

# KEVIN HOLLINRAKE MP

## WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

When Kevin Hollinrake was elected as the MP for Thirsk and Malton in May 2015, he stated that he would be **“a representative of Thirsk and Malton in Westminster, not a representative of Westminster in Thirsk and Malton”**. During the election campaign and in the months after he took his seat in Parliament, Mr Hollinrake gave the impression that he was very sceptical about fracking, almost to the point of opposing it outright. Here are some of Mr Hollinrake’s public statements comments and conversations on fracking last year.

The following is taken from Kevin Hollinrake’s speech in Parliament, July 2015

“The economy is important, but **no economic benefit, vested interest or party political pressure could ever lead me to support something that I believed would have a detrimental effect on our countryside or the health of local residents.**”

On Saturday morning, I visited the village of Kirby Misperton in my constituency, where an application to drill for shale gas has recently been submitted. Of about 50 people in attendance, 44 were against fracking and six had an open mind; none was in favour. **These people are not professional campaigners: they are decent local people, desperately worried that fracking will change their lives forever.**

Just one of the companies, Third Energy, has stated that it might drill 950 wells in less than a third of my constituency, which would require hundreds of thousands of lorry movements, all in one of the country’s most beautiful counties, with an economy dependent on agriculture and tourism.

**The beauty of our countryside is North Yorkshire’s main asset and we must protect this at all costs.”**

Yorkshire Post, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015

**“The majority of people in this area are against fracking.”**

**Kevin Hollinrake, Gazette and Herald, 30/09/15**

### **British MP studies fracking on trip to PA**

Kevin Hollinrake stands with a group of concerned parents across a road from **a gas processing plant** in Butler County, Pennsylvania. Trucks come and go as workers hustle to expand the Bluestone processing plant, which will separate different types of natural gas from locally drilled wells for market. The plant was opened last year and is already undergoing an expansion. One parent, Amy Nassif, asks where he would put a facility like this in his country. “I have no idea,” he says with a chuckle. **“Not near my house.”**

<https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2015/10/09/british-mp-studies-fracking-on-trip-to-pa/>



**Kevin Hollinrake:** I would like to see any fracking activity **a mile away** from homes and schools.

**Interviewer:** Would you buy a house 400m from a fracking site?

**Kevin Hollinrake:** That’s one reason why I would like it a mile away.

Interview with Drill or Drop, 29/09/15

<http://drillordrop.com/2015/09/30/ryedale-mp-calls-for-1-mile-gap-between-fracking-and-homes/>

# KEVIN HOLLINRAKE – FRACKING’S NEW SPIN DOCTOR?

In October 2015 Mr Hollinrake’s impartiality and balance was called into question when he was seen chairing a PR meeting at **Kirby Misperton Village Hall** (right) on behalf of Third Energy, the company that want to frack near the village.

Local residents’ anger was compounded later that week when Mr Hollinrake refused to oppose Third Energy’s application to frack at KM8, even though the proposed fracking well-site is only half a mile from the centre of Kirby Misperton, breaking Mr Hollinrake’s own guidelines.



## KEVIN HOLLINRAKE VOTES TO ALLOW FRACKING UNDER NATIONAL PARKS AND AONBs

On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015, **Mr Hollinrake voted in favour of allowing fracking** under National Parks, SSSIs, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), World Heritage Sites, groundwater Source Protection Zones (which provide the country with most of its drinking water) and EU nature sites.

### Campaigners' dismay as MPs approve fracking in Yorkshire's beauty spots

Headline, Yorkshire Post, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015

## Ryedale MP Kevin Hollinrake resigns from parliamentary group after conflict of interest accusations

Headline, Gazette and Herald, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016

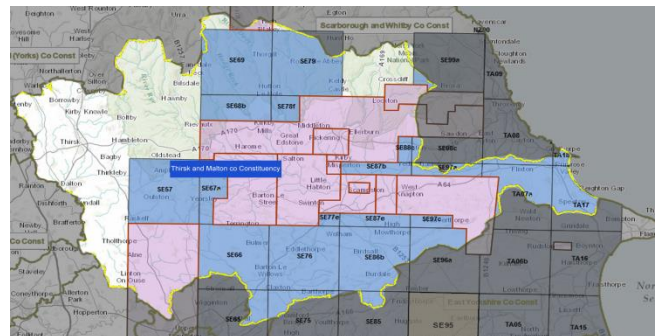
In January 2015, **Mr Hollinrake was forced to resign from the All Party Parliamentary Group** (APPG) on Unconventional Oil and Gas (which includes fracking). He claimed that he had no knowledge that the group was funded by the fracking industry, despite being vice-chair of the committee for nearly eight months. The group is funded by fracking companies such as INEOS, Cuadrilla and IGas, who all have PEDL licences in North Yorkshire. Mr Hollinrake said that he resigned *“to make sure that my impartiality is not called into question.”*

## MP slammed for jumping the fracking gun

Headline, Northern Echo, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Mr Hollinrake has also come under fire from constituents for organising a private Producers’ Summit for shale gas companies Third Energy, IGas, INEOS and Cuadrilla, all of whom have fracking PEDL licence areas in his constituency.

According to Mr Hollinrake, the aim of this meeting will be *“to create a model of what shale gas extraction would look like in terms of visual and environmental impact and how this can be communicated”*. The summit will take place in Westminster on 8<sup>th</sup> February and is not open to the public.



The Thirsk and Malton Constituency has 35 fracking licence areas, more than any other in the country.

## KEVIN HOLLINRAKE – REPRESENTING WESTMINSTER IN THIRSK AND MALTON!

Find out more about fracking in your area by visiting [www.frackfreeryedale.org](http://www.frackfreeryedale.org)