

Report for Thornton Dale Parish Council
5th December 2017

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NYMNP

After receiving several concerns from residents, I had a positive meeting with David Smith (NYMNP) on 22nd December to address the following matters –

- Dog Kennel Lane – Carpark footpath being used by horses.
David is looking to reinstate a barrier to horses at the Dog Kennel Lane end and use signage at the car park end. I am aware that this problem has increased since the closure of Bottons Lane.
- Village maintenance mapping.
We are looking to map the maintenance of footpaths around the village to avoid duplication.
- Land ownership and Riparian responsibilities to the south of the A170 Lakeside carpark area.

- Issues around the maintenance of Thornton Beck
 - I. River bank erosion.
 - II. Erosion of the car park wall.
 - III. Decline of river habitat.
 - IV. Visual aspect.

- Mole problem around the village.

Beck Isle Wall project Slip rails will be completed by the end of the year.

Street Lighting NYCC are changing the street lighting to LED and I have given details of this in a previous report.

I have been advising PCs to look at replacing their own lanterns for the following reasons –

1. The most obvious one is the saving to the electric bill.
An 80W can operate at up to 96W. Changing to LED could bring down to 23W which can mean the saving of between £37 - £70 per light per annum.

2. Using less electricity is better for the environment.

3. Maintenance costs and failure rates are very low, the only maintenance required is a clean every six years.

4. From 2019 replacement bulbs for sodium lights will not be available.

5. The quality of lighting is more directional and efficient.

The table below is specific to Thornton Dale and gives an idea of possible savings and payback time. I will make a full draft report available to the clerk. This would obviously have to be worked up in detail so is only

intended as an approximate cost saving.

The chart does not take into account electricity price rises or maintenance savings. I am also informed that some of the lanterns housed on concrete columns are not suitable for replacement.

Energy Saving	£2,995.81
Max Installation cost	£39,200.00
Max payback years	13.08

Area Committee It was a great disappointment that our Area Committee meeting had to be cancelled last month due to the anti-fracking protest lobby. I am fully supportive of protesters being able to express their views, however as the protest developed, it became clear that this was not about objecting to the development of shale gas, but about the interruption of the democratic process. I have appended my recent letter to the Gazette and Herald giving a fuller account of the disruption.

Janet Sanderson

Appendix 1

Letter to Gazette and Herald

20th November 2017

Last week we held our quarterly Ryedale Area Committee meeting where various authorities including Police, Fire and Rescue and Highways England discuss local Ryedale issues. It turned out to be a very sad day for democracy when the meeting had to be closed due to the anti-fracking lobby who had turned out to ask a question but had knowingly not submitted it within the required five-day time frame. This may at first seem rather pedantic, but the chairman refused their question citing that there were five public questions already tabled on top of a very long and extended agenda and that she had already turned down three other late questions, equally important to those who had submitted them.

The anti-Fracking contingency, claiming that it was their democratic right to speak, interrupted the meeting to such an extent that it had to be postponed. So let's have a look at this ad hoc form of democracy: whatever your views on fracking, I think that we can all agree that it is everyone's right to speak in a given public speaking slot. However, this needs to be managed as it's only a small part of the overall agenda where many other important reports have to be scrutinised.

This is not an issue about fracking but about being equitable to everyone. The churlish behaviour of the anti-fracking lobby prevented the hearing of those who had followed the accepted protocol in submitting their questions. Given that one of the questions accepted by the

chairman was supporting the anti-fracking view, the protestors appeared to have scored a massive own goal and so you cannot help drawing the conclusion that the interruption was not so much about being denied a speaking slot, as preventing the true democratic process.

Janet Sanderson

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