

PROTECTING THE WHARFE AND ILKLEY ENVIRONMENT

THE SOLUTION IS LESS POLLUTION

NO 1

Raw Sewage goes into the river regularly when it rains

When the flow coming into the Sewage Plant reaches the 'Consent Limit' OR when the storm tanks are full untreated raw sewage is discharged straight into the Wharfe. In Ilkley household sewage mixes with rain running off buildings and land and arrives together at the sewage works. The 'limit' is the point at which the volume of water coming into the works is so high it is sent straight into the river.

NO 3

The Environment Agency won't change the limit

They say our river is in 'good' condition. But it's not. The EA hasn't been monitoring immediately downstream from the sewage works. It's only just starting to monitor nutrients. We have looked at the data and our river is 'moderate' and that's a fail. We have both organic and nutrient pollution. Just ask the fishermen - they struggle to find the fish!

NO 5

The Problem will Get Worse

Ilkley and Addingham population is set to increase by 3000 people (700 dwellings in Ilkley alone by 2030); Changes in climate mean increased rainfall, and summer storms after dry periods. This means more sewage in the Wharfe.

NO 2

Because The 'Consent Limit' is set too low

The Consent Limit was set 17 years ago. Since then rainfall patterns have changed, there are more people, Addingham plant has shut and sewage diverted to Ilkley, and there is more water running off buildings, 17 years ago the limit was reached irregularly under storm conditions, but now the limit is reached regularly.

NO 4

Did You Know Our River is not Safe to Swim In?

The Wharfe is not designated for swimming and is polluted, but no one knows. The raw sewage should be discharged when the river is running high - but last summer it wasn't and there was sewage waste/ solids on the river bank. People swimming downstream of the works were in foul water.

NO 6

We Need a Urgent Upgrade of Ikley Sewage Works

Which we can only get if the 'Limit' is changed so Yorkshire Water can apply for the upgrade. So far its acting within the law so there is no case for change.

Flushed Away. WWF report 2017

- 82% OF PEOPLE THINK ALL RIVERS SHOULD BE CLEAN ENOUGH FOR PEOPLE TO SWIM IN SAFELY.
- MOST OF THE SEWAGE INFRASTRUCTURE WAS INSTALLED OVER A HALF A CENTURY AGO.
- IT SEEMS COMPANIES ARE RELYING ON SEWER OVERFLOWS TO COMPENSATE FOR UNDER-CAPACITY.

RSA

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