



Parish/Community Caretaker Scheme Summary Sheet

The caretaker scheme is a form of local delivery undertaken by someone living within the area, who is part of the community and provides a range of services for which they are responsible.

A report was produced in November 2004 by Neil Powe and Rebecca Marcus about the Danby caretaker scheme. Residents and Parish Councils felt that it has made a real difference to the Parish. Key benefits include keeping the place neat and tidy and providing a feeling of security and safety.

Benefits that have been identified from the more local approach include:

- Cost effectiveness
- Response time
- Quality of work
- Reflecting the needs of the community
- Environment enhancement
- Links between the residents and other services
- Information and guidance for visitors

The most important element in the start up of the scheme is the initial funding for the caretaker. Many Parishes have found this in the form of grant funding, but the long term sustainability of the project must be carefully considered from the outset. Grant funding in most cases has a limited lifespan and will look to community support to ensure the caretakers future. Once residents have seen the benefits of the scheme there is often willingness to continue support of the project via the Parish Precept.