

ELVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Village web site: www.elvington.net

Clerk to the Council: *David Headlam*
Bramland House, Dovecote Garth, Elvington, York YO41 4BH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 16th July 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

MINUTES

1. **Councillors Present.** Cllrs Bailey; Rees; Forster; Taylor; Webster; Wilson + 3 residents.
2. **Apologies.** There were none.
3. **Declaration of Interests** by Councillors of any items on this agenda. There were none.
4. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on 25.6.2013 were approved.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes not covered in this agenda.** Cllr Bailey reported that the swing at the Play area was being repaired – again.
6. **CYC Local Plan.** Cllr Bailey said that an estimated 200 residents had attended the 'Drop In' session at the Village Hall and that all comments were that it had been worthwhile. Cllrs then described the feedback they had received and gave their own opinions of the proposed developments. The residents attending also highlighted their own areas of concern.

A response had previously been drafted and circulated to Cllrs and each point was then discussed with a number of changes proposed and agreed. A further draft incorporating these changes will be circulated to Cllrs. DH

(The final, agreed response is attached to these Minutes as an Appendix.)

7. **Police matters.** The crime report had been circulated to Cllrs. In June the only major crime was a theft from the Airfield Trading Estate.

8. Correspondence (out):

- i) NALC 'Good Councillors Guide' circulated to Cllrs
- ii) Letters to resident and Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust re Blacksmiths Close
- iii) Follow up request for clearance work near Derwent Close

Correspondence (in):

For information:

- (i) Newsletter: Clerks & Councils Direct
Available from the Clerk:
- (ii) Newsletters: School; YLCA Info Notes; Rural Opportunities Bulletin; York CVS
- (iii) Flyer: Helping Hand Co. (litter collection)
- (iv) Rural Services Network – news digests
- (v) DWP – 'Claim a cash incentive and make a difference to youth unemployment'
- (vi) Healthwatch York – 'Deciding our Workplan'
- (vii) YLCA - Cemetery Management training
- (viii) Heslington Parish Council - Local Plan Press Release and leaflet. *To be circulated to Cllrs.* DH
- (ix) Congleton Civic Society – petition to amend National Planning Policy Framework
- (x) Register of Electors – July update. *Circulated to Cllrs.*

For Consideration:

- (xi) YLCA Annual Review & notification of Joint Annual Meeting. *To be circulated to Cllrs.* DH
- (xii) Copies of emails from residents commenting on the Local Plan.

9. Financial.

Payments. **Minute 13028.** The following were agreed:

The Lawn Man - £276.00 – June grass cuts

Elvington Village Hall - £60.00 – May + June meetings and First Responder use

Minute 13029. Cllr Rees proposed the following and was agreed:

I Bailey - £10.79 – refreshments for Local Plan 'Drop In' session

Other financial item:

The Operating Statement was approved.

10. Planning Matters.

New Applications. **Minute 13030.** Council had no objections to the following:

13/02079 – 2 Wheldrake Lane – tree work

13/02220 – 19 Becksid – extension (resubmission)

To consider any Applications received after publication of this Agenda. There were none.

Other Matter: The following was noted:

13/00793 – The Stables, Elvington Lane – variation of condition – application withdrawn

11. Weight Limit. The NY Police Traffic Management Officer had been asked to specify the roads which would be affected by a weight limit but had declined to do so.

Further efforts to progress this issue are ongoing.

IB/DH

12. Remembrance Sunday. Minute 13031. Council agreed to the closure of Main Street. The application to CYC will be submitted to the Clerk.

DH

13. Reports from recent meetings. Cllr Bailey reported on the YLCA meeting with CYC concerning the Local Plan. Cllr Wilson updated Council on future Village Hall events.

14. Highways, paths and verges. The ditch alongside Dauby Lane has still not been cleared. The state of an overgrown garden will be checked.

DH

15. Items for Newsletter, Website and Facebook. It was agreed that, initially, Cllr Taylor will respond to messages on Facebook.

AT

16. Items to be placed on next Agenda. Risk Assessment.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm.

Chairman: Ian Bailey. Tel. 01904 608294

RESPONSE BY ELVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL TO CYC LOCAL PLAN 'PREFERRED OPTIONS' PROPOSAL

INTRODUCTION

Elvington Parish Council hosted a 'drop in' session on Friday 5th July for those living in the village to display the draft Local Plan, answer questions and to solicit local views. This was very well attended by an estimated 200+ residents. The Parish Council considered their response at its meeting on Tuesday 16th July.

It is very clear that there is no enthusiasm for the Local Plan either overall or locally.

BACKGROUND

CYC's own statistics show that housing in Elvington increased at a faster rate than any other village in the ten years to 2008.

The Parish Council, with the universal support of residents attending the 'drop in' session, are clear that any further significant developments in the village will adversely affect the community and the character of the village. This view is shared by the Planning Inspector.

The Planning Inspector has already decided that development on site H39 will not be allowed; he has decided that site H26 must be classified as Green Belt; he has also decided that the proposed Travelling Show Persons site must be returned to Green Belt in 2016. Mr Grainger in reply to a specific question put to him by the Parish Council Chairman at a meeting of YLCA on Thursday 4th July, advised that CYC are obliged to accept the Planning Inspector's previous decisions unless quite exceptional circumstances apply.

ASSUMPTIONS

The growth driver in the Plan anticipates an increase in employment in the CYC area of 1,000+ net new jobs, per year, for the duration of the Plan.

We understand that during the past three years there has been a net decrease in the number of jobs in York in each year. The growth target for jobs lacks any reasonable credibility.

ELVINGTON PROPOSALS

a. New Housing.

H39 Becks extension. The Planning Inspector decided that this site should be in the Green Belt in 1994, and there have been no material changes in the circumstances affecting this site and the neighbouring area. The Planning Inspector

at the time concluded that allowing this development would radically affect the character of the village. The proposal must therefore be withdrawn, in accordance with Mr. Grainger's advice .

H26 Dauby Lane. In a separate judgment in 1994, the Planning Inspector decided that this land must be designated as Green Belt.

Parish Councillors and residents are concerned that this proposal will substantially disadvantage our high-performing school, changing it from being in a delightful rural location, to the disadvantage of the village's younger people. This is wrong.

It will also exacerbate the traffic problems outside the school at opening and closing times, to which it is acknowledged there is no solution.

Parish Councillors are concerned that a development of this size is unlikely to result in any additional bus services, which are acknowledged by CYC to be currently unsatisfactory. This will lead to a significant increase in private car travel on an already very busy road, as CYC and the Police recognise.

The Parish Council considers that this site could be evaluated for very small scale development, if absolutely necessary.

b. Travelling Show People's site.

CYC will be aware that, after appeal, the current owners were given planning permission to use this site for a period of five years only, which expires in 2016.

The Planning Inspector was very clear in stating that this was a very marginal decision and that the land should be vacated and revert to Green Belt in 2016.

OTHER ISSUES

a. Dunnington Gypsy site.

The Parish Council totally opposes this proposal as it will be in an entirely inappropriate location and fully supports the objections of Dunnington Parish Council.

It should be noted that there is a history of illegal occupation by Gypsies of land at the periphery of Elvington airfield and Councillors are concerned that this could recur.

b. Whinthorpe.

This massive development is opposed by all consulted. It needs much more explanation of the infrastructure plans and funding before any objective assessment can be made.

GENERAL

- a. Elvington Parish Council considers that CYC should clarify its position about 'potential sites for renewable energy generation'. Mr Grainger advises that these are no longer 'a plan' rather they are 'suggestions for evaluation'. As they are suggestions, rather than plans – and they were not shown on the leaflets distributed to the public – the Parish Council requests their removal from the draft Plan. You should note our total opposition to these unjustified proposals, which in many cases affect sites of special scientific interest and beauty.
- b. Elvington Parish Council and its residents oppose the removal of 5% of current Green Belt land.
- c. The pressure on Green Belt is enormous. The Parish Council hopes that CYC would prioritise brownfield site development within the Ring Road before any major developments proceeded in Green Belt, in order to retain the rural nature of the beautiful countryside within which the City of York sits.

SUMMARY

Elvington Parish Council,

- disagrees with the growth driver assumptions
- opposes Elvington developments, which are contrary to previous decisions by the Planning Inspector (in accordance with Mr. Grainger's advice):
 - H39 Becksides extension
 - H26 Dauby Lane
- believes the Travelling Show People site should only be retained for the existing family and reviewed in 2016
- opposes Dunnington Gypsy site and Whinthorpe developments
- asks that the renewable energy proposals are withdrawn from the draft Local Plan (as there is so little information)
- is strongly against the removal of 5% of Green Belt

*David Headlam, Clerk to Elvington Parish Council
July 2013*