

## **Statement for the 2014 AGM from County/District Councillor John Savage**

### **Ainsty division of NYCC and Marston Moor division of HBC**

Plans for the future of housing in Harrogate district have been criticised as inadequate by a government inspector who is calling on HBC to scrap more than six years of work. HBC's current plans evidently will fail to meet the housing needs of the district the inspector has suggested. The HBC plan was for approx 390 houses per year, the inspector suggested over a 1000 per year.

An interesting document you may wish to view is HBC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA), have a look at the May 2013 updated report. They are only suggestions at this stage.

Planning enforcement in the area appears to have been very poor in certain areas which the PC's and other groups are aware of and this is despite meetings with officers and numerous e mails and phone calls.

The waste collection and re cycling appears to be running smoothly albeit a few hiccups in the odd area.

NYCC are still been badly hit by reductions in Government funding, future savings are Central services £12,259,000, Education £15,929,000, Social Services £21,535,000 and BAS (roads) £12,202,000 and that leaves a shortfall of £11,475,000 to be found some where???? These amounts by 2017 and nothing appears to be sacred. This is after £100,000,000 savings and cuts since 2010.

Social Services will now only fund substantial cases where the service started at moderate, this will leave over 2000 people and carers with no paid NYCC services??

Education cuts, some schools have seen a 37% reduction in budgets; a school is not allowed to have a deficit so I fear staff cuts?

Urban grass cutting to cease from April 2015.

Our roads apart from the route of the Tour de France are now in an appalling condition, the council are hoping for a further £5,000,000 of funding from Government for road repairs.

Little information regarding the proposed incinerator at Allerton Park which has cost over £8,000,000 in consultants fees etc. My thanks to the PC group, NYWAG and all who are working to halt this project. As I stated in last years statement Defra suggest there is enough capacity in England hence the withdrawing of the PFI.

I've now been involved with the restoration of Skewkirk bridge since 1997 and I was saddened after 17 years to discover that NYCC had made a blunder on their paperwork to the Secretary of State so it was rejected!!