

Present

Councillor G W Dadd in the Chair

Councillor	D E Adamson N D Clack P Featherstone	Councillor	N W Huxtable A Robinson M S Robson
Councillor	W F Barton Mrs C Patmore	North Yorkshire County Council	

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R A Baker, D S Murkett and D A Webster).

Also in attendance

Councillor C A Les

TAF.34

**MINUTES**

**THE DECISION:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 27 January 2009 (TAF.21 – TAF.33) be signed as a correct record. In respect of Minute TAF.26, Members wished to record their pleasure following the receipt of funding from Sport England to allow the redevelopment of Thirsk Swimming Pool to commence.

TAF.35

**COMMUNITY QUESTIONS**

The Head of Service – Development, Hambleton District Council, reported that the following question had been received:

1. Ms Catherine Lumb – Regarding Enforcement of Planning Condition 2 at The Grange, Thirkleby Park, YO7 3AR:
  - (a) on which date did HDC Enforcement make a valid (i.e. unannounced) inspection of the buildings at The Grange to establish whether or not the intensified use that had been reported represents a breach of Condition 2?
  - (b) Why did HDC Enforcement knowingly allow B8 depot use at this site, on 26 January 2009, in breach of Condition 2?

Response: (a) 6 November 2008

- (b) The owner of the site said this would be a “one-off” event; neighbours were made aware of this. It would have been disproportionate to take formal enforcement action; consequently the Council adopted a pragmatic approach in allowing the breach to occur. The owner was made aware that this should not happen again, if it is proven to continue then action may be taken.

2. A further question was raised by Mr D Cartridge regarding enforcement matters at Blakey Lane and the Auction Mart, Sowerby which was dealt with by the Head of Service – Development.

In respect of the questions from Peter Walker, Members requested a press release be issued about the entitlement to rate relief for small businesses.

TAF.36 **FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME IN THIRSK**

Members received a verbal report from Richard Hartley of the Environment Agency. The business case for works to commence was finely balanced in terms of cost and benefit due to the relatively low number of properties susceptible to flooding. Public consultations would take place in Thirsk in the near future in order to allow consultation on draft schemes.

**THE DECISION:**

That:-

- (1) the report be noted and Mr Hartley be thanked for his attendance; and
- (2) the Environment Agency be requested to remove silt around the bridges in Thirsk.

TAF.37 **LSP AREA FORUM ACTION PLANS**

The Head of Service – Development presented a report which provided an update on the Council led activities identified in the Thirsk and Villages Community Plan.

**THE DECISION:**

That the Council led projects detailed within in Annex A and B of the report and the progress made towards completion of these projects be noted.

TAF.38 **STREET SCENE ISSUES IN THIRSK**

The Street Scene Manager presented a report which provided information on Street Scene issues in Thirsk.

**THE DECISION:**

That the report be noted.

TAF.39 **UNTIDY LAND AND POTENTIAL SERVICE OF A S.215 NOTICE AT THOMPSON'S YARD AND BACK LANE, KILBURN**

The Head of Service – Development presented a report providing an update in relation to the current position regarding an increasing volume of complainants/queries about the untidy condition of the land at various parcels of land associated with and adjoining Thompson's Yard.

**THE DECISION:**

That the report be noted and a further update report be brought back to the next meeting.

TAF.40 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING ISSUES**

The Rural Housing Enabler presented a report setting out progress on Affordable Homes in the Thirsk area.

**THE DECISION:**

That the report be noted and the proposed affordable housing tours be supported.

TAF.41 **LINKS WITH YOUTH COUNCILS**

The Head of Service – Development presented a report which provided information on five Youth Councils which were being set up in Hambleton based around each of the market towns. These councils were new and did not replace existing school councils (that focussed solely on school issues) or voluntary sector youth management committees/councils (that focussed on a specific organisation's issues). NYCC's four Youth Teams were facilitating this process with support from North Yorkshire Youth.

**THE DECISION:**

That the background and purpose of Youth Councils detailed in the report be noted and that consideration of making the appropriate links be made once each youth council has determined their preferred approach.

TAF.42 **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Head of Service – Development reported that a Forward Programme would be developed for each Area Forum which would detail a timetable of reports to be presented at future meetings. Parishes were invited to put forward issues or topics of interest to be included within the programme.

The following items were identified for future agenda items:-

- Report on the background to planning enforcement at Thirkleby Hall once the current planning application is determined.
- Update report on untidy land at Kilburn.

Members requested that future meetings be held in The Old Courthouse at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

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Chairman of the Forum