

**Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council
Annual Meeting of the Council
Chairman's Report 2012 – 2013**

Council Membership

During the past year we have welcomed Cllr P Perry to the Parish Council. Additionally, we have accepted the resignation of Cllr T Lawn due to personal commitments, and the Council thanked him for his input and wish him all the best for the future - we are currently seeking to co-opt a member.

Finance

The Parish Precept remained unchanged at £16,781, and will remain unchanged for 2013/2014.

The Model Agreement monies of £3034 were received from Scarborough BC during the year, with the return to be completed. The new Model Agreement for 2013/2014 has been signed and sent to Scarborough Borough Council for an estimate of £3695.00

Planning Applications

34 planning consultations were received during the Year from Scarborough Borough Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority. The Council is grateful to Cllrs Dave Tate and Alf Watson for considering and advising on planning matters again this year.

Public Conveniences

Planning permission has been granted for the Parish Council to build a new toilet block. Options of funding are now being looked into. Whilst the Eskdaleside toilets are in a relatively poor state they are still usable, and we remain most grateful to John Mead for keeping watch on them and locking and unlocking them every day.

Highways

The winter has caused a few problems with snow; however, the Parish Council has been grateful for the work that NYCC Highways have undertaken in endeavouring to keep the main and smaller roads open.

The Council commenced exploration of options regarding purchase/lease of a VAS sign for placement at the junction of Ingham Close to endeavour to slow traffic coming from the Pickering direction.

Additionally, it has been ascertained that surface re-works and potential widening of the footpaths will occur in the village during the 2013/14 financial year.

Linden Close Wildlife Area

The project continues to progress and has been a fantastic addition to the village.

Flooding

The issues around flooding in Linden Close have been a continual area that the Council is endeavouring to find a solution for in conjunction with SBC and NYCC. To date there has been no conclusion, but discussions regarding the best way forward are still ongoing. However, the Parish Council now has its own sandbag storage unit with sandbags available for residents to take in times of need.

Footpaths

It has been regrettable the damage that 4x4 vehicles have caused on Tom Bell's Lane/Seggymire, and the Parish Council is supporting endeavours to reinstate the trods and to downgrade from a designated green lane.

Other Activities

The council again had a presence at Sleights Show and this was well received by those who attended.

The Parish Newsletter continued to be produced on a regular quarterly basis and distributed to virtually all residents. We are grateful to Cllrs. Judy Powditch for the excellent work she does in compiling each edition.

Noticeboards are continually updated with information regarding events in the parish and the surrounding area.

Briggswath – new signage recognising the hamlet has been erected as per the parish survey, and an additional plaque has been erected to commemorate its history.

The Diamond Jubilee was commemorated with the planting of a hornbeam tree, and the replacement of a dilapidated bench on Ingham Close.

Affordable Housing – various consultation open days have been held with the consensus results reported as a majority in favour.

York Potash – Representatives from York Potash have addressed meetings to explain progress, and the Council has signed and sent a letter of support. Planning consultation is still in progress.

Police liaison – The Council has received regular updates from the police representative regarding incidents within the area, and has ably answered questions on matters of concern raised by the councillors.

Borough/County Councillors: Regular updates have been received on matters that appertain to the Borough and County from our representatives. The Council has been sad to see the retirement of Cllr W H Tindall from his County Council seat, but expressed its thanks and good wishes to him at its April meeting.

Clerk: Catherine Raistrick handed in her resignation in 2012, and the Council has been grateful for her input during her time in the post. We welcomed Victoria Pitts as her replacement in November 2012.

I am grateful for the contribution of all Members.

Cllr B Truman