

**Public Meeting Held at the Eversley Park Centre
On 16th November 2015 Commencing at 8.00pm**

Councillors on stage :

- Paul Doherty (Parish Council Chairman) PD
- Robert Packham (Selby District and North Yorkshire Council Councillor) RP
- Mel Hobson (Selby District Councillor) MH
- David Buckle (Selby District Councillor) DB
- Also attending 75 members of the public and all Parish Councillors.
- BBC Look North

PD opened the meeting by requesting a one minute silence for the tragic events in Paris.

PD opened proceedings by apologising to all those present as the main speaker, Mark Crane, was not willing to attend the evening if the media were attending. Chairman did however leave the meeting open to allow the residents of Sherburn in Elmet to pass on their comments and opinions to the four councillors on stage. PD opened the meeting to the floor.

The floor showed concern towards the number of school places available to the children of the new residents along with the lack of Health and Dental Care existing at the moment and before the new residents move into their new houses. Public transport was also a worry and the lack of public toilets was also brought to the floor. PD said the toilets had previously been discussed at length.

A question was asked regarding the money per new house built and which is paid to Selby District Council (SDC) and whether it would be pumped back into Sherburn in Elmet. The questioner asked Councillor Packham to respond. Councillor Packham was not sure of the actual figure per house but would find out. Resident stated he had been told some years ago that this is £8k per house.

RP explained that the Doctors have put in bids for funding for extended facilities and another Doctor. The original planning brief for the Persimmon/ Redrow development included a new school. Unfortunately the Council subsequently considered this would not be necessary, and instead provision was made to extend Athelstan.

This provision for school places did not address the requirement generated by the planning application passed recently for 270 units and two further applications which are pending.

Whilst the extension to Athelstan will meet the requirement for Persimmon Redrow, further extensions to Hungate and /or Athelstan will be required if these additional developments go forward. RP was concerned about the ability of the Hungate site to accommodate the additional building expansion and of the development of both sites to take place before any additional housing developments are completed.

MH stated how the Parish Council were and are doing their best for the community, it's an uphill struggle at times with bureaucracy, but we will get there, unfortunately things don't happen tomorrow.

DB explained the Parish Council are taking the fight to SDC regarding new planning applications and how the most recent application, though still granted, was very close, by 4 and 3 with two councillors abstaining. DB pointed out how he was disappointed with the two who abstained.

The floor asked whether Sherburn High School would be able to cope. They went on to state how there was little for teenagers to do and nowhere to go in Sherburn. RP said there was spare capacity at the High School.

PD explained there were two issues regarding youth and these were lack of funding available in this area along with the lack of volunteers to help.

The floor pointed out to the councillors how going to the cinema was difficult for teenagers and how there is a reliance on parents taking and picking up. No public transport to places like Xcape is available but for Utopia there would be no buses. MH stated that he is trying to work on some youth facilities in the village so please be patient.

Question was asked why the Youth Club is no longer at the High School. RP explained how Sherburn High School raised their rents and the Youth Provider were not prepared to pay the additional cost. Eversley Park Centre was considered as an alternative but rooms were fully booked so not available. Therefore, the only alternative left was converting the garage situated alongside the library.

Concerns were shown regarding the high levels of traffic already existing in and around Sherburn asking what will it be like when all the new houses are fully occupied. It was said living down Moor Lane is already difficult when trying to pull out of the side streets on to Moor Lane itself due to the existing levels of traffic. Lorries pass down Moor Lane pass houses taking away any quality of life. No thought is given to the present residents of this village's quality of life it appears for years we will be living in a building site. PD informed the floor they had gone into this in great depth and only recently had submitted detailed comments regarding a new Transport Assessment commenting on the cumulative effects of proposed developments on Sherburn.

The floor felt that all the money from the new houses being built in Sherburn should stay in this Village to improve services and not be used to fund things in other areas. We need more Schools, Doctors, Dentists and certainly car parking. RP explained the Section 106 money calculated goes straight to SDC whose policy is very tight and excludes the youth service. He did say there will be a fully funded 3G playing surface laid at the High School. SDC have tight rules on what 106 funding could be spent on the question was asked whether we could change the rules. The Councillors replied it was not possible.

PD explained how a large amount of the Redrow/Persimmon Section 106 money went towards the off-site provision of affordable housing (£7.3 million out of £9.7 million, with another £2 million on Education). There is also the New Homes Bonus Sum which is paid back from central government. In our area this goes straight to SDC, the overall sum for which in 2015 to 2016 will be just over £2,000,000. Question was asked about what Affordable Housing actually means. PD explained that this is housing for rent - run by a Housing Association. The questioner then asked why we have people from anywhere in this housing? RP explained that initial tenants have to have links with the community but after that the Council have no real power as to who rents them.

Question was asked about the proposed upgrade of the Village Centre facilities, stating he could not get a reply to his request for who is on this Committee and copies of minutes from meetings. He has been told that none are available. Councillor Packham tried to respond by stating this is a Working Group not a Committee but was shouted down by the questioner who stated he knew why everything was done on the "quiet" and would not respond to the Chairman's request for a chance to give a reply - a member of the audience then told the person involved to "spill the beans or shut up, people had not come to listen to him" – met with loud applause from the audience.

The floor then stated they had a level of sympathy for the Parish Council who, obviously, are trying to do their best for this village. Also severely criticized the no show of Mark Crane. Surely it would have been good manners to arrange for the next in line to Mark Crane to attend this meeting? There was anger shown towards the policies of SDC, lack of leadership, no proper plan with a failure of policy being expressed. The leader failing to attend and answer questions showed complete disregard for the residents of this village. This comment was met with applause from the audience. PD agreed with these concerns insisting this was not satisfactory. PD did state that the cancellation was at such short notice nothing could be done. In the past we have also asked the Senior Planning Officer to attend meetings but it hasn't happened. A resident stated it was quite clear SDC do not want to listen to the public.

The floor asked what it would take to arrange another meeting. It would also be a good idea if not only Mark Crane but the Chief Planning Officer and anyone else at the top level be asked, maybe then at least one of them would show up. PD stated we would definitely try to arrange another meeting as soon as possible. Hopefully someone will agree to come along.

DB moved back to the housing by stating that Strata, being a smaller company, had been good neighbours working well with the village. He pointed out they had contributed a full kit to all age groups of the local junior football team. DB used this to add how important it was to get on with them.

A resident stated that there were times when Strata employees began work before the agreed start time, cranes and heavy machinery turning up at early hours and persisted in pile driving when initially they said this would not be a requirement. Other residents contradicted this stating that the Strata site manager had acted in a responsible manner.

Issues regarding the problem with parking were raised in particular with the recent opening of Aldi. It has led to the car park at the Eversley Park Centre being "clogged up" and made worse by Aldi staff parking in this car park rather than the shops. This led to a question regarding the possibility of extending the Eversley Park car park. PD said that at the moment it is early days and difficult to assess with MH stressing the importance of working with these people and not against them.

A resident stated that there had been a lorry delivering to the Aldi at 7am on a Sunday morning. PD asked for details to be submitted to the Parish Council so we can follow this up.

This led to the cleaning of the roads by the Housing developers. It was mentioned that the problem was not only the wagons coming off the sites but also traffic delays caused by the road sweeper and the noise it makes. It was suggested the wheels on the wagons should be cleaned before leaving site by a wheel wash. The Strata representative pointed out how they had gone from the road sweeper to the wheel wash but residents complained the wheel wash was too loud.

PD informed the meeting if they had any issues to let us know, with MH adding that by law the housing developers had to keep the roads clean but it's a situation that the builders get complaints if they use the road sweeper, but also get complaints if the roads are dirty and they haven't used the road sweeper.

The floor asked what could be done to help with regard to proposed developments. RP said they could write to SDC objecting to the planning applications and back us up. Also attend planning meetings at SDC when any further applications are up for decisions, so that the Council know how strong the feeling is in this village. PD explained that people would not be able to speak but would be allowed to attend, so the Parish Council will keep people informed of the date for the next hearing.

The top table was asked if the Parish Council had considered using individuals living within the village with specific skill-sets who may be able to provide further assistance/information in putting together a more robust case. PD confirmed the Parish Council would be grateful for any help anyone could

offer, the more people is involved the stronger the case that can be put forward.

The problem of traffic was brought up again by someone asking if it is congested at the traffic lights now, what will it be like when 1000 houses have been built and a further 1500 cars turn up. This village has virtually no bus services, at least not after 6pm in the evenings and weekends, trains services are useless if you wish to go and come back in the same day. So virtually every house built will be adding even more traffic to our congested village and the surrounding lanes. This village will just grind to a complete halt at shift change times and morning and evening rush hours.

PD said that it was only going to get worse but all the documents the Parish Council have submitted are available on the Selby Planning Portal. He went on to explain how currently the traffic lights in the village centre are standard ones which will be replaced by more up to date ones which will give fewer delays at quiet times. Someone on the floor stated they had tried on numerous occasions to access the portal without success. PD sympathised saying how at times he had logged on but the information was not available.

The Chairman then thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45pm.