

Councillor Douglas Wooles.

## **PARISH PLAN 2009 : ACTIONS**

### **Report to Parish Council : October 9<sup>th</sup> 2009**

The Action Plan Launch was held on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 in the Village Hall. All the Actions listed in the Plan were available for residents to work on. Of these 15 were put forward to the meeting as offering potential for a mix of short, medium and long term achievements.

As the launch took place at the start of the summer progress appears to have been limited. The situation as of today is :

#### **1. Provide an All-Weather Sorts Pitch**

Considerable interest has been shown in this project – now known as SPARK (Sheriff Hutton Sports Park). A group of people agreed to explore the opportunities and decide how best to go forward at a very productive meeting. A small working group has been formed. They see a need to satisfy three needs :

- Sports a multi-purpose sports facility
- Leisure fun, active but not sport
- Community a resource for all

Three teenagers have been invited to participate and they are acting as ‘agents’ to gather information from their peer group about what should be included in each of the three needs.

There is to be an event (as yet unspecified) later in the year to gauge community opinion and gather support with an open invitation to the whole community. They have already had expressions of interest from the Tennis Club and the Primary School’s Sports Club. Advice from the Parish Council would be welcomed.

They are meeting again next week and will let me know how things are developing.

#### **2. Planning for Safer Roads and Footpaths**

A Parish Council initiative

#### **3. First Aid Classes**

Richard Haste to approach a potential class tutor. Not been successful, yet.

#### **4. Making the Community Environmentally Friendly**

You have probably had some reports on this already through Judith Calvert. The focus has been on street lighting. The village street lights have been mapped and the NYCC ‘definitive’ map of 1979 corrected and brought up to date. Current opinion is that the Parish is responsible for 38 lights and the County 43.

At a meeting with NYCC, the County’s position was summarised as being :

- Their department did not think that the case for LED lighting had been established and that cost and the small number of established systems were factors against them.
- The decision had been made in N. Yorkshire that the energy saving lights adopted were compact fluorescent(CF) lamps, a decision made on the grounds of cost, reliability and availability.
- The budget for the lighting department was so limited that they were only able to carry out maintenance and this would be done with compact fluorescent.
- In their opinion the power savings were good although they could not comment on maintenance costs.

NYCC felt that Sheriff Hutton’s greatest immediate cost savings could be achieved by changing our electricity supplier to the one used by N. Yorkshire, Scottish Power I believe. With the permission of the Parish Council he could produce an estimate of the savings and help with a transfer of the supplier. I think they get preferential rates due to the size of their account. This facility might

also be extended to the Village Hall (it being a community resource) where the electricity supply contract is due for renewal.

Apparently some of the village lights have been replaced by compact fluorescent bulbs and these are in the process of being identified. Several companies producing LED street lighting had been contacted. The initial costs are higher than CF but with lower running and maintenance costs.

In summary the one obvious move at present would be to negotiate, through NYCC, a change in electricity supplier.

With regard to the lights themselves N.Y. have made it clear that their policy is to change to compact fluorescent lamps but this can only be done by 'replacement when necessary' due to severe financial constraints. Whether the Parish attempts to change those lights for which they are responsible to LED, or adopt the same policy as NYCC, remains an open question but if the electricity consumption (and bill) is reduced by short term measures there is more time to plan for the future.

#### **5. Information Sheets**

- What Goes On in Sheriff Hutton – published with Village News in September
- Medical Facilities – likely to be produced in Spring 2010
- Retail Facilities – planned for publication with Village News in November (but may slip due to a family bereavement)

*Note. A reader of Village News, who gets it via the village website and who is hoping to move into Sheriff e mailed to say how useful the 'What Goes On' leaflet had been and asked if there were any others to help plan for the move. Latest versions of 'Retail Facilities' and 'Medical Facilities' were sent and were much appreciated.*

#### **6. Residential Facilities for the Elderly**

No one volunteered for this

#### **7. Neighbourhood Watch**

Reinvigorated with new Chair and Secretary

#### **8. Tourism Developments**

No one volunteered for this

#### **9. Local History Group**

Nothing has happened yet but Don Pomfret is prepared to see what interest there is through an item in Village News. His view is that to be successful the group should have a clear project for members to focus on. Item will appear in VN next month.

#### **10. Greater Youth Involvement in Village Life**

Youth Group were starting to develop ideas but their recent eviction from the Cricket Club has overshadowed everything else. Once they are more settled the subject will be revisited. However, see also the All Weather Pitch section where there is youth involvement.

#### **11. A Wider Range of Sports and Exercise Opportunities**

This seems to have got merged with the All Weather Sports Pitch and Youth Activities

#### **12. New Adult Education Classes**

No report available

#### **13. Affordable Homes from Existing Housing Stock**

A Parish Council initiative

#### **14. Improve the Bus Service**

No action so far.

Finally, I received the attached letter from Ryedale Strategic Partnership on Tuesday. Something to be followed up, perhaps, but who will wish to do that?

Richard Haste

October 9<sup>th</sup> 2009