

# HOVINGHAM AND SCACKLETON COMMUNITY PLAN 2009









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# FOREWORD

## ***"Help us to achieve what YOU have asked for"***

Some twelve months ago the Parish Council took a decision on the back of generous funding provided by the Yorkshire Rural Community Council (YRCC) to develop a Community Plan for the villages of Hovingham and Scackleton. Thanks to the contributions of residents and others in the two villages and the support of the YRCC this plan has come to fruition in the following pages. Perhaps the most significant inference to be drawn from responses to the questionnaires is that while people wished to see facilities etc. improve the nature and ambience within the villages should not change.

This poses a considerable challenge as we move forward into the implementation phase and following the launch in May the Parish Council will be looking at ways in which it can establish some of the key outcomes within the communities. However, this cannot be achieved without your help and input. Consequently, while I commend the plan to you I must also encourage you to come forward and get involved in delivering the outcomes so that Hovingham and Scackleton can be villages we are all proud to live in, with facilities suitable for the twenty-first century.

**From Ian Battersby, Chairman of the Parish Council**

## ***"Community spirit and enthusiasm will protect and develop our villages"***

Our villages are in a beautiful part of the country and are excellent places in which to grow up, live, work and retire.

Our Community Plan has given residents the opportunity to express their views on the future development of both villages, which should ensure that existing facilities remain and are developed for future generations. Ryedale District Council will work with the Parish Council and other partners to improve the future housing requirements, the transport infrastructure, business and recreation needs.

We must now look forward and hope that the community spirit and enthusiasm demonstrated by residents in the production of the plan will enable us to fulfil all our expectations.

**From Robert Wainwright, Ryedale District Councillor, Hovingham**

# FOREWORD

## ***Your views will focus the County Council's mind – and money !***

I warmly commend Hovingham and Scackleton for excellent work in establishing their first community plan. The high level of engagement shows such strength of community spirit. The appreciation of this unique location in some of the most beautiful countryside in North Yorkshire, adherence to traditional values, enjoyment of peace and tranquillity, the need to protect our historic environment, all are a pleasure to hear.

But residents identify needs and concerns about roads, traffic, footpaths, the environment, public transport, social care and education. There are suggestions for a mobile post office service, an innovative idea of a local producers' market and necessity seen for better mobile telephone reception and decent broadband connections. Whether essential or aspirational, these key issues must all be recognised by organisations such as the County Council and taken note of.

It is vital to know where local priorities lie. They will support my representations to the County Council to focus minds (and money!) so that a real difference is made. Together we have made some inroads, but here is much more. I welcome and support the plan and look forward to working with the Parish Council, the local community and other partners to achieve as much and as soon as possible.

**From Clare Wood, Our North Yorkshire County Councillor**



# INTRODUCTION

## ***Introduction from Margaret Bell, Chair of Steering Group***

Community plans aim to provide communities with a framework for setting out their vision for the future and the realistic actions required to achieve that vision. A year ago, following an open meeting in the Village Hall, our Community Plan was set in train. It has received the overwhelming support of our community, reflecting its strong community spirit. Over 80% of households completed the Questionnaire, so this report truly represents the community of Hovingham and Scackleton.

### **The Steering Group**

The Steering Group has been made up of volunteers from Hovingham and Scackleton, and three members of the Parish Council:

Margaret Bell (Chair)	Phil Chapman (Vice Chair and Secretary)
Kate Asquith	Ian Battersby
Neil Booth	Rupert Drury
Maggie Farey (YRCC)	Nigel Hayes
Alick James	Sue Ormiston
Robert Thompson	Janice Wood

### **Funding**

Funding of £2,075 was sought successfully from the YRCC and this has enabled the Plan to be progressed, written and produced.

### **Consultation**

To ensure that the interests of residents of all ages and local businesses were represented and the right questions asked, everyone was sent an initial Survey to record their likes and dislikes. Three Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were set up to consult with key constituents: the leisure and community groups, local businesses and the Hovingham Estate, and the school and young people - the Teenage Forum.

Hovingham Primary School responded with great enthusiasm by mounting a project, '*Hovingham, past, present and future*', resulting in a wonderful exhibition in the Village Hall, as well as individual questionnaire responses from the children.

The Teenagers also contributed through their own questionnaire, three prizes being awarded for their best ideas (see pages 60 to 63).

# INTRODUCTION

## **The Questionnaire**

The Questionnaire was developed from the Survey and the SIG consultations. It was piloted, revised, then both delivered to and collected from all 199 households in Hovingham and Scackleton by a group of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers.

## **The Results**

We achieved a fantastic response rate of over 80%, among the best in Ryedale, indicating the degree to which our community love and support their villages and this project. Most questions achieved around 90% responses. The quantitative statistical data and the qualitative comments were coded and analysed, and the final report is based upon them.

## **The Final Report**

In writing the report we have endeavoured to reflect all views. To make it readable we have précised material throughout, but included the key statistics and representative comments. Each section includes the residents' suggestions and the proposed actions that will now be needed to take them forward. These actions range from sending the relevant information to appropriate organisations, seeking funding and, as always, encouraging volunteers to take actions forward.

## **Implementation and next steps**

Following adoption by the Parish Council, the Community Plan will be launched in May. All residents will receive a copy, hand delivered, and copies will be sent to all relevant parties, including Ryedale DC, all local NHS GP surgeries, hospitals and Trusts, North Yorkshire Police and Education and local businesses.

In order to progress the Actions the Steering Group will be replaced by the Action Group, volunteers are sought to lead or contribute to this group.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, this plan aims to ensure any changes people want to make are based upon a considered and sympathetic understanding of the beautiful environment that we all cherish. The plan is truly a community effort involving a large number of people. Thanks are due not only to the Steering Group and the volunteers who have made its work possible, but also to the residents of the villages who have contributed so much and without whom this plan could never have been written.

# INTRODUCTION

## **Summary of Results**

Our Community Plan covers the villages of Hovingham and Scackleton. This report contains the views of residents of all ages and interests and the Special Interest Groups for Village School, Teenage Forum, Farmers and Businesses and Community Groups. Where a resident's comment has been used this is presented in '*single quotes and italics*'. The views and opinions contained in the report are not necessarily those of the Steering Group or Parish Council.

The Plan is divided into sections with a summary of the main data from each section set out below, with references to the more detailed accounts, and the Action Plan (see pages 64 and 65). We hope it makes for interesting reading.

### **Today in Hovingham and Scackleton (pages 15 to 18):**

**Population:** The current population is 468, with slightly more women than men. Just over half (252) are aged over 50 and 78 are under 18. 55% are in either full or part time employment. 31% have lived here for over 30 years.

**Housing:** There are 199 dwellings, most being houses, 99 of which were built before 1900. Over half of the houses are owner occupied.

### **Environment and Countryside (pages 19 to 29):**

There is a strong community spirit, with a dedication to preserving the beauty and serenity of the villages and the surrounding countryside.

- **Street Lighting:** Opinion was divided on street lighting.
- **Roads:** A main concern in the villages was the noise and business of the roads. The majority wanted the speed limit enforced and active speed signs, but were opposed to traffic calming such as chicanes. 62% said the grass verges needed more care and that dog fouling was a problem.
- **Recycling and Energy:** There was support (92%) for more types of recycling bins, and for more information about energy efficiency (52%).
- **Wildlife:** 58% were interested in wildlife and attracting it to their gardens.
- **Surrounding Countryside:** The wish to protect the surrounding countryside was the most strongly held view (96%) in the questionnaire.
- **Housing Development:** Strong views held about housing development, although generally (62%) there was support for the sympathetic limited development of affordable housing in Hovingham. Location and design were seen as important to preserve the character of the neighbourhood.



# INTRODUCTION

## **Farmers and Business (pages 30 to 34)**

- **Farmers and businesses** of the community represent a very important asset and employer. They are interested in working together to ensure the economic and environmental partnership.
- **Local rights of way** are well used by residents, and all agreed with the farmers and the Estate that access needed to be well managed. The interests of all parties did not always coincide. Muddy paths, dog fouling and dogs not in control were problematic. Flood management needs to be on the agenda.

## **Community Facilities (pages 35 to 43):**

- **Recreation:** There was strong agreement (52%) on the need for more recreational facilities for young people. The strongest support was for a youth club and for organised sports facilities for young people and adults. The need for the children's playground to reopen was emphasised.
- **Cycling:** 80% thought cycling important. 55 cycles are owned and used; the need to create cycle paths was stressed, in particular between Hovingham and Scackleton.
- **Village Hall and Meeting Rooms** are considered valuable community resources and used by 73% of the residents. It was felt it needed more updating and that there could be more community events there, such as film shows. There was mixed support for a meeting room in Scackleton.
- **Church and chapel:** The churches have historic importance for the community, and are used for funerals, weddings, etc. While only 46% say the church is an important place to worship, the beauty of the buildings and churchyard are highly valued.

## **Local Retail Services (pages 44 to 46):**

- **Shops:** Residents appreciate local shops, and the general store, in particular, is well used (99% use it at some time). Mobile shops and the library are not so well used, and there is concern over the lack of Post Office facilities.
- **Local Retail Businesses:** There was significant support (80% +) for a local producers market. Over half thought more local employment should be encouraged which would require premises but also help the local economy.

# INTRODUCTION

## **Community Services (pages 47 to 55):**

- **Police:** Regarding security, while 92% felt safe, 11% reported some criminal activity in the last 3 years. Satisfaction with local policing was somewhat equivocal, with 24% being critical and regretting that the police were no longer visible in the community. Opinion on re-establishing a Neighbourhood Watch in Hovingham was evenly split for, against and wanting to know more.
- **Health:** Over half of the residents use the local GP practice while others travel more widely, especially to Malton. 82% said the service met their needs, but wanted extended surgery hours and more nurse appointments in Hovingham. The retention of Malton Community Hospital was supported.
- **Primary Education:** 36 children attend Hovingham CEVC Primary School. It was described as charming and excellent. More than half (54%) said it met the children's needs, though the poor sports and recreation facilities raised comment. Many offers were made by residents to share their skills with the children, including arts and crafts, gardening and ornithology.
- **Secondary Education:** It was suggested that a sixth form at Ryedale School would be beneficial, as would increasing local youth activities. The cry for a youth club was resounding.
- **Adult Education:** Currently NYCC do not provide any classes and more local provision was supported. Many travel outside the vicinity for such facility which is costly and especially difficult for young people.
- **Public Transport:** 40% of Hovingham and 22% of Scackleton residents use Stephenson's buses. Most residents support protection of, and improvement of, the bus service, in particular wanting a direct service to York and better coordination with trains.

## **Communication in the Villages (pages 56 and 57):**

- **TV, Phones, Internet and Email:** While TV reception is generally good, only 11% are satisfied with mobile phone reception. Half supported a discreetly located new phone mast. 70% use the internet and email, and 20% find Broadband speed unacceptable.
- **Community Information:** Two thirds say the communication network is effective. Word of mouth is the most common mode, followed closely by *HandS* and then the village Notice Boards. All sections of *HandS* are found useful, in particular local information, news and events.

## **Action Plan and What's Next (pages 64 and 65):**

Following completion of the Community Plan Report, the Parish Council and Steering Group are forming an Action Group to progress the Action Plan and provide additional new blood to those projects where it is required.

Actions can be adopted by existing groups, e.g. Playground and Village Hall Committees; others will require help from the Action Group and its friends. Any members of the community who would like to **contribute**, be it ideas, effort or expertise, be it a little, or a lot, please contact Sue Wainwright, the Parish Clerk, or a member of the Steering Group.

# RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

## ***A snapshot of residents' comments***

Over a thousand comments were submitted and these few are a selection:

*'I like living in Hovingham very much, people are friendly & helpful. I don't want to see it 'up to date'. Hovingham Hall adds to the atmosphere of the village. We very much like having greens & different footpaths through the village with somewhere to walk, ie. the road, olds railway line etc. The seats/table outside the Bakery next to the stream all gives a welcoming feel for visitors. Children play in the stream with home-made boats, nets etc, it's great to see them making their own entertainment & hearing them enjoying themselves. I feel a new playground should be a priority & if there were a proper pedestrian crossing near the school, it would be safe for children to cross from their homes on the other side of the street. This is a great village, it is different from other villages & therefore attracts visitors, walkers - good for shops, bakery etc - I don't want to see changes apart from less heavy traffic'*

*'I think that Scackleton is a lovely quiet village - needs to stay that way. Just need the pavements improving & the road'*

*'Strengthen community among younger residents. Evolve into 21st C but don't lose character, peace & tranquillity & unspoilt naturalness'*

*'Good luck to the Steering Group and all the helpers involved with this project. Their efforts, hard work and all the time they dedicate, often go unrewarded but they should all be gratefully thanked for taking on this tremendous task'*





# A HISTORY TIMELINE

## **Hovingham** (*Heveningham*)

Homestead of the family or followers of a man called Hofa

**Scackleton** (*Scacheldene, Eschalchedene, 11<sup>th</sup> Cent ; Schakeldene, Skacolden, 13<sup>th</sup> Cent.; Scakelden, 14<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> Cent; Scakendene, 14<sup>th</sup> Cent*)  
Valley by a point of land

At the end of the last **Ice Age** the 255 foot deep Lake Pickering filled the Vale of Pickering from Helmsley eastwards towards the sea, providing the fertile deposits found today. The high points of Scackleton would have been a highly desirable real estate with 'charming lake views'.

Both villages contain evidence of settlements from the **Neolithic, Bronze Ages** and **Iron Ages**, such as a Late Bronze Age socketed axe in Hovingham and a Bronze Age axe in Scackleton. Early signs of habitation suggest that, by the end of the Bronze Age, the landscape was already settled, cleared of forest and farmed.

In **Roman times** the Vale of Pickering became the Roman Front Line (around AD 72), with forts at York and Malton. The Malton-Aldbrough road passed through Hovingham, then in the forest of Galtres. Roman remains, such as a large conical barrow, enclosures and field systems, have been found nearby.

In **Saxon Times** (from about AD 410) and **Viking Times** (from about AD793) early Christian churches were destroyed by successive raids of Northmen and Danes. Prior to the Conquest, the land at Hovingham was owned by a Saxon, Orm, who rebuilt Kirkdale church around 1055. It is possible that Orm also rebuilt Hovingham church. The church exhibits evidence of this recycling practice, such as an oblong stone Saxon panel of about 800 AD thought to represent the Annunciation.



# A HISTORY TIMELINE

**The Normans** came to England after the Battle of Hastings in 1066. In 1086, the Domesday Book describes Orm as having *8 carucates of land in Hovingham: 'There is land for 4 ploughs. The Norman Hugh fitzBaldric ..... has now 2 ploughs there; and 10 villans having 4 ploughs. There is a church and a priest. Dependent on the manor were 15 berewicks.* (Land was then measured by how much a team of oxen could plough in a given time. A carucate is one such measure of about 120 acres.)

At Scackleton, after 1086, land that had been held by a Saxon, Gamel, became the property of the King, while land that had been held by Waltheof (Earl of Northumbria) became the property of Robert, Count of Mortain. Robert, along with Hugh fitzBaldric, rebelled in 1088, perhaps causing Hugh's lands in Hovingham to be granted to **Roger de Mowbray**.

The de Mowbray family from Normandy played parts in English history from the Conquest to the end of the Wars of the Roses. Roger de Mowbray received numerous manors and gave a portion of his lands to the endowment of religion. He founded the abbey of Byland in 1134 and gave two carucates and seven oxgangs of land in Hovingham to the priory of Newburgh. In 1310, the 3<sup>rd</sup> baron, Roger Mowbray, was born in Hovingham, which suggests that the family spent time here, perhaps because of its proximity to York.

In 1481 the Mowbray line died out and Richard III passed the Hovingham manor to Sir John de Segrave, then to William Viscount Berkeley, both related to the Mowbrays. A century later a Berkeley heir conveyed it to Sir Thomas Gerard, who conveyed it in 1563 to Sir Robert Worsley, since when it has stayed in the Worsley line.

In Scackleton, after the Dissolution in 1545, the grange was granted to Henry Wildon and John Bell. The Wildons held the grange until at least 1637, but in the 1650s Scackleton manor was forfeited under the Commonwealth. The manor of Scackleton was subsequently bought by various owners, eventually becoming the property of the Garforth family of Wigganthorp, and then of the Fitzwilliam estate.

## **The Worsley era from 1563 in Hovingham**

Hovingham Hall was built around 1750 by Thomas Worsley. Thomas was described as one of the finest horsemen in Europe, and was Equerry to George II and a close friend of George III. He was gifted the fabulous statue 'Samson and a Philistine' by Giambologna, the apex of an ornamental fountain made for the Medici family in Florence. The statue has been on exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum since 1954.

# A HISTORY TIMELINE

## **The Victorians in Hovingham**

In 1820 Hovingham is a small market town, population 689 comprising 2 Blacksmiths, 3 butchers, 14 farmers, 2 growers, 2 joiners, 3 shoemakers, 2 Surgeons and 18 others in various trades, 1 schoolmaster and 1 Day School. In 1840 Scackleton had 1 smith, 7 farmers and 2 others in various trades. In 1841 The Worsley Arms Hotel was built to accommodate visitors coming to Hovingham Spas, which comprised baths, spa villa, gardens and pump room.

A station was built in 1853 on the Thirsk and Malton branch line, primarily to move quarried limestone, but trains also carried passengers until 1931 and freight until 1964. Hovingham church was redesigned in the 1860s, and a village school and school house was erected by Lady Worsley, later enlarged in 1888 to accommodate 150 children. Lady Worsley also built 4 almshouses for poor widows. By 1890 Hovingham had grown substantially to 13 Farmers and 48 tradesmen and Scackleton to 7 Farmers and 6 of various trades.

## **The Victorians in Scackleton**

In 1866 a new school was built and supported by W. H. Garforth, with voluntary contributions from the farmers. In 1890 there are 52 children on the books. School records continue until 1943. The population was 165 in 1881, the land comprising 1460 acres, a limestone quarry and probably a lime kiln. A New Primitive Methodist chapel was begun in 1888, to cost £200.

## **The 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

World War II saw more lasting changes in the villages than at any other time.

- the arrival of 43 evacuees from Hartlepool, encampment of troops on Hovingham Green and the departure of young men and women into the armed forces, stimulated and sustained the village's patriotic war effort;
- the Observer Corps built a searchlight battery of 3 circular enclosures, 2 machine gun emplacements and other facilities above Hovingham;
- demands for food production lifted incomes of tenant farmers and workers. In 1939 there were 19 farmers, 10 of whom lived in Hovingham, and they employed 25 men and 5 women;
- more active involvement of villagers in the political process and the declining influence of the Hovingham and similar estates;
- the inadequacies of the village's water supply led to its renewal;
- the decline of local railway services and improvement of local bus services;
- the Mowbray Crescent housing development was prompted by the needs of returning members of the forces;

In 1961 Katherine Worsley married the Duke of Kent in York Minster with the reception in Hovingham, attended by many of the crowned heads of Europe.



# TODAY IN HOVINGHAM AND SCACKLETON

## Dwellings

There are currently 154 dwellings in Hovingham and 45 in Scackleton. The majority in Hovingham have 2 or 3 bedrooms; in Scackleton the majority have 3 or 4 bedrooms. Planning permission for 28 new dwellings in Hovingham has been given with 24 of these on the new Pasture Lane development, 7 of which will be 'affordable units'.

Number of bedrooms	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6+ bed
Hovingham	5	45	58	31	12	3
Scackleton	0	8	15	17	4	1

Year built	Pre 1600	Pre 1700	Pre 1800	Pre 1900	Pre 1950	Post 1950
Hovingham	2	6	17	56	20	53
Scackleton	1	-	6	11	1	26



House Type	House	Bungalow	Flat or Apartment	Barn	Other
Hovingham	87	4	43	15	4
Scackleton	33	8	3	1	-

Attached/ Detached	Detached	Semi-Detached	Terraced	Attached	Other
Hovingham	65	60	28	1	-
Scackleton	27	13	4	-	1

Tenure	Owner Occupier	Private Rental	Estate Rental	Housing Association	Shared Owner
Hovingham	87 (56%)	4 (3%)	43 (28%)	15 (10%)	4 (3%)
Scackleton	33 (73%)	8 (18%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)	-

# TODAY IN HOVINGHAM AND SCACKLETON

## Population

The current population of both communities is 468, of which 78 are under 18. The majority of those under 18 are male, whereas the majority of those 18 or over are female. There is almost double the number of children under 5 in Scackleton (7) than in Hovingham (4).

Once the construction of 28 new homes is complete, there will be approximately 100 new residents in Hovingham.



Age of Population	0-4 years	5-10 years	11-17 years	18-21 years	22-50 years	51-64 years	65+ years	Total
Hovingham								
Female	1	10	13	2	50	50	64	<b>190</b>
Male	3	10	21	6	38	47	41	<b>166</b>
Combined	4	20	34	8	88	97	105	<b>356</b>
Scackleton								
Female	4	3	2	1	21	14	11	<b>56</b>
Male	3	4	4	3	17	12	13	<b>56</b>
Combined	7	7	6	4	38	26	24	<b>112</b>
Both								
Female	5	13	15	3	71	64	75	<b>246</b>
Male	6	14	25	9	55	59	54	<b>222</b>
Combined	11	27	40	12	126	123	129	<b>468</b>

How long family has lived in parishes	Over 100 years	Over 50 years	Over 30 years	Over 10 years	Over 5 years	5 years or less
	4 (2%)	27 (14%)	29 (15%)	57 (29%)	30 (15%)	52 (26%)

# TODAY IN HOVINGHAM AND SCACKLETON

## ***Education and Employment***

Currently 55% of the population are in either full or part-time employment, and 36% are retired. The majority (50%) use their own car, or share a car, to get to and from education or work, with 12% of the population travelling over 20 miles in each direction.

<b>Education/ Employment</b>	Education	Part-Time Employed	Full-Time Employed	Home- maker	Un- employed	Retired
	4 (1%)	58 (17%)	131 (38%)	18 (5%)	7 (2%)	124 (36%)

<b>Method of Travel</b>	Walk	Bicycle	Share Car	Car	Public Transport	Not Applicable
	44 (13%)	2 (1%)	10 (3%)	161 (47%)	2 (1%)	123 (36%)

<b>How far</b>	At Home	In Villages	Under 10 miles	Over 10 miles	Over 20 miles	Not Applicable
	-	52 (15%)	42 (12%)	65 (19%)	40 (12%)	143 (42%)





# TODAY IN HOVINGHAM AND SCACKLETON

## Garages

The majority (68%) of dwellings have at least one garage, used for:

Car	Storage	Workshop
70%	69%	13%

## Vehicles

There over 500 vehicles in both villages, including camper vans, motor homes and JCBs. On average, each household has 1.4 cars and 0.8 bicycles.

	Bicycles	Motorbikes	Cars	Vans/ Lorries	Tractors
Total	165	9	287	25	11
Number / Dwelling	0.8	0.0	1.4	0.1	0.1

In Hovingham 36 vehicles are left on the road at night; Scackleton is 2.

## Internet Connection

72% of households have an internet connection; 88% of those have a broadband service.

## Dwelling Insulation

In Scackleton, 53% of households believe their dwelling is fully insulated, 13% partly insulated and 27% do not know. In Hovingham, 28% believe their dwelling is fully insulated, 39% partly insulated and 6% don't know.

Is dwelling fully insulated ?	Yes	Partly	No	Don't know
Hovingham	28%	39%	28%	6%
Scackleton	53%	13%	26%	27%
Combined	34%	33%	27%	6%

## Fuels

Most dwellings use oil for central (65%) and water (59%) heating; electricity and logs/wood are used equally for room heating (33% each).

Main Fuel used for:	Coal	Electric	Gas	Logs/ Wood	Oil	Other
Central Heating	11%	8%	7%	3%	65%	7%
Water Heating	5%	26%	6%	2%	59%	1%
Room Heating	21%	33%	2%	33%	9%	3%

# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

The results indicate that the respondents love their villages and surrounding countryside. They are keen to preserve their beauty and serenity, and while most felt more could be done to support this, a few thought avenues had already been explored and some did not want change.

## **Village Environment**

Concerns (ranked)	Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
Care of grass verges	152 (62%)	55 (22%)	42 (17%)
Dog fouling	152 (61%)	55 (22%)	44 (18%)
Traffic noise	110 (45%)	76 (30%)	63 (25%)
Drainage and sewage	94 (42%)	43 (19%)	90 (40%)
Aircraft noise	90 (37%)	79 (32%)	73 (30%)
Litter	87 (37%)	91 (39%)	55 (24%)
Street Lighting	90 (37%)	119 (48%)	39 (16%)

## **Care of Grass Verges**

Many wished to seek ways of managing the impact of increased usage of the roads and paths, such as parking on the grass verges which is seen as a result of the lack of parking spaces and kerbs.

*'Eroding of the sides of the roads by HGV's '*

*'Grass cuttings are left making the village look dirty and untidy'*

## **Noise**

There is considerable concern about the impact of noise, particularly traffic.

*'Traffic noise especially early in the morning is a particular problem on Park Street as heavy lorries/farm vehicles frequently pass'*

*'Light aircraft just drone and drone around, particularly in summer'*

Other: Late night noise from public events was problematic for nearby residents. Others reported that off-roading/scrambling was an issue.

## **Street Lighting**

While 48% wished to preserve the status quo (no street lighting) 37% were concerned about it.

*'I used to leave my outside light on so passers by could see – now it's too expensive to do that'*

## **Flooding**

Although only 14% of respondents have been affected by flooding in the last 5 years, over half (52%) agreed that it was, or could be, a problem.

# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## Roads

Hovingham is intersected by two roads: the busy main road between Malton and Helmsley, and the minor road to Coulton. Scackleton lies off a B road and is quieter than Hovingham, although it is getting noisier and busier. As a consequence the scale of concerns varies a little between the villages, although not in substance. HGVs and others use the villages as short cuts and create additional traffic and nuisances. Many acknowledged that we live in a rural area, with essential agricultural activity.

Respondents expressed strong concerns (among the strongest expressed in the Questionnaire) about the roads.

Concerns (ranked)	Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
Speed Limits Exceeded	229 (81%)	46 (17%)	28 (10%)
Late Gritting of Roads	182 (70%)	30 (12%)	46 (18%)
HGV's	173 (66%)	46 (17%)	42 (16%)
Inappropriate Parking	167 (63%)	40 (16%)	56 (21%)
Quantity of Traffic	161 (61%)	47 (18%)	55 (21%)
Lack of Crossing Places	134 (52%)	63 (24%)	60 (23%)
School Parking	86 (36%)	47 (19%)	108 (45%)
Shop Parking	73 (30%)	80 (33%)	88 (37%)

Lack of crossing places was of concern in Hovingham. 60% of residents believe there should be a crossing place in Hovingham to help the young and old outside the school, village hall, shop, or bakery.

Late gritting of roads was of concern (81%) in Scackleton:

*'Gritting vital before 6am on minor roads, none in Scackleton'*





# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## Comments and Suggestions on Improving our Roads

Such is the strong feeling in the villages that over 180 comments were received on this subject alone.

63% wish to enforce the speed limit of 30mph in both Hovingham and Scackleton

*'We have a lot of young children now so any speed limits or traffic warning signs would be welcome'*

Respondents believe there should be more presence of local police to enforce the law, particular for van and lorry drivers who appear to ignore the active speed signs.

64% wish for active speed signs at current locations and at entry points to the villages.

47% would like more warning signs on roads, preferably at entrances to villages, as well as in Park Street.

*'A sign on entry saying 'We care about our village and you are welcome to pass through and even stay a while if you will care too'*

There was significant opposition (77%) to traffic calming and considerable opposition to increased restrictions, signs, chicanes or other intrusions within the village, although most supported improved signage at the entrances to the villages.



## **Green Energy and Energy Efficiency**

52% of the residents were interested in learning more about the possibilities of green energy in the villages, such as solar and biomass heating.

Yes	Want to know more	No
55 (22%)	77 (30%)	123 (48%)

*'I shall be instigating the use of ground source energy, although I do not have the time to join groups'*

61% wanted more information on improving energy efficiency in their home.

Yes	Want to know more	No
50 (21%)	61 (25%)	131 (54%)

*'Every house should be insulated. Its 2009 not 1909!'*

## **Wildlife Habitats**

58% were interested in or wanted to know more about such aspects as wildflower planting, bee hives and bird boxes. Comments included the wish to see trees planted on the grass verges and the establishment of bee hives. Involving the primary school was flagged as a possibility.

Most residents endeavoured to attract wildlife to their gardens. 86% said they fed wildlife, either all the year or seasonally, 77% provided water, and 65% provided nest boxes including for bees and insects.



# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## **Refuse and Recycling**

Currently Ryedale DC provides each household with green bins and tubs for household refuse, glass bottles, tins and newspaper and brown bins for garden rubbish. Hovingham also has bins for newspapers and glass bottles at the village hall, and a Salvation Army bin for shoes, clothing etc.

60% considered that the current refuse collection service is satisfactory. A further 13% said it was sometimes satisfactory. 27% were dissatisfied; one described the collection as 'haphazard' and unhealthy because of rats.

### **Satisfactory Refuse Collection?**

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
104 (73%)	39 (27%)	0 (0%)

*'I think the current refuse collection system is unsatisfactory in that it should be weekly for all types of refuse- not fortnightly....'*

There was strong support (84%) for more recycling bins:

Cardboard	Plastic	Tetra Cartons
139 (92%)	143 (93%)	106 (80%)

*'the recycling service needs to be improved to include cardboards, plastics etc as soon as possible'*

Placing more bins at the village hall was one suggestion, and another was setting up a community recycling scheme:

*'We would love to help the environment more and would love to join community schemes for recycling products and/or sharing resources (i.e. swap things we have in abundance for things we want'*



## **Village Housekeeping**

Interest in helping with this was evenly split, with 50% saying they would volunteer to help or at least to find out more.

*'Most things that encourage a community to come together to improve efficiency are enjoyable as well as beneficial'*



## **Housing Development**

The subject of the expansion of housing in the villages drew many comments some of which were strongly held. The comments received fell broadly into the following pattern.

No more housing	If in keeping with local needs and the area	Yes more housing
38%	55%	7%

*'Although we love Hovingham/Scackleton as they are, all healthy settlements do grow; they are not museums, so expansion should be sympathetic, not non existent'*

Although it is accepted that the Pasture Lane development has received planning permission, there is still considerable opposition and concern that the developer will cause damage and disruption during the construction phase. Some residents were also concerned that the promises given by the builder to protect the environment will not be enforced or will be relaxed.

## **Design**

When further development was considered, respondents were keen to ensure that visual impact be minimised through good design. There was a clear preference in favour of 2/3 bedroom properties rather than larger detached properties. Regardless of housing type, a large majority of respondents strongly felt that any new housing should be built in the style of the surrounding properties in order to preserve local character.

*'New housing should fit in with the environment, style and building material'*

While some opposed converting barns into large privately owned houses, others felt that these buildings could be brought back into use and planning permissions should be relaxed:

*'Encourage development of country housing in barn or agricultural buildings for rent and not just holiday lets'*



# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## Location of new housing

Some respondents said they purchased their property because the area was quiet, and did not want to see any significant expansion of housing. Others thought new developments should be centred near existing large settlements such as Malton, Pickering, Helmsley and Kirkbymoorside.

Generally there was support for limited development, subject to certain criteria, more so in Hovingham than Scackleton. Areas put forward included the Helmsley end of Hovingham village, and within easy access to all village amenities with safe traffic access. The pressure of new houses on the infrastructure of the village was raised by a number of respondents who felt that consideration should be given to

- Greater provision for car parking/garaging – ‘assume 2+ cars per house’.
- Ensure water pressure adequate, already low at south end of Hovingham)
- Flooding/surface water measures should be incorporated
- Ensure safe road access from a new development onto the main highway.
- Design of roadways serving new development(s) should include the provision of a by-pass where appropriate.
- Public transport may limit the suitability for the elderly and disabled?
- Recreational facilities are beneficial in growing settlements.

The subject of in-fill housing provoked contrary views. Some respondents felt that this would detract from the feel of the settlements, while several others thought that new development should take place only within village boundaries or pre-defined development limits. In Hovingham, there was call for the Parkland area to be preserved.

## Housing Priorities

The villages already include a mix of private and rental housing, and affordable, disabled and housing for the elderly. Should there be an expansion of housing, residents thought priority should be given to:

Support for :	Yes	No	Don't Know
Affordable Housing	175 (85%)	17 (8%)	15 (7%)
Housing for Rent	93 (62%)	31 (21%)	26 (17%)
Private Ownership	95 (60%)	32 (20%)	31 (20%)
Housing for Elderly	86 (58%)	30 (20%)	32 (22%)
Housing for Disabled	60 (48%)	28 (23%)	36 (29%)
Shared Ownership	56 (41%)	46 (34%)	34 (25%)
Sheltered Housing	53 (39%)	48 (35%)	36 (26%)
Other Housing	2	2	0

# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## Affordable Housing

It was strongly felt (85%) that any new housing should be more easily available to local people and first time buyers, particularly those on lower incomes. This was seen as a way to support the local village school by bringing new young families into this area. (N.B. Ryedale District Council's current policy is already that in larger new developments at least one third of the units by number shall be affordable). There was also strong support for development that would encourage young people into the community.

It was felt to be important that affordable units should be carefully located and integrated throughout settlements rather than grouped together, in order to avoid a 'ghetto' atmosphere.

And, affordable housing's appearance should suit the locality.

*'Affordable housing using traditional stone and pantile would be best suited'; 'With today's knowledge of environmentally locally sourced materials, excellent example Joseph Rowntree, in Hovingham'*



## Further Comments

Some respondents supported a mix of several types of housing on the basis that *'a mixture of the above would sustain a viable living village'*. Another view was *'that the market should decide rather than force things'*

There was resistance to new dwellings being created simply to become holiday cottages or second homes. Some felt that extensions to accommodate 'granny flats' should be favoured, though only the larger properties might have the space to build extensions of this nature. Some felt that any new scheme should be accompanied by some workshop/office facilities to promote local employment; and that *'Housing should be geared towards people who are employed locally as a priority'*

# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## **Surrounding Countryside**

The countryside is very important to the villages. The most strongly held view was the need 'to protect the surrounding countryside':

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
266 (96%)	2 (1%)	10 (3%)

*'that the rural identity and surrounding countryside should be protected and preserved - but without putting more restrictions on agriculture'*

## **Local rights of Way and Public Access**

Users of local rights of way, as well as owners and occupiers of land across which these rights of way run, commented on the importance of well managed access to the countryside if conflict is to be avoided between those accessing the countryside and those who derive a living from working in it.

Although 87% of respondents felt there was already sufficient public access to the countryside, some said they would like more access, particularly to woodland areas.

*'There is adequate access to the local countryside and further access would be unnecessary or even a waste of money'*

*'I think the Worsleys have been very good opening up many more walks on the estate. I don't believe in freedom to roam. We have enough walkers parking anywhere they like'*

## **Frequency of Use**

Local residents are making good use of the local rights of way:

Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less Often	Never
85 (30%)	73 (26%)	38 (14%)	60 (22%)	22 (8%)

The following concerns with Pedestrian rights of way were expressed:

Concerns (Ranked)	Often	Sometimes	Never
Muddy or poor drainage	74 (36%)	100 (48%)	35 (16%)
Dogs fouling	69 (30%)	120 (53%)	39 (17%)
Dogs not under control	47 (23%)	95 (48%)	60 (29%)
Litter	22 (11%)	117 (58%)	64 (31%)
Cycles ridden on footpaths	15 (8%)	68 (35%)	112 (57%)
Horses ridden on footpaths	7 (4%)	59 (32%)	122 (64%)



# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## Comments and Suggestions

Over 40 comments were received and the main issues raised were:

### Clarification of Rights of Way

Not everyone was in favour of increasing signage, some feeling that signs in wild areas are inappropriate. However the majority wished to see improved clarification about where Rights of Way run and what rules of use apply to them.

*'Clear marking of footpaths required'*

*'More signs telling you where you can and can't go'*

### Improvements to Rights of Way

A major concern (84%) was mud on footpaths exaggerating the problem of walkers attempting to find an alternative route, straying off the footpath, and causing damage to crops. A partnership between the land owners, the Council and the Environment Agency, to perform strategic maintenance and improve and monitor drainage, could overcome the current impasse.

Specific rubbish problems were reported around Scackleton, including *'rubbish and old tyres'* blocking a Right of Way over a farm in the Scackleton area. *'This is supposed to be an AONB, but it certainly is not here, - it is a rubbish tip'* Otherwise, experience of local Rights of Way was generally positive. One respondent recognised the cost of improvements to Rights of Way: *'By those who require it – paying for it'*

Users of bridleways raised concerns about safety. Rabbit holes, access to the roads and obstacles on the bridleways were cited as dangerous.



# ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

## **Dogs**

The subject of dogs prompted many adverse comments, with 71% of respondents saying they had either sometimes or often experienced dogs not under close control. 83% complained about dog fouling when using Rights of Way. Whilst some respondents wanted to use the countryside to give more freedom for their pets to exercise, the great majority thought that dog owners should exert better control over their dogs.

*'Inform residents, particularly dog owners to pick up dog mess everywhere and keep dogs under close control (not at the end of a 40' lead) This will help wildlife which is decimated by loose dogs'*

Farm dogs were also reported to be a problem: *'I am afraid to walk in some places because of dogs rushing out, barking and nipping'*

## **Parking and Litter**

Because the surrounding countryside is so attractive, the Rights of Way and local facilities are used by others from outside the community. This increases demand for parking and the potential for litter.

*'Not using the countryside as a theme park facility for town people, e.g. walking groups who sometimes drop litter and park inconsiderately'*



# FARMERS AND BUSINESSES

## ***Views of Hovingham Estate and Farmers***

*'Hovingham Hall adds to the atmosphere of the village and I very much like having greens and different footpaths through the village with somewhere to walk, i.e. the old railway line'*



## ***Business Interests***

The Hovingham Estate has its own business interests, including property letting, (residential, commercial and agricultural), farming, forestry and sporting (shooting). Hovingham Hall, a Grade 1 Listed building, opens to the public during June each year and this itself attracts visitors from outside the immediate area, who not only look round the 18<sup>th</sup> Century House, but also visit some of the other village businesses as part of the day's experience.

Maintaining and preserving this built heritage, the parkland and the landscape comes at some considerable cost and the Estate would welcome more flexibility as to the use of its land resource, to secure additional income to defray this major financial burden. Selling of land and property is not a sustainable way to support this maintenance liability, though the Estate still recognises the need to make land available for development. Ideally, a residential recreational facility, which might be located on an area of the Estate that could offer water based leisure, could ultimately offer a win/win scenario to the Estate and the community, by delivering employment opportunities, new recreational facilities as well as a greater biodiversity of wildlife habitat. There could perhaps be more trust that the Estate, who care very much for the village, community and landscape, would only carry out a project that ultimately enhanced and built upon these important values.



# FARMERS AND BUSINESSES

## ***Farming and forestry***

Farming and forestry is an important source of livelihood to many in the area. The farms are predominantly arable (combinable and root crops), though some farms run stock including sheep, cattle, pigs and goats. Forestry includes hardwoods and softwoods, with woodland run commercially and non-commercially.

Farmers feel that the landscape attracts local users as well as a number of visitors from outside the area. There are some resulting issues for farmers.

*'We should take steps to ensure that they, the visitors, are aware that the agricultural land over which they walk is also someone else's business and that they should remain on designated footpaths at all times'*

*'I've seen children running in and even rolling in crops that I've just sprayed'*



## **Access**

Many farmers in the area have put grass margins round the edge of their arable fields. These field margins, which receive no sprays or fertiliser, provide a buffer zone against water courses and offer improved biodiversity habitat for a range of vertebrate and invertebrate life. The margins also provide valuable nesting habitat for ground nesting birds. Farmers responded by saying they frequently experience unauthorized access to their fields, both on foot and horseback, with the public under the mistaken impression that the grass margins had been provided as footpaths or bridleways.

*'I wish people would keep off the grass field margins – I have to keep telling them time and time again'*



# FARMERS AND BUSINESSES

## ***Dogs again***

Elsewhere this report highlights that over 70% of respondents had witnessed dogs that were not being kept under close control. It is clear that farming and landowning respondents felt that many members of the public do not appreciate the disruption that their dogs can cause when they are not under close control. Of course, farmers also need to recognize that their working dogs can cause the problems that the walkers reported, and they need to contain them when they are not being worked

*'People just do not realise the disturbance that their dogs cause, particularly to ground nesting birds. Once a bird has been pushed off her nest by a dog, she will rarely return to the eggs, if indeed there is a nest to return to'*

It is clear that there is an opportunity to educate the users of Rights of Way as to why unauthorized access and out of control dogs are so unacceptable to those who derive their livelihood from the Countryside, as well as to walkers. There will continue to be a resistance to the provision of further permissive Rights of Way until users demonstrate a better understanding of the Country Code of conduct.



## ***The Woodland***

With regard to woodland, there was great concern regarding the dramatic drop in value in timber prices over the last decade. In the main part this has been brought about through the availability of cheap imported timber, much of which can be grown without the stringent rules of sustainability that UK growers are bound by. The Hovingham Estate's woodlands are assured under the stringent rules of the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme. Landowners in this area have a long record of creating and maintaining a valuable woodland habitat through correct choice of species, careful planting patterns and continued management throughout the life of the trees. The result provides an attractive landscape offering a far greater bio-diversity than non-managed woodland. To maintain this commitment, there needs to be a much improved financial return from UK grown timber or greater grant support for the industry, if this same level of woodland management is to be safeguarded for the future.



## ***Mobile Phone Reception***

One farmer commented on the poor mobile phone reception in the area. He felt that with many workers in the Countryside operating as 'lone workers' from the Health and Safety point of view, a reliable mobile phone signal would help them raise the alarm in the event of an accident.



# FARMERS AND BUSINESSES

## ***Flooding***

The subject of flooding on farmland was raised and whilst it was acknowledged that the relief ditch crossing the Hovingham Estate's land has helped reduce the flood risk in the village, this has come at a cost to Hovingham Estate's Home Farm. When the relief ditch runs into the Holbeck, this slows the Holbeck up resulting in the upstream drainage ditches backing up. The backed up water floods the Home Farm which can result in crop damage costing the business £5,000 to £15,000 each time there is exceptional flooding. The Environment agency continues to work with the Hovingham Estate and it is hoped that a solution to this problem can be found.

The farm manager of Hovingham Estate's Home Farm was aware that the access to the farmstead past Brookside was not ideal, particularly with today's 40 tonne articulated lorries. In the longer term, he felt that a new access to the farmstead could be advantageous, particularly if the business expanded by taking on more acreage in the future.



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## **Recreation**

The Hovingham Estate owns a large proportion of land and property within Hovingham and all the land surrounding the village. The Estate has fulfilled the community's need by providing land for:

- A playground (though currently closed for safety reasons) and has offered an alternative which might include a kick about area.
- Permissive footpaths for example the old railway line and the Park. In conjunction with the Howardian Hills AONB the Estate has produced a leaflet promoting walks from the village most of which are on permitted footpaths. It also issues permits to local residents to allow horse riding in some woodland areas.
- Land for community facilities includes certain greens within the village and the site for the Village Hall, Tennis Court and Bowling Green.

Scackleton currently only has the village church for activities.

## **Current Community activities for sports, play and leisure**

The facilities in Hovingham are as follows:

- an all weather Tennis Court and club, used by 50 residents (19%)
- a Bowls club that plays from May to August, used by 16 residents (6%)
- a Table Tennis club that meets weekly at the Village Hall and has classes for under 16s and for adults
- a Cricket club which has classes for children under aged 11 in the summer, played on the magnificent ground in front of Hovingham Hall
- a Young Farmers Group that meets weekly at the Village Hall
- Yoga and Iyenga yoga classes at the Village Hall
- Ryedale Family History group at the Village Hall
- Children's Playground, currently closed for safety reasons, used by 110 residents (43%). There is concern as to the remoteness of the playground. Unfortunately the new one cannot be located more centrally.

New groups are beginning to spring up at the Village Hall, using *HandS* newsletter to launch 'taster sessions' and to publicise meetings. In recent months these have included a fortnightly self-help sewing group, a camera club, and computer sessions for older residents led by younger residents. Fund raising events are also held there, such as a Christmas shop and coffee mornings. 'The Shed' holds regular concerts at the hall.

Annual events include the pantomime, two car boot sales, and open gardens.



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## Adequacy of sports and play facilities:

We asked the residents if they felt there were sufficient sports and play facilities.

<b>Adequate Facilities?</b>	Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
Sports facilities	74 (29%)	109 (42%)	76 (29%)
Play facilities	123 (48%)	62 (22%)	71 (30%)

Over half (56%) of residents travel outside the villages for activities, and report an impressive range of over 40 different activities, the most popular being swimming (37%), gym (13%) and dining out (11%), followed closely by walking and visits to the cinema.

There is considerable agreement that more local activities and facilities should be available in the villages for different age groups.

<b>More Activities for?</b>	Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
Young adults	126 (52%)	16 (7%)	101 (42%)
Secondary school age	126 (52%)	13 (5%)	103 (43%)
Primary school children	95 (41%)	29 (12%)	109 (47%)
Pre-school children	80 (35%)	26 (12%)	120 (53%)
Older people	84 (35%)	36 (15%)	117 (49%)

In particular, it was felt that facilities for older children and teenagers could be improved.



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## **Comments and Suggestions for new facilities and activities**

Although a Young Farmers Club meets regularly in Hovingham, the strongest support was for a youth club and organised outdoor sports facilities for young people and adults:

*'there is a desperate need for a sports field for young people and adults, especially a football pitch – but also cricket'*

*'I would like to see an activity club like the Young Farmers revived. Not based on just farming. Perhaps ecology, sport, history, culture for 12 -20 yr olds a stepping stone before they travel to York or Malton to socialise'*

Other outdoor activities mentioned included archery, basket ball and swimming which was requested several times.

A number suggested a range of indoors activities for all age groups. Dance classes and gym were especially popular, but indoor bowls, badminton, keep fit, beetle drives, snooker and billiards were also mentioned.

Organised activities such as Brownies, Scouts and book clubs were suggested:

*'It would be nice to see Brownies, Guides, and Scouts in the village'*

For younger children a mother and toddlers' group and a playgroup were mentioned several times:

*'A mum and baby group. Its very lonely being a young mum sometimes'*

The need for the children's playground to reopen was strongly felt and well supported.

Suggested activities for adults included a gardening club, Pilates, craft classes, whist drives, a bridge club, and, for older people regular coffee mornings.

Some residents expressed caution, pointing out that in a small village it could be difficult to sustain organised activities or encourage leaders for them:

*'Most smaller communities rely on a handful of active doers and participants'*

Two said that they preferred to supply their own entertainment, and others pointed out that there was much on offer in Ryedale for people with transport.

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## **Cycling**

There are no cycle tracks on the village roads. 55 bicycles are owned and used in the locality. Cyclists are permitted to cycle on some local rights of way.

### **'Cycling is important'**

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
221 (80%)	7 (2%)	49 (18%)

Some 83 residents (34%) thought it was a problem that cycles are sometimes ridden on local footpaths, although dogs and the state of footpaths were considered much larger problems.

### **Concerns with Safety**

Many perceived the quantity of road traffic, and speed in and around the villages, as a real danger to cyclists. This discourages the use of bicycles for example along the road to Malton.

*'I think local roads are good for cycling but the amount of heavy goods vehicles makes it impossible to ride safely'*

### **Other Concerns**

Several commented that cycles are not used enough to make it worth investing time and money in provision for them. Five respondents commented that cyclists should keep off footpaths. Several stated that local rural roads are unlikely to be suitable for cycle lanes

*'rural roads are not safe for cycling due to high speed'*

One comment suggested that some cyclists are inconsiderate of car users. Others said that cycle races through the village in the summer are a hazard.

### **Comments and Suggestions**

Several commented that children should be allowed to cycle on the footpaths in Hovingham for the sake of safety.

*'I don't think you should create any more cycle paths but children in the village should be allowed to use the footpaths to keep away from the traffic....as long as they know to give pedestrians priority and not go too fast'*



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## **Suggested Routes for Cyclists**

Using circular routes to attract cyclists would be good for local business.

*'Cycle paths should be created wherever possible'*

Specific mention was made of routes from Hovingham to Scackleton, and to Slingsby, Malton, Helmsley, Coulton, Kirby, and Ampleforth.

General mention was made of possible routes using 'the old railway lines' and 'bridle paths' especially if the surface is good, and also down Tufts lane and back around to the Malt Shovel.



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## ***Hovingham Village Hall***

Hovingham Village Hall was given to the Parish Council by the Worsley Family in 1928 under a perpetual lease, reverting to the Hovingham Estate if it ever becomes unused. The rooms at the rear, built in memory of Isobel Brotherton, sister of Sir William Worsley, together with the land occupied by the bowls green and tennis court, were added in 1935 and the stage constructed in the war years when the park was used as an army camp. Toilets were added later, the ladies being built as a village project under the guidance of the estate builder. A refurbishment of the main hall and creation of the present kitchen was done in 1997.

Management of the Hall is vested in a Management Committee which operates independently of the Parish Council. At present, rental income covers running costs and minor maintenance, significant improvements (such as the replacement of the windows in 2008) requiring grants and fund-raising if necessary.



There are 2 projects currently being considered for the Village Hall, both of which will require some voluntary input:

- Improvements and redecoration of the kitchen
- Redecoration of the main hall

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## Frequency of Use

The vast majority of respondents (73%) used the Hall and considered it a valuable community resource

Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less often	Never
0 (0%)	22 (8%)	31 (11%)	146 (54%)	73 (27%)

## 'Are facilities satisfactory?'

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
116 (45%)	61 (24%)	81(31%)

Despite the expressions of appreciation of the existence of the Village Hall, there was some criticism of the lack of community events involving the whole community:

*'the village hall is a great facility and could be used much more for village activities'*

The shortage of recreational facilities for the young was cited in particular.

## Views on Condition of Hall

Considerable improvements were made to the main hall and kitchen 12 years ago and to the community room last year. Therefore, it is not surprising that some areas, in particular the toilets and layout of the kitchen, are seen as needing overhaul - more so than the main hall and stage. Comments on the hall's condition ranged between:

*'generally fine'*

*'Village hall very sub-standard- belongs to a much earlier era. No reasonable entrance etc. Toilets pretty awful – ok if you like a Nissan hut feeling'*

## Suggestions for Increased Usage

Suggestions for increased usage included film shows, parties and weddings, and keeping the toilets open for general use. There was an offer to help organise Pilates and Tai Chi classes.

## Scackleton Meeting Room

Support for a meeting room in Scackleton was mixed, 59% of Scackleton residents claiming that they would use one, 41% saying they would not. One resident offered to give the land for a room, while another suggested that private houses and the church were adequate for local needs.

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## **Church and Chapel**

Hovingham has a Methodist Chapel and Anglican Church, the Parish Church of All Saints, which is of Saxon origin and is in the style of a 13<sup>th</sup> century church. The majority of the current church building dates from 1860, when it was remodelled by Marcus Worsley. Scackleton has an Anglican Church, St George the Martyr, built in 1910.

<b>Importance (Ranked)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
Historic Importance	171 (73%)	23 (10%)	41 (17%)
Funerals	170 (70%)	38 (16%)	35 (14%)
Contributes to Village Life	153 (65%)	38 (16%)	43 (18%)
Heritage Site	143 (64%)	32 (14%)	47 (21%)
Weddings	143 (61%)	52 (22%)	40 (17%)
Christian Festivals	142 (59%)	56 (23%)	43 (18%)
Baptisms	132 (56%)	60 (26%)	43 (18%)
Community Focal Point	122 (53%)	57 (25%)	51 (22%)
Pastoral Care	103 (46%)	68 (30%)	53 (24%)
Sunday Worship	111 (46%)	76 (32%)	52 (22%)

The responses reflect the national trend in that, while the church has become less important as a place of worship and pastoral care, churches in rural communities retain their importance as historic focal points and for formal religious occasions such as weddings, funerals etc. and to a slightly lesser extent Christian Festivals. Comments made by respondents confirmed this, commending the churches in both villages as being well cared for with attractive and well tended churchyards, although concerns were expressed in Scackleton about the territorial tendencies of a farmer's dog!

## **Worship**

Less than 50% of people feel that the church/chapel is a valuable place for worship. Some felt that services tend to be directed towards either the very young or older churchgoers. It was thought that the scope should be widened to reflect today's modern society.

*'Needs updating and to be more inviting to people like me who cannot attend regularly. A bit more fun for the older young people 18-35ish that want to meet other villagers of similar age but who don't have children and are ordinarily at work full time'*

In Scackleton there were comments that service times were not family friendly.



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## Church Facilities

There is overwhelming praise for the maintenance and up-keep of the churches and particularly the churchyards in both villages. They are regarded as key features and focal points for the villages.

*'Scackleton church and yard are an example of good community care for buildings and grounds and Scackleton's sole remaining community facility'*



## Pastoral Care

As with worship, respondents thought pastoral care less important. Although the comments do not provide the reasons for this, we may conjecture that one factor is that ministers in rural areas are now responsible for more churches/chapels over a wider area, and that community members have in consequence taken responsibility for this work.

## Travel to other Churches

44 (19%), of the respondents go to other parishes for church activities; mainly Malton, Slingsby, Ampleforth and York Minster. This, of course, includes people from other denominations.

## Comments and suggestions

Several respondents expressed pleasure at being able to sit in peaceful and beautiful surroundings. A number of suggestions were made for on-going development to improve and encourage wider usage:

- *'Churchyard could set aside part for wild flowers and perhaps bird boxes'*
- Comprehensive notice board for church information, services, contacts etc
- Wider usage for other than religious purposes – although, in contrast, one respondent thought that the church should be for worship only and the village hall for social events.

# LOCAL RETAIL SERVICES

## **Existing Retail Services**

For a small village, Hovingham is well supplied with retail services. There are three shops comprising a general store which will also order newspapers, a delicatessen and a bakery/tearoom. Nearby are two farm shops – Stark's Wall at Coulton, and Quarton's Farm shop on Potticar Bank.

Mobile shops visit weekly, comprising Thundercliffe's fish van, and Kirk's butcher's van. The fish and chip van no longer calls.

Other local retail services are The Fire Place Shop, Andersons Veg Barrow and the Sunday paper delivery service. Scackleton has no retail services.

Residents appreciate these services and facilities and want to see them continue and where possible expanded. It was noted that they need to be used and supported to survive and are essential for the village to remain viable.

*'For a small village the retail services are very good. Long may they continue'*

## **Use of Local Retail Services**

The General Store is used at some time by most residents (99%), followed by the Bakery/Tearoom (85%) with the other outlets enjoying lesser use.

## **How often do you use the local retail services?**

Usage	Once a Week	Regularly	Sometimes	Never
General store	152 (55%)	62 (22%)	59 (21%)	4 (1%)
Bakery Tea room	46 (17%)	45 (17%)	133 (50%)	41 (15%)
Malt Shovel	15 (6%)	19 (7%)	162 (62%)	67 (25%)
Worsley Arms	3 (1%)	22 (8%)	132 (51%)	102 (39%)
Deli	19 (7%)	17 (7%)	113 (44%)	107 (42%)
Mobile shops	1 (0%)	13 (5%)	48 (19%)	187 (75%)
Mobile library	0 (0%)	13 (5%)	31 (12%)	212 (83%)

The mobile shops appear to be not as well used (17-25%). Despite information provided in *HandS*, a couple of residents said they didn't know about the mobile shops and library service, and others suggested that it would be:

*'Helpful for them to all come on the same day at the same time in the same place'*

The mobile library service is currently little used, and perhaps its promotion to residents and to the school could be undertaken.

# LOCAL RETAIL SERVICES

## **Post Office Services**

There is concern over the lack of Post Office facilities in the villages;

*'The loss of the Post office is keenly felt by us all'*

Two thirds of the respondents said they would use a mobile post office:

*'It is vital that Post Office services be resumed urgently, preferably by re-opening the Post Office. If not, as a mobile service'*

## **Local Producers' Market**

Over 80% supported the idea and felt it would benefit the community and local producers.

*'Would love to see a market, possibly once a month, very important to support local producers and introduce a community spirit'*

There were 140 comments as to the location of a local Producers' Market, the most popular being Hovingham Village Hall, the Village Green, and Hovingham Hall. Views on the frequency varied from once a week up to bi-monthly.

*'If it was a regular time each week/month then why not?'*

However, several residents felt that the village was not large enough for a producers' market.

*'In a place where it would not inconvenience' and 'not in village'*

## **Other Retail Businesses**

Responses from other business owners suggest that the village of Hovingham does help attract custom, though it was recognized that there are some downsides to operating a business in this rural location. Wath Nursery made the following observation:

*'The recent reduction in the bus service has affected the nursery and the families who try to access our provision quite dramatically'*

*'The lack of public transport also has implications when recruiting members of staff, at present if people do not have their own transport they can not work here. The lack of affordable housing means that our potential workforce is priced out of the market'*



# LOCAL RETAIL SERVICES

There was some evidence of Business-to-Business within the locality, but most respondents recognised that there was greater potential to help one another.

One good example of how one business helps another, and the local economy, was the example given by 'The Shed' who describe themselves as:

*'One of the few venues in the country with a location as inspiring as its programme of live music and performance art'*

'The Shed' draws 50% of its audience from within a 30 mile radius of Hovingham, while the other 50% come from much further beyond. Those coming from further afield support the local pubs/hotels and places offering accommodation. It is estimated that for every £1 spent with 'The Shed' a tenfold equivalent is spent within the local economy.

## **Local Employment**

### **Support for local employment:**

Yes	Maybe	No	No Opinion
127 (54%)	37 (16%)	4 (2%)	68 (29%)

There were over 60 comments on how it should be encouraged, including by:

- More affordable housing to allow young families to live and work locally.
- Use of local trades-people and facilities whenever possible.
- Investigating available grants for small rural businesses
- Advertising and marketing local services and skills through *HandS* and posters in local shops.
- More use of apprenticeship schemes
- Teaching 'old rural' skills such as stone walling, hedge laying, game keeping and woodland management.

It was recognised that one consequence of more local businesses would be the need for premises.

*'Local light industry to be introduced into workshops or sympathetically built units to blend in with village life, jobs to be made available to members of local community'*

*'Provision of workshop/office accommodation with any new housing development'*

## **Security and Policing**

North Yorkshire Police Authority in Northallerton provides Hovingham a part allocation of Constable Glen Goodwill and a Community Constable, both based at Malton. Scackleton is serviced from Ampleforth.

North Yorkshire, an essentially rural county, has one of the lowest crime rates in the UK. It came as no surprise that when asked:

***'I feel safe in my community'***

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
251 (92%)	8 (3%)	15 (5%)

Despite this feeling of safety, 11% reported that they have been affected by criminal activity within the past 3 years - (a lower rate than both North Yorkshire and the City of York which averaged 6.4% in 2007/8, or 19.2% over 3 years assuming constant rates). Satisfaction with local policing is rather more equivocal, a substantial minority (24%) being critical.

***'I am happy with local policing'***

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
115 (42%)	66 (24%)	90 (33%)

*'I think it was a tragedy when we lost the village policeman'*

*'I have never seen a policeman out of a car in 18 months'*

*'It would be nice to have a local number to ring instead of speaking to someone who has no idea where the village is!'*

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

Hovingham has had a Neighbourhood Watch scheme for approximately 15 years. Its effectiveness is currently patchy, not all residents are aware of it.

*'I thought we already belonged to a NW scheme but it is not being kept up. We are never told if a crime has been committed (unlike Coxwold)'*

Roughly equal numbers were in favour (40%) and against (36%) joining Neighbourhood Watch, while 24% wished to know more before a decision.

Scackleton respondents were a little more confident of their security and also satisfied with policing, this despite being exposed to the same level of crime as Hovingham. Nevertheless many (58%) expressed no desire to set up a scheme in their village.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## **Health - GP Surgeries**

Residents use a variety of General Practices, with 55% using Ampleforth/Hovingham while others travel more widely;

### **Residents' use of surgeries**

Ampleforth Hovingham	Helmsley	Malton	Kirby- Moorside	Pickering	Terrington	Other
154 (55%)	6 (2%)	61 (22%)	7 (3%)	1 (0.5%)	45 (16%)	5 (2%)

Many respondents consider that the health services meet their needs:  
*'we have an excellent service in Hovingham'*

### **'The local health service meets my needs'**

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
225 (82%)	19 (7%)	31 (11%)





# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## **Comments and suggestions for improvement**

Since the majority of respondents attend the Hovingham/Ampleforth surgery many of the comments reflect experiences of this surgery. Those attending Malton are very satisfied with the medical services there, perhaps reflecting the fact that a wider range of services is available in one place.

More than 20 respondents suggested an extension to surgery hours in Hovingham, to meet the needs of people in full time employment or at times better suited to patients needs, such as at the weekend.

*'More late night appointments at Hovingham surgery to meet the needs of residents who work. At the moment it is only open on Thursday evening until 6pm. Another evening earlier in the week would be useful and prevent residents from having to travel to Ampleforth'*

*'It is very difficult to get an appointment on the necessary day- perhaps we need more Doctors'*

Some said there should also be:

- a greater number of nurse appointments available in Hovingham particularly as Ampleforth is not accessible by public transport
- a diabetic trained nurse
- more medical equipment and expansion of services e.g. physiotherapy
- X-ray, blood, pharmacy at surgery
- a flu jab morning in the village
- family planning clinic
- introduce of paramedics based at GP surgeries to help meet the needs of rural communities

## **Health - Primary Care Services**

Most respondents expressed no general concerns about health services in the wider community, with the exception of criticisms of:

- local hospital trusts i.e. Scarborough, on accessibility, and York-its condition
- ambulance response times
- some also expressed a wish for a return to the old out-of-hours service
- very poor availability and access to local NHS Dentists

There is considerable support for the retention of Malton Community Hospital:

*'Ensure that Malton Hospital remains open and fully operational (including the maternity unit), more opening hours for minor injuries'*

## **Primary School Education**

Hovingham CEVC Primary School currently has 36 children on the roll, organised into two classes. The school building is Victorian and over the past two years the Key Stage One classroom and outdoor areas have been refurbished and developed, resulting in a substantial improvement to the provision that the school offers. The school has very strong links with the local church and village community, being described in the most recent OFSTED report (December 2008) as 'at the hub of its community'. In January 2008 it entered into a confederation with St. Hilda's CEVC Primary School, Ampleforth and as a result the children at both schools have enjoyed wider social, curricular and sporting opportunities.

We asked if Hovingham Primary School met the needs of the children.

<b>'Meet the needs of Children?'</b>	Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
	144 (54%)	16 (6%)	104 (39%)

The 39% of No Opinion may, of course, be due to not having children of school age or any direct experience of our schools.

Hovingham village school was described as 'excellent' and 'charming' but suggestions for improvements included:

- more funding for modernisation
- amalgamation of smaller village schools to create a larger school which would be *'healthier socially with more pupils to mix with'*
- *'having our own head teacher instead of a shared one'*
- *'more involvement for the children with the local community'*
- Nine respondents would like the school to have increased sports and recreation facilities, and one suggested a village swimming pool

*'The facilities for exercise and outdoor play are poor; they need their own dedicated outdoor space instead of the village green'*

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## **After school activities and facilities**

A considerable number (29%) said they would be interested in additional clubs and facilities at the school.

*'The village children need an after school and holiday club, it would make it possible to take a full-time job'*

20% of residents said they would be interested in using school facilities after school hours, for example meeting rooms or IT equipment.

We asked residents if they would be interested in sharing their skills with both primary and secondary aged school children, and were overwhelmed with offers. Our communities obviously have a tremendous wealth of talent on offer that members are keen to share with young people and families. No fewer than 20 different subjects were offered ranging from computers and IT skills, arts and crafts, to archaeology, languages including sign language, dance and sports, gardening and ornithology, photography, village history and offers to read with the pupils.





## **Secondary School Education**

The official catchment area for children aged 11 to 16 from Hovingham and Scackleton is Malton School. However, a number of children from Hovingham go to Ryedale School in Nawton. As Ryedale School currently has no sixth form, pupils then choose between Malton School, York 6<sup>th</sup> Form College and Lady Lumley's at Pickering. Transport is provided to Ryedale, Malton and York but is not free. Easingwold School is also available.

The few that made comments suggested a sixth form at Ryedale School would be beneficial.

*'Stronger state secondary school. Increased catchment for Ryedale school'*

Adults see the need to create local youth activities for secondary school children as important, re-emphasising similar comments re primary school children, and this is further echoed by the same request in the young people's own questionnaire responses.

## **Adult Education**

Currently NYCC do not provide any adult education classes in Hovingham and Scackleton, although their Pickering office is interested in providing courses where there is sufficient support.

We asked residents if they felt that the existing adult education facility met their needs.

Agreed	Disagreed	No Opinion
48 (20%)	46 (17%)	165 (63%)

It was noted that many residents travel outside the villages for such facilities:

*'Facilities in Ryedale exist for all, U3A (University of the Third Age) for older people'*

### **Suggested Subjects Included:**

Accounting	Craft	Maths
Arts	Dancing	Music
Book Keeping	Digital Imaging	Painting
Botany	Dry Stone Walling	Philosophy
Bridge	Foreign Languages	Photography
Building	Health & Fitness	Sports
Ceramics	Hedge Laying	Technology
Computing/IT	History	Yoga
Cookery	Literature	

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Comments and Suggestions

Those 17% who felt dissatisfied suggested more local provisions:

*'What adult education? Providing some would be a start'*

*'More local venues and providing local, interesting courses'*

58 people included subject suggestions. The most popular were IT/computer studies, foreign languages, arts, crafts and painting, and health and fitness activities including sports, dance and yoga. Other subjects mentioned included botany, digital imaging, philosophy, technology and traditional rural craft skills such as dry stone walling and hedge laying.

Transport and outreach to villages was important:

*'Have more in this area without having to travel into York'*

*'Education buses that offer subjects apart from IT'*

There were requests both for more evening courses for those working during the day and more daytime courses for those who found travel at night difficult, especially during the winter months.

There were also requests for courses providing qualifications as well as for more courses to study for the enjoyment of the subject and getting together:

*'Remove pressure to obtain qualifications. Support those attending for subject interest'*

The cost of courses was mentioned as a potential barrier:

*'Provide some and at a reasonable cost'*

*'Cost less for those no longer working or unemployed'*

Many felt that publicity is inadequate. Awareness is not sufficiently high that for unemployed people the cost is reduced for Community Education run courses. Childcare, the need for which was mentioned by one respondent, can also be obtained for some of the Community Education courses.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## **Public Transport**

Public transport in Hovingham and Scackleton is provided by Stephenson's Bus Company, with financial support from North Yorkshire County Council. From April 20<sup>th</sup> 2009 they will run buses hourly to Malton and Helmsley, excluding Sundays, and two buses a day from Hovingham to Scackleton and then Terrington and Castle Howard to Malton.



### **Use of the bus service:**

More than once a week	Weekly	Monthly	Less often	Never
20 (7%)	16 (6%)	27 (10%)	45 (17%)	164 (60%)

Most residents support protection and improvement of the bus services, especially those approaching retirement age or those that do not drive a car.

Of those who use public transport, 40% are from Hovingham and 22% from Scackleton. Use is primarily for shopping (31%) and then for recreation and socially (14%). Only 6% of residents use it to get to and from education or work.

*'It is not practical for me to take public transport to work because I have too much to carry. When I stop working I intend to use public transport more & hopefully reduce the number of cars we own'*

Other uses for buses are when the weather is bad, to save parking fees, when a car is being serviced and to connect with Malton rail service.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

The results vary significantly by age groups. 52% of those over 65 use the bus. 75% of them use it for shopping, and over 15% use it to access health services. This could reflect the fact that people of pensioner age have free bus passes. Very few residents use buses daily. 22% of those aged 18-21 and 11% of those aged over 65 use it several times a week.

*'Public transport if improved could benefit the teenagers in the village'*

Of those who use public transport, 46% use it for convenience, 44% for environmental reasons and 39% to save money.

## **Comments and suggestions for increased use of buses**

168 (89%) would like a direct service to York, Monks Cross or York Park-and-Ride. This would be very useful for those working, shopping or attending education in the York area.

*'Bus to York is a very good idea. Late evening service especially good idea at Christmas - could be a fun trip i.e. community on board, all festive etc'*

The service would need to enable those working to get to and from York in the same day. An additional benefit would be connection to rail services, saving the use of very expensive taxis to and from York.

113 (60%) ask for better frequency and coordination between bus and rail service, with a regular and predictable timetable. They said this would mean they would use the bus and train more.

*'Some of the bus times really need to be altered, trying to get a good day out in fine weather is almost impossible & then times in Malton are far too long to hang about & another 35-40 minutes it's impossible to get to more than one store and we have had so many buses late, broken down & has not even turned up'*

75 (40%) wanted late evening and 56 (30%) early morning services.

*'Would be great if there was a late service from York - we could go out socially & have a glass of wine once a week - could also help younger members (16-21 yrs) to get bar/restaurant work while studying'*

58 (53%) wanted reduced fares, considering public transport expensive for those who are not entitled to free travel. Some incentive for regular use or multiple tickets would persuade more car users to travel by bus.



# COMMUNICATIONS IN THE VILLAGES

## ***Television, Phones and Communications***

The vast majority of residents (91%) have mobile phones. The biggest providers are O2 (33%) and Vodaphone (27%).

Only 11% are satisfied with mobile phone reception. About half (49%) supported a new phone mast, although comments expressed a preference that the mast be discreetly located.

While TV reception is felt to be good, a significant minority (26%) have occasional or permanent problems and 13% need help. Most (71%) are prepared for digital transmissions.

A minority (around 30%) never use the internet and e-mail. Of those that do, most use it several times a week or more. 22% feel broadband speed is unacceptable.

A number of residents requested help with TV, computers and the internet.



# COMMUNICATIONS IN THE VILLAGES

## **Community Information**

Two thirds of the respondents feel there is an effective communications network with only 8% disagreeing. 73 (27%) want news by e-mail. The most used forms of communication are word of mouth, *HandS* newsletter and the villages' Notice Boards; the least used is the website Hovingham.org.uk.

### **How often do you use these to keep in touch with local events?**

<b>Usage(Ranked)</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Never</b>
Word of mouth	118 (47%)	16 (6%)	8 (3%)	96 (38%)	15 (6%)
<i>HandS</i> newsletter	117 (43%)	10 (4%)	59 (22%)	62 (23%)	21 (8%)
Notice boards	86 (32%)	40 (15%)	33 (12%)	79 (29%)	35 (13%)
Posters in shops	82 (31%)	34 (13%)	19 (7%)	94 (36%)	34 (13%)
Local press	68 (27%)	61 (24%)	18 (7%)	66 (26%)	41 (16%)
NYCC Times	36 (15%)	4 (2%)	26 (11%)	82 (35%)	86 (37%)
Hovingham website	14 (6%)	4 (2%)	9 (4%)	50 (21%)	159 (67%)

## **HandS and Other Newsletters**

Residents rated all sections of *HandS* newsletter as important (73%). Local information (90%), events (89%) and news (86%) are the top scorers. Most comments were positive:

*'HandS needs more promotion of its ability to support and cover community wants. Several organisers do not notify HandS. It is monthly and the gap of time requires a better, more organised partnership with the website'*

Some residents felt *'editing must be sensitive'* and focus should be on local information rather than opinion. A few Scackleton residents commented that *'HandS is not applicable to Scackleton'*

The Street Parishes newsletter was valued by some respondents as giving local community information, and as being *'useful- a reliable source of information'*. The only comment on NYCC Times was that it did not seem to cover our area.

# HOVINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT

## ***"Our Village" Project***

During the autumn term of 2008 the Key Stage Two children at Hovingham CEVC Primary School based a substantial part of their work on the theme of "Our Village", with the intention of contributing to the Communities Plan. This involved a study of Hovingham in the past and the present and explored the children's hopes for its future. This work covered a range of curriculum subjects and culminated in a very successful exhibition, open to the public, in the Village Hall. The exhibition included; a clay map of the village, art work based on sketches of village features, graphs indicating the things the children liked and disliked about the village and two fantastic village trail leaflets designed by the younger children in the class

A small group of the children outlined the main findings from their study to members of the steering committee at a meeting in February 2009. The key findings, resulting from a questionnaire, which was turned into bar charts, were:-



## ***Things we like about Hovingham***

- The school, because it is small, friendly and we all know each other really well
- The shop, because you can buy all sorts of things there
- The bakery, because the bread and cakes are good and the café attracts visitors to the village
- The beck, because it is fun to play in and brings visitors to the village and they spend money here

## ***Things we don't like about Hovingham***

- The speeding traffic, because it is noisy and dangerous
- The playground being closed, because we used to enjoy playing there and now there is nowhere to go
- There is not enough to do in our spare time in the village

## ***Things we would like to see in the future***

- The playground re-opened, so that we have somewhere to go and get together
- A swimming pool
- More shops
- More sports facilities in the village itself



A popular exhibition of the project, and its findings, was arranged in the Village Hall. It gave many residents the opportunity to learn about Formula One racing and chocolate forests, meet the children and ask plenty of questions.

Make sure you see more lovely photos on the inside back cover of this report



## ***Introduction***

The material in this section was drawn from a questionnaire sent to all the young people in the villages aged between 11 and 17. A focus group was also held to gain their views. 25 young people (21 from Hovingham and 4 from Scackleton) returned their questionnaires. Their ages ranged from 7 to 17; the majority, 60%, were aged 12 to 15.

The young people's views mirror those of the adults from the Questionnaire, in particular the need for more recreation facilities, safe cycling paths, a youth club and a concern with their safety due to speeding traffic.

The majority of young people had very positive comments about their villages, but a common complaint was that there wasn't a great deal to do and that transport networks were inadequate as they did not allow them to get out and do things independently.

## ***Benefits of their Villages***

When asked 'What do you like about living in your village?' some of the most common answers were:

### **Hovingham:**

It's pretty, safe, quiet, peaceful, has good local shops and amenities and good places to walk or cycle. *"I like the beck on sunny days."* Other positives were the Car Boot Sale, the bakery, village events like the Panto, facilities such as the Village Hall and tennis court and a friendly atmosphere.

### **Scackleton:**

It's quiet, safe to go for a run by myself, the views are really good and *'I like living on a farm'*

## ***Disadvantages of their Villages***

### **Hovingham:**

- Traffic, busy main road, speeding motorists
- Not much for young people to do, no sports field, not many events for children/young people
- No street lights

### **Scackleton:**

- No shops/places to go or sports facilities; footpaths are shrinking and need to be sorted out
- Speeding traffic is dangerous when we ride our bikes
- Some people let dogs roam and they can chase you

## **Activities**

The table tennis club has 6 regular participants, junior cricket 4 and tennis 3, but most of the young people said that they didn't currently take part in organised sport in the village. There were no current members for Young Farmers, although 5 said they would be interested in finding out more about it. They said they would like to be able to do more sports and performing arts activities in the village.

Nearly all took part in activities in Ryedale, such as team/club football, tennis coaching, rugby, basketball, swimming, gym, dance and drama and many more.

Most had access to computer facilities at home and therefore a computer club wasn't a top priority (3 out of 25).



## **Youth Club**

17 young people (68%) said they would attend a regular Youth Club to “*Meet people/make new friends/ socialise/just chat and relax; Do sports/activities, Play pool, darts or snooker (5) Watch films/DVDs (3); Use computers/Xbox (3) Play badminton (2) Listen to or play music” (2)*. Other ideas were: concerts/shows, dance/parties, fashion shows, arts & crafts, cookery, basketball, competitions.

When asked about what new clubs or facilities they would like to see in their villages the responses were fairly evenly spread across sport and performing arts activities with a wide range of suggestions, many of which hopefully could be incorporated into Youth Club activities:

Cricket nets (3)	Dance club	Pool table/team (3)
Junior tennis club	Sports field	Constructive building club
Brownies	Football pitch/nets	Arts & Crafts
Basketball net (2)	Drama club/performing arts	
Badminton	Cookery club	Summer holiday club,
Cycling club	Darts	Nature walks
Film club	Rounders	

## **Transport**

56% said they didn’t use public transport to travel to activities or friends on a regular basis, but of those who did, both buses and trains were used at weekends and during school holidays. Even those who stated they didn’t currently use public transport had suggestions for improvements:

- More frequent buses
- Cheaper fares
- Direct bus to York
- Later at night, make sure train and bus times coincide, more buses to other villages
- They may be able to use buses or trains if they were more in tune with their needs

Cycle paths were viewed as currently largely inadequate. 84% of respondents said they would use safe cycle paths if they were developed and the routes they wanted would allow them to visit friends or take part in activities in other villages or even get into Malton!

## ***Communications***

When asked how frequently they looked at local information, most stated that they would sometimes look at the Notice board. More (72%) looked at the *HandS* newsletter, while local press and Hovingham website were very infrequently used.

Some suggestions for the website and newsletter were:

- Bus timetables in newsletter
- More pages in the newsletter to include more things
- Teenager blog on the website to post their views

## ***Environment***

84% of respondents said they currently used local footpaths and bridleways and it was very encouraging that there was no shortage of ideas and suggestions from young people about how the environment could be improved, again echoing the views of adults, including:

- Adventure parks for children
- Clearer and better maintained paths for walking and running
- Able to walk in some of the surrounding woodland
- Maps along bridleways so you know where you are/what you are near, and picnic places
- Better control of cars and trucks speeding through the village,
- Stop aircraft flying so low
- Have gardeners to keep plants and trees healthy
- Put feeders up for animals e.g. hang feeders on estate trees for birds
- More recycling/plastic and cardboard recycling
- Lights for night-time but it would be nice if they were inconspicuous as I don't want them to spoil the scenery
- In Scackleton requests were made to cut back the grass verges, as the footpaths are becoming covered with grass and the road is becoming very narrow. Also the village should be 30mph as people drive too fast and lots of people enjoy going out to play, walking, riding bikes etc

Our young people should be congratulated on their thoughtful and practical comments and suggestions. We hope to be able to fulfil at least some of these in conjunction with the wider objectives and subsequent Action Plan. It is very important to keep communicating the planned actions and keep consulting with and involving the young people in these decisions.



# ACTION PLAN AND WHAT'S NEXT

This proposed Action Plan comprises those items identified, in alphabetical order, as being the most important to residents, based on their responses to the Survey and Questionnaire.

Following completion of the Communities Plan Report, the Parish Council and Steering Group are forming an Action Group to progress the Action Plan and to encourage additional new blood to those projects where it is required.

The Action Group will work closely with the Parish Council, residents and existing community groups to review the actions, establish priorities, timetables, help determine funding sources, partnerships and resourcing.

## ***Environment and Countryside***

<b>Action</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>Dogs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bins for dog waste</li> <li>• Notices re dog fouling</li> </ul>	RDC and Parish Council
<b>Flooding:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop flood plan &amp; warning structure</li> </ul>	Parish Council and Environment Agency
<b>Footpaths:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve maintenance and usage</li> </ul>	NYCC, Land Owners and AONB
<b>Housing:</b> Sympathetic policy for villages and provision of affordable housing	Parish Council and RDC
<b>Noise:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce late night noise at public events</li> </ul>	Hovingham Hall, Village Hall and Worsley Arms
<b>Promote:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care of grass verges</li> <li>• Environmental notice board</li> <li>• Protection of countryside</li> <li>• Reduced litter in villages</li> <li>• Village events</li> <li>• Village housekeeping project</li> <li>• Wildlife projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Howardian Hills AONB</li> <li>• Parish Council and RDC</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• English Nature and AONB</li> </ul>
<b>Recycling:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Hovingham collection facilities</li> <li>• Promote improved recycling</li> </ul>	North Yorkshire County Council and Ryedale District Council
<b>Traffic:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discourage inappropriate parking</li> <li>• Earlier gritting of roads in Scackleton</li> <li>• Reduce HGV and through traffic</li> <li>• Reduce overall traffic speed and noise</li> <li>• Review location of active signs</li> <li>• Safe pedestrian crossing in Hovingham</li> <li>• Slow down traffic in Park Street</li> </ul>	North Yorkshire County Council & North Yorkshire Police Authority

# ACTION PLAN AND WHAT'S NEXT

## **Community Facilities**

Action	Partners
Children and young people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote clubs and in-village activities</li> <li>Re-open playground</li> <li>Sports activities</li> <li>Teenage kick-about area</li> <li>Youth Club</li> </ul>	Extended Schools, Playground Committee and Youth Action Group
Cycling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create new routes</li> <li>Map local routes</li> </ul>	Sustrans
Village Hall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve facilities</li> <li>Promote increased usage</li> </ul>	Village Hall Committee

## **Local Retail Services**

Encourage local employment	Local Businesses & Business Link
Encourage mobile post office	Royal Mail
Local producers market	AONB, Hovingham Estate, Local Businesses and Residents

## **Community Services**

NHS Dentistry - improved provision	NHS Primary Care Trust
NHS GP surgery in Hovingham <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request better hours</li> <li>More equipment and specialist nursing</li> </ul>	Hovingham GP
Primary school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide info regarding offers of help</li> <li>Support holiday and breakfast clubs</li> </ul>	North Yorkshire County Council and Hovingham CE School
Promote local adult education	North Yorkshire County Council
Public Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote better bus usage &amp; frequency</li> <li>Request direct service to York</li> </ul>	North Yorkshire County Council
Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve police profile in both villages</li> <li>Re-launch neighbourhood watch</li> </ul>	North Yorkshire Police Authority

## **Communications in the Villages**

Improve <i>HandS</i> event listing	<i>HandS</i> and Event Organisers
Improve TV reception	
Improve use of website	Parish Council
Mobile phone reception and phone mast	Phone Operators
Provide help with email and internet	

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to thank all volunteer distributors, members of the Steering Group, leaders of the SIGs and the editors, Ann Chapman and Martin Bell, for the time and effort they have put in to producing this report. Special thanks must go to Margaret Bell who so ably chaired the Steering Group and to Phil Chapman for all the hard work he has put in as Secretary and Deputy Chair of the Steering Group.

Thanks are due also to Maggie Farey of the YRCC and to Amy Thomas for their advice and guidance throughout and, in particular, for undertaking the massive task of inputting the data from the questionnaires.

The Hovingham Village School and Teenage forum are thanked for organising their very special project and own survey to determine the likes, dislikes and what they want for the future.

Thank you to Wendy Swann, Yvonne Steele, Andrew Gee, David Richardson, Robert Wainwright, Hovingham Estate and Phil Chapman who kindly gave their permission for their photographs to be reproduced in this report. Thank you also to Ryedale Printing and the Worsley Arms Hotel for their support.

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*"Our Village" Project*  
**HOVINGHAM**  
*CEVC Primary School*





