

AONB MANAGER'S REPORT

18th MARCH 2015 – 21st OCTOBER 2015

Work during this period has principally consisted of:

- Planning application consultation responses.
- Preparation of papers for the March JAC meeting, including checking/updating information for the report making a recommendation for re-locating the AONB office.
- Starting delivery of the Monuments Management Scheme, overseeing delivery of the volunteers training day and survey programme.
- Finalising details of new office and storage space to be taken at The Old Vicarage in Helmsley.
- Ensuring that Notice was formally given to the landlord in time to terminate the lease on the Wath Court office in December.
- Carrying out site assessment visits for the next batch of villages to be put forward for the NPG programme of undergrounding electricity cables.
- Starting to develop a series of Easy Access routes for visitors with mobility impairments.
- Continuing the Monuments Management Scheme, overseeing delivery of the volunteers survey programme.
- Helping prepare the final Report for the Dales & Moors Farm Innovation Project.
- Clearing out old paperwork in preparation for the office move.
- Preparation of the 2014/15 Annual Report.
- Writing copy for the 2015 AONB Newsletter.
- Writing copy for the new AONB website.
- Preparing new documentation for the AONB's Project Fund grant scheme.
- Annual Leave.

MEETINGS

- LNP Board, Northallerton
- March JAC
- Northern Powergrid RIIO-ED1 conference calls (x5)
- Northern Powergrid RIIO-ED1 Steering Group (x2)
- Dales & Moors Farm Innovation project, Harrogate (x6)
- Ryedale PROW Local Liaison Group, Helmsley
- Increasing Visitor Spend in Ryedale's Market Towns workshop, Malton
- SEP Uplands Growth Plan meetings, York (x2)
- AONB Partnership Group meeting, Yorkshire Arboretum
- Jacobs A64 Report final draft, Malton
- Discussion about development of Easy Access routes with Open Country, Harrogate
- Annual Action Programme quarterly meeting (x2)
- Dales & Moors Farm Innovation project - conference call on future development
- LEADER Support Group, Helmsley

- Woodland Conservation Partnership Group, Helmsley
- North Yorkshire Geodiversity Partnership, County Hall
- Visit York/Ryedale DC/HHAONB partnership – next programme of publicity, Malton (x2)
- Liz Small – introduction for new NYCC Heritage Services Manager
- Core Partners Group
- MMS update meeting, with Historic England and NYMNP
- NYM Woodland Partnership meeting, York

Project round-up meetings with Liz.
 Monthly AONB Team meetings.
 Heritage Services Team meetings, County Hall

NAAONB

- Communications conference calls
- National Lead Officers' Meeting, Birmingham
- Northern Group AONB Lead Officers' meeting, Northumberland Coast AONB
- Northern Group AONBs meeting, Northumberland Coast AONB
- National publicity campaign to launch 'So much more than the view' publication

- National Conference, Winchester
- Game Fair, Harewood House
- Promotion of local and national events in Outstanding Week 19th – 27th Sept)

MEETINGS (FUTURE)

- Scarborough & Ryedale PRoW Local Liaison Group, Helmsley
- October JAC meeting
- Annual Action Programme quarterly meeting (x2)
- Northern Powergrid RIIO-ED1 conference calls
- Northern Powergrid RIIO-ED1 Steering Group, York
- North Yorkshire Geodiversity Partnership, County Hall
- Annual Action Programme quarterly meeting (x2)
- Core Partners Group (x2)

Project update meetings with Liz.
Monthly AONB Team meetings.

NAAONB (FUTURE)

- Northern Group AONB Lead Officers' meeting, Solway Coast AONB
- Northern Group AONBs meeting, Solway Coast AONB
- Chairmen's Conference & AGM, London

SITE VISITS

- Planning application site visits – Wiganthorpe, Terrington x 4, Firby, Sheriff Hutton, Ampleforth, Cawton, Terrington x 2, Oswaldkirk, Malton, Low Hutton, Welburn x 2, Scackleton, Easingwold, Stearsby, Husthwaite, Crayke x 4, Hovingham, Stonegrave, Sproxtun, Yearsley x 4, Brandsby x 2, Newburgh, Oulston.
- Electricity line undergrounding, Nunnington
- Office, storage space and ICT installation at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley (x3)
- Electricity line undergrounding village assessments – Low Hutton, Crambe, Ganthorpe, Coulton, Grimstone Top, Yearsley, Cawton, Oswaldkirk, Nunnington, Easthorpe, Castle Howard Gatehouse, Welburn, Husthwaite, Oulston, Skewsby
- Route for forwarder track, avoiding historic path, Gilling Castle

- PAWS restoration options, Toft Wood SINC, Brandsby

SITE VISITS (FUTURE)

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CONSULTATIONS

- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR FULL DETAILS OF CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED

PROJECTS

- Preparing papers for March JAC meeting
- Submission of 2014/15 grant claim to Defra
- Completion & submission of 2014 Agricultural State Aids report to Defra
- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR LIST OF PROJECTS GRANT AIDED
- Digitising information on conservation features in the Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC and passing it to FC
- Dales & Moors Farm Innovation project – proofreading of final Report
- Contribution to the Protected Landscapes Rural Growth Programme for submission to the LEP
- Volunteers –

PROJECTS (FUTURE)

- Preparation of October JAC papers
- OFFICE MOVE TO HELMSLEY
- Volunteers –

RECREATION/ACCESS

- Basic assessment of prospective Easy Access routes – Terrington (x2)

RECREATION/ACCESS (FUTURE)

- Further development of Easy Access routes

COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNITIES (FUTURE)

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**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/
INTERPRETATION**

- Set up HHAONB account on Twitter
- Monitoring of Twitter feed and issuing Tweets
- AONB website re-fresh
- On-going promotion via Twitter
- AONB website re-fresh
- Ryedale Show, Kirkbymoorside
- Preparation of the 2014/15 Annual Report
- Writing copy for the 2015 AONB Newsletter
- Printing and distribution of the 2014/15 Annual Report

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/
INTERPRETATION
(FUTURE)**

- Printing and distribution of the 2015 AONB Newsletter
- New programme of publicity via Visit York/Ryedale DC/HHAONB partnership

TRAINING

- Use of Twitter
- FC event on Countryside Stewardship options and process, York
- Countryside Stewardship webinar

TRAINING (FUTURE)

- NYCC Budget Managers, in use of new financial system
- Equality & Diversity

MISCELLANEOUS

- 2014/15 Appraisal sign-offs
- 2015/16 Appraisals
- Annual Leave – 1 day per week during May
- NYCC Chief Exec's Managers Briefing, County Hall
- Annual Leave 28th September – 6th October
- Annual Leave days

MISCELLANEOUS (FUTURE)

- Annual Leave days

AONB OFFICER'S REPORT

18th March – 21st October 2015

Work during this period has principally consisted of:

- Providing Project Fund applicants with application guidance and making grant offers
- MMS – development of the project, planning training day, gaining survey access permissions, producing survey packs, coordinating volunteer surveys and carrying out bracken control on two monuments
- Volunteers – developing a way for the AONB Volunteer Team to carry out work in the absence of an NYCC Volunteer Task Leader. Starting tasks with Peter Scott leading the group alongside his Moorswork team and monitoring volunteer reaction to this.
- Howardian Hills Rides and Rambles Leaflet – coordinating the partners to produce the main leaflet. Production of 12 route guide pdfs.
- Coordinating Himalayan balsam control – volunteers and contractors on four different sites
- Conservation initiatives - River Rye Group and Scarborough, Ryedale and Howardian Hills LBAP
- Exmoor Pony sites – liaising with landowners and contractors about fencing repairs
- Howardian Hills AONB Newsletter

MEETINGS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Derwent Partnership meetings (x2), Helmsley and York • Spring JAC, Hovingham • The Yorkshire Arboretum – external funding and AONB grant application advice • Local Biodiversity Action Plan • Raising Visitor Spend in Ryedale, Malton • AONB Rides and Rambles Guide (x2), Nunnington and AONB Office • AONB Partnership Group, The Yorkshire Arboretum • Development Officers, Helmsley (x2) and Malton (x1) • Moorswork and NYCC Volunteer Coordinator, Malton (x2) • AONB Work Programme quarterly meeting (x2) • Cycling in Ryedale, Malton • Local Biodiversity Action Plan Scarborough (x2) and Malton (x1) • River Rye group, Hovingham (x2) • River Rye funding, Hovingham • LEADER Delivery Plan discussion, Helmsley • Electric bike hire scheme, Malton • Cycling in Protected Landscapes (Sustrans), Leeds • Website development, Ripon • Hovingham Ward Parishes (evening meeting), Hovingham • MMS review and planning practical work (with HE and NYMNP) • Tourism and Funding briefing, LEP, York • Monthly AONB Team meetings.

NAAONB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Group, Northumberland Coast • Comms Officers Tele-conference (x3) – 30mins per meeting

MEETINGS (FUTURE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling in Protected Landscapes (Sustrans), Leeds (?) • River Rye group, Hovingham • LEADER Support Group, Helmsley • Cycling in Ryedale, Malton • Development Officers, Malton • Local Biodiversity Action Plan, Scarborough • Work programme meeting • Core Partners • JAC • Monthly AONB Team meetings. • Heritage Services Meetings • AONB Work Programme meetings

NAAONB (FUTURE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comms Officers Tele-conferences

SITE VISITS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedge planting pre-grant application – Bulmer • Pony sites – Littledale SINC bramble check • Potential hedge laying site, Coulton • Stone wall repairs, Grimston • Exmoor pony site fence repairs, Terrington Moor SINC

- Exmoor pony site boundary changes and repairs, Bull Ings SINC nr Coulton
- Himalayan balsam sites with contractor/team leader pre-clearance work – River Derwent SSSI (x2), Fairy Dell SINC, Mugdale and Barker Woods SINC, Jeffrey Bog SINC
- Churchyard conservation pre-task with Moorswork team leader, Appleton-le-Street
- Bracken clearance from bee orchid site – pre-task site visit with Moorswork team leader, Yearsley Moor Woodlands SINC
- Hedge laying site with owner and trainer, Coulton
- HLS/Volunteers task site meeting with Natural England and Farm Manager, Cawton Fen SINC
- Site meeting with Natural England and Nunnington Estate, Nunnington Cuttings and Quarry SSSI

SITE VISITS (FUTURE)

- Newburgh Estate – Monument management tasks
- Castle Howard Estate – Historic Monuments with Historic England and the Estate Forester
- Cawton Fen SINC – volunteer task leader

CONSULTATIONS

- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR FULL DETAILS OF CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED

PROJECTS

- MMS – training day, volunteer recruitment, survey pack preparation, access permissions and surveys of over 50 Scheduled Monuments by volunteers as part of MMS. Starting to plan initial practical work. Bracken cutting on 2 monuments (Hovingham).
- Advice to SDF applicants – grant claim process
- Advice to Project Fund applicants – grant claims and grant payment site visits
- Himalayan balsam sites (during/post clearance work) – River Derwent SSSI, Mugdale and Barker Woods SINC and Jeffrey Bog SINC
- Visiting Moorswork and Volunteers during task – River Derwent SSSI, Fairy Dell SINC, Appleton-le-Street Churchyard SINC, Nunnington Cuttings and Quarry SSSI
- Stone walling – Grimston, progress monitoring visit

- Advice to Project Fund applicants – application process and making grant offers.
- SEE SEPARATE TABLE FOR LIST OF PROJECTS GRANT AIDED

PROJECTS (FUTURE)

- Plan winter management on MMS sites
- Coppicing stakes and binders for hedge laying then volunteer training day, Coulton
- Set date for Cawton Fen SINC scrub management (volunteers)
- Identify work programme on Newburgh Estate (MMS tasks for volunteers)
- Pack and move office – early December

RECREATION/ACCESS

- Completion and printing of Howardian Hills Rides and Rambles leaflet – developed with National Trust, Castle Howard, The Yorkshire Arboretum and RDC.
- Completion of 12 walking/cycling pdf route guides

RECREATION/ACCESS (FUTURE)

- Possible development of Castle Howard walking guide – to be led by Castle Howard
- Possible development of Electric bike scheme – led by Ryedale District Council

COMMUNITIES

- Easter Junior Rangers, The Yorkshire Arboretum – preparation and delivery
- October Junior Ranger Club planning, The Yorkshire Arboretum
- Development of and assisting with volunteering promotion event in Helmsley (led by CAVCA)
- MSc student working with the AONB Team for 15 days as part of her course
- Bus consultation, Malton

COMMUNITIES (FUTURE)

- October and February Junior Rangers, The Yorkshire Arboretum
- Meet the Funder, Malton

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/
INTERPRETATION**

- Photo competition – exhibition at The Yorkshire Arboretum
- Use of Twitter
- Website – planning refresh
- Howardian Hills AONB Newsletter – gathering of articles from external sources, writing articles and collation of content
- Website – meeting with PJ and MC and adding content
- Promotion and distribution of the AONB Rides and Rambles leaflet and web resources (joint with Castle Howard and RDC)
- Ryedale Show – preparation and attend show

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/
INTERPRETATION
(FUTURE)**

- Continue to develop use of Twitter
- Continue to add content to updated website

TRAINING

- Xerox training
- MMS Training, Coxwold and Newburgh Estate
- Webinar – Countryside Stewardship
- Sustainable Catchment Management demonstration, Bilsdale

TRAINING (FUTURE)

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MISCELLANEOUS

- Annual leave – 3rd-17th June
- Team office tidy session (x2)
- A day working at County Hall (x1)
- Annual leave – 6th-12th August
- Annual leave – 22nd-25th September
- Measuring office space at Helmsley

MISCELLANEOUS (FUTURE)

- Team office tidy sessions
- Move office to Helmsley

AONB ASSISTANT'S REPORT

19 MARCH - 21 OCTOBER 2015

Work during this period has principally consisted of:

- Continuing work on refresh of the HHAONB website, including liaison with designers, writing copy and populating maps.
- Preparation and delivery of Junior Rangers session in April and planning, promotion and preparation for Junior Rangers session in October.
- Assisting with planning and delivery of MMS Volunteers Survey Training Day and assisting with administration of MMS Volunteers Survey.
- Preparation and delivery of Ryedale Show stand.
- General admin and facilities management for the AONB Unit, including preparation for office move.
- Annual leave.

MEETINGS

- March JAC meeting
- AONB Partnership Group meeting, Yorkshire Arboretum
- Annual Action Programme quarterly meeting (x2)
- Aug – Junior Rangers planning
- Monthly AONB Team meetings

NAAONB

- Northern Group AONB meeting, Northumberland Coast AONB

MEETINGS (FUTURE)

- Heritage Services Team Meetings
- Monthly AONB Team meetings

NAAONB (FUTURE)

- Northern Group AONB meeting, Solway Coast

SITE VISITS

- NYMNP Offices, Helmsley – prospective office move

SITE VISITS (FUTURE)

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PROJECTS

- Volunteers – MMS Training Day
- Further rationalisation of project files

PROJECTS (FUTURE)

- Further rationalisation of project files
- NYMNP Offices, Helmsley – office move

RECREATION/ACCESS

- Distribution of walks/cycling leaflets to local outlets
- Assist with promotion of new walks/cycling leaflets

RECREATION/ACCESS (FUTURE)

- Reprint of Nunnington Walks leaflet

COMMUNITIES

- Easter Junior Rangers preparation and delivery
- MSc Student Work Placement
- October Junior Rangers planning, promotion and preparation

COMMUNITIES (FUTURE)

- Delivery of October session of Junior Rangers

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/
INTERPRETATION**

- Ongoing updating of existing website
- AONB website refresh – specification and start of design process, liaison with website designers, training for new website and inputting of information etc
- Mid-Oct – new website goes live

- Ryedale Show stand preparation and delivery

**PROMOTION/PUBLICITY/
INTERPRETATION
(FUTURE)**

- Additions/updates to new website
- Newsletter distribution
- Update Twitter feed

TRAINING

- Mandatory refresher courses:
Compliments, comments and complaints;
Equality and Diversity
- Servicing HHAONB Twitter Account
- Xerox training
- MMS Training Day
- Training on new website

TRAINING (FUTURE)

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MISCELLANEOUS

- Appraisal
- Annual Leave – 20-21 May
- Annual Leave – 16 June – 3 July
- Annual Leave – 23-24 Sept
- Office tidying sessions

MISCELLANEOUS (FUTURE)

- Assist with organisation of office move
- Annual Leave – 26 Nov – 1 Dec

Report to Howardian Hills AONB Committee 1 April 2015 to 30 September 2015

Parish Plans

Terrington Parish plan: Plan completed; a short report produced; copies available at Terrington Shop.

Huttons Ambo – Plan now completed; awaiting copy of plan document.

Amotherby: All data from questionnaires now collated; plan document in process of being put together.

Slingsby: Questionnaires collected - over 70% return rate. Collation of data almost complete; Meeting soon to put together plan report.

Swinton: Attended Swinton Action group meeting 7 September; slow progress with Plan; chair of Action Group has been 'out of action'; hope to get going soon.

Other activity / contacts with HHAONB

- Working with Sarah Robinson (NYCC Stronger Communities) to fund and support a new website for Hovingham Action Group. The design of the website will include input from pupils of Lady Lumley's School, Pickering.
- Attended HHAONB partnership meeting at Yorkshire Arboretum.
- Funding sources for village defibrillators sent to Richard Good (Swinton Action Group).
- Forwarded information on Village Design Statements and copies of completed VDSs to Westow PC (signposted from Cllr Clare Wood).
- Attended Ryedale Development Officers meetings on 23 June & 27 August.
- Attended Ryedale Show; shared stand with Ryedale NYCC Emergency Planning Officer.
- Slingsby May Day group and Coxwold VH have signed up to the Village SOS scheme. This scheme is run by Action for Communities in Rural England (ACRE) and will provide support for communities in a number of areas, such as surveys. Project planning will come from RAY.
- Hovingham Ward Parishes meeting held on 29 September. Attended by Hovingham, Terrington, Barton Le Street and Slingsby Parish Councils, Cllr Robert Wainwright & Liz Bassindale who gave an AONB update. Clare Slater from RDC explained her role and how RDC can help the parishes.

Dealt with general enquiries 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.