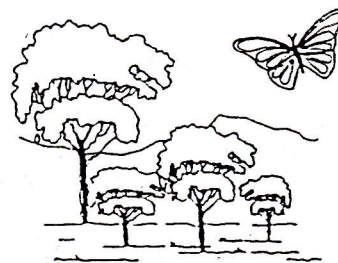


YARE VALLEY SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
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A date for your diaries - the Yare Valley Society AGM

The AGM of the Yare Valley Society will be held on 24th May 1993, at the Cringleford Playing Field Pavilion. Please come along to support us and to tell us what you think of the events in 1992 - 1993. I hope to see many of you at the meeting.

The speaker at the meeting will be John Ayton. He is currently Head of Planning at Norfolk County Council, but by the time of our AGM he will be retired. His talk will be illustrated with slides. We are lucky to have him come to talk to us and I am sure you will have lots of questions for him.

Now to turn to the past year's work...

The Committee has been very busy this year. The structure plans for the City of Norwich, South Norfolk District and Norfolk, all of which lay down the guidelines for the development of the area until the end of the century, have been debated in public and we have taken part in the discussions, stressing the importance of protecting the valley.

City of Norwich Local Plan

The hearing of the objections to the Local Structure Plan has been completed and we have reason to believe that the Inspector will be coming to see several of the important sites of the Yare Valley for himself. When this visit is completed, he will write his report and will find for or against the objectors or the City Council. We will bring you the news of the relevant decisions when they become available.

The preparation of two detailed submissions meant we have had to set up separate working parties and for one submission, three members of the committee met regularly at least once a week over a couple of months, as well as taking advice from the City Council planners and other experts.

The Norfolk Structure Plan

As you will have read in the press, Michael Howard, the Environment Secretary, has been inundated with an unusual number of letters protesting about his interference with Structure Plan policies. These

included one from the Yare Valley Society strongly objecting to the deletion and watering down of policies safeguarding the environment and making positive suggestions about protecting the valuable character of the river vallies as toughly as possible.

We now have to wait while Mr Howard decides how to respond.

South Norfolk Local Plan

We are still waiting for this to be made public, so that we can make our further comments. We will keep you posted.

The Creeping Car Park - Creeps No More!

The news in the Case of the Creeping (Roys) Car Park seems to be that the planning application has been withdrawn for the time being. We will continue to monitor the situation, in case another application is made.

~~**Intwood Estate, Sand and Gravel Extraction**~~

Following the successful RATS campaign by the residents who were opposed to the development of the old Hardwick Airfield site for landfill, further sites have to be discovered in which to place our rubbish. Roll on the day when we are all issued with plastic bags for recycling, which will be so much more economical both of time and transport, and of the land dumps in which to put the hard-core waste that is non-recyclable!

An application has been made recently to extract sand and gravel from the Intwood Estate. As the site is drained by a tributary of the River Yare we have written objecting strongly to this proposal on the following grounds:

- * serious harm to the landscape and rural character of the area, which is protected under County river valley policies and is designated as an area of high landscape quality in the South Norfolk Local Plan;
- * clear visibility of the area from the Southern Bypass and from much of South Cringleford;
- * potential pollution of rivers by landfill;
- * precedent for further similar, and greater, development in the area;
- * harm to valley wildlife by provision (intended as 'planning gain') of car parks and licensed footpaths in an area that is quite separate from the extraction area.

You may well have already written objecting to this proposal. If not, we encourage you to send in your objection before February 26th 1993.

Send your letters to: J. Martin Shaw, Director of Planning and Property, Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 1G. Please quote Intwood Estate, Intwood Lane: TG/6185/3045;
~~mineral extraction and restoration.~~

Finally, please remember that your annual subscription of £1 will be due at the AGM, which brings you this Newsletter once every two months. Suggestions for its improvement or ideas for articles are welcomed.