



# Bardsey -cum-Rigton Parish Plan



December  
2003





# BARDSEY-CUM-RIGTON PARISH PLAN

## Foreword

When you saw the words 'Parish Plan' – what did you think? Something to do with the church? Or perhaps the administration of the 'official' local district of Bardsey-cum-Rigton?

**Our Parish Plan is about where we live and what we want to happen to the community of which we are all part.**

Producing a plan on this scale is a logistical achievement in itself. People volunteered their free time to discuss ideas, draw up a questionnaire and evaluate the results. This has involved many months of hard work and thanks must go to all who contributed so much, particularly the Parish Plan Steering Group.

When the volunteers began their task, they hoped that suggestions from the community would soon lead to a Plan for the whole village – involving people who are willing and able to take charge of their affairs and work together to achieve their vision.

It could so easily become a document that is distributed, admired, but eventually left to gather dust. Many of the actions identified by the Plan rely not just on the consent of local people, but also on their whole-hearted involvement, if their aspirations are to be realised.

We all face the next challenge - to ensure that the Parish Plan becomes a reality and enables us, the people of Bardsey, to make it an even better place to live, work and play. It's our village – let's support it.



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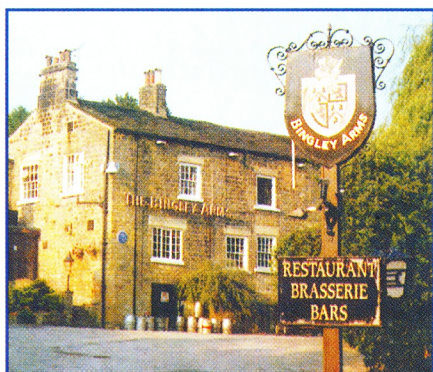
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## ABOUT BARDSEY

The parish of Bardsey-cum-Rigton (hereafter referred to as Bardsey) is part of the metropolitan district of Leeds. It is situated in attractive undulating countryside along the A58, some 8 miles north-east of Leeds and 4 miles south-west of Wetherby. Administratively, it is in the Wetherby Community Involvement Area, and the ward of Wetherby. It is primarily residential, with a population of approximately 2,300 and almost 1,000 homes. The parish boundary encloses the core village of Bardsey, and the settlements of East Rigton, Rigton Hill, Congreves and Wayside, together with outlying farms and isolated clusters of houses. Much of the parish is designated as Green Belt.



ENGLAND'S OLDEST INN

The oldest buildings, All Hallows Church and the Bingley Arms Public House, are situated in the historic core of the village, which is designated as a Conservation Area. Until the 20th century, Bardsey was primarily an agricultural village, and eight working farms survive to the present. Following the arrival of the railway in 1877 and the later growth in car ownership, people chose to live in rural surroundings but commute to Leeds, and the village grew dramatically from the 1920's onwards. Closed in 1964, much of the railway route remains undeveloped and may yet become part of the national cycle network. The busy A58, which runs through the parish from north to south, and the A1 trunk road / motorway, which passes 3 miles to the east, provide excellent road links to the north and south of the country.

Despite several physically separate settlements, the parish supports many thriving voluntary groups and a wide range of social, leisure and educational

activities. Outdoor activities are well provided for, with sports fields, clubhouses and a children's playground.

### Statistical Profile

Bardsey lies in the ward of Wetherby, on which the following data is based. The ward is ranked 7497 out of 8418 wards nationally in terms of multiple deprivation. (1 being the most deprived). The ward scores highly in all measures except accessibility, where it ranks 2319 out of 8418.

Indicator	Score (out of 8418)
Income	5767
Health	7172
Employment	7053
Education	8016
Housing	7790
Child poverty	7111
Accessibility	2319

## WHAT IS THE PARISH PLAN?

This Parish Plan for Bardsey is based on ideas for action that members of the Bardsey community have suggested would improve village life – for people of all ages. The Plan sets out what we as individuals can do, and how we would like organisations to support our aspirations.

The idea for undertaking a Parish Plan for Bardsey emerged following the Government's Rural White Paper "Our Countryside Our Future – A Fair Deal for Rural England", published in November 2000. The White Paper encouraged communities to develop Parish Plans which would:

**"Indicate how they would like to see their town or village develop, to identify key facilities and services, to set out problems to be tackled and demonstrate how its distinctive**

**character and features can be preserved."**

### Why produce a Plan?

The Parish Council met in April 2002 to discuss whether it was in the interest of the parish to undertake a Parish Plan. As well as the Government guidelines, there were several other influencing factors. These were:

- Several previous consultations with the community (see table A), which had taken place in the recent past.
- Further guidance from the Countryside Agency (see Table B), which detailed what Parish Plans should look like in broad terms.

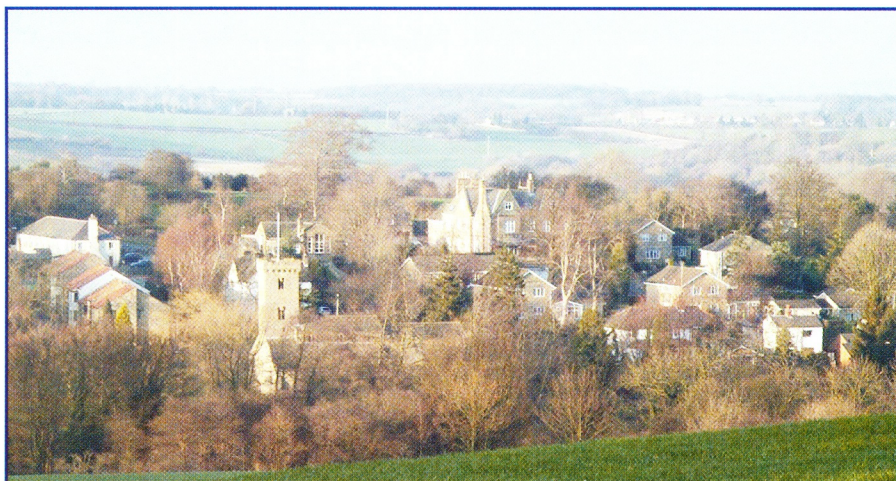
### A. Previous Community Consultation See Appendix I

- **Housing Survey (1998)**
- **Community Appraisal (1999)**
- **Transport Questionnaires (1998 & 2002)**
- **Village Design Statement (2002)**

### B. Countryside Agency Guidelines

- **Cover all issues of concern to the community-social, economic and environmental**
- **Be community driven**
- **Use information from surveys, research and consultation**
- **Be action focused – What? Why? How? Who? When?**

Of particular importance is the publication of the Bardsey-cum-Rigton Village Design Statement (the VDS) in Spring 2002 which described the village, particularly in terms of its history, architecture and design. The VDS went further than many similar documents but did not cover all the areas of consultation required for a Parish Plan.



HISTORIC CORE OF THE VILLAGE



This high level of previous consultation raised a number of issues:

- It would be counterproductive to repeat consultation with the community on issues already covered.
- It was imperative to build on the excellent work from these consultations to produce an action plan.
- For a Parish Plan to be comprehensive, there needed to be consultation undertaken on areas which were not previously covered (see Table C).

#### **C. Some New Consultation Areas for the Parish Plan**

- **Tourism**
- **Business**
- **Needs of older people and those with disabilities**
- **Young people and children.**

#### **D. Parish Plan Budget Total £6,360**

##### **Sources:**

**£4,394 - Countryside Agency**

**£231 - Parish Council**

**£1,735 volunteer support "in kind".**

#### **Agreeing the Objectives**

After discussions with the Countryside Agency and Yorkshire Rural Community Council, the Parish Council agreed to the production of a Parish Plan, to incorporate the following additional objectives:

- Consolidate previous consultations.
- Undertake consultation on previously untouched areas.
- Encourage new ways of helping people take collective community action.

The further consultation required for the Parish Plan would be achieved through a series of focus groups discussing the issues identified.



CALLISTER HALL

#### **Launching the Plan**

At the Parish Council AGM on 25 April 2002, seven members of the community volunteered to serve as a Steering Group, aiming to complete the plan by autumn 2003. An outline budget was agreed (see Table D).

#### **HOW THIS PLAN WAS PRODUCED**

A public open meeting on October 8th 2002 was attended by some 70 villagers, who endorsed the proposals of the Steering Group to undertake focus group consultation on issues/needs not covered by the recent VDS or the village-wide questionnaires.

During November and December 2002, Steering Group members led focus group meetings on six specific topics:

**The Elderly and those with disabilities**

**Sports and Events**

**The Environment and Tourism**

**Working from home**

**Communications**

**Young People**

These focus groups, involving 55 members of the community, produced many suggestions which, together with those from the open meeting in October 2002 and the proposals from the VDS, were incorporated into a

"Suggestions Questionnaire". This document was distributed to all focus group attendees, secretaries of all village clubs, societies and groups and to all villagers who expressed an interest. 171 copies were distributed and of those 108 were completed and returned – a response rate of 63%. The proposals were discussed and a final list agreed at the Parish Council AGM on 24 April 2003. The Steering Group then had the challenge of turning the lists of proposed actions into a cohesive written plan that could be understood by anyone, even if they had not been previously involved.

The first stage was to 'score' each action based on the amount of support an idea received. We called this factor 'index of support'; the higher the score, the more support an idea has.

The next task was to assess the practicality of implementing the proposed actions. We gave each one a



RINGTON GREEN

'target date' for completing the action or for reporting a significant stage of progress. We also had to suggest who should be responsible for each action and the possible sources of funding. The full list of all the actions, with each of the additional factors, is contained in Appendix 3.

Finally, we organised all the actions into specific Action Plans. These reflect the inevitable overlaps between the focus groups – for example most dealt with some element of 'communications'. Also we had to refer to relevant background information, particularly aspects of the previous consultations. So the next section contains the detailed Action Plans, structured as follows:

**Living in the Village**

**Sports and Events**

**Communications**

**Environment and Tourism**

**Travelling by car, foot and cycle**



VIEW FROM WOODACRE LANE





ALL HALLOWS CHURCH

## I. LIVING IN THE VILLAGE

This section has specific proposals for everyone's benefit, including young people, the elderly and disabled and home workers.

Some relevant facts about village life have been mentioned on page 2.

Here we look at other factors that affect our lives.

The parish contains two churches, the Anglican 'All Hallows', a church of Saxon origin, and the Roman Catholic church, 'The Church of the Blessed Sacrament'.

The majority of houses in the parish are owner-occupied and the rented sector is small. Property values reflect the village's desirable location for the executive market. Homelessness is not an apparent problem, but many young people leave the village to find affordable housing.

Bardsey Primary School currently has around 180 pupils. Secondary education is not available in the parish but there are several schools nearby.

Unemployment is below the national and district averages, and most people work outside the village. However, there are several micro businesses operating in the parish, such as building contractors, landscape gardeners, decorators and providers of financial services. The pub, guest house, three caravan parks, and garage workshops provide some jobs; agricultural employment is still present, but at a greatly reduced level.

### The VDS observed:

That increasing numbers of residents are known to work mainly from home, taking advantage of modern technology.

Although the parish has the benefit of two community halls and the Bingley Arms which serves both the local community and visitors, there are still some deficiencies in village amenities and services.

The community is sufficiently large to support many thriving voluntary groups.

There is a wide range of social, leisure and educational activities.

The Village Hall and Callister Hall are the focus of community activity.



THE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

### BUT

The lack of medical services in the village is of considerable concern.

The last general store closed in February 2001.

The nearest Post Offices are in East Keswick and Collingham.

**The Community Appraisal (1999)** showed that there was support for the following suggestions:

Provision of a Shop/Post Office 46%

Provision of a Doctor's Surgery/ Medical Centre 40%

Other suggestions included meeting rooms, craft workshops, a pensioners' meeting place, and a coffee bar.

### Our Action Plan – general

The community itself may be able to work with other bodies to deliver some of what is required. For example:

Village store – we should explore with the Village Shops Retail Association an innovative location, e.g. pub, hall, mobile or community shop.

Village post office – similarly, discuss with retailers and the Post Office a location in a pub, hall or home.

Doctor's surgery – discuss with the Primary Care Trust, the potential for an outreach service in the Village Hall.

Working with the Village Hall committee and trustees, we should look at:

Providing facilities for parents /carers to get together.

Adapting or extending the Village Hall to provide facilities for a computer club, "swap library" and a coffee bar.

The Parish Council is asked to implement a parish-wide scheme to number all houses in order to assist emergency and delivery vehicles.

### Meeting the needs of young people

An open meeting of community groups should be held to discuss proposals for establishing a 'Mother and Toddler' group, an 'Afternoon Playgroup' for older children, and for increasing pre-school education facilities for all.



THE CONGREVES



WOODACRE GREEN



TITHE BARN LANE





THE VILLAGE HALL

We would like the Parish Council to explore the feasibility of:

- An open space opposite the school for recreation.
- An open space in the village for informal games and play.
- A playground / recreation area in the Congreves.

Also the Parish Council is asked to consult the local Police about setting up a "Safe House" scheme for children to use in an emergency.

A proposal by two parents to establish a monthly Youth Club for Bardsey residents on Fridays is now being implemented and is proving to be a great success.

#### Meeting the needs of the elderly and disabled

We request the Parish Council to arrange an open meeting for all interested residents to establish priorities and an implementation programme to:

- Provide an emergency call system for housebound residents.
- Develop a 'help' sign for persons at risk – a 'smiley face' or similar to display in the window to signify help of some kind is needed.
- Revamp and publicise the 'Village Helpers' scheme.

- Explore the provision of a help/visiting/emergency scheme for people living on their own and how they are to be identified.
- Encourage more participation in the Good Companions club, perhaps through occasional luncheon meetings.
- Explore the feasibility of identifying a Bardsey band of trusted workmen.
- Explore the provision of an elderly/disabled entrance and toilets in the 'Bingley Arms'.

#### Meeting the needs of homeworkers

The focus group produced some useful actions, but most of these are either covered elsewhere, especially in the communications sections, or could be dealt with by people working together. We therefore encourage those working from home to organise regular 'self-help' meetings for social and support purposes.

## 2. SPORTS AND EVENTS

#### Sports and Clubs

Bardsey has a good mix of sports facilities. Tennis courts, and a bowling green are situated alongside the Village Hall. Badminton is played inside the Village Hall. Bardsey Sportsfield provides an excellent playing area for football and cricket, and is supported by a busy clubhouse. Close to the car park at the Sportsfield is a secure, well-equipped children's play area. Most of the sports areas are owned by the Parish Council and leased to the individual clubs. There are ample opportunities for the pursuit of individual outdoor activities within the parish, including horse riding, walking, and rock climbing.

#### Events

In recent years the parish has organised a number of successful events, notably the Millennium & Jubilee celebrations, and there is widespread support for a further expansion of village events.

We ask the Parish Council to instigate a meeting of all clubs, societies and groups to consider an "events standing committee" to ensure continuity.



BARDSEY CRICKET CLUB

The main requests are for:

- Biennial Parish Events to be held over a weekend.
- An Annual "Scarecrow event".
- A "Tug of War" competition with East Keswick.

These events depend heavily on the collaboration of village clubs and societies. It is suggested that surplus funds raised by the events should be retained for use in future events.

#### Publicity

We ask all clubs/societies and residents to:

- Take action to encourage wider participation in sports and social activities.
- Co-operate in maximising publicity



JUBILEE SCARECROW



MILLENNIUM PAGEANT



BARDSEY JUBILEE



BARDSEY JUBILEE



### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

The Parish Council publicises its activities through the Bardsey News and notice boards. It also holds an annual public meeting. The Parish is represented on the Wetherby Community Involvement Partnership as a link into Leeds City Council.

**We would like the Parish Council to assume further responsibility for:**

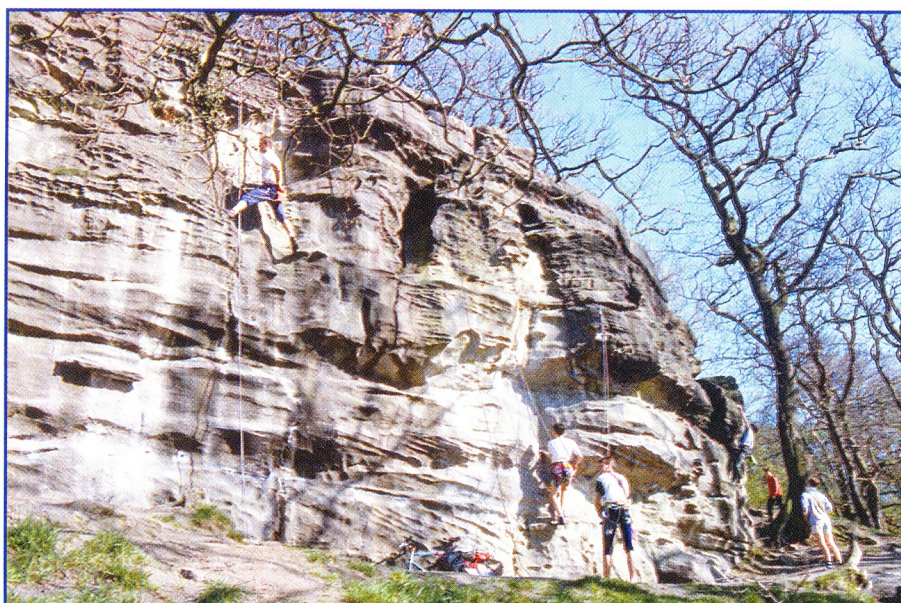
- Increasing the number and maintenance of village notice boards, and including minutes of all PC meetings.
- Establishing a working party to liaise with Bardsey News editors to explore requests to:
  - Improve the general appearance of Bardsey News.
  - Encourage clubs and societies to report their past and future activities.
  - Publish a Bardsey 'Who's Who' list as a separate sheet in Bardsey News once a year.
  - Provide a full dedicated page in each issue for expanded reporting of PC matters.
  - Include small ads, readers' letters and 'general parish news'.
  - Include a young readers' page.
- Updating the 'Welcome to Bardsey' pack and seeking volunteers to deliver packs to new residents.

- Asking the Post Office to provide post boxes which can accept foolscap envelopes and jiffy bags.
- Working with the Village Hall committee to establish a 'community central information and resources unit' in the Village Hall.

Computers and the Internet play an increasing part in village social and working life. The Broadband link to Collingham Bridge exchange will increase the impact.

**We want the community to help as follows:**

- Establish a volunteer working party to set up a computer club to include all ages and provide the opportunity for self teaching as well as volunteer tuition.
- A volunteer is also needed to explore the provision of back-up IT support for those who work from home.



CLIMBING ON HETCHELL CRAGS

on events, the availability of sports and recreation facilities and the benefits of membership.

The sports clubs in particular are asked to:

- Liaise with PC working parties to provide direction signs, more notice boards, a website, and a welcome pack, all targeted at greater publicity.
- To seek views and identify needs of the 18-30 age group and encourage its involvement in sports.

**We want the Parish Council to:**

- Encourage all clubs and societies (and possibly the school) to study the possible benefits of an association under the umbrella of the Parish Council.
- Consult with clubs to ask them to allow the Parish Council to monitor, annually, the management, membership, facilities and finances of the clubs to ensure they are fulfilling their responsibilities to the community.
- Co-ordinate a 'sports working party' to review and plan further

development of the existing Sportsfield, neighbouring field and clubhouse, with the objective of increasing the number and diversity of sports available to a wider cross section of the community.



BARDSEY BOWLING CLUB

- Provide facilities for basketball nets, rugby posts, football nets, and pool tables.
- Explore provision of better facilities for indoor sports and recreation.
- Explore the feasibility of the provision of a Sports Hall (possibly shared with East Keswick).
- Publish a list of available activities and, where existing participants agree, a list of contacts for informally organised sports and recreation, e.g. ramblers and cyclists.

**Other requests are:**

- Improved pavilion facilities at the tennis club.
- A volunteer to explore the possibility of a Bardsey Walking Club.



BARDSEY TENNIS CLUB





FROM HETCHELL CRAGS

We would like a village website group with an editor and a steering committee for the Bardsey website, with terms of reference, particularly to:

- Rationalise the two Bardsey websites.
- Appoint a part-time administrator for design, maintenance and updating of website.
- Publish information, showing good reception areas for mobile phone providers, post collection times, bus timetables etc, for display on notice boards and the website.

#### 4. ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

The environmental background to Bardsey is well covered in the VDS. However, this Action Plan identifies several issues relating to tourism and the surroundings, which require exploration and action.

Tourist accommodation within the parish includes three caravan parks and a guest house. There is much historical and wildlife interest in the parish that could be capitalised on, but despite this, little has been done to promote



CARAVAN SITE

Bardsey as a destination.

**We ask the Parish Council to consider and take action on:**

- Village gateways – there are no signs at the parish boundaries on the A58, the main route through the parish, nor at other points of entry.



ROMAN ROAD THROUGH HETCHELL WOOD

- Visitor information – there is no tourist information point in the village.
- A Bardsey brochure similar to “Wilkinson’s Walks” as a guide for visitors and residents.
- Landscaping and improvements to the area at Spear Fir ford.
- Restoration of the site of Old Bardsey Dam as a nature reserve.
- Exploring the feasibility of acquiring “School Whin” and adjoining woodland as a nature reserve.

The problem of litter is of constant concern in some areas of the parish and we ask the Parish Council to:

- Establish greater litter awareness through a “use the bin” campaign.
- Work with the LCC and Environment Agency, to extend the provision of green bins and multi bins to all areas of the parish and post fly-tipping notices in known trouble spots.
- Encourage the community to hold an annual Bardsey Spring Clean Day, perhaps linked to a social event such as a village barbeque.



LITTER PROBLEM

Some further environmental matters are also included in the following section.

#### 5. TRAVELLING BY CAR, FOOT AND CYCLE

Traffic and footpath safety issues scored the highest priorities from the suggestions questionnaire. Many of these have of necessity to be dealt with by Leeds City Council or other bodies. But, as the recent experience of Collingham shows, organised public pressure can make a big difference.

**The Transport Questionnaire (1998) concluded that:**

The A58 represents a significant danger to pedestrians and drivers.



A POPULAR ACTIVITY IN BARDSEY





HEAVY TRAFFIC AT BANK TOP CORNER

The A58 causes excessive noise and pollution.

72.4% favoured a reduction in the speed limit along the A58 to 40 mph



GARDEN AT HILLBARK

and a further 20.6% favoured a reduction to 30mph.

Overtaking should be banned along the stretch of the A58 between Bank Top and the Collingham side of Scarsdale Ridge.

Police should enforce the 7.5 ton weight limit.

96.5% agreed/agreed strongly with traffic-calming measures and noise reduction surfaces.

79.3% agreed/agreed strongly with a pedestrian crossing to serve the bus stops.

Planning decisions should consider the impact of traffic growth on the A58.

#### **The Transport Needs Assessment (2002) showed:**

The majority of households have access to private transport, although around 11% of households do not own a car and 42% have one car, suggesting that public transport is an important factor for a significant number of people in the parish.

48% of households had not used the

bus in the past month.

The main destinations are Leeds, Wetherby and Harrogate.

Residents of the Congreves have only limited access to buses on the A58.

There is a need for the 98/99 bus to divert via the Congreves.

There is a call for a direct bus to Harrogate.

There is a desire to travel to destinations in north Leeds, such as Headingley, Boston Spa, Moortown and Shadwell as well as Leeds city centre.

#### **The VDS (2002) found that :**

Despite our dislike of the A58 we are, unavoidably, major contributors to the traffic problem.

Speed restrictions are inconsistent.

The A58 divides the village and it is not possible to walk from one end to another without going alongside it.

Existing footpaths were created long ago to meet different needs.

There are no formal cycle tracks.

#### **We organised our actions into those relating to:**

- Footpaths and cycleways
- Pedestrian and other safety issues
- Road signs and signposts
- Car parking

#### **Footpaths and cycleways**

Generally we want the Parish Council to set up a sub-committee to explore rights of way and open space ownership, with a view to increasing the network and improving the quality of footpaths in the parish and providing facilities for the disabled to have better access to footpaths.

These are the specific actions we would like them to take:

- Negotiate access at the end of First Avenue and create a cycle/footpath between the Congreves and the Sportsfield.
- Create a new footpath from Cornmill alongside Bardsey Beck to Keswick Lane.
- Create a cycle/footpath link with the Congreves to Collingham and on to Wetherby.
- Create a footpath from Fatpot Hill to Congreve Meadow and over Rigton Hill to the Old Railway and then to the Sportsfield.
- Provide new paths for better access to Bardsey School from Bankfield.
- Create a footpath from the centre of the village to East Keswick.
- Improve access through the 'Ginnel' for pedestrians, pushchairs and wheelchairs and provide a handrail at the street steps at the bottom of the Ginnel.
- Re-adopt the 'green lane' from Bingley Cottage to Church Lane.

#### **Pedestrian and safety issues**

The Parish Council is asked to investigate the possibility of:

- A facility for safe crossing of the A58.
- A bus shelter at the bottom of Mill Lane in the Leeds direction.
- Improved bus shelters (clean and with lights and seats).

Overhanging trees and hedges can hinder and cause danger for the elderly, for people with disabilities and for prams/pushchairs, and should be cut



SAFE CROSSING LIKE THIS REQUIRED ON A58





SCHOOL PARKING REQUIRED

back. We want individual householders to take action and for the Parish Council to establish a reporting scheme to approach property owners. Volunteers (with permission from owners) and Leeds Highways could assist.

Action is already being taken to provide drop kerbs throughout the village for prams and wheelchairs.

#### Road signs and signposts

We ask the Parish Council to undertake a full audit of all signs throughout the village and to make proposals to Leeds Highways particularly to:



CROSSING AREA

- Re-locate the A58 sign on Church Lane which causes traffic to turn into The Dell or The Cornmills.
- Provide additional and improved signposts and Bardsey signs at approach roads.
- Provide signposts to the Sportsfield.

Trees and hedges obscuring signs in the village can also cause danger. As with overhanging trees (see above), we want individual householders to take action and the Parish Council to establish a

reporting scheme to approach property owners.

#### Car Parking and other transport issues

We ask the Parish Council to:

- Investigate the feasibility of providing parking space outside the school for the delivery and collection of children.
- Contact the Bank Top landowner to suggest utilising space at the rear, which is presently unused, for customers' parking.
- Implement publicity aiming to make parking on pavements 'socially unacceptable'.
- Encourage vehicle owners to use off street parking/garages where available.
- Contact LCC re painting road markings to prevent cars parking on Keswick Lane and obstructing the bus stop.
- Assist the 'Village Helpers' and 'Good Companions' schemes.
- Investigate the provision of a minibus to serve Morrisons and Asda supermarkets.

### WHERE NEXT?

The Foreword asks Bardsey residents and community organisations to help make this Parish Plan a reality over the next few years. This will mean individuals, local groups and the Parish Council working together in partnership.

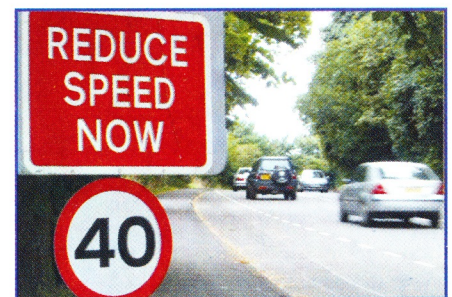
The Plan will feed into other wider strategies, including the Leeds Community Plan, A Vision for Leeds,

the Unitary Development Plan and the Leeds City Council Corporate Plan and will complement the Bardsey VDS (2002).

The inclusive nature of the Parish Plan consultations has resulted in a number of Task Groups centred on the key areas already outlined. Although these groups will act as a driving force, no one group or individual can be expected to be responsible for every action detailed in the Plan.

So the Plan contains suggested actions for the Parish Council, other organisations and, most importantly, for us, the people of Bardsey. These are listed in the 'Parish Action Plan' Appendix 3.

This Action Plan combines opportunity and realism. A call for more resources, which is the most common response to issues, is unlikely to be successful in the case of statutory services. Therefore,



BUSY A58

community solutions or the reorganisation of resources so that they meet the needs of the community, are more likely to gain positive results. Importantly, the success of the Action Plan should be monitored one year after publication and thereafter as required. That need has been acknowledged, and a Parish Plan Steering Group will continue to oversee and co-ordinate the implementation of the Plan with the Parish Council. This review process will begin in 2004 and the Plan will be reviewed annually, with a full review after 3 years.

#### And Finally

- Help make this Plan a reality
- Join one or more of the Task Groups
- Support the many sports and social groups
- Encourage friends and neighbours to join in village activities



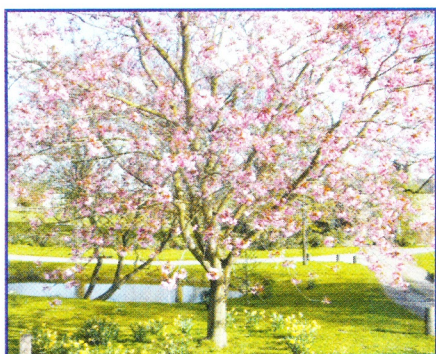
## APPENDIX No. I

# Previous Consultations

These are the important initiatives that have involved public consultation within the parish over the past 5 years.

### Village Design Statement

The VDS was published in spring 2002. It provides a detailed assessment of the development of the village and a statement of the current architectural styles present in the village together with a baseline summary of village life,



SPRING SCENE AT VILLAGE POND

natural landscape, traffic and transport issues and village pride. The VDS relied on consultation via a questionnaire delivered to every household in the village and on public meetings. The VDS contains many guidelines and aspirations regarding the subjects it covers and has been accepted as Supplementary Planning Guidance by Leeds City Council.

### Housing Survey

Survey conducted March 1998. Questionnaires distributed to 883 households. Return rate of 32.5% (287 questionnaires). The results of the survey were:

- 69% had been resident in the parish for more than 10 years.
- 38% of households were elderly.
- 90% of households were owner-occupiers
- 74% of the households were houses, 22% bungalows and 3% flats.
- 54 respondents had left the parish



WINTER SCENE AT HILL TOP FARM

within last 5 years.

- Leeds City Council own 42 properties in the parish.
- 35% support for housing association scheme for local people.
- 64% opposed to further development in parish.

The survey suggests that the village is a



THE CORNMILLS

place of long occupancy, and that the population is skewed to the older end of the age spectrum. There is little rented accommodation in the parish, and there are some unsatisfied housing needs. Whilst there is a majority against new development, there is significant support for affordable provision, so long as it is linked to local people, as is

possible through Section III and other planning measures.

### Community Appraisal

The survey was conducted in 1999 with 964 questionnaires distributed to households and a return rate of 27.6% (266 questionnaires). The appraisal was centred on changes to the location of some sports activities from the Village Hall area to the Sportsfield. The conclusions of the survey were that broadly the community was in support of re-siting the sporting facilities in order to release space for additional facilities at the Village Hall.

### Transport Assessment

Two transport questionnaires have been undertaken:-

“Transport Questionnaire” (1998)

and “Transport Needs Assessment” (2002). Results of these assessments have already been described in section 5 on pages 7 and 8.



## APPENDIX No. 2

# Funding Opportunities

Bardsey-cum-Rigton is eligible for funding from a number of different sources, although it is important to recognise that these can change rapidly.

### Rural Funding

#### Parish Transport Grants

#### Rural Transport Partnership funding

#### Community Service Grants

### Doorstep Greens

#### Local Heritage Initiative

#### DEFRA's England Rural Development Programme

#### Universal Funding

#### Community Fund

#### Sports England

#### Heritage Lottery Fund

#### Awards For All

### New Opportunities Fund

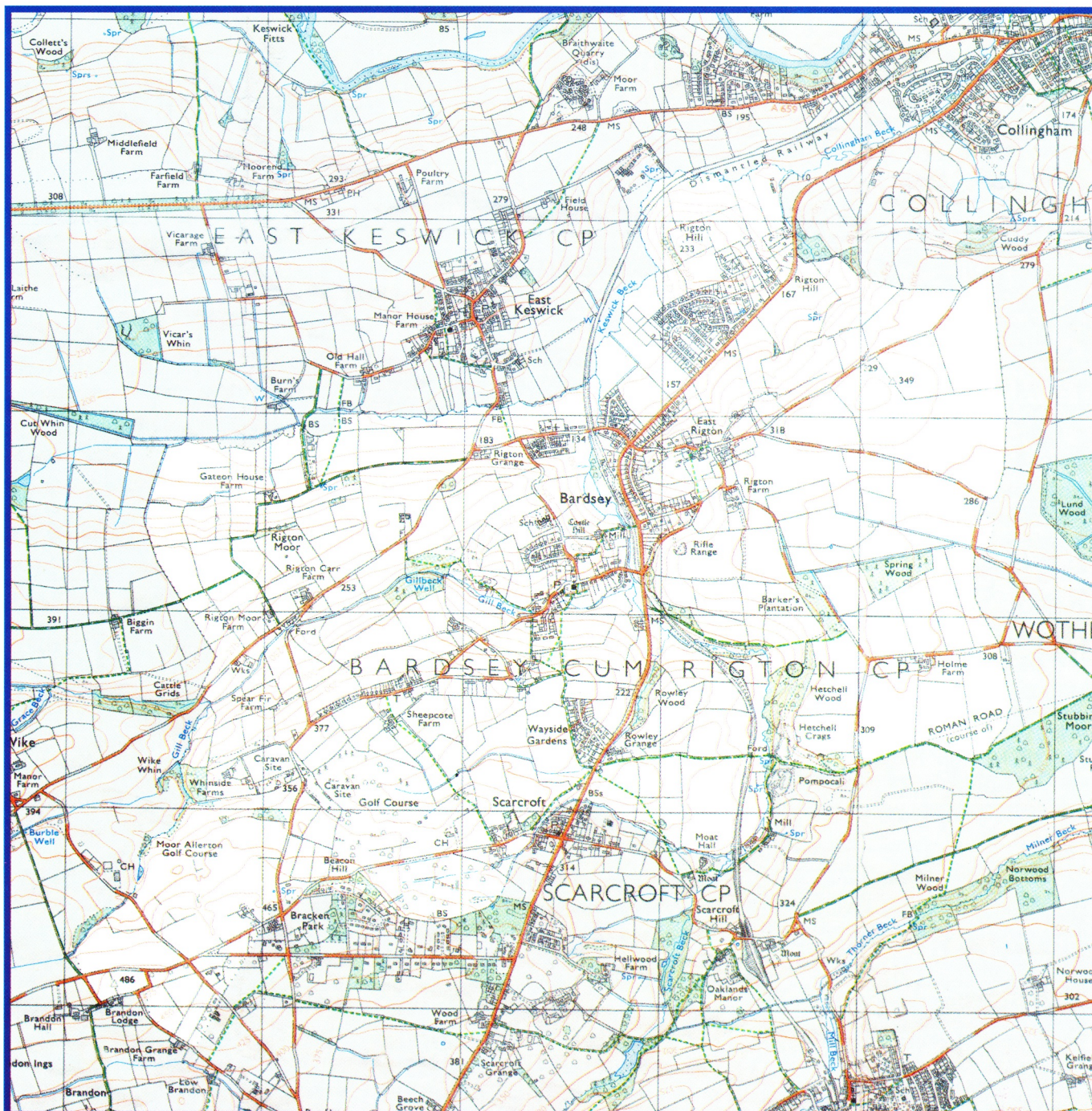
#### Arts Fund

#### Landfill Tax funding

#### Private sector

#### Charitable trusts

Leeds City Council operates community involvement grants through the Community Involvement Teams and through members' discretionary funds.



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## APPENDIX No. 3

# Bardsey-cum-Rigton Parish Action Plan 2003-4

Responsibility for pursuing many of the actions listed in the following tables has been devolved to five 'Task Groups' established by the Parish Council and consisting of volunteers from the community. Each Task Group is responsible for taking forward those actions within their remit, and for reporting progress to the Parish Council, who in turn will keep the community advised of progress through regular reports in the Bardsey News magazine and at the Parish Council AGM.

**Task groups are referred to in the following tables as:-**

TG 1 - Footpaths and cycle tracks

TG 2 - Transport, safety and environment

TG 3 - Communications

TG 4 - Buildings and land development

TG 5 - Sports, events, and young people

**\*INDEX OF SUPPORT.** This numerical index derives from the 'suggestions questionnaire' distributed in January 2003. It has been calculated by allocating the following score to each of the questionnaire boxes : Strongly agree +2 : Agree +1 : No view 0 : Disagree -1 : Strongly disagree -2

## I. LIVING IN THE VILLAGE

### Community Amenities

ACTION	WHO RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	FUNDING SOURCES	INDEX OF SUPPORT*
LV 1 Village store. Explore innovative provision such as location in pub, hall, mobile or community shop	TG 4 & local community, Village Shops Retail Association	Feasibility assessment by March 2004	Community Service Grant	113
LV 2 Village post office. Explore innovative provision such as location in pub, hall or home	TG 4 & local community, Village Retail & Shops Association (ViRSA), Post Office	Feasibility assessment by March 2004	Post Capital start-up subsidy scheme	101
LV 3 Doctor's surgery – potential for outreach service in Village Hall	TG 4 & local community, Primary Care Trust	Report by March 2004	Primary Care Trust	81
LV 4 Provide facilities for parents/carers to get together, (further investigation)	TG 4 & Village Hall committee and trustees	Progress report by March 2004	Countryside Agency – Community Services grant, Community Fund, other funds and trusts	76
LV 5 Adapt or extend the Village Hall to provide facilities for computer club, "swap library" and coffee bar	TG 4 & Village Hall committee and trustees	Completion of plans by June 2004	Countryside Agency – Community Services grant, Community Fund, other funds and trusts	64
LV 6 Explore the use of school facilities for parish activities	TG 4 & School Governors/LEA	Report by June 2004		96

### Young People

LV 7 Establish Mother and Toddler Group	TG 5 & local groups – open meeting to discuss proposal	Report by March 2004	Children's Fund network, Community Fund, Leeds Early Years co-ordinator	82
LV 8 Establish Afternoon playgroup for older children				57
LV 9 Increased pre-school education facilities for all				71
LV 10 Youth Club for Bardsey residents	Proposal by 2 parents to establish monthly youth event on Fridays	Started Sept 2003	Awards for All, Leeds Youth Service, Connexions	91
LV 11 Provide open space opposite school for recreation	Parish Council to explore feasibility	Progress report by March 2004	Community Fund, Landfill Tax, Community Services grant	74
LV 12 Explore provision of open space in village for informal games and play				88
LV 13 Provide playground/ recreation area in the Congreves				61
LV 14 Set up "Safe Houses" for children to use in emergency	PC to consult local Police	Report by March 2004		107





## Elderly and Disabled

ACTION	WHO RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	FUNDING SOURCES	INDEX OF SUPPORT*
LV 15 Provide an emergency call system for housebound residents	TG 2 & Parish Council to arrange an open meeting for all interested residents to establish priorities and implementation programme	Progress report by March 2004	Local funding, Leeds Social Services, Community Fund, Awards for All, Age Concern, Community Services grant	136
LV 16 Develop a 'help' sign for persons at risk – a 'smiley face' or similar to display in window to signify help of some kind is needed				127
LV 17 Revamp and publicise the 'Village Helpers' scheme				124
LV 18 Explore the provision of a help/visiting/emergency scheme for people living on their own and how they are to be identified				128
LV 19 Encourage more participation in the Good Companions club, perhaps through occasional luncheon meetings				92
LV 20 Explore the feasibility of identifying a Bardsey band of trusted workmen			Minimal	117
LV 21 Explore the provision of elderly/disabled entrance and toilets in 'Bingley Arms'			Community Services grant	90

## 2. SPORTS AND EVENTS

### Events

S&E 1 Expansion of village events following success of Millennium & Jubilee	TG 5 & PC to facilitate meeting of all clubs, societies, groups and PC to consider "Events Standing Committee"	Report by March 2004	Local fundraising, local sponsorship,	119
S&E 2 Biennial Village Events held over a weekend				94
S&E 3 Establish a Parish Events Standing Committee to ensure continuity				84
S&E 4 Any surplus funds raised during events should be retained for future events				70
S&E 5 Annual "Scarecrow event"				70
S&E 6 "Tug of War" competition with East Keswick				42

### Publicity

S&E 7 Make residents aware of sports facilities and take action to encourage wider participation in sports and social activities	TG 5 to encourage clubs/societies and residents to co operate in maximising publicity on events and benefits	June 2004	Minimal	117
S&E 8 Create publicity for the existing sports and recreation facilities and benefits already available to residents				121
S&E 9 Provide direction signs, more notice boards, website, welcome pack, all targeted at greater publicity	TG 5 to liaise with sports clubs on signs and websites	March 2004		80
S&E 10 Encourage involvement of the 18-30 age group in sports	TG 5 to encourage sports clubs to seek views and identify needs of this group	March 2004		90
S&E 11 Provision of Sports Hall (shared with East Keswick?)	TG 5 to explore feasibility	Report by March 2004		71



## Organisation and Structure

ACTION	WHO RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	FUNDING SOURCES	INDEX OF SUPPORT*
S&E 12 Create a working party to review and plan further development of the existing Sportsfield, neighbouring field and clubhouse with the objective of increasing the number and diversity of sports available to a wider cross section of the community	TG 5 to pursue	Working Party recommendations March 2004		91
S&E 13 Where existing participants agree, a list of contacts for informally organised sports and recreation, e.g. ramblers and cyclists, should be published.	PC to publish list of activities	March 2004		89
S&E 14 Form a working party to explore better facilities for indoor sports and recreation	TG 5 to pursue	Working Party report by March 2004		82
S&E 15 Encourage clubs (and possibly the school) to study possible benefits of an association under the umbrella of the Parish Council	TG 5 to pursue	Working Party report by March 2004		39
S&E 16 The Parish Council should monitor, annually, the management, membership, facilities and finances of clubs to ensure they are fulfilling their responsibilities to the community	PC to consult clubs	Outcome report by March 2004		32

## Improvements to Facilities

S&E 17 Explore the possibility of a Bardsey Walking Club	TG 5 to encourage proposer to organise	Immediate		68
S&E 18 Improve pavilion facilities at Tennis Club	TG 5 to encourage and assist Tennis Club	Progress report by March 2004	LTA, Awards for All, Foundation for Sports and the Arts, Sport England	60
S&E 19 Provide facilities for basketball nets, rugby posts, football nets, pool tables	TG 5 to explore	Progress report by March 2004	Awards for All, Foundation for Sports and the Arts, Sport England	63

## 3. COMMUNICATIONS

### Notice Boards

C 1 Increase number and maintenance of Village notice boards, and include minutes of all PC meetings	TG 3 and PC to implement	June 2004	PC	84
C 2 Create Parish "Information Point" to include a general map of parish, a footpath map, and information of value to visitors/tourists	Residual Jubilee working party	In progress	Surplus Jubilee funds	113

### Bardsey News

C 3 Encourage clubs and societies to report their past and future activities	TG 3 to work with editors	March 2004	Minimal	111
C 4 Publish Bardsey 'Who's Who' list as separate sheet in Bardsey News once a year				110
C 5 Parish Council to have full dedicated page in each issue for expanded reporting of PC matters				109
C 6 Include small ads, readers' letters and 'general parish news'				88
C 7 Young readers' page in Bardsey News				77
C 8 Improved appearance				71



## Computer Communications

ACTION	WHO RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	FUNDING SOURCES	INDEX OF SUPPORT*
C 9 Broadband link to Collingham Bridge exchange	Local volunteer	Already achieved		83
C 10 Set up computer club to include all ages with opportunities for self teaching as well as volunteer tuition	TG 3 to encourage through volunteer working party	June 2004	Awards for All	80
C 11 Rationalise two Bardsey websites	TG 3 & 'Village Website' group	Progress Report March 2004		79
C 12 Appoint editor and steering committee for Bardsey website, with terms of reference				54
C 13 Explore source of back-up IT support for those who work from home	Proposer to take forward	Immediate		47
C 14 Part-time administrator for design, maintenance and updating of websites	TG 3 to liaise with Village Website group	Recommendations by June 2004		43

## Miscellaneous Communications

C 15 Update 'Welcome to Bardsey' pack and seek volunteers to deliver packs to new residents	TG3 to liaise with Church & local community	June 2004	Local funding	112
C 16 Publish information showing good reception areas for mobile phone providers, post collection times, bus timetables etc for display on notice board and website	TG 3 to liaise with Website editor	June 2004	Minimal	91
C 17 Provide post boxes which can accept foolscap and jiffy bags	PC to approach Post Office	Progress report March 2004		90
C 18 Establish a 'community central information and resources unit' in the Village Hall	TG 3 to explore existing or additional space with Village Hall committee	Progress report by March 2004	Community Services grant	70

## 4. ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

### Litter

E&T 1 Litter awareness/ 'use the bin' campaign. Fix dog fouling penalty signs in key areas	PC	Ongoing	Awards for All, local sponsorship, Tidy Britain group, Landfill Tax funders	177
E&T 2 Extend the provision of green bins and multi bins to all the parish	PC to contact LCC	Progress report by March 2003	LCC	132
E&T 3 Annual Bardsey Spring Clean Day linked to social event such as village barbeque	TG 2 to liaise with TG 5 and arrange	2004	LCC	124
E&T 4 Post fly-tipping notices in known trouble spots	TG 2, PC, LCC, Environmental Agency	June 2004	Minimal	121

### Tourism

E&T 5 Produce a Bardsey brochure, similar to Wilkinson's Walks, to guide visitors and residents around the parish & include historical references	TG 2 to encourage proposer and volunteers.	Progress report by March 2004	Heritage Lottery fund, Local Heritage Initiative, Awards for All	91
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<b>Sites</b>				
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>WHO RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>TARGET DATE</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCES</b>	<b>INDEX OF SUPPORT*</b>
E&T 6 Restore site of Old Bardsey Dam as nature reserve	TG 4 & proposer to establish land ownership	Report and proposals by March 2004	English Nature? Landfill Tax, advice from BTCV	103
E&T 7 Feasibility of acquiring "School Whin" and adjoining woodland as nature reserve	TG 4 to explore ownership and availability of land		Open Spaces grant Landfill Tax, advice from BTCV	91
E&T 8 Explore landscaping and improvement to the area at Spear Fir ford	TG 2 to establish land ownership and add to task force list	Spring 2004	Environmental funds	61
E& T 9 Acquisition of land at Castle Hill (Motte and Bailey)	In abeyance	Review 2006	Heritage Lottery, Local Heritage Initiative	53

## 5. TRAVELLING BY CAR, FOOT AND CYCLE

### Footpaths and Cycleways (General)

TCF&C 1 Increase network and improve quality of footpaths in the parish	TG 1 to explore rights of way and open space ownership	Progress report by March 2004	Sustrans, Leeds City Council – Countryside Management team, Countryside Agency	152
TCF&C 2 Provide facilities for the disabled to have better access to footpaths	TG 1 and PC to liaise with LCC	Progress report by March 2004		141

### Footpaths and Cycleways (Specific)

TCF&C 3 Negotiate access at end of First Avenue and create cycle/footpath between Congreves and the Sportsfield	TG 1 to explore rights of way and open space ownership	Progress report by March 2004	Sustrans, Leeds City Council – Countryside Management team, Countryside Agency	132
TCF&C 4 Create new footpath from Cornmill alongside Bardsey Beck to Keswick Lane	TG 1 to explore rights of way and open space ownership	Progress report by March 2004		130
TCF&C 5 Create cycle/footpath link from the Congreves to Collingham to Wetherby	TG 1 to explore rights of way and open space ownership	Feasibility report by October 2004		129
TCF&C 6 Improve access through the 'Ginnel' for pedestrians, pushchairs and wheelchairs and provide a handrail at the street steps at the bottom of the Ginnel	TG 1 to explore rights of way	Progress report by March 2004		122
TCF&C 7 Create footpath from Fatpot Hill and Congreve Meadow over Rigton Hill to Old Railway and then to Sportsfield	TG 1 to explore rights of way and land ownership	Feasibility report by March 2004		122
TCF&C 8 Provide new paths for better access to Bardsey School from Bankfield	TG 1 to explore possible routes, rights of way and land ownership	Report by March 2004		104
TCF&C 9 Create footpath from centre of village to East Keswick	TG 1 to explore possible routes, rights of way and land ownership	Feasibility report by March 2004		94
TCF&C 10 Re-adopt 'green lane' from Bingley Cottage to Church Lane	TG 1 to explore rights of way	Report by March 2004		87



ACTION	WHO RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	FUNDING SOURCES	INDEX OF SUPPORT*
<b>Pedestrian Issues</b>				
TCF&C 11 Facility for safe crossing of A58	TG 2 and PC to approach Leeds Highways/Metro	Report by March 2004	PC/Leeds Highways/Metro	184
TCF&C 12 Provide a bus shelter at the bottom of Mill Lane in the Leeds direction				106
TCF&C 13 Improve bus shelters (clean, with lights and seats)				108
TCF&C 14 Cut back overhanging trees and hedges which hinder the elderly, people with disabilities and prams/pushchairs	Individual householders and TG2 to set up reporting scheme. PC to approach householders.	Immediate and ongoing	Minimal	173
TCF&C 15 Provide drop kerbs throughout village for prams and wheelchairs	In progress	March 2004		148
TCF&C 16 Prevent vehicles parking on pavements TCF&C 17 Encourage vehicle owners to use off-street parking/garages where available	PC to implement publicity, aim to make it "socially unacceptable"	Ongoing	Minimal	146
TCF&C 18 Prevent cars parking on Keswick Lane and obstructing bus stop	PC to contact LCC re painting road markings	March 2004	Leeds City Council	131
<b>Road Signs and Signposts</b>				
TCF&C 19 Cut back trees and hedges obscuring signs in the village	Individual householders, TG 2 to set up reporting scheme. PC to approach homeowners	Immediate and ongoing	Minimal	165
TCF&C 20 Re-locate the A58 sign on Church Lane, which causes traffic to turn into The Dell or The Cornmills TCF&C 21 Additional and improved signposts and Bardsey signs at all approach roads TCF&C 22 Provision of signposts to the Sportsfield	TG 2 to undertake full audit of all signs throughout the village. PC to make proposals to Leeds Highways	March 2004	Leeds Highways	93 106 112
<b>Car Parking</b>				
TCF&C 23 Provide parking space outside school for delivery and collection of children	TG 4 to investigate feasibility and land ownership	Feasibility report by March 2004	Leeds Highways, Leeds Education	139
TCF&C 24 Customers parking at Bank Top to utilise parking space at rear, which is presently unused	PC to contact landowner	March 2004	Leeds Highways	92



ACTION	WHO RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	FUNDING SOURCES	INDEX OF SUPPORT*
<b>Transport</b>				
TCF&C 25 Assist 'Village Helpers' and 'Good Companions' schemes	TG 2 to establish level of demand and nature of assistance needed	Report by March 2004	Parish Transport grant, Rural Transport Partnership	115
TCF&C 26 Provide minibus to serve Morrisons and Asda	TG 2 to establish level of demand and how to meet	Report by March 2004	Parish Transport grant, Rural Transport Partnership	81
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
M 1 Organise regular meetings of homeworkers group for social and support purposes	Encourage proposer to organise	Ongoing	Minimal	39
M 2 Implement a parish-wide scheme to number all houses in order to assist emergencies and deliveries	PC to re-explore	October 2004	Parish Transport grant, Rural Transport Partnership	77





## **Acknowledgements**

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*Jack Cairns (Chairman), Tim Gittins, Pauline Hills, George Newton, Norman Overfield, Kath Potter, Samantha Rawnsley.*

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