

circulated to all households within the Parish with a tear off slip inviting parishioners to submit comments and suggestions as to what should be included. 45 replies were received indicating areas of concern which included road safety. Condition of roads and pavements, youth facilities, speed restrictions/bumps, levels of policing and a desire for stronger control over future planning applications. Separate meetings were then convened for each village in December 2004 at which David Gluck from the Countryside Agency outlined his experiences as a Parish Councillor for Aberford in producing their Parish Plan. From those attending the two meetings a Steering Committee was then formed and a draft Constitution produced at a meeting held on 16 December. At the January meeting Chris Barker from the Yorkshire Rural Community Council attended and gave very helpful guidance on the way forward. The immediate objective was to establish communications throughout the Parish and after much planning and discussion it was agreed to produce a school children's version of the questionnaire for the two primary schools in addition to the main document with 76 questions and which would also contain a young persons section. These were printed and distributed to the 1,800 households in the Parish during the middle of June prior to the holiday season and to be returned by 16 July to a number of collection points throughout the parish. The return of 780 questionnaires (around 45%) was quite overwhelming and amply demonstrated the passion and feeling of community spirit within the parish.

From the responses received our Plan has now evolved and will be the blueprint for improvements to the parish and its surrounding countryside over the next 15-20 years. Like all plans it will need to be revisited from time to time and updated in the light of changing circumstances. Progress against its aims and objectives will of course be carefully monitored. It sets out an ambitious programme of activities designed to preserve the best that Barwick in Elmet and Scholes currently has and to improve those areas which are currently lacking. Most importantly the Parish Plan belongs not just to the Parish Council but also to everyone who resides, works or has an interest in the Parish. It is up to all of us to make this Plan a success and ensure that it benefits everyone who has taken the time to respond to the Questionnaire in such a positive and enthusiastic manner.

Our sincere thanks are extended to everyone who has helped with the production of this Plan or contributed to its success in whatever way. We hope very much that even more of the people in the Parish will join us in the hardest task which is putting the Plan into action and making this document worthwhile.



Methodist Chapel at The Boyle in Barwick

**BRIAN FOXCOFT – BUILDER & STONEMASON**