

# Nawton and Beadlam



## Parish Plan 2004

Produced in association with



## **Foreword**

Parish Plans are part of the "Vital Villages" scheme being run by The Countryside Agency. A Parish Plan should set out a vision for the community in the future, and identify the action needed to tackle issues of concern. They should include everything that is relevant to the people who live and work in the community. It is up to the community to decide what is important to them.

This Parish Plan was produced after significant research was undertaken throughout the Parishes and was funded by The Countryside Agency.

An inaugural meeting was held to determine the issues that were most important to the members of the community. As a result of this, a questionnaire was produced and circulated to every household, for every member aged 11 and over to complete.

From the 310 questionnaires distributed, 132 were completed and returned. A response of 42%.

Further meetings were undertaken with representatives from village organisations and committees to add to the information already compiled. A final Public Meeting was held, at which, a representative from North Yorkshire Police was present to advise on the development of a jointly operated Neighbourhood Watch Scheme between the two Parishes, and to answer questions on general community policing concerns.

The Plan could not have been produced without the help of the Countryside Agency, the Yorkshire Rural Community Council, and more importantly, the residents of both Communities – our grateful thanks go to all.

## **Introduction to Nawton and Beadlam Parishes**

### **Nawton Parish**

The Parish of Nawton (Nagletune in the Domesday Book) lies in the district of Ryedale, North Yorkshire, astride the A170 road on the southern boundary of the North York Moors National Park and equidistant between the market towns of Helmsley and Kirkbymoorside. It comprises a central, largely residential area and a wide outlying agricultural area. Agriculture, mainly arable with some livestock continues to provide a significant source of income in the Parish, although it has declined in importance in recent years with more and more residents finding employment in neighbouring towns and cities. There are a significant number of retired people within the population of 540.

The older properties lie to the north of the A170. To the south lies a small estate of mixed rented and owner occupied properties. Facilities in the village include a primary school, recreation field, village memorial hall, public house, a carpet warehouse and an education and training access centre.

### **Beadlam Parish**

The Parish of Beadlam (Bodlum in the Domesday Book) comprises the village of Beadlam and surrounding agricultural area. It lies adjacent to Nawton, straddling the A170 road. Agriculture and some game bird shooting over the northern area of the Parish continue to have an influence on the village and it's setting.

The majority of the village is situated north of the A170 with a varied selection of homes ranging from thatch cruck cottages to council built cul-de-sacs, modern bungalows and farmhouses. Most of the population of 240 lives in the village, which contains a church - St Hilda's, and a retirement home. On the edge of the village there is a caravan site and a secondary school, which serves the Ryedale area. People mainly work locally or within a 20-mile radius. Retired people make up about a third of the population.

### **Skiplam**

Skiplam is an area of farmland stretching from Kirkdale and the A170 in the south, to the moors in the north, with farmsteads dotted along the length of the single road running through the area.

Within the two Parishes are two ancient monuments: a round barrow and a Romano British Villa. There is a Site of Historical Interest at Nawton Tower, and the Howl - between Beadlam and Nawton - is a Site of Interest for Nature Conservation. Both villages contain listed buildings.

Mobile greengrocers, butchers and wet fish vans visit both villages weekly. Once every three weeks the mobile library comes to the villages.

# The Parishes of Nawton and Beadlam



## Parish History/Heritage

The Parishes of Nawton, Beadlam and Skiplam have a rich heritage, which still influences their character today.

Originally agricultural, with a number of farms, the villages have retained their rural quality with a mainly stone and pan tile appearance as well as three thatched cottages in Beadlam and a number of cruck framed longhouses in both villages. Nawton's pinfold still exists.

St Gregory's Minster is the Parish Church of Nawton and Beadlam, and has been in continuous use since before the Norman Conquest. It stands on the site of an earlier church, which is referred to on its Saxon sundial, and says that the church, built by Orm between 1055 and 1065, replaces an earlier one, which was ruined. It is considered likely that this was an early Anglo-Saxon Monastery.



### St Gregory's Minster, Kirkdale

St Hilda's Church in Beadlam was built in 1882-83 as a daughter church of St Gregory's. Both churches are an important part of the heritage of the villages and they continue to have lively and active roles in the community today. St Hilda's is the church of a Local Ecumenical Partnership between Anglicans and Methodists.

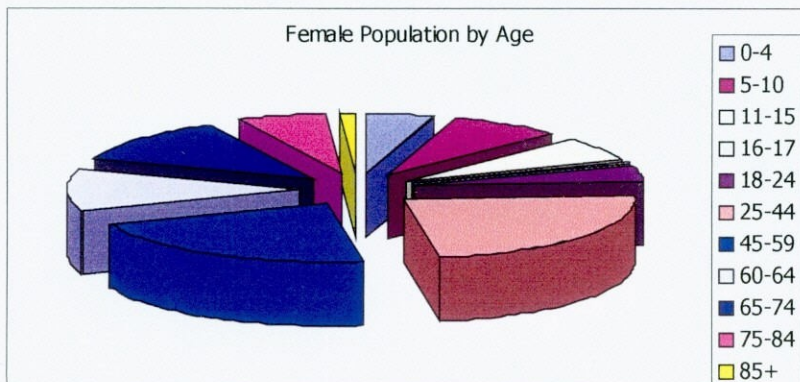
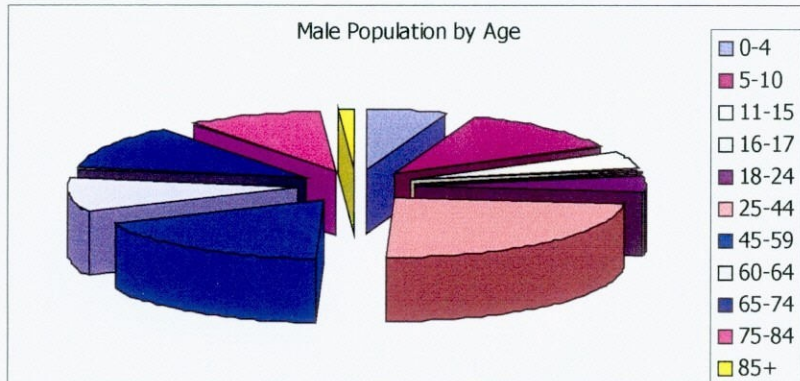
The sycamore tree on Nawton village green was planted in 1907 to mark the birth of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Feversham. The bus shelter around the tree is a memorial to his younger brother, David Duncombe. A sketch of the tree and shelter are the logo of Nawton Parish Council.

Nawton, Beadlam and Skiplam share the village hall, which was originally the old school. After the First World War, the residents of the parishes raised funds to convert the school into a memorial to those who had died. The Memorial Hall was opened in 1923.

Although the history of the Parishes is inextricably linked, the villages are separated physically by key open spaces, which form an important part of the character of the villages.

## The People of Nawton and Beadlam Parishes

We appear to have a well-balanced population with a roughly even distribution of males and females: 47.8% females and 52.2% males. This is consistent across all the age ranges as the graph below shows.



Most of the correspondents who replied to the Questionnaire identify closely with the community. Environment, community, and situation were cited as being the most important reasons for living here.

We are also a fairly closed community with 43.6% of the working population in or within 10 miles of the villages. Only 7.2% of people work outside a 30-mile radius.

27% of the respondents are retired. This number is equally divided between males and females. It seems that unlike the national statistics, males live as long as females in Nawton and Beadlam.

## **Education Opportunities in the Parishes**

There are two schools within the Parishes and both are considered to be of a high standard.

Nawton Community Primary School currently has 113 pupils including 19 extra district children. The school is distinguished in many ways, particularly in the very high Annual National Curriculum scores attained. Recent OFSTED reports indicate the highest level of achievement. A very wide curriculum is offered with the addition of sport, athletics, dance and outdoor activities. Instrumental tuition is offered, and after school clubs are varied but include French, choir, sewing, wildlife and extra sports. Parent/children socials for pre-school children are much appreciated. Links with the community include parent assemblies, Harvest Festival distributions to the elderly, concerts and Christmas parties. There is also an active PTA

Ryedale Secondary School in Gale Lane, Beadlam is 50 years old. There are currently 540 pupils on the roll. The 2002 OFSTED report was highly complimentary. It is an outstanding school with 99% of pupils achieving passes A to G at GCSE level. High standards are clearly attained in all areas of the curriculum. There is excellent preparation for 'A' level courses at Pickering Sixth Form. The school is particularly rich in its music and general arts provision. Instrumental work, drama and performance arts are so noteworthy that the school is currently bidding to build a new arts department to the level of Specialist College standard. This is likely to draw extra district pupils to enrol, as may be seen at Nawton Community Primary School.

There is strong support from the PTA and the community. The school is the base for Adult and Continuing Education courses in this area of Ryedale - 14 day and evening classes are held in the school and 12 classes are held in surrounding villages.

A regional Computer Training Centre (Opportunities) is located in the centre of Nawton. It has already offered training to several hundred local people.

## **Social and Sporting Activities**

There are many active organisations within the two villages, which include cricket, football, tennis and billiards clubs and a Sunday school. There are committees for the Recreation Club, Village Gala, The Memorial Hall, Children's Christmas Party and the Millennium Wildlife Garden.

The recent improvements at the Recreation Ground, particularly for young people have been widely welcomed. By the standards of similar villages in the area we are well served with recreational and sports facilities. The destruction through arson of the cricket pavilion and changing rooms has created temporary difficulties. The villages could explore the possibility of acquiring or leasing the grazing field by the side of the A170 to the east of Station Road and consider moving the football pitch to this field. The present pitch has a marked slope and the new location would free up part of the Recreation Ground for other uses. There is also a Kirkdale Church Choir and a Kirkdale Parish Trust (a Parish fund to which individuals or groups may apply). Nawton and Beadlam residents may also apply to the John Stockdale Foundation in Ryedale for grant aid. Young people regularly take part in most of the activity clubs and there is great support, encouragement and training from adults within the Parishes. The young make regular use of the bus service or parents drive them to activities further a-field.

Both Parishes offer a choice of meeting facilities, which are currently under-used, and there is a case for centralising all the recreational facilities on one site. The Parish Plan Steering Group suggest that this issue is explored further and more research undertaken.

## **Local Facilities**

Over the past few years the villages have lost their shop, post office, petrol station and one public house. The remaining facilities are one public house, a fish and chip shop and a vehicle sales and service garage. We have gained an IT Training Centre and have an adult education centre at Ryedale School. The Post Office has recently reopened in the old Station House. The proximity of two market towns within three miles will limit opportunities for developing facilities in the villages, however a large number of respondents would support a village shop and post office. There are moves to obtain support from government agencies for this purpose and The Parish Plan Steering Committee and Parish Councils would support these.

## **Community Information**

Keeping people informed is vital to an active community. There are village notice boards in Beadlam and Nawton, on which, at regular intervals copies of Parish Council agendas and minutes are displayed. Whilst these notice boards are useful it is felt that the villages would benefit from a regular joint newsletter to all residents. This could incorporate the information at present appearing on the notice boards, which, it is felt, should continue and be expanded.



## People and The Environment

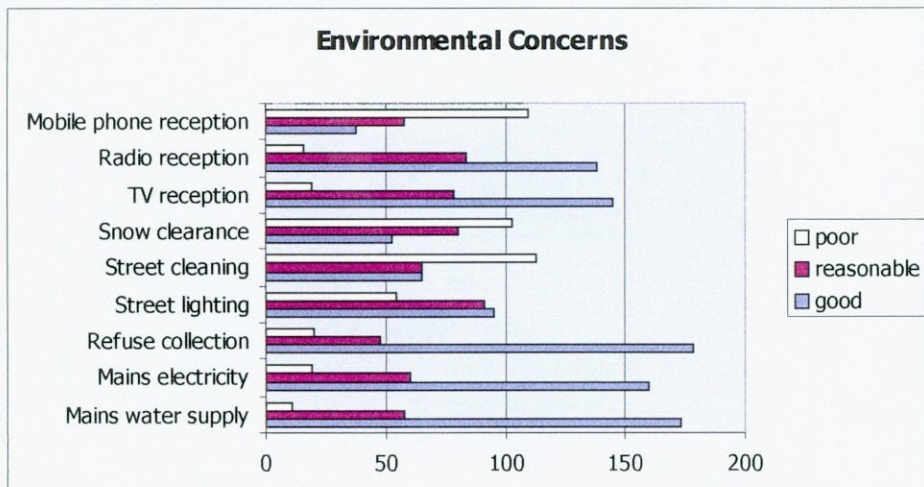
There is general satisfaction with the emergency services provided by the fire and ambulance services. There was, however, disquiet about the level of service provided by the police service.

North Ryedale is a low crime risk area compared with some other parts of North Yorkshire but there is a fear of crime and criticism of police response times and visibility in the community. An increase in the police budget and statements by the Chief Constable indicate that the problems are recognised and we shall review progress over the next year or two.

PC Terry Triffit, of Ryedale Community Safety Partnership and Sergeant Cliff Edens have given informative talks in the villages this year. 74% of respondents would support a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and the police have pledged their support.

An area of concern is street cleaning, which 42.5% of respondents categorise as low quality, poor or very poor as the graph below confirms. Almost as many are dissatisfied with winter weather services. Both these issues should be taken up with the County Council.

### What are your views on the standard of the following environmental services in Nawton and Beadlam?



The Ryedale Local Plan, published in 1997 and finally adopted in 2003, says that the District Council will undertake a detailed study of the High Lane area of Beadlam and the historic core of Nawton to examine whether these should be designated as conservation areas. We should press for this study to take place as soon as possible.

More recycling facilities would be popular as 53.6% of respondents stated that they would welcome more facilities in addition to the paper and glass currently provided.

When asked whether they would be prepared to pay a slightly higher council tax to meet the needs of Nawton and Beadlam, 57% of respondents replied yes. Further consultation should be undertaken and information should be made available to members of the Parishes to fully explore this option.

## Travel

The survey shows that there are about 1.8 cars per household in the villages and that use of public transport is low. The main reason for using public transport is social (23.9%). Many of these respondents own cars. The main reasons for not using buses are routes (the bus will get you to Kirkbymoorside or Helmsley easily but not to any villages that are not on, or near, the A170) timetable and cost. About half the respondents did not consider that the bus service was a matter on which they had an opinion. It is understood that East Yorkshire/Scarborough District are hoping to improve the timetable and eventually replace the old buses on the 128 service with modern low entry buses as used in Scarborough. They are researching long-term demand.

A useful recent development has been the expansion of timetable and routes of the Moors Bus service sponsored by the North York Moors National Park. This is giving much wider choice of destinations and frequency, and is welcomed.

## Road Safety

The Village Appraisal asked for views on road safety. 85.9% of respondents said that speeding traffic was a problem. Increases in traffic and traffic speeds are two of the most notable changes, which have taken place in rural areas over the last decade. Vehicles travelling at speed rob a village of its character and tranquillity: people find their lifestyles restricted. Traffic causes special problems for the young and the elderly: in Nawton and Beadlam the volume and speed of traffic, both on the A170 and within the villages, together with street congestion are causes of increasing concern to pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and drivers. For many in both villages there is also the problem of traffic noise from the busy A170.

### Do you think speeding traffic is a problem in Nawton and Beadlam?

