

## HOWARDIAN HILLS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

### JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Venue: **Hovingham Village Hall**

Date: **14<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 10.00am**

#### Business

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Joint Advisory Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014  
(Pages 1 to 6)
3. AONB Unit Activity  
(Pages 7 to 35)
4. JAC Planning Consultations  
(Pages 36 to 78)
5. Presentation on the LEADER Local Development Strategy:  
Amy Thomas - Programme Manager
6. AONB Indicators  
(Pages 79 to 83)
7. Business Planning For The Future  
(Pages 84 to 86)
8. AONB Budget  
(Pages 87 to 99)
9. National Association for AONBs (NAAONB) - Activity Update  
(Pages 100 to 102)
10. Reports from Partner Organisations (Oral reports)
11. Date of next JAC meeting
12. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency



**Hovingham Village Hall, YO62 4LF - Road Map**

Map scale: Scale 1/24525  
 Date: Date 28/1/2009  
 Created by: JD  
 Grid Ref: Centre = 467577 E 476337 N



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### Hovingham Village Hall, YO62 4LF - Street Map

Map scale: Scale 1/6130  
 Date: Date 28/1/2009  
 Created by: JD  
 Grid Ref: Centre = 466937 E 475624 N

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## Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

### Joint Advisory Committee

The Minutes of the meeting held at Gilling Village Hall on 3 April 2014, commencing at 10.00 am.

**Present:-**

**Members:-**

Hambleton District Council: Councillor Christine Cookman in the Chair

North Yorkshire County Council: Councillor Clare Wood

Ryedale District Council: Councillor Robert Wainwright

Parish Councils: Stephen Gibson (Ryedale)

Country Land & Business Association:- William Worsley

Natural England: Rosy Eaton (substitute for Justine Clark)

**Officers:**

Howardian Hills:- Paul Jackson, Liz Bassindale and Maggie Cochrane

North Yorkshire County Council:- Jane Wilkinson (Sec), Ian Fielding (Waste & Countryside Services)

Hambleton District Council: Graham Banks

**By Invitation:**

Fraser Hugill – Campaign For The Farmed Environment

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

**17. Apologies for Absence**

Were submitted on behalf of Graham Megson and Councillor Caroline Patmore (North Yorkshire County Council), David Pontefract (Parish Councils Hambleton), Paula Craddock (Ryedale District Council) and Justine Clark and Nancy Stedman (Natural England).

**18. Minutes**

**Resolved –**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2013, having been previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**19. Matters Arising**

Minute No 15 – Use of AONB Office as “touch-down” space

It was reported that discussions between the parties had reached a consensus that for a number of reasons it would not be practical for staff from Natural England to use the AONB office as a “touch down” space.

## Minute No 15 –Hambleton District Council – Survey of Listed Buildings In AONB

The AONB Manager confirmed receipt of the survey results which he had used to inform the review of the AONB Management Plan.

### Wiganthorpe Wall Scackleton

Stone from Robin Hoods Bay was to be used to replace the missing top stones.

## **20. AONB Unit Activity**

Considered –

The joint report of AONB Officers and the RAY Community Projects Officer detailing their activities and the progress achieved by the Unit during the period November – March 2013/14.

A slideshow of photographs of completed and on-going projects referred to in the report that included countryside management works, community projects, volunteer activity, Rural:Urban schools twinning project and Junior Ranger Club days was shown at the meeting. Photographs showing the restoration of Gilling Village Hall, the venue of the meeting that day, were also on display in the meeting room. The village hall had in the past been a recipient of AONB grant funding and Members were advised that the monies awarded had contributed towards the cost of installing ground source heating.

The Chairman commended completed and on-going dry-stone walling projects which she said would be appreciated by future generations.

The AONB Manager responded to a number of questions about the cost of education projects and assured the Committee that in response to budget cuts steps had been taken to minimise capital expenditure and that the current programme represented very good value for money. He did not consider that the Unit's involvement in educational activities detracted from its countryside management works. He acknowledged the inevitability of future austerity measures and against this background and the comments made at the previous meeting undertook to keep the situation under review.

William Worsley commented that since its inception 20 years ago the AONB through its countryside management works had had a significant positive impact on the local landscape. He asked whether the AONB Manager was able to quantify the extent of the outstanding work that remained and if he had a 'wish list' of projects he would like to see completed.

The AONB Manager replied saying it was very difficult to measure success in these terms. Changes to government grant schemes presented new opportunities. The challenge was how to achieve AONB objectives within this framework. The work carried out by the Unit had significantly improved the local landscape fabric. Personally he would like to see the completion of further dry stone walling projects but these were very expensive. He considered the AONB should look to focus on habitat management projects as this was an area where grant funding was increasingly available.

Councillor Wood expressed a view that it was important for the AONB to maintain a 'wish list' of projects. She supported the continuance of on-going countryside management works because of the positive impact they had on the landscape. She emphasised that financial pressures were set to continue and balancing budgets in the future would become increasingly difficult. Against this background she

emphasised the need for the AONB Unit to adopt a strategic view and prioritise future areas of work as otherwise there was a danger it could spread itself too thinly.

The AONB Manager accepted her comments and drew Members attention to paragraphs 2.13 and 2.14 in his covering report which described the latest budget situation.

**Resolved –**

That the content of the report and the information provided at the meeting be noted.

**21. The Campaign for the Farmed Environment**

The Committee received a presentation from Fraser Hugill, Yorkshire & North East Regional Co-ordinator on the work of the Campaign For the Farmed Environment.

The Campaign with support from a wide range of organisations was aimed at encouraging and supporting farmers and land managers to protect and enhance the environmental value of their farmland through measures that sat alongside productive agriculture. Various leaflets giving advice on different aspects of conservation and recommended voluntary measures and their associated benefits were tabled at the meeting.

Members interested in receiving details of local events organised by the Campaign were invited to subscribe to a mailing list details of which were provided at the meeting.

William Worsley commented that the voluntary industry-led approach adopted by the Campaign had proved both popular and successful and commended the work of the local delivery team.

The Chairman thanked Fraser Hugill for an interesting and informative presentation.

**NOTED**

**22. Development within the AONB**

Considered -

The report of the AONB Manager presenting details of planning applications determined within the AONB during 2013. Appended to the report was a list of planning applications divided into development type and parish.

Members noted that despite a small increase in the number of applications submitted the figures for 2013 remained comparable with the average for the previous five years.

Members briefly discussed the merits of wind farms and what constituted a definition of a wind-farm within the confines of AONB boundaries.

**Resolved -**

That the report be noted.

**23. AONB Action Programme 2013/14**

Considered -

The report of the AONB Manager on progress achieved implementing the AONB Management Plan during 2013/14.

In accordance with Members instructions full details of progress against 2013/14 targets had been circulated prior to the meeting. Overall Members noted that performance against Management Plan objectives was slightly better than the previous year.

**Resolved -**

That progress against Management Plan targets for 2013/14 is noted.

**24. AONB Business Plan and Action Programme 2014/15**

Considered -

The report of AONB Manager inviting the Committee to endorse proposed activity so as to implement the AONB Management Plan during 2014/15.

The AONB Manager prefaced his introduction of the report by saying that Government grant schemes had during the last five/ten years remained fairly static but that this was no longer the case and all were now in a state of flux. Consequently the AONB Unit would need to review how it operated in future so that it remained able to achieve Management Plan objectives.

In response to questions from Members the AONB Manager said he anticipated receiving further details about the new schemes during May following which discussions would be held to determine where resources would best be focused.

Whilst concerned about this lack of certainty Members all agreed it was important for the AONB Unit to be realistic and to take steps to ensure that its future plans were based on having a reduced budget.

The AONB Manager said the situation was extremely fluid and he hoped the position would be clearer when he next reported to the Committee in November.

Ian Fielding said that following the meeting he would speak to the AONB Manager about how best to make plans in anticipation of various possible scenarios.

**Resolved -**

That the targets for 2014/15 as contained in the Action Programme be approved.

**25. AONB Management Plan Review**

Considered -

The report of the AONB Manager describing work completed during the review of the AONB Management Plan and anticipated next steps.

The AONB Manager said he hoped he had developed a structure that would make it easier to review the Management Plan in the future.

Members expressed their appreciation for the Plan's new shorter format

**Resolved -**

That the progress achieved and next steps as detailed in the report be noted.

## **26. National Association for AONBs Activity**

The Committee received for information a copy of National Association for AONBs latest e-newsletter (February 2014).

The AONB Manager drew Members attention to the paragraph on 'Maximising Revenue for Protected Landscapes'. He said that senior Defra officials had been lobbied about how difficult it was for AONBs to get external funding for everyday core work. Consequently the Maximising Revenue for Protected Landscapes study had recently been launched and it was gratifying that the work done by the NAAONB had helped shape such a positive result. County Councillor Clare Wood endorsed the comments of the AONB Manager and commended the work done by the NAAONB,

The AONB Manager agreed to circulate to Members a link to Maximising Revenue for Protected Landscapes study when available.

### **NOTED**

## **27. Reports from Partner Organisations**

### Parish Councils Ryedale

A number of wooden directional PROW signs within the AONB were reported as being in need of repair/replacement.

It was explained that maintenance of PROW signs was the responsibility of the County Council's Countryside Services. All defects reported would initially be logged and repair works initiated in accordance with the County Council's PROW maintenance priority criteria. Current financial pressures meant that the County Council was unable to guarantee repairs would be carried out to routes other than those identified as being a priority.

On behalf of landowners and tenant farmers William Worsley said many of them would be willing to assist and/or carryout necessary repair works.

In response to a request the AONB Officer agreed to send the grazing programme for Exmoor ponies.

### Hambleton District Council

The Council had embarked upon a partial review of the Local Development Framework. Consultation was underway and a workshop for elected members was due to be held.

### Ryedale District

A legal challenge to the Council's Core Strategy had now been withdrawn. Work on site selection was about to commence and the final document was due to be approved by Full Council in January 2015.

A request was made for the Minutes and agenda papers of the JAC Committee to be made available to the Council for wider distribution and publication on its web-site. The Secretary agreed to supply copies to both Ryedale and Hambleton District Councils.



### Natural England

Restructure of the local area management team was now complete. The five strong team headed by David Shaw was responsible for South & North Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. Christine Robertson was the new team leader of the land management scheme that included North Yorkshire. Details of the new local delivery model were still being worked on and it was not anticipated they would be finalised for another few months.

### North Yorkshire County Council

The strategy for the North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Partnership the subject of consultation before Christmas was about to be adopted. LNPs were designed to help their local area manage the environment. Ian Fielding offered to do a presentation on the work of the LNP at the next meeting.

The County Council was in the process of recruiting four Volunteer Task Leaders. The new Volunteer Task Leaders would enable the County Council to improve the management of volunteers, as they would be taking on a variety of tasks currently done by paid staff. The new Task Leaders would work with the AONB Manager coordinating AONB volunteers to ensure maximum efficiency.

## **28. Dates of Future JAC Meetings**

### **Resolved -**

- (1) That the date of the annual site visit is Friday 25 July 2014.
- (2) That the date and time of the next meeting of the Joint Advisory Committee is Friday 14 November 2014 at 10.00am at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting concluded at 12.30pm.

JW/JR

**HOWARDIAN HILLS  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY  
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
14 NOVEMBER 2014**

**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 2014.

**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 Officers and AONB Assistant in the period April 2014 to November 2014.
- 2.2 The final budget outturn for 2013/14 is detailed in a separate report on the Agenda. The final contribution payment has been received from Defra.
- 2.3 Work on countryside management has been proceeding. Our regular annual habitat management work on specific SINC sites has taken in two additional sites this year, whilst a sixth year of Himalayan balsam control has been completed on Wath Beck. A visually significant wall restoration project, continuing on from work carried out last year, has been completed near Brandsby and a number of projects to plant individual in-field and boundary trees are fully prepared and awaiting the winter planting season. Full details of the grants offered and projects initiated are contained in Appendix 2.
- 2.4 The Sustainable Development Fund has allocated £15,100 of its £17,500 budget. Full details of the grants offered are contained in Appendix 2.
- 2.5 The number of planning applications scrutinised has been c.70% higher than in the corresponding period in 2013/14. Whilst many of them have not needed significant input or comments, the simple number of them, and a few cases that have needed significant input, has made this a major area of work for the AONB Manager in the last 6 months. The types of development have been very varied, with the most significant cases being proposals for a replacement dwelling at Kirkham, a 2-storey glazed extension in Welburn, 500 houses on the western edge of Malton and a new farmstead outside Gilling. The 3D seismic survey and fears over 'fracking' have also generated significant numbers of enquiries from residents. Appendix 3 gives details of the Consultations that the JAC has received this financial year.
- 2.6 A number of new or updated schemes will come into force in 2015, most notably a new LEADER Programme and a replacement agri-environment scheme. Attendance at workshops and other events over the last six months has ensured that the best available opportunities for AONB communities and land managers are incorporated into the development of the new schemes. Work has also been undertaken progressing the Local Growth Plan developed by the four Protected Landscapes and submitted to the Local Enterprise Partnership to assist implementation of their Strategic Economic Plan.

- 2.7 The Rural:Urban schools project, twinning AONB schools with ones in York and Hull and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund only for 2014, has completed its final year. Six Round 4 twinning visits have been completed to finish the programme, and the final Reports and grant claim have been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund. These have been approved and payment is awaited.
- 2.8 Three Junior Ranger Club sessions have been held in conjunction with Howsham Mill and the Castle Howard Arboretum, in the April, May and October half-terms. Details of the attendance at the Junior Ranger Club events already held are contained in Appendix 4.
- 2.9 The RAY Community Projects Officer has continued to work with a number of local communities to both prepare and implement Parish Plans. A full list of the work carried out by the RAY officer in the AONB is attached as part of Appendix 1.
- 2.10 The print and web versions of the new AONB Management Plan have been prepared. The web documents have been uploaded and copies of the print version will be given to JAC Members at the meeting.
- 2.11 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, and is also being appraised for a low-cost refresh to improve its appearance and minimise future maintenance requirements.
- 2.12 The last three 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary log seats have been installed, at Hovingham, Crayke and Oulston. These took slightly longer than expected, as it was necessary to wait until hay/silage had been cut before driving over the grass fields needed to gain access.
- 2.13 The latest edition of the AONB Newsletter was prepared in September and distributed in the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> October. The JAC's Annual Report is substantially completed and is due to be produced and circulated in late 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 Penrith in July. With a changed format and more practical sessions being held, the event was attended for different parts by the JAC Chairman, AONB Manager and AONB Officer.
- 2.15 Work has also progressed on business planning for the future: exploring the issue of possible office re-location; improving the efficiency of the project funding mechanisms; and developing a project for work on Scheduled Monuments that will also include a payment towards officer costs.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the report be noted.

## AONB MANAGER'S REPORT 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014 – 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014

Work during this period has principally consisted of:

- Annual Close-down of accounts.
- Claim for Defra grant payment.
- Thoughts around potential NYCC budget cuts and consequent impact on AONB Unit/activities.
- Rural:Urban Schools Twinning budget issues.
- Project planning for 2014/15.
- Development meetings, webinars, workshops, etc for new schemes – NELMS, LEADER Local Development Strategy.
- Planning application consultation responses – 70% more consultations than in both Q1 and Q2 2013/14.
- Responding to major projects happening in the AONB – seismic survey, restoration of the Castle Howard Avenue, experimental lowering of the River Derwent, extensive hedgerow removal near Sproxton.
- Rural:Urban Schools Twinning – preparing evidence for the claim to Heritage Lottery Fund.
- Preparing the Management Plan for printing.
- Developing potential efficiency improvements in the delivery of the AONB grant schemes.
- Considering how a project to manage Scheduled Monuments in the AONB might attract funding from English Heritage.
- Annual Leave.

### MEETINGS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26<sup>th</sup> March – NELMS/LNPs webinar.</li> <li>• 27<sup>th</sup> March – Ryedale/Scarborough/HHAONB BAP workshop, Pickering.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> April – Pre-Application planning advice meeting.</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> April – JAC meeting.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> April – LEADER Steering Group, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Northern Powergrid RIIO-1 Undergrounding Steering Group, Northallerton.</li> <li>• 24<sup>th</sup> April – AONB Partnership Group meeting, Hovingham.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> May – LEADER Group pre-meeting.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> May – Team brainstorm on work area priorities.</li> <li>• 14<sup>th</sup> May – Biodiversity &amp; Climate Change Vulnerability Model webinar.</li> <li>• 15<sup>th</sup> May – KIT meeting with Ian Fielding (phone).</li> <li>• 20<sup>th</sup> May – Quarterly Work Programme meeting.</li> <li>• 21<sup>st</sup> May – BARS2 webinar.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> June – LEADER Steering Group, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 11<sup>th</sup> June – NYCC Chief Executive's briefing, County Hall.</li> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> June – LNP Board meeting, County Hall.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19<sup>th</sup> June – Core Partners Group - cancelled.</li> <li>• 26<sup>th</sup> June – RDC and NYCC – AONB responses to planning application consultations.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> July – NELMS Update teleconference.</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Minerals &amp; Waste Joint Plan meeting, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> July – NYCC Ranger and Volunteer Task Leader – future work programme in AONB.</li> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> July – Native Woodland Development/LEADER discussions, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> July – NET Team meeting.</li> <li>• 15<sup>th</sup> July – LNP NELMS Validation workshop, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 16<sup>th</sup> July – LEP/Tourism initiatives update, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 17<sup>th</sup> July – Promotion of Ryedale and HHAONB by Visit York, York.</li> <li>• 21<sup>st</sup> July – NELMS Validation workshop teleconference.</li> <li>• 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Discussing woodland management and planning applications, Ampleforth Abbey.</li> <li>• 25<sup>th</sup> July – JAC site visit.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> August – LEADER Steering Group, Helmsley.</li> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> August - Planning application site visits – High Malton project, Low Hutton.</li> </ul> |
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- 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Quarterly Work Programme meeting.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> September – HLS project to restore Castle Howard Avenue, Castle Howard.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> September – River Derwent trial lowering drop-in exhibition, Malton.
- 9<sup>th</sup> September – YWT, re HLF grant claim.
- 11<sup>th</sup> September – LNP Board meeting, County Hall.
- 12<sup>th</sup> September – NYM area Roadmap meeting, York.
- 24<sup>th</sup> September – Core Partners Group.
- 7<sup>th</sup> October – NET meeting, County Hall.
- 9<sup>th</sup> October – LEADER Steering Group, Helmsley.
- 15<sup>th</sup> October – Ian Conlan, re Swinton area traffic survey linked to High Malton planning application.
- 16<sup>th</sup> October – Ryedale PROW Local Liaison Group, Helmsley.
- 16<sup>th</sup> October – Ian Crane lecture on Fracking.
- 17<sup>th</sup> September – LEP meeting re Protected Landscapes Local Growth Plan, Harrogate.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Northern Powergrid electricity undergrounding Steering group, Northallerton.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October – National Grid Visual Impact Provision Project update, Northallerton.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October – JAC Chairman – various matters.
- 4<sup>th</sup> November – NET meeting.

Project round-up meetings with Liz and Rebecca.  
Monthly AONB Team meetings.

#### NAAONB

- 30<sup>th</sup> April – Northern Group AONBs Lead Officers' meeting, Nidderdale AONB.
- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Northern Group AONBs meeting/field visit, Nidderdale AONB.
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July – NAAONB Conference, Penrith.
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July – NAAONB stand at CLA Game Fair.

#### FUTURE MEETINGS

- 14<sup>th</sup> November – JAC meeting.
- 26<sup>th</sup> November – Quarterly Work Programme meeting.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> December – LEP meeting re Protected Landscapes Local Growth Plan, Harrogate.
- 4<sup>th</sup> December – LNP Board, County Hall.
- 18<sup>th</sup> December – Core Partners Group.

Project update meetings with Liz and Rebecca.  
Monthly AONB Team meetings.

#### FUTURE NAAONB

- 20<sup>th</sup> November – NAAONB AGM & Chairmen's Conference, London.

#### SITE VISITS

- 27<sup>th</sup> March - Planning application site visit, Kirkham.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Planning application site visit, Newburgh.
- 7<sup>th</sup> May – Yearsley, Hovingham; bracken cutting task for volunteers.
- 28<sup>th</sup> May – Log seats locations; Crayke and Oulston.
- 28<sup>th</sup> May – Assessment of landscape impact of 400KV overhead lines, Crayke and Husthwaite.
- 28<sup>th</sup> May – Planning applications site visit, Cawton.
- 29<sup>th</sup> May – Bracken cutting, Hovingham.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Planning application site visit, Oswaldkirk.
- 24<sup>th</sup> June – Planning application site visits – Musley Bank, Whitwell.
- 1<sup>st</sup> July – Planning application site visit – High Malton project.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Planning application site visits – Oswaldkirk, Sproxton x 2.
- 11<sup>th</sup> July – bracken cutting, round barrow in Hovingham High Wood.
- 14<sup>th</sup> July - Planning application site visit – Scackleton.
- 31<sup>st</sup> July – taking photos for Management Plan publication – Hovingham, Terrington.
- 13<sup>th</sup> July – Seismic survey in operation, with Tesla Exploration Ltd Permit Officer.
- 14<sup>th</sup> August – Planning application site visits – Yearsley x 2, Grimston, Gilling (NYCC Highways), Dalby, Scackleton.
- 14<sup>th</sup> August – Bracken cutting, round barrows in Hovingham High & South Woods.
- 11<sup>th</sup> September – Planning application site visits – Yearsley, Sproxton.

- 16<sup>th</sup> September – River Derwent trial lowering, observations taken at Malton, Low Hutton, Jeffry Bog & Kirkham.
- 16<sup>th</sup> September – Planning application site visits – Welburn x 2.
- 17<sup>th</sup> September – Planning application site visit – Nunnington.
- 25<sup>th</sup> September – Planning application site visit, Musley Bank.
- 13<sup>th</sup> October – Planning application site visit, Easthorpe.

#### FUTURE SITE VISITS

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#### PROJECTS

- Preparing April JAC meeting papers.
- Upgrading of office internet connection.
- 2013/14 Financial Year close-down of Accounts.
- Submission of final 2013/14 Defra grant claim.
- Completed installation of the remaining 3 log seats – Crayke, Oulston, Scackleton.
- Preparing new AONB Management Plan for formal printing.
- Preparation of material for promotional campaign with Visit York.
- Completion and submission of HLF grant claim for Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project.
- Printing and distribution of formal version of the new AONB Management Plan.
- Preparation of JAC papers.
- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR LIST OF PROJECTS GRANT AIDED

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

#### CONSULTATIONS

- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR FULL DETAILS OF CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED.

#### COMMUNITIES

- 7<sup>th</sup> May – Evening talk to Oldstead Parish Meeting.

#### PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION

- 29<sup>th</sup> July – Ryedale Show.
- Preparation of Annual Report 2013/14.
- Preparation of Newsletter 2014.

#### FUTURE PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION

- Production & distribution of Annual Report 2013/14.

#### TRAINING

#### FUTURE TRAINING

- 10<sup>th</sup> November – Legionella, Northallerton.
- 25<sup>th</sup> November – Emergency First Aid, Easingwold.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Liz Bassindale Appraisal.
- 24<sup>th</sup> April – Maggie Cochrane Appraisal.
- 25<sup>th</sup> April – 2014/15 Appraisal.
- 28<sup>th</sup> October – Rebecca Thompson's last day on secondment from NYMNPA.
- 26<sup>th</sup> September – 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Annual Leave.
- 21<sup>st</sup> October – 6 Month Appraisal Review meeting.
- 30<sup>th</sup> October – Liz Bassindale 6 Month Appraisal Review meeting.
- 30<sup>th</sup> October – Maggie Cochrane 6 Month Appraisal Review meeting.

#### FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

- 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December – Office shutdown.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February – Annual Leave.

# AONB OFFICER'S REPORT

## 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL – 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

This report summarises the work completed over this 7 month period:

- **Projects Fund 2014/15:** Summer and early autumn projects that have been completed include churchyard conservation management, Exmoor Pony grazing of SINC sites and Himalayan balsam control. The October volunteer tasks to remove rhododendron from the Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC have taken place and further tasks are lined up through November and December.
- **SDF 2014/15:** The Rural Action Yorkshire Community Development Officer is progressing well with her work in the AONB. As well as supporting Parish Plans she has also worked with us to launch a local photography competition (which will hopefully secure us some images that we can use in our publications). Maggie has also worked with the AONB Team and the LEP to run a small business drop-in advice café in Hovingham.  
Coneysthorpe Village Hall have received a grant for insulation, lowered ceilings and secondary glazing for their village hall.  
Terrington Village Hall and Playgroup have received a grant for interpretation and improvements in their outdoor space (Howardian Hills themed).
- **LEADER:** Assisted with development and running of topic group information gathering sessions and attended Steering Group meetings. Promoted membership of the Executive for the next scheme to potentially interested people.
- **Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project:** The summer 2014 visits have been completed and the final grant claim submitted to HLF.
- **Volunteers:** Volunteers have helped to deliver the Junior Ranger and School Twinning sessions.  
They have also undertaken bracken clearance on a barrow near Hovingham and a bee orchid site in Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC, Himalayan balsam clearance at Jeffry Bog and Fairy Dell SINC and rhododendron clearance at Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC.  
The number of conservation volunteer tasks has increased thanks to NYCC taking on Volunteer Task Leaders. We are working towards a pattern of having a task every other Tuesday.  
A Duke of Edinburgh volunteer has started working with us; he is producing 'Day Out Guides' and also helped with Junior Rangers events and Ryedale Show.
- **Junior Rangers:** Sessions took place at The Yorkshire Arboretum in the Easter and October half term holidays. In May half term the Junior Rangers visited Howsham Mill for the first time. I have reviewed the activities that the group undertake and have brought the days back to the fundamentals under which they were established, ensuring that whilst fun they are also educational for the children (and parents) and that they convey a message about an important feature of the AONB.
- **Promotion, recreation and access:** Meetings have taken place with Castle Howard, Sustrans, Welcome to Yorkshire and Ryedale District Council to discuss promotion of the wider Castle Howard Estate for walking and cycling. It is likely that downloadable route-sheets will be produced and a summary map/leaflet of the recreational activities on offer in the area.
- **National AONB initiatives:** Continued development of the RGS walk route for the Howardian Hills. Attendance at Northern AONBs meeting in Nidderdale and NAAONB Conference in Penrith.

## MEETINGS

- March 27<sup>th</sup> – Pickering – Ryedale, Scarborough and Howardian Hills LBAP workshop
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Gilling East - JAC
- April 8<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley - LEADER Support Group
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – Ryedale House – LBAP Development Group
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – Foss House – NYBAG
- April 11<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Ecological surveyor
- April 11<sup>th</sup> – Northallerton – Verges meeting
- April 15<sup>th</sup> – Northallerton - NET
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Hovingham – Appraisal
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Ryedale House – LBAP Development Group
- April 24<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham - Partnership Group
- May 6<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Team brainstorm
- May 8<sup>th</sup> – Ayton – LEADER Support Group
- May 13<sup>th</sup> – Scarborough – LBAP Development Group
- May 20<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Work programme meeting
- June 24<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – LEADER development following topic groups
- June 27<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Projects Meeting
- July 1<sup>st</sup> – Foss House – LBAP Development Group
- July 10<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – LEADER Steering Group
- July 16<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – LEP Tourism update with NYMNPA
- July 17<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – River Rye Group
- July 24<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley - LEADER drop-in
- Aug 7<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – LEADER Steering
- Aug 12<sup>th</sup> – Northallerton – Natural Environment Team
- Aug 19<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – River Rye Group
- Aug 26<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – River Rye/Derwent project development meeting
- Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> – Hovingham – Work programme
- Sept 9<sup>th</sup> – York –YWT School Twinning finance for grant claim
- Sept 11<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – LEADER support group
- Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> – Helmsley – River Derwent – project brief development
- Sept 24<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Core Partners
- Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> - Helmsley – River Derwent
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – York – NYBAG
- Oct 9<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – LEADER Steering Group
- Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – Kirkbymoorside – Local development officers update
- Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Scarborough – LBAP

## Development Group

- Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham - Appraisal
- Monthly - Howardian Hills AONB Unit meeting

## FUTURE MEETINGS

- Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – NET
- Nov 14<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – JAC
- Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Work programme meeting
- Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> – Northallerton – NET
- Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – Helmsley – Development Officers
- Dec 18<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Core Partners

## SITE VISITS

- July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Jeffrey Bog SINC – brief volunteers at start of task
- July 25<sup>th</sup> – JAC site visit

## FUTURE SITE VISITS

- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – Crambeck area – Himalayan balsam sites

## PROJECTS

- March – Littledale SINC – Moorswork clearing bramble and elder
- April – Pony grazing underway
- April 24<sup>th</sup> – Crambeck – Grant check
- May 27<sup>th</sup> – Landowners and contractors contacted about Himalayan balsam cutting
- May 29<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – bracken cutting
- July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hovingham – NYCC Ranger and Volunteer Task Leader – planning meeting
- July 16<sup>th</sup> – Fairy Dell – Balsam assessment
- July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Fixed point photography
- Aug 13<sup>th</sup> – Fixed point photography
- Aug 14<sup>th</sup> – Fixed point photography
- Sept 1<sup>st</sup> – Appleton le Street Churchyard – Moorswork cut (not attended)
- Follow-up bracken cutting
- Volunteer tasks organised but not attended in full:
  - July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Jeffrey Bog SINC – Balsam clearance
  - August 5<sup>th</sup> – Fairy Dell SINC – Balsam



- clearance
- Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> – Appleton le Street Churchyard SINC – volunteer task
- Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC rhododendron
- Oct 28<sup>th</sup> – Yearsley Moor rhododendron
- Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – Yearsley Moor rhododendron
- Nov 25<sup>th</sup> – Yearsley Moor rhododendron
- Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – Activity tbc
- 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**

- Producing a calendar of tasks for the fortnightly volunteer group
- Evaluate and plan Pony Grazing programme
- Special Interest Road Verge cutting

**RECREATION/ACCESS**

- April 29<sup>th</sup> – Castle Howard – access routes promotion meeting
- May 24<sup>th</sup> – Ryedale House – Outdoors group meeting
- Offer made to contribute towards Castle Howard Wider Estate routes information in conjunction with Sustrans, Welcome to Yorkshire, Ryedale DC and Castle Howard

**FUTURE RECREATION/ACCESS**

- Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – Malton – Raising cycling in Ryedale meeting
- Complete and publish Castle Howard routes
- Complete RGS route

**COMMUNITIES**

- April 16<sup>th</sup> – Yorkshire Arboretum – Junior Rangers
- April 17<sup>th</sup> – Pickering – RAY update and planning
- April 17<sup>th</sup> – Pickering – Talk to Sight

- Support Ryedale and follow-up meeting
- May 28<sup>th</sup> – Howsham Mill – Junior Rangers
- May 29<sup>th</sup> – Arboretum – Community Development Officer projects planning
- July 30<sup>th</sup> – Arboretum - Planning October Junior Rangers session
- Sept 25<sup>th</sup> – Slingsby – Hovingham Parishes meeting (evening)
- Oct 11<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham - Small business support event
- Oct 21<sup>st</sup> – Arboretum – Junior Rangers prep and fungi ID training
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup> – Yorkshire Arboretum – Junior Rangers

**FUTURE COMMUNITY WORK**

- Nov 27<sup>th</sup> – Dishforth – Stronger Communities
- Feb 18<sup>th</sup> – Yorkshire Arboretum – Junior Rangers
- Feb 24<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – Work programme
- Build on links with schools, parishes and community groups.

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION**

- May & June – Schools twinning display at Howsham Mill
- June 24<sup>th</sup> – Malton – Outdoors Group – promotion and publicity
- July 4<sup>th</sup> – Howsham Mill – collecting twinning display and future ideas
- July 17<sup>th</sup> – Arboretum – Photo competition meeting
- Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – Arboretum – meet Gazette reporter for photo competition story
- Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hovingham – Day out guides meeting with student volunteer
- AONB Photography Competition – being run in partnership with Rural Action Yorkshire – media promotion and promote to communities
- AONB Photography competition – info emailed to 14 camera clubs
- Work on the AONB website – events listings and news stories
- AONB Newsletter produced. Distributed October.

## FUTURE PUBLICITY/INTERPRETATION

- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – Ampleforth – Evening talk
- March 18<sup>th</sup> – Photo competition exhibition launch

## EDUCATIONAL/RAISING AWARENESS

- April 17<sup>th</sup> – Pickering – Sight Support Ryedale talk
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Bainton – School twinning Project Officer meeting
- May 7<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham – School twinning volunteers training
- School twinning visits (I attended some of these):
  - May 20<sup>th</sup> – Cottingham to Welburn (AONB)
  - June 4<sup>th</sup> – Amotherby to Hall Road (Hull)
  - June 12<sup>th</sup> – Sheriff Hutton to Ings (Hull)
  - June 20<sup>th</sup> - St Benedict's to Wansbeck (Hull)
  - June 24<sup>th</sup> - Crayke to Tang Hall (York)
  - June 26<sup>th</sup> – Hovingham to Neasden (Hull)
  - July 15<sup>th</sup> – Foston and Terrington (AONB)
- HLF grant claim submitted September 2014
- July 29<sup>th</sup> – Welburn – Ryedale Show
- Oct 31<sup>st</sup> – Hovingham – A level student – working in conservation/voluntary opportunities
- Continue to develop projects with local schools through working with them both in their school grounds and on field-trips.

## FUTURE EDUCATION/AWARENESS

- Developing the skills of the Volunteers on a variety of tasks including Educational Activities, Community Events and Habitat Management.

## TRAINING

- May 21<sup>st</sup> – Webinar – BARS2
- June 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> – York – First Aid
- Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Helmsley – Ancient trees training

## FUTURE TRAINING

## MISCELLANEOUS

- May 1<sup>st</sup> – Nidderdale AONB – Northern Group
- May 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> – Carried forward annual leave
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 17<sup>th</sup> – Annual leave
- July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – Newton Rigg - NAAONB Conference
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual leave

## FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

- Oct 19<sup>th</sup> – Appleton le Street – NYCC Volunteers Social

# AONB OFFICER'S REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2014 – 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2014

Work during this period has principally consisted of:

- Completion of two walling projects at High Farm, Brandsby, a hedge planting project at High Oak Farm, Oswaldkirk and a hedge planting project at Low Lions Lodge, Ampleforth.
- Developing a hedge planting project with Newburgh Priory Estate and a tree planting project at Throstle Nest Farm, Sproxton.
- Securing the planting of native black poplar at Thorn Tree Farm, Coulton, Throstle Nest Farm, Sproxton and Ampleforth Abbey & College.
- Commissioning a contract for the refurbishment of a further 4 signs.
- Reformatting 3 Terrington walk leaflets to be presented in an A4 down-loadable format.
- Assessing the threats to monuments listed on the Scheduled Monuments at Risk Register in order to determine priorities for future survey/remedial work.
- Continued development of a walk to be included in the RGS 'Discovering Britain' suite of walk routes.
- Seeking quotes from contractors for 'standard costs' for spraying bracken and woody regrowth.
- Compiling a list of grid references of traditional direction signs for inclusion on the National Street Gazetteer.
- Continued rationalisation of project files & digitisation of past projects.

## MEETINGS

- 6<sup>th</sup> May – Pre-Work Programme Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> May - Quarterly Work Programme meeting
- 1<sup>st</sup> July – Internal meeting to discuss work priorities for remainder of contract
- 15<sup>th</sup> July – Meeting with Rachel Underwood & Christopher Ridgeway to discuss RGS walk route
- 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Quarterly Work Programme meeting.
- 28<sup>th</sup> October – final hand-over meeting before end of contract

Farm and Wiganthorpe to see work in progress and Black Moor to see completed top-stones.

- 8<sup>th</sup> April – delivery of Black Poplars to Ampleforth Abbey & College.
- 10<sup>th</sup> June – visit for final inspection of first wall at High Farm, Brandsby.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July – visit to Throstle Nest Farm, Sproxton to discuss tree planting.
- 20<sup>th</sup> August – visit to High Farm, Brandsby to look at second walling work with contractor.
- 26<sup>th</sup> August – walking of proposed 8 mile RGS walk route.

## NAAONB

- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Northern AONB's Meeting in Nidderdale

## FUTURE SITE VISITS

## FUTURE MEETINGS

## FUTURE NAAONB

## PROJECTS

- 1<sup>st</sup> April – meeting with Estate Managers at Ampleforth College to discuss planting of Black Poplars. Site visits to Low Lions Lodge to inspect completed works, High

- Completion of Projects at High Farm, Brandsby, High Oak Farm, Oswaldkirk and Low Lions Lodge, Ampleforth.
- Completion of project to lay top-stones on walls at Black Moor and Wiganthorpe.
- Completion of the refurbishment of 5 traditional direction signs and commissioning a second contract for refurbishment of further 4 signs.
- Securing the planting of 25 black Black Poplars at various sites within the AONB.

- Compiling a list of grid references of all traditional direction signs within the HHAONB for inclusion on the National Street Gazetteer.
- Developing a tree planting project at Throstle Nest Farm, Sproxton.
- Developing a project to gap up a roadside hedge on the Newburgh Priory Estate.
- Quotes sought for a set of standard contractor costs for small-scale spraying of bracken and woody re-growth.
- Developing a project with Castle Howard Nursery to secure future of native Black Poplar in HHAONB.
- Assessment made of the threats to monuments listed on Scheduled Monuments at Risk register in order to prioritise future survey/work.
- Continued rationalisation of Project files and digitisation of past projects.

- Flexi leave taken on 22<sup>nd</sup> April
- TOIL accrued on 1<sup>st</sup> May taken on 13<sup>th</sup> May.
- Annual leave taken on 24<sup>th</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August.

FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

FUTURE PROJECTS

CONSULTATIONS

COMMUNITIES

PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/  
INTERPRETATION

- Continued development of a self-guided walk route to be included in the 'Discovering Britain' suite of walks, focussing on the Castle Howard Estate and its influence on the landscape.
- Re-formatting of 3 circular routes around Terrington, currently promoted as 'History and Habitat' routes, to be presented in an A4 down-loadable format.

FUTURE PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/  
INTERPRETATION

TRAINING

FUTURE TRAINING

MISCELLANEOUS

## AONB ASSISTANT'S REPORT 1 APRIL – 31 OCTOBER 2014

My main duties over the period have been:

- Lead role in planning, promotion and preparation for the Junior Rangers sessions on 16 April, 28 May and 29 October
- Assisting with delivery of Junior Rangers sessions at the Yorkshire Arboretum and Howsham Mill.
- Assisting with delivery of Schools Twinning sessions at Tang Hall School in York and Pearson Park, YWT's centre in Hull.
- Assisting with preparation of HLF claim for Schools Twinning project.
- Planning, preparation and assisting with delivery of HHAONB stand at Ryedale Show.
- Promotion of HHAONB photographic competition.
- Audit of the HHAONB website, with a view to rationalising and updating some of the content.
- General admin tasks for the unit eg taking minutes, dealing with orders, invoices, post, both incoming and out, file management.
- Handling telephone and email enquiries to the Unit and dealing with IT issues.

### MEETINGS

- 3 April – JAC meeting, Gilling VH
- 24 April – JRC planning meeting at Howsham Mill
- 1 May – Northern Group Staff meeting, Nidderdale AONB
- 20 May – Work Programme meeting
- 12 June – NET meeting, County Hall
- 8 July – NET meeting, Wath Court
- 17 July – meeting with LB and Maggie Farey re community initiatives
- 24 September – Core Partners Group meeting
- 9 October – JRC meeting at Yorkshire Arboretum
- Monthly AONB Unit meetings

### FUTURE MEETINGS

- 14 November – JAC meeting, Hovingham VH
- 26 November – Work Programme meeting
- Monthly - HHAONB Unit meetings

### SITE VISITS

- 25 July – JAC site visit, Yorkshire Arboretum and Castle Howard Avenue

### FUTURE SITE VISITS

### RECREATION/ACCESS

- Assisting with production of new walks and cycling leaflets for Castle Howard area

### FUTURE RECREATION/ACCESS

- Continued supply of walks and new cycle routes leaflets to local shops/outlets (on-going)

### COMMUNITY WORK

- Planning, promotion and preparation for JRC sessions on 16 April, 28 May and 29 October
- Assisting with delivery of JRC sessions (as above)
- 11 October – assisting with delivery of Business Day pop-up café, Hovingham

### FUTURE COMMUNITY WORK

### PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/ INTERPRETATION

- Audit and further development of Howardian Hills AONB website and links with relevant organisations
- Procurement of new HHAONB display banner
- Assisting with planning, preparation and delivery of Ryedale Show stand
- Promotion of HHAONB photographic competition

### FUTURE PROMOTION/PUBLICITY

- November – meet with website host/designers to discuss options for low-cost refresh

## EDUCATION/RAISING AWARENESS

- 24 June – Schools Twinning visit at Tang Hall School, York
- 1 July – Schools Twinning visit at Pearson Park, Hull
- Assisting with documentation for HLF claim for Schools Twinning project

## FUTURE EDUCATION/RAISING AWARENESS

## TRAINING

- 1 May – Northern Group Staff Awayday, Nidderdale AONB
- 14 October – Emergency First Aid Refresher Course, Riccall

## FUTURE TRAINING

## MISCELLANEOUS

- 24 April - Appraisal
- April - June – 6 days annual leave
- 25 August – 17 Sept Leave (part unpaid)
- 30 October – half-yearly appraisal

## FUTURE MISCELLANEOUS

- 4-6 November - Annual leave

## **Report to Howardian Hills AONB Committee: 31 March 2013 to 31 October 2014**

### **Parish Plans**

**Terrington Parish plan:** A community event was held in Terrington Village Hall on Friday 16 May 2014. Organised by the Parish Plan group and Village Hall Committee it included displays from local businesses, local organisations, the School, GP Surgery etc. The local Gardening Club gained a number of new members on the night. The results from the Parish Questionnaire were displayed and everyone attending was invited to get involved in prioritising and helping to deliver the Parish Plan Actions.

**Oswaldkirk Parish Plan:** The plan is now complete and copies are available to view on the Oswaldkirk village website, [www.oswaldkirk.org](http://www.oswaldkirk.org)

**Huttons Ambo:** The Parish Council has collated information from a short questionnaire to all households, based on 'Three things you like/Dislike about Huttons Ambo'. They have had a very good response and now looking at sending out another survey to formulate & prioritise the action plan and identify projects.

**Amotherby:** They are doing a refresh of the 2008 plan - questionnaire sent out to all households; collation of results being done at end of October 2014.

**Slingsby:** They are doing a refresh - just had first steering group meeting on 27 Oct 2014; putting together a questionnaire to distribute to all households after Christmas.

### **Other activity / contacts with HHAONB**

- Attended Slingsby Annual Meeting (14 April 2014) to discuss refreshing their Parish Plan
- Attended HHAONB Partnership Group meeting (24 April 2014) at Hovingham
- Attended Ampleforth Annual Parish Meeting (1 May 2014) to discuss updating their Parish Plan
- Attended Amotherby PC meeting to discuss updating their Parish Plan
- Worked with Terrington Steering group to plan and organise the Community event (16 May 2014)
- Attended RDC Parish Liaison meeting (11 June 2014)
- Attended Ryedale Show, joint stand with HHAONB. Promoted Photographic competition and general display on RAY services etc. Had a number of interesting discussions with visitors to the show, including questions on a number of issues including funding, village halls and local transport
- In partnership with the Local Enterprise Partnership & HHAONB organised a Business Pop up Café (11 October 2014)
- Attended Northern Ryedale Public Transport Group meetings (8 April & 12 August), with general discussion about cuts in services and possible solutions
- Hovingham Ward Parishes meetings – these are a legacy of the Community Investment Fund and meetings are currently held twice a year with representatives from the Parish Councils (Hovingham, Terrington, Slingsby & Barton Le Street (Parish Meeting)), the RDC Ward Cllr Robert Wainwright and NYCC Cllr Clare Wood. A meeting was held on 25 September at Slingsby VH with an update on activities from Liz Bassindale (HHAONB) and from RDC by Cllr Wainwright. Unfortunately a number of representatives were unable to attend for a variety of reasons. The next meeting is planned for Spring 2015, venue to be decided

Over the last six months some general enquiries have been received from HHAONB residents and groups and these have been addressed or signposted to the relevant officer or organisation.

Regular contact is maintained with the HHAONB Team either through face to face meetings, telephone or e-mail

### **Maggie Farey**

Rural Development Officer  
Rural Action Yorkshire

## AONB PROJECTS 2014/2015

1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014

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

### AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment

APPLICANT/ (CONTRACTOR)	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	JAC ASSISTANCE
K Snowball	High Farm, Brandsby	Stone supply and walling topstones to finish section of roadside wall	Zone 1 Landscape	AG2.2	£2,600	£2,600
K Snowball	High Farm, Brandsby	Repair of 40m of field wall	Zone 1 Landscape	AG2.2	£1,500	£1,200
Newburgh Priory Estate	Malton Street, Husthwaite	Gapping 75m of roadside hedge	Zone 2B Landscape	AG2.2	£450	£450

APPLICANT/ (CONTRACTOR)	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	JAC ASSISTANCE
(AONB Unit – Yorkshire Exmoor Pony Trust)	Coulton (3), Cawton (2), Terrington (2)	Conservation grazing of 7 SINCs or other important sites	Sites 1.59, 1.60, 1.41, 1.47, 1.66, 1.20	NE3.1	c.£950	c.£450
Ampleforth Abbey & College	Ampleforth	Planting 7 black poplars	-	NE4.2	£46	£28
(AONB Volunteers)	Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC	Cutting bracken on semi-improved grassland site (May)	Site 1.5	NE3.3	£125	-
(AONB Volunteers)	Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC	Cutting bracken on semi-improved grassland site (July)	Site 1.5	NE3.3	£150	-
(AONB Volunteers)	Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC	Cutting bracken on semi-improved grassland site (Aug)	Site 1.5	NE3.3	£500	-



(AONB Unit – Curlew Conservation Contractors)	Wath Beck; Terrington - Howthorpe	Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (3.5km)	Inc. Site 1.65	NE6.2	£965	£965
(AONB Unit – Countryside Services)	Wath Beck; Howthorpe - Wath	Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (2.3km)	Inc. Site 1.33	NE6.2	£932	£932
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Jeffry Bog SINC	Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam	Site 1.74	NE6.2	£500	-
Amotherby Churchyard Conservation Group	Amotherby Churchyard	Habitat management	-	NE5.1	£520	£120 (25%)
(AONB Unit – Moorswork + Volunteers)	Appleton-le-Street Churchyard SINC	Grassland management	-	NE3.1	£690	£120
(AONB Unit – Moorswork)	Amotherby Lane SINC	Grassland/scrub management	Site 1.38	NE3.1	£120	£120
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Fairy Dell SINC	Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam	Site 1.17	NE6.2	£450	-
F Hugill & R Eaton	Throstle Nest, Sproxtun	Planting 30 in-field and boundary trees	-	NE3.4	£1,310	£998
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Adj. Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC (Oct#1)	Rhododendron control	Site 1.5	NE3.3, NE6.2	£450	-
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Adj. Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC (Oct#2)	Rhododendron control	Site 1.5	NE3.3, NE6.2	£700	-
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Adj. Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC (Nov#2)	Rhododendron control	Site 1.5	NE3.3, NE6.2	£500	-
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Adj. Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC (Nov#2)	Rhododendron control	Site 1.5	NE3.3, NE6.2	£500	-

(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Adj. Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC (Dec#2)	Rhododendron control	Site 1.5	NE3.3, NE6.2	£500	-
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Adj. Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC (Dec#2)	Rhododendron control	Site 1.5	NE3.3, NE6.2	£500	-
(AONB Unit – J R Clifford & Sons)	Various	Management of 45 Special Interest Road Verges	-	NE3.1	c.£1,500	c.£1,500

### **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	HE2.5	c.£170	c.£170
(AONB Unit – P Gospel)	Mileposts	Regular maintenance	Site 2.63	HE2.5, RT4.5	c.£100	£100
<b>F Peckitt</b>	<b>North Park, Newburgh Priory</b>	<b>Erection of new fence, to bring new trees into grazed parkland</b>	<b>Site 2.15</b>	<b>HE2.5</b>	<b>£1,612</b>	<b>£806 (50%)</b>
Slingsby Local Heritage Group	Slingsby	Producing local history DVDs	-	HE1.5	£2,800	£150
<b>(AONB Unit – M Aconley)</b>	<b>Wiganthorpe Park, Scackleton</b>	<b>Stone supply and walling topstones onto 250m of Park wall</b>	<b>Site 2.92</b>	<b>HE2.5</b>	<b>£1,760</b>	<b>£1,760</b>
<b>(AONB Volunteers)</b>	<b>Hovingham</b>	<b>Cutting bracken on round barrows (May)</b>	<b>Sites 2.36 &amp; 2.37</b>	<b>HE2.5</b>	<b>£175</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>(AONB Volunteers)</b>	<b>Hovingham</b>	<b>Cutting bracken on round barrows (July)</b>	<b>Sites 2.36 &amp; 2.37</b>	<b>HE2.5</b>	<b>£150</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>(AONB Volunteers)</b>	<b>Hovingham</b>	<b>Cutting bracken on round barrows (Aug)</b>	<b>Sites 2.36 &amp; 2.37</b>	<b>HE2.5</b>	<b>£150</b>	<b>-</b>
Oswaldkirk PC	Oswaldkirk	Restore 1 traditional village name sign and install 2 new ones made in the traditional style	-	LC1.4, HE2.5	£2,900	£1,500

(AONB Unit – P Gospel)	City of Troy Maze, Dalby	Repair broken fence (damaged by local farmer)	Site 2.25	HE2.5	c.£200	£0
P Turnbull	Newburgh	Repairs to Listed traditional agricultural building	-	HE2.5	£11,000	£1,250
(AONB Unit – Cleveland Corrosion Control)	Bulmer, Firby, Howsham, Crambe	Restoration of 4 traditional direction signs	-	RT4.5	£7,800	£7,500
(AONB Volunteers)	Hovingham	Removing scrub from round barrow	Site 2.36	HE2.5	c.£300	-
(AONB Volunteers)	Oulston	Removing rhododendron from cross dyke	Site 2.12	HE2.5	c.£300	-

## Enjoying the AONB

APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	JAC ASSISTANCE
(AONB Unit – Moorswork)	Various	Litter picking (5 visits)	Sites 3.8, 3.14, 3.19	RA4.5	c.£550	c.£550
(AONB Unit – P Gospel)	Gateway signs	Strimming	-	AP1.1	£630	£630
<b>(AONB Volunteers)</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Volunteer effort on PRow in the AONB (2 people/week, every other week)</b>	-	<b>RA3.1, RA3.2</b>	<b>£1,600</b>	-
(AONB Unit)	Howardian Hills	Promotional campaign with Visit York	-	RA2.1	£5,000	£1,250
<b>(AONB Unit)</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Installing 3 x 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary log benches</b>	-	<b>AP1.3</b>	<b>£460</b>	<b>£447</b>
(AONB Volunteers)	Various	Volunteer effort – Junior Ranger Club, Ryedale Show, guided walks, PRow Condition surveying, etc.	-	IM1.3	£1,400	-
(AONB Unit)	Arboretum; Ampleforth	Junior Ranger Club	-	AP2.3	£495	£44
<b>(AONB Volunteers)</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Volunteer effort - Schools Twinning Project</b>	-	<b>AP2.3</b>	<b>£2,100</b>	-

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANTS 2014/2015

1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014

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

APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	SDF ASSISTANCE
Rural Action Yorkshire	AONB	Sustainable Rural Communities project, working with communities on community planning	-	LC1.2, LC1.3	£4,948	£3,711
Coneysthorpe VH Committee	Coneysthorpe Village Hall	Refurbishment including insulation and lowered ceilings	-	LC1.4	£11,317	£8,150
Terrington Village Hall	Village Hall	Enhancement of outdoor areas – veg growing, artwork with AAONB theme, water butts and composting facilities	-	LC1.4	£11,708	£3,480

## AONB CONSULTATIONS (SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS) 2014/2015

1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014

CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Ryedale District Council	Various	Weekly Lists of Planning Applications and Decisions	-	-	-
Hambleton District Council	Various	Weekly Lists of Planning Applications and Decisions	-	-	-
North Yorkshire County Council	Various	Weekly list of Planning Applications	-	-	-
North York Moors National Park Authority	Various	Weekly Lists of Planning Applications and Decisions	-	-	-
Forestry Commission	Various	Grants & Licences Public Register	-	-	-
Hambleton District Council	Crayke	Planning application (Change of use of garage/workshop to a dwelling)	No	Significant concerns – outside Development Limit	?
Ryedale District Council	Kirkham	Planning application (Erection of a replacement dwelling)	Yes	Object – impact on setting of designated and non-designated heritage assets	Withdrawn
Hambleton District Council	Yearsley	Planning application (Variation on Condition – change of use from agricultural to garden and erection of extension)	No	None	-
Hambleton District Council	Brandsby	Planning application (Scale of soil excavation to implement approved development, retrospective)	No	Minor	Permitted
Hambleton District Council	Newburgh	Planning application (Creation of camp site with ancillary toilets and car parking area)	Yes	Landscaping of car parking area; access	Permitted, with Condition re access
Ryedale District Council	Hildenley	Planning application (Erection of extension – revised plans)	No	None	(Permitted)

CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Ryedale District Council	Welburn	Planning application (Erection of 3 dwellings and detached garage) (Re-revised plans)	No (previously)	Object – ancillary building still at front of curtilage	Permitted
North Yorkshire County Council	Cawton	NRSWA consultation (LV underground works)	No	None	-
Forestry Commission (FE)	Coulton/Yearsley	Woodland management proposals (Felling & thinning)	No	Yes (ride widening; avoid heritage features)	All comments taken on board
Ryedale District Council	Gilling	Planning application (Change of use of agricultural barn to day centre with car parking, etc)	Yes	Significant concerns. Traffic generation; Car park needs landscaping	Permitted, with Conditions
Ryedale District Council	Welburn	Planning application (Erection of 2 holiday lodges)	Yes	Minor	Permitted
Ryedale District Council	Broughton	Agricultural Notification (Erection of new farm building)	Yes	Colour of roof sheets; landscaping needed	Permitted, with Conditions
Ryedale District Council	Welburn	Planning application (Erection of 2 houses)	Yes	Object	Refused
Ryedale District Council	Stonegrave	Planning application (Variation of Conditions, Birch Farm)	No	None	-
North Yorkshire County Council	Cawton	NRSWA consultation (Replace gullies in verge)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Little Edstone	Planning application (Erection of wind turbine 30m to hub)	No	None	(Refused)
Ryedale District Council	Ampleforth	Agricultural Notification (Erection of new farm building)	Yes	Planning permission needed?	Permitted
Ryedale District Council	Hovingham	Planning application (Erection of a dwelling – renewal of existing consent)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Cawton	Planning Application (Erection of new farm building)	Yes	Roof colour; Landscaping needed – strip of trees and shrubs	Permitted, with Conditions
Ryedale District Council	Cawton	Planning Application (Erection of new farm building)	Yes	Roof colour; Landscaping needed – triangular copse	Permitted, with Condition re roof colour

CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Ryedale District Council	Howsham	Planning Application (Demolition of garage and erection of home office)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Welburn	Planning Application (Erection of 2-storey extension, garage and stables)	Yes	Object – impact on AONB, Conservation Area and Listed Buildings	Withdrawn
Tesla Exploration Ltd	Eastern part of AONB	3D seismic survey	No	Avoid drilling shot holes in SINC's, SIRVs or buried archaeology	Confirmed those constraints already in place
Ryedale District Council	Oswaldkirk	Agricultural Notification (Erection of grain silo)	Yes	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Kirkham	Planning application (Erection of a replacement dwelling - revised)	Yes	None (scheme much improved)	(Permitted)
Ryedale District Council	Castle Howard	Planning application (Temporary siting of a holiday lodge)	No	None	(Refused)
National Grid	Western side of AONB	Visual impact of HV powerlines and possible mitigation	Yes	Two locations put forward for further study	?
Hambleton District Council	Brandsby	Planning application (Change of use of agricultural land and erection of shed)	Yes	Concerns about colour of roof materials	Permitted; roof changed to slates
Northern Powergrid	Nunnington	New u/g HV line to Nunnington Hall	No	Avoid damage to tree roots	?
Ryedale District Council	Stittenham	Planning application (Formation of ménage and installation of horse walker)	No	No spoil disposal on rigg & furrow	Permitted with Condition attached, and ditch to be restored to r+f profile
Ryedale District Council	Crambe	Planning application (Erection of a new dwelling - revised)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Whitwell	Planning application (Erection of a 12.1m wooden pole and broadband dish)	Yes	Minor (minimise removal of trees)	(Permitted)
Ryedale District Council	Musley Bank, Malton	Planning application (Erection of stabling buildings, office building, horse treadmill)	Yes	Minor – implementation of landscaping Condition	(Permitted)

CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Ryedale District Council	Hovingham	Planning application (Conversion of agricultural buildings to dwelling)	No	None	(Permitted)
Ryedale District Council	Sproxton	Planning application (Erection of replacement dwelling)	Yes	Minor	-
Ryedale District Council	Sproxton	Planning application (Erection of agricultural building)	Yes	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Oswaldkirk	Planning application (Erection of extensions)	Yes	None	-
North Yorkshire County Council	Kirkham	Extinguishment of Public Footpath	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Malton	Planning application (Erection of 500 dwellings; also employment, community and retail uses)	Yes	Object – inadequate information on potential effect on AONB and its setting	?
Natural England	Crambe	Higher Level Stewardship agreement	No	Minor	-
Ryedale District Council	Hovingham	Planning application (Erection of 3 dwellings)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Gilling	Planning application (Erection of new farmstead including agricultural workers dwelling)	Yes	Serious Reservations – justification; inadequate landscaping	Refused
Hambleton District Council	Brandsby	Planning application (Change of use of agricultural buildings to holiday cottages – extension of time limit)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Grimston	Planning application (Erection of garage/domestic annex)	Yes	Concern at height above natural ground level at northern end	Withdrawn
Hambleton District Council	Dalby	Planning application (External alterations and raising height of roof)	Yes	Concerns about glazing to apex on southern elevation	Withdrawn
North Yorkshire County Council	Terrington	DMMO to address historical mis-mapped route alignment	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Scackleton	Planning application (Erection of agricultural building)	Yes	Suggest minor landscaping to north and east	Permitted, with Condition on landscaping
Natural England	Bulmer	Higher Level Stewardship agreement	No	Support	-
Hambleton District Council	Yearsley	Planning application (External alterations and erection of garage)	Yes	None	-



CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Hambleton District Council	Yearsley	Planning application (Extensions and raising height of roof)	Yes	None	-
North Yorkshire County Council	Castle Howard Avenue	NRSWA consultation (Drainage works)	No	No damage to be done to Special Interest Road Verges	-
Ryedale District Council	Low Hutton	Planning application (Erection of frame for temporary event signs)	Yes	Frame to be painted a dark colour	Permitted, with Conditions on painting of frame and colouring of rear face of banners
Forestry Commission	East Newton	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; selective fell 1.4ha broadleaves and mixed)	No	Favour broadleaves; open out footpath near Holbeck	?
Forestry Commission	Hovingham Estate	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; 0.5ha conifer to native broadleaves; 14.1ha of 60.27ha conifer PAWS to native broadleaves)	No	Support restoration of conifer PAWS to native broadleaves; protection of specific features; buffer Coulton Fen SINC	?
Forestry Commission	Castle Howard (Arboretum)	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; 1.0ha conifer to conifer)	No	None	-
Forestry Commission	Castle Howard (Pretty Wood SINC)	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; 1.0ha conifer PAWS to conifer PAWS)	No	Restock with native broadleaves	?
Forestry Commission	Westow	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; 1.0ha broadleaves to ??)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Sproxtton	Planning application (Erection of garden shed)	Yes (in passing)	None	-
Hambleton District Council	Yearsley	Planning application (Erection of a family dwelling)	Yes	Concerns re elevated site and potential size of dwelling	Refused
Ryedale District Council	Musley Bank, Malton	Planning application (Re-roofing of stable block)	Yes	None	-

CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Ryedale District Council	Easthorpe	Planning application (Erection of extensions)	Yes	Suggest use of non-reflective glass	Permitted
Ryedale District Council	Castle Howard	Planning application (Installation of black flue to replace stainless steel)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Gilling	Planning application (Erection of new farmstead including agricultural workers dwelling – minor revision)	No	No further comments	Refused
Natural England	Scackleton	Higher Level Stewardship agreement	No	Support	-
Hambleton District Council	Oulston	Prior Notification (Change of use of agricultural building to dwelling)	No	Prior Notification process not applicable in AONB	Permitted
North Yorkshire County Council	Gilling	NRSA consultation (Kerbing behind grates)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Nunnington	Planning application (Erection of stable block)	Yes	Concerns over size, height and location	Refused
Ryedale District Council	Welburn	Planning Application (Erection of 2-storey extension, garage and stables - revised)	Yes	Still have concerns over level of glazing on first floor elevation	Permitted
Ryedale District Council	Whitwell	Planning application (Erection of two semi-detached houses)	No	None	-
Forestry Commission	Westow	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; 0.6ha conifers to ??)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Castle Howard	Planning application (Erection of 8-bay garage)	No	None	-
Ryedale District Council	Appleton-le-Street	Planning application (Erection of replacement dwelling)	No	None	-
Forestry Commission	Gilling	Woodland management proposals (Felling & re-planting; 0.8ha mixed conifer/broadleaf to ??)	Yes	Encourage PAWS reversion to native broadleaves	?
Hambleton District Council	Husthwaite	Planning application (Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling)	Yes	Object re size & scale of dwelling and highly visible location	?
Ryedale District Council	Oswaldkirk	Planning application (Sub-division and extension of dwelling to form 3 dwellings)	(in passing)	?	?

CONSULTING ORGANISATION	LOCATION	PROJECT	SITE VISIT	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
Hambleton District Council	Dalby	Planning application (Construction of replacement ancillary building – re-submission)	Yes	Continued concerns about glazing to apex on southern elevation?	?
North Yorkshire County Council	Swinton	NRSWA consultation (Drainage works)	No	Protect Special Interest Road verges	?
Hambleton District Council	Crayke	Planning application (Installation of 3 rows of ground-mounted solar PV panels)	Yes	?	?
Forestry Commission	Oswaldkirk	Woodland management proposals (Selective Felling & re-planting; 1.9ha native broadleaves to ??)	No	None	-

## **AONB CONSULTATIONS & NOTIFICATIONS (STRATEGIES, ETC) 2014/2015**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>DOCUMENT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>OUTCOME</b>
North Yorkshire County Council	North Yorkshire, York & North York Moors National Park	Minerals & Waste Joint Plan Issues & Options consultation	Various, in relation to ensuring that the AONB is safeguarded from inappropriate major developments	
(NAAONB)	England	Submission to the Commons Select Committee on 'The operation of the NPPF, two years on'.	Comments submitted	
(NAAONB)	England	Consultation on response to NELMS Co-operation option.	Comments submitted	
Ryedale District Council	Ryedale District	CIL charging schedule	None	
Rural Action Yorkshire	Yorkshire	Rural Strategy for Yorkshire	None	
(NAAONB)	England	Request for examples to show that AONBs are not 'no-go' areas for new rural development and enterprise.	Examples provided	
(NAAONB)	England	Request from Lord de Mauley for examples of good sustainable development projects in AONBs.	Examples provided	

## TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS RECEIVED 2014/2015

1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014

ORGANISATION	DOCUMENT
AONB Units	Annual Reports, Newsletters, etc

## 2014/15 Junior Ranger Club

Most of the Junior Ranger Club sessions this year have been delivered with the Education Officer from The Yorkshire Arboretum at Castle Howard.

### Easter 2014 :

Ranger Day	Activities	No of children attending
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April  The Yorkshire Arboretum	<b>Springtime fun</b> Egg marbling, pond dipping, minibeast trail, spring wordsearches, spring blossom tree pictures (spring colours), rabbits and hares, colour palettes (spring greens), spring themed iced biscuits, growing grass in CD cases (roots and shoots demo to take home).	21

### May 2014 :

Ranger Day	Activities	No of children attending
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> May  Howsham Mill	<b>Island explorers</b> Howsham Mill wordsearch, nature walk around the island, intro to the Mill and renewable energy, water wheel building team challenge, glass painting (creatures found in the River Derwent), chapatti making (linking with flour production), giant Howsham Mill collage.	15

### October 2014 :

Ranger Day	Activities	No of children attending
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October  The Yorkshire Arboretum	<b>Amazing Autumn</b> Fantastic fungi – fungi foray, spore prints, balloon fly agarics. Apple tree art – bark rubbings and apple prints. Autumn leaves – acetate framed pictures. Nuts and seeds relay. Weather – plastic bag kites, wind socks and plastic bottle rain gauges. Rain sticks. Thunder game – cloud attack. Pond dipping.	18

**Paul Jackson**

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 02 April 2014 12:55  
**To:** [planning@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:planning@hambleton.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** 14/00360/FUL: Change of use of domestic garage/workshop to a dwelling; Oak Cottage, Crayke

I have the following comments to make in respect of this application:

1. I note that the application site is outside the Development Limit for Crayke. Although the Design and Access Statement expresses great surprise that this is the case, the extent of the Development Limit was re-confirmed in 2010 as part of the Sites Allocation DPD of the Hambleton Local Development Framework. The assessment of the Development Limit is therefore relatively recent and in this location (Conservation Area, AONB) I don't believe that there are any paragraphs of the NPPF which might indicate that the Development Limit as mapped in 2010 should be set aside as a material consideration.
2. My principal concern with this application relates to the loss of an ancillary building serving a relatively large dwelling and domestic garden area. Whilst the garage may currently be under-used, if this application is Permitted then it would appear that the dwelling will have very few ancillary storage/amenity buildings, garage, etc. It is therefore not difficult to foresee, at some stage in the future, an application for a replacement garage/workshop, because with a dwelling/garden of this size one would expect to have at least a garage. This would need to be accessed from the current parking area in front of Oak Cottage, indicating that it would probably be towards the front of the domestic curtilage. The frontage along this part of Church Hill is characterised by relatively low density housing, with significant areas of green space in between, and hence a new ancillary building in such a location could have a significantly detrimental impact on the street scene of the Crayke Conservation Area.
3. In my view the location outside the Development Limit would be sufficient grounds for Refusal if the LPA was so minded, as my concerns about possible future development of a replacement building may well be difficult to factor into the decision-making process for the current application. They are however something that the LPA, and particularly the applicant, should be aware of should an application for a replacement building be submitted in the near future.

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

Tel: 0845 034 9495 / NYCC ext 6775  
 Mob: 07715 009426  
 Web: [www.howardianhills.org.uk](http://www.howardianhills.org.uk)



## Paul Jackson

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**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 02 April 2014 16:32  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00250/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 4:20 PM on 02 Apr 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00250/FUL

**Address:** The Garden Bungalow Kirkham Kirkham  
Abbey Malton YO60 7JS

**Proposal:** Erection of a three bedroom dwelling and detached garage following demolition of existing two bedroom dwelling

**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

I visited the site on 27th March and have the following observations to make: 1) Whilst at first glance the proposal appears to be relatively modest, its location on a prominent hillside within the setting of both designated and non-designated heritage assets causes I believe some significant issues. 2) The current dwelling is single storey, small in scale and has a simple roof line and stone-coloured walls. It is well-proportioned within the (non-designated) heritage asset of the walled garden and glasshouses of Kirkham Hall, giving the impression of a 'gardener's bothy'. The

**Comments:** walled garden and glasshouses form a very significant visual feature of the Kirkham Abbey area, particularly when viewed from the western side of the river/railway line. 3) When viewed from the western side of the river, by the level crossing, the dwelling sits in direct line of sight behind one of the most substantial remaining elements of Kirkham Priory, so any development in the walled garden could also have a significant effect on the setting of the Grade 1 Listed Kirkham Priory. 4) Although the principle of a replacement dwelling is not a particular issue, I have strong concerns that the replacement dwelling proposed would have a



significant detrimental impact on the setting of both the walled garden and Kirkham Priory. The proposed dwelling is taller, at 1.5 storeys, but the desire to keep the ridgeline as low as possible has also led to the use of dormers which I believe create a 'fussy' design which will increase the visual impact of the building. Because the proposed dwelling is taller and has more design details than the current simple structure, I feel that it will be out-of-proportion in the setting of the walled garden and also create a significant visual intrusion in the backdrop (setting) of Kirkham Priory. 5) Rather reluctantly, because I didn't expect there to be a major issue with this proposal, I feel that I need to OBJECT to the proposal in order to see whether a different solution can be achieved. As mentioned above, I don't feel that the principle of a replacement dwelling is a major issue, but I feel that it ought to be single storey (even if with a larger footprint) and of a simple design. The proposal to use slate roofing and render of a similar stone colour as currently is supported and would also work well with a simpler single storey design. 6) As regards the ancillary building, the garage is of a size that would match the scale of the walled garden and timber cladding is an appropriate material for such a setting. It should however be stained in a dark colour. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 04 April 2014 12:13  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 13/00728/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 12:01 PM on 04 Apr 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 13/00728/FUL

**Address:** The Croft Main Street Welburn Malton  
YO60 7EQ

**Proposal:** Erection of 3 no. 4 bedroom dwellings and  
1 no. detached garage following demolition  
of existing dwelling, and formation of  
vehicular access.

**Case Officer:** Rachel Smith

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

In my response of 22nd October 2013 to version 2 of the proposals for this site, I indicated that I felt that the siting of the garage of Plot 3 was unacceptable in the street scene of Welburn. This aspect of the design has not changed in these new proposals and therefore my Objection raised on 22/10/13 stands. Neither of the developments of more modern housing on either side of this site has ancillary buildings located in front of the dwellings and I still feel that this would be an incongruous feature in the street scene. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 08 April 2014 17:44  
**To:** planning@hambleton.gov.uk  
**Subject:** 14/00527/FUL: Retrospective permission for the level of excavation of soil; High Side, Brandsby

It's difficult to know how to respond to this application.

If the level of excavation needed to implement in particular the proposed new driveway and garage had been appreciated during consideration of the original planning application, then I would have objected to it. It is difficult to understand how the scheme was submitted by the applicant and agent without apparent appreciation of the substantial excavation that was going to be necessary simply to fit the proposed development on the site.

Understanding of what is proposed is somewhat hampered by the lack of reference numbers on the diagram showing the location of the cross sections, but I'm concerned about the phrase "driveway levelled to original ground level by digging down" on section BB. From my recollection on the site visit, the driveway base was already a significant way below original ground level, although of course this would presumably be built up again with aggregate to form the final driveway. Nonetheless, I'm concerned about the need for *further* excavation on the site.

Likewise, mention is made of eliminating the dangerous sloping along the driveway when approaching the proposed garage and new extension. Given the contours of the land, this would imply further digging down of the driveway so as to create a cutting – I cannot see how the slope of the driveway can be significantly mitigated without the need for substantial further excavation, due to the contours of the land and the limited space involved. For example, cross section DD shows a levelled area in front of the new garage. If that area is levelled, by definition it is going to increase the height differential between that point and the highest point of the drive – and the only way that can be mitigated is by further excavation of the driveway.

In general I find the hand-drawn cross sections and reference map (with no reference numbers on it) rather amateurish and I am not convinced that they give an accurate representation of what further excavation work will be needed in order to implement the development.

In general the site is now a complete mess and is very definitely not the kind of sympathetic development we would expect in the AONB. The original ethos of subtly incorporating a new driveway through a wooded area is completely out of the window, simply due to the amount of excavation needed to wrangle the drive and garage onto the site.

Having said all the above however, we are where we are with this site. If the LPA is happy that the submitted plans give an accurate representation of what further work is going to be carried out, that this can be adequately Conditioned and enforced if necessary, and that it will result in a satisfactory development within the AONB then I have no objection to the scheme. The principal aim from here on must be to repair the damage already done and to integrate the development back into the AONB landscape. That could either be by Approval of this application, or by Refusal and enforcement action if necessary to reinstate.

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

Tel: 0845 034 9495 / NYCC ext 6775

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 09 April 2014 13:24  
**To:** [planning@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:planning@hambleton.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** 14/00467/FUL: Creation of campsite with ancillary buildings and car park; Newburgh Priory

I visited the site on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, with the applicant, and have the following comments to make:

1. In general I'm happy with the proposed positioning of the yurts and their relationship with, and any potential impact on the setting of, both Newburgh Priory and the Registered Park and Garden. Although the fabric will in essence be white in colour, the screening offered by adjacent and intervening trees during the summer months when the yurts are actually on site will limit the views of the site from the Priory itself. The LPA may however wish to consider a Condition that specifies the period during which the yurts may be present on site, although this should be adequately flexible in order to accommodate variations in seasonal weather such as an 'Indian' summer.
2. The timber boarding on the ancillary toilet and shower buildings should be stained in a dark brown or green colour, so as to blend with the woodland setting.
3. Although the car park area is not large, and glimpses of cars parked there are only likely to be fleeting, this element could present a discordant feature in the parkland landscape which, at this point, is otherwise devoid of unnatural 'man-made' features. I feel that it is essential to incorporate some screening planting of deciduous species (the car park should only be in use in connection with the development during the months of the year when leaves are on the trees) between the car park area and the entrance gate. This would also help to mitigate any adverse impacts on the setting of the Listed gate piers.
4. The impact on the setting of the gate piers is also a significant factor in relation to the verge crossing that will be needed between the gates themselves and the public highway. The Condition required by the Highway Authority gives some flexibility in relation to the materials that could be used to construct the verge crossing, and these should be chosen so as to complement the existing historic fabric as much as possible. Conservation kerbing, in probably the Harvest Buff colour, should be used rather than standard concrete kerbing. Likewise, the surface finish may perhaps be better in concrete rather than plain black tarmac, although I understand from a conversation with Graham Hind at NYCC that the standard road chippings hot-rolled into tarmac would also provide a satisfactory surface. These would give a greyer finish than the plain tarmac.

In summary, I feel that the elements of this application which present some challenges to the AONB landscape and historic environment can be adequately mitigated via some landscape planting and careful choice of materials, and the facility itself will provide an interesting addition to the range of visitor accommodation available within the AONB.

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

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# Howardian Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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

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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

Development Management  
Ryedale District Council  
Ryedale House  
Malton  
North Yorks  
YO17 7HH

Contact: Paul Jackson

My Reference:

Date: 8 May 2014

Dear Sirs

## 14/000257/FUL: Change of use of agricultural barn to day centre with associated parking, etc; Park House Farm, Gilling

I have the following comments to make in relation to this application:

1. **Principle.** In principle I would support this development. It offers a new use for a redundant set of agricultural buildings which have been disused for many years and which are gradually decaying. The proposed use has a potentially high benefit to society as a whole, allowing the applicant's clients to experience the tranquillity of the AONB and utilise both this and the 'resources' offered by the buildings and surrounding land to improve their quality of life.
2. **Design.** The only elements of design that I would normally query are the proposed full-height gable window on the western elevation and the proposed clear finish to all external woodwork. In general full-height gable windows are to be avoided as they can create significant reflections and hence draw attention to buildings in a wider landscape context. In this instance however the gable is west facing and will only reflect the sun during the latter part of summer days (no sun reaches this location during winter months, due to the steep bank to the south). The only residential property directly affected is to the west, and I hope that reflections experienced by properties in Ampleforth village would be minimal due to the separation distance and angles of viewing. In this instance therefore, and accepting that form may need to follow function for this particular building, I wouldn't necessarily wish to object to the full-height window. External woodwork on farm building conversions would normally be finished in a paint colour appropriate to the origin of the buildings, often an olive green or red. The farm building conversion that houses the AONB office has unpainted timber framed windows however in the former cart shed openings, so I have no objections to that element of the design either.
3. **Car park.** I feel that the car park needs an element of landscaping associated with it, rather than being demarcated only by a timber fence. The supporting documentation indicates the potential for 25 FTE members of staff, which it must be assumed will mean a minimum of 25 cars. When added to an unknown number of visitors cars (see below) this will create a significant visual intrusion that will detract from both the traditional farm buildings and the AONB landscape. **This element of the scheme must therefore be re-designed so as to minimise its potentially adverse impact on the AONB landscape.**

4. **Traffic.** Whilst it will be for the Highway Authority to make recommendations as to whether they consider the single track public road to be adequate or not, from the perspective of quiet enjoyment of the Gilling valley by walkers and cyclists I have concerns about the level of traffic that this road will be expected to cope with should the application be approved. This has increased significantly in recent years, due to a number of existing and potential sources:
- a) Existing – Large farm machinery, accessing the majority of the arable land between Gilling and Ampleforth. There is no other access to the Ampleforth Abbey farmland other than via Gilling village.
  - b) Existing – Traffic passing between Ampleforth College and St Martins Ampleforth (Gilling Castle). This is principally at each end of the school day, with many parents needing to drop day pupils at both schools due to the respective ages of their children.
  - c) Existing – Nero Training Centre at Redcar House (beyond the Park Farm site). Level of traffic generation unknown.
  - d) Existing – Obstruction of the road/passing places on winter Saturdays during home rugby matches. An area of farmland was converted to rugby pitches for St Martins Ampleforth school in 2005/6 (see application ref. 05/01182/MFUL). Condition 07 (visitor parking on site) and the Informative (visitor parking on the public highway) have never been observed, resulting in significant vehicle movements/parking at certain times of the day/year.
  - e) Existing – Miniature railway/Village Hall at the western end of Gilling village. The miniature railway in particular has quite a number of car-borne visitors during its Open Weekends. Many of these park in the grass field, unless wet ground conditions necessitate on-road parking.
  - f) Existing – Fairfax Arms, Gilling village – This popular pub has a very small off-road car park. Inconsiderate (and technically illegal) parking regularly occurs right on the junction of Pottergate and the B1257, turning the junction itself into a single-lane road with a significantly reduced turning radius.
  - g) Potential – There is an extant planning permission (see Hambleton DC ref. 11/02350/FUL) for a 15-pitch touring caravan site at Redcar House (beyond Park Farm), for which the only means of access is the single track road from Gilling village. A Condition of the consent requires the construction of a number of additional passing places on the public highway. No works have as yet been undertaken on any part of this approved scheme (and indeed may never be).

Whilst not all of the above sources of traffic generation are in play at any one time, a number of them do/could occur in combination, which increases the pressure on the single-track road. They should not necessarily be considered as negative factors either, but it is important to be aware of all the traffic issues relating to this stretch of road when coming to a view about this particular proposal.

For this development there also seems to be a dis-connect between the design/function of the facility, in particular Phase 2, and the likely level of traffic generation. Paragraph 2 of the Design & Access Statement indicates that Phase 2 will contain front-of-house produce and joinery shops, with sale of goods to the general public. Point 7 of the Traffic Management Plan indicates however that the number of visitors will be "minimal". It seems unlikely that both statements can be correct – one would assume that a certain level of visitors would be necessary in order to make front-of-house facilities viable.

In conclusion I support the application in principle, but have **significant concerns** about the landscape impact of the proposed car park area and the impact of additional traffic generation on the tranquillity of the AONB.

Yours sincerely

P B JACKSON  
AONB MANAGER

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 08 May 2014 10:05  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00372/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 10:01 AM on 08 May 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00372/FUL

**Address:** Jamies Cragg Caravan Site Castle Howard  
Station Road Welburn York YO60 7EW

**Proposal:** Change of use of land to allow the siting of  
2 no. two bedroom holiday lodges and  
formation of parking spaces

**Case Officer:** Rachel Smith

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I visited the site on 30th April and have the following observations to make: 1) Permission was granted recently (13/00056/FUL) for the erection of 5 camping pods on this site, after detailed discussions between the LPA and the applicant. A significantly improved landscaping plan was agreed as part of those discussions, which has been carried forward into this proposal. 2) The proposed lodges are taller than the approved camping pods but, provided that the timber roof and wall cladding, doors and window frames are stained in a DARK brown colour and this is stipulated via a Condition, then I have no objections to the proposals. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 08 May 2014 09:33  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00418/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 9:29 AM on 08 May 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00418/AGNOT  
**Address:** Woodhouse Farm Buildings Braygate  
Street Broughton Malton North Yorkshire  
**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural building for the  
housing of livestock.  
**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I visited the site on 30th April and have the following comments to make: 1) The Design & Access Statement indicates that the roof sheets will be "dark grey" whereas the Application Form only mentions "grey". To be in accordance with the New Farm Buildings & Infrastructure Design Guidance for the AONB (adopted in Oct '13 by RDC as a material consideration in the development management process) it should be clarified with the applicant/agent that dark grey sheets will indeed be used on the roof. 2) Woodhouse Farm is a collection of elderly farm buildings in a relatively open location. Views of the new building from the east, from the footpath along The Plantations, will largely be screened by the woodland itself and a small section of hedge already on the Woodhouse Farm site. The principal views will therefore come from the north/west, along the very popular bridleway on Broughton Lane. I would therefore wish to see a couple of rows of hedge shrubs/small tree species (e.g. hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, field maple, birch, rowan) planted along the western and northern sides of the site, to break-up the profile of the new building. Paul Jackson



## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 22 May 2014 13:13  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 13/01434/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 1:08 PM on 22 May 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 13/01434/OUT  
**Address:** Land To Rear Of Holmes Crescent Holmes Crescent Welburn Malton  
**Proposal:** Erection of 2no. dwellings (site area 0.0418 ha).  
**Case Officer:** Alan Hunter  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** This site has been the subject of a number of applications for further dwellings over the years, the previous one being for 8 dwellings (07/00434/OUT). Unfortunately I ran out of time to submit comments on that application, which was Refused. Checking back to the Officer's Report for the 2007 application I cannot see any fundamental change in circumstances. If the out-of-village location was considered unsustainable at that time then the same must apply now. Likewise, the Design and Access Statement makes no attempt to indicate how the development accords with the policies of either the NPPF or the Ryedale Local Plan Strategy. In my view the proposal is still contrary to Policy - it's in an unsustainable location so is therefore contrary to NPPF para 14, and it doesn't appear to specify whether it is market or Local Needs housing. The current properties at Holmes Crescent were constructed under a previous planning policy guidance regime and were linked to the educational establishment at Crambeck. There is no such link any more and, being in open countryside away from the amenities and services of Welburn village, it would be detrimental to the AONB landscape for this cluster of houses to grow any further in size.

I therefore believe that the application should be Refused. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 29 May 2014 13:56  
**To:** geophysics@teslaexploration.com  
**Subject:** '3D' seismic survey - Howardian Hills AONB

**Importance:** High

Dear Sirs

Many thanks for your letter of 7<sup>th</sup> May, notifying me of your proposed exploration works.

The methodology indicates that shot points will only be placed within open field locations, with vibroseis operation in all other locations. You must ensure that areas of importance for biodiversity (SSSIs, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (North Yorkshire's equivalent of Local Wildlife Sites), Ancient woodland, species-rich grassland and Special Interest Road Verges), and areas important for buried archaeology, are not damaged either by shot point operations or by vehicle movements during wet soil conditions. This particularly relates to important grassland habitats that might be considered as 'open field' locations, and to buried archaeology in farmland. No shot point operation should take place within these areas, and ground damage by vibroseis tractors must be avoided.

I note that you are consulting with the Historic Environment Team at NYCC – they should be able to provide information on important areas of buried archaeology. You must also ensure that applicable records for SINCs and Special Interest Road Verges are accessed from the North and East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre, so that these areas of biodiversity interest are not subject to shot point operations.

Photographs of ZLand Nodes have been included in the consultation documents but these are not referred to specifically in the methodology. Presumably these are the geophones, of which a string of 6 will be attached to each Hawk recording node? If this is the case, the positioning of the ZLand nodes should again take account of biodiversity interests. Turf should be removed, the holes dug and then soil and turf replaced in the correct order when back-filling.

Yours sincerely

Paul Jackson  
Howardian Hills AONB Manager  
The Mews, Wath Court  
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## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 03 June 2014 11:40  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00568/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 11:34 AM on 03 Jun 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00568/AGNOT  
**Address:** West Newton Grange Leysthorpe Lane  
Oswaldkirk Helmsley YO62 5YB  
**Proposal:** Erection of a grain holding bin.  
**Case Officer:** Charlotte Cornforth  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I visited the site with the applicant and as a result don't have any observations to make on the proposal. My principal concern had related to the colour of the galvanised zinc finish, which is very shiny and reflective when new. The grain bin is in fact second-hand and therefore the finish has already weathered to a dull grey. The bin will largely be shielded by the adjacent agricultural building and the top section above the building should not be unduly noticeable due to its already weathered finish. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 05 June 2014 16:01  
**To:** [planning@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:planning@hambleton.gov.uk)  
**Cc:** Helen Laws  
**Subject:** 14/00995/FUL: change of use of agricultural land and erection of outbuilding

I have the following comments to make on this application:

1. I don't have any objection to the change of use from agricultural land to domestic. To some extent this is regularising the situation that currently prevails and the area in question is well screened by the substantial roadside hedge.
2. The proposed building has approximately double the footprint of the current sheds, and I'm unclear on how it relates to them in terms of height. I assume that it will be taller.
3. Whilst I don't have an objection in principle, I am concerned that the use of clay pantiles on the roof will make the new shed stand out very starkly against the dark backdrop of the wood. The site is viewed clearly from the B1363 outside the old shop, from where it would be visible but the Woodside cottages themselves barely so. This will give the visual effect of the new shed being a stand-alone building, not connected to any dwelling. The current wooden sheds have a dark felt roof and I would much prefer dark grey sheeting or slate for the roof of the new building, as this will blend into the background. It will also mirror the colour palette of the existing outbuildings at Woodside.

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Development Management  
Ryedale District Council  
Ryedale House  
Malton  
North Yorks  
YO17 7HH

Contact: Paul Jackson

My Reference:

Date: 6 June 2014

Dear Sirs

**14/00494/HOUSE: Erection of part two storey/part single storey rear extension, replacement front porch, double garage and detached block of three stables; Stone Lea, Welburn**

I have the following comments to make in relation to this application:

1. I have no observations to make in relation to the replacement front porch, the detached double garage and the detached block of three stables. The locations of the garage and stables are screened by either existing buildings or semi-mature trees, and the timber-and zinc construction would be appropriate for these ancillary buildings.
2. I do however have significant concerns about the scale, design and materials of the proposed two storey/single storey extension, particularly in relation to the impact of its eastern and northern elevations on designated heritage assets and the AONB landscape. These concerns are strong enough to constitute an objection to this element of the scheme.
  - a) Whilst it is understandable that the conversion of the nearby Pigeon Cote Farm should use materials sympathetic to its origins as an agricultural building, I don't believe that the use of timber boarding and a zinc roof would be appropriate when attached to a stone-and-pantile dwelling which has no history of agricultural use.
  - b) Eastern elevation – The scale, design and materials will I believe have a significantly detrimental impact on three designated heritage assets, namely the Welburn Conservation Area, the setting of the adjacent Listed Elmtree House and the views outwards towards the Grade 1 Registered Park and Garden of Castle Howard. As it currently stands, the eastern elevation of Stone Lea exhibits no evidence of a rearward extension, as the current accommodation sits under a symmetrical roof at the eastern end of the building. The proposed extension is almost three times as long as the current extension, as well as extending right to the eastern end of the building. This will significantly reduce the view outwards from Welburn's main street towards the Stray Walls (Grade I Listed) and the Pyramid, St Anne's Hill (Grade I Listed), as well as impacting on Elmtree House and the Conservation Area.
  - c) Northern elevation – Again, I believe that the scale, design and materials of both the two storey and single storey elements will have a significantly detrimental impact on two designated heritage assets, namely the Welburn Conservation Area and the setting of the Listed Clematis Cottage which is directly behind Stone Lea when viewed from the north. Of particular concern is the full-height (plus apex) glazing of the two storey gable end.

This extremely large expanse of glass will be very visible from the well-used Public Rights of Way network to the north of the village, including from the tower at the end of the Stray Walls at Castle Howard. It will appear very incongruous in comparison with other buildings in Welburn village, which generally have small window openings, as well as creating significant reflections when evening sunlight shines on it. As such, I feel that it will have a significantly adverse impact on both the AONB landscape and the Welburn Conservation area.

In conclusion, whilst I have no comments to make on the ancillary buildings I would wish to object to the impact of the two storey and single storey extension on the grounds of significant adverse impact on the AONB landscape and designated heritage assets.

Yours sincerely

P B JACKSON  
AONB MANAGER

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 06 June 2014 16:13  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00303/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 4:08 PM on 06 Jun 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00303/FUL  
**Address:** Sundial Farm Cawton York YO62 4LW  
**Proposal:** Erection of a general purpose agricultural building.  
**Case Officer:** Alan Hunter  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

I have the following comments to make on this application: 1) Because this proposed building will be alongside another building erected a few years ago, judging its potential impact on the AONB landscape is much easier as there is already an identical structure there to make reference to. Because of topography and land cover vegetation, the new building will be viewed as a standalone structure in long distance views from Gilling to the west, and as part of the existing farm steading in short distance views from within Cawton itself. 1) The roof covering is proposed to be grey fibre cement sheeting. This should be the dark grey, or Anthracite Grey, sheeting as has been used on the last two buildings erected at this steading. 2) The two previous buildings referred to above (a stand-alone shed and then a lean-to extension) had a Condition stipulating the planting of a strip of trees and shrubs along the northern elevation following completion. Because the proposed new building will be seen in the long distance view from the west, I consider that some form of landscaping is again essential. Because however there will also be short distance views from within Cawton itself, I feel that the best option is to plant a similar strip of trees and shrubs along the northern and western sides of the new



building, extending southwards to meet a triangular copse proposed as landscape mitigation for the other current application for this steading (14/00304/FUL). Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 06 June 2014 16:28  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00304/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 4:22 PM on 06 Jun 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00304/FUL  
**Address:** Sundial Farm Cawton York YO62 4LW  
**Proposal:** Erection of a general purpose agricultural building.  
**Case Officer:** Alan Hunter  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

I have the following comments to make on this application: 1) The new building will be viewed as part of the existing farm steading and due to topography and land cover vegetation should only be visible in short distance views from within Cawton itself. 2) The roof covering is proposed to be grey fibre cement sheeting. This should be the dark grey, or Anthracite Grey, sheeting as has been used on the last two buildings erected at this steading. 3) The two previous buildings referred to above (a stand-alone shed and then a lean-to extension) had a Condition stipulating the planting of a strip of trees and shrubs along the northern elevation following completion. Because the proposed new building will be seen in short distance views from within Cawton itself, I feel that some form of landscaping will be necessary on the western side of the new building. As an awkward area of grass field will be created should the other application for this steading (14/00303/FUL) be approved, I feel that this would be an ideal site for creating a small triangular copse. The northern end of the copse would meet with the strip of tree and shrub planting proposed as landscape mitigation for 14/00303/FUL. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 18 June 2014 16:13  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00532/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 3:58 PM on 18 Jun 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00532/FUL

**Address:** West Mill House Farm Stittenham Hill  
Bulmer YO60 7TP

**Proposal:** Change of use of agricultural land to form a 50m x 25m menage together with installation of a horse walker for private domestic use

**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I have the following comments to make on this application: 1) The fields to the north and east of the farmstead contain a good surviving remnant of the rigg-and-furrow cultivation system. Although undesignated, this heritage asset is considered to be significant enough to merit inclusion in the AONB Management Plan as a Historic Environment Priority Site. Spoil from developments by previous owners was disposed of on part of the area, and further degradation should be avoided. I would therefore like to see a Condition covering on-site disposal of spoil, to ensure that the rigg-and-furrow isn't damaged any further. 2) New tree planting is proposed to replace the four mature willows to be felled to create room for the horse-walker. I would prefer the trees to be planted to the south of the farmstead, to re-create the effect offered by the existing trees, i.e. associated with the farmstead and helping screen the existing buildings. The tree planting should not be carried out in such a manner or location as to impact on the rigg-and-furrow or its setting. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 25 June 2014 13:17  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00574/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 1:02 PM on 25 Jun 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00574/MFUL  
**Address:** Musley Bank Stables Musley Bank Malton  
North Yorkshire YO17 6TD  
**Proposal:** Erection of stabling buildings with ramp,  
toilet block, temporary portable office  
building and horse treadmill building  
(revised details to part of approval  
08/00630/MFUL dated 01.10.2008) - part  
retrospective application.

**Case Officer:** Alan Hunter  
[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

No substantive comments to make in respect of this proposal: 1) The revised ramp is part of the internal circulation arrangements within the site and doesn't have any impact on the wider landscape. 2) The temporary office building and new toilet block are small and use appropriately coloured materials. They are relatively small additions to the site when looked at as a whole. 3) The proposed horse treadmill building is located within the confines of the existing site and next to a taller building. Again, it is a relatively small addition to the site as a whole. 4) Condition 3 of the original 2008 planning consent required the preparation and implementation of a landscaping plan, with planting to start in the first season following commencement of the development. I'm not sure if the landscaping plan was submitted and approved or not, as there doesn't appear to be any new landscaping on the site? Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 25 June 2014 13:04  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00591/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 12:49 PM on 25 Jun 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00591/FUL

**Address:** Telephone Exchange Old York Road  
Whitwell On The Hill Malton

**Proposal:** Erection of 12.1m wooden pole supporting  
0.3m microwave radio dish to enable  
broadband delivery to Westow village

**Case Officer:** Charlotte Cornforth

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

No substantive observations to make on this proposal. 1) Support the provision of improved broadband speeds to communities and businesses within the AONB, in line with Management Plan Objectives. 2) Damage/removal of existing trees should be kept to a minimum, to preserve screening of both the new pole and the existing Telephone Exchange building. Paul Jackson

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

Development Management  
Ryedale District Council  
Ryedale House  
Malton  
North Yorks  
YO17 7HH

Contact: Paul Jackson

My Reference:

Date: 30 July 2014

Dear Sirs

**14/00678/MOUT: Outline application for the demolition of outbuildings and erection of mixed use residential-led development; Castle Howard Road, Malton**

My previous letters were written for the express purpose of providing information in relation to a request for an EIA Screening Opinion. Although that Opinion has now been issued, I felt it would be useful to bring all my comments together so as to provide my formal observations on this application:

**Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment**

1. I feel that the impact of the A64 as a barrier between Malton and the AONB has been significantly over-stated throughout the document. It may look like a large barrier on the map, but in truth, on the ground, there is still a significant visual connection between Malton and the AONB, particularly at the northern end (Middlecave Road). This is principally because the A64 is in a large cutting for much of this section, with only HGVs visible above the boundary hedges for one short section.
2. This is significant because the current western boundary of the built-up area of Malton is characterised by mature trees and only occasionally visible buildings. Even with the 33KV pylons and wirescape, Malton and the AONB appear to blend reasonably seamlessly into each other in a relatively contiguous landscape. As such therefore the application site has a broadly similar landscape character to the eastern end of the AONB, and I don't feel that the importance of the application site to the setting of the AONB has been explored at all.
3. In a similar vein, the importance of the AONB for quiet recreation doesn't seem to have been taken into account. It takes less than 5 minutes to walk from the suburban area of Middlecave Road, into the Plantations and thence become immersed in the open countryside atmosphere of the AONB.
4. I consider Viewpoint 2 (as originally mapped in the first version of the LVIA) to be the critical one in relation to visual impact on the AONB.

Cont'd...

In order to be able to properly assess the potential impact on the AONB, it will be necessary for a ground level horizon visualisation of the development from Viewpoint 2 to be provided. It will be important to understand at what point in time the visualisation represents, in order to assess any impacts during the period before screening plantings reach maturity. Photos taken during a site visit to the original Viewpoint 2, and looked at in conjunction with the tree heights given in the Tree Survey, would seem to indicate that the taller elements of the proposed development will break the skyline when viewed from this location. The applicant should be asked to provide the visualisation before any determination of this application is made.

5. With regard to Viewpoint 3, whilst in general I agree with the assessment I feel that it overlooks the effect of seasonality on the screening provided by the belt of mature broadleaved trees. Whilst providing almost total screening during the summer months this will be reduced somewhat during winter months, and I would suggest that in winter the Magnitude of Change may in fact be Slight or even Medium, making the Overall Impact Significance at least Moderate.

### **Traffic**

1. Residents accessing employment opportunities westwards along the B1257 are highly likely to use Braygate Street and Swinton Lane, as 'rat-running' drivers already do to avoid the Newbiggin/Pasture Lane traffic lights and Horsemarket Road. This would apply to residents working at sites such as Swinton Grange, Malton Foods, BATA, etc, as well as further afield in Kirkbymoorside, Helmsley and Thirsk.
2. I'm unable to estimate what proportion of residents would have employment sites to the north west, and hence use Braygate Street and Swinton Lane, but this would be adding to what might already be considered an 'unnaturally' high level of traffic on these routes through the AONB. I consider this to have a potentially moderate negative impact on the tranquillity of the AONB.

In conclusion, I'm sufficiently concerned about the lack of information provided in the LVIA (about the potential impact on the AONB and its setting) to feel that an Objection is warranted at this stage. Although the application is only in Outline, the design ethos for the site indicates a desire to have buildings of a substantial height and the LVIA simply doesn't provide enough information on the potential impact of these on the AONB and its setting.

Yours sincerely

P B JACKSON  
AONB MANAGER

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

Development Management  
Ryedale District Council  
Ryedale House  
Malton  
North Yorks  
YO17 7HH

Contact: Paul Jackson

My Reference:

Date: 8 August 2014

Dear Sirs

**14/00734/MFUL: Establishment of a farmstead to include agricultural workers dwelling, erection of sheds, creation of storage area and landscaping; OS Field 1811, Gilling**

I have the following observations to make on this application:

1. The case for the justification for this development seems to hinge around the insecurity of tenure in relation to the rented land and buildings at Ampleforth College. Leaving aside the issues of lack of on-site accommodation for a farm worker and the poor condition of the rented buildings, the reasoning for the proposed development seems to be somewhat flawed. On p2 of the Planning Justification & Agricultural Appraisal document it states that the applicant intends to focus his livestock/cattle operation on land under his control and ownership. In the following Justification/Support paragraph however it refers to the site having been chosen for a variety of reasons, including "accessibility to rented land for ease of livestock movements". I'm afraid that this can't work both ways. If the rented livestock buildings aren't available then neither is the rented pasture land that supports almost the entire livestock/cattle enterprise – the two elements are linked to each other. The 500 fattening lambs on the land around Gilling will use a mixture of permanent pasture, fodder root crops and temporary ley grassland, and they don't require the extent of buildings proposed as no lambing is involved. In short, the application proposes the establishment of farm buildings and a farm workers dwelling on the basis that the rented grazing land will always be available, whereas the justification for the extent and location of the development assumes that the tenancy will end in 8/9 years' time. In my view this proposal should be assessed on the basis of the needs of the owned land *only*, excluding all rented land and buildings from the equation (unless the availability of other rented pasture land can be demonstrated, to compensate for the assumed loss of the Ampleforth College land). If a longer tenancy was negotiated on the Ampleforth College land then this would give some support to this application but, more importantly, it could encourage landlord and/or tenant investment in the current buildings, which would still be the preferred option from the point of view of conserving and enhancing the AONB landscape.
2. The location of the proposed farmstead and dwelling does have some visual linkage with the developed area of Gilling, although it is of course some way outside the development limit.

Cont'd...



It is however a large development and is sited within a relatively open vale landscape. The Landscape Management guidelines for this Landscape Character Zone of the AONB, as laid out in the AONB Management Plan, encourage the restoration of a hedged landscape with hedgerow trees and copses of broadleaved trees. The planting of large areas of woodland to screen the development would not therefore be compatible with the landscape character type. I therefore have concerns as to whether a development of this size and extent could be successfully integrated into the AONB landscape.

3. Although the landscaping proposals have been improved since the pre-app version of the plans, I still don't feel that they would be sufficient to integrate the development into the surrounding landscape. In particular, the lack of any tree planting beyond individual trees is a weakness that could be addressed. Sufficient field corners would be created along the northern edge of the farmstead site to accommodate copses of native trees. Although the 3D models omit the proposed hedge planting along the adjacent farm track, they still give the impression of a very open site dominated by large farm buildings and a large dwelling.
4. Materials. As far as can be seen from the plans, the materials proposed for the farm buildings will match those of the current modern building on the site. The materials specifications should be controlled by Conditions, to ensure visual uniformity across the site and with the new building already on the site.
5. Lighting. Whilst lighting of the yard area will clearly be required, this should be to the highest modern standards and PIR controlled, to ensure that the minimum of light pollution is created.

In conclusion, should the LPA decide that the agricultural justification for the proposed development is proven, then I would still have significant concerns about the scale of the development within the AONB landscape and the extent of landscaping currently proposed. I feel that this falls short of that which would be required to mitigate the landscape impact and integrate the development into its surroundings.

Yours sincerely

P B JACKSON  
AONB MANAGER

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 15 August 2014 16:33  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00786/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 4:31 PM on 15 Aug 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00786/FUL

**Address:** Grimston Lodge Moor Lane Gilling East  
York YO62 4HR

**Proposal:** Erection of detached building comprising  
single garage and one bedroom self-  
contained residential annex with  
demolition of existing single garage

**Case Officer:** Helen Bloomer

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I have the following observations to make on these proposals: 1) Although not Listed, the property has a strong vernacular style as part of the ancillary buildings associated with Grimston Manor. The current modern garage has a significantly detrimental impact on the setting of the lodge building and its removal is to be welcomed. 2) When viewed from the southern approach to the property I'm fairly happy that the proposed building would blend into the backdrop of trees, would not impact unduly on the setting of the main house and would appear reasonably subservient to it. 3) My principal concern however relates to the height of the building when viewed/approached uphill from the northern end. Because the building is proposed to sit at the same level as the existing drive, this will significantly increase the height of it when viewed from the north. In turn, this will make the new building appear dominant in relation to the main house and will adversely impact on its setting. 4) Given the strong contours of the site I would prefer the new building to be at a lower elevation to the drive, flowing down from the main house rather than being at the same level. I feel that a reduction in

ground level to more closely follow the contours of the site would help to integrate the proposal much better into the site. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 15 August 2014 15:48  
**To:** [planning@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:planning@hambleton.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** 14/01542/FUL: Alteration of windows, raising of roof, new flue for biomass boiler; The Old Rectory, Dalby

I have the following observations to make on these proposals:

1. Although the flue will be coloured black, which will prevent the visually intrusive effects experienced from silver stainless steel flues, I'm concerned that the height of it will have a negative visual impact on the courtyard of vernacular buildings. If re-location to the 'external' roofslope was possible I think that this would be preferable, as the flue would then be viewed in the context of the surrounding trees.
2. I have some strong concerns about the extent of glazing proposed for the southern gable end. Whilst the first floor door/window and Juliet balcony are I think acceptable, the glazed apex is I believe a step too far, particularly when considering the addition of 300mm to the ridge height. Apex glazing is not a vernacular feature and the southern elevation is part of the setting of the main house, which I believe would be detrimentally affected by glazing fully to the apex.

Paul Jackson  
Howardian Hills AONB Manager  
The Mews, Wath Court  
Hovingham  
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HILLS  
One of the  
AONB family

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 21 August 2014 13:03  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00807/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 1:01 PM on 21 Aug 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00807/FUL  
**Address:** Scackleton Grange Farm Grange Lane  
Scackleton YO62 4NB  
**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural building for the housing of livestock.

**Case Officer:** Helen Bloomer

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** In general the proposed new building follows the principles of the AONB New Agricultural Buildings & Infrastructure Design Guidance, being sited at the existing farmstead and having dark grey roof panels. As the proposed building sits on the edge of a small valley to the north, with a Public Footpath approaching from the northwest, and is also visible from Scackleton Lane, I'd prefer to see some minor landscape screening on the external edges of the yard area on the northern and eastern sides. Hedgerow species such as hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel and field maple would be sufficient for this purpose, just to soften the elevations of the building. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 28 August 2014 16:10  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00851/ADV

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 4:09 PM on 28 Aug 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00851/ADV

**Address:** OS Field 3286 High Hutton Malton

**Proposal:** Erection of permanent tubular steel frame for display of non illuminated temporary signs for events within Malton and Norton, for a period of five years

**Case Officer:** Helen Bloomer

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

I have the following observations to make in relation to the proposals: 1) The original permission was granted for a period of 1 year, to enable the visual impact of the sign to be assessed. I raised some strong concerns in relation to the original proposals, in relation to the size of the frame/sign and the colour of materials. 2) Visiting the site to assess this application, and having passed it a number of times during the last year, my concerns as to its visual impact have not diminished. The effect is particularly pronounced when travelling westbound at the end of the A64

**Comments:** Malton by-pass, when it is conspicuous as a large white rectangle silhouetted against the green backdrop of Golden Hill within the AONB. 3) Travelling eastbound the sign is less silhouetted, but nonetheless adds to the general profusion of signs close to the Low Hutton junction. 4) Although road traffic safety is not necessarily within the direct remit of the AONB JAC, closures of the A64 due to road traffic accidents lead to adverse impacts on the AONB due to the need to use diversion routes. When I visited the site on 12th August the hedge in front of the sign had grown up so as to obscure the lower part of the sign. This makes it look

somewhat unkempt, negates its principal purpose and also distracts drivers more as they try to read the text through a screen of foliage. 5) I feel that the sign creates an unacceptable visual intrusion into the AONB, but that it would be acceptable if Conditions were attached stipulating that the galvanised frame should be painted a dark green colour and that all sign banners should have a black or dark-coloured reverse side. Paul Jackson

In general terms I'm pleased to see a shift from 100% conifer to 20/30% NBL and WSH in all restock compartments that are PAWS. I understand that this component will be used to soften external and internal edges, as well as buffer any other woodland features of conservation interest.

Thinning should aim to create a buffer of open ground around Scheduled Monuments, to include both the ditch and the mound in the case of round barrows. The aim should be to remove growing trees and also to allow enough light to get in to enable a benign grass vegetation layer to grow.

17b - This compartment has a number of hollow-ways; probably alternative routes before the current road alignment was selected and then surfaced. Light machinery could travel along these, so as to maintain their form, but heavy machinery must avoid damaging them. Replanting should respect their form as much as possible.

53a - I understand that there may be a number of veteran oaks in this compartment. If so, they must be avoided during felling operations and given an adequate open halo and surrounding buffer of NBL during replanting.

56 - The fen area north of the beck is a SINC, which suffers from overshading from this adjacent woodland of dense shade-casting conifers. The riparian corridor should be established bearing the SINC in mind, as well as the prescriptions given for replanting of the riparian corridors.



## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 04 September 2014 12:26  
**To:** 'Helen Bloomer'  
**Subject:** RE: 14/00786/FUL - Grimston Lodge

Helen

Many thanks for sending this to me and giving me the opportunity to respond.

I would make the following further observations:

1. My original comments expressed concerns about the perceived height of the proposed building when viewed from the north, and its impact on the setting of the house, but they didn't amount to an Objection as with the Neighbour responses.
2. My assessment of the proposal may have been unintentionally mislead during my site visit. I hadn't expected to meet anyone but there were two people working on the roof, which proved to be the applicant and his father. They produced the full-size architects drawings so that I could see how the height of the garage related to the current ground levels. The crucial bit of information they gave me was that the access drive to the proposed building would be level with the current driveway – hence my original comment about setting the building lower on the site so as to reflect the natural ground slope.
3. Looking at the drawings again I now see that that piece of information was wrong, but it's important to be absolutely clear about it (particularly the applicants), so that if the proposal is approved then it is constructed exactly as per the submitted drawings.
4. My reading of the levels from the submitted drawings is as follows:  
Moor Lane outside existing drive entrance – 107.50m AOD.  
Existing drive to current garage (at proposed spur to new garage) – 107.50 + 0.3m?  
Floor level of garage – 107.20. Garage is therefore at least 0.3m and perhaps 0.6m lower than the existing drive.  
Perceived eaves height of southern gable end (garage door) = 109.80 minus (107.50 + 0.3m?) = 2m.  
BUT perceived eaves height of northern gable end = 109.80 minus 105.85 (hgt on Moor Lane on section DD) = 3.95m
5. Whilst I can't recall the construction of the northern elevation of the house, and so whether it has any vernacular quality or not, my concern is that the perceived height of the northern gable end of the proposed building will also impact on the road frontage of the existing house (and hence on its setting). At the northern gable end the floor level will be 1.35m above the level on Moor Lane, and that's the principal issue that I have, in whether that is acceptable or not.
6. An additional comment on detailing, should the application be approved – the flue for the log burning stove should be black stainless steel, not silver.
7. I would reiterate my first point in that these further comments constitute Concerns, not a formal Objection.

Paul

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

Tel: 0845 034 9495 / NYCC ext 6775  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Helen Bloomer [mailto:helen.bloomer@ryedale.gov.uk]  
Sent: 02 September 2014 16:50  
To: Paul Jackson  
Subject: FW: 14/00786/FUL - Grimston Lodge

Good afternoon Paul

Please find attached below the response from the agent regarding the above application with regards to your comments. I thought I would give you the opportunity to consider her response.

Kind Regards

Helen Bloomer  
Development Management Officer  
Development Management  
Tel: 01653 600666 Ext 328  
Email: helen.bloomer@ryedale.gov.uk

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

From: Margaret Mackinder [mailto:margaret@sbamail.co.uk]  
Sent: 02 September 2014 16:23  
To: Helen Bloomer  
Cc: Chris Pearce  
Subject: 14/00786/FUL - Grimston Lodge

Dear Miss Bloomer

We have looked at the letters of objection on the planning website and would like to discuss the following points arising from them.

1. The site is very restricted in level area as described already in the design and access statement and it is difficult to site the building in any other way than as proposed .
2. The garage is effectively single storey with a roof line which copies the steep pitch of the roofs on the house. If you look at the entrance / south elevation, the garage at that point is a normal size for a single garage. The building makes use of the sloping land to provide extra accommodation without raising the roof height. The taller north elevation at the northern end of the building, created by the sloping land will be well screened by the existing road side hedge. We do feel that to introduce a different pitch on the garage would cause a jarring note. The proposed design is intended to create a lightweight timber lodge effect, in keeping with the woodland surroundings. The impact of the building to could be further reduced by removing the lighter stone sections of walling if necessary, even though the stone panels are intended to pick up the themes of the local stone buildings.
3. The existing house is very small and not capable of extension. The proposal creates a third bedroom and extra family space. The previous owner did obtain permission several years ago for an extension to the existing dwelling, but this was dependant on land which is not owned by the current applicants so they cannot implement that scheme. The applicants have no intention of creating a separate dwelling as this would severely impact on the

existing property. They accept the fact that additional family accommodation is likely to be tied to the existing dwelling by condition, if the application is approved. We would also make the point that under current planning law a garage can be converted to additional family accommodation without planning consent, provided it is not extended, so discussion about the creation of a small amount of additional accommodation is somewhat academic, and not, in the case of a single family bedroom, something which is seriously affected by currently adopted planning policies as suggested by Mr Stuart Charman in his letter. Incidentally we understand that Mr Charman no longer lives on Moor Lane and wonder if he can really be considered as a neighbour objector.

4. Mr Charman also suggests that the garage will obscure the north elevation of the house from the road. This elevation of the existing house is hardly architecturally distinguished, featuring a section of nondescript flat roof and modern windows. These are already obscured by tree cover. The existing 3 metre high beech boundary hedge at the northern end of the site also forms a very thick and effective screen to that approach to the site. The proposal seeks to open up the view of the more attractive road fronting elevation of the building by removing the existing unsightly garage and timber shed.

5. The proposed roof ridge height is 2.5 metres lower than the ridge heights of the existing house. The design has been prepared based on a full digital site survey so the levels shown are accurate. For clarification we have added additional level information about the comparative ridge and eaves levels of the proposed garage and the existing house, and revised drawings (nos 4265\_AR30\_02\_A\_A3 and 4265\_AR30\_03\_A\_A3 ) are attached.

6. The issue of visibility on the road has been assessed by the Highway Authority as a statutory consultee. We note that no objection has been made by their surveyor to the impact of the building on visibility. The proposed building is set inside the existing fence line and there is a reasonable verge to provide visibility for both the access to the proposed site and the site to the south of it, as shown in the photographic survey which accompanies the application. The proposed garage provides better on-site parking because its siting frees up space for additional parking space, thereby reducing the need for casual parking on the street.

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Mackinder

Margaret Mackinder AA Dipl. CA. RIBA

Stone and Bean Associates Ltd  
RIBA Chartered Architects & Landscape Designers

01653 696 100

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## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 25 September 2014 15:17  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00939/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 3:15 PM on 25 Sep 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00939/HOUSE  
**Address:** Spring Bank House Easthorpe Malton North  
Yorkshire YO17 6QX  
**Proposal:** Enclosure of existing covered porch area to  
form single storey front extension, erection  
of front entrance canopy and erection of  
first floor rear extension to include  
formation of 2 no. balconies

**Case Officer:** Rachel May

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

The rear elevation of this property is very visible (albeit in long distance views) from the Welburn area, and in particular from the rising ground south of Welburn towards the Exclamation Gate. The current facade presents itself as a simple flat-faced building, constructed in traditional style with pale-yellow stone walls, a red pantile roof and windows of a 'traditional' proportion. I don't feel that the proposed extension will have a significant visual impact, as its shape and form are conventional enough not to attract undue attention. I do however have

**Comments:** some concerns about the size of the windows and extent of the glazing. The elevation will in effect become one of 5 patio doors and 1 window, as opposed to one of (now) 2 patio doors and approximately 4 more conventional windows. The most significant visual effect of glazing is the reflections that it creates, and with the building being in such a prominent location within the AONB landscape this is an important consideration. I am however mindful that the applicants haven't suggested a large extension with full floor-to-apex glazing, which would certainly have

been unacceptable. In other similar cases non-reflective glass has been specified as a Condition of consent, and I wonder if the same option might be looked at here, for all the new south-facing glazing including the glass balustrades. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

---

To: planning@hambleton.gov.uk  
Subject: 14/01869/OUT: Outline application for the erection of a family dwelling

I have the following observations to make in relation to this application:

1. The dwellings in this part of Yearsley are modern single storey ones, extending out from the core of the village and its traditional houses, which are in the local vernacular style.
2. The application site is set back from the current building line created by the dwellings on either side of it, and as such is therefore in a more elevated position. The dwellings on either side are somewhat off the crest of the small ridge and more 'nestled down' into the shallow fold in the topography that is evident at this western end of the village.
3. Although this application is only in Outline, I therefore wonder what type of dwelling might be appropriate in this location. Set back from the current building line and in a more elevated and exposed position on the edge of the village envelope, a modern 2-storey dwelling would certainly have a significantly detrimental visual impact on the AONB landscape. Even a single storey bungalow could create a significant structure which would give the appearance of 'back-land' development on the visually exposed edge of the village.
4. As a result I therefore have concerns as to whether any dwelling could be adequately incorporated into the AONB landscape in the suggested location.

Paul Jackson  
Howardian Hills AONB Manager  
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Web: [www.howardianhills.org.uk](http://www.howardianhills.org.uk)



## Paul Jackson

---

**From:** dm@ryedale.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 07 October 2014 16:34  
**To:** Paul Jackson  
**Subject:** Consultee Comments for Planning Application 14/00972/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 4:32 PM on 07 Oct 2014 from [paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paul.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk).

### Application Summary

**Reference:** 14/00972/HOUSE

**Address:** Stone Lea Main Street Welburn Malton  
YO60 7DZ

**Proposal:** Erection of part two storey/part single storey rear extension, replacement front porch, detached double garage with storage above and detached block of three timber stables.

**Case Officer:** Matthew Mortonson

[Click for further information](#)

### Comments Details

**Comments:** I have the following comments to make on this application: 1) The revised designs address the issues I raised previously in relation to adverse impact on the Welburn Conservation Area and the adjacent Listed Buildings. 2) I do however still have concerns about adverse impact on the AONB landscape, in relation to the level of glazing proposed in the upper storey of the extension. This relates to the retention of the apex glazing feature, which has no vernacular tradition within the AONB. Although the design is significantly more in keeping than the first version, it is still a fact that this house is on the edge of Welburn village, it will be significantly visible, and the network of footpaths and bridleways to the north of the village is extensively used by both locals and visitors. As such, the fenestration will be a particularly important detail and I feel that the apex glazing in this situation will be an incongruous feature of the external aspect of the village. Paul Jackson

## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 09 October 2014 17:17  
**To:** 'dm@ryedale.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** 14/00953/FUL: Erection of block of 2 stables, Rectory Lane, Nunnington

I have the following observations to make on these proposals:

1. Although the building uses vernacular materials, I have some fairly significant concerns about its potentially adverse impact on the character of the Nunnington Conservation Area.
2. The Conservation Area in this part of Nunnington is quite open, with extensive views out between the houses on Rectory Lane to the backland areas. The current stone outbuildings of the properties on the east side of Rectory Lane are low single storey structures, aligned north-south and with a ridge height of c.3.5m. There are also some low timber garage structures, with a ridge height of c.1.9m.
3. The proposed stable block sits behind one of the garage structures and, being aligned east-west, would result in a gable-end wall and visible roofslope (at odds with the alignment of the remainder of the buildings) some 2.7m taller than the garage in front of it. No elevations from a street perspective have been provided, to enable an assessment of any potential visual impact to be made.
4. Whilst I have no objection to the principle of a block of stables, it appears that the size/dimensions proposed would result in a larger/taller building than would be necessary to perform the stated function. It is also unclear why the proposed stables aren't located on the site of the existing derelict timber building, given that the grass paddock area is small in size and a building in the proposed location would further reduce the amount of grazing land available.
5. In conclusion, I feel that this building would have a detrimental impact on the Nunnington Conservation Area (and hence the character of the AONB) and would prefer to see it both reduced in size/height *and* located on the site of the existing derelict timber building. This would bring its height and alignment into harmony with the other buildings in this part of the Conservation Area.

Paul Jackson  
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## Paul Jackson

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**From:** Paul Jackson  
**Sent:** 04 November 2014 13:37  
**To:** 'yorkshirenortheast@forestry.gsi.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** FLA 12/90/14-15: Scar Wood, Gilling East

I have the following observations to make in relation to these proposals:

1. Scar Wood is a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation and hence a Natural Environment Priority Site in the AONB Management Plan.
2. It is Ancient Woodland, with some areas of ASNW but also some sections that have been replanted with broadleaves or mixed conifers/broadleaves. The AONB Unit organised and completed a felling and replanting operation on a coupe immediately to the east of the proposed felling site some 6-7 years ago, as well as a sycamore removal/replacement with NBL operation on two older replanting schemes.
3. The section now proposed for felling appears to be the area of broadleaves, larch and spruce which was replanted some 50-60 years ago, judging by the size of the trees.
4. Previous felling schemes have generally left a fringe of broadleaves along the southern edge, so as not to create a break in the skyline. The mixed nature of the crop would appear to make this difficult for this particular coupe, unless there are any specific mature broadleaved trees that might be considered wind-firm.
5. A replanting mix has obvious not been specified at this stage, but this would be the ideal opportunity to revert this area of PAWS to Native Woodland, which would be in line with the aspirations for the site as contained in the AONB Management Plan (Objective NE3.3 and Site 1.25).

Paul Jackson  
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**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 2013/14 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 2013/14, 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 2013/14**

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Measure for the indicator</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
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 (54%)</b></p> <p><b>4 CPGs (84%);</b> <b>1 Partnership Group (26%);</b> <b>1 SDF Grant Panel.</b></p> <p><b>No</b> (Full review October 2001). 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. 1 x AONB Officer. 1 x AONB Assistant (0.5 f.t.e.) <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>0 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 £207,225</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 £187,781</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 £337,545</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>37%</b>	
			The percentage of the figure above which was received from Local Authorities.	<b>18%</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).</p> <p>Submitted its interim grant claim by the required date (31<sup>st</sup> January).</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Yes.</b> 2012/13 report published Sept 2013.</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 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>12</b> Ryedale/Scarborough/AONB BAP, River Rye project Working Group, NYBAG, LEADER Support Group, LEADER LAG, NYCC Ranger Team 3 Liaison Group, Development Officers Group, Northern Powergrid DPCR5 Working Group, Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project, North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Partnership, Protected Landscapes/LEP group, Moors & More Tourism Network	
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> (3 x LAs, NE; FC; 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)	18 ex 28 (64%)	
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 - <b>79%</b>  'All Partnership' - <b>86%</b>  Progress against a further 0 Objectives where no specific annual targets had been set.	Demonstrates that the AONB Unit achieves the objectives and actions it sets itself.

**Abbreviations:** CPG – Core Partners Group; ES – Environmental Stewardship; HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund; NYCC – North Yorkshire County Council; NYMNP – North York Moors National Park; BAP – Biodiversity Action Plan partnership; NYBAG – North Yorkshire Biodiversity Action Group; SG – Steering Group

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**BUSINESS PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider the next steps for improving the efficiency of AONB Unit processes and also potential options for future office accommodation.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At the meeting of the JAC in November 2013, the AONB Manager presented a paper that outlined possible responses to unknown but probably significant reductions in funding from both Defra and the Local Authorities for 2015/16 and beyond.
- 2.2 Defra is by far the largest single contributor to the funding partnership. It provides a maximum of 75% assistance towards Core costs (staff, office, promotional work, Management Plan production, etc), with the remainder of its grant available for use on Projects at a rate of up to 100%. The Defra grant has declined by 21% over the four financial years 2011/12 to 2014/15.
- 2.3 North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) is the largest Local Authority contributor, providing approximately £35,000 in 'cash', a further £4,000 in grant-eligible centralised services (where the costs were original de-centralised) and also financial and HR services. Some decrease in the NYCC 'cash' contribution has been experienced since 2011/12, but not as significant as was originally indicated (matching the Defra percentage cut). The 2020 North Yorkshire programme aims to reduce the total NYCC budget by c.£62m by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, with the programme of reductions principally commencing in 2015/16.
- 2.4 The positions of the two principal funders for 2015/16, as best they are known at present, is:
- a) Defra. At the National AONBs Conference in July Lord de Mauley said "For 2015/16, despite a nearly 10% cut to Defra funding, subject to all the usual caveats, I can say we plan to maintain AONB budgets at the 2014/15 level. Recognising the small size of your staff and the need to keep external partner funding coming in. Can I say upfront that I am fully committed to maintaining AONB grant-in-aid at the highest level my department can afford." We are unlikely to know the exact Defra contribution until probably December.
  - b) NYCC. A saving of £34,000 in Grants to External Partnerships is contained in the 2020 North Yorkshire programme, to be implemented in 2016/17. A number of different partnerships, including the Howardian Hills AONB, receive contributions from the Partnerships Budget. At present it is unclear as to what percentage of the £34,000 reduction may be attributed to the Howardian Hills AONB contribution. No reduction in contribution is currently scheduled for 2015/16.
- 2.5 Despite the indications outlined above, the 2015/16 JAC budget presented as part of another Item on this Agenda makes a working assumption of a 2% reduction from Defra.
- 2.6 It is still impossible to predict the budget position for 2016/17 onwards with any certainty. Although the overall level of NYCC reduction in contributions to external partnerships is known, it is likely to be another year before any firm figures on individual reductions are known. Likewise, following the General Election in May 2015, it's unlikely that any indication of future funding levels by Defra will be known until around December 2015.
- 2.7 Two areas of work require attention over the next six month period, to best position the AONB Unit for future challenges.

### 3.0 PROCESSES FOR DISTRIBUTING MONEY TO PROJECTS

- 3.1 Members will be aware that, after returning from Maternity Leave in autumn 2012, Liz Bassindale reduced her working hours to 4 days per week. Since November 2012 Rebecca Thompson has been on secondment from the North York Moors National Park Authority, to help deliver countryside management projects whilst other staff concentrated on the AONB Management Plan review and delivery of the final year of the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project. Originally scheduled to end on 31<sup>st</sup> March, the secondment was extended for seven months and Rebecca finished on 28<sup>th</sup> October. The capacity of the AONB Unit has therefore decreased by 1 day per week and some efficiency measures need to be put in place to offset this.
- 3.2 Although the AONB Manager does a small amount of project work, this role is principally the responsibility of the AONB Officer. With a reduction in hours for this post, the administrative processes for the grant schemes that the AONB Unit runs have been examined and efficiency measures identified. It is proposed to introduce these gradually during the current financial year, to see how they work before full roll-out in 2015/16.
- 3.3 The proposed changes are summarised below:
- a) Instead of having a Project Fund and a Sustainable Development Fund (SDF), merge these to create three strands of one AONB Enhancement 'grant pot', to retain transparency for Defra and JAC accounting purposes. The three strands to be Natural Environment; Historic Environment; and Sustainable Development & Rural Economy. All projects funded over the last three years would have fitted into one of these strands.
  - b) Distribution of project funding to be via a mixture of grants (principally where applicants approach us); commissioning (where we approach applicants); and contributions to funding partnerships (e.g. with Visit York, Visit England, North York Moors National Park, etc).
  - c) Application forms (with updated wording as applicable) to be revised and simplified. The current simple 1-page form, made more generic, will be sufficient for the large majority of schemes – all countryside management and community projects, as well as SDF-type projects seeking less than £2,000 in grant aid.
  - d) The Project Ideas Form currently used for the SDF scheme is still felt to be needed for larger/more complex Sustainable Development projects seeking grant aid of more than £2,000. This is to ensure that applicants don't waste time applying for funding for projects which aren't eligible. A fuller application form would then be required, once the Project Ideas Form had been approved.
  - e) Grant offers/contributions to be authorised at AONB Unit level, with JAC Chairman approval needed for any that constitute more than 25% of the funding available within the relevant grant pot strand. This level is proposed based on the current position of c.£20,000 being available within each strand – it will be reviewed in the future if funding increases or decreases significantly. Any transfer of money between strands of more than 25% will also require JAC Chairman approval.
  - f) The AONB Unit will consult with specialists where they feel that further technical knowledge or guidance may be useful in assessing projects.
  - g) Changes to the grant offer paperwork, to update the wording and delete Acceptance Forms in the cases where they are superfluous.
- 3.4 In addition to the general overhaul of the projects funding framework, some more specific efficiency improvements are proposed for cases where grants are given for Natural Environment or Historic Environment projects:
- a) For regular small grants (e.g. churchyard management) an agreed management schedule will be developed in return for a fixed grant sum (max. £150). No separate annual application forms will be needed once this agreement is approved. Claims will be made



where applicable each year via the submission of a Claim Form and a copy of the associated contractor's invoice. No site inspections will be made.

- b) For those grants where the work is included in the North York Moors National Park Authority's Standard Costs schedule (and has an associated specification), grants will consist of a variable percentage of these Standard Costs. This will remove the need for applicants to obtain and submit detailed prices, and for the AONB Unit staff to go through application forms in minute detail. Applicants can then do the work themselves or pay a contractor to do all or part of the job. Grant offers will therefore be a simpler process, although an initial site/advisory visit and a final inspection will still be necessary.
- c) For 'commissioned' projects we are still likely to need to negotiate an in-kind contribution from the applicant and then procure/organise contractor/s to carry out the work. The implementation of these schemes relies on the AONB Unit organising much if not all of the work, so opportunities for efficiency savings are more limited.

#### **4.0 AONB UNIT OFFICE**

- 4.1 At the JAC meeting in November last year the corresponding report to this one gave a simple overview of the situation in relation to the AONB office – the costs, lease arrangements and some possible alternatives.
- 4.2 The lease on the current office at Wath Court was renewed with effect from 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013, for a period of 4 years but with a break clause after 2 years (December 2015). If the current office was to be given up in December 2015, 6 months' notice would need to be given to the Landlord.
- 4.4 With reference to Section 2 above, Members will note that the funding situation for 2016/17 is unclear, and won't have any clarity until probably at least late Autumn 2015, whilst if the current office was to be vacated in December 2015 then notice would need to be given in June 2015.
- 4.5 It should be borne in mind that, with the level of Reserves available, it should be possible to ride-out the situation from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 until 9<sup>th</sup> December 2017 (the period of potential significant reductions in funding contributions from the main partners, and during which we'd be unable to move offices). It is probably therefore not *essential* for the AONB Unit to move in December 2015, but the Committee may not consider this to be the best use of the Reserves and may wish to take action to get 'ahead of the curve'.
- 4.6 Members are requested to consider whether they wish the AONB Manager to undertake any work on scoping possible alternative office locations, with information to be brought back to the Committee in April 2015 to enable a final decision to be made. Preliminary work indicates that costs could potentially be reduced from the current £17,500pa to approximately £11,000pa.

#### **5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- a) Members note the efficiency changes proposed for the project funding processes.
- b) Members provide a decision on whether to undertake any work to scope options for changing the location of the AONB Unit office, as outlined in Section 4 above.

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14 NOVEMBER 2014**

**AONB BUDGET**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive details of expenditure during 2013/14 and to consider anticipated budgetary needs for 2015/16.

**2.0 2013/14**

- 2.1 Details of the final income and expenditure account for 2013/14 are set out in Appendix 1. Details of countryside management and Sustainable Development Fund projects supported are in Appendix 2.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 includes the budget figures prepared in October 2012, 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 2012' 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 2013' column.
- 2.3 There were few significant variations between the Estimated and Actual spends, with the overall profile of the budget showing a 2% 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.
- 2.4 Staffing:
- No significant deviation from budget provision.
- 2.5 Office:
- A slight overspend, due to the Jacobs fees for re-negotiating the lease on the AONB office being slightly higher than budgeted for.
- 2.6 Partnership Running Costs:
- No significant deviation from budget provision.
- 2.7 PR/Events/Research + Management Plan:
- No significant deviation from budget provision, with an overspend on the Management Plan element balanced by an underspend on other items.
- 2.8 Sustainable Development Fund:
- No significant deviation from budget provision. The stock of projects delayed from the previous year due to the weather was completed.
  - Projects were funded in 5 villages, including 1 Village Hall project.
- 2.9 AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment:
- No significant deviation from budget provision.
  - Three hedgerow restoration schemes were completed, at Stearsby, Ampleforth and Oswaldkirk. In total 710m of hedgerow was planted, either as completely new hedges or as gapping-up. Fourteen new individual trees were planted, of which 10 were black poplar.
  - Two major wall restoration schemes were completed at Brandsby and Oulston. A total of 328m of wall was refurbished.

- The routine Exmoor pony grazing programme and annual SINC management tasks were completed.
- Volunteers carried on with significant rhododendron removal in the Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC, whilst contractors were again brought in to chip the resultant brash to allow the ground flora to recover.

#### 2.10 AONB Enhancement – Historic Environment:

- This budget spent 80% of its provision.
- The largest single project was the restoration of 5 traditional direction signs.
- £240 match funding was given to the Ryedale LEADER Small Scale Enhancements Scheme, which yielded 5 community-led heritage restoration or interpretation projects worth a total of £9,000.

#### 2.11 Enjoying the AONB:

- The largest single item of expenditure was the installation of 22 of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary log benches. Small grants were also made to villages who wanted to install a more formal event to mark the anniversary.
- An interpretation board near Yearsley, an information leaflet and 5 sculptural seats were placed within the Gilling Castle Park, as the final part of the CAN DO Yearsley Moor Archaeology Project.
- The programme of litter picking carried out around the AONB during the summer months was completed by the Basics Plus team, and the gateway signs were kept clear and tidy.
- A new Great Outdoors Guide was produced in association with Welcome to Yorkshire and the North York Moors National Park (10% contribution from AONB) and a Green Traveller Guide was also completed, with some residual funding from the old Area Tourism Partnership.
- A contribution was made to a ‘North York Moors’ promotional campaign run by Visit England, with contributions also from the North York Moors National Park and Ryedale District Council.

#### 2.12 Young People’s Activities:

- Full-day Junior Ranger Club sessions were held in April, May, October and February.
- The last full year of the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning Project was completed, with 7 Round Three visits and 7 Round Four visits held.

#### 2.13 Summarising the budget position at the end of 2013/14:

- Overall, the AONB budget was underspent by approximately £4,000 (2%) – the Core element was underspent by £344 (<1%) and the Project element by £3,750 (4%).
- It had been budgeted to use £12,374 of our Reserves, with the final figure being £12,044.
- At the end of the financial year 2013/14 there was a carry-forward into 2014/15 of £45,689.
- £9,323 has been allocated to projects in 14/15.
- The remainder will be safeguarded for use in future years, to off-set what will be declining resources from the principal funders. 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.
- Volunteer assisted with 18 tasks or projects, worth at least 138 days or £10,850.

### 3.0 2014/15

3.1 The agreed budget for the current year amounts to £176,026. Details of this are set out in Appendix 3 and all the major partners’ contributions to the budget have been confirmed. The budget does not include the balance of the Reserves of £45,689 from 2013/14, although Members will note that £9,323 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 2014/15:

- The figures presented in Appendix 3 are where we stand at the minute, although we will continue to take new funding opportunities if they arise and are appropriate.
- The strategy to use our Reserves wisely to offset reducing Defra and NYCC funding over future years continues to be followed. This aims to balance project resources with available staff resources, to maintain as far as possible the funding available to complete on-the-ground projects. £9,323 of Reserves is therefore earmarked for use in 2014/15.
- 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:

- It is anticipated that the out-turn will be close to the budget provision.

### 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 has been completed and the Annual Report will be published shortly.
- A small overspend on this budget head is anticipated, due to needing to use an external company rather than the NYCC in-house team to produce the AONB Newsletter.

### 3.6 Management Plan:

- An underspend on this budget head is anticipated, due to lower than expected production costs for the final Plan documents.

### 3.7 Sustainable Development Fund:

- The £17,500 budget is currently under-committed by £2,100.
- If any further high-value grant applications are received then it is likely that we would move money from the Natural Environment budget in order to be able to support them.

### 3.8 AONB Enhancement (Natural Environment):

- £8,000 of the £20,000 budget has been allocated, with other anticipated projects accounting for a further £5,850 in possible expenditure. It is however unlikely that all these projects will be completed during this financial year, although we believe the majority will be. Any underspend will be balanced against an anticipated overspend on the Historic Environment budget.
- The most significant projects so far this year are wall restoration projects at Brandsby and strimming Himalayan balsam along Wath Beck.
- Projects in the pipeline, and with commitments already made, include an extensive in-field and boundary tree planting project on a farm at Sproxton and the management of Special Interest Road Verges in March 2015.

### 3.9 AONB Enhancement (Historic Environment):

- £4,500 of the £10,000 budget has been formally allocated, with a further £9,000 of projects in the pipeline.
- These include restoration of a further batch of traditional direction signs and repair of a Listed farm building at Newburgh.

### 3.10 Enjoying the AONB:

- The full £3,000 budget has already been over-allocated by £600. This is due to taking an unforeseen opportunity to get all our walks leaflet maps digitised as part of a much larger project.
- The Moorswork group are continuing to clear litter from well-used lay-bys, and the AONB Gateway Sign locations are being strimmed regularly.
- £1,250 has been contributed to a Visit York project to promote two-centre breaks between York and the Howardian Hills/Ryedale. A press release has recently been issued and web pages and a banner have been produced. This is shaping up to potentially be a very productive collaboration.
- The remaining three 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logs seats have been installed.

- 3.11 Young People's Activities:
- This primarily consists of the final part of the Rural:Urban Schools Twinning project. The final twinning visits have been completed, final reports written and the final claim submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund.
  - A programme of Junior Ranger Club events is being delivered very cost-effectively, in partnership with either Howsham Mill or the Yorkshire Arboretum.
- 3.12 Wherever an underspend is indicated in the above paragraphs, money can be moved as necessary to ensure that it is used to best effect and a full claim can be submitted to Defra for their contribution.
- 4.0 2015/16**
- 4.1 An estimate of anticipated expenditure during the next financial year is shown in Appendix 3. As indicated in the previous report on this agenda, it will be late in the current financial year before the exact position of any of 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, it should 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 reduce slightly. The AONB Officer will be solely Liz Bassindale at 4 days/week (0.8 FTE), now that Rebecca Thompson's 0.1FTE secondment has finished.
  - The current proposed 2.2% (over 15 months) national inflation pay award has been factored-in.
  - Principal work tasks for this year will include providing responses to planning-related consultations (including maybe shale gas developments), providing information material to support visitors coming to the AONB, delivering biodiversity, historic environment and community projects (utilising new LEADER and Defra grant schemes where possible) and starting the first year of a Scheduled Monuments Management Scheme (subject to English Heritage funding).
  - Should English Heritage provide funding for the proposed project described above then this would help support part of the costs of the AONB Officer post.
- 4.4 Office costs:
- Because a final decision on whether the AONB office should move in December 2015 won't be taken until April 2015, the running costs for the office are based on a full year at Wath Court. If the office moves then the rent will go down for the final quarter, but this could be off-set by transitional costs such as early-exit fees, decorating, installation of a new ICT network, etc.
- 4.5 Partnership Running Costs:
- A broadly similar provision to 2014/15 has been made. NAAONB contribution fees are not set to rise for 2015/16, although this is subject to approval at the forthcoming AGM in late November.
- 4.6 PR/Events/Research:
- A small decrease in budget compared to 2014/15 is proposed.
  - The AONB Newsletter and Annual Report will continue to be published and distributed – this is felt to be good value for money in keeping local residents and partner organisations informed of opportunities to become involved in AONB management. Production costs will however be minimised by producing an electronic-only version of the Annual Report and by bringing all the design and production work back in-house with the County Council Document Management Centre.

- A small provision has been made for renewing several of our display banners, which now contain information that is beginning to look very out-of-date.

#### 4.7 AONB Enhancement: Natural Environment & Historic Environment

- An allocation of £18,500 has been made for Natural Environment Enhancement projects.
- The budget allocation for Historic Environment projects has been set at £11,000. This includes a currently estimated figure of £1,000 from English Heritage for work on Scheduled Monuments.

#### 4.8 AONB Enhancement: Sustainable Development & Rural Economy:

- This new budget head has been created by amalgamating the previous budgets for the Sustainable Development Fund and Access/Recreation & Communities. The rationale behind this is explained in the Business Planning for the Future report elsewhere on this Agenda.
- The budget will continue to cover grants to individuals and groups for sustainable development projects and also the work on recreation management projects (litter picking; gateway sign maintenance; self-guided routes leaflets).
- It will also now include however the contributions made to initiatives such as the Visit York promotional campaign described in para. 3.10.

#### 4.9 Young People's Activities:

- Budget provision has been made to continue running the popular programme of Junior Ranger Club days. These will be run principally in partnership with the Yorkshire Arboretum, although they may also be rotating around AONB village venues too.

### 5.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- (a) The details of JAC expenditure during 2013/14 be received for information;
- (b) Partner authorities be asked to consider making financial contributions towards the work of the JAC in 2015/16, in line with Appendix 3 and section 4 of this report.

**HOWARDIAN HILLS AONB****INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2013/14****1. INCOME 2013/14**

<b>(a) BUDGET PROVISION</b>	<b>Estimated (Oct. 2012)</b>	<b>Defra Bid (Jan. 2013)</b>	<b>Final (Sept. 2013)</b>	<b>Actual (Year end) £</b>
Defra	125,577	125,577	125,578	125,578
North Yorkshire County Council	37,045	38,170	38,595	38,675
Ryedale District Council	5,684	5,684	5,684	5,684
Hambleton District Council	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Heritage Lottery Fund ( <i>in-year</i> )	15,000	15,000	15,000	9,039
LEADER	13,000	13,000	13,000	10,398
FEP preparation fees	1,000	1,000	0	0
English Heritage	0	0	0	0
Donations	0	0	0	7
Taken from Reserves	[18,000]	[12,000]	[12,374]	[12,044]
<b>(b) TOTAL (ESTIMATED) INCOME</b>	<b>(221,106)</b>	<b>(216,231)</b>	<b>(216,031)</b>	<b>(207,225)</b>

**2. EXPENDITURE 2013/14****Core Expenditure**

(a) Staffing	94,070	94,070	94,070	92,702
(b) Office	18,826	18,826	18,826	19,176
(c) Partnership running costs	4,200	4,200	4,200	4,467
(d) PR, Events, Research, etc.	5,810	6,960	6,960	5,210
(e) Management Plan	1,250	(in PR budget)	(in PR budget)	2,157

**Project Expenditure**

(f) Sustainable Development Fund	25,000	22,200	22,000	22,647
(g) AONB Enhancement (Natural environment)	22,400	19,000	19,000	18,170
(h) AONB Enhancement (Historic environment)	17,075	15,000	15,000	12,014
(i) Enjoying the AONB	2,975	6,475	6,475	6,060
(j) Young People's Activities	29,500	29,500	29,500	24,622
<b>(k) TOTAL (ESTIMATED) EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(221,106)</b>	<b>(216,231)</b>	<b>(216,031)</b>	<b>(207,225)</b>

### 3. 2013/14 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

	Income £		Expenditure £
Local Authority Partners	50,159	Expenditure	207,226
Defra	125,578		
Heritage Lottery Fund	9,039	Heritage Lottery Fund c/f to 2014/15	0
LEADER	10,398		
English Heritage	0		
FEP preparation fees	0		
Donations	7		
Brought forward from 2012/13	57,734	Balance c/f to 2014/15	45,689
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	<b>252,915</b>		<b>252,915</b>

(All figures rounded to the nearest £)



## AONB PROJECTS 2013/2014

1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014

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

### AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment

APPLICANT/ (CONTRACTOR)	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	JAC ASSISTANCE
M Marshall	Brandsby	Wall restoration (topstones) – stone supply and labour	Zone 1 Landscape	AG2.2	£1,550	£1,550
K Snowball	High Farm, Brandsby	Repairing gaps in 250m of roadside wall	Zone 1 Landscape	AG2.2	c.£5,000	£4,200
Oulston Parish Meeting	Oulston	Wall restoration (33m)	-	HE4.5	£8,469	£1,800
Mrs B Gilbert	Stearsby	Hedge restoration (90m)	Zone 3A Landscape	AG2.2	£927	£450 (50%)
Mr P Lupton	Ampleforth	Hedge restoration (320m)	-	AG2.2	£3,156	£1,500 (50)
Mrs C Burn	Oswaldkirk	Hedge restoration (300m) + 2 individual trees	Zone 2E Landscape	AG2.2	£3,680	£1,800
K Snowball	High Farm, Brandsby	Repairing gaps in 45m of roadside wall	Zone 1 Landscape	AG2.2	£2,000	£1,400

APPLICANT/ (CONTRACTOR)	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	JAC ASSISTANCE
(AONB Unit – Yorkshire Exmoor Pony Trust)	Coulton (3), Cawton (2), Ferrington (2)	Conservation grazing of 5 SINC's or other important sites	Sites 1.59, 1.60, 1.41, 1.47	NE5.1, NE6.1	£795	£387

(AONB Unit – Curlew Conservation Contractors)	Wath Beck; Terrington - Howthorpe	Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (3.5km)	Inc. Site 1.65	NE8.2	£994	£994
(AONB Unit – Countryside Services)	Wath Beck; Howthorpe - Wath	Cutting/pulling Himalayan balsam (2.3km)	Inc. Site 1.33	NE8.2	£675	£675
Amotherby Churchyard Conservation Group	Amotherby Churchyard	Habitat management	-	NE3.1, NE5.4, NE10.1	£220	£110 (50%)
(AONB Unit – Basics Plus)	Appleton-le-Street Churchyard SINC	Grassland management	-	NE5.1	£330	£110
(AONB Unit – Basics Plus)	Amotherby Lane SINC	Grassland/scrub management	Site 1.38	NE5.1, NE7.1	£110	£110
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Jeffry Bog SINC	Pulling Himalayan balsam	Site 1.74	NE6.3, NE8.2	£300	-
(AONB Volunteers)	Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC	Rhododendron control	Site 1.6	NE4.1, NE8.2, AP3.1	£450	-
(AONB Volunteers)	Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC	Rhododendron control	Site 1.6	NE4.1, NE8.2, AP3.1	£400	-
(AONB Unit – J R Clifford & Sons)	Various	Management of 45 Special Interest Road Verges	-	NE5.3	£1,500	£1,500
(AONB Volunteers)	Adjacent to Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC	Rhododendron control	-	NE4.2, NE8.2, AP3.1	£300	-
(AONB Volunteers)	Adjacent to Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC	Rhododendron control	-	NE4.2, NE8.2, AP3.1	£300	-

(Arbortech)	Park Wood Fishponds/The Wilderness SINC	Rhododendron control (chipping piles of brash)	Site 1.6	NE4.1, NE8.2	£1,100	£1,100
(AONB Unit –P Scott)	Littledale SINC	Scrub & bramble management	Site 1.20	NE5.1	£220	£220
(AONB Unit – Castle Howard Estate Ltd)	Black poplar, Stonegrave	Removal of old timber cage, formative pruning, taking of cuttings	-	NE7.1	£75	£75
R Hall	Thorn Tree Farm, Gilling	Planting 2 black poplars	-	NE7.2	£100	£80
J Hicks	Cockpit Farm, Cawton	Planting 10 black poplars within new woodland area	-	NE7.2	c.£30	c.£30
Huttons Ambo Churchyard group	Huttons Ambo Churchyard	Habitat management	-	NE3.1, NE5.4, NE10.1	£60	£30

### 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	£168	£168
(AONB Unit – P Gospel)	Mileposts	Regular maintenance	Site 2.63	HE4.5, RT4.5	£98	£98
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	City of Troy Maze, Dalby	Re-cutting and re-gravelling	Site 2.25	HE4.5	£233	£33
Mrs L Howard	Rose Cottage Farm, Terrington	Rebuilding 7m of Wiganthorpe Park wall	Site 2.92	HE4.5	£350	£175 (50%)
Ryedale DC	Ryedale	LEADER Small Scale Enhancements Scheme	-	LC1.5, RT4.5	£8,991	£241

(AONB Unit – Cleveland Corrosion Control)	Foston, Terrington, Easthorpe	Restoration of 5 traditional direction signs	-	RT4.5	£9,750	£9,750
(AONB Unit – M Aconley)	Wiganthorpe Park, Scackleton	Stone supply and walling topstones onto 250m of Park wall	Site 2.92	HE4.5	£1,550	£1,550

## 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	£220	£220
(AONB Unit – P Scott)	Various	Litter picking (5 visits)	Sites 3.8, 3.14, 3.19	D3.5	£110	£110
(AONB Unit – P Gospel)	Gateway signs	Strimming	-	AP1.1	£630	£630
(AONB Unit – Volunteers)	Jeffry Bog SINC	Strimming along boardwalk	-	RA4.5, AP3.1	£100	-
CAN DO Lime & Ice Project	Project area	2013/14 contribution	-		£30,360	£875
(AONB Volunteers)	Various	Volunteer effort on PRow in the AONB (2 people/week, every other week)	-	RA4.5, AP3.1	£2,500	-
Hovingham Playground Committee	Hovingham	Picnic bench - 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	-	AP1.5	£340	£170
Ampleforth PC	Ampleforth	Bench - 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	-	AP1.5	£234	£120
Crambeck Management Co. Ltd	Crambeck	Labelling trees around the village	-	NE10.1, LC1.5	£305	£155 (50%)
Hovingham Playground Group	Hovingham	Creating a willow play-dragon	-	LC1.5, AP2.3	£515	£200
(AONB Unit)	Various	Installing 22 x 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary log benches	-	AP1.5	£2,514	£2,214
(AONB Unit)	Wider North York Moors	Visit England campaign	-	AP2	£15,000	£1,000

(AONB Volunteers)	Various	Volunteer effort – Junior Ranger Club, Ryedale Show, guided walks, PRow Condition surveying, etc.	-	AP3.1	£1,220	£20
(AONB Unit)	Arboretum; Ampleforth	Junior Ranger Club	-	RA2.4	£1,007	£305
(AONB Volunteers)	Various	Volunteer effort - Schools Twinning Project	-	RA2.4, AP2.3, AP3.1	£4,200	-

## **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANTS 2013/2014**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014

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

APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROJECT	LOCAL PRIORITY	OBJECTIVE	SCHEME COST	SDF ASSISTANCE
Crayke Primary School	Crayke	Construction of an outdoor classroom, for school and community use	-	LC1.5	£15,000	£2,000
Huttons Ambo PC	Huttons Ambo	Installation of 2 timber bus shelters	-	LC1.5	£2,914	£1,300
Renewable Heritage Trust	Howsham Mill	Installation of 2 composting toilets	-	LC1.5	£2,621	£1,966
Hustwaite Village Hall Committee	Hustwaite Village Hall	Hustwaite Village Hall energy efficiency features	-	LC1.5	£31,698	£7,500 (24%)
Rural Action Yorkshire	AONB	Sustainable Rural Communities project, working with communities on community planning	-	LC1.5	£4,814	£3,610
Terrington VH Committee	Terrington Village Hall	Provision of accessible public toilet, to replace one lost during Hall extension works	-	RA11.3	£5,902	£1,950
Gilling East PCC	Gilling Church	Repairs to porch walls & door and installation of noticeboards	-	AP2	£6,457	£1,980
Yorkshire Arboretum	Arboretum	Creation of 12 children's explorer backpacks	-	AP2	£449	£342
North East Yorkshire Geology Trust	Ampleforth	Geonauts Club	-	AP2	£4,000	£2,000 (50%)

	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
<b>BUDGET ESTIMATES</b>	(October 2014)	
<b>Core Costs</b>		
Staffing	91,916	90,054
Office	17,575	17,375
Partnership running costs	3,650	3,400
PR, Events, Research	4,385	4,000
Management Plan	3,000	0
<b>Total Core Costs</b>	<b>120,526</b>	<b>114,829</b>
<b>Project Costs</b>		
Sustainable Development Fund	17,500	0
AONB Enhancement – Natural Environment	20,000	18,500
AONB Enhancement – Historic Environment	10,000	11,000
AONB Enhancement – Sustainable Development & Rural Economy	0	23,500
Access/Recreation & Communities	3,000	0
Young People's activities	5,000	300
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>55,500</b>	<b>53,300</b>
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>176,026</b>	<b>168,129</b>
<b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		
North Yorkshire CC	38,575	37,865
Ryedale DC	5,066	5,066
Hambleton DC	5,800	5,800
Defra	116,109	113,787
English Heritage	0	5,000
Heritage Lottery Fund	3,535	0
Reserves	6,941	611
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176,026</b>	<b>168,129</b>
Reserves b/f from 2013/14	45,689	
<i>Reserves c/f to 2016/17</i>		<i>c.43,300</i>

## **CEO's Report of work completed for NAAONB Business Plan October 2013 - October 2014**

Report to: The Annual General Meeting of the National Association for AONBs

Subject: CEO's Report of work completed for NAAONB Business Plan Oct 2013 - Oct 2014

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Author: Howard Davies (Chief Executive)

Purpose: For information

Our focus over this last year has been to:

- complete delivery of agreed business plan objectives
- agree future business plan priorities
- position the AONB Family for the next spending round
- ensure UK government has a clear understanding of the AONB partnerships and the issues they face
- increase productivity through development of collaborative working
- grow resources for the NAAONB and AONB Family
- remain responsive to the needs of the AONB Family and individual members
- increase the performance and productivity of the NAAONB

In doing so we have:

- improved AONB Family productivity through action learning
- increased collaboration and collective action across the AONB Family
- ensured clarity around the impact of further cuts and changes to the MoA (in England)
- maintained productive relationships with politicians and civil servants
- articulated the value of the AONB model to a wide audience
- had a significant input to policy development in England and Wales
- provided new income streams for activity at the local level

A detailed commentary on progress is included in Annex 1 - Business Plan Activity Report October 2013 - October 2014.

This year has been a year of transition, and in common with all AONB partnerships, this has taken place within the context of decreasing public sector funding. We worked hard to secure a favourable settlement for AONB partnerships in England for the 2014/15 financial year and whilst still significant, the cut was less than that applied to Defra budgets in general and the same as the National Park Authorities. Likewise, we worked closely with the AONB Family in England and Defra to ensure that there were no further cuts in-year, despite additional pressures on Defra budgets. This work has proved successful.

With the continued support of additional staff seconded to the NAAONB, we have made important steps towards changing the way we work. Our intention of fostering an interdependent network of AONB staff and partnership members, working collaboratively on delivering collective actions, is being realised. We have demonstrated the importance of action learning as a progressive move away from traditional training, with results seen across many areas of AONB working, particularly around national communications, corporate engagement, and sustainable tourism. Likewise, we have worked hard to diversify our funding streams, secure external funding for projects and develop productive

relationships with new partners, some from the private sector. Importantly, the NAAONB successfully bid for funding from the Cabinet Office/DECC for an NAAONB-led Community Energy Peer to Peer Mentoring partnership. This partnership is delivering a programme of study visits, events and practical tools to support social action that drive active woodland management with individuals, communities and AONB partnerships clearly benefitting at the local level.

Basecamp, our online forum, is being used regularly by AONB partnership staff and is proving a valuable tool for information exchange, collaborative learning and consensus building. Online platforms will be further enhanced as our Knowledge Platform is populated with examples of good practice from across the AONB Family.

Communication has remained central to our work with the completion of a nationally supported communications strategy. Work is now taking place on developing and delivering on an action plan and national brand strategy. Likewise, the importance of our national conference as a communications and networking platform has been recognised, and we delivered another well attended and well received Landscapes for Life Conference in Penrith during the summer.

Meetings have been held with Members of both chambers of Parliament in England, Assembly Members in Wales, senior civil servants and board members of both Natural England and Natural Resources Wales to raise not only the importance of the AONB Family but the challenges you are currently facing. These meetings have been well received and have clearly helped inform debate. We have also worked to ensure Ministers and other key decision makers have an opportunity to experience first-hand the work you do on the ground.

Our relationship with Defra, Natural England, and Natural Resources Wales also remains central to going forwards. The tripartite relationship, and its associated work programme, underpins our relationship with government at a UK level, and the strategic partnership we have with Natural Resources Wales does likewise in Wales. It is essential that we maintain these crucial relationships with governments and that we maximise the effectiveness of the role we play as a channel of communication between AONB partnerships and their respective governments.

We have maintained a steady input to the debate in Wales over public service delivery, and presented responses and evidence to Welsh Government on a number of subjects relevant to AONB partnerships. Work in Wales around the protected landscape policy statement and governance review continues to be particularly significant, not only for Welsh AONB partnerships but for the AONB Family as a whole. Likewise, we have provided considered input to many consultation responses in England. We must think further on enhanced devolution and how we want this to impact on the AONB Family.

We continue to work with others to maximise effectiveness. Our close links with CNP, the Alliance of National Parks Cymru, CPRE, CPRW, to name just a few, highlight the value we place in close working with other third sector organisations. These working alliances allow us to provide data and intelligence to other organisations working to support your purpose in ways that we cannot.



We continue to ensure AONB partnerships remain at the forefront of sustainable tourism development in England, particularly around the joint work we are doing with VisitEngland on a strategic approach to tourism. Likewise, we are working closely with the National Park Authorities and VisitBritain on further development of the role of protected areas in the **Britain is Great** campaign.

Whilst we cannot see into the future, and remain mindful of the difficult decisions national and local politicians are making, we are clearly punching above our weight. It is easy to make comparisons between the NAAONB and other national organisations but we mustn't forget that we are operating with a budget comparable to that of a small Wildlife Trust. In addition, our relationship with governments is fundamentally different from that of many other third sector organisations.

We continue to remain opportunist with regards wider collaboration with National Park Authorities. The recent LUC report on maximising revenues for protected landscapes gives us a very strong base from which we can move forward together. This will not only strengthen the protected landscapes family but will, no doubt, provide opportunities for income generation on the ground that wouldn't exist otherwise.

For the National Association for AONBs it has been a year of major transition. The need to invest in change and move away from existing relationships during a period of falling income meant utilising some of our reserves in 2013. Action taken to increase income and reduce expenditure, coupled with the aspirations and budget set out in the next Business Plan, will help to replenish reserves and deliver a carefully focused programme of targeted activity.

Whilst we cannot predict the future, we do know it will be different. Cuts to the public sector will continue, and their impact will be significant. We are in the most difficult funding environment in memory, and our whole approach to managing these special landscapes is changing. We cannot approach this in isolation. We need to remain adaptable, progressive and collaborative, and remain mindful that change, whilst often led by individuals and ideas, is most effective when tested, applied and propagated through collective action.