

ARKENDALE, CONEYTHORPE AND CLARETON PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2009

Traffic speeding through villages

HBC has given a grant of £3000.00 towards installing a solar powered speed warning. Another grant has been applied for towards the total cost of approximately £4,500.00.

Fly Tipping and Village Maintenance

On 16 May Arkendale had a day collecting rubbish. Thank you to *everyone* who was involved.

The Fly Tipping has been an ongoing problem in the villages. HBC have *very* good at removing reported fly tipping.

Dog fouling in the villages is still a problem. HBC have promised leaflets and signs but, as yet, there are no signs in Coneythorpe. It is an ongoing problem.

Rodents have been a problem at Clareton but the problem has been improved with the help of HBC and a local farmer, Ian Gill. NYCC have promised to improve the drainage on the road and the roadside banking. This work has been scheduled, but as yet not carried out.

Improved bus stops were offered and taken up in Arkendale but declined by Coneythorpe.

NYCC had repaired the road on the way into Coneythorpe (from Flaxby) and the road from Coneythorpe to Clareton Moor Farm

Daffodil Bulbs.

HBC have given the villages daffodil bulbs and these were planted last winter. We hope the bulbs will be available again this year.

Conservation Area

A discussion was held at the Parish Council regarding the possibility of Arkendale becoming a Conservation Area. Coneythorpe is already a Conservation Area but Arkendale have declined in the past and that is still the consensus.

The Mar

The PC has not been involved in the renovation and maintenance of The Mar as the past Chairman, Tim Braithwaite, said he would see it through to its conclusion.

Red Telephone box in Arkendale

When the Parish Council were notified by BT that they were proposing to remove the red telephone box the PC applied to have the box listed by English Heritage. This is still ongoing but BT have not removed the box.

Parking on the village Green in Coneythorpe

After several complaints HBC enforced the ruling that no cars can park on the village green outside agreed areas.

Web Site

Gavin Holman has updated the web site. This will be controlled and updated by the Village Hall Committee and the PC will have a page, which we will update ourselves.

A59 junction at Flaxby

Concern has been raised about the volume of traffic on the A59 junction at Flaxby. It has increased significantly since the golf course opened and Morrisons expanded their operation.

There is now a proposal for a hotel complex by Skellwith Group of York to develop the golf course into a luxury five star hotel. This will increase the volume of traffic on this junction. We have had no success to date.

Waste Incinerator at Allerton Quarry

Mr John Watson, NYCC Councillor, brought this proposed waste incinerator to the attention of the Parish Council in January. He informed the PC that the proposed building would be a 200-foot high chimney and a 100-foot high building. There are three proposed sites: Dalton airfield near Thirsk, Burn airfield near Selby and Allerton Quarry and Allerton is the preferred site. This building would be in our Parish and my concern was that other Parish Councils in the local area would not be aware of this proposed massive development.

I then contacted the surrounding PC's and we arranged an unofficial meeting of PC chairmen, councillors and clerks. The first meeting agreed that we should take the information back to our Parish Councils to discuss our concerns and the possibility of having to fund some further investigations, as facts were virtually none existent.

At the second meeting of the local PC's Dalton anti-Incinerator Steering Committee Action Group (DISC) gave a presentation showing how and why they had set up an objection. We also had a presentation by Peter Torrible from the Land & Development Practice, who have been working with Tockwith and their anti-incineration group. They were both very informative and I learned a lot about waste incineration.

It was decided that we should organise a full public meeting at which NYCC, NYCC Councillors, and DISC Action group.

This public meeting was held at Great Ouseburn Village Hall on 8 April 2009. A total of 165 people attended. Of those who attended the meeting the majority decided to join with DISC to form a joint action committee to fight the proposed development of an incinerator at either Allerton or Dalton.

Parish Councillors

We have been short of one Parish Councillor for nine months as Malcolm Howe resigned due to work commitments. I would like to thank him for his contribution during his tenure.

I would also like to thank Amanda Cuthbert, Sarah Shipman and Peter Houseman for their help and support during the last year

Parish clerk

Peter Thorndyke has resigned after this meeting to pursue other things. I would personally like to thank him for the help he has given me over this past year. He will be missed.

Peter L Topham - May 2009