

ARKENDALE, CONEYTHORPE AND CLARETON PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2012

Parish Council meetings

We have five meetings per year in September, November, January, March and May.

Parish Councillors

I would like to thank, Sarah Shipman, Dave Smith and Peter Houseman for their help and support during the last year. We had a resignation from Amanda Cuthbert in May 2011. An election was called but no applicants came forward. The Parish Council distributed a leaflet in Arkendale and we had two applicants. The Parish councillors interviewed both candidates and appointed Deane Bailey to the Council. He was co-opted to the council at the meeting on 7th September.

The PC has also had good support from County Councillor John Watson OBE and Harrogate Borough Councillor Antony Alton and I look forward to their continued support.

Parish Clerk

At the last AGM Zillah Hopps, Parish Clerk, informed the PC that she was resigning due to work pressures. We appointed a new clerk, Caroline Brown, who started on 1st December 2011. She also had to resign due to work pressure, and left at the end of March 2012. We have now appointed Chris Hudson as our new parish clerk.

Planning Applications

Planning applications have been dealt with throughout the year.

Pumpkin Cottage, Coneythorpe - extension to rear of property. planning approved.

Poplars Farm Cottages Ferrensby - erection of stables, planning approved

West View Barns Arkendale - formation of door and double glazing (Listed building) Approved subject to conditions.

Moor House Farm, Moor Lane, Arkendale - wind turbine on 15m mast. Approved with conditions

Hillbank House, Coneythorpe - Single storey extension. Approved with conditions.

Flooding in Clareton

NYCC have carried out drainage repairs in Clareton and the flooding has been resolved.

Coneythorpe Village Green

The parking on the village green has been resolved.

Coneythorpe

Coneythorpe has had its conservation status renewed. The villagers had a great deal of input and are pleased with the result.

BT phone box in Arkendale

The village has bought the BT phone box on Moor Lane for £1.00 and we now want input from the village on how we should use it.

Fly Tipping and Village Maintenance

The Fly Tipping has been an ongoing problem in the villages. HBC are very good at removing reported fly tipping. There has been a Spring-clean in Coneythorpe and Arkendale, which was very successful in removing litter.

Dog fouling in the villages is still a problem. HBC will investigate any fouling problem if reported. There is a £50.00 fine for any violation.

Bulbs

HBC gave crocus bulbs to the villages and these were planted in Arkendale last winter. Thank you to all the villagers who came along to help plant them. We have been offered bulbs again this coming year.

The Marr

The PC is investigating becoming more involved with the maintenance of The Marr due to the fact that we cannot find any ownership since 1986.

Web Site

Gavin Holman has continued to maintain an excellent web site. The PC thanks him for his time and efforts.

Parish Consultation Meeting

There is a consultation meeting with HBC attended by all parish councils every year. We asked four questions, two regarding the Allerton incinerator and ribbon development in the immediate area, if planning was approved and about the landscape character assessment areas.

Following these consultations Harrogate District Council and the HBC planning department rejected the Allerton Park Incinerator and sent a strongly worded letter to NYCC asking for the proposal to be dropped.

The other two questions regarded the A59 Flaxby road junction and the potholes in and around the villages. The junction at Flaxby Moor is having a roundabout constructed and the end of Flaxby lane is to be a left turn only on completion. NYCC are repairing potholes in the parishes with help from a fund from HSS of £3000.00,

Road Repairs

Holgate Bridge in Arkendale is being monitored for deterioration.

Police Visit

We had a visit from PCSO Alistair Graham-Merrett who discussed speeding through the villages and that monitoring systems were controlled by the Fire Service. He said that the police would set up a speed check in the village and the police are applying for a monitoring kit for Arkendale Moor Lane. Also discussed was the heavy traffic coming through Arkendale. He told us to get in touch with trading standards at NYCC. He also advised on the local crime figures - there was only one recorded crime in the area since between January and end of March.

Waste Incinerator at Allerton Quarry

I am Chairman of a Parish Council Group (PCG) which is a group of our surrounding Parish Councils, NYWAG and Friends of the Earth. The group are opposing the incinerator. Harrogate Councils decision to reject the proposal is a major boost to the opposition of the Allerton Park incinerator. The proposal is currently in the planning officer's stage and is due for a decision between July and September 2012.

NYCC has also produced a waste strategy for 2012 which is proposing that waste be dealt with as close to its source as possible, which flies in the face of the current proposal. The waste strategy is on NYCC web site and we suggest anyone who is concerned look at it and write to NYCC.

Peter L Topham - May 2012
Chairman Arkendale, Coneythorpe and Clareton Parish Council