

ARKENDALE, CONEYTHORPE & CLARETON

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 18th May 2010 at 7.30 p.m.
in the Village Hall, Arkendale.

Present: Mr P Topham (Chairman of the Parish Council), Cllr John Watson (North Yorkshire County Council), Cllr Anthony Alton (Harrogate Borough Council) and 19 local electors.

In Attendance: Mrs Z Hopps (Clerk to the Parish Council).

1. **Apologies for absence.** None.
2. **Waste Incinerator at Allerton Park Quarry.** Cllr John Watson (NYCC) gave an update on the issue. There will be an announcement of the preferred bidder in the first week of June, followed by debates at NYCC and HBC, all the usual planning stages and then possibly a judicial review. In addition the new Government has announced an enquiry into all PFI (private finance initiative) contracts. This will be a £1billion contract, and if it goes ahead it will process 450,000 tonnes of domestic waste each year from all over North Yorkshire, via sorting, anaerobic digestion and incineration. Cllr Watson said that he considered that this was an enormous financial risk for the County Council and that he would be voting against it. Alternative schemes could include the sorting and anaerobic digestion but no incineration, with material for incineration being sent to the burners at Middlesbrough.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting.** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th May 2009 having previously been circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
4. **Annual Report of the Parish Council:**
 - 4.1. The Chairman presented his report detailing the work of the Council during the year and outlining the issues that face the community (*copy appended to the minutes*).
 - 4.2. Finance. The Clerk to the Parish Council presented an unaudited summary of the Council's Annual Accounts for 2009/10.
5. **Questions and comments arising from agenda items 2 and 3.**
 - 5.1. The Chairman asked for a show of hands regarding the installation of a new bench seat at The Mar, and the meeting was overwhelmingly in favour.
 - 5.2. Website – Gavin Holman confirmed that all the old minutes are now available on a CD, with extracts on the website.
6. **Any other items raised by any elector.**
 - 6.1. A request was made that the Neighbourhood Watch sign on Shortshill Lane was replaced.
 - 6.2. A request was made for a village sign – perhaps using an old millstone, as in other villages.
 - 6.3. A query was made about unfinished building works in the village.
 - 6.4. A request was made for overhead electric cables to be put underground.
 - 6.5. Concerns were raised over the lack of fast broadband in the village.
 - 6.6. The Chairman of the Parish Council asked for suggestions for projects for a new 'participatory budgeting' fund of up to £2,000.
7. **Date and Time of next meeting.** The next Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed for Tuesday 10th May 2011.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m