

North Yorkshire County Council

County Council's Ryedale Area Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at Hovingham Village Hall on 28 June 2017 at 10.30 a.m.

Present:-

County Councillors Val Arnold, Keane Duncan, Caroline Goodrick, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Also in Attendance:-

County Councillor Carl Les (Leader of North Yorkshire County Council) and County Councillor David Chance (Executive Member for Stronger Communities, Public Health and the Role of Area Committees).

Invited Officers in attendance: Danny Westmoreland (North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service), Inspector Martin Dennison (North Yorkshire Police) and Simon Jones (Highways England).

Officers in attendance: James Malcolm (Area Manager Highways), Marie-Ann Jackson (Head of the Stronger Communities Programme), Sarah Robinson (Stronger Communities Delivery Manager – Ryedale), Mary Davies, (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and Stephanie Haworth (Business Support Administrators).

10 members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Lindsay Burr MBE.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

1. Election of the Chairman

Resolved –

That County Councillor Caroline Goodrick be elected Chairman, to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee to be held following the County Council elections in 2021.

County Councillor Caroline Goodrick in the Chair

2. Minutes

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2017, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. Appointment of the Vice-Chairman

Resolved –

That County Councillor Keane Duncan be elected Vice-Chairman, to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee to be held following the County Council elections in 2021.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Public Questions or Statements

The Chairman announced that two members of the public had given notice to speak at this meeting and invited the following two members of the public to address the Committee:

Statement and Question from Mr Simon Thackray

On behalf of Mr Thackray, the Clerk to Ryedale Area Committee read out his public question.

When will the planned experimental 7.5 tonne weight restriction over Norton level crossing be introduced and will exemption permits be available to certain types of vehicles belonging to specific local businesses?

(Assuming that the definition of 'local' can be agreed and exemptions be shown to NOT reduce or water-down the predicted air quality improvement benefits of the scheme.)

James Malcolm responded to the public question:

James Malcolm advised of a planned meeting in the Business and Environmental Service Directorate scheduled for July 2017 where the 7.5 tonne weight restriction over Norton level crossing would be finalised; an experimental Order for 12 months would be put in place and then reviewed.

Statement and Question from Mr Chris Miles, Chairman Sherburn Parish Council

With regard to the works being carried out, and those still to be carried out, along the A64 particularly in the village of Sherburn which suffers from flooding whenever there is any rainfall. Mr Miles asked to know what remedial works are to be carried out on the A64 at Sherburn following the CCTV survey by Highways England, which is to take place on 3 July 2017, in order to minimise the ongoing flooding issues while the more permanent works are decided upon and completed?

He would also be interested in knowing what works are to be carried out on Whitegates and Skedales, Sherburn in association with the flood prevention works and along with this, Mr Miles asked for the time scale being allowed for these works to be carried out and what, if any, compensation is to be offered to, or is available to claimed by, the property owners on the site whose homes and business are being damaged by the repeated flooding.

Simon Jones, Highways England responded to the public question:

As the surveys Highways England are intending to undertake have not as yet been undertaken, it is difficult therefore to predict what the results will show and what course of action Highways England intend to take. The aim of the surveys is to provide information to allow Highways England to design a suitable solution.

Highways England have a number of drainage renewal schemes already committed for delivery in their forward programme between 2018 and 2020, which includes Sherburn, along the A64 which will replace the current drainage system in its entirety. These are substantial projects and works are anticipated to be there for a number of months at a time. The timescales involved will remain dependant on the outcome of the survey, and the scale of intervention which is required.

Simon Jones advised that any members of the public can attend the CCTV survey however, it may be a good idea to nominate people to take questions rather than there being a larger group. Anyone in attendance can only do so from public areas i.e. footways, and not land designated as 'highway' for safety reasons.

Simon Jones agreed to respond directly to the Parish Council in regards to the point raised regarding compensation.

James Malcolm highlighted a meeting with the new Manager for the area to meet Parish Council members to see what the authority was able to do to help.

The local Member advised that local people were prepared to help and she highlighted that the village Caretaker already clears the drains. She said that there were real safety concerns for local children unable to use the Pelican crossing at times of local flooding which lead to them having to cross a busy road unassisted. She mentioned that Kevin Holinrake MP was due to visit the area and she urged that the work being carried out should apply to the whole of this area and the villages intersected by the A64 (Rillington, Heselton, Ganton, Willerby and Staxton) and also that the area below the Wolds, with the same geography, should be considered at the same time whilst Highways England and the Highways Authority were working in this area.

6. Introductory Information about the Area Committee

Considered -

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Service) which provided information about the Area Committee's role, decision-making, meeting arrangements, and the procedure under which Members and Co-opted Members could give an oral statement on an issue of interest at a meeting or make a request for a full report to be submitted to a future meeting of the Area Committee.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

7. Update on the A64 (Highways England)

Considered -

The report of Simon Jones, Highways England, updating on planned works on the A64 in the Ryedale area and providing an update on items presented from the last meeting and a general forward look regarding programmed work to the end of this current Financial Year and beyond.

Simon Jones ran through his report, Key issues covered were:-

- Scheme Delivery for 2017/18

- Scheme Details:
 - Barton Hill is now programmed for delivery for this financial year and hand over to the final design stage had commenced with the principal contractor on 1st April 2017; the anticipated start date is currently November 2017.
 - A64 Scotchman Lane was completed in early May 2017 but had generated concerns from members of the public. Highways England had installed CCTV to monitor driver behaviour and have started a Stage 3 Road Safety Audit.
- Regional Safety Lead and 95 Alive Safety Partnership update.
- Hopgrove Roundabout Upgrade.
- Kirkham Bridge – there were no further updates to report.

Members made the following comments:

- A Member who used Scotchman Lane said that she looked forward to the outcome of the Safety Audit on this junction. She regularly used this junction to access the A64 and now found the process very difficult. Simon Jones acknowledged he had received many comments from the public that it was not 'easy' to navigate this junction. The junction improvement had been completed for safety reasons and not for ease of use and it also provided help to anyone crossing the road. He agreed to share the findings of the Safety Audit with the Committee.
- The improvements at the Hopgrove Roundabout helped the City of York but just compounded the problem further up the A64 near Malton; it didn't solve the problem just moved it to the Ryedale area. Simon Jones said that it was difficult to say if the improvements creates problems elsewhere and work will be undertaken to identify if this is the case. He advised of longer term plans being put forward by the LEP and A64 Stakeholder Groups. The Member considered that proposals for the upgrade should have included any issues for Ryedale to Scarborough and not just the City of York.
- The problems which the Hopgrove Roundabout upgrade may cause to the villages; it was important to keep local residents updated as much as possible. Simon Jones advised that the LEP and Stakeholder groups were very vocal and pushing forward duelling options up to Malton and this also included the villages. The next phase of the RIS work would continue to input from all stakeholders and identify any aspirations to help in future.
- A Member was delighted to hear that the Barton Hill scheme would now be completed in this current financial year and she highlighted the work completed over many years by former County Councillor Clare Wood.
- Issues of stacking capacity for HGV's using Scotchman Lane Junction. Simon Jones was not aware of any issues but noted these concerns and agreed to feedback to the Committee.
- Following a local meeting, there were concerns at Crambeck and Welburn with the death of 4 people. Simon Jones said that he was unable to comment currently because Police investigations were ongoing and it would be inappropriate for Highways England to potentially influence the outcome of those, he offered his sympathy to the families on behalf of Highways England.

Resolved –

That the report and update be noted.

8. North Yorkshire Police – Current Issues

Considered –

The report of Inspector Martin Dennison, North Yorkshire Police, updating on initiatives currently being undertaken within the Ryedale District area by North Yorkshire Police.

Inspector Martin Dennison introduced himself to the Committee and gave a brief overview of his time in the Police. He said that his family lived locally in Ryedale. Key issues covered were:-

- It had been a successful 12 month period in Ryedale which was one of the safest areas to live in England and Wales.
- An overview of the Recorded Crime Figures over the last 3 years which had recorded overall 100 fewer victim based crimes which was significant given Ryedale was considered to be a safe place to live.
- Areas for improvement:
 - Safer neighbourhoods in Northern Ryedale.
 - Rural cross border crime. Inspector Dennison highlighted Safer Ryedale Officers and the involvement of volunteers; the Southern Ryedale area was beginning to see the benefits of volunteers and he highlighted poaching patrols.
 - Op Countryside with increased patrols on minor roads.
- When we're open we're open initiative. The removal of telephone boxes outside Police Stations which were being replaced by intercoms linked directly to Officers on duty. This would save time on the Forces Control Room and also gave a quicker response rate by Officers.
- Improving Road Safety. Malton Police Station would now hold Safety Camera Vans to use in hot spot locations or vulnerable areas. Inspector Dennison considered this was key to promote road safety in the Ryedale and Scarborough areas.
- Road Policing Officer's will now be based in Ryedale, strengthening road safety.
- The Community Policing Team at Ryedale District Council had already been involved in multi-agency events.
- Fracking update. The Police were ensuring there was a peaceful protest, no significant incidence have been noted.
- Staffing levels.

Members made the following comments:

- A Member considered it was of high priority to ensure the impact of sexting did not get lost in the crime figures; the CSE figure looked to have risen sharply because sexting is now included in the data. She asked whether the trend was going up or down and considered this needed to be closely monitored. She suggested that the figures, in future, should be shown with and without the sexting data so that the more traditional levels of CSE can be clearly seen. Inspector Dennison agreed to clarify at the next meeting.
- A Member highlighted local residents concerns regarding the camp at Kirby Misperton and actions being taken by Lancashire Police at camps in Lancashire. Inspector Dennison replied that the Police were in daily contact with the Kirby Misperton Camp to ensure protesting is being carried out lawfully. Inspector Dennison considered that Ryedale Police can learn lessons from the Lancashire Police Force. The Member asked whether Ryedale Police, when considering information from the Lancashire Police Force, had best practice to follow.
- Concerns for speeding in the community. Inspector Dennison highlighted Community Speed Watch which, he considered, was of tremendous benefit to local communities and he advised that the Police encouraged any help from local residents.
- A Member noted the jump in the Violence with Injury figures. Inspector Dennison explained the figure now included dangerous dogs and low level

violence. He gave his assurances that the Police were dedicated to the reduction of threats to individuals.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Dennison for attending and presenting his report.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

9. North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Safety Update Ryedale

Considered -

The report of Group Manager Danny Westmoreland advising of Community Safety Activities involving North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service that have occurred between 1 March 2017 and 31 May 2017 and providing an update regarding other issues from within the Ryedale District. Key issues covered were:-

- Service Delivery.
- Fire Cover Review update.
- Summary of Tactical Support Vehicle (TRV) Operational Activity. The Malton TRV would begin operations on 6th September 2017, prior to which Fire Crews would begin a training programme.
- National Campaign – Drowning prevention week.
- District Training Event scheduled for 17 September 2017 would include an incident involving hazardous materials.
- Response Activity.
- Incidents of Note

A Member had concerns regarding the Knapton incident and asked if the Fire Service had any involvement with an ongoing planning application regarding the site. Danny Westmoreland advised that he had no knowledge of this.

The Chairman thanked Danny Westmoreland for attending and presenting his report.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

10. Appointments to Outside Bodies

Considered -

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) inviting the Area Committee to make appointments, on behalf of the County Council, to various outside bodies.

Resolved -

- (a) That the following be nominated to the Category 2 Outside Body listed below to serve until the County Council elections in 2021:

Outside Body	No of seats	Appointment
Ryedale Citizens Advice Bureau	1	County Councillor Caroline Goodrick

Safer Ryedale Delivery Team	1	County Councillor Val Arnold
Howardian Hills AONB Joint Advisory Committee	2	County Councillor Caroline Goodrick

- (b) That consideration of appointments to the following outside bodies be deferred until the Area Committee's next meeting on 13 September 2017:-

Outside Body	No of seats	Appointment
Amotherby Educational Foundation	1	
Christopher Wharton Educational Foundation	1	
John Stockton Education Foundation (Kirbymoorside)	3	
Lady Lumley's Educational Foundation (Pickering)	1	
Old Meeting House Trust, Helmsley	1	
Oswaldkirk and Ampleforth Education Foundation	1	
Poad's Educational Foundation (Newton upon Rawcliffe)	1	
Rev James Graves' Foundation at Thorpe Bassett	1	

11. Stronger Communities Progress report

Considered -

The report of the Stronger Communities Delivery Manager which advised of the work undertaken, and the new programmes to be rolled out in 2017/18, in the Ryedale area under the Stronger Communities Programme. The Programme aimed to support communities to help themselves and create local solutions for the delivery of services.

Marie-Ann Jackson (Head of the Stronger Communities Programme) and Sarah Robinson (Stronger Communities Delivery Manager for the Ryedale area) introduced the report and highlighted the following:-

- In 2016/17, in the Ryedale area, 20 projects had been supported with an investment of circa £82,318. The majority of the projects were for older people and disabled adults with one organisation being supported with capacity building, 4 new groups being established and 6 existing organisations being supported to set up new activities.
- The aim to implement a new operating model across the Library Service had been successfully delivered, including 7 core library, 5 hybrid libraries and 30 community libraries operational within the Ryedale area.

- Since March 2017, 6 grants had been awarded to Stronger Communities Projects in the Ryedale area. Other projects were also being developed with a range of voluntary and community sector groups across the Ryedale area.
- The Stronger Communities Programme was currently undertaking a number of county-wide strategic projects which would benefit the communities of Ryedale, including community transport branding and marketing; a physical activity programme for older adults; NY Connect - an online directory of services, facilities and voluntary sector organisations; and the development of a shared diagnostic tool to be used when undertaking organisation development work with a voluntary or community group.
- A new Stronger Communities Investment Prospectus aimed to provide information on new approaches to Stronger Communities support. The Prospectus will be launched in Ryedale at Hovingham Village Hall on Friday 7th July 2017 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Sarah Robinson advised Members that she was based at Ryedale House in Malton and would be happy to meet and discuss any project in the Ryedale area.

Members were grateful for the work of Stronger Communities particularly in the library service.

The Chairman thanked Marie-Ann Jackson and Sarah Robinson for attending and presenting their report.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

12. Public Rights of Way - A New Approach to Categorising the Public Rights of Way Network

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director - Business and Environmental Services which presented a set of draft proposals relating to the categorisation of the Public Rights of Way (PROW) Network; reported the results of a public consultation carried out on the draft proposals and discussed key issues raised by the consultation respondents; and asked the Area Committee to note the consultation responses and to comment on the Service's suggested responses to the consultation, which include a small number of amendments to the original proposals.

Ian Kelly (Countryside Access Manager) introduced the report, emphasising that the proposal was for a prioritisation framework which aimed for a consistent approach across the network. It included categorising paths into four groups. The proposals included enhanced engagement with the broader user community across the board (ie both local residents and users from further afield) aiming to achieve the most appropriate prioritisation of public paths and the associated work in managing those paths. The report highlighted an ongoing concern expressed by a proportion of respondents including some of the key stakeholder groups, namely, that by prioritising the County Council would effectively be abandoning low category paths. However, it was emphasised that officers recognised the County Council's statutory duty and that work including enforcement activity would continue to be undertaken on low priority paths. The Service considered that prioritising its maintenance and enforcement response was a reasonable approach and was not aimed at ignoring issues on any part of the network.

Members made the following comments regarding the proposals:-

- Members recognised the need to balance what the authority could actually do.
- What percentage of the network was in each category? Ian Kelly referred to table 16 on page 75 of the report which included feedback from User Groups and the percentage in each of the 4 categories. He gave assurances that the network would not be abandoned. Ian Kelly highlighted at paragraph 3.3 on page 52 of the report the aims of the work programme which was to ensure savings and also ensure that the service meets its statutory responsibilities providing the best level of service for the available funding.
- A Member asked whether any Category D public rights of way will be reinstated. Ian Kelly noted that the report gave examples of issue prioritisation scoring (within Tables A2 and A3 of Appendix 1) which illustrated circumstances under which that Category D would be allocated higher priorities for action. In addition, the procedural review noted in paragraph 3.3 incorporates swifter enforcement irrespective of the route category.
- Members acknowledged the value of community groups and volunteers to help the authority.
- Following a question regarding any adjustments to the programme, Ian Kelly replied that there would be a review for 12 months following full implementation and that operational flexibility for Officers was an integral aspect of the proposal to deal with any anomalies that may arise.
- Concerns that horse riders would be forced onto the carriageway. Ian Kelly acknowledged this problem.
- Any value in putting lower level footpaths into the Parish Council remit. Ian Kelly advised that engagement with Parish Councils, and other third party delivery partners, was a key aspect of the principle of community value and that the service would support and encourage partnership working to help deliver shared objectives where appropriate to do so.

Resolved -

- (a) That the content of the report be noted.
- (b) That Members' comments on the proposals, as set out in the preamble to this Minute, be taken into consideration.

13. Communications with NYCC Ryedale Highways Office - Update

Considered -

The verbal update of James Malcolm, Business and Environmental Service.

- HGV signs on Pickering Bridge. Highways England and A1 Plus will put advanced signs and flags; there was a likelihood of overnight closures. This was still at the design stage and would need Highways England approval.
- Surface dressing in Ryedale.
- New Maintenance Manager in Ryedale, Pete Garnham.
- Melanie Farnham would be leaving to take up a position with City of York Council.

A member highlighted that it was difficult to explain surface dressing to local people and it would help if there was any on-line information. James Malcolm advised of leaflets on the North Yorkshire County Council website.

Following a question on surface dressing over pot holes, James Malcolm agreed surface dressing was not appropriate for pot holes.

Resolved -

That the update be noted.

14. Membership of the Area Committee

Considered -

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) which invited the Area Committee to identify organisations from whom it wished to seek nominations for appointment as Co-opted Members. A letter from Community First Yorkshire was appended to the report. The letter offered to put forward a representative from Community First Yorkshire for potential co-option.

Members discussed at length which organisations should be represented on the Area Committee. It was proposed and agreed that because there were currently 5 County Council members on the Area Committee who were also members of Ryedale District Council, that the seats previously designated for 3 District Councillors nominated by Ryedale District Council should be deleted from the Area Committee membership. Members considered that there should be one representative from the Parish Councils and one representative from the voluntary sector and this should be Community First Yorkshire. These co-opted Members should be appointed for a one year period whilst a review of Area Committees was being undertaken.

Resolved -

That it be recommended to County Council on 19 July 2017 that the following be approved:

- (a) the seats previously designated for 3 District Councillors nominated by Ryedale District Council be deleted from the membership of Ryedale Area Committee;
- (b) the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on the Ryedale Area Committee:
 - One representative nominated by Community First Yorkshire.
 - One representative nominated from the Parish Councils in Ryedale.
- (c) that, the term of office for each nominated Co-opted Member shall be initially for a period of one year, until the meeting following the Annual Meeting of the County Council in May 2018, also subject to each Co-opted Member continuing to be eligible to represent his/her nominating body.

15. Programme of Work for Future Meetings

Considered -

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) advising of the present Work Programme for the Area Committee and inviting Members to consider any amendments and/or additional items for future meetings.

Members agreed the following amendments:

- The Stronger Communities representative would be invited to attend one meeting per year and send an update report to every meeting.
- NYnet – Superfast Broadband would be invited to the Committees' September meeting.

- The Fracking follow up and Green Energy Facility should be taken off the work programme; Issues and Energy in Ryedale should be inserted.
- Federation of Small Businesses, Farming and the Seamer Horse Fair items should be included in future meetings on the Work Programme. The Seamer Horse Fair item should be considered at the 15th November meeting, liaising with the District Council.

Resolved -

That the Work Programme, as amended to take account of Members decisions made at this meeting, be noted.

The meeting concluded at 1.30 p.m.

MD