

Report for Thornton-Le-Dale PC
January 2017

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**Slip Road
Beck Isle**

I had an exchange with Thornton Dale Estates regarding the slip road railings last summer. Highways Area 4 confirmed that this area was not NYCC responsibility. After a conversation with Carl Gerhartson NYMNP he suggested I contact the assets manager at NYCC as there had been a similar problem in Helmsley. The initial information given by NYCC asset manager is that the slip road does not belong to NYCC. They seemed quite convinced that NYCC had no responsibility for the slip road or the railings but they will run a check with the archives department.

With regard to the replacement of the railings, I suggest we seek funding and have them replaced. I may be able to help with the NYCC Locality Grant.

**Beck Isle Wall
project**

Preparatory work has been done throughout the summer by the volunteer TBG group and Brian Wright kindly helped with the removal of large roots from the wall area. We had something of a setback when the contractor for the repair to the dry stone wall gave back word just as he was about to start the work. There seemed little point in defaulting to the second quote as this was for only part repair to the wall with community volunteer help and it seemed unlikely that volunteers would want to work in the beck during the cold dark months of January and February. A third quotation has been received and NYMNP are considering increasing their grant funding to enable this quote to be taken up. The original grant funding still

stands so we will in any event be able to go ahead with the work to the limit of this original offer from NYMNP and NYCC.

I am also assisting the TBG with an application for grant funding from RDC and NYCC. This will be aimed at repairs to the wall running alongside the highway from the pedestrian island opposite the Alms Houses to the Old Post Office.

**Third Energy
Planning
application**

As you will no doubt be aware, last month we received the ruling from the Judicial Review into the KM8 planning application.

The Judicial Review looked at the Council's handling of the planning application, submitted by Third Energy for hydraulic fracturing. A Judicial Review has to focus on the process of a decision made. In this case, Friends of the Earth submitted two points of process.

The first related to the handling of the gas recovered from the well site. The applicant had described that the gas would be taken from the Kirkby Misperton site by pipeline to their existing plant that operates at Knapton, and that it would be processed and used to be turned in to electricity there. Friends of the Earth argued that the impact at Knapton should have been taken in to account in the planning hearing. Our position was that the Knapton site had existing panning permission and an environmental permit for its operation and that the new quantity of gas that it would deal with would remain within the limits that it had been permitted to deal with. The Court agreed with this view and this challenge was rejected.

The second challenge related to aftercare and monitoring of the site once production had finished, it was contended by Friends of the Earth there should have been a bond in place prior to the planning hearing. The position that we put forward was that this issue had been dealt with within one of the conditions that had been applied to the planning permission and that there was a financial requirement including the setting aside of funding to deal with site aftercare issues that was subject to a planning commission and that was the appropriate way to deal with these issues. The court agreed with that approach and therefore the second point of challenge was rejected as well.

No other challenges in relation to the planning process have been raised.

It should be noted that the county council has not sought to bring fracking to North Yorkshire. Having received this application, we had a responsibility to determine it and to apply national and local policies. We are now focusing on a new draft Minerals and Waste Joint Plan which has been produced by the County Council with NYMNP and City of York. The plan will put in place robust measures to balance the interests of the gas industry with those of residents, businesses and the environment in areas where planning applications may be made.

As a post festive thought, at the end of December NYCC launched their new obesity strategy and if you have not yet made your New Year's resolutions, you may like to consider some of the facts from this document.

- Seven out of ten men are now overweight or obese and six out of ten women are overweight or obese.
- By 2050 obesity is predicted to affect 60% of all adult men, 50% of adult women and 25% of children.
- Over 21% of our 4 to 5 year olds, over 30% of 10 - to 11 year olds and over 60% of adults in North Yorkshire are living with excess weight.
- In recent years being overweight has become the norm for adults.
- For both men and women, obesity prevalence decreases with increasing levels of educational attainment.

**Obesity
Strategy**

The strategy has now gone out to consultation and I will be sending in a very strong response. I am fully aware that the “weight” issue is a very complex one however I find it remarkable that no *weight* is given to educating our children and young people entering into independent adult life on the value of being able to cook themselves an economical and nutritional meal.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very Happy New Year.

Janet Sanderson

28th December 2016