

# Yare Valley Society Newsletter



**The objects of the society are to protect the natural landscape and wildlife habitats of the Yare Valley south and west of Norwich, principally between Harford and Bowthorpe. We oppose any development that would detract from its natural qualities and support projects which would preserve the valley for the benefit of all.**

**Issue 103 March 2018**

## **The Developer Threat – the Valley in peril**

The last Newsletter urged you to respond to the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) consultation. You now have an extra week in which to do so. The deadline for comments has been extended to Thursday 22nd March at 1700; but please act ASAP.

Developers and Landowners are applying for a number of sites that are, all or part in the “protected” green space in the Yare Valley. The number is now in double figures– and they can still add more! Their applications show a total disregard of the benefits of the existing green space of the Valley to the community. See the list on our new website at [www.yarevalleysociety.org.uk/about/planning/](http://www.yarevalleysociety.org.uk/about/planning/) along with hints and tips on responding, and an official form for responding in writing. It also has something to say about the Growth Options Consultation Document, and Question 13 on a possible Green Belt.

These developments must be stopped if we are to continue to enjoy the Yare Valley as a place for wildlife and informal recreation. As part of the Society campaign, YVS members will be out and about distributing the fliers to people enjoying the Valley. The Flier has been sent to you with this Newsletter. Many people are quite unaware of the consultation is taking place, and of the threat to the Valley. We must change this if we are to successfully defend the Valley. Please forward or print off the Flier for friends and family.

## **New Yare Valley Society Website for 2018**

The eagle eyed will have spotted the “.uk” in the Yare Valley Website address given above. Yes, the YVS website address has changed. The addition of “.uk” brings us in line with many other uk organisations such as the National Trust and the Norfolk Wildlife Trust, together with other advantages.

The new site went public in February. The Address is [www.yarevalleysociety.org.uk](http://www.yarevalleysociety.org.uk) . Our old website will redirect you to the new one. Please add our new site to your favourites.

## **Our First Facebook Page**

The first day of Spring, 1 March, (meteorological calendar), was just the day to forget the Beast and to launch a site that will celebrate our enjoyment of the benefits of the Valley. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Yarevalleysociety/> Do invite everybody who's on Facebook to like it and to feel that they can post their own pictures and share their enjoyment of the Yare Valley.

## **Developer has another try at Keswick for “Super Triangle” development**

The Yare Valley Society has responded to the re-submission of a planning application for an employment zone in the Keswick Triangle. The application goes far beyond the area designated in the local plan for developing and seeks to increase the range of industrial activity permitted on the site.

## **Progress towards construction of the Colney Footbridge**

South Norfolk District Council are seeking a Compulsory Purchase Order for a strip of land in Colney to enable them to complete the River Yare Pedestrian bridge linking a Colney bridleway from the Watton Road (B1108) with Bowthorpe South Park. Watch this space.

## **McCarthy and Stone and the Strawberry Field – a deal is close!**

A condition of the McCarthy and Stone Development was that the Strawberry Field between Bartram Mowers and the Donkey Sanctuary would be available for public access. The YVS committee understands that the developer and the Council are now close to a “106 agreement”, and there are encouraging signs that attention has been given to YVS suggestions. (See Newsletter 101 for our suggestions). Not all suggestions may have been taken up. We will publish details on our website when available.



**The “Strawberry Field”:** Imagine what might be