

## **The Local Board**

Borough of Rawtenstall

Diamond Jubilee of Incorporation 1891-1951

Sixty Years of Municipal Progress

Rawtenstall Borough Council 1951

Extract from 'Rawtenstall before incorporation', p 18

'With the growth of its factories, Rawtenstall grew in size and importance, and became a Local Board on August 6<sup>th</sup> 1879. Nine years later, the area controlled by the Local Board was extended by Provisional Order to include the villages of Newchurch, Waterfoot, Whitewell Bottom, Water, Cloughfold, Crawshawbooth and Goodshawfold. The Local Board, desirous of improving the status of the area, attempted in 1887 to secure a Charter, but the Privy Council refused the application on the grounds that the Rawtenstall district was too large. It was at that time the largest Local Board District in the country. Two years later the Local Board again petitioned. The public inquiry was held on July 25<sup>th</sup> 1889, the Royal Assent was not given until some 18 months later, on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1891.