

**HELMSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**AGENDA for the Monthly Meeting of Helmsley Town Council**  
**to be held in the National Park Meeting Room on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 6:30pm**

**Part One – opening business**

**1 Apologies**

To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

**2 Code of Conduct**

To receive declarations as required by the Code of Conduct.

**3 Public Comments**

To receive comments from the public for future consideration.

**4 Minutes**

To agree and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> September and the Extraordinary Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

**Part Two – For Information**

**5 Exchange of Information and items for next agenda**

**a) Chairman's Report**

**b) Clerk's Report**

- I. Annual Parish Assembly on Tuesday 6 May 2016 at 6:30pm, National Park Committee Room. Two Environment Agency officers will talk about the regulatory functions of the EA with reference to Shale Gas or 'fracking'.
- II. NYMNPA New Member to be appointed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. [Applications](#) close 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015.
- III. Update requested from RDC Streetscene about any plans for the Market Place.
- IV. Documents received and sent to councillors:
  - a. Helmsley Town Council Autumn 2015 Newsletter.
  - b. [Response about procedure for Shale Gas applications](#) from Policy Analyst, Planning: Infrastructure & Environment Division, Dept. Communities and Local Government.
  - c. Kevin Hollinrake MP's [Report on his Fracking](#) Fact Finding Trip to the USA.
  - d. NY Police September News Update and Statistics.
  - e. The delegated response to [NYM/2015/0294/FL](#) and [NYM/2015/0295/LB](#) - The Crown Hotel, 21 Market Place, Helmsley. Appendix 1 (Ordinary Meeting 28 September 2015) *Appendix 1*
  - f. The delegated response to [NY/2015/0233/ENV](#) - KMA Wellsite, Alma Farm, off Habton Road, Kirby Misperton, (ExtraOrdinary Meeting 30 September 2015). *Appendix 2*.
  - g. RDC Streetscene – update on plans for the Market Place – there will be a consultation.
  - h. Ryedale Market Towns July Meeting Notes. Next meeting February 2016 tbc.
  - i. NYCC [Bus Subsidy Reduction Report](#) and update.
  - j. YLCA Advice on the Recording of Meetings (due before the meeting)

**6 NYCC Area 4 Highways, Kirby Misperton**

- A representative from NYCC Area 4 Highways will address and council and answer questions:
- a) NYCC Review of parking in front of the Black Swan. Deadline for BS response is 13 Nov 15
  - b) NYCC Traffic Regulation Orders for Helmsley.
  - c) NYCC Winter Grit Bin/Grit Heaps Review.
- And respond to the following matters raised by residents and the council:
- d) The A170 Thirsk to Helmsley - consider a 40 mph speed restriction from the top of the hill.
  - e) Cannons Garth - unrestricted parking on the northern aspect causes issues for emergency vehicles and farm traffic. Parking issues will increase as the houses are completed
  - f) Carlton Road/Bondgate Corner – danger of unrestricted parking at busy junction with lights.
  - g) Outside the old NatWest building and Claridges – the problems caused by Blue Badge holder parking (NYCC – this has been passed to County Hall for consideration as it is a District, possibly County wide, issue in some locations).
  - h) Any other NYCC Area 4 Highways matters with reference to Helmsley.

**7 Planning and Tree: To receive a decision and notice of withdrawn applications**

- a) **NYM MRA/2089** Trees in Conservation Area – Brimstone Cottage, 40 High Street, Helmsley for Mr Dacre. Removal of lower branches up to head height. **Decision** No Objection.(council not consulted)  
The following applications have been withdrawn:
- b) **15/00987/HOUSE** Longhouse, Pottergate, Helmsley. Installation of internal staircase to allow access to first floor loft storage area for Mrs Emmy Burdon

c) **13/01364/73A** Longhouse, Pottergate, Helmsley. Variation of Condition 12 of approval 12/00264/FUL dated 27.06.2012 to state 'The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plan(s): Drawing no.968\_AR50\_06\_' substitution of plan – increase in height of dwelling and alterations to windows and door for Mrs Emmy Burdon

**8 Meetings, training and events: To receive reports**

- a) SLCC Training Day 1 October at Wetherby. (The clerk, notes circulated).
- b) YLCA Ryedale Branch Meeting 7 October at Malton. (notes to be circulated)
- c) Meeting with Library Volunteers at the National Park Office 13 October.
- d) RDC Parish Liaison 21 October at Malton.

**9 Finance, Audit and Governance**

- a) To receive and note the [Bank Reconciliation](#) to the 30 September 2015.
- b) To receive and note the [Running Budget](#) to the 30 September 2015.
- c) To note the following payment by Direct Debit to NEST Pension Scheme, £334.84 submitted on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015.
- d) To receive the updated Asset Register – Roman Coins added.

**Part Three – for determination**

**10 Planning Applications**

- a) **Application No.** [NYM/2015/0652/FL](#) **Address** 18 Market Place, Helmsley  
**Proposal** Alterations to building to include blocking up of windows, installation of new door, re-rendering works, alterations to fenestration, replacement handrail and installation of drainage channel. **Applicant** Thomas of York Ltd
- b) **Application No.** [15/01134/LBC](#) **Address** 39 Bridge Street, Helmsley **Applicant** Mr D Boddy  
**Proposal** External and internal alterations to include conversion of store room to form an office, 3no. replacement Yorkshire sliding sash windows to south and east elevations, 3no. replacement casement windows to north elevation and replacement quoins to north elevation.

**11 Helmsley Town Council Library Volunteers**

Motion from Helmsley Town Council Library Volunteers  
"The Helmsley Library volunteers are working to keep the town library in its present location in the Town Hall. We are asking for a commitment from the Town Council to assist the Town Hall trustees and the Community Led Library to cover any shortfall that may occur."

**12 Helmsley Library**

- a) To consider if the council supports a move to the North York Moors National Park Authority if NYCC decide it is feasible, their preferred option and on proviso that all avenues have been explored with the Town Hall Trustees.
- b) To consider supporting Expressions of Interest. (none received when agenda issued)

**13 Streetlights**

- a) To consider replacing the streetlight which was removed without notice by Northern Powergrid when they replaced one of their poles – 23 Ashdale Road or to buy an LED lantern if NP will allow one to be put on.
- b) To note that now the contract with NYCC is operational, 21 streetlights with faults have been reported and that the work will include at least 3 reconnections at a cost of around £1,500.

**14 Meetings and Events: To consider attendance**

Ryedale Five Towns at Kirkbymoorside on Tuesday 10 November 2015.

**15 Policies**

To review Standing Orders.

**16 Litter Bin**

To consider installing a litter bin near the seat by the bridge and beck by Church Street at a cost of around £300-£400.

**17 Local Council Award Scheme - Foundation Level**

- a) **The council resolves that it publishes online:**
  - 1 Its standing orders and financial regulations
  - 2 Its Code of Conduct and a link to councillors' registers of interests
  - 3 Its publication scheme
  - 4 Its last annual return
  - 5 Transparent information about council payments
  - 6 A calendar of all meetings including the annual meeting of electors

- 7 Minutes for at least one year of full council meetings and (if relevant) all committee and sub-committee meetings
  - 8 Current agendas
  - 9 The budget and precept information for the current or next financial year
  - 10 Its complaints procedure
  - 11 Council contact details and councillor information in line with the Transparency Code
  - 12 Its action plan for the current year
  - 13 Evidence of consulting the community
  - 14 Publicity advertising council activities
  - 15 Evidence of participating in town and country planning
- The council resolves that it has:**
- 16 A risk management scheme
  - 17 A register of assets
  - 18 Contracts for all members of staff
  - 19 Disciplinary and grievance procedures
  - 20 A policy for training new staff and councillors
  - 21 A record of all training undertaken by staff and councillors in the last year
  - 22 A clerk who has achieved 12 CPD points in the last year
- b) To consider applying for Foundation Level Accreditation and to agree to pay the fee of £50 to the YLCA.

**18 The Limes Play Area – Grant Application and Consultation**

- a) To consider carrying out a consultation at Helmsley School about play equipment for The Limes Play Area for a grant application of up to £10,000.
- b) To consider appointing Mrs D Farley to make a grant application for play equipment at a cost of £75.

**19 Meeting Documents**

To consider if the council wishes to make as many meeting documents as possible available on its website by printing out where links cannot be provided, redacting where necessary, scanning and putting onto its website.

**20 Working Group**

To consider setting up a Working Group to research Shale Gas and to consider the Working Groups terms of reference.

**21 Finance, Audit and Governance**

- Unity Bank and HSBC**
- a) To consider just having a Unity Current A/C and not a Deposit Account as no interest is paid.
  - b) To consider leaving the HSBC Current A/C open for up to 6 months and if so, to consider the balance to be left in.
  - c) To consider transferring £10,000 from the HSBC Current Account to the Unity Current Account by cheque.
- Recreation Charity (Appendix 4)**
- d) To note that a cheque for £601.69 will be received by the council from the Recreation Charity towards the building renovation costs and that this payment together with the balance of a grant from RDC of £2,105.84 will, when added to the 106 funding, balance the expenditure incurred by the Town Council in respect of the Sports facility on Baxtons Road. [Spreadsheet Summary](#)
  - e) To agree and sign cheques for the final payments of £20,185.20 (Net £16,821, Vat £3,364.20, chq no 101508) to S & GM Clements Ltd and £4,449.41 (Net £3,707.84, Vat £741.57) to D.A. Dowkes Electrical for the second stage of work at the Sports facility.
- Other**
- f) To agree the purchase of a wreath for Remembrance Day 2015.
  - g) To consider the purchase of a Voice Recorder for use at meetings for under £70.
  - h) To consider the transfer of £500 from two accounts, Travel Expenses and General Maintenance Budgets, into Contingency.
  - i) To consider items for the draft budget and to appoint two councillors to help draft the budget.
  - j) To agree payments and to sign cheques.

**Signed**

**Date**

## **Appendix 1**

[NYM/2015/0294/FL](#) and [NYM/2015/0295/LB](#) - The Crown Hotel, 21 Market Place, Helmsley

**Decision** The plans are an improvement but the council has concerns about the provision of parking.

## **Appendix 2**

[NY/2015/0233/ENV](#) - KMA Wellsite, Alma Farm, off Habton Road, Kirby Misperton, North Yorkshire

**Decision** Helmsley Town Council opposes application [NY/2015/0233/ENV](#) ('the application') on the following grounds.

1.0 The application is inconsistent with the following policies set out in the Ryedale District Council Local Plan Strategy (adopted 05/09/13):

SP6, Delivery and Distribution of Employment/Industrial Land and Premises  
SP12, Heritage  
SP13, Landscapes  
SP14, Biodiversity  
SP16, Design  
SP17, Managing Air Quality, Land and Water Resources  
SP20, Generic Development Management Issues (Character; Design; Amenity and Safety; Access, Parking and Servicing)

2.0 The application is inconsistent with the following 'saved' policies set out in the North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan, adopted 1997:

3/5, Building Sand, Non-Aggregate & Energy Minerals  
4/1, Determination of Planning Applications  
4/5, Other Areas of Landscape Quality  
4/6, Nature Conservation and Habitat Protection - National/International  
4/10, Water Protection  
4/13, Traffic Impact  
4/14, Local Environment and Amenity  
4/17, Importation of Waste

3.0 Other material considerations:

- Erosion of Ryedale's rural character by industrialisation, and precedent created by approval of this application
- Impact on tourism and consequent loss of income and jobs
- Increase in HGV movements through Helmsley and the surrounding area
- Groundwater pollution risks and insufficient baseline monitoring as required by The Infrastructure Act (2015)
- Minerals and Waste Joint Plan Issues and Options Supplementary Sites Consultation – Summary of Responses (May 2015), comments nos. 0013, 0332, 0016, 0491, 0399, 0018, 0500, 0017, 0015, 0182

Helmsley Town Council would wish to draw the committee's attention to the Eighth Report of the Government's Environmental Audit Committee, Environmental Risks of Fracking, (21st Jan 2015), with specific reference to point 2 of the 'Conclusions and Recommendations' which calls for "a moratorium on the extraction of unconventional gas through fracking", point 4 which questions the efficacy of the existing regulatory regime, and point 17 which states that "public acceptance is critical in determining whether fracking should continue in the UK" - members of the Council contend that Helmsley townspeople would not accept fracking in Ryedale.

Helmsley Town Council, in addition to supporting the Government's Environmental Audit Committee's Recommendations in the above paragraph, would support a five year moratorium as recommended in the report by Medact, Health and Fracking: The impact and Opportunity Costs, (2015), p32, cited below:

"On the basis of our existing knowledge, it would be both prudent and responsible to call for, at the very least, a five year moratorium on all activities related to shale gas development, in order to provide the time to:

a. Learn from more research that will be published in due course

- b. Debate and correct the deficiencies and uncertainties that have been identified in the current regulatory system
- c. Conduct a comprehensive and holistic health impact assessment that accounts for all the potential risks to health, including their cumulative and compound effects on each other; and be tailored to the specific geological, economic, environmental and social characteristics of the areas targeted for fracking; and be based on projected levels of fracking at an industrial scale.

On top of this, any consideration about the safety of fracking must incorporate an assessment of its impact on GHG emissions and climate change. Global warming is a real phenomenon, and there is virtually complete scientific, public and political consensus that is driven largely by man-made GHG emissions.”

Helmsley Town Council hereby formally opposes the application and recommends that permission for this development is refused.