SOUTHERN PARISH FORUM MEETING NOTE
Held in the Games Room at Grassington Town Hall on Wednesday 25 April 2018 from 7pm-9pm

<u>Parish Attendees</u>:
Buckden	Alan Jones
Clapham	Ann Sheridan
Hebden	Peter Hodge
	George Coney
Kettlewell with	
Starbotton	Cecilia Harvey
Austwick	Barbar Tibbatts
	Kate Smith
Scosthrop	Mark Kerr
Langcliffe	Brian Woollard
Beamsley	John Clarke
Linton	Louise Coverdale
Calton	Pam Moriarty
	Alison Crisp
Burnsall	Brenda Williams
	Ed Williams

<u>YDNPA Representatives</u>:
Chris Clark	Parish Member (Secretary of State appointee)
Neil Heseltine	Parish Member (Secretary of State appointee)
David Butterworth	Chief Executive
Gary Smith	Director of Conservation & Community
Julie Payne	Committees Officer
Susan Allison	PA to CEO & Chairman

Chris Clark (Joint Chair of the Southern Parish Forum) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Authority Members and staff who were in attendance.

<u>Wildlife Crime</u> (Sergeant Stuart Grainger, Rural Crime Team, North Yorkshire Police)
Sgt 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 birds 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.

Questions received included on snares and their legality; why illegal activity was highest here and how police liaison could be improved with PCs/Parish Meetings The local police contact for this work in the South of the Park is Sergeant Paul Evans and PCs were asked to contact him directly in relation to future liaison including Crime summaries and the content of newsletters sent to PCs.

Further up to date information from the police can be gained via Twitter and the community messaging system which is easy to sign up to and to receive messages via text or email here
https://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.org

Sgt Grainger also stressed the importance of reporting crime "Call it in" even if it seems insignificant as it all helps build the picture and record what is happening on the ground.

The Chairman thanked Sgt Grainger for attending and for his valuable contribution to the meeting.

Planning Application database Gary Smith
Parish Councils are consulted on planning applications via the Clerk receiving a link to the
Authority's website of any applications received for that Parish [with paper copies being posted to
any clerks who are not on email] but instant updates can be obtained from the website at all times.
A brief demonstration was given for 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 majority of councillors present were familiar with the database and how to find applications.
Gary affirmed that 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

A Parish Councillor asked about a recent application where the Council's objections had not been
put on the website and it was not clear whether the objections had been considered. Gary
undertook to investigate and respond.

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*. This objective is consistent with the Authority's statutory purposes and as part of the
Authority's 2017-18 Action Plan.

Members of the Authority approved an action to work with 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 that the challenges being faced regarding the socio-economic position in the
national park mirrored those of rural communities nationwide – not just communities in the National
Park. Like other rural areas, 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 are developing objectives to include:
- Creating more new dwellings in a range of tenures (affordable, community self-build, local
  occupancy, open market etc).
- Bringing a proportion of second homes back into permanent residential use, and reducing
  the overall proportion of second homes.
- 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:

The YDNPA has approved 70 out of 71 barn conversion applications. Local Authorities are looking to purchase and develop allocated housing sites. Discussions have taken place with housing providers to encourage them to build in rural areas. A community led project is taking place in Arkengarthdale to develop for 4 houses for rent.

YDNPA is continuing to provide funding to help communities to roll-out hyperfast and superfast broadband. The best broadband in the park is where communities have worked with Broadband for the Rural North, and helped put in the infrastructure themselves.

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. The 3-year project aims to use the cultural distinctiveness of the area to attract and retain younger people and families.

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.

Met recently with the CEO of 'the Pub is the Hub'. This is a national organisation based in Harrogate which encourages local pubs to provide additional services. Examples include pubs that have also become bakeries, village shops; children's play areas, community cafes, community allotments, libraries, IT hubs, pub theatres, and farmers markets.

Questions
David clarified that the 2nd homes issue did not include self catering businesses/premises and apologised that in putting together the percentage of both types of properties [as distinct from the full time lived in properties percentage] had obviously confused and given mixed messages. He reiterated that there is currently a shortage of self catering accommodation in the national park.

Broadband infrastructure for Clapham was mentioned. David highlighted the centre of Ingleton as an example of new business success following on from the access to hyperfast broadband.

Questions
A Parish Councillor expressed concern that there aren't enough sites for businesses and that national park policies should allow for premises, including barns, to be used for business use. David confirmed that YDNPA policies (BE3 and L2) do already encourage barn conversions for business use (but conversion to dwellings tends to be more lucrative).

A Parish Councillor asked why the Authority insisted that some barns could only be used as holiday lets. Gary explained that not every barn is suitable for permanent use as a dwelling. This might be because of the size, interior features or its location. In such cases, the Authority still wants to try to support some sort of re-use and so the policy allows for a range of less 'intensive' uses (including e.g. holiday let, office use, storage etc). The range of options is set out in more detail in policy L2 of the Local Plan, and the 'Traditional Farm Buildings Toolkit'.

Wildlife Grant Scheme (Gary Smith)
YDNPA is considering developing a bid to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a more ambitious version of the recent Parish Wildlife Project, which had helped local people, community groups etc. to manage land for nature. A number of Parish Councils had been involved. Parishes were asked to consider:
- Whether they would be interested in doing something in their parish (e.g. on a piece of land owned by the parish)?
- What are the sort of things that you think you would need, i.e. 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.

In discussion, it was pointed out that NYCC still often cuts the grass verges at the wrong time of year, preventing the spread of wild flowers.

Secretary of State Parish Member Election Process (David Butterworth)
Parish Councils have received notification of the process and timetable for electing a parish representative to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority to represent the
Craven West [Airedale] district whose parishes fall within the National Park boundary.

At present, the Member for this part of the Park is Neil Heseltine (KirkbyMalhamdale Parish Council). His tenure is due to end on 3rd May when he will have been in post for 4 years. Neil confirmed that if re-elected as a Parish Councillor he would be standing for re-election to the YDNPA but encouraged others to stand it they wished to do so. He also asked that if there was more than one candidate that Parish Councils sent representatives to attend the hustings meeting.

Parish Councils and Meetings are invited to put forward a candidate – the closing date for receipt of nominations is 11 June. If there is more than one nominee, a Hustings meeting will take place on Monday 18 June, at Clapham Village Hall. An election is then held amongst the 21 Parish Councils and Meetings before the name of the successful candidate is submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

Julie Payne (Committees Officer) is the contact for any queries on the election process.

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 subject to scrutiny by different drafting groups and it is now in the next consultation stage. A PowerPoint presentation which highlighted the objectives of the plan is available on the Parish Forum webpage. Paper copies of the consultation document were available at the meeting and it can still be accessed on the Authority's website (draft plan).

Time is running out for people to comment on any issues of interest within the Plan (deadline: 30 April). Gary stressed that he understood that the timetable for PC meetings didn't always run nicely alongside consultation dates and assured PCs that any comments received from them will still be considered if they get them back in the next few weeks. The new Plan is expected to be adopted by the National Park Authority in September 2018.

Questions

Community Housing and the connections needed to be demonstrated to qualify were queried. David explained the housing associations' requirements re local needs and how this worked in practice.

With all the business concluded, the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 9pm with his thanks to all the Councillors for attending and engaging well with the less formal format of the parish forum meeting than PC meetings would normally follow.