

Great Ouseburn Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting, Wednesday 18th May 2011

Chairman's Report

This year we have dealt with around 15 planning applications compared to 13 last year, the recession continues.

The Conservation Area review was completed and published. The Parish council requested and produced photographic evidence to support an application for an Article 4 directive for the Conservation Area. Harrogate Council accepted the request and are progressing Great Ouseburn as a pilot for the district to reduce permitted development rights and increase protection for the conservation area.

The long awaited riverside footpath from the Free Landing to Aldwark village is still not completed but we are hopeful for a conclusion soon.

Equipment for the Community Emergency Plan has been delivered and is now stored at the village hall.

A Community First Responder scheme for the Ouseburns is now up and working and the volunteers have attended a number of emergency incidents over the winter period, sometimes arriving more than 40 minutes before the ambulance.

Work on improvements to the Free Landings continues and an Interpretation Panel is now in place.

Three pieces of exercise equipment have been placed in the children's play area and are proving very popular with all age groups. If funding becomes available we hope to expand on these.

An informal BMX track was created alongside Lightmire lane.

Dog Fouling continues to be a problem and a Bag & Flag day in February used 200 bags.

What else has happened:-

The first Great Ouseburn Beer Festival was a great success.

Unfortunately the Youth Forum closed due to a lack of volunteers.

The older persons Christmas party was held at the Crown Inn with financial support from the Beer Festival, Church and Parish Council and was very successful.

Money is allocated for the installation of dropped kerbs for a new footway between Branton Lane and the Village Hall and installation should start shortly.

The Village is applying for High Speed Rural Broadband supplied over the North Yorkshire County Council NYNET Optic Fibre network.

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Thanks:

This year I would like to give a special thank you to Graham Potter for his very hard work on the BMX track, Free Landing and Playing Field.

Keith Scott, Chairman, Great Ouseburn Parish Council