

Western Area Parish Forum
Notes of the meeting held at
Coxwold Village Hall
Tuesday, 22 October 2019 at 7.15 pm

Present:

Ingleby Greenhow	Terry Sutcliffe, Lyn Smith, E Martin
Bilsdale Midcable PC	Jenny Smith, Gary Silver
Carlton in Cleveland	Mike Bannard, Anne Bannard
Coxwold PC	Simon Le Gassicke
Kirkby in Cleveland	Mike Weighell
Helmsley TC	Chris Parkin
Nether Silton	Sarah Haynes
Kepwick and Landmoth PC	Kathryn Clark, Jane Ratcliffe
CPRE	David Goodman
Kilburn, High and Low PC	Jane De Cogan
Thirlby	Kate Hoskin
NYCC	Val Arnold
Forestry England	Alan Eves, Nigel Rylance
National Park Members	Malcolm Bowes, Caroline Patmore
National Park Staff	Andy Wilson (Chief Executive), Chris France (Director of Planning/Convenor), Simon Bassindale (Senior Ranger West Area), Judith Seaton (PA to Chief Executive)

1. **Welcome** – Val Arnold as Chair welcomed everyone to Coxwold Village Hall.
2. **Apologies** – Jeremy Walker (NYMNPA); Great Busby Parish Meeting; Rievaulx Parish, Ingleby Arncliffe Parish, Stephen Arnold (NYCC).
3. **Notes of the meeting** held on 9 April 2019 were agreed with one amendment to 5. On Green Lanes the MP is Rishi Sunak.
4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Public Question Time** – none
6. **Green Energy in Rural Communities - introduction to Rural Communities Energy Fund and the opportunities it brings** - Alan Millar Rural Community Energy Fund Project Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority gave a brief outline of this new fund.

RCEF provides support to rural communities in 2 stages:

- stage 1: grants of up to £40,000 for a feasibility study for a renewable energy project
- stage 2: grants of up to £100,000 for business development and planning of feasible schemes

It needs to fit the 3 government aims:

- Support rural communities
- Meet Government targets
- Support rural growth and job creation

Does not include equipment and installation costs these have to be funded by loans paid by community shares and charge users and the national grid for the cost of the energy supplied. The Feed in Tariff ceases this year and is to be replaced with Smart Export Guarantee but details of this are not yet known.

Planning in the National Park generally supports appropriately sited solar panels on buildings and in most cases on houses they are permitted development except for on listed buildings. In open fields, permission has been granted for a small of solar panels cluster but not largescale. National policy has changed on wind farms which are not supported and government focus is now on offshore.

For further information please contact Alan on Alan.Millar@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk
Background information provided by Alan Millar is Community Energy England, where there is a wealth of information:-

https://hub.communityenergyengland.org/projects/?project_type=community_energy_project gives specific information about projects but it is worth having a look around the site generally for anyone who is interested.

The local energy tab of the Centre for Sustainable Energy-
<https://www.cse.org.uk/local-energy/> also gives information and case studies.

There are not a huge number of rural Community Energy projects out there, hence the fund, but projects such as Power Up North London, Brent Pure Energy, and Chester Community Energy give an idea of some schemes that are slightly more modest in scope.

Websites like <https://www.shareenergy.coop/investing/> show the types of scheme looking for funding through Community Share Issues at the moment, and Energy4All <https://energy4all.co.uk/> gives further information about funding models.

7. **Forestry England – Forest Design Planning Principles and Public Consultation** – Nigel Rylance and Alan Eves gave an outline of the general principles of forest design and the public consultation with particular reference to the Guisborough Forest Design Plan consultation. <https://www.forestryengland.uk/forest-planning>
8. **Theft of Village signs** – the Forum discussed the issue of the cast iron village signs being stolen and appearing at architectural sales such as Newark.
9. **Freedom Camping Club application**
A discussion was held on the granting of camping or touring caravanning exemption certificates which allows recreational organisations to organise camping for their members on sites owned by them or with landowner's permission during a season thereby not requiring planning permission. This has been used successfully and with no issues by some organisations such as the Camping and Caravan Club. Normally they would consult with the National Park who can object. This is creating problems at Ingleby Greenhow where a camp site has been set up down a narrow access lane and it has been suggested that shepherds' huts are to be installed – which can be done if they are mobile and on wheels. The exemption certificates are administered by Natural England.. There are other planning loopholes created by the 1960 Caravan Act and other National Parks have raised this with the Minister Lord Gardiner to seek closure of loopholes. Local Authorities can apply to the Secretary of State to have an exemption certificate removed but the National Park Authority does not have the same powers and the only other option would be an Article 4 directive through its planning powers. The Authority will visit the site and contact Freedom Camping Club and Natural England to see if this can be resolved.
10. **NYnet Broadband Poles in the Park (Ingleby Greenhow)** BT have not consulted on the installation of broadband poles in villages. The government has taken such installations out of the planning system so the Authority does not get consulted on these. It was agreed that a further letter to the one sent in October 2017 be sent to NYnet Chair and CEO, copied to NYCC and involve NYCC Councillor David Hugill.

Action: Letter to be sent to NYnet and others to ask for consultation on installation of any broadband poles and to be notified of the programme of installation.

11. Protected Landscapes Review

The Authority's response to the Call for Evidence can be viewed on our website <https://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/about-us/how-the-authority-works/landscapes-review> with a link on there to the full 168 page report which has now been published. The Protected Landscapes Review suggests that National Park Boards should be appointed by a quango in London to whom they should report; <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-landscapes-national-parks-and-aonbs-2018-review>

12. Update on National Park Authority Business by Malcolm Bowes, Parish Member:

- a) The Protected Landscapes Review suggestion that Members of the Authority be appointed by a quango in London to whom they should report is not thought to be a good thing - it is better to have local appointment and representation
- b) Ryevitalise project
- c) Sutton Bank additional car parking spaces hopefully will resolve the parking issues at busy times.
- d) Apprentices
- e) Cleveland Way turns 50 – celebration events
- f) Parish elections – thanked everyone for voting for him.

13. Suggestions for new agenda items – please email j.seaton@northyorkmoors.org.uk with any suggestions.

14. Any Other Business

Simon Bassindale (Senior Ranger, West Area) advised the Forum of the Village Improvement Scheme grants which are available. Small amounts of funding which can be used to repair public buildings, paths, natural features for example village nameplates in Oldstead, signage in Osmotherley, reinstating gravestones in Helmsley memorial churchyard. Please contact Simon for further information <mailto:s.bassindale@northyorkmoors.org.uk>

15. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting:

Tuesday, 21 April 2020 at 7.15 pm

Tuesday, 20 October 2020 at 7.15 pm