francesca Cartwright (also clerk to Hawes & High Abbotside)
Hawes with High Abbotside	"
Burton cum Walden	Jane Ritchie & Sue Ryding
Carperby	John Amsden
Grinton & Ellerton Abbey	Geraldine Coates
Hudswell & District	Beverly & Richard Phillips
Melbecks	Jacqueline McCartney

YDNPA Representatives:

Allen Kirkbride	Member (Secretary of State Parish appointee)
John Blackie	Member (NYCC Appointee)
Yvonne Peacock	Member (RDC Appointee)
David Butterworth	Chief Executive
Gary Smith	Director of Conservation & Community
Julie Payne	Committees Officer
Sam Parfitt	PA to CEO & Chairman

PC Stuart Grainger North Yorkshire Police Rural Task Force

Allen Kirkbride (Chair of the Northern Parish Forum) welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

Wildlife Crime (PC Stuart Grainger, Rural Crime Team, North Yorkshire Police)

PC Grainger gave an informative presentation about Operation Owl – a joint initiative by North Yorkshire Police, the RSPB, RSPCA, and the North York Moors and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authorities. Operation Owl was launched in February 2018 with the aim of raising awareness of bird of prey crime in North Yorkshire and to increase public knowledge of what a crime looks like and how to identify lawful and unlawful traps etc.

Planning Application database (Gary Smith)

A quick demonstration was given to show how Parish Councillors and members of the public can search for details of planning applications in their Parish. <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/living-and-working/planning/planning-applications>. The quickest way to search is by Parish (all parishes are listed alphabetically in a drop down list). Any new applications can be viewed by selecting 'not decided yet'.

Details of individual applications are shown on the screen (site address, proposal, case officer etc) along with copies of plans which can be downloaded. The majority of councillors present were familiar with the database and how to find applications. Copies of plans can be posted upon request to any Councils who do not have facilities to print them - contact the planning department: planning@yorkshiredales.org.uk

Attracting Families (David Butterworth)

One of the objectives of the National Park Management Plan is to *promote the National Park as a high quality place to live and work, so as to attract new 'low impact' businesses with high quality jobs, and increase the proportion of young adults and people of working age living in the National Park.*

The Authority is, therefore, working to support the District Councils and other partners to promote the National Park as a place for working age households to live and work. Over the course of the year, the delivery of this project – alongside other actions e.g. to increase new house-building and

support the local economy — has developed into a wider initiative to attract families to the whole of the National Park.

David explained the challenges being faced regarding the socio-economic position of rural communities in the National Park. The National Park has the capacity to absorb more people and more development. The population needs to stabilise or grow in order to sustain existing infrastructure and help deliver new services.

There are a number of opportunities that could be explored and the NPA and District Councils are responding to the challenge by developing a more joined up approach, with the overall aim *to halt and then reverse the decline in the number of younger people (18-44 year olds) in the National Park.*

The District Councils and National Park Authority are developing objectives to include:

- Creating more new dwellings in a range of tenures (affordable, community self-build, local occupancy, open market etc).
- Working with Parish Councils on specific local initiatives to attract younger people to live within the area.
- Increasing the number and quality of jobs.
- Accelerating the roll-out of hyperfast and superfast broadband, and mobile telecommunications.
- Retaining local schools.
- Branding campaign to promote the area as a place to live and work.

Progress so far:

Housing: YDNPA has approved 70 out of 71 barn conversion applications. Craven DC is looking to purchase and develop allocated housing sites. Discussions have taken place with Broadacres Housing Association to encourage them to build in more remote rural areas. A community-led housing project is being developed in Arkengarthdale to build for 4 houses for rent.

Officers have met with Cumbria County Council to discuss the potential role of the NPA in the developing 'Borderlands' initiative. A project covering the South of Scotland, Cumbria, Northumberland and Durham counties and aimed at tackling the principal challenge facing the area-population growth and specifically the need to attract more working age people to the area to improve productivity and to grow the economy in the Borderlands economic area. The area of particular interest to the National Park is superfast connectivity for Broadband.

YDNPA is continuing to provide funding to help communities to roll-out B4RN hyperfast broadband, which has now reached Sedbergh and Garsdale.

Working with secondary schools to raise awareness about careers in the NPA.

Working on the 'Great Place: Lakes and Dales' project with South Lakeland & Craven District Councils. Project is examining how to maximise the cultural aspects of the area, so as to attract more young people.

YDNPA is funding the Dales Tourism Network to do some 'low key' work to develop publicity materials and use social media to promote the NP as a place to live/move to. Officers have also met with Marketing Lancashire to develop our relationship with that body.

Met with the CEO of 'the Pub is the Hub' to discuss opportunities to develop the role that might be played by the local pub in the future viability of local communities in the Park. This is a national organisation based in Harrogate that helps local pubs to develop beyond the primary purpose to improve their viability and retain local services. Examples include pubs taking on local bakeries, village shops; children's play areas, community cafes, community allotments, libraries, IT hubs, pub theatres, and farmers markets.

Wildlife Grant Scheme (Gary Smith)

The YDNP is developing a bid to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an ambitious project. The focus would be similar to a previous scheme – The Parish Wildlife Project, which a number of Parishes were involved in. If the bid is successful the project would run from 2020-2023. In the meantime, Parishes are asked to consider:

- if it's something a parish would be interested in (subject to owning a piece of land that may be suitable);
- what are the sort of things that you think you would need, ie money; advice, equipment, manpower.

If any parish has a specific site or project already in mind then please contact the Senior Wildlife Conservation Officer: Tony.Serjeant@yorkshiredales.org.uk advising of site location and a person to contact.

National Park Management Plan (Gary Smith)

The Management Plan is prepared every 5 years and is produced by a 'Steering Group' made up of 16 key organisations. Each area of the plan has been developed by different 'drafting groups' and it is now in the public next consultation stage. Copies of the consultation document were available at the meeting and it can be assessed on the Authority's website ([draft plan](#)).

Now is the time for Parishes to comment on any issues of interest within the Plan. The consultation period is due to close on 30 April. However, responses from Parish Councils and Meetings will still be accepted up to 4 weeks after the deadline. A report on the results of the consultation will be published in June.

It is hoped that the final version of the new Plan will be adopted by the National Park Authority in September 2018.

Parishes could play an important role in helping to deliver some of the Management Plan objectives, including supporting Neighbourhood and Community Planning; community-led housing; conserving local wildlife sites, and the initiative to attract more families to move into the Park.

Update on Authority projects in Wensleydale (Gary Smith)

The NPA is waiting to hear this week whether a (£5m) bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is successful or not. The project would cover Swaledale, Arkengarthdale, and Teesdale. It aims to work alongside farmers and landowners to make the natural environment more resilient by creating bigger wildlife resource ie peatland and haymeadow restoration; woodland and wetland creation; river enhancement etc. Wider benefits would be funding for: Training and skills; public access and engagement (Farm visits; Interpretation and Outdoor education).

Wensleydale 'Facilitation Fund' – With funding from Natural England, the NPA is working with around 40 farmers in Wensleydale to encourage natural flood management measures, which will help reduce flooding downstream.

Results Based Agri-environment Payment Scheme (RBAPS) – 19 farms in Wensleydale have been taking part in a two-year national pilot project, co-ordinated by Natural England and delivered by YDNPA. Farmers are paid for producing species-rich meadows and/or good quality habitat for breeding waders. The big difference to previous funding schemes is that the payments are based on the results achieved, and not for following detailed rules and prescriptions. It is hoped government can be persuaded to fund the continuation of this pilot for a further 3 years.

Dairy days – with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the project will celebrate the story of dairy and cheese-making in Wensleydale from the earliest times right up to the present day. The project will significantly increase the amount of information recorded about the heritage of the dairying industry; and, work with local people, tourism businesses and community groups to ensure that this resource is interpreted and shared as comprehensively as possible.