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RTPI Yorkshire E-Bulletin – November 2011

RTPI Yorkshire Annual General Meeting

Contrary to any previous notification, please be advised that the 2011 Yorkshire Region AGM will be held at Leeds Metropolitan University (Room 118, Northern Terrace) at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 7 December. However, please join us at 5.30 pm for refreshments and to hear presentations from the winners of this year's RTPI Yorkshire Region Award. Further details online at <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/4937>. We are also now taking nominations for posts on the [Regional Management Board](#) and the [Regional Activities Committee](#) for 2012. Do come and join us!

Root and Branch

The Autumn 2011 edition of the RTPI Yorkshire Region's newsletter, *Root & Branch*, has now been published and all members in the Yorkshire Region will be receiving a copy in the post shortly. In the meantime you can read it online at: <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/download/13393/118-Autumn-2011-final.pdf> (pdf, 2mb)

'Neighbourhood Planning in the Big Society' Conference in Sheffield on Thursday 8 December

Meaningful community engagement is central to planning policy and implementation. The Big Society proposals take this further by suggesting that communities and individuals should be empowered to influence and indeed undertake planning decisions at the neighbourhood level. This one-day conference, the last in the 2011 Yorkshire Conference Series, will explore the implications of this initiative for the profession and examine current best practice in neighbourhood planning.

Individual tickets available at £110.00 + VAT, reduced places for unwaged/retired/FT students at £20.00 + VAT. Visit the website at <http://yorkshire.rtpi.org.uk> to download a draft programme and booking form or contact Trish Cookson at yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk for further information.

Yorkshire Practice Seminars

We are putting together the programme for the 2012 Yorkshire Practice Seminars series. Please let us know what topics would you like to see covered in these evening or half day events. If you can offer a venue, or sponsor an event, please do let us know. Email Trish Cookson at yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk with any suggestions.

Fully funded trip to Germany available

Local Skills for Biodiversity is a European Project, majority financed by the Leonardo da Vinci fund for transfer of innovation. It is focused primarily on skills for local authority planners, helping them to better plan for biodiversity and ecosystems. There are 7 partners (one being the Yorkshire and Humber Environment Trust) in 5 countries, and the project is ready to test the emerging training product. An event is being held on 25-27 January, south of Hamburg in Germany, with an international audience of practitioners who can:

- learn about the work and get a sense of how it might be applicable to their own work;
- help to refine the product and make it more useful to all concerned;
- become part of a tentative international network of practitioners able to share knowledge and take the agenda of the project forward.

There is one *fully funded* place available. If you are interested please email sonia@yhenvironment.org for further information.

Honorary membership for Yorkshire Region member

Congratulations to RTPI Yorkshire Region member [Sue Taylor](#). The RTPI has recognised Sue's contribution to planning with an honorary membership.

RTPI Yorkshire Christmas Parties

- Join YORnet members on Friday 2 December at the Mint Hotel in Leeds for their annual [Christmas Social](#) (pdf). Bookings close Monday 28 November.
- And join the Ladies in Planning for [Christmas Drinks](#) on Wednesday 14 December at the Norman Bar in Leeds.

Some forthcoming events of interest in the Region

- [Sustainable Transport](#) in Wakefield on Wednesday 23 November
- [Restoration 2011: Yorkshire's Heritage at Risk](#) in York on Thursday 24 November
- [Delivering choice in older persons' housing](#) in Leeds on Wednesday 30 November

Visit the new [online events page](#) for details of more events in the Yorkshire region.

Construction Skills survey

This is an online survey on the revised Town Planning, Conservation and Building Control Management national occupational standards. The deadline for responses is 24 December 2011. Details of the consultation are available on the [CIC website](#) or by pasting the link into your browser <http://www.cic.org.uk/activities/consult.shtml>

The Localism Act and draft National Planning Policy Framework

The Localism Bill gained Royal Assent last week (15 November 2011).

- Listen to the [RTPI's 10 minute round-up](#) of the new Localism Act.
- Find out the latest [RTPI activity on the Localism Act](#)

Richard Summers, RTPI President, and Trudi Elliott, RTPI Chief Executive, gave evidence last week to the CLG Select Committee on the draft National Planning Policy Framework. It was revealed that the Government was unable to produce evidence to support its claim that planning delays cost £3bn.

- [Updates and links for the developing draft of the NPPF](#)

In the News

- The Government has published its [Housing Strategy – Laying the Foundations](#) (21 November)
- Permission has been granted for two new power stations in Yorkshire: at Ferrybridge and Thorpe Marsh.
- Elvington Park is asking a High Court judge to quash a planning inspector's decision to uphold an enforcement notice issued by City of York Council to limit noise at this former RAF base.
- Bradford City Council approved a hybrid planning application for a scaled-down version of the Broadway shopping centre which was put on hold following the property downturn.
- [Historic Towns Forum Talk with the Chief](#): Kersten England, Chief Executive, City of York Council
- The proposed [Marine Conservation Plans](#) have been delayed.

RTPI News

- The RTPI Membership Panel has [vacancies](#) for 3 non-chartered members.
- New [APC guidelines](#) have been published.
- The RTPI is currently holding its annual [elections](#) for the Junior Vice-President and the Board of Trustees.
- November's RTPI 'Network of the Month' is [NAPE](#), our National Association for Planning Enforcement.

For updates on all RTPI Yorkshire events, visit our website at:

http://www.rtpi.org.uk/rtpi_yorkshire/

If you have any items you would like to share with members in the Yorkshire Region please email Trish Cookson at yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk for inclusion in the monthly bulletin.

**The next issue of the RTPI Yorkshire Member Bulletin will be available in December 2011.
If you do not wish to receive the bulletin in future please reply,
inserting [unsubscribe](#) in the subject field.**