

Roecliffe and Westwick Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Resident,

At the Parish Council meeting on 8th. September 2014, a decision was taken to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parishes of Roecliffe and Westwick. This will require your input.

There is no legal obligation to produce such a plan, it is a right conferred by this government. By the means of creating this plan, our own local community will be able to play a much stronger role in shaping our area, and to influence Harrogate Borough Council, and the North Yorkshire County Council. A positive vision can be set out of how we want our community to develop over the next 10, 15, or 20 years, in ways which make more sense to local people.

In this way, planning policies which we develop ourselves, will sit alongside the policies held by Harrogate Borough Council, and will be used when future planning decisions are being made. The plan will have legal status within the Harrogate Local Plan. In addition, the existence of the plan will lead to the potential for securing funds for the village from Commuted Sums raised by HBC from developers.

A committee of local people has been formed from those who responded to the flyer on this subject a few months ago. Their task is to produce the Neighbourhood Plan. There is a lot of work to do, and it is anticipated that it may take up to a couple of years to complete, although there are no deadlines. Anyone who feels they would like to contribute by joining our committee will be welcomed.

We would also invite anyone to offer assistance or contribution, in any way or on any related subject that they consider relevant to our goal. It is intended that this plan will represent the community opinion as far as is possible; from time to time we will make personal contact with you to make sure of this. Please let us have your suggestions. We intend to communicate with you regularly, to keep you informed of progress and content. There is nothing confidential in these proceedings.

Please kindly take a few minutes to read the Vision Statement which has been left behind, and when you have a few minutes take a look at the questionnaire. Seperate questionnaires should be completed by all members of your family who are over 18 and feel they have an input to make. Questionnaires are available as hard copies, or can be completed on-line. (Please note that Roecliffe Primary School are putting together a simplified questionnaire for Roecliffe & Westwick children to complete).

For those of you completing a hard copy, please let the representative of the Neighbourhood Plan team, who gives you this survey, have the completed questionnaire(s) back when he comes to collect them in about two weeks time. If possible we need all completed surveys back by October 18th.

If you have any questions, contact e-mails, or phone numbers are listed overleaf.

Dave Siswick September 2015

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