
GRANTLEY, SAWLEY, SKELDING AND EAVESTONE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

Councillors

- Ted Dodsworth served as Councillor for the Skelding ward and as Chairman of the Council. He has not stood for re-election and will handover formally at the 2012 Annual Parish Council Meeting.
- Martin Kirbitson served as one of three Councillors for the Sawley ward and as Vice-Chairman of the Council. He has been re-elected.
- Trevor Kitchen served as another Councillor for the Sawley ward and has been re-elected.
- June Learoyd has served as Councillor for the Eavestone ward and has been re-elected.
- Mike Lumb and John Scannell have served as Councillors for the Grantley ward and have been re-elected.
- Ken Walmsley served as the third Sawley ward Councillor, but has not stood for re-election.
- Rachel Wigginton has been elected to the Parish Council and will take office at the 2012 Annual Parish Council Meeting.
- It is expected that Martin Soley will be co-opted onto the Council at the 2012 Annual Parish Council meeting, to represent the Skelding ward.

Meetings

- The Parish Council has met 8 times since the 2011 annual meetings.
- 6 of these were 'ordinary meetings' when a full agenda of business was considered.
- A meeting was held in August 2011 to consider significant planning applications.
- A meeting was held in September 2011 to consider applications to the Sawley Small Grants Scheme.

Planning and Development

- The Parish Council has been consulted on 13 applications.
- Proposals have ranged from a holiday let, to an agricultural building, to solar panels, to barn conversions, to new porches.
- The Parish Council has responded to consultations on the Local Development Framework as appropriate.

Parish Room Proceeds

- £3134.92 of interest has been received in the 2011/12 financial year.
- The Sawley Small Grants Scheme has made 8 awards in the 2011/12 financial year, totalling £2998.47. Purposes supported have included soap making, lifeguarding, scuba diving, accountancy, Diamond Jubilee projects and celebrations and Fountains Pre-School and Primary school.
- £353.60 has been spent administering the proceeds during the 2011/12 financial year.
- £150 has been given for the further development of the Sawley website.
- Approval has been given for a total of £1275 to be spent on the Diamond Jubilee Arts Project.
- Funds have been earmarked for restoring Sawley Church Clock, a new map / interpretation board and a new bus shelter.

General

- The Parish Council has continued to operate the parish caretaker scheme which is partially funded by the Yorkshire Dales LEADER scheme, although it should be noted that this is the final year which funding will be received in.
- The Parish Council has supported efforts by Julian Smith MP and North Yorkshire County Council to bring faster broadband to rural areas.
- New picnic tables were purchased for Grantley Playing Field. These were funded by Harrogate Borough Council's commuted sums system. This completed the Grantley Recreation Project, although new benches will also be purchased as and when a funding opportunity allows.
- Repairs were carried out to the wetpour surfaces and see-saw in Grantley playground.
- The Parish Council corresponded with Highways North Yorkshire on a number of on-going issues ranging from potholes to signage and traffic calming / speeding through Risplith.
- Councillors addressed staffing issues raised by the Clerk.
- The Parish Council is continuing to try to obtain a new noticeboard (at a reasonable price) for Grantley.
- Picking Gill continues to be maintained with the help of volunteers and the parish caretaker. The site was surveyed by North Yorkshire County Council, but was not found to be worthy of SINC status.