

**Notes of the meeting of the Ryedale Five Towns Meeting
Held on 3 July 2018
At The Memorial Hall, Potter Hill, Pickering**

Present:

Councillor Andrew Gadsby (Pickering), Councillor Helene Haythorne (Pickering), Councillor Dinah Keale (Norton), Councillor Ray King (Norton), Councillor Jean Marsden (Helmsley), Councillor William Oxley (Pickering), Councillor Carol Swift (Helmsley).

Clerks: Gail Cook (Malton), Ros Tierney (Norton), Angela Dawson (Acting Clerk, Pickering).

Public speakers: Beckie Bennett (Delivery and Frontline Services Lead, Ryedale District Council) Sally Roger (Community Officer, Ryedale District Council).

1. **Apologies** were received from:

Councillor Angus Ashworth (Kirkbymoorside Town Council), (Lisa Bolland (Clerk to Kirkbymoorside Town Council), Victoria Ellis (Clerk to Helmsley Town Council).

2. **Notes of the meeting held on 27 March 2018** were approved.

3. **Matters arising** from the meeting held on 27 March 2018.

Agenda item 6, Development in the Towns. Pickering Town Council were broadly in support of a letter being sent to Ryedale District Council asking for the percentage allocations for new housing in Ryedale to be reviewed.

4. **Recycling, a presentation by Beckie Bennett.**

Beckie Bennett provided the meeting with leaflets given to residents explaining what could be recycled. Ryedale generally has good rates of recycling but it is acknowledged that public awareness could be improved and this will be done through the new Citizens Link publication which is produced by RDC and issued to all households twice yearly.

A motion was put forward at the last Ryedale District Council meeting asking for an investigation into increasing the range of plastic that was recycled and this was approved. This investigation will be carried out over the next two years. However, RDC send their recycling to YorWaste who dictate what plastics they will receive and there are cost implications, particularly if the quality of the recycling is reduced. At the moment RDC receives an income from recycling but this has not always been the case and two years ago they were paying to have their waste recycled. Recycling information and league tables are available on the Lets Recycle Now website.

RDC are part of the North Yorkshire Waste Management Partnership who have had discussions about ways to increase recycling across North Yorkshire. RDC have also started a trial of commercial recycling collections in Malton and Norton and will be looking to expand this.

A review of waste collection services is being carried out by RDC with a view to moving to an area based approach and some waste collection rounds will be changed to increase efficiency. There has been investment in new technology and new vehicles. The new waste transfer station will be operational from 2019.

The waste recycling centres in the RDC car parks will be looked at as part of a general car parks review. RDC will consider standardising the recycling compounds in the car parks and may consider moving them to improve their general appearance.

Community Team Officers are trained to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling and fly-tipping offences but as yet the legal process has not been completed to enable them to do this. Fly-tipping can be reported on the RDC website.

The road sweeper has only been used sporadically due to staffing issues. Plans are in place to create a mapping system to show where the sweeper is at any given time to improve efficiency.

One councillor mentioned Loop Industries who have created technology to turn old plastic waste into new plastic products. Their website address is www.loopindustries.com/en.

5. Don't be a Waster Campaign – presentation by Sally Roger.

The Don't be a Waster Campaign has been a success, particularly the dog fouling/responsible dog ownership topic. This campaign will continue but in future will focus on quarterly topics rather than monthly to increase the effectiveness of the campaign.

It was thought that young people and children should be made more aware of reducing waste and increasing recycling and Sally Roger said that the Community Team have been into local schools to get the message across.

6. Reducing plastic waste and increasing recycling.

Councillor Haythorne spoke about a possible project to set up a Five Towns Environmental Group and it was agreed that members would go back to their individual councils and ask if they were willing to take part in this. It was suggested that each of the five member councils could nominate two councillors to join the group. To start the project off a supply of reusable shopping bags could be purchased to give to shops in the towns. Some research had been done on reusable paper and jute bags, although it was acknowledged that further work could be done on this. 10,000 paper bags, printed with the Five Towns logo, could be purchased for £1000.00 and each council could be asked to contribute £250.00.

Other ideas were discussed such as asking shops to promote the use of refillable containers for their goods and encouraging shops to give free water bottle refills, which has been done by Selby Town Council. Malton Food Festival will no longer allow plastic cutlery and boxes at their next event.

7. Keeping towns tidy.

A discussion took place about the way that towns maintain the appearance of their public areas, beyond the services offered by RDC and the Highways Department. Each town has different ways of approaching this such as employing caretakers, cemetery staff and play area wardens. Malton and Norton have a tidy group using volunteers which is effective but these voluntary groups do have some limitations.

Mention was made of the Thornton Le Dale tidy group who have had a great deal of success in getting volunteers to do work tidying up the village. Community Payback were also mentioned and it was said that they have availability at the moment to take on new projects.

8. Any other business.

It was requested that parking should be made an agenda item for the next meeting as some towns have problems with inconsiderate and obstructive parking.

RDC are installing counters in all their public toilets to monitor usage and have installed some new litter bins which are able to compact rubbish, this is being done on a trial basis and may be particularly useful in more remote locations.

Pickering has a problem with a lack of ATM machines and has had a least one occasion recently where all available cash machines ran out of money. This is not a problem experienced in other towns at the moment.

The question was asked about how much involvement towns have in their In Bloom organisations. Malton and Norton town councils contribute a considerable amount of funding and staff time. Helmsley have no involvement.

9. Date and venue of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on October 2nd 2018 at 7pm.