
GRANTLEY, SAWLEY, SKELDING AND EAVESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

Council Members

The composition of the Council remained static during the 2010/11 year. Serving Councillors were Ted Dodsworth (Chairman), Martin Kirbitson (Vice-Chairman), Trevor Kitchen, June Learoyd, Mike Lumb, John Scannell and Ken Walmsley.

Ken Walmsley has announced his intention to retire from the Council.

Meetings

The Parish Council has met 7 times since the 2010 annual meetings. 6 were ordinary meetings; one in April 2011 was an extraordinary meeting to consider significant planning applications.

Planning

The Parish Council has responded to consultations being carried out on 18 planning applications. Proposals have ranged from alterations to turn Grantley Hall into a hotel, to the construction of new houses, to improvements at Fountains Primary School and alterations to existing properties.

The Parish Council has been represented at two meetings of Harrogate Borough Council's Planning Committee when applications in the parish were being considered.

Proceeds from Sale of Sawley Parish Room

The Parish Council has continued to administer these proceeds (the majority of which are invested in 3 savings bonds) and has begun to distribute the funds in a number of ways during the past year:

- Resurfacing of the track across Sawley Village Green.
- Provision of two plaques; one on the Parish Room and one on the village pump.
- Paying for electrical works at Sawley Village Hall.
- Funding totalling £1830 was given from the Sawley Small Grants Scheme to Sawley in Bloom, Sawley Village Hall, Sawley Methodist Church Sunday School and Fountains Playgroup and Pre-school.

The majority of the interest earned on the sale proceeds is paid into the Sawley Small Grants Scheme.

Other

- The Parish Caretaker scheme has continued, and is now partially funded by the Yorkshire Dales LEADER programme.
- Grantley recreation project has been finished. What began with a wish list from local residents has now been virtually completed and has seen new play equipment, planting and street furniture being installed.
- The Parish Council's request to adopt the phone kiosk in Sawley was turned down as Harrogate Borough Council had objected to its decommissioning.
- The Parish Council has continued to maintain Picking Gill and has recently taken up North Yorkshire County Council's offer of a survey to determine whether it could be designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The Parish Council is looking to find ways of stopping motorbike riders using the site. Stolen gates were replaced during the year.
- The Parish Council has responded to a number of consultations from North Yorkshire County Council and Harrogate Borough Council on a variety of subjects such as the future provision of library services.
- The Parish Council continues to publish a newsletter after each meeting.
- The Parish Council is looking to replace the noticeboard in front of Grantley Village Hall.
- The Parish Council continues to maintain the play areas at Grantley and Sawley. The Clerk responded to an emergency situation in Grantley when Highways contractors entered the play area there without permission to carry out works. Major refurbishment works to the wetpour surfacing at Grantley is planned for early in the 2011/12 financial year. The Clerk undertook a training course and examination and is now qualified to carry out the routine inspection of the play areas.

Future

- Installation of a bus bay and new shelter in Sawley.
- Renovation of Sawley Church clock.
- Evaluation of effectiveness of traffic calming through Risplith.
- Lighting of track across Sawley Village Green.
- Elections in May 2012.