

Minutes
Burton in Lonsdale Annual Parish Meeting
Held on Thursday 09 May 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Village Hall, High Street, Burton in Lonsdale

Present: More than 20 parishioners; 5 Parish Councillors - David Taylor, Billie Strickland, Rebecca Spedding, Ian Wardle, Judith Leader
The clerk was in attendance

Chairperson: Cllr Strickland

Apologies: Julie Clarke, Simon Stockton, Gwen Harris, Anne Hajnrych, Ruth Brown, Jenny Sedgewick, Nick Clark, Christine Whitfield, Ian Parker, Keith Watts

1. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

1.1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to Burton in Lonsdale's Annual Parish Meeting and thanked them for coming. She explained that this not a Parish Council meeting. It is a meeting of the whole parish to 'discuss parish affairs.

1.2. Introductions

The Chair introduced: -

The Parish Clerk – Sally Preece

The Parish Councillors – Judith Leader, Rebecca Spedding, David Taylor and Ian Wardle

1.3. Apologies

The Clerk received apologies before the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Parish Meeting of 26 May 2022

The Chair proposed that the minutes of the last parish meeting, which lasted 90 minutes, were accepted. This was seconded and passed.

3. Chair of the Parish Council's Report

The Chair presented a detailed and lengthy report covering: -

- Thanks to the Village Hall committee for the excellent refurbishment project
 - A breakdown of the Council's expenditure in the past year
 - Getting the best use out of the pavilion and playing fields.
 - Improving road safety and traffic calming
 - The difficult role of Councillors and the lack of help available when harassment and bullying occur
- The Parish Council is working on all of these areas. Details can be found in the minutes of PC meetings.

4. Police Report

Jayne Grace of NYCC police presented this report:

Annual Report – Burton in Lonsdale - 24.04.23 & 08.05.24 - 57 reported incidents

Annual Report – Burton in Lonsdale – 01.04.22 & 23.04.23 – 45 reported incidents

14 – General admin, Sudden deaths, other forces enquiries

9 – Burglaries/stolen vehicles & tools

4 Concern for safety/welfare – checks carried out by police, ambulance, family & friends, Missing persons.

2 - Abandon calls/ hoax

10 - Crime Violence/domestic incidents/sexual

2 – ASB Nuisance/personal

2 – Criminal Damage

3 - Suspect circumstances/Highways – vehicles, persons, sheep & tree

5 - Road Related offence – manner all over road, Section 59, medical, drug driving & speed.

6 - Road Traffic collisions

5. County Councillor's Report

Briefing note:

It is just over twelve months since the eight councils merged to become a unitary council. This is working well and the restructure is nearly complete.

This has allowed the reduction in the number of buildings and the costs that were incurred in operating to be rationalised and we are now rationalising our teams of staff but we will maintain a presence in every part of the county.

The senior management team with a reduction in chief executives from 8 previously to now 1 is a saving of £900,000.

A reduction in the management board from previously 32 officers down to 8 is a saving of £200,000.

There have been 22 redundancies at a cost of £300,000

The overall restructuring and staffing at all levels is a saving of £4.7 million.

The circumstances we face this year are very much the same as last year with similar pressures. Those are inflation, interest rates, energy bills and oil prices affecting transport costs eg gritter wagons, home car, home to school transport costs and payment rates of the agreed rate of pay due to inflation and the rise in the minimum wage.

The local government sector is under severe challenges with rising demand. Especially in social care where adult social care and children's services, especially in educational needs, being over 50% of the Council budget.

With this huge amount being spent on care we continue to talk with central government about the challenges and the funding needed for the delivery of these critical services.

The council has 5500 miles of roads to maintain and keep open. The work on the new section of Kex Gill is under construction and is desperately needed as once again the road is closed due to land slip. It will be closed until the end of June causing major disruption on the east west connection and at a cost of 750,000 pounds to repair.

We have started the next phase of work on the local plan for North Yorkshire land with the 'Call for Sites'.

I would like to let you know about this important piece of work because in time it is likely that sites will be submitted in most, if not all, divisions throughout the county and it is important to understand what this is and more importantly, what it isn't.

This is a process whereby we ask landowners, site promoters, developers and other interested parties to submit their sites for consideration in the local plan. These sites can be for a range of uses and can include, but are not limited to, housing, employment and commercial development, retail and leisure, renewable energy generation and biodiversity or other environmental enhancement schemes.

It is important to note that these are not planning applications and therefore not sites that are up for consideration or development within the short term.

6. Village Organisations' reports

Representatives of village organisations were invited, largely in alphabetical order, to present a report of their group's activities and plans: -

B4RN4BiL - report submitted before the meeting by Simon Stockton

The B4RN4BiL project had a very busy year! It will not have escaped your attention that B4RN contractors as well as the B4RN4BiL Community Workforce were busy installing the B4RN network in the village during the second half of 2022. With over 125 properties now connected and enjoying the world's fastest broadband the project has been extremely successful. There are a few loose ends to tie up; the connection to Mount Wellington should be underway shortly, a small amount of rework is required to connect the

Village shop, Multimedia shop and adjoining properties, and a route to a property on the outskirts of the village and to Waterside Potteries both need establishing.

A big thank you to the community for being so patient whilst the work was completed. A B4RN connection has been provisioned for every property in the village. So, if you want B4RN now or in the future please don't hesitate to request B4RN by searching 'GetB4RN' online.

As a result of the efforts of the B4RN4BiL Community Workforce, £15,000 has been raised (held by BRG) which members would like to spend on community projects. We would like the funds to stretch as far as possible and benefit as many people as possible. Therefore, we are looking to support as many projects as we can and ideally those that are already part funded. Funding is one aspect of a project, but when coupled with the Community Workforce's efforts we have the potential to make a real impact in our community.

If you have a project in mind that requires funding within this ethos then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Simon Stockton / 07720705882 / stockton.simon@googlemail.com

Burton Biodiversity Group presented by Judith Leader

The BBG was established in January of this year and had its inaugural meeting on the first of February. There are currently 8 members in the group which is chaired by Councillor Leader.

- The main focus of the group is to conserve and enhance the biodiversity within the Parish of Burton in Lonsdale. This will involve protecting existing wildlife and natural environments as well creating new spaces to encourage greater biodiversity in the future. Ultimately the aim is to have bigger and better joined up habitats in which wildlife can thrive, as well as further raising the awareness of how all stakeholders in the Parish can contribute to this aim.
- A new Biodiversity Policy has been written. It was adopted by the PC on 21.3.24

Next Steps:

- A map establishing the boundaries of Burton in Lonsdale Parish, and the land ownership within it, is being produced so the group can determine how best to work with them, as well as on Parish and common land.
- Write a Biodiversity Action Plan to help the group prioritise the next steps.
- Establish funding for future projects – e.g. Swift boxes for the village using funding from the YDNP (even though we are just outside it!)
- Write an article for The Burtonian and engage more recruits for the group.

In the interim, some recent wildlife talks have been attended by members of the group, including a talk on Swifts and engagement in the Ground Nest Fest 2024 in Settle.

All Saints' Bellringers Report - report submitted before the meeting by Gwen Harris

Bellringing is thriving in Burton. Altogether we currently have 10 ringers, nine from Burton and one from Bentham, which is the most we have ever had.

Since September we have had two expert bellringing teachers from Barbon who have been teaching the learners and improving our techniques. We are very fortunate as one of them is at the forefront of bellringing training in the country!

We aim to ring on the first Sunday of the month and for weddings. We regularly host visiting bellringers. Our village bellringers are a mixture of churchgoers and non-churchgoers and all are welcome. Our practice runs on a Tuesday from 7.30 to 9p.m and new comers can just come to the church at that time or contact Gwen Harris. (vgwenharris@gmail.com)

Book Group - report submitted before the meeting by Anne Hajnrych

A BURTON BOOK CLUB

Our book club is an informal group of 8 people who come together once every 6 weeks or so having all read the agreed text and with an opinion of its merits. There is no hierarchy and no fees. The size of the group is limited by how many we can comfortably accommodate in our homes.

The purpose is to connect with others, expand our reading habits, chat and eat cake. All good for mental health, enjoyment of life, perhaps not so good for the waistline.

We take turns to meet in each other's homes where the host bakes a splendid cake or sometimes two, and after some discussion on the merits of our book of choice we then collectively choose the next one to be scrutinised, putting suggestions forward as the spirit moves us. We prefer to go for older titles that can be picked up for relatively little money on the second-hand market.

Our book club has been going for about 10 years.

Bowling Club - the report was presented by John Wood

BURTON-IN-LONSDALE BOWLING CLUB REPORT 2024

Burton Bowling Club continues to thrive with a membership of over 30. On behalf of the club I would like to thank all who help with the running of the club. The club officials are: Chairman: Brian Ramwell, Treasurer; Tony Blacow, Secretary: Steve Vose, President and Safety Officer: John Wood. Committee: Doreen Dryden, Shaun Wilson, Chris and Val Thompson, Lee Marshall, Malcolm Bibby. The green is mowed and maintained by Shaun Wilson, Tony Blacow and John Mason.

Future projects involve: building a new secure tool shed and erecting a marking hut at the far end of the green.

On Mondays we field a team in the South Westmoreland Seniors Bowling League, Captained by John Mason, these matches are played on Monday afternoons throughout the season against teams such as Windermere, Burneside, Lindale, etc.

On Tuesday evenings we field a team in the Kendal Bowling League, captained by Lee Marshall Their matches are played against teams such as Netherfield, Bowness, Holme, etc.

This year we are fielding a team in the Morecambe League played on a Wednesday evening against teams such as Bare, Carnforth, Silverdale, etc., Captained by Tony Blacow.

On Friday evenings we field a team in the South Lakeland Rural League, captained by Val Thompson, playing on Friday evenings against teams such as Heversham, Sedbergh, Netherfield, etc.

Friendly matches are organised by Jane Burns and Captained by Doreen Dryden, and are played on Saturday afternoons, these matches are played against Ingleton, Bentham, Hornby, Kirkby Lonsdale and Austwick. Thanks go to the ladies of the club who make the teas and organise the raffles.

The Bowling Club also takes part in the Annual Home Guard Cup hosted this year by Austwick in June.

Burton Bowling Club is an excellent ambassador for the village hosting many matches and events from visiting teams from all the towns and villages mentioned above.

We raise funds by means of annual subscriptions and an annual jumble sale held at Ingleton Community Centre in the Spring.

We are always looking to attract new members to join us and enjoy the company and friendship that bowling provides. Bowling is a community activity and any age group can play and compete, we have players in their twenties and two members in their nineties. We hold practice sessions on Thursday evenings at 6.30 and also practice on Wednesday and Friday afternoons at 2pm.

Visitors to the village are welcome to play throughout the season, entrance fee £1 per person.

Thank you

John Wood (President)

Bridge Club - report submitted before the meeting by Ruth Brown
Report from The Bridge Club at Burton

The Bridge Club continues to meet on a Monday evening from 7 pm to 9.30 pm. We have around 20 members with a few others who attend intermittently. We are grateful that the lighting outside has been put on a sensor. We have had some issue with the temperature of the room especially in the cold weather when at times it was very cold. We understand that this has now been fixed although it can still be rather cool at times. Everyone enjoys meeting in the pavilion and find the facilities very good. We are always looking for new members to join but we are not able at the moment to give tuition to beginners.
 Ruth Brown

Burton Chapel -report submitted before the meeting by Jenny Sedgewick
 BURTON In LONSDALE METHODIST CHURCH

Although we no longer have our Chapel building, thanks to the generosity of the members of All Saints Church, we are able to have our services in the Church Room every Sunday. On the second & fourth Sundays of each month we have our own service at 9-30am but on the 1st & 3rd Sundays we have a united service with the Anglican congregation at 11am. Following the united services we always have coffee & a chat. Everyone is very welcome to join us at any of these times.
 Jenny Sedgewick

Burton Dynamos FC

Who we are:

Nick is our founder and manager. Nick owns his own business called NJC Coaching. We offer 1-1 and small group sessions to everyone who wants to play the sport of football. Along with this NJC Coaching has school contracts, provides parties and SEN sessions.

Nick is one of the most highly qualified football coaches at his age and in the area. He holds a UEFA Coaching qualification. Full DBS and safeguarding.

Nick is currently the first team manager at Morecambe Women and has coached football at AFC Fylde and Blackburn Rovers.

Secondly, we have Mike Daley- Mike is the director of football at the club NJC Fc. Mike has been involved with football for over 40 years both at adult level and also at kids' level.

Mike used to run his own club called TIC Dynamos of Middleton and Overton. He successfully built this club from scratch and secured several league titles along the way.

What we are about and what we want to achieve:

We currently are a club who wants to push football to its absolute limit alongside the business of NJC Coaching. Not only do we want to bring a football team to the village. We want to bring business and support to the community. A community to which we already feel a part of.

We want to work alongside the village and rec committee to get the most for everyone. Things such as grants, supporting local events and a place for the local footballing community to come together.

Things we actively want to encourage and achieve:

Fundraising for the club of NJC Fc + the facilities at Burton
 Sponsorship opportunities for local businesses.
 Support of local events however we can
 Opportunities for local people to play in the side
 Cash injection for the village and rec community- from use of the pitch/hall

Access to booking of private football sessions and parties for local people.

Support to the Punch Bowl when open

Something for the local village to come together for.

We will soon be launching our new social media sites. But in the meantime, if you do need to get a hold of anyone, please message Nick on 07776020438 or email on njccoaching@gmail.com

Burton Film Nights - report presented by Tina Douglass Taylor

The Burton in Lonsdale Film Group restarted post-Covid in September 2022 with ten members in the group.

Teena Douglass Taylor

Burton In Lonsdale Film Group

Burton Community Inn

Community Purchase of the Punch Bowl Inn

When The Punch Bowl was put on the market in late February, a Community Benefit Society (with support from Plunkett UK) was set up to try and bring the pub into community ownership. This was led by an experienced Management Team of village residents made up by Peter Thompson and Professor Ian Clarke as joint chairs, David Taylor as Secretary, and Christine Wardle, Marilyn Smith, Ian Wardle, Julie Gabriel-Clarke, and Clare Hucknall.

The team, supported by many members of our community, put in an enormous amount of effort (over 2,500 hours) to engage with the community and to apply for a grant of £250,000 to the Government's Community Ownership Fund. We also had to gauge the interest of residents in match-funding the purchase through the CBS.

Concerted activities fuelled the grant application and share pledges, centring on community engagement via two open meetings that achieved record attendance (130 people in total), two strategy workshops to brainstorm ideas, visits to other community-owned pubs to identify lessons, a call for residents to pledge to buy shares, several pub 'workgroups' drew on expertise from villagers, and a final village meeting prior to applying was held on 27th March (attracting over 100 people) to brief residents on the grant submission to COF. The application consisted of a full Business Plan, Community Engagement & Social Impact Plan, and a detailed Application Form.

The engagement led to extensive letters of support from individuals, groups, and stakeholders in the area, with highlights including written support from RH Julian Smith MP for Skipton and Ripon, our Councillor for North Yorkshire, David Ireton, and Paul Ainsworth, policy advisor of CAMRA nationally describing it as "one of the best campaigns we have seen". A key component of the engagement was a community survey, that gathered ideas from over 62% of households. A website and Facebook page for the initiative were also set up.

An offer for The Punch Bowl was made to the agents, Fisher Hopper on 27th March. To date this offer has not been accepted.

The Community Ownership bid was submitted on 9th April.

Julian Smith will be visiting Burton in Lonsdale on Friday 24th May to show further support for the bid, prior to the decision on our grant application by the Community Ownership Fund expected in early June. A formal Share Prospectus will be issued soon so people buy shares in the Community Benefit Society over the coming weeks.

Burton Regeneration Group - report submitted before the meeting by Simon Stockton

Burton Regeneration Group

The Burton Regeneration Group (BRG) has supported the B4RN4BiL group by administering the funds raised by the project over the last year using its bank account and annual accounting process.

As a registered charity BRG is keen to work with other groups to delivery projects in line with its constitution to promote, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Burton in Lonsdale and the surrounding area, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who need such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interest of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

BRG trustees (Ian Thompson, Alistair Gregory & Simon Stockton)

Community First Responders report submitted before the meeting by Julie Clarke
Annual Report on the activities of Burton in Lonsdale First Responders.

Annual Report on the activities of Burton in Lonsdale Community First Responders (WCR 67)
The village currently has two Community First Responders (CFR) volunteering with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service. (YAS). Our call out rate is not high as we fortunate to live in a relatively health community. We are also responsible for checking that the Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in the village are functioning satisfactorily.

In October last year the CFR trainer, Chrissy Blakely held a well-attended session on behalf of the parish council in the village hall. The session focusing on CPR included what happens when someone calls 999, the process of allocation, the CFR role, CPR using an AED and culminated in attendees practicing CPR. We attend regular training sessions which are held at either Bentham or Settle Fire Station ensuring our skills are kept up to date. In addition, there is an increasing number of online modules to be completed, to make sure our knowledge is current. YAS are always looking for CFR volunteers and we would urge anyone interested to get in touch

Your sincerely

Julie Gabriel-Clarke

Community Workforce - report submitted before the meeting by Simon Stockton
Community Workforce

The Community Workforce has thrived since evolving from the B4RN4BiL Workforce. Nominally meeting on the first Saturday morning of the month we have completed a number of tasks for the benefit of the community, including replacing the guttering and established a base for the new scoring shed at the Bowling Club, removal of the old toilets at the Village Hall and painting the inside of the Village Shop.

Many thanks to all those in the Community Workforce who keep turning up to improve the village for the benefit of the community,

If you have a project in mind that requires the Community Workforce support then please don't hesitate to get in touch, Simon Stockton, 07720705882, stockton.simon@googlemail.com

Concert and Cakes - Report presented by Christine Wardle

2023/24 opened in October with a marmite concert by the Hercules Jazz Duo. For some it was the best we'd ever presented and for others the worst! Either way, it was the talk of the village for a full week afterwards.

In November we welcomed back favourites the Rosamund Brass Quartet. They treated us to a stunning performance of 'Theme and Variations from String Quartet no.2 in A Major' by Dmitri Shostakovich – a piece no other Brass Quartet has ever attempted.

In February we had another first – the fabulous Mallet Squared Percussion Duo. Jason and Harriet treated us to a virtuosic display of amazing music, filling the church with the sound of marimbas, drums and enough percussion to fill a large van! They got a standing ovation – and quite rightly so. They had made a massive effort to put on the concert and we were very lucky to be there.

In March, we were treated to the haunting sound of the Talland String Quartet performing Samuel Barber's String Quartet in B minor – better known as the heartrendingly beautiful "Adagio for Strings". It was great to see a full church and many new people from both inside and outside the village.

Altogether a wonderful and varied set of concerts supported by an army of helpers who bring delicious cakes, flowers for the church room, serve the refreshments and tidy everything away afterwards. A special thank you must go to Simon in the Multi Media Shop for printing the programmes and posters.

Christine Wardle, Cathy Rowland and Steve Vose

April 2024

Emergency Plan – report presented by Phil James

Village Emergency Plan Update - Report for Parish Council Annual General Meeting 09/05/2024

The village emergency plan was developed approximately 10 years ago by local resident, Andy Ive. Due to ill health, Andy stood down from keeping the plan up to date last year and asked me to take on the development of the plan in late 2023.

The current plan is extremely comprehensive, but due to local government restructuring and the passage of time, key elements are now out of date. These include, but are not limited to:

- Contact details for local government departments (now North Yorkshire Council, not Craven District).
- Details for contacts within the village who can be called upon in the event of an emergency occurring.
- Keyholder and security code details for accessing community assets (village hall, pavilion, church hall, community shop and the community workforce)

Although the plan is comprehensive, it is not currently in a format that lends itself to being a quick reference 'how to' in the event of an emergency occurring. For this reason, I am currently developing a revised edition with quick, easily found details for initial actions for the most 'likely' types of incidents which we may expect to occur, and the detailed elements from the current plan will be kept as a reference section after being checked for necessary updates.

I have spoken to the Burton Communication group (Julie G-C) about getting access to the village website to keep the plan up to date. Whilst having access to contact details etc. on the website makes access available to anybody, there are issues with confidentiality and security particularly where there are named local individual contacts and building access details. I am exploring ways to address this. In addition, I need to identify individuals with relevant experience who can help with the plan completion and future updating.

I have also been in contact with Lee Brayford, the Resilience and Emergencies Officer on North Yorkshire Council with responsibility for Community Emergency Planning, and will be guided by him as to the content and format of our revised plan.

I would like to finish by extending my profound thanks to Andy Ive for the work he put into developing and maintaining the village emergency plan, and to wish him better health in the future.

Phil James

Flag flying - The report presented by Cllr Wardle

Flying the Flag

When I became a councillor in early 2022, a duty that I picked up because I had previously had my own flagpole and a collection of flags, was to take over the Parish Council's responsibility for hoisting the one and only flag, the "union flag" (it is only the Union Jack when flown on a boat) on specific allowable days throughout the year.

Thanks mainly to eBay, I now have a collection of some 32 flags, mainly countries, but with a few others such as "Pride", the Yorkshire Rose and Concert&Cakes.

I only fly the flags on a particular public occasion for the country in question, such as their national or Freedom Day. However, some countries have different official public holidays that I feel we may also like to join in with. For example, on 26th May, Australia celebrates "National Sorry Day" which originally was established to say sorry to the indigenous people, but is now used as a day to say "sorry" for any reason. Another example will be on 18th September which, in Japan, is "Respect for the Aged" Day, a day I feel that we in Burton in Lonsdale should embrace.

I am in regular contact with the College of arms who instruct all councils and public buildings on the protocol of flying flags in public spaces in the United Kingdom. They also inform all on any changes on which days or events that flags may or should be flown.

The list of all the flags, and my "Flag Diary" is on the Parish Council web page. I now have over 70 dates in the Diary, but as a "vexillologist", which is a collector of flags, I am hoping to add more soon. Any suggestions, or donations of flags that need a new home, will be welcome.

If anyone would like to offer any further suggestions for flags that we could fly, please do not hesitate to contact me on ianspudwardle@gmail.com

Cllr Ian Wardle

28 April 2024

Heritage Group - The report from Julie Clarke

Annual Report on the activities of Burton in Lonsdale Heritage Group
2023 was a relatively quiet year for the Heritage Group. Members undertook research work with Lee Cartledge of Bentham Pottery into the Bateson Family and contributed to the information board with Pals with Trowels that is now in situ in the wildwood area next to the orchard. Following a donation of a filing cabinet we are now starting the lengthy process of organizing all considerable material we now hold from copies of photos and maps of the village through various period, histories of notable families and records of past industrial activity. We are very grateful to the All Saints for letting us store the archive. At the same time we continue to go our digital archive of Burton and its inhabitants in newspapers. Looking ahead we are organising a public talk in September on the potteries by Lee Cartledge to be held on 5th September. This which will be accompanied by a small exhibition on the potteries in the Church to coincide with National Heritage Open Days which take place from 6 – 15 September this year.

Yours sincerely

Julie Gabriel-Clarke (Chair)

Burton in Lonsdale Heritage Group.

Multimedia Shop – report was presented by Simon Willan

My name is Simon Willan and I am the owner of the Multimedia Shop on the High Street.

We have been selling, repairing and supporting PCs here for just short of 29 years. In that time, we have seen huge changes in the IT. Industry – when we opened here Bill Gates had a dream of a PC in every home – now you'd be hard pressed to find one without several!

We now support a huge number of users from near and far with computers, tablets, phones and just about any technology you care to mention.

We have had another busy year serving both new and existing customers and look forward to another.

Simon Willan.

Music Night

Music nights – report presented by Mike Biles

There is no formal group for music nights. The original idea was to reinstate acoustic music in the pub, which had petered out a few years ago. The objective was to benefit musicians – of all levels – help the pub by bringing in a bit of business and amuse people who enjoyed music. The results were great – we managed 8 out of 12 monthly sessions last year, with a combination of folk, rock, pop, blues, music hall – you name it. The sessions produced a lot of joy and fun. Everyone was applauded, irrespective of ability or level of nervousness.

The situation with the pub has made it impossible this year. Since the pub closed, we tried to organise a monthly music night in the village hall – but due to illness and other commitments, the reality is we just need more musicians. If we can re-establish music nights in the village hall, we can roll them over to the pub when it reopens – as we all hope it will.

So, this is a plea – there are loads of people in Burton or nearby who play some kind of acoustic instrument. You may be an accomplished musician or vocalist, or someone who only performs in front of the bedroom mirror. Whatever – please get in touch with me and we can get a bit of music going in Burton.

Mike Biles

Pals with Trowels - report given by Bev Thompson.

The PALS were put forward for a North Yorkshire Community Award and although they did not make it to the final three, they were highly commended. The Group are looking forward to working with the newly formed Biodiversity Group. Seven working parties have been formed to maintain all areas of the Village – the Wildlife Area, the Village Green, the Orchard and the East and West entrances. The PALS are currently working with the Community Workforce on the Eastern entrance to the Village. There is a Plant Sale planned for June and also ongoing Book Cafes.

PC/PCC Liaison Group – report to Annual Parish Meeting 9 May 2024

The Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council were not really talking. So the PC/PCC Liaison Group was established last year to discuss items of common interest, help each other out where possible and benefit the community along the way. It meets, irregularly and informally – just three times so far – in June and September last year and in February this year. Views are fed back to the respective groups with a view to facilitating amicable action.

Items discussed to date include:

VOSCY

Other Churchyards

Village Green

Lychgate

Advertising/Promotion

The Church's Digital footprint

Arising from these discussions:

VOSCY

Plans for maintaining and improving this area have been shared with the PCC. Speaking as one who does some of the work, it is good to have their support.

VILLAGE GREEN

The PCC did not feel the PC's proposal to create a parking space on the worn area outside the church was necessary. So the PC plans to raise the kerb, re-grass the area and enforce no parking on the Green.

LYCHGATE

The PC vacillated over maintaining this unique building for the best part of 50 years until it decided, relatively recently, that it had no responsibility for it. Leaving aside the issues of money and responsibility, the group objectively considered what options existed for this unique building, which were:

1. Let it deteriorate further and fall down;
2. Pull it down as a safety hazard;
3. Fix it.

It was decided to at least fix the main problems and then take a view on improvement. We have cleared the interior. PCC members have obtained quotes for fixing the roof and are now trying to raise the necessary money to do the work. It is felt that improvements to the VOSCY as well as collaboration with other groups like PALS and Heritage will assist in obtaining grants. Given the history, the fact that something is happening with the Lychgate is a significant achievement that we should all welcome, and be proud of.

HELP WITH ADVERTISING

At the outset, representatives of both parties agreed to help promote each others' events. Unfortunately, it was discovered at our February meeting that, contrary to established practice, the PC no longer promotes anything other than PC business (and Conservative candidates) through its email list. So unfortunately advertising support is now limited to the efforts of individual PC/PCC members via social media.

OPERATION SUNFLOWER

This is a joint venture in collaboration with PALS and Stay & Play. PALS have donated the sunflower seeds. It is hoped that children and the youthful among us will plant hundreds of sunflowers in designated places on the VOSCY and SW churchyard on 15 June, producing a mass of colour in August/September. We can send the photos to the newspapers!

Mike Biles

Information about the Recreation Field and MUGA

From the Parish Council for the Annual Parish meeting 2024

Progress on refurbishing the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

The MUGA is 26 years old and needs a new playing surface. The Parish Council has submitted applications for two grants to enable the refurbishment of the MUGA. If the applications are successful, we shall be able to re-surface the MUGA and to install a new access control system that would enable a booking/fee collection system to be set up.

The applications are to the Football Foundation (FF), for £32750 plus vat for a new all-weather surface and to North Yorkshire Sport (NYS), for £11700 plus vat for an access control system. The FF will fund a maximum of 75% of the project cost (£24500), which together £6000 in the PC account donated by Burton Community Sports, will leave a shortfall of £2250. Burton Regeneration Group has agreed to donate £2300 to cover this shortfall.

Burton Community Sports will continue to raise additional funds to help ensure a small reserve will exist once the refurbishment is completed.

We thank the volunteers, (Maggie Mort, Heather Watts, Kevin Coyne, Mike Illsley, and Ian Parker), who put the applications together. These volunteers will continue to raise funds until the successful completion of the project.

New users of the Recreation Field and Pavilion

We expect to have a new adult men's team using our recreation field and facilities in the pavilion. The Westmorland League inspected the facilities and recommended the new club should join the league. *This is a brand-new club which is forming this summer. Run by Nick Clark, who is the current manager of Millhead. Nick is looking to start this new team and make use of the fantastic community facilities in Burton in Lonsdale and tap into a pool of players in that area which currently has no adult football team.*

We have also had a request to use these facilities from a local women's team. We hope this opportunity is also realised for next season.

Ian Parker

May 2024

All Saints Church report - report submitted before the meeting by Christine Whitfield**All Saints Church 2023.**

All Saints Church has almost the same numbers on its' Electoral Roll (26) as Stay & Play does on its' Register (28). And we get approximately the same numbers (between 6 & 12) coming to Sunday services! We are grateful to our Methodist friends who worship in church now their Chapel has closed, and we enjoy joint services together twice a month.

2023 seemed a quiet year for us. It was a joy to baptise Laura and Felix, who come to Stay & Play, and then marry Laura & Matthew in church! Sadly we had one funeral service, that of John Edmondson, and we buried the ashes of Vera Dodgson in the churchyard.

But then we enjoyed our Pancake Party, Concert & Cakes, a service to celebrate the Coronation, a Summer Fayre and Advent Fayre, special services for Good Friday, Remembrance Day, Harvest and Christmas! So maybe it wasn't so quiet.

As always we thank everyone who supports our village church in so many ways, to keep it thriving and open to all.

Thank you.

Stay & Play report - report submitted before the meeting by Christine Whitfield

Stay & Play group. 2023.

We have continued to meet regularly on Thursday mornings from 9.30am in All Saints Church Room. Our numbers are healthy, and families join us from the village and surrounding villages and farms. 26 children are on our Register for this year. We now see more children on the Register but many who can only come occasionally as more parents work shifts or are extremely busy!

We average between 6 and 12 children each week, which is ideal for the size of our space.

We thank Lucy & Claudia who donated the proceeds from the Coronation Raffle to us. We bought a Little Tikes Market Stall which was chosen by them!

We thank our leaders and helpers who generously give of their time, and who in 2023 enthusiastically embarked on training and the Safe Recruitment of Volunteers programme devised by the Diocese!
Thank you.

Table tennis group -

Burton in Lonsdale Table Tennis group report for Parish Council 9 May 2024

- Table Tennis is played twice a week for an hour on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. These sessions are open for all to play. These are usually attended usually by 5 to 7 local residents. In total there is a pool of 10 -12 regular players. Occasionally, visiting relatives of local residents, often young people, have also attended sessions.
- The table tennis sessions started in 2016 with some of the original players still taking part. Most of the players are older people, with the eldest being 93. The benefits of this form of exercise are considerable to health, including improved mental focus, hand/eye and body coordination, balance, reflexes and weight loss. The group is also a good opportunity to meet people.
- Coaching sessions are held either one or two times a week in an evening. These have been advertised in the Burtonian. 4 people have generally attended these sessions during the last year. Recently, 3 local residents, who have recently started playing table tennis, have also begun to attend these sessions. A former league player generally leads the sessions. Last year an expert local player also given considerable tuition to the group.

Keith Watts

Village Hall Committee - Marion Hodgson

Marion thanked Andy Ive, who has had to stand down due to ill health, for his many years of service on the Village Hall Committee as chair and committee member. She thanked him for all his help and hard work and sent him best wishes.

The Village Hall has had success with fundraising with £19,000 from the Queens Platinum Jubilee fund, and £10,000 from the Parish Council. This has enabled building work to be started. Although there were delays due to bad weather the work is now finished. Unfortunately, costs are over budget so fundraising will need to continue. The Community Workforce have offered to help with decorating which is much appreciated. Since reopening bookings have gone back to normal and further events are planned for later in the year. The remaining works are to be completed this year.

Village Shop – Report read by Bev Thompson

Burton in Lonsdale Community Shop

Burton Community shop continues to serve and support the local community, offering a wide range of locally sourced produce, such as Dales, Kitriding, and Cornvale. The extended opening hours from 7.00am to 6.00pm on weekdays meet the needs of residents who are now able to shop after work. If things are not in stock, then we can order them for you. We can also deliver if needed. Prices are always competitive. Our shop is run by an amazing team of staff and volunteers – headed by Sarah and Julie our incredible managers. We were delighted to welcome Hannah Grundy to the Post Office staff this year, ensuring that the Post Office remains open each weekday. We continue to offer dry cleaning and a prescription collection service.

The refurbishment of the shop is still work in progress – new double doors offer wider easier access; paving, a new log store and bench make the front more welcoming; and new chairs and table make the window a pleasant space to enjoy a coffee; the rearrangement of the shelving and a new storage cupboard makes the shop more spacious. The counter area has just been refurbished as a more serviceable working space, and we have yet to decorate, improve the lighting, and other internal adjustments.

The shop relies on the village using it. Thank you to all who support us by shopping locally. Our thanks also to all staff and volunteers for everything they do.

Maggie Bruno

Vice Chair – Management Committee

VOSCY – Report to Annual Parish Meeting 9 May 2024

Almost exactly a year ago, the Parish Council agreed proposals to improve the ‘VOSCY’ – the Very Old and Separate Churchyard’ bordered by Chapel Hill and the church. It is a lovely, tranquil, area in the middle of our village and has great views. In summary, the idea was to take a planned approach to maintenance and improvement, initially using volunteers. Moreover, from the outset it was recognised that there is considerable potential for working with other groups for the benefit of the whole – the obvious examples in this case being PALS and the Heritage Group.

So, since last year, we have:

- Strimmed the majority of the area several times. It is now a lot easier to work on.
- Purchased a 2nd hand mower for £50.
- Got about 50% of the area to a condition whereby it can be regularly mowed. It is starting to look like a proper churchyard rather than a piece of waste ground.
- Cleared around the graves, including removing saplings growing through them. There are still a few graves that need more intense TLC.
- Disposed of rubbish.
- The regular cutting reveals patches of primroses over old unmarked graves – which we think must have been intentionally planted.
- Cut back a tree that was damaging the roof of the Lych Gate.
- Trimmed the hedges behind Stone Bower
- Cut back undergrowth around the perimeter and in the central area. This cleared graves and also revealed a gravestone and some kerbing around a family vault.
- Left the steep slope facing Chapel Hill uncut until the end of the season, to allow wildflowers and grasses to grow.
- The untidy area (where we don't think there are any burials) has also been left wild. Last autumn, it was strimmed, raked hard, and wildflower seeds were sown. The seeds were kindly donated by PALS.
- With the exception of the mower, all tools and equipment used have been our own. The Parish merely paid for the mower and consumables last season, saving several hundred pounds.

By the end of the season, the VOSCY was looking cared for and, based on the wearing of the path between Chapel Hill and the main churchyard, more people are using it as part of a regular walk.

This year, so far, the area has just had its initial spring clean. The mower was wheezing and has been serviced. There is no sign of any wildflowers from the seeded area yet. However, the upper area has been mowed and a path has been cut all the way round the perimeter of the entire churchyard. Plans for this season include:

- Carry on with the maintenance started last season. The big issue here is coinciding availability with suitable weather. There is also a problem disposing of woody waste.
- Cut ivy from the yew tree growing by the remembrance garden.
- Preparing particular patches for sunflowers to be planted in June – part of Operation Sunflower.
- Decide what, if anything, to do about the wildflower area.
- Decide what or how much to prune the trees from the central area. This would involve the use of tree surgeons – which was budgeted for last year, but not used. Any work would need to be done by January/February, before birds nest.
- Organising a ground earth resistance survey to help ascertain the location of the Old Chapel of Ease. An amateur expert has agreed to do an initial survey and the Heritage Group has agreed a donation of £100 toward his society - Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts. Incidentally, during the course of these enquiries, some interesting shapes emerged on Lidar surveys of the village and it is hoped to include one of these in the survey – but that's nothing to do with VOSCY.
- Discuss ideas for information boards with the Heritage Group and anyone else interested.
- Possibly consider buying a bench or two.

If anyone is interested in helping out with this work, I'd love to hear from them.

Mike Biles

The Chair asked if any other Group would like to report – there were none

7. Written resolutions received

There were none.

8. Close of meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming. The meeting closed at 9.57 pm.

Signed

Date

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