
Aysgarth & District Parish Plan May 2005



CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

WHAT IS A PARISH PLAN?

THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESULTS SUMMARISED

<u>1. YOU & YOUR HOUSEHOLD</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>2. LEISURE, SPORTS AND AMENITY.....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>3. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION.....</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>4. HOUSING.....</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>5. ENVIRONMENT.....</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>6. TRAFFIC ISSUES.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>7. SERVICES.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>8. USE OF VILLAGE HALL/INSTITUTE.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>9. SOCIAL ISSUES.....</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>ACTION PLAN</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>APPENDIX 1: REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>1. You and Your Household</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>2. Leisure, Sports and Amenity</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>3. Community Communication.....</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>4. Housing.....</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>5. Environment.....</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>6. Transport Issues.....</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>7. Services</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>8. Use of Village Hall/Institute</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>9. Social issues.....</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>APPENDIX 2.....</u>	<u>33</u>

INTRODUCTION TO THE PARISH PLAN

By Councillor B McGregor, Chairman, Aysgarth Parish Council

Aysgarth & District Parish Council sent out questionnaires to find out the needs and aspirations of their parishioners. The results from the Upper Dales Cluster Plan and this Parish Plan are to be read and used together.

Aysgarth & District Parish Council is an area of four small villages and one outlying parish.

The Parish Plan was helped by contributions from the Countryside Agency.

We hope that the Parish Plan will help us to deliver the needs through the Action Plan.



Aysgarth Church.

What is a Parish Plan?

Parish Plans were introduced in the 2000 'Rural White Paper', setting out the Government's plans for the countryside. They are part of the Countryside Agency's 'Vital Villages' initiative.

A Parish Plan is a statement of how the community sees itself developing over the years; it reflects how the community sees themselves and future development. It considers employment, social and environmental issues and the built environment. It cannot decide planning policy, but can influence it with the community voice of the Parish Plan.

The Plan should:

Reflect the views of all sectors of the community.

- Identify which features and local characteristics are valued.
- Identify local problems and opportunities.
- Spell out how residents want their community to develop in the future.
- Prepare a plan of action to achieve this vision.

In order to be influential and effective it is important that the Parish Plan complements and addresses policies in local strategies, such as the Richmondshire Community Plan, the National Park Local Plan.

The approach taken by the Upper Wensleydale Parish Plans steering group was to survey the whole of Upper Wensleydale to receive views on services and issues that are common across all of the parishes within the area of benefit. Each parish then consulted within it's own communities to identify those views and community services that are unique.

Introduction

The Aysgarth & District Parish Plan Questionnaire comprises of 26 questions arising from four months of community consultation. It was posted to 254 households on the electoral role over the area. (see Appendix 2).

There are 304 recorded dwellings over the Aysgarth & District Parish area of which 247 are recorded to have residents ¹.

Households returned the completed forms to collection points three weeks later.

There was a **33% return**, representing the views of 84 **households**.

The following is the analysis from Questionnaire, on a question-by-question basis.

Factual interpretative conclusions have been included; recommended action is listed in detail in the Action Plan.

KEY: Highlighted text refers to additional information to be found on individual questionnaires.

¹: ONS, Census 2001.



Aysgarth & District.

The Public Consultation Results Summarised

1. You & Your Household

Total number of responses analysed: 84
The gender balance of respondents to the survey is 57.1% (48) Male, 42.9% (36) Female.

The age group of the person filling in the survey is as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
18-19	1	(1.2%)
20-24	0	(0.0%)
25-34	1	(1.2%)
35-44	9	(10.7%)
45-54	17	(20.2%)
55-64	21	(25.0%)
65-74	21	(25.0%)
75-84	10	(11.9%)
85+	4	(4.8%)

Over the Aysgarth District, the responses from each parish area were as follows:

<u>Parish Area</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Aysgarth	32	(38.1%)
Thornton Rust	19	(22.6%)
Thoralby	21	(25.0%)
Newbiggin	11	(13.1%)
Bishopdale	1	(1.2%)

2. Leisure, Sports and Amenity

On the whole Community vitality, the extent to which people participate and interact with their neighbours is fairly good for the adult members of the community. Of the 84 households, 52% play an active part in the Village Hall/Institute, 29% play an active part in attending a place of worship and 26% are active within a form of club.

21% are involved in evening classes and 20% are involved in leisure or recreational groups.

Participation in youth activities is low, notwithstanding there is a low level of population under 18 in the parishes.

39 households indicated which activity/club they already use in the Wensleydale area. There is a good range of clubs and activities attended over the area.

See Appendix 1, feedback on analysis of

questionnaire.

IMPROVING SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

29 Households suggested ways in which the social and community activities could be improved in the village or parish.

Over 30% of the comments raised issues over the lack of advertising and publicity for existing activities. Inclusion also seems to be a common theme across Aysgarth & District area, whether the ability to take part in positions of authority or being included in the first place as a valued member.

The ways in which social activities can be improved involves the issue of young people, attracting more young people into the area, attracting more to become involved in community life. This is a concern that is raised in some form or other by 30% of comments and ranges from an improvement in junior sports provision (Aysgarth) to availability of

housing (Thoralby). Village Shops and Post Offices are, in common with Village Halls, important hubs of any community. Within Aysgarth & District only Thoralby is served by both a shop and Post Office, since the recent closure of Aysgarth.

2 respondents suggest a village shop and Post Office as a means of improving activity in Thornton Rust and Aysgarth.

Some of the suggested improvements are more common to the individual parishes of the Aysgarth & District area and are listed below:

THORNTON RUST PARISH:

Lack of Advertising/publicity for existing social and community activities and advance notice of meetings. There is a suggestion of using a local website to give up to date listings.

Refurbishment to the Village Hall – an extension, disabled toilets, better kitchen, landscaping of surrounding ground and storage.

AYSGARTH PARISH:

Improvements to outdoor activity provision for children.

‘Better publicity might lead to better attendance’.
Thoralby.

‘More publicity’.
Aysgarth.

‘Better communication / awareness of activities’.
Newbiggin.

THORALBY PARISH:

Inclusion in community life.

A selection of the feedback on improving social and community activity is included in Appendix 1.

Improvement of publicity in general on community/social amenities in Thornton Rust and Aysgarth are issues that can be dealt with by individual organisations and through a Parish Newsletter.

The improvement of Village Hall amenities in Thornton Rust and restoration of the Reading Room in Thoraby as a community amenity can be fed into the Community Investment Prospectus. 23% (19) households indicated they already have a Community Newsletter, 10 of these in Thornton Rust.



Thornton Rust Village Hall.

Recommendation:

Action REF 2.1: Improve outdoor provision for young people in Aysgarth Parish area.

3. Community Communication

Across all Aysgarth & District, 52% thought the village/parish should have its own Newsletter. 32% were in favour of a Community Website. Individual Parish responses can be found in Appendix 1.

Recommendation:

Action REF 3.1: Parish Councils consider introduction of Community Newsletters across Aysgarth & District.

4. Housing

Householders were asked on their views on levels of acceptable local development within their parish/village.

Infilling with 'single buildings within the village' is the most popular option across the District with 41% of households indicating that this level of local development is acceptable, but nearly as large a percentage, 39%, do not find any development acceptable.

Within the Aysgarth Parish, there is fairly strong support for further local development across the board, with support for expansion, small work units and office spaces.

Both Thornton Rust and Newbiggin are not in favour of further local development. The three other parishes are in support of infilling with single buildings.

Recommendation:

Action REF 4.1: Particular views of the parish areas to be considered when supporting local development.

Action REF 4.2: Endeavour to ensure local housing needs are recognised and met.

5. Environment

In describing the appearance of the village or parish, opinions varied throughout the District: Aysgarth is considered tidy by 97% of households, Thornton Rust does not fare so well, only 61% of households consider the appearance of the area to be tidy. The most common issue is with maintenance of the village green, parking and lack of kerbing.

Thorlby is considered tidy by 81% of households. The majority of the comments why people consider their area to be untidy were regarding issues with agricultural practices, litter and farm machinery.

Newbiggin is considered tidy by 82% of households, with only two comments over issues with agricultural practices.

There is only one response from Bishopdale parish. This indicated concern over 'Plastic wrap and bags' Feedback comments on why people consider their area untidy are included in Appendix 1.

There are 183 responses regarding areas of concern around the villages/parishes. Across Aysgarth & District there is clear concerns over Off Road vehicles by 53% of households and Lack of village shop/post office, by 51% of households.



Parking at edge of Aysgarth Parish.

Over the area there is a good willingness to take part in a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year by 53 households (68%).

Vandalism, pleasingly, does not rank as a concern for the area.

Within the parishes, there are clear concerns unique to each. There is also the ready willingness to tackle the issues of litter and untidiness by the majority of households within each parish.

48 comments were received regarding what could be done to improve the environment where people lived.

Aysgarth: 14 comments, with a variety of suggestions from improvements to roads increased policing. Most of these comments however raised the need to introduce some form of traffic calming, whether it is increased police presence, speed restrictions or enforcement of parking legislation.

'More activity by police to curb speeding motor cycles in village. Traffic calming entering village ie. roundabout.'
-Aysgarth Parish resident.

Thornton Rust: 13 suggestions for improvements, suggesting kerbing through the village, better maintenance of the verges and off road parking. Suggestions were made on imposition of enforcement of the law regarding off road vehicles and dog fouling. An upgrading of the sewerage system was suggested by two households, as was the introduction of recycling facilities in the village.

Thorlby: 11 suggestions. These largely covered the main areas of concern raised and the particular agricultural aspect of untidiness that the householders perceive within this parish, that is silage wrap, plastic and scrap.

Newbiggin: 8 comments received, road maintenance and need for regular street cleaning was suggested by two households. Additional suggestions included the hiding of telegraph and electric wires, return of the red public telephone box and removal of derelict vehicles.

Recommendation:

Action REF 5.1: Enforcement of legislation re. fouling of community areas; consider provision of bins.

Action REF 5.2: Ongoing enforcement of legislation regarding dangerous parking at A685 roadside and the use of off road vehicles on public footpaths/bridleways. Control of parking within Thornton Rust village, kerbing.

Action REF 5.3: Formation of sub committee to organize bi-annual clean over the area.

Action REF 5.4: Local support to post office/village shop in Aysgarth village, seek retention of existing services.

Action REF 5.5: Establish costs to upgrade sewerage system serving Thornton Rust.

6. Traffic Issues

PARKING

Overall parking by residents, visitors or deliveries is not seen as a huge problem. However within the individual parishes there are issues with the facilities for all of these.

There are issues with car parking in Thornton Rust Parish, both resident and visitor.

Aysgarth Parish has an issue with visitor parking, but little concern over resident parking.

No parish is concerned with parking of deliveries to any great extent.

DANGER SPOTS

Danger spots within the District are identified by 54 households, some of them recurring many times and so must take a priority rating.

Aysgarth particularly received a large amount of comments, with the A684 junctions to Thornton Rust and Dyke Hollins lane (by the Doctors surgery) featuring widely.



A684 Junction, Aysgarth.

Recommendation:

As Action REF 5.5

Action REF 6.1: Traffic calming supported along all sections of A684, with particular note to the Thornton Rust/Aysgarth Junction, and the stretch of road from Dyke Hollins lane to Palmer Flatt.

Action REF 6.2: Review pedestrian safety through Aysgarth village, access to the doctors surgery around the side of the George & Dragon, Aysgarth village.

Action REF 6.3: Control of parking from Palmer Flatt to Doctors Surgery.

Action REF 6.4: West Burton PC and Carperby PC informed of relevant danger spots.

7. Services

PROVISION & MAINTENANCE

This identified areas that are doing well and areas where there are issues. Highest levels of dissatisfaction are with maintenance of the verges and maintenance/provision of drainage.

Recommendation:

As Action REF 5.3, 5.6.

Action REF 7.1: Review maintenance of minor roads and roadside verges.

Action REF 7.2: Review of drainage provision in Thorlby and Thornton Rust Parishes.

8. Use of Village Hall/Institute

Over Aysgarth & District, only small numbers are recorded as never using their village hall/institute. 42% use it occasionally, 32% most times there is a social activity and 21% every time there is a social activity. The village halls and Institutes are an important focus within the communities.

68 households responded with feedback on what events and activities they like to attend at the village hall. The wide range of events gives a good indication of community vitality and backs up the importance of village halls in community life.

Of the 16 households do not use the local village hall/institute, 10 of these in Aysgarth Parish, the others in Thorlby. The main reason, beyond not having time to, is that people do not know what goes on there.

Age was cited by two households as being the reason why they did not use the local village hall/institute.

I would go to more if they were better advertised. Without a shop / post office, I seldom stop in the village to read notices.

BETTER USE OF FACILITIES

Households were asked for feedback on how their village hall could be better used.

Overall the majority of suggestions are for regular events/features to be held in the village halls/institutes.

Recommendation: These results pass to relevant village hall committees.

Action REF 8.1: Encourage sub committee within Aysgarth & District to co-ordinate a regular programme of events/talks. Review facilities and disabled access provision in Aysgarth Institute.

9. Social Issues

LIKES

Overwhelmingly the most important thing to households about living in their village/parish is the environment and the communities themselves. The importance of the friendly communities occurs in 43% of all the comments received.

The lack of crime also figures highly, as does the feeling of safety and security. There were 84 feedback comments received.

DISLIKES

Of the 58 responses received, 13 households have nothing they dislike about living in their area or parish.

The remainder of responses back up issues previously highlighted throughout the questionnaire, the Cluster questionnaire and cover a wide area; speeding traffic, litter, conflict with neighbours, houses being unoccupied, damage caused by 4 wheel drive vehicles, lack of facilities for young people, heavy traffic, distance to major services and lack of provision of transport services.

THINGS THAT WOULD IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE

Over the Aysgarth & District area, over 46% believe that facilities for young people would improve quality of life, this is followed by 36% in favour of better paid jobs, and 30% in favour of facilities for the elderly and improved housing/housing services. 29% of households are in favour of improved transport links, most in the Newbiggin Parish and 22% are in favour of an improved sewerage system, most of these in Thornton Rust Parish.



Post Bus, Thoralby.

IMPROVEMENTS/CHANGES THE COMMUNITY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS:

Aysgarth Parish

Reflecting common issues, both from this survey and the Upper Wensleydale Cluster survey, the majority of responses make reference to 'affordable housing' and the need to reduce traffic speed through the area.

Thornton Rust Parish

Improvements and changes cover areas already covered in other sections; increased maintenance of minor roads, verges, improvements to the village facilities and services and traffic management within the village.

Suggestions were made for introducing internet access into the village hall and a desire for the return of a village shop/Post Office. These can be passed to the village hall committees.

Thoralby/Newbiggin/Bishopdale Parishes

A spectrum of improvements and changes, some of which, such as the level of second home ownership, housing for young/older people and better public transport, the Parish Council has limited influence upon.

Most improvements are with the visual upkeep of the area; litter, weeds, rubbish, more tree planting. These are areas where the community have indicated a desire to assist.

Households also want improvement in road/footpath maintenance.

THE SINGLE THING WOULD THAT WOULD IMPROVE THE PARISH/VILLAGE ?

Aysgarth Parish

The lack of a village shop/post office and desire for one is highlighted in 8 comments. Traffic issues are again flagged up by 7 households.

Comments include:

- Better control of speeding traffic. (2 Comments).
- Re-opening of village shop & PO.
- Surface drainage during times of heavy rain.
- Village floral display and better direction signposts e.g. to the falls.
- Village shop and Post Office (8 Comments).
- Young people and families staying in our villages to keep the continuity. Villages will die if holiday cottages and old people are all that is left. We need to keep an even balance of each generation.
- More housing, especially affordable for young people (local) to keep them in the dale, which will

help everything in the villages 'c shops & village halls. (3 Comments).

- Size reduction of HGVs using country roads. (2 Comments).

- Youth Club or similar.

- Implementation (and enforcement) of proposed speed restrictions. (2 Comments).

- Good and safe parking practices; ***** - restrict overflow of vehicles for sale/repair from public roads and footpath - _____(parking at A684 Aysgarth/Thoralby junction). creates an unfavourable and untidy impression.

- Extension of the Wensleydale Railway.

Thornton Rust Parish

Traffic calming to make village more secure re. Traffic accidents. Ability for local families to find / provide affordable homes for their adult children (don't want to become 'empty' 2nd home village).

Suggestions were varied; some such as provision of public toilets and mains sewerage occurred twice.

- New village hall.

- Some implementation of speeding restrictions within village.

- Mains sewer. (2 Comments).

- Village shop, perhaps run on a community basis but this village is probably too small to support this.

- Farmers being held accountable for their actions and being made to face consequences of their actions (one or two 'bad' farmers give others a bad reputation).

- Public toilets - more and more visitors encouraged to visit the dales, no amenities and parking. (2 Comments).

- Banning all off-road vehicles from the National Park (except farmers etc.) (2 Comments).

- Limit the number/proportion of holiday cottages per community. Licence letting cottages so that people who get permission to do up places for their OWN occupation can't slither around the law. Provide residential off-road parking.

- Training to encourage better levels of social conscience amongst incomers.

- 1) Underground cables etc. 2) Sewage provision.

- Compliance with local customs, practices and regulations Less holiday cottages / more permanent.

Thoralby Parish

4 of these comments were regarding removal of farm scrap/abandoned vehicles and rubbish.

- Clearing away farm rubbish & old cars.

- Under grounding cables and wires, particularly around the pub and village hall where visitors come.

- Better employment and salary opportunities.

- Changes in farming practices.

- The National Park giving permission to convert the former Blacksmith's Shop (adjoining The Grange, Thoralby) into a house.

- Better roads so that the population and visitors can move around more easily. A lot of us are still travelling on horse and cart roads.

Newbiggin Parish

- Removal of electricity wires and pylons & re-siting Underground.

- Improving the environment (natural).

- Some curbing of the increasing number of motorcycles. Their noise and speed are intimidating.

- A decent hotel with leisure facilities. Nursery.

- No further new buildings. A village needs its 'spaces' for many reasons.

- Road maintenance including road edges.



Part of Thoralby Parish

Recommendation:

Covered by prior recommendations and within the Upper Wensleydale Cluster Plan.

ACTION PLAN

LEGEND: ADPC: Aysgarth & District Parish Council, RDC: Richmondshire District Council, NYCC: North Yorkshire County Council, NYPA: North Yorkshire Police Authority, UWN: Upper Wensleydale Newsletter, YDNPA: Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, YRCC: Yorkshire Rural Community Council, YW: Yorkshire Water.

PRIORITY: 1: high (up to 6 months), 2: medium (6-12 months), 3: low (within 2 years).

REF	RECOMMENDATION	ACTION	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	LEAD
2.1	LEISURE SPORTS & AMENITY Outdoor provision for young people. Increase/Improve	Ascertain demographic profile of children in each village. Seek discussion with neighbouring councils. Seek discussion with Stan Rookcroft.	Medium/Long Term	RDC YRCC	April 06	A&DPC
3.1	COMMUNICATION Community Newsletter Over all Aysgarth & District	The UWN is published monthly, is delivered and available locally. A&DPC plans to publish 3 newsletter per year, the first delivered to each household, others to be available for collection locally. RDC delivers a newsletter. NYCC delivers a newsletter	Ongoing	UWN RDC NYCC	Continuous	A&DPC
4.1	HOUSING Development. Consider views of the parish when supporting local development.	Where appropriate, planning applications will be supported. Views will be expressed to the planning authority.	Ongoing	RDC YDNPA Housing Associations	Continuous	A&DPC
4.2	Affordable housing. Ensure local housing need met/recognised.	Where appropriate, planning applications will be supported. Views will be expressed to the planning authority.	Ongoing	RDC YDNPA Housing Associations	Continuous	A&DPC
5.1	ENVIRONMENT Dog fouling Consider extra provision of dog bins.	Ascertain number and location of dog bins.	Short Term	RDC	April 06	A&DPC

		Assess need for additional dog bins and identify suitable locations. Seek views of residents. Advise Dog Warden of problem area.				
5.2	Parking. Monitor and control parking at A685 roadside at Aysgarth Explore control of parking within Thornton Rust village, kerbing.	Following the completion of road safety improvements within Aysgarth, this area will be monitored. Where parking of vehicles causes unnecessary obstruction or concern, residents will encouraged to notify the Police. Review previous discussions and decisions relating to the subject of kerbing.	Long Term Ongoing Short Term	NYCC NYPA NYCC	October 06 Continuous April 06	A&DPC A&DPC A&DPC
5.3	Litter/untidiness Formation of sub committee to organise bi-annual clean over the area.	Where particular areas have been identified as problematic, arrangements will be made to resolve the issue.	Ongoing	Community working party	Continuous	A&DPC
5.4	Village Shop/Post Office Support to retain Village Shop/Post Office in Aysgarth village	Aysgarth village shop and Post Office closed. However, the Post Office has now re-located at Kitty's Tea Room and a small stock of basic provisions is now available. Residents are encouraged to use these facilities.	Ongoing	Post Office	Continuous	A&DPC
5.5	Sewerage Explore costs to upgrade Thornton Rust system.	Review previous discussions and decisions relating to this subject. Assess current numbers in support. Liaise with the Authorities to ascertain the feasibility of this provision.	Long Term	NYCC RDC YDNPA YW	October 06	A&DPC

6.1	TRANSPORT Traffic calming Support along all sections of A684,.	The completion of the proposed traffic calming measures are expected in the Spring of 2006. A review of their implementation and effect will be assessed.	Urgent Ongoing	NYCC	May 06 October 06	A&DPC A&DPC
6.2	Pedestrian Review pedestrian safety through Aysgarth village, doctors surgery access, around side of George & Dragon.	As 6.1 above.				
6.3 6.4	Parking Control of parking from Palmer Flatt to Doctors Surgery. Other Areas Inform West Burton PC and Carperby PC of relevant danger spots.	As 6.1 above. Those Parish Councils to be notified by letter	Urgent	A&DPC	On publication of the plan.	Clerk to the Parish Council
7.1	SERVICES Roadside Increased maintenance/cleaning of minor roads and roadside verges.	Consult with NYCC Highways Department	Ongoing	NYCC	Continuous	A&DPC
7.2	Drainage Review of provision in Thoralby and Thornton Rust Parishes	Identify problem locations and seek rectification	Urgent	NYCC YW	May 06	A&DPC
8.1	USE OF VILLAGE HALL/INSTITUTE Use Improvements to be passed to relevant committee/s	Village Hall Committees to be supplied with a copy of the plan.	Urgent	Village Hall Committees	On publication of the plan.	A&DPC

APPENDIX 1: Replies to Questionnaire

From the distribution of the Aysgarth & District Parish Plan Questionnaire, May 2005.

1. You and Your Household

Q1. Gender

Male	48	(57.1%)
Female	36	(42.9%)

Q2. Which age group are you in?

16-17	0	(0.0%)
18-19	1	(1.2%)
20-24	0	(0.0%)
25-34	1	(1.2%)
35-44	9	(10.7%)
45-54	17	(20.2%)
55-64	21	(25.0%)
65-74	21	(25.0%)
75-84	10	(11.9%)
85+	4	(4.8%)

Q3. In which of these parish areas do you live?

Aysgarth	32	(38.1%)
Thornton Rust	19	(22.6%)
Thoralby	21	(25.0%)
Newbiggin	11	(13.1%)
Bishopdale	1	(1.2%)

2. Leisure, Sports and Amenity

Q4. Do you play an active part in any of the following?

AMENITY	YOU	YOUR PARTNER	MEMBER OF FAMILY	MEMBER OF FAMILY
The Women's Institute	11	12		
Village hall/Institute	44	8		
Reading Room	2	1	1	
Place of Worship	24	6		
Evening Class	18	5		
Clubs	22	4	2	
Sports Group	11	4	1	
Leisure/Recreational Group	17	6		

Youth activities	2		3	2
Youth Club			1	

Q5. If you or your family use any local clubs in the Wensleydale area, which ones do you use and for what activity?

LOCAL CLUB/ACTIVITY	AGE RANGE								TOTAL
	None	18-19	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	
Badminton Thorlby/Bainbridge/Carperby/Aysgarth		1	1	3	2				7
WI					2	1	3	1	7
Bowls (Bishopdale/Thorlby)					1	3	2	1	7
Friends of Dales Countryside Museum	2					1	2	1	6
Wensleydale Society	2				1	1		1	5
Keep Fit (Thorlby/Wensleydale School/Leyburn)						3	1		4
Art Group (West Burton/Carperby/Yoredale)					1	1	2		4
Football (Askrigg/Carperby)		1		1	2				4
Wensleydale Flower Club						1	2		3
Golf (Catterick/Bedale)							3		3
Choral Society (Aysgarth/Wensleydale)							2		2
Wednesday Club (Aysgarth Inst)					1			1	2
Wensleydale Decorative & Fine Art Society							2		2
Askrigg Friendly Society						1			1
Yoredale Natural History Society					1				1
WEA							1		1
Spinning N.A.F.A.S	1						1		1
Jujitsu				1					1
Guides				1					1
Society of Friends	1								1
Mobile Library							1		1
Reading Room, Snooker/Darts				1					1
Catterick Garrison Fun Club							1		1
Slimming World (Leyburn)					1				1
Country Music (Aysgarth)					1				1
Local Pub games					1				1
Wensleydale Snooker League							1		1
Ladies Garden Group							1		1
All Stars Club						1			1
Brownies						1			1
Bridge Club						1			1
Rugby					1				1
Orchestra							1		1

Leyburn Gym					1				1
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Q6. What do you think could be done to improve social and community activities in your village/parish?

THORNTON RUST

Disabled toilets in village hall.

Larger village hall (Thornton Rust).

This depends totally on the people it is providing for. Some mechanism or organisation to facilitate activities if requested may be a useful area resource.

Improved amenities in village institute - better kitchen; storage facilities; landscaping near ground to make community garden. (Thornton Rust).

Advance notice of meetings with copy of agenda to all homes in the parish. Regular opportunity for locals to voice concerns. (Thornton Rust).

Perhaps an accurate and up to date listing of any social functions in this area on the lines of the Upper Dales Newsletter - but on a local website. (Thornton Rust).

Refurbish and extend village hall (Thornton Rust).

Village shop and Post Office (Thornton Rust).

Something to attract young families with young children.

AYSGARTH

Get rid of litter from road verges and pavements. Re-opening of village shop & Post Office. Widening of extremely narrow pavement at 'Town Ends'.

Review Aysgarth Institute Constitution and rules with a view to increasing usage and inclusion of all members of Aysgarth village community.

Aysgarth would benefit an outdoor activity area for children.

Make them local, make them varied. advertise events more.

Money and advertise, more younger and energetic people in charge.

Reduce apathy.

Improve and encourage junior sports (i.e. badminton and football).

THORALBY

Refurbishment of the Reading Room to make an attractive social centre.

Allow new blood to take an active part, rotate positions of authority i.e. chairmanship. The stigma of 'off cum-dons' is still too great and oppresses development in some areas.

Visits by touring theatres and the recently formed cinema visits.

Could be improved if more young people were able to live here. They cannot afford the housing therefore have to move away and local firms are short of labourers.

Encourage young people to have a voice in what happens.

NEWBIGGIN

Communication

Encourage the young to take part and lead in young persons activities e.g. scouts, St John Ambulance.

3. Community Communication

Q7. Do you think the village/parish should have its own community website and newsletter?

Aysgarth Parish:

75% (18 out of 24) are in favour of a Community Newsletter.

Thornton Rust Parish:

56% (10 out of 18) indicated they already have a Community Newsletter; the remaining 44% are in favour of having one. 50% are in favour of a Community website.

Thoralby Parish:

57% (12 out of 21) are in favour of having a Community Newsletter; only 25% are in favour of having a Community Website.

Newbiggin Parish:

54% (6 out of 11) are in favour of a Community newsletter, 36% are in favour of a Community Website.

Bishopdale Parish:

Response indicates a preference for a Community Website, however there is only one respondent from this parish.

4. Housing

Q8. What type of local development would be acceptable in your village/parish?

There are 74 responses to this question, divided as follows:

Aysgarth: 25
 Thornton Rust: 17
 Thoralby: 20
 Newbiggin: 11
 Bishopdale: 1

Individual parish responses are in the table below, with the largest responses from each parish in **bold**.

TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	AYSGARTH	THORNTON RUST	THORALBY	NEWBIGGIN	BISHOPDALE
None	24.0%	52.9%	35.0%	63.6%	0.0%
Infilling with single building	56.0%	35.3%	40.0%	9.1%	100.0%
Infilling with small groups	20.0%	0.0%	25.0%	9.1%	0.0%
Expansion on the edge of built up area	28.0%	5.9%	10.0%	9.1%	0.0%
Small work units	24.0%	0.0%	10.0%	9.1%	0.0%
Office	12.0%	0.0%	5.0%	9.1%	0.0%

5. Environment

Q9. How would you describe the appearance of your village/parish?

Overall Aysgarth & District Results:

Tidy	65	(81.3%)
Untidy	15	(18.8%)
no response	4	

Q10. If you have ticked 'Untidy' in the previous question, please indicate why you think this is so.

Aysgarth Parish

Only two feedback comments received: 'The A684 approach to the villages is starting to get very untidy with litter. A have spoke to RDC about this, they were to look into it.' And 'Not frequent enough road and pavement leaning close to local entertainment centre.'

Thornton Rust Parish

Thoughtless parking / overrunning of verges. Whole outgoing area is generally untidy - often used for abandoning vehicles.

Too many cars all over village green. Edges of green crushed. Local public car park is a tip! Derelict caravans/cars in field at rear of village – horrible.

No kerbing leading to abuse of grass borders to road by drivers of very large vehicles, especially when flooding occurs.

Dog dirt. Vehicles parked on roadside. Farm manure/mud on road. Farm rubbish eg. feed sacks, bale wrappers in river and hedgerows.

There is room for some tidying up - verges etc. Litter bins and landscaping the car park in TR.

Roadside verges crushed by heavy vehicles. No tidying up by County Council. Bushes growing out of verges, water standing on road due to outlets blocked.

Lack of kerbing, poor maintenance of village green areas, constant mud on road.

Agricultural clutter in adjacent field; unlicensed vehicles in car park; caravans; garden waste tipping.

Thoralby Parish

Old machinery, scrap, out of use equipment are left/dumped indiscriminately - mainly in and around farms.

Agricultural plastic sheeting. Muck on the roads. Mill-face footpath - fallen trees (logs) to be removed. Old vehicles, tractors, car tyres, oil drums, littering in some areas.

Discarded farm plastic and scrap; roadside litter; prominent bailed silage; overhead wires.

The frequency of road sweeping should be upgraded considerably in view of the amount of cow muck on roads during spring/summer months.

Green roads, footpaths and bridleways adjacent to the village are very neglected.

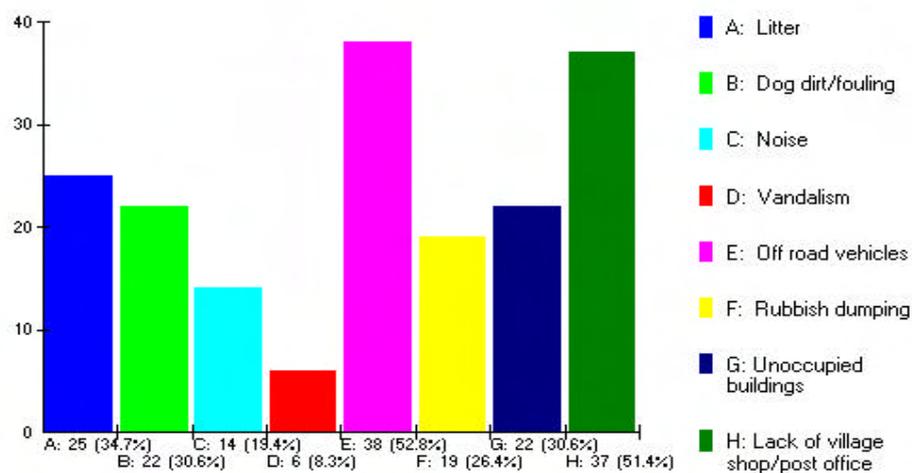
There is a lot of litter and old farm vehicles left in fields.

Newbiggin Parish

Two comments only received: 'Rubbish left around, especially in farmland / buildings, all machinery etc'. and

'Farming enterprises and livestock movements redistribute the habitat around the village. This needs to be tidied up as requested by the persons responsible - otherwise it should be kept 'lightly controlled' and natural.'

Q11. Are you or your family concerned about any of the following?



11. Environment concerns

At individual parish level:

AREA OF CONCERN	AYSGARTH	THORNTON RUST	THORALBY	NEWBIGGIN	BISHOPDALE
Litter	21.4%	50.0%	35.3%	50.0%	0.0%
Dog dirt/fouling	14.3%	44.4%	29.4%	62.5%	0.0%
Noise	25.0%	22.2%	17.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Vandalism	14.3%	5.6%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Off road vehicles	28.6%	77.8%	76.5%	25.0%	100.0%
Rubbish dumping	17.9%	44.4%	23.5%	25.0%	0.0%
Unoccupied buildings	28.6%	33.3%	35.3%	25.0%	0.0%
Lack of village shop/post office	85.7%	61.1%	5.9%	12.5%	0.0%

Aysgarth Parish highest concern is with a lack of village shop/post office, (understandable given that the area has lost both during the time this questionnaire was sent out).

55% (16) households indicated they would be prepared to take part in a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year.

Thornton Rust Parish households have high levels of concern with litter, off road vehicles, rubbish dumping and dog dirt/fouling. This highlights the responses given to the appearance of the area. There is concern over lack of village shop/post office.

89% (16) of the households indicated they would be prepared to take part in a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year.

Most of households in Thoralby Parish are concerned, again, with off road vehicles. There is a village shop/post office in Thoralby village; lack of this facility does not feature as an issue. 65% (13) households indicated they would be prepared to take part in a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year.

Newbiggin Parish households have issues with dog dirt/fouling and litter. 70% (7) of households indicated they would be prepared to take part in a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year.

Bishopdale Parish (one household only) highlights off road vehicles as a concern. There is support for a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year.

Q12. Would you be prepared to take part in a clean up of the parish area and cemetery once or twice a year?

Yes	53	(67.9%)
No	10	(12.8%)
Don't know	15	(19.2%)
no response	6	

Q13. What do you think could be done to improve the environment where you live?

Where live: Aysgarth Parish

Provision of a focus - the shop/post office used to fulfil this function.

Widen and complete pavement from Aysgarth village to Aysgarth Falls. Get rid of litter.

I would say 'sustain' rather than improve. Need to make sure village doesn't become full of 2nd homes / holiday homes, and so loses strong sense of community that exists at present.

Surface water drainage - flooding. Passing points on minor roads need tidying. Ruts/mud at edges of roads.

'Brighten' up the village - with flower boxes on village green. Aysgarth shows a great lack of daffodils for one.

Reduce heavy commercial traffic through the village i.e. weight restriction.

Reduce road signs - improve those, which are absolutely necessary. Improve road surfaces and footpaths. Telephone lines to be put underground.

Decrease traffic speed.

No major problems - A P Council do a good job already.

Remove noisy / dangerously driven motorcycles.

More activity by police to curb speeding motorcycles in village. Traffic calming entering village i.e. roundabout.

Some regular police presence, e.g. Saturday night/Sunday morning at Aysgarth Country Club; police presence at weekends and bank holidays to deter dangerous driving and illegal/dangerous parking; YDNPA to be consistent when applying planning decisions; YDNPA to ensure planning conditions are enforced; imposition of proposed speed restrictions for Aysgarth village without further delay.

Slow the cars down, stop the motorbikes.

Pubs could make sure glasses and bottles are not removed from premises as are then left lying about on verges, pavements and fields along side of road.

More policing.

Where live: Thornton Rust Parish

Installation of kerbs to protect village green. Stop RAF low flying. Upgrade sewage system to village. Provide off road parking. Provide kerb edges to village green.

A restriction on the use of very powerful security lights which are often a) poorly sited b) poorly set up causing unnecessary light spill.

Recycling facilities to be provided. Large fines for dog owners who allow their pets to foul on the grass and paths/road.

Village curbing; sewerage update; lane drainage; parking on greens.

Cutting the grass of the green on which the seat is sited at the west end of the village.

Enforce the law preventing motor cycles (and other off-road vehicles) illegally using public footpaths and bridleways. These are being destroyed by motor cycles.

More grass cutting on road verges. Additional street lights. Better maintenance of local green lanes.

Reduction in the amount of dog excrement on the village green.

Green waste skip?

Where live: Thoraby Parish

Somewhere safe for children to play - new play area

Restrictions on off-road vehicles - specifically bikes. Enforcement of planning conditions. Clearing up of scrap/rubbish.

Stop trial bikes. Clean up scrap around village verges.

Strategically placed flowers - either planted in the ground or in tubs.

Bishopdale Beck needs cleaning up - rubbish collects. Field drains are inadequate and lead to domestic flooding. They need repairing.

Better respect from those working the land - silage wrap / upkeep walls / size of buildings / muck on roads.

Clear litter, plastic and scrap; underground power and phone cables; reduced butchery of roadside hedges when trimming; less ***** farming; repair derelict field barns and walls.

Roads cleaned regularly of animal droppings, mainly from cows coming from pasture to milking parlour.

This is a rural area and farming is the core activity. Its continuance must be encouraged (whilst respecting the needs and rights of others) and the increase in the number of houses becoming holiday cottages actively discouraged.

Where live: Newbiggin Parish

Retain the open spaces along the village road. Hide the telegraph & electric wires.

Removal of derelict vehicles / rubbish.

We're very happy with it the way it is! Except for the increased number of motorcyclists, their noise and speed.

Return of old fashioned red public telephone box in Newbiggin!

Ban 'recreational' use of tracks, bridleways and other open moor land by two and four wheel vehicles which destroy surfaces and create noise and smells.

Maintain a fairly strict control over planning applications for development so that no inappropriate developments are allowed.

Street cleaning during 'muddy' times.

Roads swept and mended and drains cleared more than once a year.

6. Transport Issues

Q14. Do you see car parking as an issue where you live?
Majority concerns of Parishes are marked in **bold**.

PARKING TYPE	AYSGARTH	THORNTON RUST	THORALBY	NEWBIGGIN	BISHOPDALE
RESIDENT - YES	14%	65%	30%	0%	0%
-NO	86%	35%	65%	100%	100%
VISITOR - YES	52%	47%	30%	9%	0%
-NO	44%	53%	65%	91%	100%
DELIVERIES - YES	10%	8%	6%	0%	0%
- NO	85%	92%	89%	100%	100%

Q15. Do you think there are any major 'danger spots' on the roads in the parish? If so, where are they?

Major 'danger spots' within Aysgarth & District are summarized. Where a particular danger was mentioned, this has been recorded also.

A684:

Junction to West Burton out of Aysgarth village.

Junction to Thoralby out of Aysgarth village, parking of vehicles at junction by local garage.

Junction to Thornton Rust out of Aysgarth village, vehicles speeding up Jammy hill.

Blind corner around George & Dragon pub, Aysgarth village, particularly when deliveries are being made.

Dyke Hollins lane, narrow, request for one way, dangerous car parking on the road by persons attending the surgery.

Junction to Cubeck and Thornton Rust, cars and caravettes blocking line of sight.

Junction by Palmer Flatt hotel, parking on verges and brow of the hill obscuring line of sight

Aysgarth Falls, pedestrians crossing from YDNPA car park to Freeholders wood.

B1660:

Junction of A684 and B6160, below Temple Bank to West Burton.

B6160, crossroads between Thoralby and Newbiggin, in winter if down slope not gritted vehicles are unable to stop.

Long straight past East Lane House, speeding traffic.

At junction of Eshington Bridge Road and Eshington Lane.

Other areas including pedestrian concerns:

Mill Hill, Thoralby.

Bends outside 'Hill croft', Thornton Rust.

B6160 at Ribba Bridge/hall and bends by old school/chapel.

Junction between Sorrel Sykes and Aysgarth at West Burton Bridge (Opp Flanders Hall).

Centre of Thornton Rust, car parking.

Kidstones road to Skipton, gritting in the winter done too late.

West end of Aysgarth, no pavement on north side for pedestrians.

Narrow footway from the George & Dragon, Aysgarth village, often blocked by vehicles, posing danger to pedestrians.

Danger crossing to doctor's surgery, Aysgarth village, from the footpath opposite. Request for pedestrian crossing.

Individual comments are:

Blind corner round pub, particularly during deliveries to pub and cafe. Junction of A684 / Thoralby road. Junction of A684 / Thornton Rust road - traffic on A684 coming up the hill too fast.

Aysgarth - junction A684 and Thornton Rust road. Bends outside 'Hillcroft', Thornton Rust.

Blind corner on Aysgarth - Thornton road; corner of George and Dragon.

West End of village, where road forks off to Thornton Rust. George & Dragon corner.

On A684 & West End by Heather Cottage / top Jammy Hill.

East End by George & Dragon pub & by doctor's surgery.

Corner of village green by Beech Cottage.

Bend by George and Dragon. Road by Heather Cottage.

Outside doctors surgery. Opposite 'Rock Gardens' in Aysgarth. Outside George and Dragon.

West to east on A684 at 90-degree bend or Green Dragon to village proper. Ex: ***** trucks travel in pairs and are a menace at this location.

Western side of Aysgarth, the corner at Thornton Rust road intersection; hill at church bank.

Top corner of Aysgarth.

1) Junction of A684 with Thornton Road. 2) Junction by Doctors Surgery.

Corner by the rock garden.

Dyke Hollins Lane (Aysgarth Doctor's Surgery).

Drs. surgery, west end corner, George & Dragon corner, main street thro' village. Refusal by NYCC to grit Kidstones at right times in partnership with Craven.

West End corner opposite rock garden, Aysgarth – several accidents, usually motorbikes, each year.

Corner near George & Dragon; west end of village near Northampton House; there is no pavement on the north side.

Between the George and Dragon and the ***** the footpath is narrow and often parked vehicles impede passage for walkers. Also crossing to the Surgery entrances from that footpath.

Corner at the west end of the village.

Both entering and leaving Aysgarth at west end of A684 near to junction towards Thornton Rust.

Lane from doctor's surgery to top of Thoralby Bank should be one-way east -> west. Dangerous car parking on road by doctor's surgery in Aysgarth.

Corner by Dr surgery. Thornton Rust / A684 joining corner in Aysgarth.

Aysgarth village by the surgery in the A684 lane. All the narrow lanes around Newbiggin and Thoralby are potentially dangerous if people drive too fast - because of sharp bends and high hedges / walls.

Speed of traffic between doctors surgery and turning to West Burton; parking on verges, pavements and roadside on brow of hill around junction of A684 and Aysgarth Falls road; Pedestrian crossing to get to pavement by doctors surgery; enforcement on parking restrictions through Aysgarth Falls.

Junction of A684 and Thornton Rust road at West End of village of Aysgarth. Junction at Aysgarth surgery and Aysgarth garage with Thoralby road - cars parked around both junctions make access difficult.

1) Mill Hill, Thoralby 2) Single track road from Doctor's surgery towards Thoralby.

Bad junction, Aysgarth to West Burton.

At crossroads - traffic coming down from the Street head can be dangerously fast.

B6160 Long straight past East Lane House. Cars speeding.

Aysgarth Falls on corner where car park path crosses to Freeholder's Wood.

Junction of A684 & B6160 below Temple Bank. B6160 – at cross road between Thoralby and Newbiggin.

Eshington Bridge road where it meets 6160.

Junction of B6160 with Eshington Lane. Near West Burton. Junction B6160 and A684.

The centre of Thornton Rust with cars parking everywhere. The junction at Worton - the turn off. A684 leading to Cubeck & T/Rust.

Minor road -> Thornton Rust. Junction of main road and old school house.

Cavalcade of motorcycles speeding up street from pub to Haw Lane - Sundays, Saturdays and increasingly during the week.

From A684 past Westholme Caravan Park to the junction of road to Kettlewell Grassington (prior to West Burton) cannot see traffic from the left over the stream bridge.

Around Aysgarth Falls and 'Palmer Flat' T-junction.

A684 - from Palmer Flatt Hotel to Doctor's surgery.

West Lane Thorlby is becoming dangerous. The road is too narrow for all the larger tractors using it and is getting narrower by the day.

Crossroads with B6160 in icy weather; downhill slope and no gritting can mean you can't stop!

Kidstones gritted too late for commuting over to Skipton and beyond - yet Buckden side is usually done.

1) Junction between Sorrel Sykes and Aysgarth at West Burton Bridge (Opp Flanders Hall) (I suppose this is W/Burton Parish). 2) 'Sighting' on Eshington Bridge esp. eastbound. 3) The narrow bits of B6160 at Ribba Bridge/hall and bends by old school/chapel.

Cross lanes and road with Thorlby via bridge. From old chapel in Bishopdale to top of Kidstones all the way from Thorlby to Aysgarth.

Bottom of long drag corner; passable holl, nipe lane top, corner west end of village.

Turn out from Cubeck onto A684 at Worton; Thornton Rust, east end, where parked cars (and caravettes) obscure view.

Blind bends - 'Richmond Gate' road end and next bend heading east. SLOW marking on road needed.

7. Services

Q16. How do you rate the provision or maintenance of the following?

Aysgarth Parish (32 responses)

Provision and maintenance of major roads and minor roads, footpaths and bridleways is considered to be satisfactory by the majority of households.

Although 53% consider the provision and maintenance of pavements to be satisfactory, 29% consider them to be poor. Similarly although 53% consider the maintenance of the verges to be satisfactory, 38% consider it to be poor.

56% consider the provision/maintenance of street lighting to be satisfactory.

Winter gritting is seen as good by 48% of households and satisfactory by 45%.

60% of households are satisfied with the state of the drains, 29% consider them to be poor.

50% are satisfied with the provision/maintenance of the water supply and 43% indicated they considered it good.

Thornton Rust Parish (19 responses)

There was a higher level of dissatisfaction with maintenance and provision of major/minor roads, but the majority of households felt they were satisfactory.

Pavements are largely non-existent in this parish and this reflected in the responses.

Street lighting is seen as satisfactory by 61% of households.

59% of households indicated that they consider the provision /maintenance of verges to be poor, and 12% non-existent.

The level of satisfaction with the state of footpaths and bridleways is very low, with 56% of households considering it to be poor to non-existent.

Winter gritting provision is seen by the majority of households to be good to satisfactory, with 39% of the households marking it as poor.

The state of the drains is an issue for 44% of the returns, with 2 households indicating they are non-existent. Similarly, 10 (71% of responses) households indicated that sewers were non-existent.

The majority of households are satisfied with the level of water supply provision.

Thorlby Parish (21 responses)

The responses concerning the road network backed up earlier feedback, minor road provision/maintenance is seen as poor by 50% of households. Major road maintenance and the state of footpaths and bridleways are seen as good to satisfactory by the majority of responses.

As with Thornton Rust, pavements are largely non-existent (39% of households indicated this) and this is reflected in the feedback.

Street lighting is seen as satisfactory within the parish.

Although 59% of households consider the provision /maintenance of verges to be satisfactory, 41% of households indicated that they consider them poor.

Winter gritting levels are rated good to satisfactory by 78% of households.

The drains would appear to be an area of issue; 37% of households rate them as poor, 1 as non-existent.

The rating for both sewers and water supply is good to satisfactory, with the majority of households indicating satisfactory.

Newbiggin Parish (11 responses)

No percentages have been quoted here owing to the low level data.

The provision or maintenance major roads, minor roads, footpaths and bridleways are rated as satisfactory to good by the majority of responses. 5 households indicated a 'poor' rating for minor road provision/maintenance.

Level of satisfaction with the verges was higher than in other parishes.

In common with neighbouring parishes, provision of paving is largely non-existent. Where present the provision/maintenance is largely satisfactory to householders.

Similarly with street lighting, where present it gains a good to satisfactory rating from households.

Winter gritting provision is an issue for 5 of the parish households and is rated poor.

The majority of households are satisfied with the drains, sewers and water supply, 4 households however rated drains at poor to non-existent and 2 households indicated non-existent sewers.

Bishopdale Parish. This is based upon one household and is not recorded.

8. Use of Village Hall/Institute

Q17. How often do you and your family use your local village hall/institute?

Whenever there is an social activity	17	(21.0%)
Most times there is a social activity	26	(32.1%)
Occasionally	34	(42.0%)
Never	4	(4.9%)
no response	3	

Q18. What events and activities do you and your family like to attend at your village hall?

The following are attended by households across Aysgarth & District Parish:

Social evenings, WI, badminton, promotion evenings i.e. M&S Xmas shop, coffee mornings, Gala, fund-raising, community / cultural events / lectures, bowls, keep fit, fundraising events, village fete,

community events to mark special occasions, annual fairs. Christmas party, country show, fund raising events, sports, community show, talks, harvest supper, Bridge Club. Talks on local history. Occasional services, fundraising for village hall upkeep, slide shows, drama, creative arts, anything that's happening, theatre, Art Groups, Wednesday Club. Whist Drives, Aysgarth fete, presentations, craft fairs playing badminton, country dancing/ceilidh evenings, snooker, parish meetings, parish council meetings, table tennis, craft workshops, Christmas Carol Service, lent lunches, domino drives musical - choir/band, Christmas and Easter gatherings.

Q19. How could your village hall/institute be better used?

Individual Parish areas responded as follows:

Aysgarth village: 19 suggestions were made on how the village hall/institute could be better used, some on the activities that could be offered, and others on the facility itself. These included better advertising and provision for the disabled.

A full list is included below, in no particular order.

Lectures on local history/MIDDAY lectures - as in Carperby /evening classes.

Better facilities / access for the disabled/ requires a lift for disabled/warmer.

Better information on how to go about using it.

Review village institute constitution and imposed limits to use to provide more opportunities for villagers to use it.

Toddler groups/concerts/produce show /charity events/exhibition of art and craft work/aerobics.

Facilities for meetings could be better.

Community run village shop.

More varied activities for all ages/more activities to involve the whole family.

Thornton Rust Village. 10 suggestions were received on ways in which more use could be made of the village hall/institute.

These included:

REGULAR programme of organized events and talks.

Social club. Library book / video exchange. Internet terminals Evening class; dances; youth club; mother care; toddler Group; care of pets; play areas.

By improving kitchen facility, creating porch for bus waiting and making a proper storeroom i.e.

Extending by building.

Thoralby village received 10 suggestions; the facility is well used and only a few suggestions were made. Only one comment was made regarding an issue with the facility, requesting a larger car park. Suggestions included (in no particular order).

More events/daytime activities/ evening keep fit class/ special events for retirees e.g. luncheon club/coffee mornings etc.

Q20. If you do not use your local village hall/institute, please state why not.

I don't know what goes on there	6	(37.5%)
I don't feel welcome	1	(6.3%)
I find it difficult to get to	0	(0.0%)
I don't like any of the activities	1	(6.3%)
I don't have the time	7	(43.8%)
I am not interested	3	(18.8%)
There isn't one	0	(0.0%)
Other	1	(6.3%)

Q21. If you answered 'Other' in the previous question, please state why you do not use the village hall/institute.

3 Comments made, recorded within Aysgarth & District Plan.

9. Social issues

Q22. What is the most important thing to you and your family about living in your village/parish?

Belonging in a friendly, close community.

Safe, friendly village.

Nice people / village.

Pace of life, countryside - unspoilt - rural community - minimal crime.

The peace & beauty of the environment.

Central environment for my business; good environment; little crime; good community.

Friendly community. Peaceful, beautiful surroundings. Nearness of excellent GP surgery, churches.

Un-crowded, rural location.

Knowing most people / friendliness.

Peace & quiet.

Sense of community. countryside.

Peace and Quiet of the countryside. Ability to undertake walks from village. Relatively low crime rate.

Small friendly community, wonderful scenery

The unspoilt scenery.

Sense of local community. Attractive landscape.

Closeness of the community, the easy access to the open countryside, good neighbourliness, village life.

I was born here and my ancestors have been in the parish for many generations.

Beautiful landscape, lots of walking potential, friendly village, good community spirit, attractive village scape.

The people.

Peace and quiet.

Feeling part of the community.

Beautiful surroundings, peace & quiet, pleasant village atmosphere, people are friendly - we don't participate in village events but still appreciate it.

Peace and serenity, good neighbours and a friendly welcoming village.

Feeling safe and unthreatened particularly when alone either in the home or 'out and about'.

Living with other family relatives.

Safe, secure environment.

Peace and quiet. Freedom from crime. Pleasant environment and people.

Relaxed, friendly, by others.

Friendly folk, quiet (at night), vandalism & theft is minimal.

Close-knit community (2 Comments)

Sense of community. Low crime rate.

A very pleasant village with friendly people who visit us, help us all they can.....although miss the village shop.

Peace & quiet in an area of outstanding natural beauty, wonderful walking country.

Good community spirit.

Community helping one another. continuity. Peace and quiet, space and freedom.

Peace - quiet - isolation - YDNP Authority as the planning authority and their development plan - community spirit /care.
 Good helpful neighbours.
 Services nearby; shop/PO, doctor, pub and we are not a 'honey pot' for lots of visitors. Walkers very welcome. Reasonably quiet and secluded. Lots of good walking available both near and far.
 Community spirit, a relatively safe and beautiful place in which to raise children.
 Nice friendly community.
 Living in a farming area - green fields and plenty of sky. Tranquillity and bird song.
 Beautiful environment, healthy environment.
 Quiet relaxed location, excepting the motorcycle grand prix on Sundays and B.Hols.
 Local people and environment (I know that is two things but both are of equal importance)
 Safe roads, clean air.
 Attractive environment; sense of community; tranquillity.
 Peace; quiet; no through traffic; seeing green fields and trees.
 Village Post Office and shop.
 Friendliness and neighbourly support if needed.
 The friendliness of the people and the welcome one always receives; the control the YDNPA experts preventing damaging development; the beauty of the area.
 Closeness to family; space and environment.
 Space and community.
 The general facilities of people in the village together with the beautiful surroundings.
 Living close to family and friends.
 Peace and quiet of area.
 Friendly community.
 Feeling secure and maintaining the beauty and attractiveness of the area.
 Being away from City/major towns.
 Peace and quietness, fresh clean air good land to live and work on.
 Community spirit.
 Quiet, unspoilt village with friendly neighbours.
 Quality of life.
 Fresh air, low pollution, low light pollution at night, open countryside around, low noise levels.
 Countryside and village appearance and protection.
 Quiet, beautiful location.
 Friendly people; footpaths; wildlife.

Q23. Is there anything you dislike about living in your village/parish?

Lack of train service to Northallerton. Bits of black silage bags hanging from trees and bushes.
 Lack of care for the environment.
 Scrambling motorbikes roaring through the village on a Sunday, sometimes in groups of 20.
 It is a long way to facilities like hospital (so keep Friarage Hospital OPEN).
 Disturbance from off-road motorcycles. Inconsiderate burning of garden rubbish.
 noisy vehicles, a pub would be nice.
 Not as sociable and caring as one would have expected. Speed of some traffic through village. The old vehicles dumped in the outgoing car park. Visitors parked outside houses and not using car park.
 Some modern farming methods e.g. over enthusiastic slurry spraying.
 Large farm machinery going through village at speed.
 Attitude of long established residents to 'incomers'.
 Wrecked vehicles dumped in odd corners. Collapsing village barns not looked after. Empty houses and unused second homes. Trial bikes going too fast (noisy and carving up tracks).

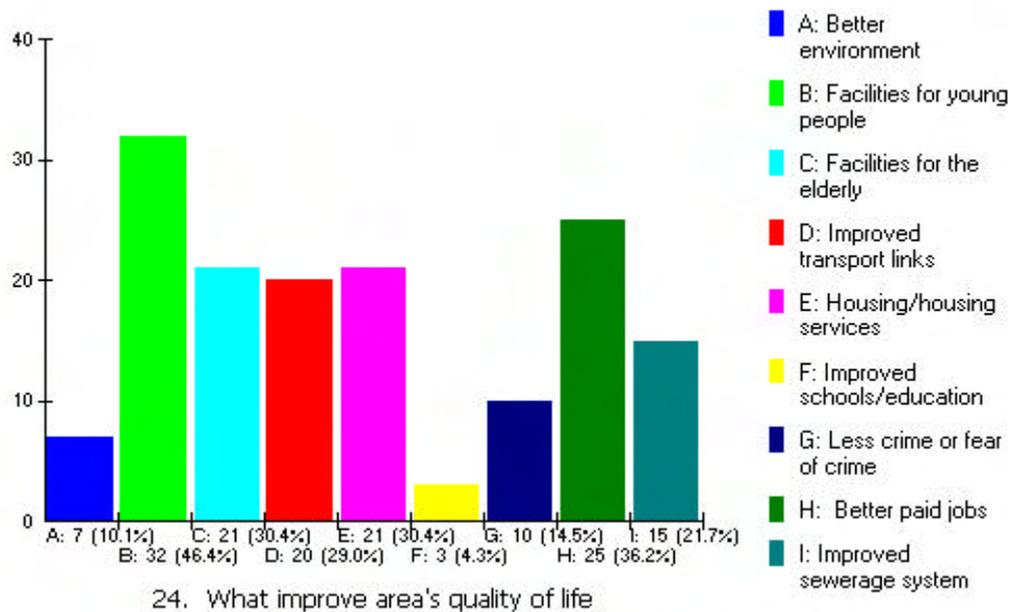
Anti-social riding by some m/cycles at weekends.
 No leisure facilities (e.g. swimming).
 Low flying helicopters / planes.
 Damage caused by 4X4s to lanes and bridleways – motorbikes to a lesser extent.
 Speeding traffic.
 Speeding motorbikes.
 Noisy, inconsiderate agricultural neighbours e.g. farm dogs left howling for long periods; frequent muck spreading/slurry on fields; dog dirt; mud on roads; footpaths crossing local farmland being disrupted / in disrepair.
 No housing for our young people. National Parks encouraging holiday homes but not letting locals develop housing.
 Lack of village shop.
 Ever increasing size of HGVs using the country roads.
 The ever-increasing nasty impact of overland motorcyclists hell-bent on vandalising bridleways and moors.
 Distance from hospital facility; lack of activities for youths and young adults; lack of opportunities in the workplace to keep the young local to the area.
 An increase (considerable in recent years) of HEAVY traffic, therefore, more noise and dust.
 It is too far from the railway station and the hospital.
 'Recreational' motor bikes when in large numbers.
 Not a lot - an excess of farm animal excrement in the wrong places e.g. roads - speeding vehicles in the village are occasional problems. Cars parked ***** intrude my house.
 Speeding and inconsiderate traffic.
 Rules and regulations of Nat Park; distance to everything -hospital, shops, theatre etc; speed of traffic.
 Distance from shopping facilities.
 Too many noisy incomers trying to mind and affect the goings on of others who are mostly local.
 High council taxes and fear of being secluded in rural areas as against services provided in towns/cities.
 A long way from major towns?
 Motorbikes.
 Incomers can't mind their own business.
 The number of off-road vehicles.
 Noise of motorbikes on A684 and off-road motor bikers at weekends. Division of A684 traffic through village when A684 flooded.
 Lack of shop / PO; lack of sensible buses; too many holiday homes.
 Having to drive long distances for everything - shopping, swimming, youth activities.
 Some neighbours abuse of the village green – parking.
 Too many second homes and holiday cottages.

Q24. Which of the following would most improve the quality of life in this area?

There were 154 responses to this question. Over 46% believe that facilities for young people would improve quality of life, this is followed by 36% in favour of better paid jobs, and 30% in favour of facilities for the elderly and improved housing/housing services.

29% are in favour of improved transport links and 22% are in favour of an improved sewerage system.

Better environment, improved schools and fear of crime did not rank highly indicating perception of these services is good.



Within individual parishes, the perceptions are similar.

Full details of responses are given below: The highest ranked response in each parish is highlighted in **bold**.

THINGS TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE	AYSGARTH	THORNTON RUST	THORALBY	NEWBIGGIN	BISHOPDALE
Better environment	3.6%	18.8%	13.3%	11.1%	0.0%
Facilities for young people	50.0%	43.8%	40.0%	44.4%	100.0%
Facilities for the elderly	35.7%	31.3%	20.0%	22.2%	100.0%
Improved transport links	21.4%	18.8%	33.3%	55.6%	100.0%
Housing/housing services	46.4%	12.5%	26.7%	22.2%	0.0%
Improved schools/education	3.6%	6.3%	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%
Less crime or fear of crime	17.9%	18.8%	6.7%	11.1%	0.0%
Better paid jobs	35.7%	31.3%	46.7%	33.3%	0.0%
Improved sewerage system	17.9%	62.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Q25. What changes or improvements would you like to see in your village/parish in the next 5 years?

Aysgarth Parish

Affordable housing. Single people, including divorced / widowed, make up nearly 1/2 the population of England and include some of the poorest (Joseph Rowntree Foundation). More rented accommodation is needed for local older people - and NOT just one-bed roomed. We have families who visit!

Speed restriction. Deny truckers using A684 as a 'Crossland Quote'.

More housing for elderly and young people (affordable).

Could possible reduce the amount of motorcycle traffic especially at the weekends and slow down the speed.

Reduced heavy traffic. Bypass (hopefully!).

Encouraging young people back into the dale. Better paid jobs and housing for them. More housing for elderly i.e. bungalows, 1 bed roomed. Nursing home locally: travelling to hospital and visiting in homes is a full time job.

Affordable housing or affordable land for young people to build their own homes as it is the land that is the most expensive.

Resurfacing of roads / footpaths. Reduction of road signs and improve quality of those absolutely necessary. Gritting being changed - Kidstones. On call doctors locally.

A shop.

Village shop.

Affordable housing for the young, also bungalows for the elderly - most other villages in the dale have them.

More affordable housing.

Some acceptable measures to curb the speeding motorcycles through Aysgarth and the accompanying noise.

More local housing; local shops for basics - milk/bread etc; children's playground; increased collection for different materials to be recycled.

More affordable housing for young people to encourage them to stay in village; more parking areas; Public toilets.

More lower cost housing for local people.

A village shop - the community spirit is very much kept alive by these shops as locals always meet up in them on a regular basis. Since the closure of the Aysgarth shop I have seen very little of the villagers on a daily basis.

Thornton Rust Parish

New village hall.

Upgrade of village institute - our only community amenity. Better parking for residents and visitors.

Work carried out to clear the high puddles which appear in the lane after heavy rain eg. outside Manor Farm between Thornton Lodge and Scar Top Farm, the entrance to Aysgarth from Thornton Rust. The clearance of old vehicles from the outgoing car park and improvements to the outgoing car park.

Tighter control on speed *****.

Provision of a mains sewer system. Kerbing the village green. Tidying up of messy areas of land.

More sensible action by the Dales Park Planning Authority.

Recycling facilities/free internet access for use by residents free / annual small fee for visitors, in town hall / village halls / institute building.

Some sort of retail opportunities - small shop, mobile shop - place to purchase stamps without a couple of miles to travel.

Cleaner road sides; no branches or bushes scratching cars when meeting others.
Nipe Lane to be made easily negotiable.
GP to have out of hours services based at Aysgarth; no further developments. Sewage mains installed
Return of the road-men (clearing blocked road drains - tidying and cutting back encroaching growth - saplings).
Return of village shop/PO. An occasional view of a 'village bobby' (on foot!).
No more building - just conversions; not too many changes; removal of street lighting and private floodlights.
Rehabilitation of Nipe Lane and Richmond Gate; undergrounding of cables; garaging of cars - where planning permission has been given for a garage it should be used.
More kerbing, and the post on the village repairing.
Better care of the village green; undergrounding of overhead wires; more attractive light fittings for street; lights (NOT more lights); repainting of telephone box.
The outgang tidied up and kept tidy.

Thoralby Parish

More street lighting.
Play area for children.
A few affordable houses for young people to bring in young children otherwise it is going to be a village of the retired. Controlling motorbikes using the bridle ways. Improving the footpaths.
A clean up of some areas. Re-instatement of Reading Room as a community facility. Work to improve surface and drainage of lanes. Assistance in repairing some walls.
Upkeep of village hall outside weeds. Upkeep of Reading Room outside weeds.
Footpaths better maintained. Tidying up - removal of rubbish eg. old tractors and vehicles, oil drums, car/lorry tyres. Derelict houses and barns renovated - eg. South View houses and barn, The Garage Barn, Grafton.
Kerb stones round the greens and verges to deter parking damage in vulnerable places.
A better transport system. 3 or 4 buses a day is not enough to be useful. Return journeys at present are difficult. No other major changes.
Better transport that fits in with working hours.
Visitor car parking.
Fewer holiday and second homes; more environment and friendly farming; planting of nature trees.
More frequent road cleaning. More priority for winter gritting of road through village.
Improvement in road system. Wider main road right through the Park. More length men to look after drains, potholes, ditches etc.

Newbiggin Parish

More housing for young and old.
Pride in the local area. Less rubbish and more maintenance eg. replace rusty signs with those befitting a national park. More tree planting, verge naturalisation.
None other than below ** motorcycles.
Nothing too drastic, rather that what there is gets facilitated more efficiently.
Road resurfacing - regular road sweeping vehicle visits - a drive on cleaning up the plastic bags, especially on country lanes. An attempt to keep the 'street' cleaner but the cleanliness of this is also a function of the ***** and the weather - road verges.
Winter gritting earlier in the day; seat at the east end of village as focal point, as no village green area.

Bishopdale Parish

Increased availability of low cost housing for younger people.

Appendix 2

