

## Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

### Joint Advisory Committee

The Minutes of the meeting held at Oswaldkirk Village Hall on 5 April 2012, commencing at 10.00 am.

#### Present:-

North Yorkshire County Council: County Councillor Clare Wood in the Chair.

Ryedale District Council: Councillors John Hicks and Robert Wainwright.

Hambleton District Council: Councillor Christine Cookman.

North Yorkshire County Council: County Councillor Caroline Patmore.

Parish Councils: David Pontefract (Hambleton).

Country Land and Business Association: Jane Harrison. (substitute for William Worsley).

#### Officers:

Paul Jackson, Francesca Pert and Maggie Cochrane – Howardian Hills AONB.

Jane Wilkinson (Secretary) and Graham Megson – North Yorkshire County Council.

**Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book**

#### 63. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Gaynor De Barr (Parish Councils Ryedale), Geoff Eastwood (Ramblers Association), Justine Clark and Nancy Stedman (Natural England), William Worsley (Country Land & Business Association), Paula Craddock (Ryedale District Council) and Graham Banks (Hambleton District Council).

#### 64. Minutes

##### Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2011, having been previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

##### Matters Arising

##### Page 1 Minute Number 41 – Matters Arising – Retaining Wall at Oulston Bank

The AONB Manager said that discussions with the estate had now taken place. The estate proposed to replace the wall with a block wall faced with a dry stone wall. Estimates for the repairs works had been received and the estate proposed to carry out the work in phases starting first with those sections of the wall that had already fallen.

County Councillor Caroline Patmore said that the general condition of the wall was deteriorating. Further sections were on the verge of collapse and that the situation required attending to as a matter of urgency.

The AONB Manager agreed to monitor the situation.

Page 2 Minute Number 41 – Matters Arising – National Association for AONB's (NAAONB) Activity

It was reported that supplies of stationery incorporating the new branding scheme had been received.

Page 2 Minute Number 46 – AONB Business Plan and Action Programme 2011/12

It was confirmed that the finger post sign in Hovingham had been repaired and reinstated.

Page 7 – AONB Budget

The anticipated reduction in the funding contribution from DEFRA for 2012/13 as reported at the previous meeting had been confirmed in December. The level of NYCC funding however remained the same as the previous financial year.

Page 9 – Minute Number 61 – National Farmers Union

In December 2011 the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) went into financial administration. Subsequently a new county group had been established which had the support of the AONB.

**65. AONB Unit Activity**

Considered -

The joint report of AONB Officers detailing their activities and the progress achieved by the Unit since the previous meeting in November 2011.

The Committee received a power point presentation of photographs of completed and on going projects referred to in the report that included countryside management works, community projects, volunteer activity and Junior Ranger Club days.

Members referred to the photographs of the restoration works to the gate pillars at Hardy Flatts, Whitwell. They said that the wooden posts erected in front of the stone pillars to protect them from being damaged by vehicles were unattractive and detracted from the visual success of the project. Members appreciated the need to protect the restored pillars and asked the AONB Manager to explore alternative options. The AONB Manager undertook to research the options available and report his findings to the next meeting.

It was reported that a letter was about to be sent to all parish councils within the AONB. The letter would invite parish councils to identify locations to site the commemorative natural oak log seats for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AONB. Installation of the seats was planned to commence in Autumn 2012 and would continue through until Spring 2013.

The AONB Manager referred Members to paragraph 2.9 of the report and summarised the reasons the Committee's annual budget was likely to be underspent. He said that reserves brought forward from 2010/11 and the anticipated current underspend meant that significant reserves were predicted to be carried forward into 2012/13. With this in mind several potential projects had been identified that were aimed at achieving full spend and reducing reserves to a more comfortable level. Members agreed the situation had been unavoidable and supported the approach outlined but said that they would not like to see monies being allocated to unworthy

projects just to spend the budget. The AONB Manager gave assurances that this would not be allowed to happen. Members noted that as the new Memorandum of Agreement had been signed by all parties there was a degree of certainty for the next four years about the level of income the Committee could expect.

Members discussed the planning application for the touring caravan site at Redcar Farm, Yearsley. The AONB Manager said that the application affected Ryedale and Hambleton District Councils as well as having traffic implications for the County Council. All three local authorities were aware of the application as was the local parish council and each had submitted a response. The original application had in response to comments made been amended before being finally approved (delegated decision) subject to conditions pertaining to landscaping and traffic access. Members expressed concern about the suitability of the route traffic would use to access the site. They said that the route was very narrow in parts with a steep drop on one side and was frequently used by agricultural traffic. Also people playing rugby on the pitches adjacent to the lane were in the habit of parking their cars on the roadside. For these reasons it would very difficult and dangerous for cars pulling caravans to use the access road. The AONB Manager said that permission had been granted subject to two new passing places being created. Members said that the creation of two new passing places was not sufficient and that they could not understand how the application had been approved in the light of the level of objections that had been made. The AONB Manager said that no formal objections had been lodged only serious reservations. As all relevant parties had been consulted there was nothing further he could do. Members concerns regarding the application remained unchanged and they expressed their dissatisfaction that the decision had been made using delegated powers.

In response to queries from Members, the AONB Manager said that different working practices between Hambleton and Ryedale Area Highways Offices were responsible for differences in repair costs and the time taken to reinstate renovated traditional highway direction signs.

In conclusion, the Chairman and Members of the Committee congratulated the AONB Manager on a comprehensive and informative report.

**Resolved -**

- (a) That the content of the report be noted.

**66. AONB Action Programme 2011/12**

**Considered -**

The report of the AONB Manager on progress implementing the AONB Management Plan during 2011/12. Full details of progress and performance against 2011/12 targets was appended to the report.

The AONB Manager said that an analysis of performance revealed that 75% of specific targets had been achieved and/or exceeded and that statistically this was a better performance than that achieved in the previous year.

A Member commented on the increased number of days worked by volunteers and asked how the volunteers were recruited and how many there now were. The AONB Manager replied that they were approximately 15/20 volunteers in the AONB and that they were a sub-set of the County Council's countryside services volunteers. County Councillor Caroline Patmore said she was aware of a number of people living locally who would like to be involved but did not know who to get

in touch with. She said that if volunteers were recruited from the local area they were more likely to take ownership of projects which would be beneficial. Her comments were supported by other Members of the Committee with similar experience. Members praised the work done by volunteers but said that it was closed shop and that new recruits were not encouraged. The Chairman said that volunteer numbers were restricted because of issues surrounding supervision. The AONB Manager said that he would report Members comments to the new volunteer coordinator following the retirement of the previous postholder.

Councillor John Hicks commented that landowners should be encouraged to carry out repairs and countryside management works themselves or face losing their Single Farm Payment. The AONB Manager said that the conditions attached to Single Farm Payments did seek to address cross-compliance issues but he acknowledged it was a difficult area and that the extent of penalties was a matter of long standing debate between interested parties.

The Chairman congratulated the AONB Manager and his team on their excellent performance during what had been a difficult year which was further complicated by the maternity leave of a member of staff.

**Resolved –**

- (a) That the progress made to date implementing the Management Plan be noted.
- (b) That the achievements against Targets for 2011/12 be noted.

**67. AONB Business Plan and Action Programme 2012/13**

Considered -

The report of the AONB Manager inviting the Committee to approve a programme of proposed activity designed to implement the AONB Management Plan during 2012/13. The Action Programme and Targets for 2012/13 together with a timetable for completion of the tasks were appended to the report.

Members enquired how Howardian Hills SDF applications would be processed if the the joint panel with the National Park was discontinued. The AONB Manager confirmed that the National Park was unsure about the future of their SDF grant and consequently the panel. He had suggested to the National Park that they use the panel as an E-Panel to determine applications in the interim pending the outcome of their review of grants. Members would be sent details of applications via email and asked for their comments. Members expressed their support for this approach.

**Resolved –**

- (a) That the targets for 2012/13, contained in the Action Programme be approved.
- (b) That the continued contribution to the Native Woodland Development Officer post is approved and noted.
- (c) That if required an E-Panel comprising of nominated SDF representatives be used to determine SDF Applications received within the area of the Howardian Hills.

**68. National Association for AONB**

Considered -

The report of the AONB Manager on initiatives being developed by the NAAONB. Appended to the report were the notes of a meeting of northern area chairmen that took place in York on 25 January 2012 attended by the Chairman of the Committee County Councillor Clare Wood.

The AONB Manager drew Members attention to potential forthcoming changes to the funding formula and the possibility of 100% funding by DEFRA. He summarised the implications arising from these changes and their possible affect on the AONB Unit.

County Councillor Clare Wood said that the meeting in January had been very interesting and that she had argued strongly for the funding formula to remain unchanged.

Members asked to be kept informed of developments.

**Resolved –**

That the information provided at the meeting and progress on various initiatives described in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

**69. Development within the AONB**

Considered -

The annual report of the AONB Manager on the number and type of planning applications determined within the AONB during 2011. A summary of the planning applications determined during 2011 was appended to the report. Copies of responses submitted by the AONB Manager to Hambleton & Ryedale District Councils in respect of planning applications received within the area of the AONB since the previous meeting were appended to an earlier report on the Agenda on AONB Unit Activity. The AONB Manager agreed to circulate information for Ryedale District when it became available.

Members noted that the AONB continued to be under little development pressure

**Resolved –**

That the responses and information in the report be noted.

**70. Reports from Partner Organisations – Oral Reports**

Considered –

North Yorkshire County Council

It was reported that the Volunteer Co-ordinator, David Ranner had now retired. As part of the on-going restructure of Waste and Countryside services his post was to be transferred into waste management and recruited to in due course. A report was being prepared for consideration by the Executive on a bid proposal for a Local Nature Partnership for North Yorkshire and York. This was in response to the release by Defra of details of the application process. Negotiations regarding the proposed partnership structure were ongoing. It was hoped that the Local Nature

Partnership would adopt a broad approach encompassing health and well being as well as conservation and environmental matters

Country Land and Business Association

The reorganisation of the Association was now complete and Dorothy Fairburn had moved to her new office at Scotch Corner and assumed responsibility for the new Northern Region. The Association expressed concern regarding some aspects of the proposed Local Nature Partnership for North Yorkshire & York and said that it continued to encourage farmers to actively support the Campaign for the Farmed Environment.

Ryedale District Council

The content of the National Planning Policy Framework had resulted in further delays in the publication of the Local Development Framework. Recommendations regarding the number of traveller sites meant that the LDF document would have to be further amended before being the subject of further public consultation.

Hambleton District Council

Publication of the National Planning Policy Framework document meant that all planning applications would now be considered bearing in mind its content.

**71. Dates of Future Meetings**

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the date of the annual site visit is 27 July 2012.
- (ii) That the date and time of the next meeting of the Joint Advisory Committee is 5 November 2012 commencing at 10 00am at a venue to be confirmed

The meeting concluded at 12.20pm.

JW/JD

**HOWARDIAN HILLS  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
5 NOVEMBER 2012**

**AONB UNIT ACTIVITY**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive details of the work areas and progress achieved by the AONB Unit since the JAC meeting in April 2012.

**2.0 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED**

- 2.1 Appendix 1 gives separate details of the meetings and site visits that have been carried out by the AONB Manager, AONB Officer and AONB Assistant in the period April 2012 to October 2012.
- 2.2 The final budget outturn for 2011/12 is detailed in a separate report on the Agenda. The final contribution payment has been received from Defra.
- 2.3 Liz Bassindale came into the office for several Keeping in Touch days over the summer, before returning to work on August 13<sup>th</sup> after her Maternity Leave. With accrued Annual and Bank Holiday Leave her first day in the office was September 4<sup>th</sup>. Francesca Pert successfully applied for a job at the Environment Agency in York, leaving the AONB Unit on August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 2.4 Liz's application to reduce her working hours to 4 days per week has been approved on a 6-month trial basis, with the assumption that it will become permanent after that. Options for filling the other 1 day per week were scoped, with the chosen option now being to second an appropriately experienced member of staff from the North York Moors National Park Authority. This will be for an initial period of approximately 18 months, until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, to see us through grants delivery, Management Plan review and the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning project. Liz has agreed to work up to 4.5 days a week until this arrangement comes into force.
- 2.5 Work on countryside management has been proceeding well. Our regular annual habitat management work on specific sites has been completed, together with a fourth year of Himalayan balsam control on Wath Beck. A major wall restoration project is on-going near Brandsby, with a second major grant offered for work at Oulston. Full details of the grants offered and projects initiated are contained in Appendix 2.
- 2.6 The Sustainable Development Fund has only received one major application (which in fact was approved by the Panel last year for implementation this year). A number of other projects are however being developed, some for this financial year but most for 2013/14. Full details of the grants offered are contained in Appendix 2.
- 2.7 A higher-than-average number of planning applications have been scrutinised, ranging from major housing schemes to what initially appeared to be relatively

innocuous Householder applications. Numerous farm building applications have been scrutinised, with a revised location suggested for one of these and comments made on the colour of material finishes. The most significant development is an application to build 30 dwellings at Ampleforth. Appendix 3 gives details of the Consultations that the JAC has received to date.

- 2.8 The Rural:Urban schools project, twinning AONB schools with ones in York and Hull and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and LEADER, has finished its second full year of activities. Sixteen Round 2 twinning visits have been completed; a teachers' workshop to review progress and make plans for Round 3 was held in July; and the first two twinning visits of Round 3 have been held.
- 2.9 Three Junior Ranger Club sessions have been held in conjunction with the Castle Howard Arboretum, in the April, June and November half-terms. Details of the attendance at the Junior Ranger Club events already held are shown in Appendix 4.
- 2.10 The RAY Community Projects Officer has continued to work with a number of local communities to both prepare and implement Parish Plans. Two 'Good Life' events, at Slingsby and Husthwaite, have proved to be particularly successful. A full list of the work carried out by the RAY officer in the AONB is attached as part of Appendix 1.
- 2.11 The CAN DO Partnership's Lime & Ice Project has continued with one of its key component initiatives – the community archaeological investigation work on Yearsley Moor. The tendering exercise for 5 seats designed to reflect key elements of the area's past has been completed, and further funding accessed for excavation works at two sites.
- 2.12 The AONB and the work of the JAC has received publicity in a variety of publications. The AONB website continues to be refined and kept up-to-date.
- 2.13 The latest edition of the AONB Newsletter was prepared in September and distributed in the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The JAC's Annual Report is nearly finished and will be circulated in November to the wide range of organisations who work with the JAC to deliver our shared objectives.
- 2.14 The NAAONB Conference was held in York in July, hosted by the Howardian Hills, Nidderdale, Lincolnshire Wolds and North Pennines AONB Partnerships. Two field trips went to each AONB on the middle day and the JAC Chairman attended the final day. Feedback from the delegates was very good.
- 2.15 The analysis of the grant recipients questionnaire returns for the year 2011/12 is included as Appendix 5. This shows that our service is still considered to be good, although the 'Quality of Advice' rating is significantly lower than normal. This reflects the fact that much of the advice would have been delivered by Francesca, who had less experience in the AONB Officer role than Liz. On a positive note however, our 'Speed of response and Availability' rating has improved back to its previous level.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the report be noted.



## AONB MANAGER'S REPORT

27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2012 – 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2012

Work during this period has principally consisted of:

- Financial year-end and 2011/12 final Defra grant claim.
- Discussing grants procedures and Reserves Strategy with NYCC Financial Services.
- Planning application assessments.
- Commencing planning/implementation of 2012/13 projects.
- Preparation for and attending the NAAONB Conference in York.
- Planning application assessments.
- Future staffing options – reduction of AONB Officer to 4 days/week and then scoping options to fill remaining 1 day per week vacancy.
- Organising and running a Visitors & Users Survey.
- Preparing the AONB Newsletter and Annual Report.
- Annual Leave for approximately half of September

## MEETINGS

- 5<sup>th</sup> April – JAC.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> April – Traditional Direction Signs, Thirsk; NYCC Construction Manual meeting, County Hall.
  - 17<sup>th</sup> April – NYBAG, York
  - 18<sup>th</sup> April – Hambleton BAP Steering Group, Northallerton.
  - 18<sup>th</sup> April – Ryedale BAP Steering Group, Malton.
  - 25<sup>th</sup> April – Rural Economy Growth Review potential initiatives, Malton.
  - 27<sup>th</sup> April – Revitalising the River Rye project meeting.
  - 30<sup>th</sup> April – AONB Partnership Group, Appleton-le-Street.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> May – NET meeting, County Hall.
  - 10<sup>th</sup> May – Quarterly Annual Action Programme update meeting. (Liz KIT Day 4/10).
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> May – LNP stakeholder meeting, York.
  - 25<sup>th</sup> May – Lime and Ice exhibition launch, Sutton Bank Visitor Centre.
  - 28<sup>th</sup> May – Grants procedure and Reserves update meeting, County Hall.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> June – Visitors and Users survey planning. (Liz KIT Day 5/10).
  - 7<sup>th</sup> June – William Worsley – Briefing on current JAC initiatives.
  - 14<sup>th</sup> June – NET meeting.
  - 15<sup>th</sup> June – Castle Howard – planning Conference Field Trip. (Liz KIT Day 6).
  - 21<sup>st</sup> June – Core Partners Group.
  - 26<sup>th</sup> June – LEADER Support Group, Helmsley.
  - 24<sup>th</sup> July – NET meeting, County Hall.
  - 27<sup>th</sup> July – JAC site visit.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> August – Visitors & Users survey briefing meeting with Bowles Green (consultants).
  - 14<sup>th</sup> August – Quarterly Annual Action Programme update meeting.
  - 15<sup>th</sup> August – Revitalising the River Rye project meeting.
  - 17<sup>th</sup> August – meeting with Green Traveller organisation, York.
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> August – KiT meeting with Ian Fielding, County Hall.
  - 29<sup>th</sup> August – Planning advice meeting, Castle Howard.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> September – DPCR5 meeting, Northallerton.
  - 7<sup>th</sup> September – Shadow Local nature Partnership Board meeting, County Hall.
  - 26<sup>th</sup> September – KiT meeting.
  - 27<sup>th</sup> September – LEADER Local Distinctiveness project meeting, Helmsley.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> October – Core Partners Group meeting.
- Project round-up meetings with Francesca.  
Monthly AONB Team meetings.

## NAAONB

- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Funding seminar, Birmingham.
- 16<sup>th</sup> May – Conference2012 Steering Group meeting, York.
- 16/17 May – Northern AONBs Group meeting, Solway Coast.
- Conference 2012 – planning and delivery.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Conference 2012 final site meeting, York.
- 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July – NAAONB Conference, York.

- 11<sup>th</sup> October – NAAONB AGM, London.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October – Northern AONBs Group meeting, Lincolnshire Wolds.

#### FUTURE MEETINGS

- 5<sup>th</sup> November – JAC.
- 8<sup>th</sup> November – Revitalising the River Rye project meeting, York.
- 8<sup>th</sup> November – NYBAG meeting, York.
- 21<sup>st</sup> November – Shadow LNP Board meeting, County Hall.
- 28<sup>th</sup> October – NYMNP Conservation & Land Management Forum, Helmsley.
- 18<sup>th</sup> December – LEADER Support Group, Helmsley.

Monthly project update meetings with Liz and Mark Antcliff.

Monthly AONB Team meetings.

#### FUTURE NAAONB

- 14<sup>th</sup> November – Management Plan Review Workshop, Birmingham.

#### SITE VISITS

- 12<sup>th</sup> April – Planning application site visits – Coxwold, Brandsby.
- 17<sup>th</sup> April – Planning application site visits – Brandsby, Oswaldkirk.
- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Planning application site visit – Ness.
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – Planning application site visits – Scackleton, Brandsby, Coulton; site visits at Scackleton, Grimstone, Oswaldkirk.
- 20<sup>th</sup> June – Planning application site meeting, Scackleton.
- 21<sup>st</sup> June – Conference Field Trip planning meeting, Castle Howard.
- 26<sup>th</sup> June – Gilling Castle Park pale, with Yearsley Moor volunteers.
- 26<sup>th</sup> June – Planning application site visit, Crayke.
- 5<sup>th</sup> July – taking photos for Conference presentations, Castle Howard.
- 9<sup>th</sup> July – Planning advice visit, Welburn School.
- 10<sup>th</sup> July – Conference Field Trip final site check, Helmsley Deer Park.
- 11<sup>th</sup> July – Planning application site visit, Oswaldkirk.
- 25<sup>th</sup> July – Planning application site visit – Brandsby.

- 25<sup>th</sup> July – Project site visits; Crayke, Oulston and Newburgh.
- 26<sup>th</sup> July – BT o/h pole route, Dalby.
- 13<sup>th</sup> August – Planning application site visit – Newburgh.
- 13<sup>th</sup> August – project site visits; Brandsby, Yearsley, Husthwaite, Cawton.
- 25<sup>th</sup> September – Planning application site visit, Gilling.
- 25<sup>th</sup> September – Planning advice visit, Sproxton.
- 26<sup>th</sup> September – development assessment site visit, A64, High Hutton.
- 27<sup>th</sup> September – Planning application site visits, Ampleforth x 2.
- 9<sup>th</sup> October – Castle Howard, to source timber for log seats.
- 17<sup>th</sup> October – Planning advice meeting, Scackleton.
- 18<sup>th</sup> October – Agreeing volunteer tasks in FC Gilling Woods.
- 25<sup>th</sup> October – Instructing volunteers task, City of Troy Maze, Dalby.

#### FUTURE SITE VISITS

- Planning application site visits – Gilling x 2, Ampleforth.

#### PROJECTS

- May – Preparation and submission of final grant claim & reports to Defra.
- HR issues around Liz Bassindale return to work/reduced hours.
- Recruitment process associated with the above, to back-fill the 1 day per week vacancy created.
- Preparing October JAC papers.
- Preparation of New Farm Buildings & Infrastructure Design Guide.
- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR LIST OF PROJECTS GRANT AIDED

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- 6<sup>th</sup> November – Interview of potential secondee from North York Moors National Park.
- Recruitment/induction of staff resource to fill 1 day per week vacancy.
- Consultation on New Farm Buildings & Infrastructure Design Guide.

- Incorporation of Historic Landscape Characterisation information into the Management Plan Local Landscape Priorities sections.
- Assessment of Condition of Non-Statutory sites.
- Organising Topic Group meetings to discuss review of AONB Management Plan.

#### CONSULTATIONS

- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR FULL DETAILS OF CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED.

#### COMMUNITIES

#### PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION

- Design of new NAAONB-branded Howardian Hills stationery.
- 26<sup>th</sup> July – Ryedale Show.
- September – Preparation of 2011/12 Annual Report.
- September – Preparation of AONB News 2012.
- Sourcing timber for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary log seats.
- 19<sup>th</sup> October – 6 Tweets on 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of AONB designation.
- w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Publication and distribution of AONB News 2012.

#### FUTURE PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION

- November – Publication of 2011/12 Annual Report.
- Press release on 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of AONB designation, and installation of log seats.
- Installation of log seats.

#### TRAINING

- Equalities & Diversity training.
- Designing Survey Monkey questionnaires; Bowles Green.

#### FUTURE TRAINING

- Customer Care.
- Recruitment & Selection.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- 24<sup>th</sup> April – Maggie Cochrane Appraisal.
- 26<sup>th</sup> April – Francesca Pert Appraisal.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Appraisal.
- 4<sup>th</sup> September – Liz Bassindale return to work after Maternity Leave.
- 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October – Annual Leave.

#### FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

- Team Appraisals.
- 25<sup>th</sup> December – 1<sup>st</sup> January – Compulsory office shutdown.

**AONB OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2012 – 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2012**

This report summarises the work carried out by Francesca Pert from 5<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> August and by Liz Bassindale since 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Some of our main duties since the last meeting have been:

**Projects Fund 2012/13:** Arbortech Tree Specialists were contracted to chip a large amount of felled rhododendron around Park Wood Fish Ponds. Himalayan Balsam cutting and churchyard conservation cutting took place late-Summer 2012. A prominent stretch of roadside wall is being repaired near Brandsby. Other grant offers include contributions towards a village notice board (Oswaldkirk), Ha-ha repair (Gilling East) and stone walling (Terrington). Walling work at Cawton and Wiganthorpe has been completed and grants paid.

**SDF 2011 / 2012:** The only project not to claim all eligible funds was Hovingham Action Group's Bee Homes Project – this was due to illness. The project has now been completed, inspected and the grant paid.

**SDF 2012/13/14:** The final installment of the grant to Appleton le Street village hall committee towards sustainable village hall improvements has been paid. Welburn and Crayke Schools have both approached us with ideas for nature areas in the school grounds, NYCC and B-lines are progressing the Welburn project. Four enquiries about funding from the 2013/14 SDF have been received and one, from Rural Action Yorkshire, has been asked to complete an Application Form; the others are still to submit Project Ideas Forms.

**Rural: Urban Schools Twinning Project:** Seven rural Round 2 visits and nine urban Round 2 visits took place between April and July 2012. Many schools opted for The Arboretum at Castle Howard as their rural location, here they had a taste of rural sport (orienteeing) and they also took part in a team shelter building exercise. The urban activities were more varied, some schools followed up the sports theme with visits to Hull KC Stadium or Bootham Crescent (considering why urban centres can have this type of provision and enjoying a behind-the-scenes coaching experience) and the others went into the centre of Hull. The schools that went into Hull had a very full day with sessions at Holy Trinity Church, finding out about William Wilberforce and interviewing the market traders.

A teachers workshop to review Year 2 and plan ahead for Year 3 took place in July, those teachers who attended found it beneficial as it allowed planning time with their partner school and ideas sharing with the wider group.

An activity plan for Round 3 visits to Ampleforth Abbey has been agreed with The Abbey and YWT and the volunteers have had a site briefing. Ideas for sessions focusing on traditional crafts at The Arboretum have been developed and a large scale arts project is envisaged for the Hull visits in 2013. By the time of the JAC meeting some AONB visits will have been completed.

**Yorkshire Exmoor Pony Grazing 2012:** The grazing season for 2012 is now coming to an end. A site visit during grazing to Grange Bogs showed the grazing this year to appear beneficial. A handling pen has been constructed at Bull Ings to make managing the ponies there safer for the volunteers.

**RAY and Rural Voice in the AONB:** Two Good Life events have been held at Gilling and Amotherby village halls. Over 100 members of the public attended each event. Many local volunteers gave their time for the day to demonstrate traditional skills and promote sustainable living practices. The days were organised jointly by the AONB Team and RAY.

**Publicity:** The Gilling Good Life event received good coverage in the Gazette and Herald. A press release was put together by Ryedale DC to announce the release of Ryedale Bike Rides Leaflets.

**Volunteers:** Volunteers have helped clear rhododendron at Park Wood Fish Ponds, plant Greater Knapweed at Amotherby Lane SINC and run the Ryedale Show stand (their enthusiasm for working the badge machine is amazing!) Volunteers have given a lot of time to both Schools Twinning and Junior Ranger Club. A discussion with the new Area Ranger for the AONB has identified the opportunity to carry on with weekday and weekend conservation tasks in the area. We are hoping to clear more rhododendron and western hemlock in Yearsley Moor (subject to FC agreement) and to re-cut and gravel the City of Troy Maze at Dalby.

**Junior Ranger Club:** Well attended Spring / Easter and summer sessions have been run in conjunction with volunteers and Kathryn Hardaker and at the Arboretum Trust. Activities outlined on the accompanying appendix.

## MEETINGS

- April 5<sup>th</sup> – Joint Advisory Committee meeting
- April 17<sup>th</sup> – York - N Yorks Biodiversity Action Plan meeting.
- April 25<sup>th</sup> – Amotherby – Good Life event planning meeting
- April 30<sup>th</sup> – Appleton le Street – AONB Partnership Group Meeting
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Hovingham – Projects update meeting.
- May 10<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham - Work programme meeting
- May 11<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Projects update meeting
- May 14<sup>th</sup> - Hull – Schools Twinning Update Meeting.
- June 1<sup>st</sup> – Hovingham – Visitors and users survey meeting.
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – Malton – Ryedale Rural Development Officers.
- July 2<sup>nd</sup> – York – Schools Twinning Teachers Workshop
- July 24<sup>th</sup> – Northallerton – Natural Environment Team meeting
- Aug 14<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – HHAONB Action Programme meeting (FP & LB)
- Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – update with PJ
- Sept 12<sup>th</sup> – Hull - YWT – School twinning update/planning
- Sept 13<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – 2x Rangers and Area Countryside Officer – introductions and work planning
- Sept 18<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – NYCC volunteer coordinator
- Sept 27<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Projects update meeting
- Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – Northallerton – NYCC Natural Environment Team meeting
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Core Partners
- Oct 16<sup>th</sup> – Malton – Local Distinctiveness workshop
- Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – Ryedale House – Ryedale BAP
- Monthly - Howardian Hills AONB Unit meeting

## FUTURE MEETINGS

- Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – Northallerton - Hambleton BAP
- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham - JAC
- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – York – River Rye group
- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – York – NYBAG
- Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Core Partners
- Monthly - Howardian Hills AONB Unit meeting
- Monthly - Project updates with Paul
- Approx every 4-6 weeks – Natural Environment

## Team Meetings

- Quarterly – work programme meeting with Paul and Maggie

## SITE VISITS

- March 6<sup>th</sup> - Pond Farm Crambe, discussing tree planting with Mark Antcliffe and landowner
- March 7<sup>th</sup> – Malton Street, Newburgh Priory, to discuss hedge planting and wall at Oulston
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Oswaldkirk – potential hedge planting scheme
- May 8<sup>th</sup> – Coulton – Site visit with YEPT to discuss catching pen at Bull Ings
- May 14<sup>th</sup> – Hull City Centre – Schools Twinning urban visit planning reconnaissance.
- May 15<sup>th</sup> – Castle Howard – distribution of Ryedale Bike Ride leaflets.
- June 6<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Site visit to see Hovingham Bee Homes Project Outcomes.
- June 12<sup>th</sup> – Coxwold – Farm Environment Plan meeting and site visit.
- June 14<sup>th</sup> – Gilling – Black Moor Wall project visit.
- June 15<sup>th</sup> – Castle Howard Estate – Preparing for National AONB conference field trip.
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Training in Farm Environment Plan (FEP) surveying by LB.
- July 27<sup>th</sup> – AONB – Joint Advisory Committee site visit.
- Sept 5<sup>th</sup> – Ampleforth Abbey – meeting with Orchard Manager to scope twinning visits
- Sept 21<sup>st</sup> – Dalby Maze – with Ranger – planning re-cut and re-gravel.
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> – Yearsley Moor – site visit with PJ and Forestry Commission – rhody and W hemlock control
- Summer - Completing FEP surveys at Brenk House Farm, Coxwold and Hovingham Estate – several days.

## FUTURE SITE VISITS

- 

## PROJECTS

- March 25<sup>th</sup> – Park Wood Fishponds SINC – rhododendron removal
- Sept 5<sup>th</sup> – Meeting with Husthwaite Village Hall committee members re. SDF Grant ideas
- Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – Coulton – Grange Bogs – assessing success of grazing/any additional work
- Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – Grimston Moor – western hemlock
- Removal of Himalayan Balsam along Wath Beck.

- Sept 28<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – meeting with Appleton le Street VH committee member to discuss grant payment.
- Sept 28<sup>th</sup> – Amotherby – Village Hall grant payment site visit
- Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gilling East – Ha-ha site visit with Maintenance Manager – stone wall repairs
- Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – Terrington – Rose Cottage – Wiganthorpe Park Wall repairs
- Wall repairs at Black Moor Plantation (ongoing large scale wall restoration)
- YEPT pony grazing.
- SDF Projects – advice during delivery and checking completed projects. Direct involvement with the majority of those on separate table in the form of advice on delivery/minor changes to conditions.

**SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR FULL DETAILS OF PLANNED/DELIVERED PROJECTS.**

**FUTURE PROJECTS**

Projects include:

- Rhododendron clearance and chipping at Yearsley Moor
- Western Hemlock clearance at Grimston Moor and Park Wood
- Cutting and re-gravelling City of Troy Maze

**RECREATION/ACCESS**

- Ryedale Bike rides leaflet printed and distributed in conjunction with Sustrans
- Ryedale Bike rides leaflet distributed at York Cycle Show and Scarborough Cycle Show as well as local events.

**FUTURE RECREATION/ACCESS**

- Assist NYCC with completion of Hovingham off-road cycle leaflet.
- Complete the three off-road cycle leaflets.

**COMMUNITY WORK**

- 28<sup>th</sup> April and 26<sup>th</sup> May - 'Good Life' events run at Appleton le Street Parish Hall and Gilling Village Hall.

**FUTURE COMMUNITY WORK**

- 21<sup>st</sup> Nov – Malton Rugby Club – Meet the Funder
- Work with Crayke School on creating a community garden space.
- Work with Welburn School to develop a Jubilee wildflower meadow.
- Work with FRUIT creative group in Hull to develop Schools Twinning Project sessions.
- Build on links with schools, parishes and community groups.
- Continue to build links with existing volunteer schemes in the locality and to develop joint tasks

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/INTERPRETATION**

- Content supplied for press release about Ryedale Bike Rides Leaflet.
- April 25<sup>th</sup> – Alne – evening talk to the Gardening Club
- July 31<sup>st</sup> - Ryedale Show.

**FUTURE PUBLICITY/INTERPRETATION**

- Supply content for NYCC Volunteer Newsletter.
- Press release about Schools Twinning project Round 3 visits
- Displays in community spaces about the Schools Twinning Project

**EDUCATIONAL/RAISING AWARENESS**

- April 4<sup>th</sup> – Arboretum – Spring Junior Ranger Club
- June 8<sup>th</sup> – Arboretum – Summer Junior Ranger Club
- 7 Schools Twinning visits to Castle Howard Arboretum delivered.
- 9 Schools Twinning Urban Visits to Hull and York delivered – last one on 5<sup>th</sup> July.
- July 2<sup>nd</sup> – York – Schools Twinning Project – Teachers and volunteers workshop – FP & LB
- Sept 19<sup>th</sup> – The Arboretum, Castle Howard – planning JRC with Education Officer
- Sept 26<sup>th</sup> – Ampleforth and Arboretum with YWT
- Oct 10<sup>th</sup> – Hull – YWT – School twinning update and planning
- Oct 11<sup>th</sup> – Ampleforth – briefing 3 volunteers before twinning sessions
- Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Ampleforth – briefing the other 3 volunteers before twinning sessions

- Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – The Arboretum – Junior Ranger Club

### FUTURE EDUCATION/AWARENESS

- Nov 20<sup>th</sup> – Hull – Twinning update and planning and visit to FRUIT Space
- 2 school twinning visits to Castle Howard Arboretum – traditional crafts and autumn colour theme – Oct/Nov
- 4 school twinning visits to Ampleforth Abbey – orchards and ‘A Monk’s Life’ theme – Oct/Nov
- Continue to develop projects with local schools through working with them both in their school grounds and on field-trips.
- Developing the skills of the Volunteers on a variety of tasks including ongoing PROW Condition Assessment Training, Community Events and Habitat Management.

### TRAINING

- 16th -17th May – Maryport, Solway Coast AONB – Northern Group AONB meeting and site visit.
- May 31<sup>st</sup> – Birmingham – National Association for AONBs Communication Officers workshop.
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Training in Farm Environment Plan (FEP) surveying (with LB).
- Customer Care Training.
- July 16-19<sup>th</sup> – York – National AONB Conference.

### FUTURE TRAINING

### MISCELLANEOUS

- March 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual leave (FP)
- June 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Leave / TOIL (FP)
- 1<sup>st</sup> August – FP last day in office (other than two hand over days)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sept – LB first full day back in office

### FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

- Nov 6<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham - Interview for one day per week AONB Officer post

## AONB ASSISTANT'S REPORT 24 MARCH - 26 OCTOBER 2012

My main duties over the period have been:

- Promotion of Good Life events and Junior Ranger sessions.
- Planning and preparation for Junior Ranger Club sessions on 8 June and 1 November.
- Assisting in planning for Good Life events at Amotherby and Gilling East.
- Delivery of Good Life event at Gilling East, with Maggie Farey.
- Assisting with planning for some of Schools Twinning days and assisting with delivery of one of the days.
- Planning, preparation and assisting with delivery of Ryedale Show.
- Assisting with delivery of NAAONB Conference.
- Member of judging panel for Ryedale Rural Awards and attendance at Awards Evening.
- Assisting with LEADER claim for Schools Twinning project.
- Volunteer support and liaison with new Countryside Volunteers Co-ordinator.
- General admin tasks for the unit eg taking minutes, dealing with orders, invoices, post, both incoming and out, file management.
- Uploading and amending of text and information to website, including production of leaflet on gardening sustainably and revamp of SDF leaflet.
- Handling telephone and email enquiries to the Unit.
- Dealing with IT issues including file transfer to 'N' drive.

### MEETINGS

- 5 Apr – JAC Committee meeting
- 8 May – JRC planning meeting with FP and Education Officer from Arboretum
- 10 May – Annual Work Programme meeting
- 17 May – Northern Group Staff meeting, Solway Coast AONB
- 22 May – Good Life planning meeting at Gilling East VH
- 21 June – Core Partners' Group meeting
- 24 July - NET meeting and H&S update, County Hall
- 14 Aug – Annual Work Programme meeting
- 21 Aug – NET meeting, Wath Court
- 13 Sept – Liaison meeting with LB and Countryside Rangers, Wath Court
- 18 Sept – meeting with LB and Vols Co-ordinator, Wath Court
- 19 Sept – JRC planning meeting with LB and Arboretum Education Officer, Castle Howard Arboretum
- 24 Oct - Northern Group Staff meeting, Lincolnshire Wolds AONB
- Monthly AONB Unit meetings

### FUTURE MEETINGS

- 5 Nov – JAC meeting, Hovingham
- 13 Nov – NET meeting, Wath Court
- 13 Dec – CPG meeting, Wath Court
- 20 – Dec - NET meeting, County Hall
- Monthly - HHAONB Unit meetings

### SITE VISITS

- 5 April – Ampleforth Abbey with FP – scoping possible venue for Schools Twinning visits
- 26 Sept – Ampleforth Abbey and Castle Howard Arboretum with LB and YWT – finalise arrangements for school visits

### FUTURE SITE VISITS

### RECREATION/ACCESS

- Continued supply of walks and new cycle routes leaflets to local shops/outlets (ongoing)
- Research into further outlets for leaflets
- Technical support for volunteers undertaking footpath condition surveys ie mapping and data-inputting (ongoing)

### FUTURE RECREATION/ACCESS

### COMMUNITY WORK

- Assisting with delivery of JRC session on 4 April
- Planning and preparation for JRC sessions on 8 June and 1 November
- Preparation for Good Life events at Amotherby (28 April) and Gilling East (26 May)
- Delivery of Good Life event at Gilling East



- 15 Aug - Judging panel for Ryedale Rural Community Awards
- 14 Sept – Representing AONB at Ryedale Rural Community Awards evening, Cropton

FUTURE COMMUNITY WORK

- Assisting with delivery of JRC session on 1 November

PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/  
INTERPRETATION

- Further development of Howardian Hills AONB website and links with relevant organisations
- Production of promotion material for Good Life events and JRC sessions
- Production of a leaflet on sustainable gardening
- Planning, preparation and delivery of HHAONB stand at Ryedale Show

FUTURE PROMOTION/  
PUBLICITY/INTERPRETATION

- Continued distribution of HHAONB leaflet to tourism outlets etc

EDUCATION/RAISING AWARENESS

- Continued liaison with YWT and volunteers to deliver Schools Twinning Project
- 26 April – Assisting with delivery of Schools Twinning visit at Arboretum
- Assisting FP with LEADER claim for year 2 of Schools Twinning Project
- 19 July - Assisting with delivery of NAAONB Conference 2012 at University of York

FUTURE EDUCATION/RAISING  
AWARENESS

TRAINING

- 17 May - Northern Group presentations and site visit, Solway Coast AONB
- 24 Oct – Northern Group presentations and site visit, Lincolnshire Wolds AONB

FUTURE TRAINING

- Assertiveness Training
- Mandatory Customer Care course

MISCELLANEOUS

- 24 April – Appraisal
- 1 – 3 May – Annual leave
- 6 – 15 June – Annual leave
- 3 – 9 Oct – Annual leave

FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

- 6 Nov - Interview for one day per week AONB Officer post

## AONB PROJECTS 2012/2013

1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Projects that have received formal offers of assistance; **Completed projects.**

### AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment

| APPLICANT/<br>(CONTRACTOR)                      | LOCATION   | PROJECT  | LOCAL<br>PRIORITY                                       | OBJECTIVE           | SCHEME<br>COST | JAC<br>ASSISTANCE |
|---|--|--|---|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| ~   | AONB-wide  | Native Woodland Development Officer post                                   | -   | FW6.5               | £32,360        | £2,500            |
| M Marshall                                      | Brandsby   | Wall restoration (150m)  | Zone 1<br>Landscape                                     | AG2.2               | c.£7,500       | c.£6,500          |
| <b>A Mosey</b>                                  | <b>Sundial Farm,<br/>Cawton</b>                            | <b>Wall restoration (2m)</b>   | -   | <b>AG2.2</b>        | <b>£175</b>    | <b>£130</b>       |
| Newburgh Priory<br>Estate                       | Oulston  | Wall restoration (38m)   | -   | HE4.5               | £13,884        | £6,942 (50%)      |
|   |  |  |   |                     |                |                   |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Yorkshire Exmoor<br>Pony Trust) | Coulton (3),<br>Cawton (2),<br>Terrington (2),<br>Bulmer   | Conservation grazing of 8 SINC's or other<br>important sites               | Sites 1.59,<br>1.60, 1.41,<br>1.47, 1.66,<br>1.20, 1.21 | NE5.1, NE6.1        | c.£1,089       | c.£818            |
| <b>(Arbortech)</b>                              | <b>Park Wood<br/>Fishponds/The<br/>Wilderness<br/>SINC</b> | <b>Rhododendron control (chipping piles of<br/>brash)</b>                  | <b>Site 1.6</b>   | <b>NE4.1, NE8.2</b> | <b>£2,750</b>  | <b>£2,750</b>     |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Countryside<br>Services)        | Scar Wood,<br>Gilling                                      | Treat sycamore re-growth, beat-up planting<br>areas, chemical weed control | Site 1.25   | NE4.1               | £900           | £900              |

| APPLICANT/<br>(CONTRACTOR)                             | LOCATION                                     | PROJECT   | LOCAL<br>PRIORITY                | OBJECTIVE               | SCHEME<br>COST | JAC<br>ASSISTANCE |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| (AONB Unit –<br>Curlew<br>Conservation<br>Contractors) | Wath Beck;<br>Terrington -<br>Howthorpe      | Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (3.5km)                | Inc. Site<br>1.65                | NE8.2                   | £797.50        | £797.50           |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Countryside<br>Services)               | Wath Beck;<br>Howthorpe -<br>Wath            | Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (2.3km)                | Inc. Site<br>1.33                | NE8.2                   | £564           | £564              |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Basics Plus)                           | Appleton-le-<br>Street<br>Churchyard<br>SINC | Grassland management                                    | -                                | NE5.1                   | £220           | £110 (50%)        |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Basics Plus)                           | Amotherby<br>Lane SINC                       | Grassland/scrub management                              | Site 1.38                        | NE5.1, NE7.1            | £110           | £110              |
| (AONB Unit – J R<br>Clifford & Sons)                   | Various                                      | Management of 44 Special Interest Road<br>Verges        | -                                | NE5.3                   | c.£1,350       | c.£1,350          |
| Amotherby<br>Churchyard<br>Conservation Group          | Amotherby<br>Churchyard                      | Habitat management                                      | -                                | NE3.1, NE5.4,<br>NE10.1 | £210           | £110 (50%)        |
| (AONB Unit – P&A<br>Gospel Landscapes)                 | Bull Ings SINC,<br>Coulton                   | Install pony handling pen                               | Site 1.60                        | NE6.1                   | £535           | £535              |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Forestry<br>Commission)                | Grimston Moor<br>SINC                        | Brushcut Western Hemlock regeneration                   | Site 1.1                         | NE5.4                   | c.£250         | c.£250            |
| (AONB Unit –<br>Forestry<br>Commission)                | Park Wood,<br>Gilling                        | Brushcut Western Hemlock regeneration                   | Adj Site 1.6                     | NE4.2                   | c.£250         | c.£250            |
| Mrs Cranfield  | Burton House,<br>Oulston                     | Planting 14 individual in-field trees                   | -                                | NE4.4                   | c.£700         | c.£700            |
| (Leeds University)                                     | AONB   | Bat transects and refining habitat suitability<br>model | All Nat Env<br>Priority<br>Sites | NE1.2, NE7.3            | £3,300         | £300              |

| APPLICANT | LOCATION | PROJECT | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|-----------|----------|---------|----------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
|           |          |         |                |           |             |                |
|           |          |         |                |           |             |                |

### AONB Enhancement - Historic Environment

| APPLICANT                                 | LOCATION                            | PROJECT  | LOCAL PRIORITY   | OBJECTIVE    | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)                    | City of Troy Maze, Dalby            | Regular maintenance  | Site 2.25        | HE4.5        | c.£200      | c.£200         |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)                    | Mileposts                           | Regular maintenance  | Site 2.63        | HE4.5, RT4.5 | c.£45       | c.£45          |
| (AONB Unit – Cleveland Corrosion Control) | Husthwaite /Oulston /Yearsley       | Restoration of 5 traditional direction signs                                   | -                | RT4.5        | c.£1,179    | c.£1,179       |
| Ryedale DC                                | Ryedale                             | LEADER Small Scale Enhancements Scheme   | -                | LC1.5, RT4.5 | £58,750     | £2,500         |
| <b>(AONB Unit – M Aconley)</b>            | <b>Wiganthorpe Park, Scackleton</b> | <b>Repairing 2m hole in roadside wall</b>                                      | <b>Site 2.92</b> | <b>HE4.5</b> | <b>£130</b> | <b>£130</b>    |
| Crayke PC                                 | Village Green, Crayke               | Repair well-head   | -                | HE4.5        | £520        | £390 (75%)     |
| Gigi Signorelli/ AONB Volunteers          | Yearsley Moor                       | Lime & Ice research excavation of section of park pale and possible water mill | Site 2.16        | HE1.5        | £6,000      | £2,280         |
| (AONB Volunteers)                         | Yearsley Moor                       | Clearance of Western hemlock regeneration from park pale                       | Site 2.16        | HE4.5        | c.£400      | £0             |
| (AONB Volunteers)                         | City of Troy Maze, Dalby            | Re-cut and gravel Maze   | Site 2.25        | HE4.5        | c.£400      | c.£100         |

| APPLICANT              | LOCATION                      | PROJECT                                | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| Ampleforth Abbey Trust | Gilling Castle                | Rebuilding 43m of ha-ha wall           | Site 2.16      | HE4.5     | £2,860      | ££1,950        |
| Mrs L Howard           | Rose Cottage Farm, Terrington | Rebuilding 7m of Wiganthorpe Park wall | Site 2.92      | HE4.5     | £300        | £150 (50%)     |
|                        |                               |  |                |           |             |                |
|                        |                               |  |                |           |             |                |

### Enjoying the AONB

| APPLICANT                 | LOCATION         | PROJECT  | LOCAL PRIORITY        | OBJECTIVE           | SCHEME COST   | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| (AONB Unit – Basics Plus) | Various          | Litter picking (5 visits)  | Sites 3.8, 3.14, 3.19 | D3.5                | £550          | £550           |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)    | Gateway signs    | Strimming  | -                     | AP1.1               | c.£630        | c.£630         |
|                           |                  |  |                       |                     |               |                |
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Various          | Volunteer effort on PRow in the AONB (av. 4 people/week, every other week) | -                     | RA4.5, AP3.1        | £3,000        | -              |
|                           |                  |  |                       |                     |               |                |
| <b>Rural Voice</b>        | <b>Amotherby</b> | <b>Good Life event</b>   | -                     | <b>SF2.2, LC1.5</b> | <b>c.£650</b> | <b>£72</b>     |
| <b>Rural Voice</b>        | <b>Gilling</b>   | <b>Good Life event</b>   | -                     | <b>SF2.2, LC1.5</b> | <b>c.£650</b> | <b>£76</b>     |
| Oswaldkirk Parish Meeting | Oswaldkirk       | Replacement village notice board   | -                     | LC1.5               | £1,250        | £625 (50%)     |
| Rural Action Yorkshire    | Ryedale          | Ryedale Rural Community Awards   | -                     | LC1                 | c.£2,450      | £100           |
|                           |                  |  |                       |                     |               |                |

| APPLICANT                 | LOCATION     | PROJECT   | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE           | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|---------------------------|--------------|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Various      | Volunteer effort – Junior Ranger Club, Ryedale Show, guided walks, PRoW Condition surveying, etc. | -              | AP3.1               | £500        | -              |
| (AONB Unit)               | Arboretum    | Junior Ranger Club  | -              | RA2.4               | £309        | £9             |
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Various      | Volunteer effort - Schools Twinning Project   | -              | RA2.4, AP2.3, AP3.1 | £2,700      | -              |
| CAN DO Lime & Ice Project | Project area | 2012/13 contribution  |                |                     | £170,060    | £3,500         |

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANTS 2012/2013

1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Projects that have received formal offers of assistance; **Completed projects.**

| APPLICANT                      | LOCATION  | PROJECT                              | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE | SCHEME COST | SDF ASSISTANCE |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| Appleton-le-Street Parish Hall | Amotherby | Village hall refurbishment (phase 2) | -              | LC1.5     | £72,769     | £7,500         |
|                                |           |                                      |                |           |             |                |
|                                |           |                                      |                |           |             |                |

## **AONB CONSULTATIONS (SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS) 2012/2013**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

| <b>CONSULTING ORGANISATION</b> | <b>LOCATION</b> | <b>PROJECT</b>  | <b>SITE VISIT</b> | <b>COMMENTS</b>   | <b>OUTCOME</b>                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Ryedale District Council       | Various         | Weekly lists of Planning Applications and Decisions                     | -                 | -   | -                              |
| Hambleton District Council     | Various         | Weekly web lists of Planning Applications and Decisions                 | -                 | -   | -                              |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Various         | Weekly list of Planning Applications                                    | -                 | -   | -                              |
| Hambleton District Council     | Brandsby        | Agricultural Prior Notification (Erection of agricultural building)     | Yes               | Confirm roof sheets as dark green; minor landscaping        | Dark green; no landscaping     |
| Hambleton District Council     | Newburgh        | Agricultural Prior Notification (Erection of agricultural building)     | Yes               | Dark grey or dark red roof sheets to be used                | Amended – dark grey sheets     |
| Hambleton District Council     | Brandsby        | Planning application (Erection of extension and creation of new access) | Yes               | Object to proposed new access                               | New access deleted from scheme |
| Ryedale District Council       | Ness            | Planning application (Erection of agricultural building)                | Yes               | Dark grey roof sheets preferred                             | Condition attached             |
| Ryedale District Council       | Broughton       | Planning application (Erection of agricultural building)                | (In passing)      | Dark grey roof sheets to be used                            | Plans amended                  |
| Ryedale District Council       | Oswaldkirk      | Planning application (Erection of dwelling)                             | (In passing)      | None  | -                              |
| Hambleton District Council     | Brandsby        | Planning application (Erection of garages and stables)                  | Yes               | Objection – over-development of site, beyond farm curtilage | Permitted                      |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Swinton x 2     | NRSA consultation (LV works)  | No                | None  | -                              |

| CONSULTING ORGANISATION        | LOCATION           | PROJECT   | SITE VISIT | COMMENTS   | OUTCOME |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---|------------|--|---------|
| North Yorkshire County Council | Amotherby          | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | Avoid damage to traditional direction sign                     | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Kirkham            | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Appleton-le-Street | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Amotherby          | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | Avoid damage to milepost                                       | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Swinton Grange     | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Terrington         | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Huttons Ambo x 3   | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Welburn            | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Musley Bank        | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Nunnington         | NRSWA consultation (Install 2 road gullies)                                 | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Gilling            | NRSWA consultation (Move road gully)  | No         | Species-rich hedge adjacent                                    | -       |
| Forestry Commission            | Hovingham          | Woodland management proposals (Felling & thinning; 3.88ha PAWS restoration) | No         | Support PAWS restoration, broadleaved fringe on prominent edge | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Nunnington         | NRSWA consultation (Replace existing drainage)                              | No         | None   | -       |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Ampleforth         | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No         | None   | -       |



| CONSULTING ORGANISATION        | LOCATION           | PROJECT   | SITE VISIT   | COMMENTS  | OUTCOME                       |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------|---|-------------------------------|
| North Yorkshire County Council | Cawton             | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No           | None  | -                             |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Cawton             | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No           | None  | -                             |
| Ryedale District Council       | Coulton            | Planning application (Erection of stables and menage)   | Yes          | No lighting; fencing around ménage to be agricultural     | Conditions attached           |
| Hambleton District Council     | Crayke             | Agricultural Prior Notification (Erection of agricultural building)                               | No           | None  | -                             |
| Ryedale District Council       | Stonegrave         | Planning application (Erection of extension)  | (In passing) | None  | -                             |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Welburn            | NRSWA consultation (LV works)   | No           | None  | None                          |
| Ryedale District Council       | Scackleton         | Planning application (Erection of agricultural workers dwelling)                                  | Yes          | Objection – location too prominent; alternative available | Location amended as suggested |
| Ryedale District Council       | South Holme        | Planning application (Erection of broiler units)  | No           | None  | -                             |
| Ryedale District Council       | Coulton            | Planning application (Erection of timber stables and field shelter - retrospective)               | No           | None  | -                             |
| Ryedale District Council       | Appleton-le-Street | Planning application (Change of use of land and buildings to builders yard - retrospective)       | (in passing) | Minor, re ornamental species used in landscaping          | Condition attached            |
| Hambleton District Council     | Newburgh           | Planning application (Siting of a marquee - retrospective)  | No           | None  | -                             |
| Hambleton District Council     | Crayke             | Planning application (Change of use of agricultural land and erection of stables - retrospective) | Yes          | Colour of materials; additional landscaping               | Withdrawn                     |
| Hambleton District Council     | Yearsley           | Agricultural Prior Notification (Erection of agricultural building)                               | No           | None – dark-coloured finishes noted                       | -                             |

| CONSULTING ORGANISATION        | LOCATION             | PROJECT  | SITE VISIT       | COMMENTS   | OUTCOME                                       |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|------------------|--|---|
| Ryedale District Council       | Gilling              | Planning application (Surfacing with all-weather surface and erection of 2m fencing) | No               | No lighting  | Condition attached                            |
| Forestry Commission            | Huttons Ambo         | Woodland management proposals  | No               | None   | -   |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Bulmer               | NRSWA consultation (LV works)  | No               | None   | None  |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Gilling              | NRSWA consultation (Install kerbing)   | No               | None   | -   |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Ampleforth           | NRSWA consultation (LV works)  | No               | None   | None  |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Gilling              | NRSWA consultation (Drain investigation)   | No               | None   | -   |
| Ryedale District Council       | Oswaldkirk           | Planning application (Erection of agricultural building)                             | Yes              | Reduce size, dark coloured concrete panels             | No amendments                                 |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Castle Howard Estate | Diversions (Extinguishments & Creations) at 9 locations                              | No               | None   | -   |
| Ryedale District Council       | Henderskelfe         | Planning application (Siting of portable office building)                            | Yes (in passing) | Walls to be painted a dark colour                      | Condition attached                            |
| Hambleton District Council     | Crayke               | Planning application (Construction of a slurry store)                                | No               | Walls and cover to be dark colour                      | Details amended as suggested                  |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Welburn              | NRSWA consultation (Erection of Horse signs)   | No               | None   | -   |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Whitwell             | NRSWA consultation (Signing works)   | Yes?             | Sign size/clutter?                                     | ?   |
| Hambleton District Council     | Newburgh             | Planning application (Change of use of land to car park; widening of access)         | Yes              | Minor (under-planting, conservation kerbing, lighting) | Conditions attached re materials and lighting |

| CONSULTING ORGANISATION        | LOCATION                                | PROJECT  | SITE VISIT       | COMMENTS  | OUTCOME                           |
|--------------------------------|---|--|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Ryedale District Council       | Fryton                                  | Planning application (Conversion of agricultural building to camping barn)   | No               | Colour of windows/doors & frames; landscaping, log burner flues                               | Conditions attached               |
| Ryedale District Council       | Nunnington                              | Agricultural Prior Notification (Construction of a farm access track)        | Yes (in passing) | Support   | Planning Application required     |
| Hambleton District Council     | Brandsby                                | Agricultural Prior Notification (Siting of 6 containers)                     | No               | Dark grey or dark green roof and wall sheets to be used; not to be double storey              | Green colours; single storey only |
| Ryedale District Council       | Ampleforth                              | Planning application (Erection of 30 dwellings)                              | Yes (previously) | Strong objection – premature to Local Plan, poor design/layout, no recognition of AONB status | New documents                     |
| Forestry Commission            | Ampleforth                              | Woodland management proposals  | No               | None  | -                                 |
| Ryedale District Council       | Ampleforth                              | Planning application (Erection of dwelling)                                  | No               | None  | -                                 |
| Ryedale District Council       | Sproxton                                | Planning application (Erection of agricultural building 1 – amended details) | Yes              | Dark coloured materials noted; landscaping suggested  | Conditions attached               |
| Ryedale District Council       | Sproxton                                | Planning application (Erection of agricultural building 2)                   | Yes              | Dark coloured materials noted   | Conditions attached               |
| Ryedale District Council       | Terrington                              | Planning application (Erection of extension)                                 | No               | None  | -                                 |
| Tesla Exploration              | Hovingham/<br>Stonegrave/<br>Nunnington | Seismic survey for potential gas reserves                                    | No               | Minor – shot points to avoid semi-natural habitats  | ?                                 |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Welburn                                 | NRSWA consultation (Replacement of o/h LV line with u/g line)                | No               | None  | -                                 |

| CONSULTING ORGANISATION        | LOCATION         | PROJECT  | SITE VISIT       | COMMENTS  | OUTCOME                                |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|---|--|
| Ryedale District Council       | Ampleforth       | Planning application (Erection of 30 dwellings)  | Yes              | Strong objection – premature to Local Plan Inquiry result.                            | ?                                      |
| Ryedale District Council       | Hovingham        | Agricultural Prior Notification (Extension to farm building)                                     | Yes              | Dark roof sheets to be used   | Planning Application required          |
| Ryedale District Council       | Gilling          | Planning application (Erection of extension and raising of roof height)                          | Yes              | Object – large area of windows; roof pitch  | Refused                                |
| Ryedale District Council       | Ampleforth       | Agricultural Prior Notification (Erection of agricultural building)                              | Yes              | Object - prominent siting, materials colours, non-compliance with previous Conditions | ?                                      |
| Ryedale District Council       | Ampleforth       | Planning application (Erection of detached office)   | Yes              | Object – landscape impact; incremental development                                    | ?                                      |
| Halcrow                        | A64, High Hutton | Footway widening/extension; new signage  | Yes              | Direction signage to ‘Gaterley’ unnecessary   | ‘Gaterley’ signage deleted from scheme |
| Forestry Commission            | Whitwell         | Woodland management proposals (0.4ha conifer to native broadleaves)                              | No               | None  | -                                      |
| Hambleton District Council     | Husthwaite       | Planning application (Retention of log cabin dwelling at alpaca farm)                            | No               | None  | -                                      |
| Ryedale District Council       | Wombleton        | Planning application (Change of use of potato store to wood fuel store and potato/caravan store) | No               | Minor – transport issues much less significant than previous proposal                 | -                                      |
| Forestry Commission            | Castle Howard    | Woodland management proposals (selective fell, conifer to broadleaves)                           | Yes (in passing) | None  | -                                      |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Crambe           | NRSWA consultation (Drainage works)  | No               | ?   | -                                      |

| <b>CONSULTING ORGANISATION</b> | <b>LOCATION</b> | <b>PROJECT</b>  | <b>SITE VISIT</b> | <b>COMMENTS</b> | <b>OUTCOME</b> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| North Yorkshire County Council | Huttons Ambo    | NRSWA consultation (Excavations)  | No                | ?               | -              |
| Ryedale District Council       | Coulton         | Planning application (Raising roof height of dwelling, plus single storey extensions) | ?                 | ?               | ?              |
| Ryedale District Council       | Gilling         | Planning application (Erection of agricultural building and formation of track)       | Yes               | ?               | ?              |
| Ryedale District Council       | Gilling         | Planning application (Change of use of outbuildings to form 2 holiday cottages)       | Yes               | ?               | ?              |
| Ryedale District Council       | Ampleforth      | Planning application (Erection of groundsmans' storage shed)                          | Yes               | ?               | ?              |
|                                |                 |   |                   |                 |                |
|                                |                 |   |                   |                 |                |

## AONB CONSULTATIONS & NOTIFICATIONS (STRATEGIES, ETC) 2012/2013

1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

| ORGANISATION       | AREA            | DOCUMENT  | COMMENTS  | OUTCOME |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|---|---------|
| North Yorkshire CC | North Yorkshire | Timber Freight Quality Partnership consultation                       | Added better information about Exit Points and potential routes being used                                      |         |
| Ryedale DC         | Ryedale         | Consultation Draft Economic Action Plan                               | Support – experiences and likely future trends in the AONB  |         |
| NAAONB             | AONBs           | Accord with Woodland Trust  | Certain Actions need to be more generic – significant woodland creation not necessarily applicable in all AONBs | Amended |
| DCLG               | England         | Permitted Development Rights for the re-use of agricultural buildings |   |         |
| NYCC               | North Yorkshire | Highway trees – consultation protocol and removal guidance            |   |         |
|                    |                 |   |   |         |
|                    |                 |   |   |         |
|                    |                 |   |   |         |
|                    |                 |   |   |         |
|                    |                 |   |   |         |

## **TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS RECEIVED 2012/2013**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

| <b>ORGANISATION</b> | <b>DOCUMENT</b>                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| AONB Units          | Annual Reports, Newsletters, etc |
|                     |                                  |
|                     |                                  |
|                     |                                  |
|                     |                                  |
|                     |                                  |

## Howardian Hills Report April to September 2012

- **Good Life Events**

28 April at Amotherby Village Hall (in partnership with Rural Voice project):

Stall-holders/demonstrations from Husthwaite Orchards; Malton Beekeepers; Sue Wright (Cloth Bags); Lynn Corkney (Spinning & Weaving); Nigella Ballard (Knitting); Chickens & Ducks (Brendan Kilmartin); Henry Leeson (Wood Carving); Slingsby Allotments (Brian Clark) Rural Arts North Yorkshire (Bird box making); Annabel Kennedy (Willow Weaving)

25 May at Gilling East Village Hall (in partnership with Rural Voice Project):

Stall-holders/demonstrations from Husthwaite Orchards; Sue Wright (Cloth Bags); Lynn Corkney & Dagmar Pickles (Spinning & Weaving); Rural Arts North Yorkshire (Bird box making); Annabel Kennedy (Willow Weaving); Sally Harrison (Home grown plants); Cornflower Project; Roger Burnett (Gardening Advice); Beacon Alpacas

- 30 April: Attend HHAONB Partnership Meeting
- Thornton Le Clay & Foston Village Design Statement – on-going support. 26 June: held Village Walk
- Coneysthorpe Village Hall – support from RAY and Rural Voice
- 21 June: VCS Forum at Hovingham Village Hall (Rural Voice) in partnership with RAY, covering Risk Management for Community groups and Village Halls mainly insurance cover etc
- Hovingham Market invited to give a presentation at a Sustainability Event at Hutton Le Hole Village Hall.
- **Ryedale Rural Awards** – in partnership with HHAONB & RVA – celebrating community groups and projects, encouraging entries from HHAONB. Hovingham Market were the winners of Rural Community Group for 2<sup>nd</sup> year running. Terrington VH also a finalist.
- Supporting parishes within HHAONB with RDC Community Budgeting process
- Attended Ryedale Show, promoting 'Perfect village' and giving help & advice to community groups
- 16 September: Attended Husthwaite Apple Fair and promoted work of HHAONB



**2011/12****15 RESPONSES RETURNED** (percentages are approximate)

1. **How satisfied were you overall with the grants/advice service provided by the AONB Team?**

*Please circle a number*

| Excellent       |                | Satisfactory |   | Poor |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---|------|
| 1               | 2              | 3            | 4 | 5    |
| <b>12 (80%)</b> | <b>3 (20%)</b> |              |   |      |

2. **If you were 'Unsatisfied', was this because the AONB Team was unable to provide grant aid for your project?**

Yes       No      **N/A**

3. **If you received information and guidance from the AONB Team, was it?**

| Excellent       |                | Satisfactory  |   | Poor |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|---|------|
| 1               | 2              | 3             | 4 | 5    |
| <b>10 (66%)</b> | <b>4 (28%)</b> | <b>1 (6%)</b> |   |      |

4. **Speed of response and availability of staff. Was this?**

| Excellent       |                | Satisfactory |   | Poor |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---|------|
| 1               | 2              | 3            | 4 | 5    |
| <b>12 (80%)</b> | <b>3 (20%)</b> |              |   |      |

5. **If you received a grant, was the scheme easy to use?**

| Simple          |                |   |   | Difficult |
|-----------------|----------------|---|---|-----------|
| 1               | 2              | 3 | 4 | 5         |
| <b>12 (80%)</b> | <b>3 (20%)</b> |   |   |           |

(Continued overleaf)

**6. How did you find out about our grants/advice scheme?**

- Previous contact **10 (66%)**
- Leaflet
- Local paper/publicity
- Telephoned or wrote to Council **1 (6%)**
- Friend or other personal contact **3 (20%)**
- Other (*please specify*) **1 (6%)**  
**1 – Website**

**7. Was the grant rate for your project:**

- More than you expected **1 (6%)**
- About what you expected **14 (94%)**
- Less than you expected

**8. Would the work have been carried out without a grant?**

- All of it **4 (28%)**  Some of it **4 (28%)**  None of it **7 (44%)**

**8. Could we make any improvements to the service, or do you have any other comments to make?**

1. Keep up the good work!!! The projects you have funded have made a remarkable impression on the AONB and are all very worthwhile!! (J. Pesterfield)
2. It all seemed to work very well. (Keith Manning, Scackleton Action Group)
3. Very flexible and professional. (Bulmer PCC)
4. The AONB staff gave me a lot of help at the outset and explained the work so far. This enabled the council to make a successful LEADER application and an application to the AONB (Mrs V Ellis, Clerk to Ampleforth Parish Council)
5. Thank you very much for your support of the outdoor education programme . The significant strides we have made in the last five years have been greatly aided by your advice and encouragement. (Dr Katherine Forsey, Arboretum Trust, Kew at Castle Howard)

**9. Name and address (OPTIONAL), but helpful if there are case-specific issues we could tackle)**

Only 2 questionnaires returned anonymously.

**2012/13 Junior Ranger Club**

All Junior Ranger Club sessions this year have been delivered with the Education Officer from The Arboretum Trust, Kew at Castle Howard, with all sessions taking place at the Arboretum.

**April 2012 :**

| <b>Ranger Day</b>  | <b>Activities</b>   | <b>No of children attending</b> |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April<br><br>Spring has Sprung in the Howardian Hills AONB | Outdoor activities – despite rather murky weather the children enjoyed a spring story trail walk through the rootery and an Easter egg hunt by the lake.<br><br>After lunch children gathered materials for a nest challenge then created a bird's nest in teams.<br><br>Indoor craft activities:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Egg box decorating</li> <li>• Easter cards</li> </ul> | 13                              |

**June 2012:**

| <b>Ranger Day</b>  | <b>Activities</b>   | <b>No of children attending</b> |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> June<br><br>See in the Summer in the Howardian Hills<br>'Minibeasts and more' | In the morning the children went pond dipping and investigated the contents of the adaptation suitcase.<br><br>In the afternoon they went on a minibeast hunt, designed a superbug and worked together on a spring collage. | 13                              |

**November 2012**

| <b>Ranger Day</b>  | <b>Activities</b>   | <b>No of children attending</b> |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> November<br><br>Amazing Autumn at the Arboretum | Weather permitting it is planned that:<br><br>In the morning the children will go on a hunt for seasonal leaves and cones, use some of the leaves to make leaf prints and rubbings and make plaster of Paris casts of animal prints.<br><br>In the afternoon they will stick their leaf prints and rubbings onto a giant autumnal tree, take part in a composting relay, make natural art pictures on white sheets under the larch trees and make clay tiles or pots with leaf imprints in them to take home. |                                 |

**HOWARDIAN HILLS  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
5 NOVEMBER 2012**

**AONB INDICATORS**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive details of the Indicators used to measure AONB Partnership performance annually.

**2.0 AONB PARTNERSHIP INDICATORS**

- 2.1 In line with Objective MN1.2 of the AONB Management Plan, the former Natural England AONB Partnership Indicators are used as the standard measure of performance. The results for 2011/12 are attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Natural England no longer require the compilation and submission of these Indicators, as they are not responsible for monitoring the performance of AONB Partnerships since AONB sponsorship moved to Defra in April 2011. The results have however been collated for 2011/12, to continue this dataset for comparison purposes.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Performance Indicator results contained in Appendix 1 be noted.

AONB Partnership and Unit Indicators 2011/12

| Ref | Theme                | Measure for the indicator   | Definition   | Response  | Benefits  |
|-----|----------------------|---|--|---|---|
| 1   | AONB Management Plan | The AONB Unit has a current Management Plan which meets the requirements of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. | <p>The Plan has been reviewed within five years of the last one.</p> <p>It conforms to the guidance for AONB Management Plans provided by The Countryside Agency.</p> <p>It has been formally adopted and published by all the relevant local authorities.</p> <p>A copy has been lodged with DEFRA.</p>   | <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p>   | Demonstrates compliance with a core statutory duty.                 |
| 2   | AONB Partnership     | The AONB has an active and effective governance structure.  | <p>Record of regular AONB Board, Joint Committee, Joint Advisory Committee, Partnership, Board Meetings.</p> <p>Record of number of active sub meetings, management groups, technical groups, public meetings, fora etc</p> <p>AONB has undertaken a formal review of its governance structures within the last 5 years.</p> <p>Has an adopted current set of terms of reference.</p> <p>Has a publicly available record of its meetings, agendas and minutes.</p> | <p><b>3 JACs (61%)</b></p> <p><b>3 CPGs (75%);</b><br/><b>1 Partnership Group (25%);</b><br/><b>5 SDF Steering Groups;</b><br/><b>3 SDF Grant Panels.</b></p> <p><b>No</b> (Full review October 2001).<br/>Minor review March 2004).</p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b> (via NYCC)</p> | Demonstrates the scale of bodies involved and that they are active. |

|    |                            |   |   |  |   |
|----|----------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| 3a | AONB Staff Unit            | The AONB Unit has staff resources to undertake its work.                  | Total the number of AONB staff and their specialisms, in full-time equivalents, including core staff and any project staff that were directly managed and hosted by the AONB Unit, at the financial year end.   | 1 x AONB Manager.<br>1 x AONB Officer.<br>1 x AONB Assistant (0.5 f.t.e.)<br><b>Total – 2.5 f.t.e.</b> | Demonstrates that the AONB Unit has the staff resources and capacity to undertake management effectively.                                     |
| 3b |                            | AONB Unit staff invests in continuous professional development.           | Of the total in Measure 3a above, list the number who undertook and recorded a minimum of 30 hours of training, personal development or similar C.P.D. activity during the year (adjusted pro-rata for part time staff).  | <b>2 f.t.e.</b>  |   |
| 4a | Financial resources        | The AONB Unit secures direct income to fund its work.                     | Total income received into the AONB unit's own account from <b>all</b> sources during the financial year.   | <b>Total £226,661</b>  | Demonstrates the level of financial resources directly secured by the AONB Unit.  |
| 4b |                            |   | The percentage of the figure in Measure 4a above which was received from Defra and Local Authorities  | <b>91%</b>   |   |
| 4c |                            |   | The amount received (part of 4a) from Defra and Local Authorities   | <b>Total £206,012</b>  |   |
| 5a | Leverage and "added value" | Additional resources mobilised by AONB unit through its partnership work. | Include the figure given in Measure 4a above. Then add in the total funding for projects and partnership programmes in that year in which the AONB Unit played a significant part i.e. where it would not have gone ahead or would have been substantially smaller without AONB input. For example include matching income for any SDF funded project; total funds for partner HLF projects involving the AONB. | <b>Total £516,350</b>  | Demonstrates the level of financial leverage and added value obtained by the AONB Unit through its wider project programmes and partnerships. |
| 5b |                            |   | The percentage of the figure above which was received from Defra.   | <b>27%</b>   |   |

|    |   |  |   |  |   |
|----|---|--|---|--|---|
| 6a | Financial management and reporting              | Agreed timetable and requirements for financial management and reporting with Defra met by the AONB unit   | <p>The Unit submitted its final grant claim to Defra for the preceding financial year by the stated claim date (31<sup>st</sup> May 2011).</p> <p>Published its annual report for the preceding year within six months of the financial year end.</p> <p>Submitted its business plan and grant application for the succeeding financial year by the required date (31<sup>st</sup> January 2012).</p> <p>Submitted its interim grant claim by the required date (31<sup>st</sup> January 2012).</p> | <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes.</b> 2010/11 report published Sept 2011.</p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> | Demonstrates effective administration and management of financial affairs.                |
| 6b |   | Defra met the agreed timetable and requirements for financial management and reporting with the AONB Unit. | Defra made a written formal core and Sustainable Development Fund offers of grant aid for the succeeding financial year by 31 March.  | <b>Yes.</b>  |   |
| 7a | Partnership working with management communities | The AONB Unit is an active partner in the work of the National Association for AONBs.                      | <p>The AONB Unit (through its host authority or partnership organisation) was a full member of the National Association for AONBs.</p> <p>Was represented by attendance at the Annual Conference of the Association.</p> <p>All AONB Unit core staff attended at least 1 other national or regional NAAONB sponsored seminar, training event or meeting each.</p>   | <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p>  | Demonstrates partnership working for AONB family at a national, regional and local level. |

|    |  |   |   |   |  |
|----|--|---|---|---|--|
| 7b |  | The AONB Unit actively involved in partnership working at a local level.              | Total number of project steering groups, research initiatives, working groups and partnerships where the AONB Unit played an active and key role (ie not just a passive member of a forum or conference). | <b>16</b><br>(NWDO SG,<br>CAN DO<br>Partnership<br>Group, CAN DO<br>Lime & Ice SG,<br>NYMNP/HHAONB<br>SDF SG + Panel,<br>Ryedale &<br>Hambleton BAPs,<br>River Rye project<br>Working Group,<br>NYBAG,<br>LEADER SG,<br>LEADER LAG,<br>NYMNP/HHAONB<br>/NYCC Highways<br>Liaison Group,<br>NYCC Ranger<br>Team 3 Liaison<br>Group,<br>Development<br>Officers Group,<br>CE Electric<br>DPCR5 Working<br>Group,<br>Rural:Urban<br>Schools Twinning<br>Project) |  |
| 7c |  | The AONB Management Plan is formally endorsed and supported by partner organisations. | List the number of organisations who formally endorsed the plan when written and at the last review.  | <b>6</b><br>(3 x LAs, NE; FC;<br>EH)  |  |



|    |                          |  |   |  |   |
|----|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| 8a | Business Plan targets    | Achievement of the targets set out by the AONB unit in its annual business plan or equivalent. | Include all actions set out in the annual business plan/ <u>core bid document</u> agreed with Defra. (Milestones in bid document)   | 52 ex 67 (78%)   | Demonstrates that the AONB Unit achieves the objectives and actions it sets itself. |
| 8b | Management Plan progress | The AONB Management Plan actions were implemented to schedule.                                 | Include the AONB Management Plan actions that were progressed or completed during the year, shown as a percentage of all the AONB Management Plan actions that were scheduled for action during the year. An AONB unit led actions figure and 'all partnership actions' figure. | AONB Unit-led<br>- <b>81%</b><br><br>'All Partnership'<br>- <b>84%</b><br><br>Progress against a further 6 Objectives where no specific annual targets had been set. |   |

### Abbreviations

CPG – Core Partners Group  
ES – Environmental Stewardship  
HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund  
NYCC – North Yorkshire County Council  
NWDO – Native Woodland Development Officer  
CAN DO – Hambleton & Howardian Hills Cultural & Natural Development Opportunity  
NYMNP – North York Moors National Park  
BAP – Biodiversity Action Plan partnership  
NYBAG – North Yorkshire Biodiversity Action Group  
SG – Steering Group

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AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
5 NOVEMBER 2012**

**VISITORS & USERS SURVEY**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive details of the methodology and results of the Visitors & Users Survey that was carried out in August.

**2.0 VISITORS AND USERS SURVEY**

- 2.1 Objective AP1.6 of the AONB Management Plan states that the Joint Advisory Committee will carry out a follow-up Visitors & Users Survey, to assess the impact of the JAC's awareness-raising initiatives. This was categorised as a Priority 1 task, to be completed in Years 2 and 5 of the 2009-14 Management Plan (i.e. in 2010/11 and 2013/14).
- 2.2 Rather than split the re-survey into two parts, and because of pressure of other work in the early part of 2010/11, it was agreed by the JAC Chairman at the time that the survey should instead be carried out in 2012/13. This would make it 10 years after the first survey, which was carried out in summer/autumn 2002. Summer 2012 would also be in the correct time frame to feed into the next review of the AONB Management Plan.

**3.0 METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The 2002 Visitors & Users Survey consisted of a number of pieces of work and was carried out by consultants. Work included: an audit of the number of tourist and leisure facilities in the AONB; a review of existing survey data from Castle Howard, Ryedale and Hambleton DCs, etc; and a questionnaire.
- 3.2 The information was obtained in a number of ways, including a desk study, site visits, consultation with key individuals, a visitor survey, a focus group with tourism providers and telephone interviews with special interest users.
- 3.3 In developing the methodology for the 2012 survey, the AONB Team felt that knowledge of the tourism situation in the AONB had increased significantly since 2002. As a consequence, it was felt that the work needed in 2012 did not need to be a full repeat of 2002. The principal information that it was felt could be gathered was how many people visited the quieter parts of the AONB for informal recreation, where they came from and what activities they took part in. This would give an indication of what pressure some parts of the AONB were under, and what (if any) actions could/should be included in the next AONB Management Plan.

- 3.4 The 2012 survey therefore consisted solely of counting vehicles at the smaller informal parking areas and conducting surveys with people at specified locations.
- 3.5 It had been hoped that the survey could have been run, managed and analysed by the AONB Team, using volunteers to carry out the surveys. It was recognised however that if Francesca Pert moved to a new job before Liz Bassindale returned from Maternity Leave, then either consultants would need to be employed at short notice or the survey would need to be shelved again.
- 3.6 As it transpired, Francesca did move to a new job so the consultants who carried out the 2002 survey were approached to see if they could undertake the work within the extremely short timescale needed. Volunteer surveyors were still built into the methodology, but as the surveys were scheduled for the end of the summer holidays none were available. The whole survey was commissioned, designed and implemented within a 6 week period from early August to early September.
- 3.7 Vehicle counts – Two routes were devised and driven on an hourly basis between 08.00 and 20.00 on two chosen days (a Sunday and a week-day). The number of vehicles and people present at the 14 car parks/laybys were recorded. The locations were the same car parks/laybys as have been covered by an annual count undertaken by AONB staff in late August in previous years:
- Newburgh Priory Lake
  - Pond Head, Oulston
  - Windy Gates, Yearsley
  - Yearsley Mast
  - Grimston Junction
  - Grimston Moor
  - Dalby Maze
  - Nunnington Sawmill
  - Caulkleys Bank, Nunnington
  - Sheep Walk, Castle Howard
  - Bell Bottom Wood, nr Terrington
  - Fisherman's Car Park
  - Howsham Bridge
  - Kirkham Priory Car Park
- 3.8 Questionnaire – Questions used in the 2002 survey were reviewed and adapted to take account of changed circumstances. A sampling plan was then developed, which was designed to obtain data from visitors at a variety of sites and at various times of the day – morning, mid-day, afternoon and early evening. It also acted as a presence/absence survey. The survey sites were:
- Hovingham Bakery
  - Fishermans' Car Park (Castle Howard Lake)
  - Kirkham Priory
  - Pattacakes Bakery, Welburn
  - Caulkleys Bank
  - Newburgh Priory
  - Windy Gates (Yearsley/Gilling Woods)
  - Centenary Way (Appleton-le-Street, Fryton)

- 3.9 In total, 192 questionnaires were completed. 180 interviews were completed with visitors in the AONB and 12 questionnaires were completed on-line as a result of a post card distribution. This does not constitute a statistically robust sample size, so the results should be treated with caution. However, given the structure of the sample, the number of interviews is sufficient to identify significant trends in the results.

## 4.0 RESULTS

- 4.1 The key findings of the 2002 research, which it must be remembered used different survey locations and a different set of questions, were as follows:

- 63% of visitors were on a day trip from home and 37% were staying
- A fifth of the staying visitors were using accommodation within the AONB; most of the remainder were staying elsewhere in Ryedale, in York or in Scarborough Districts
- The average length of stay was 4.41 nights
- Visits were relatively evenly distributed through the year with a June to November 'high season'
- Most came to visit a particular attraction or place (most commonly Castle Howard or Nunnington), for a drive in the country or for a walk
- Economic impact was significant; visitors spent on average £15.39 per person. Residents spent the least (£4.94) and staying visitors spent the most (£40.42) – day visitors spent £10.01
- The landscape, peace and tranquillity, lack of traffic, easy accessibility and attractive villages were what brought people to the AONB
- Awareness of the AONB was low, with only 23% of respondents able to identify it correctly as the Howardian Hills AONB

- 4.2 In comparing the 2012 results with the 2002 survey, it has been possible to draw the following conclusions:

- The age profile has remained the same; under 16 year-olds continue to be under-represented amongst visitors to the AONB
- The type of trip has not changed, with most visitors coming on day trips followed by holiday/Visiting Friends and Relatives trips and residents making up in the region of 20% of trips
- Higher proportions of people interviewed in 2012 had stayed in self-catering and camping/caravan accommodation. However, this could be down to sampling differences; also, the 2002 survey took place over a longer period of shoulder and low season, which is likely to show a higher proportion of stays in serviced accommodation
- Length of stay for tourists was 4.4 nights in 2002 and 6 nights in 2012. Again, this is likely to be a reflection of the survey period
- Party composition was similar, with 2 adults being the most common in both surveys
- There were slightly more first time visits in 2012. This is likely to be a result of the survey period
- Frequency of visit was similar in both surveys
- The summer period was the most common for visits in both surveys

- Fewer people in the 2012 survey were visiting an attraction, and walking with a dog was significantly more common. This difference is likely to be a result of the locations chosen for conducting interviews in the two surveys
  - The proportion of people aware that they were in the Howardian Hills and that it was nationally designated as an AONB increased significantly from 23% in 2002 to 68% in 2012, partly because of the AONB threshold road signs
- 4.3 Charts showing the survey results in more detail are displayed on boards within the room.
- 4.4 The survey is felt to have been a worthwhile exercise and one that ought to be repeated on a similar timescale in future, i.e. every 10 years (unless significant changes are felt to be occurring in the meantime).
- The information gathered has confirmed the general impression that the AONB continues to be under relatively little recreation pressure
  - People continue to visit for the same reasons that they always have – for quiet tranquillity in a fairly ‘hidden’ part of the English countryside
  - Some small nuggets of information have emerged that may indicate the need for future management works in specific locations or for certain user groups. In particular the number of mountain bikers using Yearsley/Gilling woods (and creating tracks that can damage features of conservation interest), and the lack of information about where disabled users or people with children in buggies can park and walk easily. These issues can be addressed in the next version of the Management Plan

## **5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Visitors & Users Survey methodology and results be noted for information.

**HOWARDIAN HILLS  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
5 NOVEMBER 2012**

**NEW AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS DESIGN GUIDE (DRAFT)**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider the draft New Agricultural Buildings Design Guide, prior to informal consultation with stakeholders and subsequent publication and distribution.

**2.0 NEW AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS DESIGN GUIDANCE**

- 2.1 Objective AG4.2 of the AONB Management Plan states that the Joint Advisory Committee will produce a basic design guide for new agricultural buildings and infrastructure, to indicate the principles it would like to see followed in the AONB. This was categorised as a Priority 1 task, to be completed in Years 1 and 2 of the 2009-14 Management Plan (i.e. in 2009/10 and 2010/11).
- 2.2 At previous meetings the JAC has indicated that the guidance would particularly assist the AONB Manager in commenting on planning applications, in that many of the comments made would be encapsulated in the Guidance and reference could therefore be made to this rather than repeating variations on a theme.
- 2.3 Whilst Design Guides had been obtained from other Local Authorities, AONBs and National Parks to act as templates, it has only been since the publication of the Consultation Draft of the North York Moors National Park Design Guide that this task has moved forward significantly. Whilst there are obvious differences in the farming practices between the AONB and the National Park, there are enough similarities to make much of the Guide applicable to the AONB as well. There is also logic in having similar guidance in adjoining areas.
- 2.4 Attached to this report is the draft Design Guide. Members are asked to provide comments on the content of the Guide, after which it will be amended (including adding illustrative photos) and circulated to stakeholders (District Councils, NFU, CLA, agents, etc) for external comments. Following further revision as necessary it is intended to print the Design Guide and send it to all known active farmers in the AONB, as well as to agents who regularly submit planning applications on their behalf.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- a) the Design Guide be circulated for external consultation, following incorporation of any amendments suggested by the JAC.
- b) the Design Guide be printed and sent to all relevant farmers, landowners and agents.

# HOWARDIAN HILLS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

## Design Guide

### New Agricultural Buildings and Infrastructure



Howardian Hills AONB  
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**Howardian  
Hills**  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

## SUMMARY

- The Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan recognises that, in order to thrive, the AONB needs a strong agricultural and rural economy.
- As part of that it is inevitable that new buildings and infrastructure will be needed, to enable farmers and rural businesses to remain competitive, access new markets and comply with animal welfare regulations.
- Modern farm buildings are often large in scale and use materials such as concrete wall panels and profiled sheeting. Without careful attention to detail they can be intrusive features within the AONB landscape.
- The AONB Joint Advisory Committee is a consultee in the planning application process and all proposals are assessed against AONB Management Plan Objectives.
- Objective AG4.1 of the AONB Management Plan states: “Support the construction of new farm buildings and infrastructure where these are appropriate in scale and use high standards of design, careful siting and good landscaping measures.”
- We are likely to OBJECT to buildings that we believe do not conform to this Objective, although we stress that the final decision on Approval or Refusal rests with the District Council (Hambleton or Ryedale), who will judge applications against the relevant Policies in their Local Plans.
- This Design Guide has been developed to provide practical advice and assistance to those considering the construction or extension of a new agricultural building within the AONB.
- Basic design principles:
  - Site new buildings near to existing buildings wherever possible.
  - Use dark colours for the roof sheets – e.g. Anthracite Grey not Natural Grey.
  - Use Yorkshire boarding or dark-coloured profile sheeting for the walls.
  - If using blockwork or grain walling, paint external wall faces in a dark colour.
  - Provide landscaping to either screen or break-up the profile of the building.
- We will work with applicants wherever possible to develop/modify schemes into ones that we feel able to support, although this may not be possible in all cases.
- Further details on all the aspects of design can be found in the sections following this Summary.



# Section 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 The two principal purposes of the Design Guide are to:

- inform farmers and land managers about the standards of design, colour of materials, siting, etc, that we would like to see used within the AONB;
- reduce the time input/cost for farmers, land managers, agents and AONB staff, by ensuring that well-designed proposals are submitted for planning approval first time round. This minimises the need for amendments and re-design following Objections.

### 1.2 The outcomes we hope to achieve are:

- new agricultural buildings/infrastructure that are designed within the context of statutory AONB purposes<sup>1</sup>;
- high quality design that conserves and enhances the character and special qualities of the area and respects the local distinctiveness and the built and natural heritage of the AONB;
- sustainable building practices which minimise waste and the use of resources;
- design that reduces the causes and mitigates the effects of climate change;
- wildlife and natural habitats that are maintained or enhanced.

### 1.3 Aims and Objectives

Farmsteads are a strong visual element within the landscape of the AONB. As such, they help to define the local distinctiveness and cultural heritage of the Howardian Hills.

Whilst in general terms the AONB landscape is well-wooded and undulating, the location of farmsteads can mean that new development may be particularly intrusive unless careful attention is paid to its siting and design.

Consequently these guidelines have been produced to encourage those requiring and/or designing new agricultural developments to carefully consider their potential impact and suggest ways of improving their appearance within the sensitive (and nationally protected) landscape of the Howardian Hills. The aim of the guide is to provide practical advice on the design of new farm buildings that function efficiently and have a minimal visual impact upon the environment.

Farming practices have to be flexible, the scale of operations has changed, building materials and styles are increasingly industrial and there are regulations and standards to be observed. Within this context the farmer has to make a living, because the AONB landscape cannot be conserved and enhanced without thriving agricultural and forest industries.

Whilst the guidance provides general design advice for a broad range of farm structures, it does not cover all potential types of farm building such as farm diversification schemes or agricultural workers' dwellings.

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<sup>1</sup> Summarised as: Conserve and enhance natural beauty; in doing so, take account of the needs of agriculture, forestry and other rural industries, and the economic and social needs of villages; meet the demand for recreation, so far as this is consistent with the conservation of natural beauty and the needs of agriculture, forestry and other uses.

## Section 2

### An Approach: The Importance of Design

#### 2.1 Historic Background

Historically, the siting and design of farm buildings evolved in response to local climatic conditions, landscape, the farming system, locally available building materials, skills and traditions. Buildings were usually carefully sited and orientated, resulting in a close relationship between them and the landscape. The building forms, materials and colours tended to harmonise with the landscape and often enhanced it. Many farms have developed in stages over the years as and when new buildings have been required and are therefore generally characterised by a range of building styles and materials together on one site. The arrangement of buildings on a farm appears random rather than uniform. The older parts of farms, including the farm house, are typically stone and pantile.

Major changes in farming practice over the last five decades have had a significant impact on the design and function of agricultural buildings. Greater mechanisation, the introduction of different systems of production, hygiene requirements and the need to achieve greater output with less labour has led to the development of much larger farm units. Consequently, larger buildings are required for the efficient housing of livestock and the storage of produce, straw and general everyday equipment and machinery.

There is a continuing trend towards larger buildings with wider roof spans, even if fewer are being built per farmstead. These buildings can be industrial in appearance and scale and can have a significant impact on the rural landscape and the visual quality of existing farmsteads.

There has been increasing interest and concern expressed about the impact of some new farm buildings in the landscape. Amongst the most common issues are:

- poorly sited buildings, located for example in prominent skyline locations or without regard to existing development;
- inappropriate design and choice of materials; and
- the incongruous colour of materials.

Whilst it is important that new buildings are located and designed in a way that respects both their natural and man-made surroundings, they should not necessarily perpetuate past traditions in building styles and materials. In many cases these are no longer appropriate to contemporary farming practice or building technology, and can look awkward when scaled-up. Nevertheless, new buildings should respect traditional influences and be developed in sympathy with their surroundings and in a form appropriate to their function.

#### *Functional and Operational Requirements*

Good design is not just a question of appearance or form but also relates to the suitability of the building to its function. The operational requirements of farming are a major consideration and will often determine the general location and in some cases the particular siting and form of a new building. Reconciling functionality with landscape impacts can sometimes be a challenge, but with careful consideration it can be achieved. New buildings have to contribute to effective functioning of the farm in order to be economically viable. On this basis, applications for new agricultural will also

need to demonstrate that the scale of the proposed building is commensurate with the functional need for it.

## Section 3

### Design Guidance

It is important for economic reasons that all new farm buildings and other agricultural structures should be properly designed and constructed. A quality building, though perhaps of higher initial costs, will save ongoing maintenance and perhaps even future replacement costs, and should assist in achieving greater productivity.

When planning and designing a new agricultural building, consideration should be given to how this and associated works could help to enhance the appearance of the farm as a whole. The advice below applies equally to extensions as to new buildings.

#### 3.1 Landscape Character and Setting

The landscape is a complex combination of physical and cultural elements, the character of which has been created over a long period of time and through environmental changes and human intervention. Farming and farm buildings are an integral part of the AONB's landscape and contribute towards its appeal. The Landscape Character Assessment in the AONB Management Plan identifies seven different landscape character types across the AONB. The objectives for landscape enhancement in each of these character types are set out in the Future Local Management Priorities section of the Management Plan<sup>2</sup>.

It is important to ensure that development proposals respect their context and are sensitively designed to protect and enhance the intrinsic character and local distinctiveness of the AONB's landscape.

Early consideration of the landscape context as part of the design process is essential if development is to successfully integrate with its surroundings. High quality design can enhance both the development itself and the local environment. Considering the landscape early in the design process can also save time, as a lack of detailed information at the planning application stage can lead to delays.

When considering the form, materials and colour of the new building (see below), consideration should be given to maintaining the overall appearance of the farm in the landscape, including the varied and ad hoc appearance of farms as they have developed over time, whilst ensuring that it complements the existing buildings and surroundings.

The construction of a new building may also provide an opportunity to enhance the appearance of an existing farmstead in the landscape through, for example, screening existing parts of the site from wider view or softening the appearance through the use of landscaping.

There may be instances where higher standards of design may be called for. Proposals for new buildings or extensions within historic villages, prominent

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<sup>2</sup> Please see [http://www.howardianhills.org.uk/downloads/Management\\_Plan\\_2009-14.pdf](http://www.howardianhills.org.uk/downloads/Management_Plan_2009-14.pdf)

open countryside, conservation areas or adjacent to a Listed Building will require particular care and attention to detail.

### 3.2 Siting

The position of a new farm building is usually dependent on its function and the space available, but as a general rule new buildings should be sited within or adjacent to existing groups of agricultural buildings. No matter how well designed, a poorly sited building can have a significant impact on the landscape. It is acknowledged however that, due to the practicalities of farming, it may not always be possible to site a new building in or around an existing farmstead.

#### **General design guidance:**

- Subject to operational requirements, the impact of a new structure can be reduced by locating it in close proximity to existing buildings within an existing group. Rarely will it be acceptable to locate an isolated free-standing structure within open countryside.
- New buildings should respond to contours and the natural form of the land by fitting into folds or valley bottoms and avoiding platforms or exposed skylines or ridges.
- Buildings located on the crest of a hill are not only more exposed to the elements but are often more visually prominent and intrusive in the landscape. Where it can be demonstrated that such a location is unavoidable the impact of the building can be reduced by siting it below the skyline and by the careful choice of colour for the walls and roof.
- On sloping sites it is generally best to align a building parallel with the contours and to use cut and fill in preference to raising floor levels.
- Where it is possible to accept different floor levels a building can be stepped down a slope. This can minimise disturbance to the existing land form and reduce its visual impact.
- New buildings should be sited so as to minimise impacts from public vantage points such as roads and Public Rights of Way.
- Avoid 'unneighbourly' siting, especially for buildings that will house livestock.

### 3.3 Scale and Form

Historically the scale and form of traditional buildings was conditioned by functional requirements, the local climate and the availability of building materials, which has resulted in distinctive local types.

Modern farm buildings tend to be large single span structures with shallow pitched roofs based around a portal frame construction. The width allows flexibility for large numbers of livestock (particularly in winter), machinery, crops, forage or feed to be housed under one roof at a cost-effective price. As a result modern buildings are at risk of being out of scale with smaller, more traditional buildings.

#### **General design guidance:**

- Avoid locating very large buildings close to smaller ones. Large new buildings can look out of scale with smaller (older) buildings and consideration should be given to the possibility of building two or more smaller units.
- Using a multi-span building rather than a single span structure can reduce the overall height and create a more varied and interesting roof

- Where possible roof pitches should be matched with those on existing buildings. Although low pitched roofs can make a building less obtrusive, they are often out of harmony with the steeper pitches of older buildings.
- Large expanses of roof and walling can be broken up with well designed and carefully positioned functional elements such as roof ventilators, gutters, downpipes, doors and windows.
- Flat roofs are not part of the Howardian Hills building tradition and should not be used. Dual pitched roofs are usually preferred, although mono-pitch can be suitable for smaller buildings or lean-to extensions to existing structures.
- Extensions should not result in an excessively sized building with large expanses of roof and walling – where a new large space is needed consider breaking the roofline or stepping the new element down a slope. Depending upon the scale of space required, in some instances an extension may have less impact than a new building whilst in other cases a new building may have less of an impact. Small additions can help to enhance the traditional ‘ad hoc’ feel of a farmstead.

### 3.4 Colour

The colour of a building can have a significant impact on the landscape.

Cladding materials for agricultural (and forestry) buildings are available in a wide range of colours and the choices must be carefully made since colour and finish are important factors in helping to reduce the visual impact of a building.

Very light colours and large areas of intense strong colours do not blend particularly well within the landscape and dark colours are usually less apparent than light tones. A building will therefore appear smaller if darkly coloured.

#### **General design guidance:**

- Dark colours (dark green, brown, black or dark grey) are generally more acceptable as they complement the natural environment throughout the seasons and the different characteristics of daylight during the year. Consideration should be given to the general colour of the backdrop against which the building will be most commonly seen.
- As a general rule the roof of an agricultural building should be darker than the walls, to bring out the building’s form. Dark roofs reflect less light and generally make buildings look smaller and less conspicuous. The main exception may be when lighter colours are required for high humidity livestock housing because of the operational need to reduce solar heat gain, or when a building will be primarily viewed against the sky.
- Where more than one colour is used, they should be in harmony. Technical information on preferred colours which can be used together without resulting in severe colour clashes and considerable visual intrusion is contained in British Standard BS5502 (Part 20).
- Use of the same or similar colours on new and existing structures can help to unify a group of buildings.
- Gloss finishes should be avoided – matt finishes are significantly less reflective.

### 3.5 Materials

The type, colour and texture of external materials can greatly affect the impact that a new building has on the landscape.

In the past, the range of building materials available in rural areas was fairly limited with the result that buildings tended to harmonise and be in scale with each other. New construction methods have resulted in a wider range of building materials being available for use on agricultural buildings.

Many modern farm buildings tend to be constructed using a steel or wooden portal frame, clad with timber or sheeting, with a 2-3m high base (plinth) layer of concrete blocks or panels.

Timber is readily available, relatively cheap, robust, easy to handle, easy to replace, easy to fix and with the proper treatment (see below), can be virtually maintenance free. Spaced vertical boarding (known as 'Yorkshire boarding') is functional and sustainable. It provides a good source of natural ventilation and light, and can be stained to meet the requirements of a particular site.

Profiled sheet is available in a wide range of colours and is often the preferred material for crop stores where birds and other pest species need to be excluded.

#### **General design guidance:**

- The range of materials on one building should be limited since too many contrasting finishes can create a cluttered appearance.
- Choose materials which are appropriate for the climate and which will weather well over time.
- Take account of the maintenance implications of the materials used. Low initial construction costs can result in hasty construction and poor detailing which, in the longer term, can lead to increased maintenance costs and a reduced life-span of the building.
- The use of traditional materials should be considered where it can provide an important link to existing, more traditional buildings.
- Treated (tanalised) timber is now an extremely versatile material with an extended life and, in particular, can be effectively used as space boarding where natural ventilation is required.
- Concrete block/panel plinth walls are visually more appropriate when treated by either painting, rendering or where appropriate, cladding with sheeting or natural stone.
- Shiny materials should usually be avoided.

### 3.6 Constructional Detailing

All guttering and downpipes must be sized in proportion to the area of roof being served. All downpipes must be linked into a drainage system to ensure that they do not discharge into an area that may be contaminated, as this could result in the pollution of a watercourse.

Good ventilation is essential to provide healthy conditions for livestock. Ventilation units should be in proportion with the whole building and careful use of colour can assist in making these a design feature. Ventilation comprises two main types: at the junction of materials (for example between the upper and lower sections of a wall); and purpose-made ventilators for use on roofs or walls.

Most agricultural buildings require natural lighting, except crop or bulk feed stores where natural light should be excluded to discourage birds. The most economic and efficient way of providing natural light is in the form of roof lights. Roof lights can transform the working conditions in a building but they should be in proportion to the roof area. They should not dominate the roof nor be placed to give a 'checkerboard' appearance. A few large roof lights are generally better than many smaller ones and should be positioned on the least prominent roof slope.

### **3.7 Access Tracks**

Access to buildings, particularly in the case of stock routes, vehicles arriving for crop/milk collection, distribution and delivery and the associated manoeuvring space required for large vehicles and machinery all need to be carefully considered.

Access tracks, roads and services should be designed with particular respect for the landscape and historic patterns of land use and movement. Consideration should be given to the impact of tracks on the landscape.

There may also be opportunities to rationalise access points by reducing multiple access points to a single, more acceptable point. Access routes should be clearly marked on plans and should include sufficient space to accommodate any planned landscaping.

Buildings should also be designed having regard to the movement of plant and stock around them. If tractors and trailers are required to pass between buildings a 4.5m gap is recommended plus space for turning at the ends. Access for service vehicles, such as milk tankers or feed lorries, must also be allowed for.

Where a completely new access onto a highway is proposed, early discussion with the highway authority is strongly recommended.

#### **General design guidance:**

- Locate new buildings on sites that minimise the need for the creation of new access tracks.
- Where there is an unavoidable need for a new access track to be created it should, where possible, be routed next to existing field boundaries and follow the contours of the land.
- Spoil from construction should be removed and not banked-up along the side of the new track.
- New tracks should take account of the potential impacts of vehicles on neighbouring residential properties that are not associated with the farm.
- Tracks should be surfaced with darker, less visually intrusive, materials (e.g. road planings) if they are in particularly prominent locations. Crushed limestone is an appropriate local material and is often acceptable for other tracks.

### **3.8 Other Farm Structures**

#### *Silos & Towers*

The erection of any structure that will significantly exceed the height of existing buildings within the farm group will rarely be acceptable. Where the need for a tower or silo is unavoidable the following points should be considered:

- Try to integrate the structure within an existing group of buildings;
- Take advantage of any existing landscape features such as trees, slopes and hills to mitigate any visual impacts;
- Avoid sites which are visible from public vantage points; and
- Paint in a dark colour – a shiny, reflective galvanised steel finish can be very conspicuous within the landscape.

#### *Silage Clamps & Slurry Stores*

Slurry stores or tanks can be located below or partly below ground to reduce their impact, with above-ground walls painted in dark colours. Consideration should be given to screening silage clamps and slurry stores from wider view through the use of existing features such as trees, buildings, slopes or hills.

#### *New electricity connections*

Where a new building requires an electricity supply, and particularly if the building is separated from existing buildings, then this should be placed underground. New overhead lines are unlikely to be acceptable and farmers should be able to undertake much of the preparation work themselves (e.g. trench excavation), which can significantly reduce costs.

### **3.9 Landscaping**

Consideration should be given to the best way of integrating a new building with its immediate surroundings. New areas of hard standing, fences, boundary walls and additional planting should all be regarded as part of the overall design. They can be used or restored to link buildings into the landscape, join buildings together, reduce their apparent scale and create enclosures that will provide shelter and privacy. Height should be considered: 1.5 metres is below eye level but 2.0 metres cuts off most views. Minor detailing such as the colour of fencing can be very important - white concrete posts for example can be very intrusive in the landscape.

The impact of new buildings can be softened by careful landscaping reflecting the local landscape character. Planting around modern farm buildings with appropriate native species, reflecting the existing pattern of woodlands, copses, individual mature trees and hedgerows can create new landscape features and wildlife habitats. This helps to integrate new buildings into the wider landscape.

#### **General design guidance:**

- Look at the site of the new building from points in the surrounding landscape that are accessible by the public, in particular roads and Public Rights of Way. Consider how new planting either near the new building or near the principal viewpoints (if the land is in your control) could help integrate or screen it.
- Consider the layout and design of large areas of hard standing, fences, walls and hedges since they can make an important contribution to the appearance of the holding by creating a unifying visual link between buildings and integrating the site into the surrounding landscape.
- Consider the advance planting of trees before the construction of the building as this will result in earlier integration with the landscape.
- Retain and if possible augment existing groups of trees and shelter belts. Trees can improve the appearance of large new buildings by softening their outline and horizontal emphasis.
- It is not always appropriate to plant a dense belt of trees and shrubs to screen a new building. Planting groups of trees or even a scatter of



- Only use native tree species or those which are characteristic of the area, since this will have additional benefits for the conservation of flora and fauna. Avoid ornamental trees of any sort.
- Avoid planting so close to buildings that there is a risk of damage to cladding by falling branches, gutters becoming blocked with leaves or root damage to foundations.
- Before undertaking new planting, take account of possible future building expansion and operational and building maintenance requirements.

### **3.10 Sustainable design**

The rural, often remote, location and the design of many modern agricultural buildings can offer the opportunity to incorporate renewable energy. It may be possible to accommodate technology such as solar panels or wind turbines if they are carefully sited to minimise their visual impacts. The roofs of modern farm buildings can offer greater scope for integrating solar panels than those of traditional buildings.

Consideration could be given to how the building can help in adapting to the predicted effects of climate change, for example considering how the building may be used during warmer, wetter climates. Where this will not lead to risk of pollution, permeable surfacing should be used to reduce the potential for water run-off from the site to increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.

## **Section 4:**

### **Other Statutory Considerations**

#### **4.1 Built Heritage**

Particular consideration should be given to the design of new agricultural buildings where they are likely to have an impact on a Listed Building or are sited within a Conservation Area. Features of historical importance and their settings should not be compromised or damaged in order to facilitate a new structure.

#### **4.2 Archaeology**

The Howardian Hills has a rich archaeological and historical landscape with many sites and features, nearly 80 of which are protected as Scheduled Monuments. These represent a finite resource that can be easily damaged or destroyed by development. Once lost, they cannot be replaced.

Wherever excavation is involved and if you are unsure whether or not your proposal might adversely affect an archaeological site or feature, you are strongly advised to consult with the Historic Environment Team at North Yorkshire County Council at an early stage ([archaeology@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@northyorks.gov.uk)).

#### **4.3 Natural Environment**

The AONB contains some areas that have been specifically designated on the basis of the flora and fauna that they support. These include Sites of Special Scientific Interest and the non-statutory Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. However, important habitats and species exist across the whole of the AONB.

All British bat species and nesting birds, plus many other species, are protected by law. Buildings and the landscape are home for many different protected species. The development of new agricultural buildings should avoid, mitigate or as a last resort compensate for any significant harm to important sites and species.

The geology of the AONB is also an important component of its natural environment and should be taken into account when planning new buildings or infrastructure.

Further advice and guidance can be obtained from the AONB Manager ([info@howeardianhills.org.uk](mailto:info@howeardianhills.org.uk)).

#### **4.4 Public Rights of Way**

The view of a development from Public Rights of Way can affect the special qualities of the AONB and people's enjoyment of it. Where Public Rights of Way cross a site, their incorporation into a scheme should be considered at an early stage so that any potential impacts can be minimised.

In these situations, the ability to link the site to the surrounding countryside and near-by settlements should be regarded as an opportunity and potential benefit to the proposal. Where possible, Public Rights of Way should retain their route alignment and form an integral part of the design to provide an attractive, accessible and secure route for all users.

#### **4.5 Non-planning considerations**

It should be remembered that there are a variety of other regulations which apply to the design and construction of new farm buildings, many of which are subject to change over time. These include requirements relating to animal welfare, pollution, odour, waste management and health and safety matters - all of which can have implications for the way in which a new building or an extension to an existing building is developed. Applicants are therefore advised to refer to the most up-to-date technical and statutory requirements or to seek professional advice.

## **Section 5:** **Planning Approvals**

The planning system regulates the use of land and buildings in the public interest and has an important role to play in promoting sustainable development.

Ryedale and Hambleton District Councils are the statutory planning authorities for the AONB and they determine all applications for planning permission to carry out agricultural development within its boundaries. They have regard to national planning policy guidance and the relevant planning policies of their respective Local Development Frameworks.

The planning legislation relating to agricultural buildings is complex. There are a limited range of exemptions and there are various works that can be authorised using a streamlined 'prior notification' procedure, rather than the full planning application process. However, these opportunities are limited to specific circumstances and it is strongly recommended that specific advice is sought from a planning officer before work starts.

## 5.1 Prior Notification

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995<sup>3</sup> (GPDO) grants a general planning permission (known as permitted development rights) for certain types of development – including the erection of some agricultural buildings. A specific planning application is not needed if your project falls within one of the categories set out in the GPDO and meets all the conditions laid down. However, you must apply to the relevant District Council under the requirements for prior notification for a determination as to whether approval is needed for details relating to siting, design and external appearance of the proposed development.

You should contact the District Council for advice on whether you need to submit details under the prior notification procedure or apply for planning permission.

Under the prior notification procedure applicants are required to provide details of their proposal to the District Council using the 'prior notification' form. The application should be accompanied by the appropriate fee and supporting information including a site plan and brief details of the proposed appearance and scale of the structure.

The District Council has 28 days in which to decide whether or not a more detailed 'prior approval' process supported by more detailed information and drawings is required. If you have not been informed of the Council's decision within 28 days of the date of the Council receiving the notification, you should contact the Council to confirm whether or not it has taken a decision. If the Council confirms that it has not reached a decision within this period, you may proceed with the development, as notified to the Council. If you are advised that prior approval is not required, you may go ahead in accordance with the details that you have already submitted.

In those cases where you are informed that the Council's prior approval is required, you must, within one week of receiving notice from the Council, put up a site notice in the prescribed form on or near the land, which must stay up for at least three weeks.

No work should begin before an application is approved.

## 5.2 Planning Permission

Planning permission will be required for some new agricultural buildings, depending upon the size, location and nature of the proposal. You should contact your District Council for advice on whether planning permission is needed.

### *Submission documents:*

Submitting the correct documents is a crucial part of the application process and can assist in the time taken to determine an application. Using the advice and guidance set out in this Design Guide should assist in producing a comprehensive and detailed application.

When you are ready to submit a planning application, the Council will need adequate plans and drawings of a high quality (for photocopying purposes) to assess the proposal. The checklist below sets out the documentation which is likely to be required for a full planning application:

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<sup>3</sup> The GPDO is frequently amended and you should therefore check that, where appropriate, you obtain the up-to-date text for the relevant Part.

- Three copies of completed and signed application forms
- Location plan (at a scale of 1:2500 or 1:1250)
- Supporting Planning Statement
- Existing and proposed site layout plans (at a scale of 1:100, 1:200 or 1:500)
- Other relevant drawings such a floor levels, sections, floor plans and layouts
- Photographs or photomontages
- The relevant fee

To ensure that decisions are made on as fully an informed basis as possible applicants are also strongly encouraged to provide basic details relating to livestock numbers and the range of land use types on a holding in support of the application.

The AONB encourages early discussions between applicants and District Council planning officers to assess whether siting, design and materials might need to be tailored in order to achieve better integration into the landscape. Conditions covering these matters will normally be attached to the planning permission.

# Appendix A

## Glossary

Wherever possible this document has sought to avoid the use of specialist terminology and jargon. However, it is inevitable that certain phrases and terms are used whose meaning may not be immediately clear. This glossary seeks to define and clarify the meaning of a number of references in the Design Guide. Please contact the Planning Policy Team should any further guidance be required.

### A

- Agriculture** Section 336 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 defines 'agriculture' as:
- 'horticulture, fruit growing, seed growing, dairy farming;
  - the breeding and keeping of livestock (including any creature kept for the production of food, wool, skins or fur, or for the purpose of its use in the farming of land);
  - the use of land as grazing land, meadow land, osier land, market gardens or nursery grounds; and
  - the use of land for woodlands where that use is ancillary to the farming of land for other agricultural purposes.'

It should be noted that the following uses **do not** fall within the definition of agriculture for planning purposes:

- Equestrian or horse related development (except where the use only involves the grazing of horses);
- Parking or maintenance of agricultural contractor's plant and machinery;
- Hobby farming;
- Buildings used to store equipment that will be used to maintain non-agricultural land e.g. mowers to cut grassed fields not used to keep livestock or to grow crops.

### C

**Character** Distinguishing qualities, features or attributes.

**Character Assessment** An area appraisal emphasising historical and cultural associations.

### D

**Design Guide** A document providing guidance on how development can be carried out in accordance with the design policies of a local authority often with a view to retaining local distinctiveness.

**Development** The legal definition of development is "the carrying out of building, mining, engineering or other operations in, on, under or over land, and the making of any material change in the use of buildings or other land" (Section 55 of 1990 Act); this covers virtually all

construction activities and changes of use.

## F

**Farmstead** Group of farm buildings generally consisting of a farm house and a range of associated outbuildings

## H

**Historic Environment** The historic environment is the physical legacy of thousands of years of human activity within the towns and the countryside, in the form of buildings, monuments, sites and landscapes.

## L

**Landscape** The appearance of land, including its shape, form, colours and elements, the way these (including those of streets) components combine in a way that is distinctive to particular localities, the way they are perceived, and an area's cultural and historical associations.

**Listed Building** A building designated by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as amended, as being a building of special architectural or historic interest.

**Local Distinctiveness** The particular positive features of a locality that contributes to its special character and sense of place and distinguishes one local area from another.

## M

**Material Consideration** A matter that should be taken into account in deciding a planning application or on an appeal against a planning decision.

## P

**Public Right of Way** Routes over which, even where in private ownership, the public has a right of passage. They comprise byways, which are open to any user; restricted byways, open to any user other than mechanically propelled vehicles; bridleways, which can be used by those on foot, horse or bicycle; and footpaths which are open to those on foot only.

## S

**Scale** The impression of a building when seen in relation to its surroundings, or the size of parts of a building or its details, particularly as experienced in relation to the size of a person.

**Setting** The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or

negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

**Sustainable  
Design**

Design that seeks to create spaces or buildings where materials, energy and water are used efficiently and where the impact on the natural environment is minimised.

**HOWARDIAN HILLS  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
5 NOVEMBER 2012**

**AONB BUDGET**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive details of expenditure during 2011/12 and to consider anticipated budgetary needs for 2013/14.

**2.0 2011/12**

- 2.1 Details of the final income and expenditure account for 2011/12 are set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 provides a breakdown of actual expenditure. Details of countryside management projects funded are in Appendix 3, with details of Sustainable Development Fund projects in Appendix 4.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 includes the budget figures prepared in October 2010, to allow Members to compare the actual budget against that predicted. It should be borne in mind that the budget prepared in October each year is then adjusted and refined, to take account of likely changes in income and expenditure. These revisions are shown in the 'December 2010' column of Appendix 1 and formed the basis of the grant allocation proposal submitted to Defra. The final budget, following the receipt of grant offer letters etc., is shown in the 'September 2011' column.
- 2.3 There were some significant variations between the Estimated and Actual spends on a number of budget heads, with the overall profile of the budget showing a 12% underspend. This calculation excludes the income and expenditure associated with the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project, as the claims/payments schedule for this project does not easily fit into the standard financial year format. Despite the reduced expenditure, we still managed to submit a full claim for the Defra grant, under the Single Pot arrangement.
- 2.4 Staffing:
- This budget showed a small overspend, due to Liz Bassindale's Maternity Leave payments and the recruitment costs associated with back-filling the post. The overspend was reduced to some extent due to the fact that Francesca Pert started one month after Liz went on Maternity Leave, and was also on a lower payscale point.
- 2.5 Office:
- No significant deviation from budget provision.
- 2.6 Partnership Running Costs:
- No significant deviation from budget provision.
- 2.7 PR/Events/Research:
- No significant deviation from budget provision.
- 2.8 Sustainable Development Fund:
- This budget only spent 51% of its provision.



- This was principally due to the lack of applicable projects coming forward for implementation within the year, and a reduced and less experienced staff resource available to generate new projects.

2.9 AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment:

- This budget spent 128% of its provision.
- Two large hedgerow restoration schemes were completed, at Baxtonhowe and Firby. In total 2,462m of hedgerow was planted, either as completely new hedges or as gapping-up.
- A major wall restoration scheme was completed at Scackleton, with scrub clearance for another project near Brandsby also undertaken. A total of 195m of wall was refurbished.
- The routine Exmoor pony grazing programme and annual SINC management tasks were completed.
- Volunteers completed significant rhododendron removal in Park Wood Fishponds SINC.

2.10 AONB Enhancement – Historic Environment:

- This budget only spent 32% of its provision and was the principal reason for the overall budget underspend.
- The only significant projects completed were final works on the restoration of the 3-pot limekiln in Scar Wood near Gilling, and restoration of 5 traditional direction signs near Oulston, Husthwaite and Yearsley.
- At the beginning of the year it had been planned to provide considerable resources to repair two sets of Listed gate pillars near Welburn, complete a major scheme to protect the Scheduled long barrow near Grimston, and to use some of our Reserves in the event that there was progress with the gate lodges at Howsham Hall.
- The gate pillars at Welburn were subsequently 100% funded by the Ryedale LEADER scheme, there were insufficient staff resources to develop the project at Grimston and inevitably there was no progress at Howsham Hall.
- The underspend was partly used to fund Natural Environment projects.

2.11 Enjoying the AONB:

- On-going maintenance/improvement work was carried out on Rights of Way furniture by the County Council, but without any recourse to JAC funds.
- The most significant projects completed this year were repairs to the churchyard wall at Bulmer and the installation of a new set of steps into Stonegrave Minster churchyard.
- The other main areas of expenditure were the programme of litter picking carried out around the AONB during the summer months by the Basics Plus team, our annual contribution to the CAN DO Lime & Ice Project and match funding contributions towards Ryedale LEADER-funded projects at Ampleforth and Barton-le-Street.

2.12 Young People's Activities:

- Full-day Junior Ranger Club sessions were held in April, June, October and December.
- The first full year of the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project was completed, with 16 Round 1 visits held, together with 3 Round Two visits as well.

2.13 At the end of the financial year 2011/12 there was a carry-forward into 2012/13 of £48,616:

- With hindsight, it was unrealistic to expect to spend our full budget *and* £12,500 of our Reserves during a year in which one member of staff was on Maternity Leave. Especially so when the project earmarked for those resources (Howsham Hall gate lodges) is one that has been particularly difficult to progress.
- As a result therefore, far from using £12,500 of our Reserves we actually *increased* them by a very similar figure.
- £7,000 has been allocated to Natural Environment projects in 11/12.

- The remainder will be kept for use on projects in future years, to bolster what will be declining resources for projects, in line with a strategy prepared in April 2012 and agreed with North Yorkshire County Council's Finance section (as the accountable body for the AONB Partnership). In line with the JAC's views expressed in April 2012 however, the Reserves will be used in combination with funds from other bodies wherever possible, to ensure maximum leverage and efficiency.

### 3.0 2012/13

3.1 The agreed budget for the current year amounts to £215,510. Details of this are set out in Appendix 5 and all the major partners' contributions to the budget have been confirmed. The budget does not include the balance of the Reserves of £48,616 from 2011/12, although Members will note that £7,000 has already been allocated, as described in paragraph 2.13 above.

3.2 As usual it is too early in the financial year to make any reliable prediction of anticipated final expenditure during 2012/13:

- The figures presented in Appendix 5 are where we stand at the minute, although we continue to take new funding opportunities if they arise and are appropriate.
- Following the significant underspend in 2011/12, a realistic strategy to use our Reserves wisely to offset reducing Defra and NYCC funding over the three year period until the end of the current Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) period was developed. This aims to balance project resources much more realistically with available staff resources, whilst also maintaining the amount of funding available to complete on-the-ground projects. £7,000 of Reserves is therefore earmarked for use in 2012/13.
- The Single Pot arrangement means that Defra funding is spread across nearly all the budget heads, but we are free to move it around as the year goes on.

3.3 Staffing:

- Due to a number of complexities that have occurred during this year it is difficult to accurately predict the out-turn figure at this time. It is likely however that the budget will be underspent by approximately £2,500.

3.4 Office and Partnership Running Costs:

- It is anticipated that the out-turns will be close to the budget provisions.

3.5 PR/Events/Research:

- The AONB Newsletter and Annual Report have largely been completed.
- There will be an overspend of approximately £2,900 on this budget, which is principally due to the need to hire external contractors to carry out the Visitors and Users Survey. We had hoped to complete more of this in-house, but with Francesca Pert leaving and no other staff resources available a snap decision needed to be made if the survey was to be completed during the summer school holiday period.
- The overspend will be offset somewhat by the £1,000 budget provision for work on the revision of the AONB Management Plan. This was a contingency sum, and the Visitors and Users Survey is principally to inform the Management Plan review anyway.

3.6 Sustainable Development Fund:

- £7,500 of the £20,000 budget has been formally allocated. One further project has been submitted for funding, but even with that it is likely that approximately £11,000 of this budget will remain unspent.
- We have however received a significant number of applications for projects to be funded in 2013/14, so the indicative budget provision for that year has been increased.

### 3.7 AONB Enhancement (Natural Environment):

- The £21,000 budget has already been over-allocated by £5,000, with known projects accounting for a further £12,000 in anticipated expenditure. It is however unlikely that all these projects will be completed during this financial year, although we believe the majority will be. The overspend will be balanced against anticipated underspends on the SDF and Historic Environment budgets.
- The most significant projects so far this year include chipping rhododendron brush cut by the volunteers in Park Wood Fishponds SINC, a major wall restoration project at Brandsby and a further major wall repair scheme due to start in Oulston.
- Projects in the pipeline include in-field and boundary tree planting at a variety of locations, undergrounding of a cross-field BT line, a variety of hedge restoration schemes and more chipping of rhododendron.

### 3.8 AONB Enhancement (Historic Environment):

- £7,400 of the £25,000 budget has been formally allocated, with a further £12,500 of projects in the pipeline.
- These include works to protect the long barrow at Grimston (for which English Heritage funding may also be available), restoration of the Listed gates and railings of Newburgh Park near Oulston Lodge and a small contribution towards repairs of a Listed farm barn near Newburgh.
- The main projects allocated funding so far this year are a contribution to the Ryedale LEADER Small-Scale Enhancements Scheme, excavation work on the Gilling Castle park pale and a mill building by the Yearsley Moor volunteers and a grant towards repairs to the well-head on Crayke village green.

### 3.9 Enjoying the AONB:

- The £5,000 budget has already been over-allocated by £500. £3,500 of this is our contribution to the CAN DO Lime & Ice Project this year, for the community archaeological research project centred on Yearsley Moor. Principal activity due for this penultimate year is the installation of seats depicting some of the historical aspects of the area.
- The Basics Plus group are continuing to clear litter from well-used lay-bys and the AONB Gateway Sign locations are being strimmed regularly.
- Other projects funded include a contribution towards the Ryedale Rural Community Awards scheme, which included a significant number of applicants from within the AONB.

### 3.10 Young People's Activities:

- This primarily consists of the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning project. Because the LEADER years run as calendar years, and we have elected to only do 6-monthly claims, and because the Heritage Lottery Fund provide 50% of their total grant up-front, it is extremely difficult to present figures that compare realistically with the rest of the AONB annual budget. The project however is on-track in delivering its programme of activities, and expenditure is following the agreed budget profile.
- A programme of Junior Ranger Club events is being delivered very cost-effectively, in partnership with the Castle Howard Arboretum.

3.11 Wherever an underspend is indicated in the above paragraphs, money will be moved as necessary to ensure that it is used to best effect and that a full claim can be submitted to Defra for their contribution.

3.12 The target for 2012/13 is to reduce our Reserves balance by £7,000, as per the strategy approved by North Yorkshire County Council. We are currently on-target to achieve that, but with the

main period of grant activity now approaching it is certain that some projects will fall by the wayside whilst others as yet unknown will emerge or be pursued.

#### **4.0 2013/14**

- 4.1 An estimate of anticipated expenditure during the next financial year is shown in Appendix 5. Although the anticipated level of graduated cut in Defra and NYCC funding is known for the forthcoming year, it will be late in this financial year before the exact position of all the funding partners is known.
- 4.2 Although the Single Pot arrangement means that strictly there is no longer any distinction between Core and Project budgets, those terms have been used in Appendix 5 to enable the JAC to see the split between Staff/Office costs and project work. It should however be noted that Defra will only fund a maximum of 75% of the Core Costs, and so this distinction must still be borne in mind during the budget-setting process.
- 4.3 Staffing:
- Staff costs are predicted to return to their normal level. The AONB Officer post will be filled by Liz Bassindale (0.8 FTE) and a secondee from the North York Moors National Park Authority (0.2 FTE).
  - No inflation pay award has been factored-in.
- 4.4 Office costs:
- The running costs for the office have been increased slightly in comparison to 2012/13.
  - This assumes that the lease on the AONB Team office is renewed in December 2013 (with a likely rent increase and associated Agent's fees)
- 4.5 Partnership Running Costs:
- An increase in budget provision compared to 2012/13, to cover the increased NAAONB subscriptions for a trial 2-year secondment of the two former Regional Co-ordinators to the national NAAONB Team.
- 4.6 PR/Events/Research:
- A broadly similar budget provision compared to 2012/13.
  - The AONB Newsletter and Annual Report will continue to be published and distributed – we feel that this is good value for money in keeping local residents and partner organisations informed of opportunities to become involved in AONB management.
  - A series of mountain bike guided leaflets are in the process of production. Should they reach the print stage, this will be colour copies of a leaflet produced in-house.
  - Provision has been made to create three new display banners. The existing ones are now seven years old and somewhat dated, whilst we don't have a banner that showcases the community projects that we fund. Any new banners will also have the AONB Family branding incorporated on them.
- 4.7 AONB Management Plan:
- A modest sum has been included for this, to cover the costs of producing and distributing the draft revised Plan on CD in Autumn 2013. The costs of producing the final version of the Plan will fall into 2014/15.
- 4.8 Sustainable Development Fund:
- Based on potential projects, an allocation of £25,000 is proposed.
  - Four relatively significant projects are known of, although of course whether these come through to full application stage, and for what level of funding, is currently unknown.

#### 4.9 AONB Enhancement:

- An allocation of £22,400 has been made for Natural Environment Enhancement projects.
- The budget for Historic Environment projects has been decreased, to £17,200. This reflects the number of projects we have in the pipeline, and the possibility of accessing other funding such as the LEADER Small Scale Enhancements Schemes for Ryedale and (for 2013 only) Hambleton as well, and from English Heritage for work on Scheduled Monuments.
- Both of these budget allocations are made possible by the use of Reserves in a structured manner, to maintain our work on-the-ground at a comparable level to 2012/13 despite decreased Defra funding.
- The current funding arrangement for the Native Woodland Development Officer post, with the costs borne by the North York Moors National Park with a small contribution from the AONB JAC, is proposed to continue as the post has now been put on a permanent contract basis by the National Park Authority.

#### 4.10 Access/Recreation and Communities:

- The budget for recreation management work, and for work with communities and volunteers, has been increased slightly.
- The provision for this budget heading also includes our contribution to the sixth and final year of the CAN DO Lime & Ice Project, which is principally funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The main activity for this year will be finishing off the Yearsley Moor project, ensuring that all the programmed activity has been completed.

#### 4.11 Children and Young People's Activities:

- Budget provision has been made to continue running the popular programme of Junior Ranger Club days using our own resources. These will be run in partnership with the Castle Howard Arboretum, although we are looking to rotate them around the AONB villages again.
- The Rural:Urban Schools Twinning project will have its third full year, with the large majority of funding coming from the Heritage Lottery Fund and LEADER Programme. £1,000 has been budgeted as our match-funding contribution.

## 5.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- (a) The details of JAC expenditure during 2011/12 be received for information;
- (b) Partner authorities be asked to consider making financial contributions towards the work of the JAC in 2013/14, in line with Appendix 5 and section 4 of this report.
- (c) The JAC requests that North Yorkshire County Council renew the lease on the AONB Team office at Hovingham, with all costs continuing to be funded by the AONB Partnership.
- (d) The JAC notes the increase in NAAONB subscription for a 2-year trial secondment of the Regional Co-ordinators to the national NAAONB Team, and will monitor the outputs.

**HOWARDIAN HILLS AONB****INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2011/12****1. INCOME 2011/12**

| <b>(a) BUDGET PROVISION</b>              | <b>Estimated<br/>(Oct. 2010)</b> | <b>Defra Bid<br/>(Dec. 2010)</b> | <b>Final<br/>(Sept. 2011)</b> | <b>Actual<br/>(Year end)<br/>£</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| NE/Defra                                 | 119,826                          | 141,695                          | 141,694                       | 141,694                            |
| North Yorkshire County Council           | 35,460                           | 38,421                           | 40,290                        | 40,290                             |
| Ryedale District Council                 | 5,115                            | 5,116                            | 5,684                         | 5,684                              |
| Hambleton District Council               | 5,220                            | 5,220                            | 5,800                         | 5,800                              |
| Heritage Lottery Fund ( <i>in-year</i> ) | <i>10,170</i>                    | <i>10,170</i>                    | <i>10,170</i>                 | <i>7,045</i>                       |
| LEADER                                   | 10,550                           | 10,550                           | 10,550                        | 10,479                             |
| CAN DO                                   | 0                                | 0                                | 0                             | 0                                  |
| FEP preparation fees                     | 2,200                            | 2,200                            | 1,000                         | 0                                  |
| Forestry Commission                      | 0                                | 0                                | 0                             | 0                                  |
| English Heritage                         | 0                                | 0                                | 0                             | 0                                  |
| Donations                                | 0                                | 0                                | 0                             | 0                                  |
| Reserves                                 | [7,000]                          | [2,810]                          | [12,544]                      | [-12,442]                          |
| <b>(b) TOTAL (ESTIMATED) INCOME</b>      | <b>(195,541)</b>                 | <b>(216,182)</b>                 | <b>(227,732)</b>              | <b>198,550</b>                     |

**2. EXPENDITURE 2011/12**

(see Appendix 2 for full details)

**Core Expenditure**

|                                |        |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| (a) Staffing                   | 94,662 | 94,662 | 95,162 | 96,685 |
| (b) Office                     | 13,500 | 17,300 | 17,600 | 17,313 |
| (c) Partnership running costs  | 2,000  | 2,000  | 2,150  | 2,119  |
| (d) PR, Events, Research, etc. | 4,500  | 5,500  | 5,100  | 5,139  |
| (e) Management Plan            | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      |

**Project Expenditure**

|   |                  |                  |                  |                |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| (f) Sustainable Development Fund            | 17,500           | 20,000           | 20,000           | 10,264         |
| (g) AONB Enhancement (Natural environment)  | 15,621           | 18,000           | 24,000           | 30,793         |
| (h) AONB Enhancement (Historic environment) | 17,638           | 28,000           | 33,000           | 10,512         |
| (i) Enjoying the AONB                       | 8,000            | 8,000            | 8,000            | 6,453          |
| (j) Young People's Activities               | 22,120           | 22,720           | 22,720           | 19,272         |
| <b>(k) TOTAL (ESTIMATED) EXPENDITURE</b>    | <b>(195,541)</b> | <b>(216,182)</b> | <b>(227,732)</b> | <b>198,550</b> |

**3. 2011/12 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**

|                                 | Income<br>£    |   | Expenditure<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---|------------------|
| Brought forward from 2010/11    | 37,698         | Expenditure                             | 198,550          |
| Local Authority Partners        | 51,774         | Balance c/f to 2012/13                  | 50,140           |
| Defra                           | 141,694        | Heritage Lottery Fund<br>c/f to 2012/13 | 15,705           |
| CAN DO                          | 0              |   |                  |
| Heritage Lottery Fund (in-hand) | 22,750         |   |                  |
| LEADER                          | 10,479         |   |                  |
| Forestry Commission             | 0              |   |                  |
| English Heritage                | 0              |   |                  |
| FEP preparation fees            | 0              |   |                  |
| Donations                       | 0              |   |                  |
|                                 | <b>264,395</b> |   | <b>264,395</b>   |

(All figures rounded to the nearest £)

**HOWARDIAN HILLS AONB****CORE EXPENDITURE: 2011/12****(a) Staffing (inc. Travelling, Subsistence, Training & Recruitment costs)**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| AONB Manager   | 45,185 |
| AONB Officer   | 39,975 |
| AONB Assistant | 11,525 |

**TOTAL** **96,685**

Estimated 95,162

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) +1,523

**(b) Office costs**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Rent/Service Charge & Insurance            | 7,419 |
| Business Rates                             | 1,840 |
| Utilities (Electricity, water, oil, waste) | 886   |
| Cleaning                                   | 1,075 |
| Telephones & internet                      | 3,669 |
| Photocopier                                | 497   |
| Furniture/equipment                        | 114   |
| Stationery                                 | 1,039 |
| Postage                                    | 340   |
| Miscellaneous                              | 434   |

**TOTAL** **17,313**

Estimated 17,600

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) -287

**(c) Partnership running costs**

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| JAC Meetings & room hire  | 379   |
| NAAONB (subs, Conference) | 1,597 |
| Miscellaneous             | 143   |

**TOTAL** **2,119**

Estimated 2,150

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) -31



(d) PR, Events, Research, etc.

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| AONB Newsletter                             | 2,397 |
| Annual Report                               | 890   |
| AONB Website                                | 60    |
| Ryedale Show                                | 678   |
| Local information & interpretation material | 330   |
| Miscellaneous                               | 784   |

**TOTAL** **5,139**

Estimated 5,100

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) +39

(e) Management Plan

0

**TOTAL** **0**

Estimated 0

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) 0

**PROJECT EXPENDITURE: 2011/12**

(f) Sustainable Development Fund

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Projects       | 10,264 |
| Administration | 0      |

**TOTAL** **10,264**

Estimated 20,000

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) -9,360

(g) AONB Enhancement (Natural Environment)

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Native Woodland Development Project | 2,500  |
| Projects                            | 28,293 |

**TOTAL** **30,793**

Estimated 24,000

Underspend (-) / overspend (+) +6,793

(h) AONB Enhancement (Historic environment)

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Projects                       | 10,512        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>10,512</b> |
| Estimated                      | 33,000        |
| Underspend (-) / overspend (+) | -22,488       |

*Please see Appendices 3 and 4 for full details of the projects completed under each of the 3 above programmes, together with their priority in the Action Programme of the Management Plan*

(i) Enjoying the AONB

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| CAN DO Lime & Ice Project                               | 4,500        |
| Recreation management                                   | 650          |
| Volunteer tasks, community work, miscellaneous projects | 1,303        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>6,453</b> |
| Estimated   | 8,000        |
| Underspend (-) / overspend (+)                          | -1,547       |

(j) Young People's Activities

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Junior Ranger Club             | 248           |
| Rural:Urban Schools Twinning   | 19,024        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>19,271</b> |
| Estimated                      | 22,720        |
| Underspend (-) / overspend (+) | -747          |

**(k) TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2011/12      £198,550**

## AONB PROJECTS 2011/2012

1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

Projects that have received formal offers of assistance; **Completed projects.**

### AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment

| APPLICANT/<br>(CONTRACTOR) | LOCATION                | PROJECT   | LOCAL<br>PRIORITY    | OBJECTIVE | SCHEME<br>COST | JAC<br>ASSISTANCE |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
| ~                          | AONB-wide               | Native Woodland Development Officer post  | -                    | FW6.5     | £32,360        | £2,500            |
| RPS Group Ltd              | AONB-wide               | Digitisation of Phase 1 habitat survey maps<br>– tint on Arable and Improved land | -                    | NE1.5     | £168           | £168              |
|                            |                         |   |                      |           |                |                   |
| A Mosey                    | Sundial Farm,<br>Cawton | Wall restoration (8m)   | -                    | AG2.2     | £490           | £390              |
| L Hicke                    | Scackleton              | Wall restoration (76m)  | -                    | AG2.2     | c.£1,500       | £1,430            |
| B Hornsey                  | Coulton                 | Planting new hedge (212m)   | Zone 6<br>Landscape  | AG2.2     | c.£1,875       | £922              |
| J Rawson                   | Fryton                  | Hedge restoration (415m)  | Zone 6<br>Landscape  | AG2.2     | £7,133         | £1,966            |
| G Lupton                   | Wass                    | Hedge restoration (250m)  | Zone 4A<br>Landscape | AG2.2     | £1,642         | £985 (60%)        |
| C Coward                   | Scackleton              | Wall restoration (111m)   | -                    | AG2.2     | c.£3,300       | £3,250            |
| M Marshall                 | Brandsby                | Wall restoration – remove trees and scrub;<br>grind stumps                        | Zone 1<br>Landscape  | AG2.2     | c.£3,500       | £3,000            |
| M Marshall                 | Brandsby                | Wall restoration – take-down wall around<br>stumps, to allow grinding             | Zone 1<br>Landscape  | AG2.2     | £195           | £195              |
| A Henson                   | Westow/Firby            | Hedge restoration (1,100m + 2 individual<br>trees)                                | Zone 6<br>Landscape  | AG2.2     | c.£5,000       | £4,741            |

| APPLICANT/<br>(CONTRACTOR)                       | LOCATION   | PROJECT   | LOCAL<br>PRIORITY                                       | OBJECTIVE               | SCHEME<br>COST | JAC<br>ASSISTANCE |
|--|--|---|---|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| L Thompson                                       | Crambe   | Planting new hedge (250m + 5 individual trees)            | Zone 7<br>Landscape                                     | AG2.2                   | £1,105         | £552 (50%)        |
| J Pesterfield                                    | Grimstone  | Planting new hedge (235m)                                 | Zone 1<br>Landscape                                     | AG2.2                   | £2,082         | £785              |
|  |  |   |   |                         |                |                   |
|  |  |   |   |                         |                |                   |
| (AONB Unit – Yorkshire Exmoor Pony Trust)        | Coulton (3),<br>Cawton (2),<br>Terrington (2),<br>Bulmer | Conservation grazing of 8 SINC's or other important sites | Sites 1.59,<br>1.60, 1.41,<br>1.47, 1.66,<br>1.20, 1.21 | NE5.1, NE6.1            | £1,089         | £818              |
| (AONB Volunteers)                                | Dalby Bush<br>Fen SSSI                                   | Grassland management - scrub control                      | Site 1.56   | NE6.1                   | £450           | -                 |
| (AONB Unit - P Gospel)                           | River Rye<br>SINC  | Test-spray of Himalayan balsam                            | Site 1.16   | NE6.1                   | £0             | £0                |
| (AONB Volunteers)                                | Grimston<br>Moor SINC                                    | Removal of Western hemlock regeneration                   | Site 1.1  | NE5.4, AP3.1            | £150           | -                 |
| T Berriman                                       | Gilling  | Pond creation   | -   | NE6.4                   | £2,739         | £625 (25%)        |
| (AONB Unit – Basics Plus)                        | Appleton-le-<br>Street<br>Churchyard<br>SINC             | Grassland management                                      | -   | NE5.1                   | £220           | £110 (50%)        |
| (AONB Unit – Basics Plus)                        | Amotherby<br>Lane SINC                                   | Grassland/scrub management                                | Site 1.38   | NE5.1, NE7.1            | £110           | £110              |
| Amotherby<br>Churchyard<br>Conservation<br>Group | Amotherby<br>Churchyard                                  | Habitat management  | -   | NE3.1, NE5.4,<br>NE10.1 | £210           | £110 (50%)        |
| Huttons Ambo<br>Churchyard group                 | Huttons Ambo<br>Churchyard                               | Habitat management  | -   | NE3.1, NE5.4,<br>NE10.1 | £60            | £30               |
| (AONB Unit - P Gospel)                           | Terrington<br>Moor SINC                                  | Re-fence landslip area                                    | Site 1.66   | NE6.1                   | c.£350         | £205              |

| <b>APPLICANT/<br/>(CONTRACTOR)</b>            | <b>LOCATION</b>                                  | <b>PROJECT</b>  | <b>LOCAL<br/>PRIORITY</b>        | <b>OBJECTIVE</b>       | <b>SCHEME<br/>COST</b> | <b>JAC<br/>ASSISTANCE</b> |
|---|--|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| (AONB Unit – Curlew Conservation Contractors) | Wath Beck;<br>Terrington -<br>Howthorpe          | Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (3.5km)                                | Inc. Site<br>1.65                | NE8.2                  | £761                   | £761                      |
| (AONB Unit – Countryside Services)            | Wath Beck;<br>Howthorpe -<br>Wath                | Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (2.3km)                                | Inc. Site<br>1.33                | NE8.2                  | £1,287                 | £1,287                    |
| (Leeds University)                            | AONB   | Bat survey transects  | -                                | NE1.2                  | £600                   | £100                      |
| (Leeds University)                            | AONB   | Bat habitat suitability modelling                                       | All Nat Env<br>Priority<br>Sites | NE1.2, NE7.3           | £6,000                 | £1,010                    |
| St Hilda’s School                             | Ampleforth                                       | Wildflower plug plants, bird box & camera and bird feeding station      | -                                | NE10.1                 | £360                   | £260                      |
| Welburn School                                | Welburn  | Repairs to vandalised pond liner  |                                  | NE10.1                 | £1,032                 | £450                      |
| (AONB Volunteers)                             | Wath Beck  | Himalayan balsam survey   | Sites 1.63,<br>1.64, 1.68        | NE3.1, NE8.1           | £300                   | -                         |
| (AONB Unit – Countryside Services)            | Scar Wood,<br>Gilling                            | Treat sycamore re-growth, beat-up planting areas, chemical weed control | Site 1.25                        | NE4.1                  | £310                   | £310                      |
| (AONB Unit – Basics Plus)                     | Littledale<br>SINC                               | Cutting brambles  | Site 1.20                        | NE5.1                  | £110                   | £110                      |
| FWAG (Cameron Smith)                          | Husthwaite                                       | Orchard management training course                                      | -                                | NE10.1                 | £1,645                 | £775                      |
| (AONB Volunteers)                             | Park Wood<br>Fishponds/The<br>Wilderness<br>SINC | Rhododendron control  | Site 1.6                         | NE4.1, NE8.2,<br>AP3.1 | £900                   | -                         |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)                        | Littledale<br>SINC                               | Spraying bramble regrowth   | Site 1.20                        | NE5.1                  | £70                    | £70                       |

| <b>APPLICANT/<br/>(CONTRACTOR)</b> | <b>LOCATION</b>                         | <b>PROJECT</b>   | <b>LOCAL<br/>PRIORITY</b> | <b>OBJECTIVE</b>    | <b>SCHEME<br/>COST</b> | <b>JAC<br/>ASSISTANCE</b> |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| (AONB Volunteers)                  | Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC | Rhododendron control   | Site 1.6                  | NE4.1, NE8.2, AP3.1 | £900                   | -                         |
| (NYCC Countryside Rangers)         | Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC | Rhododendron control (chipping piles of brash)                               | Site 1.6                  | NE4.1, NE8.2        | £990                   | -                         |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)             | Slingsby Bank Verge SINC                | Sweep salt from broken salt bin off orchid patch                             | Site 1.35                 | NE5.1               | £28                    | £28                       |
| (AONB Volunteers)                  | Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC | Rhododendron control   | Site 1.6                  | NE4.1, NE8.2, AP3.1 | £900                   | -                         |
| (AONB Unit – J R Clifford & Sons)  | Various                                 | Management of 44 Special Interest Road Verges                                | -                         | NE5.3               | £1,350                 | £1,350                    |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)             | Amotherby Lane SINC                     | Grassland/scrub management – cutting back overhanging branches               | Site 1.38                 | NE5.1, NE7.1        | £110                   | £110                      |
| (AONB Volunteers)                  | Boggs Plantation SINC                   | Rhododendron control   | Site 1.4                  | NE4.1, NE8.2, AP3.1 | £900                   | -                         |
| (AONB Volunteers)                  | Grimston Moor SINC                      | Removal of Western hemlock regeneration                                      | Site 1.1                  | NE5.4, AP3.1        | £750                   | -                         |
| Mr G Craven                        | Wiganthorpe Park                        | Planting 17 individual trees and 50 trees & shrubs in gaps in parkland belts | Site 2.92                 | NE4.4, HE4.5        | £1,206                 | £1,206                    |
| Lord St Oswald                     | Stonegrave                              | Planting 6 individual black poplar trees                                     | -                         | NE4.4, NE7.1        | £57                    | £7                        |
| M Cranfield                        | Oulston                                 | Planting 1 copse (50 trees & shrubs)   | Zone 4C Landscape         | FW6.4               | £155                   | £80                       |

| APPLICANT               | LOCATION                                | PROJECT   | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE           | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|-------------------------|---|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|
| (AONB Unit + volunteer) | Amotherby Lane SINC                     | Planting 30 greater knapweed plants to act as host for knapweed broomrape | Site 1.38      | NE5.1, NE7.1        | £63         | £38            |
| (AONB Volunteers)       | Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC | Western hemlock and rhododendron control                                  | Site 1.6       | NE4.1, NE8.2, AP3.1 | £650        | -              |
|                         |   |   |                |                     |             |                |

### AONB Enhancement - Historic Environment

| APPLICANT                         | LOCATION                       | PROJECT   | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE    | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)            | City of Troy Maze, Dalby       | Regular maintenance   | Site 2.25      | HE4.5        | £196        | £196           |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)            | Mileposts                      | Regular maintenance   | Site 2.63      | HE4.5, RT4.5 | £42         | £42            |
| Mrs L Howard                      | Rose Cottage Farm, Terrington  | Re-building 4m of gaps in Park wall   | Site 2.92      | HE4.5        | £390        | £195 (50%)     |
| Stonegrave PCC                    | Stonegrave Minster             | Repair 9m of churchyard wall  | -              | HE4.5        | £460        | £360           |
| (AONB Unit – Sam Baxter)          | Lime kilns, Scar Wood, Gilling | Consolidation of kilns – phase 2 (repair of ivy damage and re-build of brick fire arch) | Site 2.50      | HE4.5        | c.£2,000    | £1,843         |
| (AONB Unit – Bayes Tree Services) | Lime kilns, Scar Wood, Gilling | Treatment of stumps   | Site 2.50      | HE4.5        | £60         | £60            |
| NYCC                              | Hovingham                      | Replacement arm for traditional direction sign  | -              | HE4.5, RT4.5 | £500        | £0             |

| APPLICANT                                 | LOCATION                      | PROJECT  | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE    | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE         |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|
| (Nunnington PC)                           | Nunnington & East Ness        | Refurbish traditional direction signs & village name signs | -              | HE4.5, RT4.5 | £5,600      | £600                   |
| (Castle Howard Estate Ltd)                | Hardy Flatts, Whitwell        | Restore gate pillars                                       | -              | HE4.5        | £2,660      | £0<br>(Ryedale LEADER) |
| (AONB Unit – Bayes Tree Services)         | Lime kiln, Hildenley          | Treatment of stumps/re-growth and cutting ivy stems        | Site 2.49      | HE4.5        | £100        | £100                   |
| (AONB Unit – Bayes Tree Services)         | Ice house, Hildenley          | Treatment of stumps/re-growth                              | -              | HE4.5        | £45         | £45                    |
| (AONB Unit – Countryside Services)        | Wiganthorpe Park, Scackleton  | Spraying scrub regrowth                                    | Site 2.92      | HE4.5        | £40         | £40                    |
| (Amotherby PC)                            | B1257, Amotherby              | Refurbish traditional direction signs & village name signs | -              | HE4.5, RT4.5 | £5,500      | £500                   |
| (AONB Unit – Cleveland Corrosion Control) | Husthwaite /Oulston /Yearsley | Restoration of 5 traditional direction signs               | -              | RT4.5        | £6,111      | £6,111                 |

| APPLICANT                 | LOCATION          | PROJECT   | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE         |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------|
| (AONB Unit – David Bayes) | Pond Farm, Crambe | Stump treatment following tree removal (Listed Building at Risk)                | Site 2.104     | HE4.5     | £270        | £270                   |
| Castle Howard Estate Ltd  | Welburn           | Restore White Gate (aka Exclamation Gate) gate pillar (Listed Building at Risk) | Site 2.80      | HE4.5     | £2,340      | £0<br>(Ryedale LEADER) |



## Enjoying the AONB

| APPLICANT                 | LOCATION                | PROJECT   | LOCAL PRIORITY        | OBJECTIVE           | SCHEME COST | JAC ASSISTANCE |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|
| (AONB Unit – Basics Plus) | Various                 | Litter picking (5 visits)   | Sites 3.8, 3.14, 3.19 | D3.5                | £550        | £550           |
| (AONB Unit – P Gospel)    | Gateway signs           | Strimming   | -                     | AP1.1               | £630        | £630           |
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Jeffry Bog SSSI         | Constructing boardwalk  | Site 1.70             | RA4, AP3            | £700        | -              |
| Stonegrave Minster PCC    | Stonegrave Minster      | Re-instating steps from Public Footpath into churchyard   | -                     | RA3.1               | £160        | £100           |
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Various                 | Volunteer effort on PRoW in the AONB (av. 4 people/week, every other week)                        | -                     | RA4.5, AP3.1        | £5,600      | -              |
| Rural Action Yorkshire    | Ryedale                 | Ryedale Rural Community Awards  | -                     | LC1                 | £2,450      | £300           |
| Barton-le-Street PCC      | Barton-le-Street Church | Interpretation of historic church   | -                     | LC1.5               | £5,261      | £261           |
| (Ampleforth PC)           | Millennium Green        | Pond restoration, tree planting, benches and information board                                    | -                     | NE10.1, LC1.5       | £5,296      | £296           |
| Bulmer Church PCC         | Bulmer Church           | Repair of 17m of gaps/fallen sections of churchyard wall  | -                     | LC1.5               | £695        | £218           |
|                           |                         |   |                       |                     |             |                |
| (AONB Unit)               | Arboretum               | Junior Ranger Club  | -                     | RA2.4               | c.£875      | £233           |
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Various                 | Volunteer effort – Junior Ranger Club, Ryedale Show, guided walks, PRoW Condition surveying, etc. | -                     | AP3.1               | £2,550      | -              |
| (AONB Volunteers)         | Various                 | Volunteer effort - Schools Twinning Project   | -                     | RA2.4, AP2.3, AP3.1 | £3,600      | -              |
|                           |                         |   |                       |                     |             |                |
| CAN DO Lime & Ice Project | Project area            | 2011/12 contribution  |                       |                     | £176,980    | £4,500         |

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANTS 2011/2012

1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

Projects that have received formal offers of assistance; **Completed projects.**

| APPLICANT               | LOCATION                       | PROJECT  | LOCAL PRIORITY | OBJECTIVE     | SCHEME COST | SDF ASSISTANCE |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Hovingham Action Group  | Hovingham village              | Bee projects (bee-friendly planting, bee homes & bee hive)             | -              | LC1.5, NE10.1 | £1,950      | £800           |
| The Arboretum Trust     | Castle Howard Arboretum        | Resources for Outdoor Classroom  | -              | AP2, SF2.4    | £10,178     | £1,490         |
| Scackleton Action Group | Scackleton                     | Post box and telephone box   | -              | LC1, HE3, HE4 | £1,565      | £750           |
| Barton-le-Willows VHC   | Barton-le-Willows Village Hall | Install insulation   | -              | LC1           | £3,437      | £1,000         |
| Barton-le-Street VHC    | Barton-le-Street Village Hall  | Install log-burning stove  | -              | LC1           | £4,768      | £2,000         |
| Sustrans                | AONB & Yorks. Wolds            | Touring cycle routes leaflet   | -              | RA9.3, AP2    | £5,242      | £3,100         |
| Swinton In Bloom        | Swinton                        | Wildflower and shrub planting; stone drinking trough outside old forge | -              | LC1           | £2,090      | £1,124         |
|                         |                                |  |                |               |             |                |

|  | <b>2012/13</b> | <b>2013/14</b>  |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>BUDGET ESTIMATES</b>                          | (October 2012) |                 |
|  |                |                 |
| <b>Core Costs</b>                                |                |                 |
| Staffing   | 94,666         | 94,070          |
| Office   | 17,348         | 18,826          |
| Partnership running costs                        | 2,950          | 4,200           |
| PR, Events, Research                             | 5,350          | 5,810           |
| Management Plan                                  | 1,000          | 1,250           |
|  |                |                 |
| <b>Total Core Costs</b>                          | <b>121,314</b> | <b>124,156</b>  |
|  |                |                 |
| <b>Project Costs</b>                             |                |                 |
| Sustainable Development Fund                     | 20,000         | 25,000          |
| AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment           | 21,000         | 22,400          |
| AONB Enhancement – Historic Environment          | 25,281         | 17,200          |
| Access/Recreation & Communities (inc Lime & Ice) | 5,000          | 2,975           |
| Young People’s activities                        | 22,915         | 29,500          |
| <b>Total Project Costs</b>                       | <b>94,196</b>  | <b>96,950</b>   |
|  |                |                 |
|  |                |                 |
| <b>TOTAL COSTS</b>                               | <b>215,510</b> | <b>221,106</b>  |
|  |                |                 |
| <b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS</b>                     |                |                 |
| North Yorks CC                                   | 39,410         | 37,045          |
| Ryedale DC                                       | 5,684          | 5,684           |
| Hambleton DC                                     | 5,800          | 5,800           |
| Defra  | 133,636        | 125,577         |
| Forestry Commission                              | 0              | 0               |
| English Heritage                                 | 0              | 0               |
| FEP preparation fees                             | 2,465          | 1,000           |
| Heritage Lottery Fund                            | c.9,304        | c.15,000        |
| LEADER   | c.12,211       | c.13,000        |
| Reserves   | 7,000          | 18,000          |
|  |                |                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>215,510</b> | <b>221,106</b>  |
|  |                |                 |
| Projects Reserves b/f from 2011/12               | 48,616         |                 |
| <i>Projects Reserves c/f to 2014/15</i>          |                | <i>c.24,000</i> |
|  |                |                 |

**Alison Jones**

---

**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 13 April 2012 16:54  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** 'Helen Laws'  
**Subject:** 12/00664/APN; Foxfoot hay, Coxwold

I visited the site on 12th April and have the following observations to make:

- 1) I have no objection to the siting of the building - it is within the existing array of traditional farm buildings.
- 2) The proposed roof colour is given as "Grey". This must be the dark, Anthracite, Grey, not the Natural Grey (which is very light and would be significantly intrusive against the existing clay pantile roofs). Anthracite Gray will match the weathered roofs of the existing modern buildings much better.
- 3) An alternative colour for this specific location would be a red/brown to match the clay pantiles. Looking at the Marley Eternit range, applicable colours might be Bracken from the Farmscape range or from the Profile 6 range - Brown or Tawny Brown.

Paul Jackson  
Howardian Hills AONB Manager  
The Mews, Wath Court  
Hovingham  
York  
YO62 4NN

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Mob: 07715 009426  
Web: [www.howardianhills.org.uk](http://www.howardianhills.org.uk)

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HILLS  
One of the  
AONB family

## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 13 April 2012 17:12  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** 'Helen Laws'  
**Subject:** 12/00663/APN; High Farm, Brandsby

I visited the site on 12th April and have the following observations to make:

- 1) I have no objection to the siting of the building - it is adjacent to the existing array of modern farm buildings.
- 2) The proposed roof and wall colours are given as "Green". This should more specifically be Dark Green, to match the colour of the existing main building on the site, and this should be clarified with the Applicants.
- 3) As the site is however on the top of a small ridge, consideration should be given to a small amount of treeplanting in order to break-up the skyline profile of the proposed new building. A small number of individual trees to the north of the building would satisfy this requirement.
- 4) I note that this building is close to the site of one proposed several years ago, which impacted directly on a Public Footpath. It would appear that this one has been sited specifically to now avoid the Public Footpath, but again this should be clarified with the Applicants and also with the Highway Authority.

Subject to the comments above, I can confirm that the proposal is in accordance with Objective AG4 of the AONB Management Plan, on the construction of new farm infrastructure.

Paul Jackson  
Howardian Hills AONB Manager  
The Mews, Wath Court  
Hovingham  
York  
YO62 4NN

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# Howardian Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Chief Planning Officer  
Hambleton District Council  
Civic Centre  
Stone Cross  
Northallerton  
DL6 2UU

The Mews, Wath Court  
Hovingham  
York  
North Yorkshire, YO62 4NN

Tel: 0845 034 9495  
Email: [info@howardianhills.org.uk](mailto:info@howardianhills.org.uk)

Contact: Paul Jackson

My Reference: 3.1

Your Reference: 12/00637/FUL

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012

Dear Sir

**Proposed alterations and extension to existing dwelling and installation of new vehicular access; 1 High Side, Brandsby**

I am responding on behalf of the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Advisory Committee to your consultation regarding the above proposal.

The application involves the erection of a small link-extension and the creation of a new access via an overgrown track in an adjacent area of woodland.

I visited the site on 17<sup>th</sup> April and have the following comments to make:

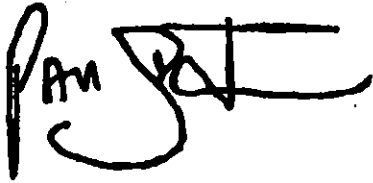
- I have no objections to the alterations and extension to the existing dwelling, nor per se to the construction of a double garage.
- I do however have serious concerns about the impact on the AONB landscape of the creation of a new access in the location shown. The northern section of Brandsby village is characterised by an impression of dense woodland, with occasional dwellings set back from the road. The access drive immediately opposite the proposed vehicular access is very clearly visually linked to the dwellings that it serves.
- The proposed access however is located in an area of natural-looking woodland (i.e. it has an undeveloped appearance). The access would therefore seem to 'appear' and 'lead to' no-where, and I believe that this would be to the detriment of the AONB landscape. It would not be compatible with the local character of Brandsby, where domestic accesses are generally visually associated with the properties they serve.
- Any approved access would need to be constructed to Highway Authority specifications, which would include kerbing and a bound surface adjacent to the highway. Even using conservation kerbing to match the local stone, and tarmac so as to have a dark surface, the simple fact of the development would I believe look incongruous against the backdrop of woodland at this location.
- Notwithstanding the above, should the application be approved then the kerbing should be Conditioned as Harvest Buff conservation kerbing and the bound surface as tarmac. In addition, absolutely no lighting should be installed other than on domestic structures (i.e. PIR-controlled lights on the house or garage, not along the access drive).

Cont'd...

- I note that a number of trees are to be felled, apparently regardless of whether this application is approved or not. The applicants need to be aware that, in land use planning terms, the woodland area is classed as Agricultural Land, i.e. not domestic garden. The Felling Licence Regulations will therefore be applicable – these do not apply to gardens but they do to Agricultural Land. The Regulations permit a certain amount of felling without Licence, but if this application is Refused then the applicants would be well-advised to consult the Forestry Commission before any felling takes place, in order to avoid illegal felling.
- In a similar vein, Approval of this application would not automatically confer Domestic status on the woodland area. If the applicants wish to manage the woodland as a garden, then a separate Change of Use planning application would be required. There are a number of instances in the AONB where I am monitoring the surreptitious conversion of agricultural land into extended 'gardens', which is both contrary to planning law and in general also detrimental to the AONB.

In conclusion, whilst I am happy with the principle of the alterations and extensions to the house, I feel that I have little option but to **OBJECT** to the proposed vehicular access, due to its siting in a natural area visually separated from any current domestic structures. I feel that this factor means that this part of the development would have a detrimental visual impact on the AONB landscape and represent an expansion of the village envelope into the surrounding countryside.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Jackson' in a stylized, cursive script.

PAUL JACKSON  
AONB Manager  
Howardian Hills AONB Joint Advisory Committee

## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 02 May 2012 17:08  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/00269/FUL; Erection of replacement grain storage building; Ness Hall, East Ness

I think I may be well beyond the time limit for this one, but the observation that I would make is that I would prefer the roof sheets to be Anthracite Grey rather than Natural Grey, as this immediately gives a darker, more weathered appearance to the roof and makes it less visible in the landscape.

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## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 03 May 2012 17:32  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/00370/FUL; Erection of general purpose livestock building, Quarry Farm, Broughton

The only observation I would make on this application is that the roof sheets should be Anthracite Grey rather than Natural Grey, as this immediately gives a darker, more weathered appearance to the roof and makes it less visible in the landscape.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 22 May 2012 11:21  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** 'Helen Laws'  
**Subject:** 12/00940/FUL: Extensions to existing stables and construction of garages, Warren House Farm, Brandsby

**Importance:** High

I visited the site on 9th May and have the following observations to make:

1. I have no objections to the linking barn between the existing stables and garages.
2. I do however wish to **object** to the proposed extension, comprising 3 garages and 2 store rooms.
  - The proposed building extends significantly outwards from the 'perceived curtilage' of the Warren House complex of converted traditional farm buildings, recently constructed ancillary buildings (stables & garages) and the original agricultural storage building.
  - In addition to extending beyond this 'perceived curtilage', the proposed building is also at an incongruous angle to the aforementioned buildings, which are all in a parallel alignment.
  - I feel that these two factors will significantly affect the appearance of the Warren House 'development site', which I would not wish to see extend beyond its current limits.
  - Whilst I wouldn't normally question an applicant's need for a new development, I do also wonder why a property should be considered to need 5 garages...

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## Alison Jones

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**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 18 June 2012 15:24  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00354/FUL

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 3:22 PM on 18 Jun 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 12/00354/FUL

**Address:** Land At Main Street Appleton Le Street Malton North Yorkshire

**Proposal:** Change of use of land and building from agricultural to a builders yard to include external materials storage areas, erection of steel entrance gates and timber cladding of gable ends of existing buildings for covered storage of building materials and equipment (retrospective application)

**Case Officer:** Edward Senior

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I have no major observations to make on this application. The application is retrospective but, other than noticing the cladding of the northern gable end and the yew hedge whilst driving past, no other details have jumped out at me. This would tend to indicate that any impact on the AONB landscape is negligible. The only minor point I would raise is in relation to the yew hedge. This seems rather churlish, given that the applicant has taken the effort to plant it and is keeping the entrance neat and tidy, but therein lies the issue. As an old quarry, characterised by native trees and shrubs, the yew hedge strikes a rather 'suburban' note and in effect extends the developed area of Appleton-le-Street slightly further into the 'countryside' area that separates the two halves of the village. Assuming that it would seem to be a real waste to take it out and start again with hawthorn (and at least it is native yew and not Leylandii), I would however ask that any further planting carried out on that northern edge of the site is native only and not ornamental. There is what looks like an ornamental maple behind the hedge and I certainly wouldn't want the non-native planting to continue. Any future planting should be of native species only.

## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 26 June 2012 15:17  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** 'Helen Laws'  
**Subject:** 12/01154/FUL; Retrospective application for change of use of land; erection of menage and stables, Crayke Lane, Crayke

I visited the site today (26th June) and have the following comments to make:

1. As a principle, from both management and landscape impact perspectives, it is preferable for equestrian facilities to be located next to residential properties rather than in open countryside.
2. The site is however well-screened from views by mature hedges, which have been bolstered by the planting that the applicant has already undertaken in this field and also in adjacent ones.
3. The site also appears to be well-managed and tidy. Additional treeplanting has been undertaken in adjacent fields and I observed a barn owl hunting over the un-cut hay fields. The small-scale field pattern, mature hedges and generally semi-improved grassland in this part of the AONB is a notable characteristic of the landscape character.
4. The only external viewpoint that I could perceive was the long-distance one from the hill above Adams Hall Farm at Oulston. This however is the route of the Foss Way regional route and, if approved, I feel that some additional measures are necessary to mitigate any views from this path.
5. I note that the roof will be covered with felt, which I assume will be dark grey in colour. The walls are specified as horizontal timber boarding, but without a colour. The timber of the walls must be stained a dark brown colour - an untreated tanalised finish would not be acceptable.
6. In order to provide some 'disruptive' planting when viewed from the north, individual specimens of small tree species (e.g. rowan, field maple, crab apple) should be planted along the northern side of the menage (between approx E and H) and likewise to the north side of the hen run.
7. Should the Highway Authority specify the construction of a full access to their specification, this must use tarmac and harvest buff conservation kerbing. This will provide the most unobtrusive finish available - standard concrete kerbs must **not** be used.
8. Whilst the management of the site is clearly to a high standard currently, inevitably there must be a concern as to what may happen should the property change hands. If possible, Conditions should be imposed requiring the removal of the stables and menage should they become redundant. Likewise, a commercial use and potential residential development on the site are unlikely to be acceptable further scenarios.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 06 July 2012 13:45  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/00515/FUL: Re-surface existing play area and erect fences; Gilling Castle

Although I have not had an opportunity to visit the site in relation to this application, I do have some knowledge of the application site. I have also noted the pre-application meeting with English Heritage (of which I was aware), and their recommendations arising from that meeting.

I have the following observations to make:

- # The application site is in a prominent location, adjacent to the Listed Gilling Castle and within the Registered Park and Garden.
- # The play area is however already there, and it might be argued that an artificial grass surface blends better with its surroundings than the current surface.
- # I also note the fact that the fencing will be dark green - this follows the specification used for the all-weather sports pitch constructed some years ago to the north west of the application site. The modest height of the fencing for much of its length is also noted.
- # I concur with English Heritage's view that lighting would not be acceptable in this location within the Registered Park and Garden area, and this should be specified in the form of a Condition.

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**Alison Jones**

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 11 July 2012 12:52  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00372/OUT

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12:49 PM on 11 Jul 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### **Application Summary**

**Reference:** 12/00372/OUT  
**Address:** OS Field 1047 (part) Lodge Farm Scackleton Lane  
Scackleton Helmsley  
**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling (site area  
0.10ha)  
**Case Officer:** Rachel Smith  
[Click for further information](#)

### **Comments Details**

**Comments:** Further to our site meeting of 20th June, I can confirm that the amended location and scale of the dwelling concurs with the agreement reached at that meeting. I feel that this location is better integrated into the AONB landscape and also provides good management control over the goat unit site. Objective AG4.1 of the AONB Management Plan indicates that we will support the construction of new farm buildings and infrastructure where these are appropriate in scale and use high standards of design, careful siting and good landscaping measures. Siting and scale issues are addressed in this Outline Application; I will await the Full Application in order to assess the issue of design and, as per the discussions at the site meeting, the landscaping Condition for the first phase of the goat shed itself must be fully implemented in autumn 2012. Paul Jackson

## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 25 July 2012 17:36  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** 'Helen Laws'  
**Subject:** 12/01304/FUL: Alterations and extensions to form a dwelling and holiday cottage, Home Farm, Brandsby

I visited the site on 25th July and have the following comments to make:

- The proposals would have little impact on the landscape of the AONB, given that they involve the re-use of a range of traditional farm buildings.
- From a historic environment perspective the proposals would ensure that the range of traditional buildings have a sustainable new use.
- Residential tourist accommodation for equestrian users is currently under-represented in the AONB, although a number of other proposals are also at the planning approval stage. Low Farm has one of the key east/west bridleway routes running through it, although onward linkages for circular routes are somewhat limited in this part of the AONB/adjacent area. Access to private facilities on Low Farm itself is therefore likely to be a key attraction to visitors not wishing to do a lot of on-road riding.
- The provision of residential accommodation within this proposal could clearly cause some difficulties from a planning policy perspective. From an AONB perspective however I am happy that it provides a sustainable rural development, linked as it is to the running of Low Farm itself (including the potential tourist accommodation) and a freelance rural surveying enterprise. Should the application be approved however then appropriate Conditions will need to be placed on the Consent to ensure that the residential element remains connected to the farm holding and its enterprises.
- On minor points of detail, I always feel that conversions such as these are enhanced where the external woodwork (doors and window frames) use an appropriately agricultural colour scheme. In this instance a slate blue/grey colour scheme is almost universal and this could be adopted for the refurbished buildings. Although the stable block is well-concealed by the existing copse of trees and existing buildings, both roof and wall materials should have dark-coloured finishes so as to blend with their surroundings.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 30 July 2012 16:49  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/00585/FUL; siting of portable office building, the Arboretum, Castle Howard

I visited the site on 27th July and have the following comment to make:

Although the site is screened to some extent by the surrounding conifers, and by the deciduous trees on The Avenue during the summer, I would prefer the walls of the proposed building to be painted a dark colour.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 01 August 2012 13:31  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00582/MFUL

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 1:30 PM on 01 Aug 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 12/00582/MFUL  
**Address:** Birch Farm The Terrace Oswaldkirk York YO62 5XZ  
**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural grain store  
**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I visited the site on 11th July and have the following comments to make: 1) From measurements taken on site it appears that the ridge line of the new building will be at approximately the same height as the elevator of the existing grain dryer. This would mean that the proposed building should appear as part of the existing group of farm buildings, rather than being substantially higher. 2) The use of anthracite grey roof sheets and dark green wall cladding will substantially reduce the visual impact of the proposed building, although I would prefer the dark colour scheme to extend down to the concrete wall panels as well. The dark materials colours should be enforced as a Condition should the application be Approved. 3) The existing row of tall trees to the east of the application site provides both substantial screening and a backdrop from the majority of angles, except when viewed from the north west (Oswaldkirk village). The existing row of trees does not in fact extend as far along the eastern side of the site as shown on the plan, and in addition much of the proposed 10m strip of treeplanting to the north will be very difficult to implement, if not impossible, due to the proximity of overhead powerlines. 4) In light of the above I would like to see the length of the building reduced, so that a greater proportion of it is screened by the existing tall trees. This would also allow more space for the 10m belt of treeplanting at the northern end, which should still wrap around the building as shown on the plan. Planting in proximity to the powerlines should consist of shrub species such as hawthorn, hazel, field maple and holly, with the tree species sited where there is more clearance. 5) The Planning Policy Statement

indicates that the business "hopes to expand into milling of wheat, oats, malting barley and beans". This could be interpreted as a desire to carry out 'contract milling' on behalf of other farmers. Should the application be approved then a suitably worded Condition should be attached so as to ensure that only produce fed to the farm's cattle, or produce grown on the farm, is milled on the site. Paul Jackson

## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 13 August 2012 16:46  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/01514/FUL: Formation of car park etc, Newburgh Priory

I visited the site on 13th August and have the following observations to make:

# The layout of the parking areas should ensure that a 'sea of cars' isn't visible from the road (which constitutes the main public viewpoint), but some understorey shrub planting would however be desirable on the western side of the car park too (i.e. between the access gate and the car park).

# Should the access splay to the public road require widening, an appropriate surfacing material (e.g. gravel hot-rolled into tarmac) and Harvest Buff conservation kerbing must be used in order to harmonise with the stone wall and Listed gate pillars.

# Any lighting should only consist of low-level lighting on unobtrusive posts. General car park lighting would be inappropriate in this location.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 17 August 2012 16:49  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/00176/FUL: Change of use of agricultural barn to camping barn, Low Baxtonhowe, Fryton

I have the following observations to make on this application:

# The creation of this type of facility is to be welcomed, as it fills a currently vacant niche in the accommodation types available in the Howardian Hills, particularly in relation to equine-based tourism.

# If at all possible the stainless steel flues from the log burning stoves should have a dark painted exterior finish. The shine from stainless steel, combined with flicker effects if vanes are fitted, can have a visual effect in the landscape far in excess proportionally to their size.

# The windows/frames and doors/frames should be finished in a colour suitably appropriate for an ex-agricultural building. If my memory is correct the doors are a dark red, which would be a suitable colour for a finish. A white-painted or stained finish would not be appropriate.

# I have no objection to the parking area but would like to see some low-density landscape planting in the proposed amenity area to the north, so as to break up any views from the escarpment edge on Fryton Lane to the north.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 22 August 2012 16:11  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00793/AGNOT

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 4:11 PM on 22 Aug 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 12/00793/AGNOT  
**Address:** Jubilee Farm Church Street Nunnington Helmsley YO62 5US  
**Proposal:** Construction of new road access to serve farmholding  
**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I have the following observations to make on this application: 1) The current access to the Jubilee Farm buildings is not ideal, being down a steep and narrow hill in the centre of Nunnington village. Fully laden articulated lorries struggle to negotiate Church Street, as well as the blind road junction adjacent to the Church. 2) The formation of the proposed new access would benefit both the operation of the Jubilee Farm business and the residential amenity/character of the Nunnington Conservation Area, without impacting detrimentally on the AONB landscape. As such the proposal seems to offer significant benefits, is in line with AONB Management Plan policies, and is therefore supported. Paul Jackson

## Alison Jones

---

**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 23 August 2012 12:02  
**To:** 'planning@hambleton.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/01719/APN; siting of 6 containers, Mill Farm, Brandsby

I have the following comments to make on this Notification:

- 1) The walls and roofs of the containers should be painted in dark colours - a dark green or dark grey.
- 2) Due to the relative heights of the containers and the existing buildings, I feel that the containers should **not** be stacked one on top of the other, as this would take them above the building ridge lines and create a visually discordant element within the site. The complex of buildings, although extensive, is at a relatively low level and this helps integrate it into the surrounding landscape.

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## Alison Jones

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 04 September 2012 18:07  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00759/FUL

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 6:03 PM on 04 Sep 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 12/00759/FUL  
**Address:** Sproxton Hall Farm Sproxton York YO62 5EQ  
**Proposal:** Erection of a general purpose agricultural building  
**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:**

This application is clearly linked to 12/00760/73A for the adjacent new building, so these comments should be read in conjunction with my observations on that application:  
# The building will have some impact when viewed from a distance, but I feel it will be minimal. The long-distance viewpoints onto the site are likely to be from the A170 to the west and B1257 to the south. From the A170 the building has the backdrop of Robsons Spring Wood (and the adjacent building currently under construction) and is not sky-lined at any stage. From the B1257 it is obscured by existing mature oak trees and other buildings on the Sproxton Hall site.  
# The impact on long-distance viewpoints will be minimised by the use of Anthracite Grey roof sheets, as proposed.  
# Short-distance views onto the site will arise from the Public Rights of Way network in the vicinity, to the north west and south. The principal view will be from the west, due to the existing buildings on the Sproxton Hall site and existing trees/hedges.  
# The impact on short-distance viewpoints will be minimised by painting all the external concrete grain walling a dark grey colour to match the Anthracite Grey wall sheets, as proposed.  
# Some landscaping measures have been suggested for the new building being constructed adjacent and those will also help to break-up the outline of this proposed building. With these mitigating measures in place (colour of materials and landscaping) I feel that the building can be successfully integrated into the AONB landscape. Paul Jackson

## Alison Jones

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 04 September 2012 18:00  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00760/73A

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 5:55 PM on 04 Sep 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 12/00760/73A

**Address:** Sproxton Hall Farm Sproxton York YO62 5EQ

**Proposal:** Variation of 02 of approval 10/00463/FUL dated 18.06.2010 to state "The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plan (s): Email confirmation from the agent dated 17 June 2010 in respect of materials/colour and Drawing Ref MFC064A:- 01 01 Location Plan, 02 02 Proposed Block Plan, 05 01 Proposed Revised Plans/Elevations and 06 01 Proposed Revised Elevations"  
- substitution of plans.

**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** Having worked with the applicant on the original application I have the following observations to make: # The increase in height proposed in this application will have some impact when viewed from a distance, but I feel it will be minimal. The long-distance viewpoints onto the site are likely to be from the A170 to the west and B1257 to the south. From the A170 the building has the backdrop of Robsons Spring Wood and is not sky-lined at any stage. From the B1257 it is obscured by existing mature oak trees and other buildings on the Sproxton Hall site. # The impact on long-distance viewpoints will be minimised by the use of Anthracite Grey roof sheets, as proposed. # Short-distance views onto the site will arise from the Public Rights of Way network in the vicinity, to the north west, south and east. The principal views will be from the west and east, due to the existing buildings on the Sproxton Hall site and existing trees/hedges. # The impact on short-distance viewpoints will be minimised by painting the concrete grain walling a dark grey colour to match the Anthracite Grey wall sheets, as proposed. # The application involves an increase in ridge height of approx 2.4m. Whilst I did not feel that landscaping measures were necessary for the



original application, I think that some measures need to now be installed in order to reflect the c.20% increase in ridge height. I would therefore wish to see some planting of individual oak trees in guards in the grass fields to both the north west and east of the application site, to bolster the existing mature tree population and to provide the next generation of oak trees that will screen the building. I would envisage 4-5 trees to the north/west and a similar number to the east, located in such a way as to appear random and break-up the line of the new building (as opposed to trying to completely screen it). The planting stock should be of an adequate size to make an immediate impression. With these mitigating measures in place (colour of materials and treeplanting) I feel that the building can be successfully integrated into the AONB landscape. Paul Jackson

# Howardian Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The Mews, Wath Court  
Hovingham, York, YO62 4NN

T. 08450 349 495  
E. [info@howardianhills.org.uk](mailto:info@howardianhills.org.uk)  
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A joint partnership funded by Defra, North Yorkshire County Council (Host Authority), Ryedale District Council and Hambleton District Council; also involving Ryedale and Hambleton Parish Councils, Natural England, Country Land and Business Association, National Farmers Union, Ramblers and Forestry Commission

Chief Planning Officer  
Ryedale District Council  
Ryedale House  
Malton  
YO17 0HH

Contact: Paul Jackson

My Reference: 8/11

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Dear Sir

## 12/00618/MFUL: Erection of 30 dwellings, Station Road, Ampleforth

Further to my email of 23<sup>rd</sup> August, I have the following comments to make on this application:

Summary:

**I wish to OBJECT to this proposal in the strongest terms. Notwithstanding the revised Planning Statement and Alternative Residential Sites Assessment, this application is clearly Premature, contrary to the NPPF and must at this time be Refused.**

### Prematurity

- 1) Para 6.81 of the applicant's revised Planning Statement dismisses the Prematurity case on the grounds that the Ryedale Local Plan Sites DPD is not even at Consultation stage and that Refusal on those grounds would not therefore be justified.
- 2) That is a logical argument, but it completely ignores the fact that the Inquiry into the Local Plan Strategy is currently being conducted and Ampleforth Parish Council have Objected to the categorisation of Ampleforth as a Service Village.
- 3) Should the Inquiry Inspector recommend that Ampleforth should **not** be categorised as a Service Village, then **none** of the sites put forward for housing development would become Allocated Sites and there will no longer be a need for Ampleforth to accommodate 30 new dwellings (as its share of Housing Allocation to be provided by Service Villages).
- 4) It is hard to think that the LPA would not adopt the precautionary principle with this application. To Approve the application now is clearly to pre-judge the Inquiry Inspector's view on whether Ampleforth should or should not be a Service Village. An Approval now, with a subsequent Inspector's recommendation that Ampleforth should **not** be a Service Village, would be extremely embarrassing for the LPA, open up the possibility of Judicial Review and potentially be a breach of s85 of the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 (which imposes a Statutory Duty on Public Bodies to have due regard to the purposes of AONB designation).

Cont'd...

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### **Non-compliance with the NPPF**

- 1) The applicant's case rests, as summarised in para 7.3 of the Revised Planning Statement, on the basis that the proposals represent sustainable development.
- 2) For that to be correct, then they must conform to para 14 of the NPPF. Sadly, this has been misquoted in para 5.4 of the Revised Planning Statement, with the omission of the crucial Footnote 9. The full correct text of this section of the NPPF is as follows:

- where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, granting permission unless:
  - any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or
  - specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.<sup>9</sup>

Footnote 9 states:

<sup>9</sup> For example, those policies relating to sites protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives (see paragraph 119) and/or designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest; land designated as Green Belt, Local Green Space, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coast or within a National Park (or the Broads Authority); designated heritage assets; and locations at risk of flooding or coastal erosion.

- 3) We then therefore need to move to para 116 of the NPPF, which qualifies how major developments within AONBs should be judged. As correctly quoted in the Revised Planning Statement, the NPPF states that Planning Permission should be refused for major developments except in exceptional circumstances and only after various assessments have been carried out.
- 4) The second bullet point of NPPF para 116 requires an assessment of “the cost of, and scope for, developing elsewhere outside the designated area, or meeting the need for [the development] in some other way.”
- 5) **Should the Inquiry Inspector recommend that Ampleforth should NOT be a Service Village then clearly the housing provision offered by this application WILL be accommodated outside the designated area.**
- 6) Because the Inquiry Inspector has not ruled either way on Ampleforth Parish Council's Objection to the designation of Ampleforth as a Service Village, then the proposals cannot therefore satisfy this test (as laid out in NPPF para 116).
- 7) Consequently, because Footnote 9 qualifies para 14 in respect of development within AONBs (and particularly with reference to NPPF para 116), this proposal is NOT sustainable development and therefore is not compliant with the NPPF.

### **Weight to be given to Local Plan Strategy policies/objections**

The applicants have quoted various paragraphs of NPPF Annex 1 (Implementation) to bolster their case. In my view it has been a rather selective quotation and in fact Annex 1 can equally be used to support the case for Refusal on the grounds of Prematurity and non-compliance with the NPPF.

NPPF Annex 1, 215. In other cases and following this 12-month period, due weight should be given to relevant policies in existing plans according to their degree of consistency with this framework (the closer the policies in the plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).

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I would argue that Saved Policy ENV2 of the Ryedale Local Plan is highly consistent with NPPF para 116 and should therefore (in line with Annex 1, 215 above) be given considerable weight. ENV2, in its second bullet point, states that:

Large-scale developments will be strongly resisted unless they are proven to be in the national interest, incapable of being located outside the AONB and designed to do as little damage to the environment as practicable.”

Clearly, this major development of 30 dwellings WOULD be capable of being located outside the AONB, **if the Inquiry Inspector rules that Ampleforth should not be designated as a Service Village.**

Furthermore, the existence of an unresolved objection by Ampleforth Parish Council, on a point of principle upon which the whole case for the application hinges, must be given significant weight:

Annex 1, 216. From the day of publication, decision-takers may also give weight<sup>40</sup> to relevant policies in emerging plans according to:

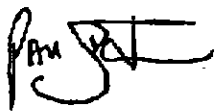
- the stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
- the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
- the degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).

<sup>40</sup> Unless other material considerations indicate otherwise.

Although the second of these bullet points is primarily written to allow proposals to be determined against emerging Local Plan policies where there are minor unresolved objections to that policy, it also applies in reverse. So where there are major unresolved objections against an emerging Local Plan policy, even if that policy is at an advanced stage of preparation, then that emerging policy should be given lesser weight in the decision-making process. I think it would be hard to argue that Ampleforth Parish Council's objection to the designation of the village as a Service Village was not a major unresolved objection in this context. As such therefore the Local Plan Strategy's current designation of Ampleforth as a Service Village should be given lesser weight, **until the Inquiry Inspector has concluded his report.**

I should make it clear that this **strong objection** relates to the due process that needs to be followed at the current time. Should Ampleforth subsequently be confirmed as a Service Village then this application could legitimately be judged on its other aspects such as siting, layout, design and potential impacts (landscape, neighbour, ecology, highways, etc). As it currently stands however, it is difficult to draw any conclusion other than that the applicant is attempting to slide this proposal through under the radar before the Inquiry Inspector has ruled on what status Ampleforth should have in the Ryedale Local Plan Strategy, which consequently will determine the amount and type of new housing development that will be permitted in the village.

Yours sincerely



P B JACKSON  
AONB MANAGER

## Alison Jones

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 25 September 2012 10:20  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 12/00808/HOUSE: erection of extension and raising of roof height; Gilling  
**Importance:** High

I visited this site today and have the following comments to make:

1. On the whole, I don't find any architectural merit in this scheme and feel that it would have a significantly detrimental impact on the landscape of the AONB, being situated as it is on the edge of Gilling village. For that reason it should be Refused.
2. The current building is of no architectural merit, but is acceptable in the streetscene due to its low roof line and associated planting. To raise the roof height (thereby creating an ill-proportioned building with a roof pitch and roof/wall ratio significantly at odds with adjacent buildings), whilst at the same time introducing a large expanse of window glass, would I believe significantly impact on the AONB.
3. The proposed ridge height is compared to the nearby Woodland View, and is lower than that. Having been a resident of Gilling at the time that Woodland View was built, I can however confirm that it caused significant adverse comment in the village due to the floor level being some 1-1.5m above natural ground level (in order to give a view over the front wall from the ground floor windows).
4. Woodland View should therefore be seen as an anomaly, rather than as a benchmark against which future development is measured. As an indication of this, the site now occupied by Oakside Cottage was subject to numerous applications (and rejected Appeals) for large houses, before the current dwelling was Approved.
5. Experience of recent schemes to create large windows such as proposed in this scheme indicates that they do not sit well in the AONB landscape. The reflection from them is disproportionate and draws the eye to the discordant element that they create. Of course, to work best they need to be take advantage of open views, which then brings them into conflict with AONB objectives (as currently covered by NPPF para. 14/Footnote 9, NPPF 115 and Ryedale Plan ENV2).
6. In conclusion: Although of modern origin Woodland View and Oakside Cottage are at least relatively sympathetic in design terms with more traditional buildings in Gilling. The large area of window glass and the shallow roof pitch proposed by this scheme would not harmonise with any of the existing dwellings that currently form the external edge of this part of Gilling.
7. It should be noted that my comments relate principally to the eastern elevation of the proposed scheme - I have no real objection to the western elevation (as it is internal-facing), but it's hard to see how that could be retained whilst creating a more acceptable eastern aspect (and a building that overall appeared balanced).

Paul Jackson  
Howardian Hills AONB Manager  
The Mews, Wath Court  
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**Alison Jones**

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 28 September 2012 17:41  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00761/HOUSE

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 5:37 PM on 28 Sep 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### **Application Summary**

**Reference:** 12/00761/HOUSE  
**Address:** Spring Cottage Main Street Ampleforth Helmsley YO62 4DA  
**Proposal:** Erection of single storey detached home office building within the domestic curtilage  
**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson  
[Click for further information](#)

### **Comments Details**

**Comments:** I visited the site on 27th September, including viewing from the south east at Gilling, and have the following comments to make: 1) I would wish to Object to the application, on the grounds of impact on the AONB landscape and over-development of the site. 2) The previously approved application (11/00754/HOUSE) has been completed and it shows that Spring Cottage occupies a relatively visible, open situation at the eastern end of Ampleforth village. Unlike much of the rest of the village it is not screened by amenity planting on its southern side. 3) One of the most noticeable aspects of the extension is the area of glass created by the new french doors that have been installed. 4) The proposed home office building will have a relatively substantial footprint when compared to the single storey extension. It will also have an unbroken glass 'wall' approximately 4m by 2m high on its southern aspect. Given the size and design I feel that this, when viewed in combination with the extension, constitutes both over-development and a detrimental impact on the AONB landscape. 5) I am also extremely unhappy with the applicant's justification for the proposed building. In the application for the extension (11/00754/HOUSE) it states "My client is a writer and requires an attached study area that can be separated from the main house". Approval for that proposal was granted, on that basis. 6) Now we get "My client is a writer and requires a dedicated study area that can be separated from the main house." 7) My suggestion is that the applicant should have thought better in the first place

about what they required, instead of assuming that development for twin purposes would be permitted, which could then be used for a sole purpose and a further application submitted. 8) In my view the aspiration for a dedicated study area has been achieved via the implementation of the extension, and the proposed separate home office building is of a size, location and design such as to have an unacceptable impact on the AONB landscape.



**Alison Jones**

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 25 October 2012 15:28  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Cc:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** FW: Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00879/AGNOT

-----Original Message-----

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk [mailto:dm@ryedale.gov.uk];  
**Sent:** 28/09/2012 18:04:16  
**To:** Paul Jackson [mailto:Paul.Jackson@northyorks.gov.uk];  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 12/00879/AGNOT

Mr Paul Jackson,

You have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a consultee comment on a Planning Application to your local authority using your email address. A summary of your comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 6:00 PM on 28 Sep 2012 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### **Application Summary**

**Reference:** 12/00879/AGNOT  
**Address:** Knoll Hill Farm Carr Lane Ampleforth Helmsley YO62 4DL  
**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural storage building  
**Case Officer:** Elizabeth Walker  
[Click for further information](#)

### **Comments Details**

**Comments:** I visited the site on 26th September and have the following comments to make: 1) I would wish to Object to the siting and materials proposed in this application. 2) The site, on an extremely prominent knoll when viewed from the east, would have a significantly adverse impact on the AONB landscape. The alignment and height of the building are such that it would have a much greater impact than the current building. I do not believe that the impact could be satisfactorily mitigated by the proposed planting of a hedge (should of course it ever be implemented - see point 6 below). 3) The ridge height of the new building, although perhaps on paper less than 1m greater than that of the existing building, would be considerably more on the site itself, due to the difference in ground levels over the site. 4) It is difficult to see where an additional building of this size could be satisfactorily accommodated in this location. The only possible alternative I can offer is to the west of the access gate, along the roadside hedge, although this would require substantial works to alter ground levels. It would also require both painting of the concrete plinth

panels in a dark grey colour and screening landscaping on the south side. 5) Although currently unauthorised, I would prefer to see a Notification based around retention and screening of the shipping containers (or structures of similar dimensions), as I believe that this would offer a significantly less intrusive option. 6) I am frankly astonished that an application for a new building has been submitted when Condition 01 attached to 11/01038/FUL has not been complied with. This states that "Within five months of the date of this approval (31/1/12) the roof of the lean-to building hereby approved shall be painted dark grey. The roof shall be permanently retained in that condition...." 7) There has been no attempt to comply with this Condition, which was a result of my Objection to that application originally. Enforcement action should therefore be pursued as a matter of urgency, in order to secure improvement of what continues to be a significant visual intrusion in the AONB landscape, and no further development should be considered until full compliance has been achieved.