

Report of the Strategic Director of Regeneration to the meeting of the Shipley Area Committee to be held on 19 October 2016

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Subject: **Street name dedication to honour the Late John Richard Whiteley OBE**

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Application Number 16/00108/S3 Construction of 70 dwellings on the Former Ferniehurst Primary School site, Cliffe Lane West, Baildon

Summary statement:

To dedicate a new street name in honour the Late John Richard Whiteley OBE on the forthcoming development, Former Ferniehurst Primary School site, Cliffe Lane West, Baildon

The Late John Richard Whiteley OBE was awarded the 'Order of the British Empire' in 2004. Former resident of Ilkley, a well-known Yorkshire born Broadcaster, Author and Baildon son began as a local Journalist went on to become a National Broadcaster, Reporter, Presenter and Game show Host; 'Deputy Lord Lieutenant for West Yorkshire' and former 'Mayor of Wetwang'. His popularity voted him 'Yorkshire Man of the Year' in 2003

He sadly passed away in June 2005

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Improvement Area:
Regeneration & Economy



1. SUMMARY

1.1 Proposer Councillor Debbie Davies

I would like to propose that one of the streets on the new development off Cliffe Lane West, Baildon is named after the late, much loved, television presenter Richard Whiteley.

Richard Whiteley was born in Bradford, the family home was always in Baildon (Ferncliffe Drive and Greencliffe Avenue) and they owned Whiteley's Mill in Eccleshill.

He is best known for his 23 years spent presenting Countdown which was the launch show for Channel 4. At the time of his death it still regularly attracted 4 million viewers. He also presented Calendar. He was known for his garish suits and witty and self-deprecating sense of humour.

Richard died in 2005 aged 61. I have been in contact with Kathryn Apanowicz, his long-term partner who confirms that his family fully support his memory being honoured by naming a street in Baildon after him.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Late John Richard Whiteley OBE was born into a Bradford mill owning family Thomas Whiteley & Sons Eccleshill, he lived and grew up in Baildon educated at Giggleswick School North Yorkshire where he later became a governor

Attended Christ's College Cambridge, where he edited the student newspaper and after graduation began working as a journalist on the Shipley Gazette before going onto Television

Richard Whiteley began his TV career as a trainee journalist with ITN in 1965, three years later became the 'first news reader' seen on YTV and in 1968 joined 'Calendar' ITV's Yorkshire Regional News Magazine programme. In 1982 he also became presenter and host of Countdown, continued as its host when Countdown moved as the launch show for the new national TV Channel, Channel 4 where he became known to a wider audience

He was the author of two books 'Letters Play' a treasury of words and word play and Himoff! the memoirs of a TV matinee idle

Held office as 'Deputy Lieutenant for West Yorkshire', (Deputy Lieutenants assist the Lord-Lieutenant in carrying out their role as the Queens representative because of their expertise or role within the community)

Proudly officiated as the 'Mayor of Wetwang', Wetwang is a small village on the Yorkshire Wolds

In 2003 Richard's popularity was rewarded; he was voted 'Yorkshire Man of the Year'

The following year his name appeared on the Queen Birthday Honours list and was appointed an OBE for his contribution to Broadcasting, for over 40 years

He had accumulated more broadcasting hours than anyone else in the history of television

Richards Whiteley is most remembered as the host of 'Countdown' until he untimely death and he passed away in June 2005

He resided in Ilkley West Yorkshire

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1** The Developer has been informed of the proposal and mentioned the wealth of historical references which would make suitable road names for this site

Brief history of the Del:

Ferniehurst Farm was built in the 1860s as a model farm within the grounds of Ferniehurst Mansion, built and owned by Edward Salt – son of Titus Salt. It was one of a number of outbuildings including greenhouses, laundry, stables, carriage house, mushroom house, vineries and orchid houses where he grew some of the country's finest orchids. When the Salts Mill Company suffered financial failure in 1893, the house was sold to George Camille Waud who built a Hackney stud farm on the land which was later to become Ferniehurst School. The Ferniehurst Estate was offered to Bradford Council after world War I, who declined to take it and in 1930s it was sold to a Quarrying company who pulled down the Mansion House. The only building to remain is the Farm, which still operates as a livestock farm

- 3.2** The family of the Late John Richard Whiteley OBE support the proposal

4. OPTIONS

- 4.1** It is reasonable to hold another street name in reserve if the motion to name the street after Richard Whiteley is not carried the proposed option is Cinder Croft

5. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

N/A

6. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

N/A

7. LEGAL APPRAISAL

N/A

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

N/A

8.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

N/A

8.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

N/A

8.6 TRADE UNION

N/A

9. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

N/A

10. Recommendations

To dedicate a new street name in honour the Late John Richard Whiteley OBE on the forthcoming development, Former Ferniehurst Primary School site, Cliffe Lane West, Baildon

11. APPENDICES

- Attached site plan

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

N/A

Development Site Plan

Former site of Ferniehurst Primary School Cliffe Lane West Baildon

