

# **Neighbourhood Plan for Roecliffe and Westwick Parish**

Following the encouraging response to the Parish Council flyer circulated to residents and businesses, a meeting was held with Gill Ritchie, Harrogate Borough Council on Tuesday, 9 December 2014.

Present – Gill Ritchie, Richard Booth, Stuart Varley and Councillors Joyce Reeve, Dave Siswick and Scott Green.

## **Stage One**

Neighbourhood Plan Area identified and agreed as the Parish Boundary for Roecliffe and Westwick.

Qualifying Body for formulating the Plan will be the Parish Council

## **Stage Two**

Consultation and invitation to be involved.

All households and businesses in the area have been circulated with an invitation to respond by email or letter to the Chairman of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council has discussed the intention to formulate a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) with representative councillors from Bishop Monkton, Boroughbridge, Kirby Hill and Milby.

## **Visions and Aims of NP**

- To progress the area as an attractive place to live and to work.
- To identify possible areas for housing development.
- To identify the requirement for industrial development of existing and potential businesses.
- To preserve the character of the area as identified in the Roecliffe Conservatio Plan.
- To maintain the Primary School, Church and Crown Inn.
- To protect the environment of the Village Green, Village Common and Public Footpaths and Bridleways.
- To develop the areas as a place to visit and enjoy based on Ure Walks Through Time.
- To protect the already limited Public Transport.

## **Costs and Grants**

There will be secretarial and printing costs and also other expenditure on meeting facilities etc. A grant application can be made to "Locality" and to the National Lottery. Locality has an extensive website and are the leading facilitators for the production of Neighbourhood Plans.

HBC will provide maps and hours of professional advice at nil cost.

## **Stage Three**

Submit the NP for an independent check by a Cabinet Member of HBC, Michael Harrison.

## **Stage Four**

### **Community Referendum**

The costs of the Referendum would be paid by HBC.

Gill Ritchie stated that only Roecliffe and Westwick residents were entitled to vote.

Should more than 50% of the votes cast be in favour of the NP then the Local Planning Authority must bring it into force.

## **Stage Five**

Adoption of the NP by the Planning Authority ensures that any planning decision pertaining to the NP area must take the NP into account.

We were encouraged by the offer of Gill Ritchie to work with us in formulating the NP.

The Parish Council accepts that much voluntary effort will be involved in creating the NP but is of the belief that a NP is essential to develop and protect our neighbourhood in a manner acceptable to residents and businesses in our community.