

**Great Ouseburn Parish Council**  
**Annual Parish Meeting, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

**Chairman's Report**

This year we have had a quieter period on planning with around 25 planning applications down from 39 last year. We have attended and spoken at 2 Planning Committee meetings, the Carrside Affordable Housing Scheme and the Equestrian Centre proposal for Church Field Lane. We also attended the appeals meeting for Lyndlea. A committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Lawrence Paterson to produce a Village Design Statement and work on this important project is now under way.

The Basketball court extension is now completed and was funded by grant awards from Biffaward and the Rural Target fund. Work on the new Bus shelter should be completed soon and this work is funded by a donation and a grant from NYCC..

Work towards creating a riverside path highlighted in the Parish Plan may soon become a reality with agreement obtained from the Leeds & District Amalgamation of Anglers and Q Hotels the new owner of Aldwark Manor Hotel to create a path from the Free Landing to Aldwark Village.

The Village Hall Committee is going from strength to strength and they are currently working hard towards providing the important club room extension.

The land adjacent to the Seggans and the land around the Piper's Lane Pond is now recognised as Village Green and is continuing through the legal process.

It is of great concern that the Crown Inn has been empty for over a year now and the Parish Council is constantly pressing the owners for its reopening.

**What else has happened:-**

There have been presentations at Parish Council Meetings on Neighbourhood Policing, Affordable Housing, Waste Strategy and the proposals for Allerton Park.

A grant was given to the Youth Forum for the older persons Christmas party which again was very successful.

The Mobile Cinema equipment highlighted in the Parish plan has been bought by Yore Vision and is based in Great Ouseburn.

The Village website storage is continuing to be popular with an increase in visitors to around 80 visits per day and visitors in the last few months from Thailand, Brazil, Uzbekistan, Czech Republic, Poland, Netherlands, Canada, USA, Australia, Germany, Italy, France, Saudi Arabia, Romania, New Zealand, Belgium and Japan.

**Thanks:**

This year I would like to give special thanks to Mike Rampling for his work on erecting the basketball court goal, football goals, renovating the bench on Branton Lane etc. and Jeff Gill for his continued high standard of maintenance of the Playing field which is the envy of the district.

Finally I would like to thank Zillah Hopps for the excellent and professional job she does in her role as Parish Clerk and in doing much more than her job description, and also for the work of the rest of the councillors who do a great deal of work for our community including, as our newest councillor found out standing up to your chest in muddy water!!

*Keith Scott, Chairman, Great Ouseburn Parish Council.*