

FILE NOTE : LIASON MEETING 12th JAN 2017
THORP ARCH AND WALTON N.P. STEERING GROUPS

Present : - Roland Blackburn ; Richard West ; Brodie Clark ; Chris. Johnson
Apologies Graham Duxbury.

The purpose of the meeting was to update progress, and to share issues of potential common interest.

After a summary of recent progress, the following items were discussed and noted :-

1. A re-affirmation that the pre-2015 parish boundaries are included in both parish plans.
2. Villagers in both parishes have expressed a keen interest in retaining access to, and use of, the former sports field of Wealstun prison (now owned by HCA) Thorp Arch plan to include this as a designated "Green Space". Walton supports this and will include a reference to this in their N.P.
3. Thorp Arch Trading Estate : Thorp Arch have revised detail around their policy on "Businesses". In particular they have clarified focus on "the designated employment area". This has a direct parallel for Walton, who will harmonise their approach.
4. In the Reg.14 consultation, Rockspring commented that Thorp Arch NP Steering Group should have had more consultation with them. Walton will take steps to avoid similar comments.
5. Other comments after Reg 14 consultation : -
The S.E.A. screening by LCC should have taken place in advance of Reg 14, although after changes in the wording to avoid allocation of land - no S.E.A. is required.
 - a) References to unacceptable traffic congestion resulting from increased housing development or increase in employment locations, have to be backed up by evidence if they are stated as fact. Thorp Arch NP Steering Group has therefore prefaced the statements with wording such as " it is the opinion of the Steering Group that...."
6. Villagers have expressed aspirations for improved public transport. This will be pursued at a later date as a project across Thorp Arch, Walton, and Boston Spa parishes.
7. An initiative to improve wheelchair access within Walton has potential benefit to Thorp Arch. CMJ will provide further details.

Conclusion : -

This was a worthwhile exchange of views, progress, and opportunities. Future meetings will be arranged when appropriate. Walton will also liaise with Wetherby NP Steering Group.

CMJ 12/1/2017