**Parish Council Summary**

*Thank you very much for attending the Parish Meeting at Dunnington Reading Rooms or expressing an interest in receiving this update. Please find enclosed full details of discussed topics and additional information. All requested information at the Meeting is also enclosed which includes details about Road Maintenance Funding, Flood protection in Naburn and Planning Enforcement.*

*If you have any questions about areas covered in this summary then please do not hesitate to contact me and I shall get back to you as soon as I can.*

**A1237**

**Current Work:**

* City of York Council are spending £38 million for improvements to seven roundabouts on A1237 over the next four years.
* The roundabouts are: Wetherby Road, Monks Cross, Clifton Moor, Wigginton Road, Haxby Road, Strensall and North Lane.
  + Wetherby Road – work started in June and will continue until Spring 2019.
  + Monks Cross– work will start in early 2019 but site clearance could begin earlier.
* The plans for all roundabouts are based on providing three lane entries on ring road approaches to roundabouts and two lane exits when leaving roundabouts to continue on the ring road.
* Crucially, these upgrades will bring the roundabouts to dual-carriageway standard.
* At the Monks Cross junction there are no existing pedestrian or cycling facilities to upgrade but CYC continue to look for opportunities to implement cycling and walking infrastructure.
* At the Wetherby Road junction, options are being explored to upgrade existing rights of way to link Rufforth with Knapton, Northminster and Oakwood Business Parks, Acomb and the city centre, via the existing A1237 underpass near Knapton.

**Future Work:**

* Announcement at Conservative party conference that outer ring road was one of the first schemes to be successful in bid to Major Road Network fund.
* Further details will be released in the Spring but reports seems to suggest the road will be dualled from Hopgrove to Haxby Road, but possibly as far as the A19.
* Dualling will complement the roundabout upgrades and represents a big step towards achieving a road fit for purpose.

**Local plan**

* Held public meetings in Haxby in March, Strensall and Elvington last autumn.
* CYC are pushing for early public sessions to get the Local Plan delivered quickly.
* Adoption is scheduled for March 2019, depending on feedback.

**Latest ONS Figures update**

* Office for National Statistics recently revised down York’s projection for future household growth from 884 to 442. This statistic is a starting point for calculating future household needs so not necessarily a certain projection of how many houses need to be built.
* CYC have been engaging with DCLG over this since the figures became known. These figures may be a useful way of justifying our current number of 867 per year. CYC would have to go back out to consultation if they decided to change numbers now. Getting a Local Plan adopted is the best way forward.

**General Local Plan Info**

* York is moving closer to adopting its first Local Plan since the 1950s.
* Previous drafts of the LP have unsustainable levels of development which would place great pressure on local infrastructure and existing businesses. LP now offers 867 homes per year which is more sustainable.
* Headline additions are Imphal and Queen Elizabeth Barracks’. Imphal to deliver 769 dwellings but the site will remain open until 2031. Strensall to deliver 500, with development commencing 2023.
* Other major proposals are Whinthorpe – land to west of Elvington Lane. 3,339 dwellings proposed, 2,200 of which will be delivered within this local plan period. Proposal is down from 5,500 which was proposed in previous draft.
* Land east of Metcalfe Lane near Osbaldwick (845). Also land west of Wigginton Road – Clifton Gate (1,348).
* York’s transport network is under strain so it is vital that our local plan reflects capacity. Over capacity on our roads is bad for local business and enterprise, so the local plan needs to back businesses and residents.
* The York Central Site is over 100,000 sqm of prime property, office, leisure and retail space. 1,700-2500 homes will be delivered and it is a key to York’s economic future.
* York Central will include employment space in an integrated new urban quarter – will create business opportunities and expansions to the NRM and rail station as well. Station upgrades will bring further business opportunities to York.
* Recently supported CYC in submitting to the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) which if successful will see local infrastructure upgrades. The funding proposal is for York Central (£57m) and Clifton Gate (initial £9.845m).
* This bid has been successful in the first round. Announcements regarding second round likely early next year.
* Important funding to help local transport infrastructure able to support future business growth. Would also see upgrades from the Outer Ring Road to the Clifton Moor roundabout and access roads to the Clifton Gate development.
* HIF funding would help York Central delivery in accelerating delivery of housing and business growth.

**Brecks estate**

* Residents have contacted in the past concerned about the lack of maintenance work taking place on the Brecks estate. Brecks was largely built by Hogg the Builder and is non-adopted by the Council.
* Different open spaces on the Brecks estate have separate ownerships and status, so it is even more complicated to get wholesale maintenance taking place.
* Met with residents on-site last year with Gareth Arnold (Development Manager at CYC). He said CYC were negotiating with the liquidator and the non-adopted areas were going to be passed on to the Crown Estate. This is highly unusual but CYC would not be directly involved. Then wrote to the Crown Estate and they explained they would just be selling on the area and would not involve themselves in any ongoing maintenance.
* Latest from Gareth Arnold was that CYC had run out of actions they can take under planning legislation (Section 215s had previously been served to get grass cutting taking place).
* Will continue to work with ward Councillor Paul Doughty who has been active on this issue in the past.

**Germany Beck latest**

* Work has begun on delivering the 650 properties on Germany Beck site.
* Scheme includes £1.75m contribution to sports facilities and £2m contribution to school facilities.
* Raising of A19 to create access road into the housing site is intended to help prevent key route into the city from A64 and Selby being blocked by floodwater when the River Ouse floods.
* Last month CYC’s planning committee voted to approve application by Persimmon for a ‘non-material amendment’ to original plans for Germany Beck.
* The changes proposed included: realignment and re-positioning of houses and garaging following replacement of Hogg with Persimmon products and several slight alterations to pedestrian footpaths and the general layout of the development. Also includes changes to the ‘bat mitigation strategy, relates to timing for provision of bat mitigation works. CYC’s countryside and ecology officer said revised strategy is fine.
* Officers recommended approval as changes are ‘considered modest in scale and nature in the context of the overall scheme’.
* Happy to engage with Persimmon over any concerns the Parish Council has, but if they wish to seek legal advice over a High Court actions will be limited during that process.

**GDPR**

* We are now almost eight months into the new GDPR rules, recognise the level of concern amongst parish councils.
* Crucially, for those compliant with Data Protection Laws previously, very little has changed in the way we should handle and process data.
* There is very little yet in terms of precedents but yet to come across the Information Commission taking action against a parish council.
* Always more than happy to seek advice on behalf of parish councils for relevant advice in this area.

**Broadband**

* Held four meetings this year with Superfast West Yorkshire Programme Manager and Openreach Project Managers, alongside local residents and Parish Councillors.
* Main updates from that meeting are that Askham Richard had its cabinet and all remaining problems in people connecting should now be resolved. Local broadband - Phase 1 of the SFWY project has been completed. The infrastructure rollout has delivered superfast fibre broadband to over 64,500 premises across West Yorkshire, giving 97% coverage across the county.
* We are in Phase 2. This phase will extend the project to a further 28,000 homes and businesses across West Yorkshire and York soon. Phase 3 is in contract procurement at the moment (due to begin in mid-2019 and will be looking to connect the most rural areas. Happy to correspond with PCs to look at whether any specific areas in their patch will be part of Phase 3.

**Askham Bryan**

* Cabinet 28 – Scheduled to go live within 2-3 months. The recent delay has been due to Openreach waiting for properties to be migrated to the new cabinet. This cabinet covers the core of the village on Main Street and Askham Fields Lane heading south.
* Cabinet 21 – This went live in March 2018. This cabinet serves the south part of Askham Fields Lane towards York Road and further toward the A64.
* Cabinet 27 – This cabinet will serve premises within the College grounds and parts of York road to the west.

**Acaster Malbis**

* Cabinet 26 – Scheduled to go live in November.
* Cabinet 25 – Went live in mid-July.
* Cabinet 30 – This was previously scheduled for summer 2018 but has now been moved back to end of March 2019. Openreach said they had struggled with physical installation but I will continue to push them on timeframes.

**Fracking**

* Consultation was live until 25th October on government proposals for making non-fracking drilling permitted development and putting some shale projects into Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects regime
* Submitted to these urging retention of current planning powers. Also written to Ministers (as early as summer 2017) to oppose changes.
* Joint Minerals and Waste Plan (CYC, NYCC, Moors Nat Park) puts in place policies to restrict impact on communities.
* Plan under consideration by planning inspector – inspector waiting to hear from the 3 authorities on whether May’s written ministerial statement affects the draft Plan
* Ministerial Statement said ‘*plans should not set restrictions or thresholds across their plan area that limit shale development without proper justification’*
* Inspector suggested in April she was happy with the 500m separation distance
* City of York Council Planning Dept say they believe that the 500m zone has ‘proper justification’ (in terms of preserving character and setting of York, preventing disruption to residents, etc.) and they are taking legal advice on this on an ongoing basis.

**Flooding**

* York Environment Agency continuing to look at ways of reducing longer-term flood risk, especially through whole catchment/natural flood management methods

        Overall framework of 5 Year Plan for local Environment Agency team are working on – plan funded with £45 million allocated to reduce local flood risk after December 2015.

        Strong focus on reducing/slowing flow of water coming down into York as best way to lower flood risk – peak river level in city centre has been increasing annually over last century

         Work on natural flood management techniques and whole catchment methods, ensuring less water comes down from upland areas in the first place – water storage ponds, tree planting, dams, new land use techniques. Suggested more tree planting in Ryedale. Successful example of these methods at Pickering.

         Strensall Common identified by EA as potential site for these methods.

         Local EA say if natural flood management measures were introduced in every location identified through this project, it would reduce peak flood flows on the Foss in York by a maximum of 10%

        Environment Agency proposal for new Foss flood storage area 2km north-east of Strensall, between Walbutts House and East Liling Grange Farm – to protect 300 properties at risk from a 1:100 year flood event – construction expected to start early 2020

        Vital not to forget smaller communities on outskirts of York – Acaster Malbis, Naburn, Fulford, etc. (Please see attachment from EA regarding Naburn).

**Requested Information**

**Planning Enforcement**

I recognise and share the level of concern amongst parish councils about planning enforcement. I raised this with the head of planning at CYC, Mike Slater, in my recent meeting, passing on specific examples I heard at the meeting and issues I have raised with the council in my own correspondence.

Mr Slater accepted the points made and stressed that whilst planning enforcement is under severe pressure, work is taking place to help clear the back-log in enforcement and to improve the overall system moving forward.

Mr Slater outlined that work is taking place to refine the role planning enforcement takes. He felt conditions in planning permission had to be more sophisticated and manageable, to ensure conditions are not included in permissions which are unenforceable or have little impact on residents’ amenity. I feel this will help manage expectations and ensure planning enforcement are investigating genuine cases at a faster rate.

The new Head of Development Services at CYC, Becky Eades, is working on this alongside Mr Slater. I was promised a document outlining some of the changes which will be made in due course.

My office has since been in touch with Mr Slater and there has been a delay in producing the report, with it now expected in early Spring.

I will forward on a copy of the document when I receive it and will welcome further input on planning enforcement matters in the meantime.