

ASSISTANT AONB OFFICER'S REPORT

11TH OCTOBER 2005 – 20TH MARCH 2006

- Preparation of Farm Environment Plans.
- Delivery of a wide variety of Projects through both the Project Fund and SDF.
- Provisional planning for this year's Discovery Project.
- Lanning and running volunteer tasks.
- Completion of the draft for the first AONB Walks Leaflet, for Hovingham
- Several joint projects with the North York Moors National Park have also been organised. A meeting to introduce Parish Councillors to the CAN DO Project was successfully planned and delivered.

MEETINGS

- October 19th – Cumbria C.C. – Roadside Verges
- October 20th – Hovingham - JAC Meeting
- October 20th – Helmsley – SDF Officers Steering Group
- November 2nd – Welburn Village Hall Committee – SDF application advice.
- November 10th – Hovingham AONB Office – Appraisal Review
- November 11th – Hovingham AONB Office – Job Description
- November 16th – Ampleforth Parish Council (evening) – Millennium Green
- November 17th – Helmsley – SDF Officers Steering Group
- November 18th – Hovingham AONB Office – filing system
- November 26th – Hovingham AONB Office – Ampleforth Parish Clerk re. Millennium Green
- November 30th – Scarborough – Basics Plus Open Evening
- December 2nd – Helmsley - SDF Projects and Funding with NYMNP SDF Officer
- December 8th – Amotherby SINC – Checking completed project
- December 12th – Helmsley – Agriplass and NYMNP SDF Officer – SDF grant application
- December 15th – Durham – Know your North Pennines (North Pennines AONB to host)
- December 16th – Hovingham - Core Funders Group
- December 23rd – Pickering – ProW and Ranger – Volunteering opportunities.
- January 12th – Hovingham - SDF Funding / role of National Park 2006/07
- January 12th – Hovingham – SDF - Welburn Village Hall Committee
- January 12th – Hovingham – SDF - FWAG
- January 19th – NYMNP (Helmsley) – SDF Steering Group
- January 23rd – Hovingham – Nan Sykes SINC Site data
- January 25th – Hovingham – Mike Moore, Gordon Gresty and Cllr Claire Wood Visit
- January 26th – NYMNP (Helmsley) – Petra – re. funding schemes for community projects
- January 26th – NYMNP (Helmsley) - SDF Panel Meeting
- January 26th – Hovingham – Graham Megson Visit
- February 1st – York – North Yorkshire Ecological Working Group
- February 2nd – Hovingham - SDF – Project update/planning session
- February 3rd – NYMNP (Helmsley) – CAN DO Parish Forum planning session
- February 7th NYMNP (Helmsley) – CAN DO Parish Forum planning session with English Heritage and NP
- February 8th – NYMNP (Helmsley) – Education Team re. Discovery Project
- February 16th – SDF Steering Group
- February 17th - NYMNP (Helmsley) – CAN DO Parish Forum planning session with English Heritage and The Chair
- February 28th – NYMNP (Helmsley) - CAN DO Parish Forum final preparation session
- March 1st – Hovingham – Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (Discovery Project)
- March 2nd - CAN DO Parish Forum
- March 3rd – Hovingham – Hosting AONB Northern Area Meeting
- March 6th – Welburn – School SDF Project – Filling the pond and discussion of claims process
- March 9th – Hovingham – Core Funders Group
- Monthly - Howardian Hills AONB Unit meeting
- Monthly – Northallerton – Heritage Unit Meetings
- As required – Project updates with Paul.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- March 22nd – Scarborough – Ryedale Literature Exchange
- March 23rd - NYMNP (Helmsley) – SDF Steering Group

- March 24th – Hovingham – AONB Partnership Group Meeting
- March 30th – NYMNP - SDF Panel Meeting
- March 30th - Hovingham - JAC Meeting
- April 6th – Hovingham – SDF Promotion with District and County Councils
- April 10th – Hovingham – Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – Discovery Project
- April 11th – NYMNP (Helmsley) – Planning meeting for SDF Forum Event
- April 27th – Sutton Bank – Jointly hosting SDF Forum with North York Moors National Park
- June 8th – Hovingham - Core Funders Group
- July 14th – JAC Site Visits
- October 26th - Hovingham - JAC Meeting

Several meetings will be required with the publishers re. the Walks Leaflet April/May 2006.

SITE VISITS

- October 12th – Sandlands, Howsham – CSS Review Site Meeting
- October 31st – Terrington Carr (Castle Howard) – on site with Nick Cooke and birch-cutters
- November 1st – Amotherby SINC and Sandlands – Basics Plus site briefings
- November 3rd – Peel Park, Brandsby – FEP issues with landowner
- November 4th – Ampleforth Millennium Green – site visit with Parish Clerk
- November 10th – Watergate, Ampleforth – Hedge Laying and other proposed schemes with landowner
- November 17th – Burton House, Yearsley – FEP check with RDS staff
- November 29th – Slingsby Orchard – Orchard consultant and site owner to devise a way forward
- December 7th – Ampleforth – meeting with contractor re. hedge laying methodology and costings
- December 13th – Castle Howard (Todd Wood Mill) – Nick Cooke – Scrub clearance
- December 20th – Oulston – Site owner – Wood pasture creation project
- December 22nd – Oulston – Nick Cooke and site owner – Wood pasture creation project
- January 17th – Howthorpe Farm, Hovingham – Stone availability meeting and 2x Projects with landowner
- January 19th – Kirkham/Westow – hedgerow restoration scoping with land agent
- January 19th – Basics Plus visited whilst working at Sandlands
- January 25th – Terrington Moor – with Matthew Copley (contractor) to agree scrub clearance, rush cutting and fence repairs.

- February 2nd – Grimston – 2x Lime kiln site visits with landowner – agreeing tree clearance specs
- February 3rd – Grimston – Stone walling work agreement with landowner and contractor.
- February 3rd – Crayke – Explaining grant schemes and ELS and scoping out hedge planting project with landowner
- February 6th – 8x Project sites visited with Tree Surgeon (4x verges and 4x lime kilns).
- February 7th – High Stittenhem – HLS preliminary discussion with landowner
- February 14th – Todd Wood Mill (Castle Howard) with Nick Cook and Basics Plus agreeing tree and brash clearance spec
- February 14th – Howthorpe Farm (Terrington Moor and Wath Beck) – 2x Projects with Basics Plus and landowner
- March 5th - Volunteers working at Howsham Mill
- March 7th – Hovingham Lodge – potential grassland habitat improvement with landowner
- March 9th – Sproxton – potential copse planting and pond edge restoration
- March 10th – Whitby – SDF Project check – Waterwheel for Howsham Mill in Workshop
- March 14th – Stonegrave – Black poplar cuttings with Mike I'Anson for trial propagation by Thirsk Community Woodlands
- March 15th – Lodge Plantation – Mark Aconley – re. completion of stone walling project
- March 15th – Aidan Rayner and Dave Brown – Hovingham Hall - Signage for permissive route

FUTURE SITE VISITS

- March 23rd – Grimston – ELS/HLS potential with landowner and RDS
- March 31st – High Stittenham – Hedge restoration scoping with landowner
- April 2nd – Howsham Mill – Waterwheel to site (approx. date) – SDF Project
- April 12th – Station House Vets – landscaping potential ideas

PROJECTS

- October 31st – Terrington Carr (Castle Howard) – on site with Nick Cooke and birch-cutters
- November 1st – Amotherby SINC and Sandlands – Basics Plus site briefings
- November 4th – Ampleforth Millennium Green – site visit with Parish Clerk
- November 10th – Watergate, Ampleforth – Hedge Laying and other proposed schemes with landowner

- November 16th – Black Moor, Brandsby – planning wall restoration project with owner
- November 18th – East Newton Hall – review work to be done on disused railway bridge over R. Rye
- November 26th – SDF – Welburn Primary School – launch of practical work
- December 5th – Easthorpe – hedge planting discussion with landowner
- December 9th – Slingsby Heights – Orchard restoration meeting – grants discussion
- December 29th – Walking Leaflet Route
- 4th January – 5 x sites in AONB – Assessing potential hedge planting projects.
- January 12th – Slingsby – Hedgerow scheme planning with landowner
- January 16th – Wass – Potential hedge planting and Stewardship Discussions with landowner
- January 18th – Slingsby Heights Orchard – Tree surgeon site visit
- January 18th – Rose Cottage Farm, Terrington – walling project site meeting with owner and waller
- January 20th – East Newton Hall – checking completed railway bridge clearance
- February 1st – Oulston – agreeing layout for wood pasture creation with landowner
- February 10th – Terrington Moor – tagging trees to be felled the following week
- February 16th – Terrington Moor – Project check after raking
- February 20th – Slingsby Height Orchard and Fryton Bank – completed Project checks
- February 21st – Hovingham walk leaflet – walking additional link
- February 23rd – Whitwell Hall – completed Project check
- February 27th – Oulston – completed wood pasture project check
- February 28th – completed scrub clearance and fencing work check

SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR FULL DETAILS OF PROJECTS FUNDED

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Clearance of scrub from four conservation verges.
- Clearance of tree growth from Lime Kilns
- Removal of tree guards at Scar Wood, Gilling

RECREATION/ACCESS

- E-mail consultation with PROW Team re. preferred route for Hovingham Walks Leaflet
- Continue to consult with Hovingham Hall Estate re. content of walks leaflet

FUTURE RECREATION/ACCESS

- Publish Hovingham Leaflet
- Start to gather ideas for the next leaflet
- Sunday 2nd April – Volunteers Training Session with PROW Team
- Sunday 21st May – Volunteers Himalayan Balsam Clearing on PROW near Hovingham

COMMUNITY WORK

- SDF Project at Welburn Primary School – creation of Wildlife Area and Organic Garden
- 2nd March - CAN DO Parish Forum
- Sending out of correspondence to each Village Hall offering an Eco-Audit (SDF funded)

FUTURE COMMUNITY WORK

- Build on links with schools, parishes and community groups
- Continue to build links with existing volunteer schemes in the locality (including PROW Volunteers)
- Develop an initiative at Slingsby Orchard
- June 13th – Discovery Project – Terrington C of E
- June 15th – Discovery Project – St Hilda's, Ampleforth
- June 16th – Discovery Project – Amotherby
- June 20th – Discovery Project – Hovingham
- June 27th – Discovery Project – Sheriff Hutton
- June 28th – Discovery Project – Crayke
- July 31st to August 4th – Ranger Project (5x venues, 10x half day sessions)
- Adult education through links with Basics Plus and our Volunteers

PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION

- November 8th – Thirsk – Evening Talk – Natural History Society
- November 9th – Sheriff Hutton – Evening Talk – Natural History Society
- November 26th - First day of work at Welburn Primary School Wildlife Area. Funded through SDF

FUTURE PUBLICITY/INTERPRETATION

- May 1st – Slingsby May Day Celebration (Stand at Fete and Guided Walks to Orchard)
- May 9th – Evening talk to Slingsby Country Women's Association.
- July 23rd – Hovingham – Guided walk
- September 3rd – Fungi Foray with Forestry Commission – Location tbc
- October 29th – Autumn Woodlands guided walk – Welburn and Todd Wood

EDUCATIONAL/RAISING AWARENESS

- Developing the skills of the Basics Plus Team on a variety of tasks.
- Developing the skills of the Volunteers on a variety of tasks.

- March 6th – Welburn School – fire brigade filling the pond (SDF project).

FUTURE EDUCATION/RAISING AWARENESS

- Increasingly build links with local schools through working with them both in their school grounds and on field-trips.
- Adult education through links with Basics Plus and our Volunteers.
- June and July 2006 – Discovery Days – develop an improved programme of activities and work on the format of the days.

TRAINING

- October 14th – NYCC – H+S Training
- November 9th – Forestry Commission – English Woodland Grant Scheme Briefing
- November 11th – NYCC – New Staff Induction
- November 23rd and 24th – First Aid at Work Re-qualification (required every 3 years)
- 13th March - Hosting FWAG Orchard Restoration Training Course at Slingsby Heights. Supported by SDF.
- 16th March – NYCC - Fire Awareness Training

FUTURE TRAINING

- 4th-7th July – National AONB Conference, Swansea

MISCELLANEOUS

- January 27th-31st – Holiday
- January 30th & 31st - Holiday