

Ian Brooker

Land ownership in the valley.

So who owns the land around here in the Meldon area?

Well quite unusually here we've got different landowners, you've got Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council who own quite a lot of the old quarry area; then you've also got Aggregate Industries, the quarry itself, the active quarry, and they own a small part which they wanted to use for throwing all their spoil on at one stage; luckily that's all been rescinded and they've put their spoil elsewhere under agreement with the National Park [Authority]; then you've also got the Duchy [of Cornwall] who are also a landowner, who own a small strip of land including some of the buildings that were on site, which they have now leased to the Youth Hostel for their activities to use. But we've also got a private landowner nearby as well who also has access to the land and can see some of the problems sometimes that do occur with people coming from the open area onto his land; plus we've got the commoners that then have their certain rights to use the area, so there's been a number of people to get on board to think all through the management for the future and that's worked very well.