

**Great Ouseburn Parish Council**  
**Minutes 17th April 1946 to 5th December 2001**

15/5/46

Proposed Mr Hindmarsh, seconded Mr Burrell that this council request the RDC to approach the County Council with a view to the Fish pond bridge being taken over by the CC to be made suitable for modern traffic.

Proposed Mr Gudgeon seconded Mr Hindmarsh that the RDC be asked to approach the County Council with a view to taking over Moor Lane for the purpose of making it suitable for present day requirements.

Proposed Mr Blundell seconded Mr Hindmarsh that a letter be sent to our MP Major Yorke ask him if anything can be done to lessen night flying of planes over the village.

2/7/46

Proposed by Mr Burrell seconded by Mr Hindmarsh that the Chairman interview the Yorkshire Farmers Co. with regard to the fence erected by their former tenant enclosing the Free Landing.

Proposed Mr Burrell seconded by Mr Jackson that the military be asked to give a statement in writing taking over the Free Landing for manoeuvres and to give a guarantee to repair any damage done.

6/8/46

Mr Burrell, Mr Hindmarsh that the former tenant of land adjoining the Free Landing be asked to remove the fence erected by him enclosing the Free Landing and the owners of the adjoining land be informed to that effect and that in future the Free Landing must not be enclosed by them or their tenants.

Mr Hindmarsh, Mr Blundell that further investigation into the matter of Moor Lane be made and considered a matter of urgency.

4/11/46

Mr Hindmarsh, Mr Blundell that a letter be sent to Mr Reynard telling him not to cultivate the land adjoining Moor Lane after removable of present crops until such times as the ownership of Moor Lane has been established.

3/12/46

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Hindmarsh that a letter be sent to the C. Council asking for bus shelter accommodation for school children now compulsorily attending Boroughbridge and Knaresborough schools.

7/1/47

Mr Burrell, Mr Hindmarsh that a letter be sent to the Bus Companies asking them to consider the erection of a Bus shelter at Great Ouseburn or otherwise contribute to the cost of same.

Mr Blundell, Mr G Burrell that the small room be let the Church Council for use as a Sunday school (temporary) the tenancy to terminate without notice from the council. The fee charge to be 3/- per meeting.

3/3/47 APM

Mr Mculloch, Mr Burrell that the Parish Council bring to the notice of the Education Authorities the unsatisfactory nature of the school exit with a view to it been made safer for the children leaving school.

4/3/47

Mr Blundell, Mr Burrell that the Parish Council bring to the notice of the Education Authorities the dangerous condition of the exit from the council school.

24/3/47

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Hindmarsh that a site for a Bus Shelter be chosen and submitted to the authorities.

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Blundell that the Chairman approach Mr Swann with regard to implements on the Village Green.

28/4/47

Mr Hindmarsh, Mr Blundell that a further letter be sent to Mr Reynard with regard to the cultivation of Moor Lane.

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Blundell that Mr Burrell be approached for a definite undertaking to proceed with the repairs of fencing of the Well Lane Gardens and renovation of Parish Room.

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Blundell that a letter be sent to Mr Lofthouse regarding his action of cultivating of Moor Lane without permission "It has come to the knowledge of the Parish Council that you are cultivating Moor Lane without permission of the Council consider very ..... The Council hereby inform you that if you persist in this cultivation further action will be taken"

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Hindmarsh that a letter be sent to Mr Boothroyd informing him he must not fence in the Free Landing which is Council Property.

4/11/47

Mr Hindmarsh, Mr Gudgeon that the village Institute be let to the Boys Club one night per week. Amendment Mr Burrell (not seconded) that if the Institute be let to the Boys Club they must not use the billiard table. Amendment Mr Blundell, Mr Burrell that the Boys Club have the use of the Institute at the usual fees vis. 3/- for small room and 4/- for large room

20/4/48

Mr Gudgeon, Mr Hindmarsh that the Chairman be authorised to interview a solicitor with a view to taking legal action against Messrs. W. Lofthouse & son for persistently cultivating Moor Lane against the Councils Wishes.

5/10/48

Mr Blundell, Mr Dodgson that a letter be sent to West Riding County Council Agricultural Dept calling their notice to the continued cultivation of Moor Lane in spite of their notice not to cultivate.

Mr Dodgson, Mr Gudgeon that a further letter be sent to Mr Boothroyd calling his attention to the disregard of our letter of April 1947 requesting him to remove the fencing round the Free Landing.

4/1/49

Mr Hindmarsh, Mr Gudgeon that owing to continued cultivation of Moor Lane by Mr W. Lofthouse & son, Fitzgerald Hart & son, solicitors be instructed to take Legal Action to stop cultivation.

Mr Burrell, Mr Hindmarsh that a request be made to Mr Reynard for the letter received by him from the County Council asking him to cease cultivation of Moor Lane.

2/3/49

Mr Burrell, Mr Hindmarsh that has the Chairman reported to the meeting that Messrs Lofthouse & son had given an undertaking to cease cultivation of Moor Lane no legal proceedings be taken at present.

7/3/49 APM

Mr Burrell, Mr Gudgeon that notice of the County Council be brought to the dangerous state of the footpath along the Well Lane Gardens.

Mr Blundell, Mr Hindmarsh that Mr Thompson be given permission to drain the spring along the Well Lane Gardens.

1/11/49

Mr Burrell, Mr G Robinson that the clerk approach the necessary authorities with a view to having the streets lighted by electricity.

25/7/50

Mr Burrell, Mr Jennison that a meeting of local government electors be held on 14/8/50 at 7.30pm for the adoption of the lighting & watching act.

14/8/50

Mr Burrell, Mr Dodgson that the lighting & watching act 1837 be adopted by the Parish.

Mr Dodgson, Mr Jennison that a loan of £113-8-0 be raised for the cost of installation of the electric lights the loan period to be 15years.

13/2/51

Mr Jennison, Mr Robinson that the Parish Council accept responsibilities & Trusteeship of the Village Hall Committee and Trustees on the instructions of a Public meeting held in the Parish Room on 13/2/51 of which Mr J Orton was chairman.

20/2/51

Mr Dodgson, Mr Hindmarsh that the clerk communicate with Dr Pope of Leeds with a view to procuring a building site opposite the school for the purpose of building a village hall.

27/2/51

Mr Dodgson, Mr Burrell that an offer of £900 be made to Messrs Richardson & Trotter auctioneers to the vendors of YMCA Hut situated in St. Georges field, York.

5/3/1951

Mr Dodgson, Mr Robinson that the offer of £900 for YMCA hut accepted by the vendors is hereby approved and the deposit of £90 already paid be confirmed.

Mr Robinson, Mr Jennison that Mr Burrell be empowered to meet RDC surveyor with a view to preparing plans and approving site for erection of village hall.

12/3/1951

National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949

The report of the Survey of footpaths made by the Parish Council was placed before the meeting and the following resolution was approved.

Mr Cross, Mr Burrell that the report of the survey of footpaths made by the Parish Council be approved.

15/3/51

Mr Dodgson, Mr Robinson that Mr Burrell be authorised to take down and re-erect the YMCA hut excluding Brickwork.

6/4/51

Mr Dodgson, Mr Burrell that the clerk take necessary steps to procure a loan for street lighting purposes the consent of WRCC having being received.

20/6/51

Mr Jennison, Mr Dodgson that the deeds of the Flatt allotments be deposited at the Midland Bank Boroughbridge as security.

26/10/51

Mr Dodgson, Mr Robinson that Mr Burrell be authorised to arrange transport of the Village Hut from York to the erection site.

Mr Dodgson, Mr Jennison advertise in the local paper the sale of the annexe to Village Hut.

3/3/52

Mr Dodgson, Mr Robinson that owing to the New Village Hall being erected on the Flatts Gardens Mr Jennisons rent be reduced by 13/- per annum.

17/3/1952

At a public meeting held in the Reading Room the management committee of the new village hall formed from religious and social organisations in the Parishes of Great Ouseburn and Upper Dunsforth with Branton Green.

Mr W Flatman, Mr D Cross, Mr Smith, Mr G. Wrightson, Mrs Forth, Mr H Coupland, Mr R Gudgeon, Mrs S Cross, Mr W Welburn, Mr W Chaney.

16/4/52

Mr Dodgson, Mr Hindmarsh that the council to realise on the old Institute and any other available securities.

28/1/1953

Sale of Reading Room (Institute) Mr Jennison, Mr Robinson that in view of the fact that the deeds of the reading room are now to hand a parish meeting be called for 4th march next to seek permission to sell.

Mr Dodgson, Mr Jennison that a letter be sent to the Drainage Board calling their attention to the condition of the stream which drains the Ouse Gill Gardens.

2/3/53

Mr Orton, Mr Blundell that a vote of censure be passed against the clerk. Carried by 3 votes to 0.

Mr Blundell, Mr Orton that a meeting be called to adopt the lighting & watching act 1833.

Mr Orton, Mr R Gill that the question of amalgamation of the Parishes of Great Ouseburn and Upper Dunsforth be brought before the Next Meeting.

Mr Orton, Mr Burrell that a letter be forwarded to the WRCC asking who is responsible for Repairs of Moor Lane.

17/3/53

R Blundell, Mr Burrell that the Parish carry on with street lighting, amended Mr Cross, Mr Parker that we do not proceed with street lighting. Carried 7-5.

Mr Dodgson, Mr Parker that reading room be sold.

Mr Blundell, Mr Forth that an invitation to join this Parish under one Council be sent to Upper Dunsforth.

23/3/53

Mr Burrell, Mr Hindmarsh that the clerk take the necessary steps to obtain the permission to sell the Reading Room (Village Institute) from the ministry of health.

Mr Jennison, Mr Dodgson that furnishings in the Reading Room (Village Institute) be removed to the Village Hall.

Mr Burrell, Mr Jennison that permission be given to the North Eastern Electricity Board to carry an Electrical wire over the Pinfold.

27/4/53

Mr Burrell, Mr Jennison that the N.E. Electricity Board be asked for a new quotation for erection of street lights

13/5/53

Joint Parish Meeting of Great Ouseburn and Upper Dunsforth

Proposed Mr Northgrave seconded Mr Burrell that a letter be sent to the W.R.C. Council asking for information on the amalgamation of the Parishes of Great Ouseburn and Upper Dunsforth.

Proposed by Mr M. Gudgeon seconded by Mr Blundell that the letter to the County Council be signed by the Chairman of the two Parishes concerned.

10/6/53

Mr Burrell, Mr Dodgson that the adverts be inserted in the Evening Press and Knaresborough Post for the sale of the old Reading Room.

Mr Dodgson, Mr Jennison that application be made to the ministry concerned for consent to the appropriation of part of the land known as Flatts Allotments for the purpose of erection of the Village Hall.

15/7/53

Proposed Mr Jennison seconded Mr Robinson that the Council accept with regret the resignation of the Clerk V.B. Reed.

27/8/53

Tenders for Village Institute, 2 received: Mr Jennison in the sum of £155-0-0, Mr C.G. Cowell for the sum of £325-0-0. Proposed Mr Blundell seconded by Mr S Cross that Mr Cowell's tender of £325-0-0 be accepted provisionally, to the District valuer being able to recommend to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government the sale at that price.

17/9/53

Proposed Mr Hindmarsh seconded Mr Jennison that the Parish Council agree in principle with the contents of a letter dated 9/9/53 from the R.D. Council suggesting that the Parish of Branton Green and Upper Dunsforth be amalgamated with Great Ouseburn (except for that part north of Burn beck) and Lower Dunsforth remain separate for representation purposes and a reply to that effect be addressed to the Clerk and at the same time offer representation at a round the table conference if the Rural District Council think such a conference necessary.

25/1/54

A letter was read from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government agreeing to sale of Pinfold subject to the price been agreed by the District Valuer.

8/3/54

V.B Reed, Mr R. Thompson that the tenants of the land adjoining the Ouse gill Gardens and Well lane Gardens be approached to clean out their drains and gutters that are holding up the water from the above Gardens.

25/5/54

The council proceeded to sign the Conveyance of the Reading Room property to Mr & Mrs C.G. Cowell. Mr Jennison & Mr G. Robinson signed this document in the presence of Mr T.W. Hindmarsh on behalf of the Council.

27/10/54

Proposed Mr Robinson, seconded Mr Dodgson, that we pay over to the village Hall committee the sum of £526-5-1d being proceeds of sale of the Old Reading Room & £307-8-3d 1/2 % Annuities as per the instructions of the Minister of Housing & Local Government to be used towards the cost of erection of the Village Hall.

25/5/55

Mr Burrell, Mr Jennison, that a letter be sent to the WRCC pointing out the danger existing through the "Fish Pond" bridge in its present state.

Mr Orton, Mr Jennison, that the Statutory Declaration re the sale of Pinfold be signed.

Unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to Dr. Pope drawing his attention to the state of his property in "Pope Row" particularly to the danger & the existence of rats.

Unanimously agreed that the attention of the police be drawn to the "speeding" by the owner of a Red Javelin NZ 111

12/9/55

Miss Wilby became clerk.

28/11/55

It was suggested that discussion of the unauthorised use of the Village Green by travelling fairs should take place at next meeting

9/1/56

It was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Dodgson that a letter should be written to the Rural District Council pointing out the dangerous state of Dr. Pope's property in School View and asking what steps are being taken to have this put into a reasonable state of repair.

The question of the unauthorised use of the Village Green by travelling fairs was discussed and Mr Burrell seconded by Mr Dodgson proposed that the Green should be kept clear not only of fairs but also of agricultural vehicles and machinery. This was unanimously agreed.

It was suggested that new estimates for street lighting should be obtained by the Clerk and that the matter should be discussed at the next meeting.

It was agreed that members should make an inspection of the Free Landing and that this also should be discussed at the next meeting.

5/3/56 Annual Parish Meeting

It was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr F Jackson that the sale of a derelict site on Carr Side, Great Ouseburn, to Miss Wilby at the valuers price should be approved. M C B..wick, seconded by Mr W Welburn tabled an amendment the sale of this site should not be approved. The voting was 8 for the proposal and 3 for the amendment.

At a Parish Meeting of the Parish of Great Ouseburn held at Great Ouseburn Village Hall on Monday the Fifth day of March of March, 1956 pursuant to notice duly given.

It was resolved: -

That this meeting do consent to the sale of the following property, viz: -

A plot of land bordering on Carr Side, Great Ouseburn being part of field 153 and measuring approx: 29x13yds, containing the derelict remains of a building, under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1933, and of any other such statutes in that behalf, subject to such Order as the Minister of Housing and Local Government shall issue touching such sale and the application of the produce thereof.

Mr Wilson enquired about the provision of a bus shelter. This matter had been discussed previously and Great Ouseburn was already on the waiting list for one.

5/3/56

The Clerk reported that no reply had been received to the letter of 16th February asking the N.E. Electricity Board for revised estimates for Street Lighting. This matter was therefore deferred until the next meeting.

The condition of the Free Landing was discussed and it was decided that an official visit of inspection be made when the evenings are lighter.

Letters were read from Dr. Pope and from the Rural District Council in connection with the School View Property. Mr Orton reported that this matter was now being attended to by the Rural District Council.

7/5/56

The Clerk reported the receipt of a quotation for Street Lighting from the N.E. Electricity Board of £138. It was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Jennison that the possibilities of providing Street Lighting should be explored. Mr Orton also proposed that an effort should be made to raise at least part of the money locally. This was seconded by Mr Hindmarsh and both proposals were carried unanimously.

Having made an inspection of the Free Landing on May 2nd, the council expressed satisfaction about its condition and decided not to take any action at present.

A letter was read from the Knaresboro' Road Safety Committee stating that the question of the moving of the Bus Terminus was being considered and that the request for the moving of the Speed Limit Signs had been forwarded to the West Riding Highways Dept.

The Clerk produced the Conveyance for the Pinfold which had been received from the Solicitors, but pointed out that this seemed also to act as a receipt of the money from the purchaser, the council therefore deferred signature of the Conveyance until the Solicitors advice had been sought.

Satisfaction was expressed at the work which had been done at School View.

9/7/56

It was suggested that in view of comments made to members on the subject of Street Lighting the attitude of the ratepayers towards this should be ascertained before any action is taken. The Clerk was therefore asked to prepare and circulate a questionnaire for this purpose.

It was unanimously agreed, in view of an explanatory letter from the Solicitor answering the Council's query about the Conveyance for the Pinfold that this Conveyance should be signed. Mr Hindmarsh and Mr Dodgson signed the document, their signatures being witnessed by Mr Orton.

The Clerk reported that the Village Notice Board was in the possession of Mr Cowell who had no objection to its being replaced on the wall of the Fish & Chip Shop. It was agreed that Wm Burrell & son should be asked to do the necessary work.

Councillors noted complaints which had been received that certain hedges obstructed the footpath in the Main Street. It was agreed that letters should be sent to Dr. Pope and Rev. F. Northrop bringing these to their notice.

The question of the Amalgamation of the Parishes of Great Ouseburn and Branton was again discussed and Mr Orton agreed to make enquiries as to the exact position as it stood when the matter was shelved in Sept 1953.

A report was received that, each weekend, visitors to the riverside were leaving the Free Landing badly littered. It was agreed that a letter should be written to the Angling Club concerned pointing out this nuisance.

10/9/56

The Clerk reported that a questionnaire which had been circulated to all householders in the Parish revealed the following facts:

56 householders were in favour of Street Lighting.

20 householders were not in favour of Street Lighting.

33 people were willing to help raise money.

22 people were willing to give specific donations amounting to £9-14-0

7 people were willing to give donations but did not specify the amount.

It was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Dodgson, that a meeting of all those who expressed themselves willing to help should be called on Monday, September 24th at 7.30p.m.

8/10/1956

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Nidderdale RDC informing them of the adoption by the Parish of the Lighting and Watching Acts, 1833, at a meeting held on August 14th, 1950.

12/11/56

A letter was read from the Nidderdale RDC asking for details of any Common Land within the Parish. It was decided that there was no land which fell into the required category.

4/3/57 APM

The Clerk reported on the activities of the Parish Council over the past year, which had been a busy and successful one, the crowning achievement being the installation of Street Lights in November. Mr J Orton proposed and Mr R Thompson seconded a motion that this meeting adopt the Lighting and Watching Act, 1833 for the Parish of Great Ouseburn. This was carried unanimously, all 12 electors present voting in favour.

9/9/57

With reference to a letter from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, it was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Dodgson that the proceeds of the sale of land at Carr Side be paid into the General Fund of the Parish. This was unanimously approved. It was suggested that a letter be written to Fitzgerald Hart enquiring about the proceeds of the aforementioned Sale. Stone over Fish & Chip Shop. In response to an enquiry from Mr Cowell, it was agreed that he should be able to cover up the lettering on a stone above the door of his premises which reads "Great Ouseburn Village Institute".

6/1/58

A letter was read from the Clerk to the Rural District Council about proposed changes in the boundaries.

It was proposed by Mr Burrell, seconded by Mr Dodgson, and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council approve the Draft Map, as supplied by the Clerk to the Rural District Council, showing proposed alterations to the Parish boundaries. They ask that the Rural District Council expedite the proposals as soon as possible.

3/3/58

It was understood that Messrs. Campbell & Penty were interested in purchasing the Ousegill Gardens. It was agreed that the Clerk should write asking for a definite offer and pointing out that in any case the sale would have to go through the usual channels and may take time.

It was noted that in prompt reply to a letter asking that an occasional Surgery may be established in Great Ouseburn the National Health Executive had already established one twice weekly.

2/6/1958

A letter was read from Messrs Campbell & Penty offering £240 for the Ousegill Gardens. In view of this offer it was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Hindmarsh that a Parish Meeting to give approval to the Sale should be held on Monday, June 16th at 8p.m. This was carried unanimously.

16/6/1958 Parish Meeting

It was proposed by Mr Burrell, seconded by Mr Orton that this meeting do consent to the sale of the following property, viz: - A plot of land known as the Ousegill Gardens, being field 200 on the Ordnance Survey Map and measuring 2.802 acres, under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1933, and of any other statutes in that behalf, subject to such Order as the Minister of Housing and Local Government shall issue touching such sale and the application of the produce thereof.

The motion was carried unanimously.

11/11/1958

It was reported that the consent of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the sale of the Ousegill Gardens had been received and members agreed that Messrs. Campbell & Penty should be informed and a request be made that their solicitor act for both parties in the transaction.

The Local housing situation was then discussed and the council agreed to request the Rural District Council to consider building some old people's houses on their site adjoining the existing council houses.

6/1/58

It was reported that the sale of Ousegill Gardens was now being dealt with by messrs. Shaftoe, Isle & Shaftoe, Solicitors of York, acting for both parties. The Clerk was instructed to inform the present tenants of the termination of their tenancy on March 31st, 1959.

3/3/59 Annual Parish Meeting

Appreciation was expressed by those present of the surgery which had been established twice times weekly in the village.

It was proposed by Mr Orton seconded by Mr W Welburn that the pump in Well lane should be inspected and if possible repaired.

4/5/1959

The receipt of £232-10-0, being the proceeds of the sale of the plot of land known as Ousegill Gardens, less £7-10-0 solicitors expenses was acknowledged.

A letter was read from Fitzgerald Hart & son asking for details about the management of the village hall so a Trust Deed could be prepared, the draft of which the council were asked to approve. In view of the fact that members were doubtful about the future of the Hall it was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Dodgson, and unanimously agreed, that the Parish Council call a Public meeting urging members of all the local associations to send representatives, to decide whether the Village Hall should be closed or not.

11/5/1959

The meeting had been called to consider the lack of interest shown by local organisations in the management of the Village Hall and to consider its closure. After a lengthy discussion during which the main points made were that there seemed to be a lack of suitable officials, that only a handful of people were interested enough to attend meetings and that many organisations were making money at the Hall but would not help in its management, the appreciation of the various organisations for the use of the Hall was expressed.

The general opinion seemed to be that the Hall should not be allowed to close. It was proposed by Mrs Coupland, seconded by Mrs W. Welburn that the Village Hall be continued.

6/7/59

The Trust Deed for the Village Hall was read and discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the document be signed. Mr Hindmarsh and Mr Dodgson, witnessed by Mr Orton, signed the Deed.

4/1/60

After discussion it was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Jennison and unanimously approved that we declare a vacancy on the Council. In view of the forthcoming amalgamation of the parishes of Great Ouseburn and Branton Green it was agreed that the opportunity should be taken of appointing a member from Branton Green to fill the vacancy. It was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Hindmarsh that the Clerk should see Mr Wright, Chairman of Upper Dunsforth with Branton Green Parish Meeting and tell him of the Council's suggestion, and also ask Mr Dale & Mr Fairburn in the Parish of Branton Green to take the initiative in their Parish for proposing a candidate to fill the vacancy. This was unanimously agreed.

7/3/60 Annual Parish Meeting

Arising out of the minutes it was stated that an estimate for the repair of the pump in Well Lane had been obtained and the work would cost £7. As this was considered to be a large sum for the little benefit it would be to the village it was decided that the matter be left in the hands of the Parish Council to deal with as they thought fit.

Satisfaction was expressed that the amalgamation of Branton Green with the Parish of Great Ouseburn would take place on April 1st, 1960.

7/3/60

It was unanimously agreed that Mr Dale be elected to fill the vacancy on the council for one year until the Parish Council elections in 1961.

After discussion on the question of the Well Lane Pump it was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Jennison that we let the matter lie.

Mr Orton reported that the Rural District Council had agreed to build four bungalows for old people on their site in Branton Lane.

2/5/60

Complaints had been received about the state of the road through Branton Green as far as Burn Beck, also about the drains at Branton Green. It was agreed that a letter be written to the Highways Department bringing this to their notice and asking if they intend taking any steps to put matters right.

5/9/60

A reply was read from the Assistant County Surveyor to the Councils letter complaining about the drainage at Branton Green. It stated that there was no prospect of further improvement until a costly system of piped drainage was laid and that the present system "would have to suffice" until funds became available. Members agreed that it seemed that they had done all they possibly could to improve the situation.

2/1/61

A letter had been received from the Clerk to the County Council saying that the Council had recommended that no action be taken regarding the proposed conversion into a hard standing of the quarry in Carr Side. Mr Orton reported that the matter had been referred back by the RDC after they also had regarded the decision as unsatisfactory.

It was agreed that tenants of allotments in the Branton Green area of the Parish be informed that their rents are now payable to Great Ouseburn Parish Council.

6/3/61

After more complaints had been received about water on the road at Branton Green it was agreed that a strongly worded letter be sent to the Highways Department expressing the Councils dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs.

15/5/61

The ditch had been cleaned out at Branton Green resulting in a 50% improvement in the state of the road on wet days.

8/1/62

The Council then considered the question of the tenancy of the Flatts Gardens which was now vacant. In view of a letter from the Cricket Club applying for tenancy of part of the field they recalled a similar application of January 6th, 1959 and the reply they had then made. It was thought that the whole question of the future of this valuable piece of land adjoining the Village Hall should be thoroughly explored. It was agreed that it was the ideal site for a playing field and the Clerk was asked to contact the Clerk to the RDC in order to ascertain the procedure to be adopted with regard to obtaining permission for such use of the field and the possibility of obtaining a grant for its development. If the information could be available before the Annual Parish Meeting in March, it was agreed that an extraordinary Parish Meeting be called to which all parties interested could send representatives. Meanwhile it was suggested that a reply be made to the Cricket Clubs letter stating that the Council viewed the proposals with much favour and were making investigations.

5/3/62

The question of the establishment of a playing field at the Flatts was then discussed. It was learned that planning permission had just been obtained for this project and it was agreed that the permission of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government should now be sought. It was proposed by Mr H Ibbotson, seconded by Mr J. A. Dale that the field be not let for the ensuing year. It was proposed by Mr W. Jackson, seconded by Mr Gill that this site be used for a playing field. Both motions were carried unanimously.

In order that an estimate of the cost of converting the field could be obtained with a view to obtaining a grant from the West Riding County Council, the Clerk was instructed to approach various firms in the area for an estimate for seeding and turfing. Members of the Cricket Club present at the meeting agreed to make a quotation for the levelling of the site and carry out this part of the work themselves. It was agreed that if the consent of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the project was obtained a meeting should be called at once of all interested parties.

After discussion it was decided that the remaining allotment on the site be let for the next year.

A question of the provision of a lamp in Branton Lane for the Sunday Night Chapel goers was referred to the Street Lighting Committee for their consideration.

5/3/62

The question of encroachment upon the Council's land at Moor Lane was then discussed. It was decided that a letter should be written to Mr Gill asking if he is prepared to purchase the land, or the council will have to consider charging a small annual rent.

7/5/62

Arising out of the minutes a letter was read from Messrs Fitzgerald Hart & son acting for Messrs J & L Gill about Moor Lane.

The whole question of Moor Lane was again discussed and it was agreed that in reply to this letter the Clerk should point out that the Council's permission had not been sought before the land was cultivated. While they agreed with various points made in the letter it would be wrong for them to sacrifice their rights to the land altogether. Mr Gudgeon proposed that an annual charge of 50/- be made in order to maintain the Council's rights. Another proposal by Mr Orton was that an annual charge of 10/- be made. After discussion it was proposed by Mr Jackson, seconded by Mr Orton, that we inform Messrs. Fitzgerald Hart & son of our intention to make an annual charge of £1, this was carried unanimously.

2/7/62

Branton Green Drainage. A letter was read from the Assistant County Surveyor in reply to ours. It was agreed that we write again noting the intention of the Surveyor to include the road drainage at Branton Green in the estimates for 1963-64 and pointing out that we had received further complaints since the last meeting.

Arising from the reading of a letter asking for particulars of the lodging of the Enclosure Award for the Parish, it was agreed that a letter be written to the former Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr V.B. Reed, enquiring the whereabouts of this and all the other Parish books and documents relating to the time previous to 1949.

1/8/62

The meeting had been called by the Parish Council to discuss the whole question of the proposed playing field. The Chairman outlined progress made so far, culminating with the receipt of a quotation of £650 from J. Branch of Rufforth. It was agreed that such a contract could not even be contemplated. An estimate of the cost of the seed only by Webbs amounted to £112. It was agreed that the first concern must be to raise money, and that the various organisations who would use the field should be prepared to assist in raising this money. It was proposed by Mr J. Gill, seconded by Mr F. Hindmarsh, that a committee be formed consisting of representatives of all the local organisations to raise money by organising efforts and to administer the playing field. This was unanimously agreed.

Representatives already present were elected to the Committee as follows: - Mr T.W. Hindmarsh- Chairman, Parish Council, Rev. E. A. Bailey- Great Ouseburn Church, Mr J. Orton- Great Ouseburn School, Mr L. Gill- Cricket Club, Mr H Ibbotson- Cricket Club, Mr N. Cowell- Youth Club, Mr G. Holmes- Youth Club, Miss C. Lonsdale- Village Hall Committee, Mr L. Jackson- Ouseburn Show Committee, Miss E. Willby. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Womens Institute, the Congregational Church and Branton Methodist Church inviting them to appoint a representative to join the Committee at the next meeting.

Meanwhile it was agreed that the preparation of the field and the sowing of the seed should be done as soon as possible and Messrs J and L Gill volunteered to organise the working party.

It was proposed by Mr L Welburn, seconded by the Rev. E. A. Bailey that, if it was possible to obtain 6 months or 1 years credit, we arrange to purchase the seed immediately, this was unanimously agreed and Mr W. Jackson offered to see the representative of Webbs and arrange this.

3/9/62

As no further letter on the matter of Moor Lane had been received from Messrs Fitzgerald Hart & son since the one of May 12th stating his intention of consulting Messrs Gill again, it was decided that the Clerk should write again asking if any consultation had taken place.

Members expressed a wish to inspect Moor Lane and it was agreed that a Sunday morning at the beginning of October should be spent at Moor Lane by the Council prior to discussion at the next meeting on the subject.

7/11/62

It was reported that a retainer of £1 had been received from Messrs. Gill and members were satisfied that this represented an acknowledgement of the Council's ownership of the Lane.

It was proposed by Mr Orton, seconded by Mr Gudgeon, that we accept this fee and pursue the other tenant of the Lane for a similar payment of £1. This was unanimously agreed.

Consideration was given to a request by the Playing Field Committee for the Parish Council's permission for a water supply to be made available for the Cricket Pitch, for a concrete wicket to be erected in one corner of the field, and for any necessary alterations to the Village Hall. It was unanimously agreed that overall permission should be given, but the Council must see the exact plans before any work was carried out on any of these items.

After further discussions on the question of the hedge bordering the Well Lane Gardens it was decided that a letter be written to Mr J Robinson making a further request for this hedge to be cut, and informing him that if it was not done the Council would have to arrange for the work to be done and send him the account. It was also decided that a similar letter be written to Mr C Coward about his dyke which was causing a hold up in the Well Lane Drainage.

4/3/1963

Members unanimously agreed that they would have no objection to the proposed deletion of certain footpaths in the Parish from the Draft Map by the County Council, the relevant notice would be displayed in the Post Office for the information of the public.

6/5/1963

An application from the Playing Field Committee for permission to fence the field was then considered. It was proposed by Mr Jackson, seconded by Mr Gudgeon that no objection should be raised to the fencing of the actual field but that permission should not be given for a fence along the bank top bordering the Seggans lane. This was unanimously agreed. It was pointed out that members had no objection to the hedges below the bank top being trimmed and made stock-proof.

The question of the erection of a bus shelter was then discussed. Members felt that this was a desirable object, and the Clerk was asked to write to both bus companies serving the village enquiring whether they would be able to give any financial support. It was also decided that a letter be written to the West Riding Highways Dept. asking for permission to site a bus shelter at the York bus stop.

After reports of several accidents which have occurred recently at the Road junction at Burn Beck, including a serious one, it was resolved that a letter be written to the Knaresborough Road Safety Committee asking them if they consider that any improvements could be made at the junction to increase its safety.

1/7/1963

Mr Orton reported that the Road Safety Committee's recommendation of a 90% junction at Burn Beck had been rejected by the Police, but as a further accident had since occurred there the matter was being reconsidered.

A quotation of £55 together with a plan for the erection of a bus shelter had been received from Mr G. Burrell and members considered this a very reasonable one. It was proposed by Mr Gudgeon, seconded Mr Jackson, and unanimously supported, that we accept this tender subject to the approval of the plans by the West Riding C.C. The Clerk was instructed to submit these plans and, if approval was forthcoming before the next meeting, to apply to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for permission to encash Defence Bonds to the value of £45. It was reported that, subject to certain conditions, the United Bus Company had agreed to pay £10 towards the cost of the shelter.

2/9/1963

It was reported that a further letter had been sent to the West Yorkshire Bus Company asking them to reconsider their decision not to contribute towards the bus shelter. The company had then made a contribution of £20 towards the shelter.

Mr Dale reported the satisfaction felt at Branton Green about the installation of the drainage system which was under construction.

Mr Orton replied to questions about the proposed additions to the sewerage scheme as it would affect Branton Green and members noted these additions on a map supplied by the R.D.C.

It was reported that the seat near the Village Green was becoming badly defaced by the carving of names and initials. The Clerk was asked to investigate and write a letter to the parents of all the people responsible asking for the payment of 10/- to cover the damage, this to act mainly as a deterrent for future offenders.

11/11/1963

Arising from the minutes it was reported that no payment had been received from those responsible for carving names on the seat, but that the request for payment had certainly deterred others from carving names.

6/1/1964

It was reported that the Bus Shelter had been erected and was in use. With regard to the proposal that another shelter may be erected at the Boat Lane terminus when the Knaresborough-Great Ouseburn route is extended, the Clerk reported that a letter had been written on 14<sup>th</sup> November to Little Ouseburn Parish Meeting asking if they would contribute towards such a shelter, but there had so far been no reply.

7/9/1964

The question of the planting of bulbs was discussed and as it seemed likely that a sewerage pipe would have to be laid across the Village Green it was suggested that bulbs should be planted on the bank below the telephone kiosk this year. It was resolved that the County Surveyor be asked if there were any sections of the grass verge in the Main Street where he would permit the planting of flowering trees.

26/10/1964

The County Surveyor's remarks about the suggested flowering trees were noted and it was decided that enquiries should be made of Johnsons' Nursery which varieties they would recommend for the purpose and the approximate cost per tree. It was suggested that a "Plant a tree" scheme could be introduced and a circular taken round the village explaining the scheme and inviting people to support it.

2/1/1965

It was agreed that we purchase some trees for the grass verges from money raised privately and apply to the appropriate County Committee for permission. Some varieties were selected from a list provided by Johnson's Nurseries. A circular would be prepared and circulated by the Clerk inviting contributions to a tree fund. Members then adjourned to the Main Street to view the grass verges and it was found that only in two places were they wide enough to erect trees on. It was decided that we should aim to erect ten trees, including one for a replacement on the Village Green.

1/3/1965

Letters were read from the Assistant County surveyor stating that the Council's application for permission to plant flowering trees in two parts of the grass verge would be put before the appropriate County Committee at the end of April, meanwhile the County Horticultural Advisor was being consulted about the proposed varieties.

As it seemed that an increasing number of vehicles were parking on or running on to, the Green, it was agreed that a letter be written to the Assistant County Surveyor to ask if it would be possible for a kerbing to be put round the Green to match that at the other side of the road.

3/5/1965

The Assistant County Surveyors reply to our request for a kerb on the Green was read pointing out that there were no funds available for that work yet. It was suggested that the Clerk keep a file of projects requested by the Council which had been refused by the authorities.

5/7/1965

It was reported that although the assistant County Surveyor had arranged a meeting to inspect the proposed sites for trees he had failed to attend. His deputy had attended and agreed to recommend approval. It was agreed that certain people should be approached with a view to asking them to provide a tree and a circular be sent round at the beginning of August inviting subscriptions and a collecting box placed in the Post Office for these.

6/9/1965

On the question of trees, it was reported that eight offers of the payment for a tree had been received. The circulars would go out during the week and it was hoped to place the order with the nursery in early October.

1/11/1965

The Chairman reported that trees had been ordered from a local nursery and it was hoped they would be planted soon. Donations or promises to the value of 14 trees had been forthcoming. As to the

danger of damage to the trees by cattle it was stated that if cattle were kept on the move they would not damage the trees. The cost of erecting some form of protection would be prohibitive.

7/3/1966

It was reported that the flowering trees had been planted by the Nurseries.

2/5/1966

It was reported that all the flowering trees were showing signs of sprouting.

4/7/1966

Arising out of the minutes it was remarked that the two Whitebeam trees opposite Church Hill seemed to have died, doubts were expressed about whether this was due to natural causes.

The Clerk reported that Watsons Amusements would be using the Green on July 29th, 30th and August 1st for a Fair. She had quoted a rent of £7-10-0.

An application from Miss Wilby to be allowed to purchase No 9 Well Lane Gardens was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk make tentative enquiries of the Ministry of Agriculture and the District Valuer as this was liable to take some time, and that the question be brought up again at the next meeting for approval.

5/9/1966

Arising out of the minutes it was decided that a letter be written to Challis's asking them to inspect and replace the trees which had failed near the Church.

After discussion it was unanimously resolved that "This Council seek the permission of the Minister of Agriculture for the Sale of the allotment known as no. 9 Well Lane Gardens to Miss Wilby at a price to be decided by the District Valuer.

8/11/1966

Arising out of the minutes it was noted that Challis's had said they would plant trees to replace the ones which had died as soon as possible.

The Clerk reported that communications with the local Land Commissioner had now been completed and the question of the sale of the allotment had been passed on to London from where a reply must be awaited.

2/1/1967

Arising out of the minutes it was reported that the question of the sale of the allotment had been approved by the Ministry of Land & Natural Resources and was now being considered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The question of Car Parking on the grass verges was again discussed and it was decided that a letter be written asking the R.D.C. if they had any plans to erect garages on the old Sand Pit as there seemed little point in taking action when garage accommodation was not available.

It was agreed that steps be taken to apply for the registration of the Village Green and free Landing as Common Land.

6/3/1967

Arising out of the minutes the Clerk reported that the Sale of no.9 Well Lane had been approved by the Ministries and the price stipulated by the District Valuer was £25. The matter was now in the hands of the Parish Council's Solicitors.

Mr Orton reported that, as a result of a site meeting by the County Sub-Committee at Pear Tree Cottage at the corner of Carr Side and the Main Street, proposals were going forward for a demolition order to be put on the property.

8/5/1967

The question of the worn steps outside Mr Robson's cottage was raised. It was agreed that a letter be written to the Highways Authority asking if these are their responsibility and if so, could they make some repairs.

3/7/1967

Satisfaction was expressed that the steps on the verge outside Mr T. Robson's house had been erected so quickly. It was proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Highways Authority.

The question of the Moor Lane verges beyond Mr Gills farm was deferred until the next meeting so that Mr Gill could be consulted.

4/9/1967

A letter of complaint about the Fair received by the Chairman was put before the Council. Members said that no other complaint had been made to them, but many expressions of appreciation had been made by the villagers, including those living near to the Fair. It was agreed that a letter be written to Mr Wilson stating these facts and pointing out that the Council's function was to act in the best interests of all the villagers. Nevertheless it was decided that this question be broached at the Annual Parish Meeting so that people would have a chance to state their views.

The Clerk reported the completion of the sale of No. 9 Well Lane Gardens and the receipt of £25. It was agreed that steps be taken to invest this sum in National Development Bonds.

The Clerk also reported the completion of the registration of the Village Green and the Free Landing as Common Land.

6/11/1967

The question of the Moor Lane verges was discussed and it was decided that a Map be obtained before the next meeting so that the whereabouts of the actual Parish Boundary at Moor Lane could be seen.

8/1/1968

The question of the Moor Lane Verges was discussed after scrutiny of the Parish Map. It was agreed that Mr Hewson and Mr Pickles be asked to agree to pay the sum of £1 each for the use of the verges.

4/3/1968 Annual Parish Meeting

It was reported that a Tree Preservation Order had been applied for, to protect the lime trees in Branton Lane. Proposed housing development had made it likely that one of the trees may have to be felled, but the Parish Council were anxious that the rest should be protected for all time.

The question of the Annual Fair on the Village Green was then discussed. The meeting unanimously agreed that the fair gave much pleasure and this far outweighed any nuisance it may cause. The co-operation of the fair proprietor had been much appreciated and he had taken great trouble under adverse conditions to leave the Green tidy.

Complaints about the drainage of the bottom end of the Allotments in Well lane were received and Mr Orton agreed to ask the R.D.C.'s officials to investigate the matter. It was suggested that an appeal to the drainage board might help.

4/3/1968

It was reported that the sum of £1 had been received from Mr Hewson for the use of the verges in Moor Lane. Mr Gill agreed to see Mr Pickles privately to point out that his was now the only unpaid rent. Satisfaction was expressed that the Parish Meeting had approved wholeheartedly of the Annual Fair. It was agreed that this was part of the old village tradition and should be preserved. Appreciation was expressed of the co-operation of the fair proprietor in every respect.

It was decided that the R.D.C. be asked again if it would consider the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order on the property of Dr. H. B. Pope. (Pope Row)

6/5/1968

It was reported that Mr Gill had seen Mr Pickles who stated that he had spent a great deal of money on repairing Moor Lane and therefore objected to paying any dues. After discussion it was agreed that the matter be dropped.

It was reported that the R.D.C. had earmarked the dykes responsible for the flooding of the lower end of the allotments and a letter had been sent to the drainage board asking if they could bring any influence to bear in order to get these dyke cleaned out.

5/5/1969

The question of a water supply to Oaklands farm, which had been taken up by the Village Hall Committee was then discussed. Mr J Coates and Mr Gowland who was also interested were present. Correspondence to and from the water board was read, and several suggestions made which it was hoped would help Mr Coates.

It was agreed that a right of way existed down Well lane for all landowners with adjoining land.

7/7/1969

The question of Moor Lane was then discussed. Mr Gill declared his interest. In order not to prejudice any proceedings which may be taken with a view to enabling the farmers to carry out major repairs, it was proposed from the Chair, seconded by Mr Jackson, that the charge for the use of Moor Lane verges be dropped.

3/11/1969

Well lane well. With regard to the Well, Mr Swann said he had some volunteers willing to help restore it if this was possible. The meeting decided to accept this offer with grateful thanks, but if it was found that repair was not possible then the question of sale could be discussed.

4/5/1970

The Rural District Council's proposals to grass and plant shrubs round the newly cleared corner site at Carr Side with the Main Street was discussed. The Parish Council had suggested the widening of the road and the continuation of the grass verge round the corner and the County Surveyor had said this could be done, but not in the present financial year. Support was expressed for the R.D.C's plan, but it was agreed that the R.D.C should see if the plan for the footpath could be brought forward. The suggestion that a seat could be erected on the site was shelved as it was reluctantly acknowledged that misuse of such a seat would cause annoyance to nearby residents. The Parish Council agreed to keep the site tidy under the same arrangements as those for the Village Green once it was sown.

Mr Orton outlined the R.D.C's plans for the first instalment of garages which he hoped would be erected for the use of Council House tenants in the near future.

The news that at last the Tree Preservation Order had been made on the trees in Branton Avenue was received with satisfaction.

6/7/1970

A copy of a letter from the Assistant County Surveyor to the R.D.C was read, stating that the County Council wished to increase the width of the carriageway at the junction of Carr Side with the Main Street to 35ft and to continue the footpath as far as possible but that no funds were available during the current financial year for this work.

Members agreed that a letter be sent to the R.D.C. stressing the increasing necessity for a footpath in front of nos. 1 to 6 Branton Lane even if this meant incorporating it in the foot of the gardens of the houses.

A suggestion from the Chairman that we write to the R.D.C. suggesting that as it is European Conservation Year perhaps they will look into the feasibility of restoring the Fishpond to its original state, was unanimously approved.

7/9/1970

Arising from the minutes, it was noted that a letter had been received from the Assistant County Surveyor agreeing that it would be beneficial for the footpath from Carr Side corner to be continued along the front of nos. 1-6 Branton Lane to line up with the one in the new estate road when funds were available. The Rural District Council had been asked if they would be willing to dedicate the necessary land along the frontages to make this possible.

With regard to the suggestion made at the last meeting that the Fish Pond should be restored as a conservation year project the R.D.C. had replied that they were arranging a meeting on the site between the representative of the County Council and the Chairman of the Parish Council to discuss the matter.

2/11/1970

Arising out of the minutes it was reported that the R.D.C. had agreed to dedicate the necessary land bordering 1-6 Branton Lane for a footpath when the West Riding Authority had funds available for the project.

With regard to suggestions made about the proposed restoration of the Fish Pond, the Chairman said that further developments were still being awaited.

4/1/1971

With regard to the Fish Pond, Mr Orton reported that a meeting of the planners took place on the site at the beginning of December. He said that landowners had been consulted and the problem could be approached from various angles. One rough estimate of a cost in the region of £1000 had been made.

1/3/1971 Annual Parish Meeting.

The Chairman explained more fully the plans which the Parish Council had had for restoring the Fish Pond as a conservation year project, but explained that Mrs Crowther had said that the family would prefer to carry out the work themselves. This had been disappointing in view of the favourable attitude of the various officials consulted.

A report was received that the over 60's Club started last Spring was thriving with a membership of 38. Question and discussion followed over the right of way or otherwise between Lightmire Lane and Witherans. Mr Houghton said he was investigating the matter and would let the Parish Council know the results.

3/5/1971

In view of the fact that the County Council had objected to the registration of 6ft of land bordering the Village Green under the Commons Registration Act, it was decided to write to the County Council stating that we have no objection to the modification of the registration.

It was agreed that a reminder be sent to the Assistant Surveyor about the footpath at Branton Lane.

5/7/1971

It was reported that the registration of the Village Green had now been modified and the West Riding Council had withdrawn their objection.

The question of road safety with particular regard to the section of the Boroughbridge-York road at the brow of the hill by Stockil's farm was then discussed. It was noted that a fatal accident had recently occurred at this point and also pointed out that in September the School Bus for the Comprehensive School would need to stop there for children twice each day. A suggestion that double white lines on the road may help was made, and Mr Orton agreed to take the matter up with the Police and the Road Safety Committee. He would also speak to the Education Authority about the location of the stopping places for the School Bus.

6/9/1971

A request had been made for double white lines on the approach to the brow of the hill on the Boroughbridge Road and the School Bus would stop in Carr Side.

With regard to the trees in the Main Street, it was decided that the one by the Telephone Kiosk should not be replaced. The question of the one opposite Church Hill was deferred until the next meeting. There was hope that the Branton Lane Footpath in front of the Council Houses would be made soon.

1/11/1971

It was decided that a letter should be written to Mr C. Lofthouse asking him if he will stop parking heavy wagons on the Village Green in the bad weather.

22/11/1971

Arising out of the minutes it was decided that a letter be written to the Highways Authority asking that the dead tree at the corner of Branton Lane be removed, the laburnum near the telephone kiosk be replaced, and attention be given to the limes damaged in Branton Lane to try to save them.

Following a complaint about the condition of "Tommy Lane" it was stated that this was not Parish Council property.

It was agreed that Mr Burrell be asked to carry out minor repairs on the Bus Shelter, damaged by vandals.

3/7/1972

It was reported that the construction of the footpath in front of the Branton Lane Council Houses had been called off. It was proposed that a letter be written to the R.D.C. Housing Manager explaining this. It was noted with satisfaction that the tree on the corner of Branton Lane by the Village Green had been felled.

11/9/1972

A communication from the West Riding County Council informed the Parish Council that the question of ownership of the Village Green and Free Landing had been referred for decision to a Commons Commissioner who would at some time after 30th September 1972, arrange a hearing in public.

6/11/1972

Mr Swann reported that metal panels had been obtained for the interior of the Bus Shelter and it was now awaiting the attention of Mr Burrell.

It was agreed that if any of the trees planted by the Parish Council opposite the Church or below the telephone kiosk were involved when the building of planned dwellings started, there was room for displaced ones to be used as replacements for ones lost on the Village Green and opposite "Church Hill".

8/1/1973

Consternation was expressed at the bright yellow bins which had appeared in the village to contain sand and salt. Members agreed that in these days of conservation this was a deplorable example to set. It was decided that a letter be written to the Assistant County Surveyor finding out more about the bins and asking how long they will be there.

5/3/1973

Arising out of the minutes it was reported that a letter had been received from the Assistant County Surveyor stating that the bins for Sand and Salt would be removed for the summer season.

5/4/1973

Following complaints about the condition of Witherans lane it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Assistant County Surveyor asking that some attention be given to it.

7/5/1973

It was reported that work had been done on Witherans lane as a result of the Parish Council's letter to the Assistant County Surveyor.

3/9/1973

In view of the fact that the growth round the base of the trees in Branton Lane had not been trimmed this year, it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Area Surveyor drawing his attention to the omission. It was decided that at the same time mention should be made of the fact that pieces lopped from trees in Keld Lane, Branton Green, by the Electricity Board had been left there and asking the Area Surveyor to ask the Board to move them. The state of Keld Lane would be discussed at the next meeting. With regard to the Green Lane at Branton Green, Mr Gill said he would find out the position about the proposed sale of land adjacent to the lane and see the new owner and inform him that a realistic rent will be charged for the lane. Meanwhile Mr Jackson offered to see Mr C. Lofthouse to clarify the position.

29/10/1973

A reply to the Council's letter to the Area Surveyor stated that Keld Lane was receiving his attention and that he would attend to the trimming of the bases of the trees in Branton Lane.

7/1/1974

The Clerk reported that she had represented the Parish Council at the Commons Commissioner's hearing on October 31st. A letter dated 15th November 1973 had been received from the Commons Commissioners stating that they are satisfied that Great Ouseburn Parish Council are the owners of both the Village Green and the Free Landing and they had directed the West Riding County Council to register the ownership.

28/1/1974

A request had been received from the Fair proprietor for the use of the Village Green for the fair on August 2nd, 3rd & 5th. After discussion it was agreed that the usual permission be granted, but that this be subject to the cessation of the music at 11.30pm. Subsequent to correspondence received from the police after last year's fair.

11/2/1974

It was decided that a letter should be written to the Area Surveyor pointing out that this Council had noted kerbing being carried out in an adjoining Parish and asking when our own kerbing, which he had agreed was desirable, at the Village Green, Carr Side and Branton Lane Road Junction and Carr Side and York Road junction, would be done.

6/5/1974

Members then discussed housing development in the village and decided that a letter should be written to the Harrogate Borough Council pointing out that planning approval for more than 30 houses in the

village has been given. These are mainly on two sites owned by private developers. On one of these sites, for 14 houses, not a brick has been laid in 7 years. The second site was of houses in the £20,000 price range and so far none has been sold as far as we are aware. The Parish Council are concerned that building land in the village is becoming sterilised either through non-development, or by development of the wrong kind, while young married couples are having to leave the village to find accommodation within their means. The Parish Council feel that these people, anxious to own their own property, should be encouraged by the Harrogate Council.

They decided, therefore, to ask the Harrogate Council to consider a) Buying Land and building for sale, at cost, of houses e.g. terrace type in keeping with the rest of the village, within the means of local people. b) Approaching developers with a view to the purchase of "sterile" land. c) Buying empty houses for improvement or conversion for letting or resale.

The following conditions should, however, be imposed: - a) First choice of renting or buying should be given to young married or engaged couples, living, working or with relatives in the village. b) Future employees of farms and local light industry should have second priority. c) There should be a restrictive covenant on resale within 5 years except in the most exceptional circumstances. Finally it should be mentioned that further provision of Aged Persons' Bungalows is highly desirable.

13/6/1974

The question of the siting of the Telephone Box was then discussed. After consideration it was decided that the Parish Council considered that it's present site was the most suitable place in the village.

Following a complaint that Keld Lane had been closed because the gate was wired up it was agreed that a letter be written to the County Council drawing their attention to this.

22/7/1974

A letter had been received from the County Surveyor saying that Mr G. Robinson had undertaken to provide a stile at both ends of the footpath from Keld Lane to Seggans Road, Branton Green.

2/9/1974

After further comments had been made about flooding in Carr Side during the recent bad weather, it was agreed that a letter should be written to the new Area Surveyor listing all outstanding work promised for attention by the old authority as soon as funds were available and including this question of flooding together with restoration and kerbing of the verges near Campbell and Pentys, and at the junction of Carr Side with Branton Lane, encroachment of the edges of the Village Green and the restoration of footpaths and verges at the South end of the Village.

9/12/1974

With regard to continued flooding in Pipers Lane, Branton Green, it was agreed that a letter be written to the Divisional Surveyor asking for his assistance in getting the dykes cleaned out.

3/2/1975

After further complaints about flooding had been received from residents of Branton Green it was agreed that we arrange a meeting of landowners at a time convenient for the divisional Surveyor to attend so that something could be done.

21/4/1975

It was noted that the land on each side of the Green Lane at Branton Green was now being farmed by Mr K. Hornshaw (allotment no.B.G.10) It was proposed by Mr Gill, seconded by Mr Swann, and unanimously agreed that a letter be written to Mr Hornshaw asking for a rent of £5.00 for the lane and pointing out that there is a public right of way across the Green Lane.

4/8/03

It was reported that more complaints were being received about the phone box. After discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Telephone Manager asking him to consider moving the box to the wide grass verge opposite the Village Green where cars could stand off the street and it was not too near to any houses. It would also be nearer to those people who most needed to use it.

27/10/1975

A letter from the Telephone Manager stated that there was no justification for the Council's request for the Call Box to be resited.

It was unanimously agreed that a letter be written to the Divisional Surveyor expressing concern at the frequency of accidents at Burn Beck corner and asking if it was possible for the corner to be improved.

8/3/1976

In view of the fact that no payment had been received from Mr Hornshaw for the tenancy of the Green Lane at Branton Green, it was decided that a letter be written informing him that unless payment is made by the end of this month his tenancy will be terminated.

12/4/1976

The receipt of £5.00 for last years rent for the Green lane was acknowledged.

16/5/1977

It was reported that Little Ouseburn Parish Council had arranged to do some grass cutting. In view of the fact that the County Council were drastically reducing their operations it was unanimously decided that this Council should collaborate with Little Ouseburn in order to save costs and that the following lengths should be cut:- a) Boat Lane, through the village to Pipers Lane, Branton Green. b) Along to the Village Hall. c) One swathe along Carr Side to the junction by Campbell & Pentys. It was understood that the charge would be between £3.00 & £3.50 an hour.

5/12/1977

Complaints had been received from residents of Springfield Rise that vehicles could not negotiate the slope during icy weather. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Divisional Surveyor asking that this section of road be included in the regular gritting run of the County Council. Several near-accidents had happened when vehicles could not stop at the entrance to Main Street.

A request was made that the sewage air vent near the Church be removed. Mr Orton said he would ask for this to be done.

1/5/1978

Receipt of following acknowledged:- Allotment - Free Landing £0.50  
Mooring Free Landing £20.00

31/7/1978

Mr D. Hindmarsh, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, attended the meeting and was invited to outline the plans of the Committee for the future of the Hall. It had been decided, he said, that efforts should be made to raise the necessary funds to build a completely new Hall which should be sited on the Car Park area adjacent to the present Hall. The present Hall should meanwhile continue to be maintained as the prime venue for the raising of funds for the new Hall.

The Parish Council, as trustees of the Village Hall, supported these aspirations and said that they were wholeheartedly in agreement with the principle of the building of an entirely new purpose built Hall. They pledged their full support for this project and said that, even in the raising of the funds, the teamwork necessary would bring new life to the village.

Plans had been received for the building of a new Vicarage and Garage on land at the rear of the Present Vicarage in Church Lane. Members had no comment to make on the plans. Members were, however, appalled at the idea of the present vicarage being sold and a new one being built in Church Lane. It was therefore decided that a letter be written to the Ripon Diocesan Parsonages Board pointing out the following: The Vicarage was modernised in 1959. Money raised in the Parish, believed to be one third or £3000 went into it. We think the present Vicarage site is the correct one for the village. The new development will take just as much maintaining as the present Vicarage. We think the site of the new development could be put to better use, particularly as the Harrogate District Council have already made enquiries about the purchase of it for Old Peoples' Dwellings. The Parish Council associate themselves with the feeling in the Village that if the present Vicarage is sold the contribution made by the village in 1959, updated to present values, should be returned to the Parish for particular Church purposes e.g. the repair of the boundary wall.

With regard to the gritting of the entrance to Springfield Rise in frosty weather, members said they preferred regular gritting to piles of sand and grit at the roadside which lead to problems with vandals and the killing of vegetation.

19/3/1979

The Clerk had circularised every household in Branton Green on the question of Street Lights. As a result it was found that the majority were not in favour of having lights. Members agreed that therefore

the only proposal for a new light, when the system was overhauled in the future, should be for Church Lane.

The question of the Brown Lane footpath at Branton Green was discussed after it was pointed out that no markers had been left to show its position after recent ploughing. It was agreed that this item be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

4/6/1979

Arising out of the minutes it was decided that the question of offering for sale the Green Lane at Branton Green should be investigated. Mr Gill proposed and members unanimously agreed, that the Clerk should talk the matter over with the Auditor when attending the Audit to see what the possibilities were.

24/9/1979

Arising out of the minutes, a letter had been received from the District Auditor advising the Parish Council to seek legal advice before deciding about the proposed sale of the Green Lane and to consult Mr Fawcett of North Yorkshire Highways Dept. about the question of the footpath. Members agreed that they would write to Mr Fawcett as a first step.

The mechanical mower had been through the village for North Yorkshire County Council, but there did not seem to be any pattern to the mowing and the Parish Council would need to continue with their own programme.

17/12/1979

Arising out of the minutes a reply had been received from Mr Fawcett of North Yorks County Council that it would be possible to sell the Green Lane, but advisable to inform a prospective purchaser of the right of way. It was agreed that a further letter be written to Mr Fawcett identifying the footpath on the definitive map.

Members discussed the tree on the verge outside Springfield House which had been severely lopped by the occupant. It was agreed that we write to the occupant, Mr Douglas, saying that due to pressure from residents we are to take expert advice and if this means replacement we will have to send him the account. A letter should be written to Challis's asking their professional opinion on whether the tree will survive and if not asking for a quotation for the removal and replacement of the tree.

25/2/1980

Weetoft Lane. It was unanimously agreed that a letter be written to Mr K. Hornshaw, the tenant of the lane, asking if he is interested in buying the land, quoting the acreage.

A letter had been received from Mr Douglas of Springfield House apologising for the damage which he had inflicted on a tree on the grass verge and offering to replace it if it had not recovered within a year. At the same time a letter received from a subsidiary of Challis of York gave his professional opinion that the tree could not survive and quoted a price of £36.23 for replacing it. In view of the fact that Mr E Gowl had also said the tree would not survive, it was decided that Mr Swann would go and see Mr Douglas and take with him the relevant letter and quotation and talk the matter over.

Discussion followed on the question of a tentative request from Dr. Aston to buy all or part of Allotment no. 8. It was agreed that this would at some future date be an asset to the Parish Council as a building site with its frontage to Carr Side, but that the tenancy only of the allotment should be offered to Dr Aston as Mr Swann who had been the tenant had taken a smaller vacant allotment.

14/4/1980

The Chairman reported that Judge Stanley Price had offered a small Walnut tree to the Parish Council. Members said they would be pleased to accept it and suggested that it be sited on the wide verge bordering the Village Green, close to Mr B. Robinson's hedge. Mr Robinson should be approached before hand, and some protection should be provided for the tree to prevent damage while it is still small.

19/5/1980

The small Walnut donated by Judge Stanley Price had been planted in the wide verge adjacent to the Village Green. It was agreed that this would need some form of protection.

11/8/1980

Receipt of the following was acknowledged:- Free Landing allotment £0.50 Mr Clark, Boat Mooring £20.00 Mr Clark.

It was reported that brash round the base of a tree in Branton Avenue was obstructing the view for cars emerging from the Village Green Junction. It was decided that Mr Gowl be asked to remove the brash and also to check the other trees up the Avenue. Mr Gowl should also be asked if he would prune the ornamental trees on the Main Street Verge when the time was right.

6/10/1980

A letter received from Mr Hornshaw said that he would be interested in buying Weetoft Lane if the price was right. Members agreed that we contact the District Valuer for a valuation and possible advice as to procedure.

Mr Gowl had carried out pruning and removal of brash on 37 trees in Branton Lane. It was agreed that his account of £25.00, being 12.5 hours @ £2.00 per hour, be paid.

8/12/1980

It was unanimously agreed that if the tenant of allotment no. 2 vacates it a fence of two rails with posts be erected across the middle to divide it into two smaller plots.

As to the application by Mr A. Meek to demolish Burnside, Carrside, and erect two dwellings, it was pointed out that the site boundary marked on the plan enclosed the Parish Council's Allotment no. 7 of which the tenant is the occupier of Burnside.

A notice for the closure of Keld Lane and the retention of only a right of way on foot was received from the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council. It was decided that in reply we stress that this is a vehicular access for four landowners and must be retained as such for agricultural use. We feel that these landowners should be consulted. The Clerk was asked to let all four of the landowners see the notice.

26/1/1981

Parish Councillors had attended a meeting in Keld Lane with the representatives of the County Council and the adjoining Landowners on 15th January. In view of all the facts learned at this meeting members decided that Mr Gill and Mr Burrell should attend the Court hearing on 29th January to state the Parish Council's opinion that the closure of the lane is unnecessary and that it should stay as it is. A decision about the erection of a fence in allotment no.2 should be deferred until it is ascertained how many prospective tenants are interested in taking a garden.

9/3/1981

A meeting had been arranged when representatives of North Yorkshire County Council would meet Parish Councillors on 26th March to discuss Keld Lane. After discussion it was proposed by Mr Deery, seconded by Mr Gill that the attitude of the Parish Council should be that they would have no objection to the building of the workshop in the proposed position, but they regard the proposal for the closure of Keld Lane on this count as being unnecessary and see no reason why the status quo should not be maintained for the rest of the land. This was agreed.

A letter had been received from Robert Banks MP asking for an explanation of the Parish Council's position re Keld Lane. It was agreed that in reply we give a complete background of the events of the past few months, in particular that until the site meeting of 15th January the Parish Council were not aware of the proposal that the land at each side of the footpath was to be made over free of charge to the adjoining landowners. In some cases this involved a sizeable piece of land large enough for building plots and bearing in mind the cost of building land in this area, the Parish Council could foresee that if in future, planning applications were made by the then occupiers of the properties in the lane for development of the land, there would be severe criticism from the people of the village that the Parish Council had stood by and let it happen.

Further to the decision taken on 25th February 1980 about Allotment no. 8. A letter had been received from Dr Aston asking the Council to consider selling the land to him. He wished to carry out a scheme of tree planting on part of the allotment. Members agreed that at present they do not wish to sell the land, but that they would have no objection to the scheme being carried out by him as the tenant. In the view of the fact that it was now more than a year since Mr Douglas had said he would personally replace the damaged tree outside his property if it did not recover within the year, it was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Douglas by recorded delivery saying, Will he now carry out his intention at the earliest possible moment. If this is not done by 31st March 1981, we will instruct our contractor to carry out the work and furnish him with the account.

An application by Mr G. Lindon to erect a 5' x 4' hut on his allotment (no. 2b) and to keep some hens was received. Members agreed that they would give permission, provided that the hens were kept in a properly secured run so that there was no possibility of them straying on to neighbouring plots.

It was decided that in the present circumstances the boundary of allotment no. 7 should be marked with a fence before building work commenced on the neighbouring development at "Burnside". Mr Swann agreed to assist Mr Burrell to mark the boundary from the map so that Messrs Burrell & son could erect the fence.

11/5/1981

A meeting had been held with Mr Bramhall and Mr Penny of the North Yorks County Council to discuss Keld Lane. All Councillors except Mr Deery had been present.

Mr Bramhall said if the lane was closed down to 1.8 metres this would be for footpath use only and would not affect vehicular access for landowners. Partial closure of the lane is not acceptable and in view of this and public support for non closure of the lane, he could not foresee any chance of this being pursued further.

Mr Penny said that at this point it does not mean that the Highways Authority consider it suitable as an access road, but they would not investigate this until plans for the proposed development were available. The outcome of this meeting was that in their view, nothing further could be done with regard to closing Keld Lane and as the Court would not want any objection, so it would be time wasted. He asked if the Parish Council would suggest an alternative site for Mr Rampling and members said they did not think it their duty to do this as the matter before them concerned only the closing of the Lane.

Mr Rampling who had asked to attend this Parish Council meeting to talk to members, showed a letter from his solicitor and the draft of a deed which would be drawn up for signature by the adjacent landowners in Keld Lane prohibiting any form of building, wall or other erection on the land if it was made over to them. Mr Rampling then left the meeting. After discussion it was unanimously agreed that the solicitors letter and draft deed should be submitted to E. Fitzgerald Hart & son, the Parish Councils solicitor, for examination to see that it was in order.

It was then decided that the Parish Council would agree in principle to the closure of the Lane as long as a) The deed is in order. b) The restrictions in the deed apply to all the adjoining landowners. c) Mr Rampling has a similar deed, but this one should be amended to allow for his building only. The wall of his building should be as far as he can go. d) The Parish Council must see all these documents. They must have proof of the signatures and a full copy for Parish Record purposes. These stipulations should be made in a letter to Mr Rampling if members learn from their Solicitor that the draft deed is in order.

With regard to allotment no. 7 members agreed that they have no thought of selling this land but that Mr A. Meek should be the tenant at an annual rent of £1.00 A copy of the Allotment map showing the boundary should be forwarded to Mr Meek for record purposes.

It was reported that Mr Douglas had said that he would provide another Cherry Tree to replace the damaged one, but that it should be planted in another place. Members agreed that they had gone as far as they could in this matter and it was decided that we accept this offer of another tree. If he will deliver it we will arrange to plant it. We wish the old tree to remain where it is, however, and if it becomes a nuisance in any way we will send someone to deal with it. Permission should be sought from the Highways Dept for the planting of the new tree in the grass verge in line with the two opposite the church before asking Mr Douglas to deliver the tree.

28/5/1981

A letter was read from E. Fitzgerald Hart & son the Parish Council solicitor. After discussion it was unanimously agreed that we write to North Yorks County Council saying that we have met with Mr Rampling and seen a copy of the deed which he proposed to have drawn up. We have taken legal advice about this and have been informed that there is no legal way to protect the lane. The only solution would be for the lane to be conveyed to the Parish Council who could then make over the small area needed by Mr Rampling for his building, and register the rest as common land.

8/7/1981

The easement for the construction of a drain under allotment no. 13 was signed by Mr Gill and Mr Swann and witnessed.

15/7/1981

A letter received from North Yorks County Council asked for the Parish Councils legal adviser's address in order that they could communicate with him about the possibility of purchase of Keld Lane, also for the Parish Councils comments on Mr M. Ramplings recent building work.

It was agreed that in reply we say that we never did consider purchasing this land. We could not commit the Parish to this unless for a nominal sum. It was North Yorkshires suggestion that it be made over to the adjoining landowners free of charge. As to Mr Ramplings extension we have not seen any plans for this, or been given the opportunity to comment on it by the Planning Officer.

A letter from Mr Hepworth of E. Fitzgerald Hart & son said that a form of Trust Deed for the new Village Hall had been agreed with the Charity Commissioners. It was agreed that Mr Swann, Mr Burrell and Mr Jackson would be the signatories of the Deed.

12/8/1981

Letters on the subject of Keld Lane had been received from the North Yorks County Council and from Mr R. Fitzgerald Hart. It was unanimously agreed that before deciding what the next move should be we write to Mr M. Rampling to ask in view of the development which he has already carried out, whether the former proposal to erect a workshop had now been abandoned.

A letter from the Area Surveyor gave permission for the planting of a tree in the Grass verge opposite the Church, subject to conditions. British Telecom should be consulted on the site to pin point their underground cable. It was agreed that after this the Clerk should write to Mr Douglas to accept his offer of a tree as stated on page 459.

A letter outlining two schemes for tree planting from the North Yorks County Council was read. It was agreed that we would be willing to plant 50 trees if they could be obtained through the free tree scheme. These would be planted on the York Road, Carr Side, Seggans Road, Lightmire Lane, Boat Lane and Cross Lane.

16/9/1981

Formal objection had however been made to the planting of a Cherry tree and it was agreed that the Cherry tree be planted in the vacant spot on the Village Green. Mr Gill offered to provide a Whitebeam to plant on the site opposite the Church.

A letter from the District Valuer put the value of land at Weetoft Lane to the sitting tenant as between £800 and £1200. Members agreed that we write to Mr Hornshaw to ask if he is interested in purchasing the land for £1000 subject to the consent of the Dept. of the Environment and the Parish Meeting. It was also decided that we write to the District Auditor to ask if it would be possible for the proceeds of such sale of land to be used towards the proposed new Village Hall.

30/9/1981

Arising out of the minutes the question of Keld Lane again arose. Members discussed it but could find no solution. They still think that closure is unnecessary. It was decided that a referendum of all the households in Branton Green itself, and the landowners who do not live in Branton Green but are affected, be conducted confidentially to gauge the feelings of people. The question to be asked would be "Are you in favour of the proposal to stop up the lane?"

23/11/1981

Arising out of the minutes, the result of the referendum of householders and landowners of Branton Green was that the number in favour of the proposal to stop up Keld Lane was six and those not in favour of the proposal numbered nine. It was unanimously agreed that a letter be written to the North Yorks County Council enclosing a copy of the form used, and giving the result of the referendum, pointing out that even if the Parish Council had not objected to the proposal to stop up the lane it is obvious that there would be public objection.

The Clerk and Chairman reported on the progress made with the tree scheme. Some landowners had not been in favour so the scheme had been modified. The Highways Authority had drawn up plans and copies of these had been forwarded to the County Council with a list of the numbers of the individual varieties required. It was hoped that these would be delivered early in December. The Highways authority had said that they were consulting the statutory undertakers.

11/1/1982

It was proposed by Mr Gill, seconded by Mr Jackson and unanimously agreed that the Trust Deed for the New Village Hall Fund be now signed ready for forwarding to the Charity Commissioners for registration.

9/11/1982

Arrangements were made to erect the millstones with village names next week.

11/1/1983

The millstones bearing village name plates had been erected but it was unanimously decided that at Branton Green the words "with Branton Green" should be added below the name "Great Ouseburn". It was agreed that the two plots at Burn Bridge formerly rented by Mr Ellis be let to Mr White of Carr Field Lane on a 363 day tenancy to be reviewed after a year, at a rent of £5.00

3/3/1983

Two letters were read, one from the Planning officer and one from the Chief Executive of North Yorks County Council, in which it was stated that the next move on Keld Lane would come from the Dept. of the Environment. Mr Rampling said that a closure order would be made for the part of the lane needed to erect the joiners workshop only.

At the request of Mr J. Barton of Hundayfield Farm, Grafton it was agreed that the following be stated and recorded:- That the plot of land on the North side of Brown Lane bounded by fields 49, 54 and part of field 48 and owned by Mr J. Barton of Hundayfield, Grafton, forms a right of way from Brown Lane through to field 48 and the York - Boroughbridge Road, along which runs a public footpath. Mr Swann reported a conversation with Mr K. Hornshaw in which he denied having received the Parish Councils letter of 18th September 1981 about Weetoft Lane. It was unanimously agreed that a further letter be sent by hand quoting the original letter and an increased quotation of £1500 for the cost of the land in question.

20/4/1983

Notices had been posted about the proposed closure of that section of Keld Lane required for a joiners Workshop, inviting objections. No comment had been made by the Parish Council and developments would be awaited.

## **Parish Council Minutes 1983 - 2001**

7th December 1983

The closure order for the section of Keld Lane required for the joiner's workshop was made on 29th November 1983 and was open for public inspection for six weeks. Receipt of £15-00 for use of the Village Green by a Circus was acknowledged.

9th January 1984

The closure of the section of Keld Lane needed for the Joiners Workshop would come into force six weeks from 29th November 1983.

Little Ouseburn Parish Council had asked if this council would be interested in joining with them in a scheme to employ labour for maintenance and tidying in the villages. Members agreed that they could not afford to employ labour on a regular basis, but they were willing for a joint letter to go to North Yorks County Council to ask if they have a facility to contribute to such a scheme.

12th March 1984

A letter from the Chief Engineer of the Technical Services Department said that the residential development adjacent to St. Imoges would be numbered 101-105 Main Street and not given a name. Members agreed that we reply that this is very disappointing. We are not happy with numbers in the Main Street where no houses have numbers. We had suggested "School View" or "School Crescent" in order to pin point the development.

One of the trees planted by the Parish Council near the Crown Inn had blown down in the gale and had to be removed. It was agreed that this be replaced with a bush.

With regard to a request from the Sports Council for a Badminton Club to be named in the Village Hall Trust Deed, it was agreed that when the Deed is drawn up for the New Hall there would be provision for other societies to be included. The present Deed only pertained to the Building Fund, but names could not just be added to an official document.

Mr Burrell said the School managers were asking North Yorks County Council to provide a footpath near the school entrance. It was agreed that we support the school managers in this and write to North Yorks County Council ourselves asking them to give urgent consideration to the provision of a footpath from the school entrance in a Northerly direction as far as the entrance to Walnut Cottage.

21st May 1984

Members received with satisfaction a letter from the Area Surveyor of NYCC in which he said that the laying down of a footpath adjacent to the school entrance was scheduled for the present financial year.

Playing Field: Mr Gill reported a meeting he had had with Mr J. Coates to try to arrange to "swap" some land at the North East side of the field for a similar amount at the North West side or alternatively to rent the land so that the football pitch could be moved when the new Village Hall is built. This was not a straightforward transaction and Mr Gill was due to meet Mr Coates again. Members agreed that Mr Gill represent the Parish Council in this matter and any legal or other fees which became payable be met by the Parish Council.

A request by Mr Bricknell to moor a boat alongside his while renovating it was agreed to.

17th September 1984

With regard to the Playing Field, it was now fully confirmed that the New Village Hall would be sited down the side of the field parallel to Lightmire Lane. Members would meet to discuss plans for the exchange of equal amounts of land so that the football pitch could be re-sited across the top of the field. A letter from Mr H. Hirst asked for permission to bring the Fair to the Village Green from 23rd to 30th October. Members commented that it was rather late in the season, but agreed that the Fair should come with the usual proviso about volume of sound after 11-30p.m.

12th November 1984

It was decided that Mr E. Gowl be asked to carry out pruning of the trees on the Village Green and in the Main Street, also to plant the tree obtained as a replacement for one blown down in the gales last winter.

18th November 1985

The Chairman reported a meeting he had had with Mr K. Hornshaw. Mr Hornshaw had agreed verbally the price of £1000 for the land at Weetoft Lane. It was proposed Mr Gill seconded Mr Burrell and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council now take steps to go ahead with the sale of Weetoft Lane to Mr Hornshaw as tenant for £1000.

10th February 1986

Playing Field: The solicitor was drawing up a Statutory Declaration for the exchange of land. Mr Swann was to visit the Registry of Deeds to see if he could obtain Deeds of the Council's land which would simplify matters.

It was agreed that the Parish Council could meet the conditions laid down by Mrs Coates' solicitors that the use of the Football Pitch during the months of June, July and August be made subject to restriction and that no games would be played without the consent of the adjoining landowner. Also a culveted drain to take the top water along Lightmire Lane could be made.

16th April 1986

Playing Field: The solicitor wrote to say he was communicating with the Registry of Deeds to find out if there was a copy of the original conveyance of the land in 1919.

22nd May 1986

Mr Stephen Hepworth, the solicitor, had obtained a copy of the original conveyance of the land to the Parish Council in 1919 and was ready to prepare the Statutory Declaration for Mrs Coates Solicitors.

Mr Holford of Rosehill had asked if it were permissible for him to plant two flowering trees in the grass verge outside his property. It was agreed that we ask him to contact the Divisional Surveyor for permission.

29th September 1986

A letter from the Dept. of the Environment said that it was in order for the Parish Council to proceed with the sale of Weetoft Lane for £1000. Members agreed that this now be put in hand and the Clerk was asked to see the solicitor to arrange it.

17th December 1986

It was reported that agreement for the planting of trees adjacent to Rosehill had been received from the Area Surveyor and signed by the Chairman. Mr Holford had been informed and was proposing to plant a Golden Elm and an Acer.

It was agreed that no action be taken to sell Allotment No 7 to Mr A. Meek. He should remain as tenant as before.

2nd March 1987

An Oak tree presented to the village as runners up in the Best Kept Village Competition was to be planted somewhere on the Playing Field site.

2nd March 1987

Playing Field: It was reported that a letter received from the Council's solicitor said that Mrs Coates was not prepared to sign the Deed for the exchange of land until the drain was laid at the top of the field. Mr Jackson and Mr Gill said they would attend to it.

18th May 1987

It was reported that the Oak tree presented to the Parish Council was not showing any sign of life. It was agreed that the choosing of a site should be left until the end of the year and the tree should be replaced if it was dead.

13th July 1987

It was agreed that trees in the Main Street should be pruned at the end of this year.

18th January 1988

It was reported that the document for the sale of Weetoft Lane had been signed ready for exchange with Mr Hornshaws' Solicitors.

14th March 1988

The Oak tree presented in the Best Kept Village Competition had been planted at the top end of the Playing Field.

Mr Gill, who had been Chairman of the Playing Field Committee, reported that the remaining Committee members had held their final meeting and had unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should assume responsibility for the field.

11th August 1988

The completion of the sale of Weetoft Lane had at last been completed. This project had been embarked upon in 1979 in order to help fund alterations and development of the Playing Field which were necessary when the new Village Hall had to be sited on the football pitch and a new pitch developed on land exchanged with the adjacent landowner. The Play Area would also need to be moved and refurbished. The sum of £1000 had been received from Mr K Hornshaw for the purchase of the land and Solicitors' fees of £172-50 for this transaction and £214-50 for the Playing Field project had been paid. Because of the length of time it had taken to arrange the sale of Weetoft Lane, much of the money had already been spent on the Playing Field project.

28th September 1988

Arising out of the minutes it was reported that a Statutory Declaration of previous ownership of Weetoft Lane would have to be drawn up for the information of the Land Registry. Expenses incurred for this would be paid by Mr Hornshaw.

22nd May 1989

Discussion took place on the serious hazard which had been created since the residents of nos. 1 to 7 Branton Lane were told by the Police that they must no longer park under the trees opposite but on the road outside their houses. Up to ten vehicles were now parked nose to tail in this narrowest part of the lane. A petition asking for the Parish Councils support in efforts to have the restriction rescinded had been received and it was unanimously agreed that a letter be written to the Chief Constable bringing the matter to his notice with copies to Harrogate council, North Yorks Highways Dept, PC Landray, County Coun. Brewis and Coun. Craven.

23rd August 1989

Parking Branton Lane: The Area Road Safety Officer attended the meeting to talk to members about the parking problem in Branton Lane. He said that the offence was driving on a footway and once complaints had been made this could not be condoned. He agreed that the present situation was highly dangerous and that off street parking would seem to be the only answer. It was agreed that we write to the Area Surveyor asking that hard standings be made beneath the trees between the road and the footpath, stressing the serious risk of an accident if the present situation continues. The road safety factor and the danger to old people and children crossing the road to reach the footpath should also be emphasised. While this would not be an ideal solution it would certainly be a help.

30th October 1989

A letter from the Area Surveyor in reply to the Parish Council's suggestion that parking be provided between the footpath and road under the trees in Branton Lane said that the County Council does not provide for hard standings for individual parking and the line of trees in any case would not allow for adequate visibility. It was agreed that we now write to the Harrogate Council explaining that we have exhausted all the options and suggesting that the only remaining solution would be vehicular access between the properties, asking them to seriously consider this for their own properties.

8th January 1990

A letter from the Director of Corporate Services of the Harrogate Council said that as the Branton Lane Houses are raised above the level of the road any parking provision in their gardens would be very expensive and such a programme could not be considered in the foreseeable future. He suggested a lay by beneath the trees! Members agreed that this seemed to constitute a stalemate. They decided that in reply we state that this is really not our problem. Each Authority is just suggesting solutions already rejected by the others. Something should be agreed between the Police, the Highways Authority and the Harrogate Council.

5th March 1990

A letter from the Harrogate Council's Director of Corporate Services said that it appeared that an impasse had been reached with regard to the parking problem in Branton Lane. He was to arrange a meeting between representatives of his council and the Highways Department to see if an answer could be found.

3rd September 1990

A site meeting had taken place in Branton Lane between representatives of the Highways Department, Harrogate Council, the Police and the Parish Council. Various suggestions had been made for remedying the parking problem but most of these were dismissed as too costly. It had been agreed that parking beneath the trees was the best solution and Mr Penny, the Area Surveyor, said that he would take the problem back to the County Council's legal department to try to find a way of legalising it.

6th March 1991

The Chairman said he had enquired about planning regulations for the erection of the storage facilities and score box for the Cricket Club and the planning department had said it was not necessary to apply for permission.

Mr Gill said that as the storage accommodation was needed for the coming season he would bear the cost of the materials until such time as the Parish Council had the funds available to pay for them.

7th October 1991

A deed of Easement giving permission for the crossing of Well Lane to the site of a proposed new house was signed by Mr Jackson and Mr Swann. A Statutory Declaration of Ownership of the lane and allotments had been made by the Clerk.

9th December 1991

It was reported that notice had been received that the planning application for the proposed housing scheme at Carr Side had been withdrawn. North Yorkshire County Council had indicated that there could be the remains of an Iron Age Settlement under there.

The tenant of a piece of land let as an allotment near the Free Landing had asked to keep his caravan on there as a base to use when he acts as relief toll collector. Members agreed that the Caravan could stay for the time being, but in the changed circumstances of it now being a caravan standing the charge should be increased realistically. It was proposed by Mr Burrell, seconded by Mr Swann and unanimously agreed that the rent should be £1-00 per week as from 1st January 1992.

2nd March 1992

In response to a request from the Listed Buildings Officer members agreed that they would report to him any damage or deterioration of listed artefacts in the parish which did not have a specific owner. Those to be watched were the Parish Boundary Stone and a Milestone on the B6265 road, the obelisk marking the rising of Ouse Gill Beck in the grounds behind Messrs Campbell and Penty's and Aldwark Bridge. It had not been known until a charge was made in December that the Parish Council had any documents in Safe Custody. The Clerk said that she had been to the bank to identify the documents

which related to the purchase of land in 1921 from Lord Knaresborough for allotments (Flatts Gardens) now the Playing Field, and to the siting of the old Village Hall on the land about 1950. Because the documents were from two separate dates they were listed under two heads and a double charge had been made. It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for these and any other important documents to be put together in a sealed packet so that only a single charge would be necessary.

15th April 1992

I have today deposited a sealed envelope in safe custody with the Midland Bank, Bridge Street, Boroughbridge and obtained a receipt No. 2345494

The envelope contains the following documents:-

1) 9th August 1921.

Conveyance of land - Lord Knaresborough to G.O.P.C. for allotments known as " Flatts Gardens" (Now Great Ouseburn Playing Field)

2) 10th August 1921.

Mortgage of £200 from Mr Harry Robertson to pay for above.

3) 8th November 1924

Transfer of Mortgage from Mr Harry Robertson to Mr Albert Robinson, Chairman of G.O.P.C.

4) 13th April 1954

Ministry of Housing & Local Government consent to use of part of Allotment land for Village Hall.

Copies of these documents together with the receipt are with the Parish Council records.

E. M. Wilby

Parish Clerk

6th May 1992

Free Landing Allotment: As it was learned that Mr F. Clark, the tenant of the Toll Cottage Caravan had died at the beginning of April, it was agreed that the quarterly account due for rent be not sent.

It was agreed that we write to the Highways Department asking them to consider the establishment of a footpath along the grass verge at Boat Lane from Aldwark Bridge to its junction with Main Street. Many more pedestrians were now using this busy road.

20th July 1992

A letter from the Divisional Surveyor said that in view of the small number of pedestrians he could not justify the expenditure involved in constructing a footpath along Boat Lane.

7th March 1994

It was reported that the Ouseburn Football Club had folded. The funds of the Club were in the hands of the treasurer, Mr D. Witham, of Kirk Hammerton. Copies of Bank Statements dated February 1994 showing a balance of £611-02 in Enterprise Account No. 91084372 and £22-73 in Current Account No. 91084364 at Midland Bank, 77 Market Place, Thirsk were lodged with the Parish Council. Mr Witham would continue to administer the account in the hope that the Club would soon be able to be re-convened.

5th September 1994

The transfer of capital of £5-92 into the Cass Charity bank account had taken place and members decided to explore the possibility of amalgamating it with the William Abbay charity in the parish of Dunsforth. Mr R White was asked to undertake tree pruning in the Main Street and on the Village Greens in due season. As this area is now in the Conservation Area the Clerk would give the statutory six weeks notice to the Planning Authority.

It was agreed that the Council's Bus Shelter, which was now redundant should be removed. Mr Burrell agreed to take it away.

7th November 1994

The Clerk had visited the offices of the Rural Community Council to consult their database in order to find out more about the Cass Charity. The income was derived from £20 of Consolidated Stock, the source of which was not known and no stock certificates had been found when the parish of Branton Green had been amalgamated with Great Ouseburn. The Charity had been founded by a will dated 13th January 1728. The only comparable charity was that of William Abbay which covered the same area of benefit, the trustees of which the Charity Commissioners had tried to contact in 1961 with a

view to their taking over the Cass Charity, but without success. It was agreed that the trustees of the William Abbay Charity should now be approached to see if they would be willing for the two charities to amalgamate.

A meeting had taken place outside the school on 8th September with Mr Lee of North Yorks Highways Dept and P.C. Shields to discuss traffic and parking problems. Mr Lee had undertaken to extend the yellow zig zag markings outside the school at both ends and had agreed that cars should park on the opposite side of the road to the school to give clear visibility down the road in both directions from the school gate. He was not hopeful that flat-topped speed bumps could be recommended, but he said a leaflet could be produced for parents explaining the meaning of the yellow lines and the suggested safety measures.

12th December 1994

The Clerk reported that she had been to see the Vicar of Boroughbridge with Dunsforth to discuss with him the proposal that the Cass Charity be amalgamated with the Charity of William Abbay. He would consult his Charity Trustees about it at their next meeting.

7th March 1995

A copper beech tree had been planted to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the formation of Great Ouseburn Parish Council on 4th December 1894.

Notice had been received from the Charity Commissioners that Charity No. 512792, The Great Ouseburn New Village Hall Fund, had been removed from the Central Register of Charities. It was amalgamated with Charity No. 523617 Great Ouseburn Village Hall Fund in March 1994.

25th September 1995

At the request of the Auditor a review of the Allotment Rents was carried out. It had been pointed out that the rents were low because there was no water supply and also tenants were responsible for their own gates, fences and hedges. It was proposed by Mr Gill, seconded by Mr Swann, and unanimously agreed that rents should be increased to £5 with pensioner tenants paying £2. Rent for the two plots at Branton Green would be £10.

20th May 1996

It was reported that a new pump for the well in Well Lane had been obtained by Mr R. White. Mr White would liaise with Mr Swann to carry out the work needed to restore the well to useable condition. Mr White said he would do the work voluntarily and was thanked for his offer.

3rd March 1997

It was agreed that application should be made to the Charity Commissioners for the necessary forms in order that the Cass Charity could be wound up.

7th December 1998

Mr Hellowell of "Wits End" had made a small garden on Parish Council Land in Well Lane. The Parish Council had no objection to this, but it was decided that a formal letter be written to Mr Hellowell establishing the Council's ownership of the land, to prevent any further dispute.

15th November 1999

Dr. Clifford Aston had asked to be permitted to buy allotment No. 8 which adjoins his land. Although the village does not offer the 4acres/1000 inhabitants required by law, the recent written enquiry to every household still left three allotments without tenants. It was agreed that Clerk should initiate action by the District Valuer and Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions in support of the sale.

7th February 2000

The following had been completed since the last meeting: Tree pruning on Branton Lane; Flashing Lights at the School; Sewerage installation behind the forge; January / February Village News; **Planting of 25 trees in Church Field Lane in memory of Judge Peter Stanley Price;**

Allotments: It was agreed that the rents would be held at £5 per annum. No. 3 allotment was vacant. The Clerk was asked to investigate changes of use for the two allotments at Burn Beck, the southerly one for road junction improvements and the northerly one "back to nature".

Sale of Allotment No. 8: The District Valuers assessment as a building plot was £50000. This was not acceptable to Dr. Ashton who wanted it merely as a garden and wished to include a "no building" covenant. The Clerk was to have the land revalued on that basis.

**The Chairman asked the Clerk to prepare a letter of appreciation to Mr Richard White for all his voluntary work connected with the planting of 25 commemorative limes in Church Field Lane.**

28th March 2000

Mr and Mrs Jones of Mulberry Cottage, Carr Side Road had asked for information on ownership of the land between their house and the cross roads (which they had maintained for many years). The Clerk was asked to take this up with NYCC.

23rd May 2000

The Resources Centre for Deafened People, York had asked if an Induction Loop would be of use. Mr Burrell agreed to ask the Village Hall Committee if one would be useful.

Burn Beck Allotments: Use of the southerly allotment to ease the exit of traffic turning left onto the B6265 would be discussed with NYCC Highways on 24th May 2000. The Clerk was to write to Mr Barton, of Hundayfield Farm, about the upkeep on the Northerly Allotment.

31st August 2000

Facilities for Youngsters / Youth Forum: The Chairman welcomed Mrs C. Livesley & Mrs F. Grout (and two members) and thanked them for their considerable efforts to set up a youth club - to be known as Youth Forum 2000. Jane Girdham (age 11) outlined the proposed programme: indoor and outdoor activities and sports, 10 pin bowling, indoor bowls, swimming, visits, discos, sponsored events for fund raising. Netball posts and a 'Hang About' shelter (which would also provide shelter for those waiting for the school bus) would be most welcomed. After discussion it was proposed by Mr Essex and seconded by Miss Lonsdale that the Parish Council should help by paying the start-up costs

25th October 2000

Projects were discussed, including:

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1) Netball area with goal(s)              | approx. £3k  |
| 2) 'Hang About' Shelter                   | approx. £6k  |
| 3) Refurbish Cricket Practice Nets        | approx. £2k  |
| 4) Repair and re-net small football goals | approx. £100 |
| 5) Play Area manhole security clamp       | approx. £40  |

Millennium Project: Mr Essex outlined the progress and ongoing projects including a seat at the Main Street / Boat Lane Junction.

HBC had requested suggestions for this years round of Village Safety Schemes. Last year saw the introduction of the flashing lights near the school. It was suggested that yellow backgrounds to the 40mph signs at Branton Green and 1/2/3 rumble strips at the three main entrances to the village would be suitable proposals. The Clerk was asked to seek suggestions in the next village news.

The visiting Fair had damaged the Green and had been a noise nuisance. The Clerk was asked to seek a consensus through the Village News.

13th November 2000

The wooden seat, at the limes on Branton Lane and adjacent to the Green, had been relocated 30m to the east to ease the foul language nuisance to adjacent houses from youths.

Projects and Funding:

- 1) Basketball Goal(s) Goals had been offered through HBC by the English Basketball Association for £275 each with the proviso that a 9m square tarmac / concrete pitch would be added. (It was decided on a site visit on 18/11/00 to obtain one goal and install it just to the north of the play area.
- 2) Football Goals (2 sets) Reweld sprung joints and fit new nets proposed AB and seconded by CML.
- 3) Hang About Shelter. The cost of approximately £7k "would be better spent elsewhere".
- 4) Village Hall Car Park. Resurfacing / extension to be discussed at a later meeting (£10k to £20k)
- 5) Netball Goals, Approx £200 each, not approved.
- 6) Cricket Gang Mowers. The Chairman reported that no suitable mowers had been found but he would continue to look (£3k-£6k)
- 7) Cricket Practice Net Refurbishment. The Cricket Club was to action this.
- 8) Combined Football and Netball Goals £7k, not approved.

9) Cyber Club, not feasible at present.

10) Play Area Drain cover clamp proposed by AB seconded CML. (£40)

11) Village Safety Scheme. Radar Speed Warning at Branton Green (in addition to the measures decided on 25/10/00) likely cost £2500 with a contribution, by the village, of about £300. Proposed by BH, seconded GE.

18th December 2000

The Clerk had received fifteen responses to the October Fair Referendum. Fourteen were in favour of continuing as at present.

The Parish Councils Insurance policy covers six bench seats at £322 each. This was well over recent replacement costs so it was proposed by BH and seconded by AB that the new millennium seat should be added to the policy but the total value was to be left unchanged (giving an average value of £276 per seat). It was agreed, unanimously, not to insure the large new stone Millennium Seat on the Green.

NYCC had confirmed that they were considering the offer of a triangle of land at Burn Beck (for realigning the junction).

5th April 2001 Annual Parish Meeting

Sadly Miss Cynthia Lonsdale, the first lady councillor in Great Ouseburn, died suddenly on 29th November 2000.

The Gang Mowers, which had been used to cut the playing field for over 30 years, had been replaced.

The Council had assisted with the establishment of the Youth Forum, for youngsters between 10 and 16 years of age.

Millennium Activities: Commissioning of a stone Millennium Seat on the Green, two styles of Millennium Mugs, Planting Bulbs on Village Green, A Village Survey and providing a wooden seat at the end of Boat Lane.

Allotment No 8 had been sold to Dr. Aston for £12500 with a restriction on buildings.

17th October 2001

The Charity Commission had approved of the closure of the John Cass Charity for the Poor of Upper Dunsforth with Branton Green, which dates back to 1728. The documents to be used for the distribution of money (approximately £86) to students for course books were on display.

5th December 2001

The "Time Capsule" had been laid up inside the Village Hall just prior to the PC meeting. A plaque on the wall showed the location and requested that the survey be updated in 2049 and 2099.