



KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

19th November 2012

Parish Council supports keeping the Shelley Pyramid

Kirkburton Parish Council is very pleased and proud to announce that they were able to facilitate an extremely useful meeting at Flockton Working Men's Club last week. They held an extraordinary Parish Council Meeting and invited all the main parties involved, representation was as follows: Sam Burns, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator at Kirkburton Middle School, Michael Moriarty former Head Teacher of Scissett Middle School, John McNally, Principal of Shelley Academy and James Crowther of the Keep Shelley Pyramid campaign. It is thought this was the first time that all parties had met in the same room since this campaign started.

It was unfortunate that the meeting clashed with pre-arranged Open Nights at both Kirkburton & Scissett Middle Schools, which meant the Middle School Head Teachers were unable to attend in person.

All 4 were given as much time to make their cases, as they needed and Mr McNally also spent some time, attempting to explain some of the misconceptions he felt had been made about him. There was also a very moving contribution from a parent, who had children already in the pyramid, with one about to move to Shelley Academy. She was very proud of both their progress through the pyramid and their education standards.

The Parish Council then met, publicly, to decide its response and as part of that asked Mr McNally if they funded a referendum, through the polls, inviting voters of the parish as to whether they agreed or disagreed with his Academy's proposals, would he recommend to the Shelley Board of Governors that they abide by the outcome. He verbally agreed to do so.

Following that the Parish Council voted to convene a Parish Meeting to discuss the possibility of funding a poll. They then debated a response to the Kirklees consultation.

At all times the meeting was calm and respectful to all parties, listening to all contributions without interruption or heckling.

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Monday and Thursday 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

An answering machine is available at other times, or messages can be sent by email to the above address.