

Contd. 8 May 58

'Appalling devastation' in the Halifax part of Luddenden village

SOWERBY BRIDGE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S CRITICISM

CRITICISM of Halifax Town Council was made by Coun. W. F. Turner, chairman of Sowerby Bridge Urban Council, last night, when he commented on the appalling state of Halifax's half of the village of Luddenden.

Halifax was "foolish to let things go on as they were," he stated.

"Many people have said what a wonderful show there is at the war memorial in Luddenden. People have asked who has provided this magnificent show and have been surprised when told it was Sowerby Bridge. They rather thought it was Halifax who had provided the floral decorations.

"Only round the corner you come to a devastated site which many people think is Sowerby Bridge's pigeon."

Sign suggestion

He suggested that next year the Highways Committee should put up a sign indicating the boundary

between Halifax and Sowerby Bridge, thus showing the "infernal mess" was the concern of Halifax.

It was foolish of Halifax to leave the district of Luddenden "in such appalling devastation." The Halifax Town Council had never gone so far as to say something would be done in the following year's estimates.

Councillor Turner voiced his criticism when replying to a vote of thanks proposed by Coun. C. W. Maude, to the retiring chairman and members. There was no further comment on the matter.

Councillor Roy Berry said he was delighted to see that with the new sewerage scheme for Norland there would be very few parts of the village without proper facilities.

Councillor G. A. Benbow said the scheme was vital, particularly when a school was involved, and he hoped the question of expense would not prevent the Sewerage Committee from going forward with it.

Councillor Benbow, who was elected to the West Riding County Council last month, criticised the County Council's handling of land in Park Road which Sowerby Bridge Council had thought ideal for old people's bungalows.

"Serious mistake"

The County Council had said the land was earmarked for the building of a school which Coun. Benbow described as a "serious mistake."

"The best interests of the town will not be served if the land is used for a school," he commented. He could not see the land being used in this way within the next decade but within a couple of years the old people's houses would probably have been built.

The County was collaring the land for hypothetical purposes.

The council, in committee, decided, subject to loan consent from the Ministry, to accept a tender of £2,953 for a road sweeper.