

Tanfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday 25th March 2014
TIME: 19.00 hrs
LOCATION: West Tanfield Memorial Hall
PRESENT: Councillors Peter Hull (Chairman), David Parkinson (Vice-Chairman), Steven Houston and Chris Pennock.
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
Bob Trehwitt

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Hull welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – none.

3. APOLOGIES – none.

4. MINERALS AND WASTE JOINT PLAN – ISSUES & OPTIONS CONSULTATION

The Parish Council considered the latest consultation on the Minerals and Waste Joint plan and agreed the following comments for submission to North Yorkshire County Council:

- The consultation is not fit for purpose in terms of engaging non-specialist stakeholders such as volunteer Parish Councillors. Future exercises should include questions phrased in layman’s terminology, perhaps with rating options.
- The plan should be seen in the context of a country wide strategy for minerals extraction. The rationale behind this being that central London is one of the greatest consumers of minerals yet has no extraction sites; or that North Yorkshire has no ports in to which minerals could be landed thereby limiting its access to marine produced aggregate.
- The minerals and waste aspects of the plan should, in view of the decline of landfill restoration schemes, be separated.
- Careful consideration needs to be given to the weighting of the strategic objectives, some of which could be viewed as being biased towards development. For example restoration using wetland / water based restoration schemes could help to meet biodiversity targets, but should not necessarily be a reason for granting permission in the first place.
- Care must be taken when considering mineral extraction in areas likely to contain historical or archaeological artefacts, whether that be refusing permission for mineral extraction to retain them in situ or ensuring that appropriate schemes are in place through conditioning.
- Consideration must be given to appropriate restoration of sites to respect the affected landscape.

It was agreed that comments received by the Parish Council from Dick Lonsdale should be forwarded to North Yorkshire County Council.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – none received for consultation.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was confirmed as being on Tuesday 22nd April 2014 at 7pm in West Tanfield Memorial Hall.

7. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING

- Status of Parish Plan.
- Sewerage pipe between Thornborough and West Tanfield.
- Tour de France signage – feedback on comments / complaints from highways offices and police.

Meeting closed at 19.50 hrs.

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Iona Taylor, Clerk to the Parish Council.

SIGNED:(Chairman)

DATE: