

# LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER – Edition July 2009

This Newsletter is produced to inform the residents of the Parish about the work of the Parish Council over the last few months and to inform you of the role undertaken by your Parish Councillors on your behalf. The Parish Council welcomes any feedback from this Newsletter and contributions that people would like to make to the next one. Volunteer organisations may wish to use this Newsletter to let people know of their work.

### NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>TH</sup> July 2009 in the Library, Ambleside, commencing at 7.30pm and the one after that on the 29<sup>th</sup> July at the same time and venue.

Members of the Public are entitled to attend any Parish Council Meeting to listen to items discussed. They may also participate in the Meeting and the Chairman will adjourn at 8pm to allow the public to speak on any matter that concerns you or on anything that you think the Parish Council should know.

The Parish Council deals with a whole range of local issues on your behalf and positively welcomes contributions from people who live in the Parish of Lakes. If you receive one of these Newsletters – that means **YOU!** Why not come along to listen or raise any issues or concerns that you may have.

### PARISH DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

You may recall that in September 2008 this Newsletter carried a comprehensive list of local Organisations and Services that had been compiled by a Project Officer working under the direction of the Parish Plan group. It is intended to publish an updated list in the next Newsletter to refresh and remind you of what is going on within Lakes Parish and how to contact the relevant people within each particular group or specialisation.

The Parish Council welcomes any updates from those listed and any additions that people may think would be useful to those living in the Parish. Headings will be Children and Young People; Civic Organisations; Health and Welfare; Information; Older Adults; Religious Organisations; Social and Cultural; Sports Clubs; Tourism and Womens Groups.

### CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2009

There was a time when writing an Annual Chairman's report was easy. It was simply a review of what we had been doing throughout the year. Now you have a regular update in the Parish Newsletter, the 'Pink Un', through your letterbox four times a year. I report to you on the challenges facing us now and in the future. Our job is to focus upon what our Electorate need and try to deliver at the lowest possible cost. Increasingly we have to battle through a "Politically Correct" and "Box Ticking" mentality. I do not always blame the District and County Councils for this as they have to obey the edicts of our masters in Whitehall. There can, though, be times when it is easier to hide behind the system rather than addressing the immediate problems. Our job is to try to battle through this miasma and act as a catalyst to get results. A constant battle is Public Toilet provision and keeping our streets and parks in good condition for locals and for the tourists on whom our economy depends. The visible results delivered by our Highway Steward, Brian and Robin, our Parish Handyman, are good examples of what can be achieved through joint working.

A good Parish Council must be pro-active and have a professional Parish Clerk and a dedicated **unpaid** team of Parish Councillors beavering away for the benefit of the Community.

I believe we have, and I thank them all for their support and hard work during this past year.

*Leslie Johnson*

Chairman

### WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED DURING 2008/9

It is interesting to list some of the things the Council has been involved in during the last year.

- Ongoing dialogue with the police on matters of local concern, including

- vandalism, on-street car parking, drugs and criminal activities.
- A continuing partnership with the Police. The Parish Council Office is now part of Ambleside Police Station offering a Counter service to members of the public for three days a week reporting minor Police matters, including lost or found property,.
- Appointment of a Parish Handyman working 10 hours per week to address basic issues including litter, sign cleaning, hedge trimming, seat and bus shelter cleaning and general small maintenance matters within the Parish.
- Direct liaison with the Cumbria County Council Highway Steward for Highway matters, minor road repairs, hedge and vegetation trimming.
- Parish Councillors serve on many Committees, Charities and Organisations within and on the periphery of the Lakes Parish Council area.
- The Council made recommendations on over 116 planning applications, was represented at 3 Lake District National Park Authority site visits (after major representations on the loss of these visits were accepted by the Park Authority and the invitations to the Parish Council reinstated) and at 1 planning appeal hearing.
- The Council responded to consultation documents from South Lakeland District Council, The Lake District National Park Authority, Cumbria County Council, Central Government, Morecambe Bay Health Authority, Cumbria Association of Local Councils, the Police and others.
- As a result of a Parish Council initiative and evidence from the community, the lane adjacent to the Langdale and Ambleside Mountain Rescue centre has now been officially adopted as a right of way on the definitive map.
- As a result of Parish Council representations, together with the local community, the tables outside of the Royal Oak public house have been removed and the footpath reinstated. A

Café Licence for the same area has been refused.

- The Council has lobbied strongly for better public transport services.
- The Council continues to lobby Government and the University of Cumbria to retain the undergraduate presence in Ambleside.
- After strong representations by Lakes Parish Council, Cumbria County Council Cycling Officer attended a meeting of the Council to discuss alternative routes through Ambleside and from Bowness to Waterhead.
- The Council has now introduced three Task Groups to continue the work of the Parish Plan Action Group. Affordable Housing, Youth and Environment are all chaired and led by Lakes Parish Councillors. A major success has been the 'Up the Wall' project for young people in partnership with the University and Police.
- Ensured the retention of public toilets at Chapel Stile, Ambleside, Grasmere and Rothay Park as a result of grant aid of £13283.74p in this financial year,
- Assisted in the replacement of a seat in memory of Jill Aldersley a well known Lakeland artist. This work was paid for by Ambleside Civic Trust.
- Continued with the quarterly Newsletter (the pink sheet) informing the Parish of the work of the Council and also including items of general information and interest.

***This list contains only a few examples of the Council's busy schedule in support of local people.***

#### **PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

We now have a Vacancy for a Councillor to serve in the Grasmere Ward of Lakes Parish. The Vacancy will have been advertised by the time this edition of the Parish Newsletter goes to press. If no Election is requested, the Council will fill the Vacancy by co-option. If interested then please write to the Clerk and request to be co-opted to the Council. It might be helpful to include details of yourself and anything you may feel will add weight to your application. The closing date for letters of application is **Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> 2009.**

## PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2008/9

Receipts 2008/9		Payments 2008/9	
Balance b/f	14301.79	Office supplies	567.61
SLDC Precept	57140.00	Telephones	563.17
VAT refund	2109.22	Salaries (Clerk)	14021.84
NSB interest	401.14	Handyman	3903.52
Barclays Interest	210.70	Expenses	230.00
Parish Plan grant	1905.78	PAYE (tax)	3773.80
Up the Wall donation 2008.10		NI Employer	954.32
Aldersley seat	838.00	NI Employee	1478.68
Bus Shelter Grant	5561.87	Election Costs	1114.00
		Chairman	100.00
Total	<u>84476.60*</u>	Postage/	500.00
		Grants	3200.00
		CAB Grant	1000.00
		Toilets SLDC	13283.74
		Subscriptions	304.00
		CALC	399.50
		F/way Lighting	1212.00
		Bus shelters/seats	8093.15
		Insurance	867.66
		Rent (Office)	3091.00
		Audit Fee	600.00
		VAT	2601.90
		Training	105.00
		Lakes in Bloom	867.55
		Up the Wall	1788.28
		Maintenance	755.00
		MTI Officer	0.0
		Newsletter/	2185.80
		Parish Plan	1815.48
		Bank Charges	157.75
			<u>69534.75</u>
		Year End Balances	
		NSB	11819.71
* Balancing figure		Barclays Current	3174.94
			84529.40
			(52.80)
			<u>84476.60*</u>

The Annual Accounts have been available for inspection in the Parish Office up to 8th June 2008. They have been inspected by the Parish Council Internal Auditor and given a clean bill of health. Electors of Lakes Parish may question the External Auditor to the Council about the accounts after 12th June 2009. Further details are available from the Parish Clerk.

Grants awarded were as follows:

South Lakeland District Council – Toilets	13283.74
Ambleside Christmas Lights donation -	2000.00
Holy Trinity – Langdale	-- 250.00
Cumbria Rural CAB -	- 1000.00
Town Centre Manager SLDT	- Nil
North West Air Ambulance	- 1000.00
Grasmere Players	- 250.00
St Mary's Ambleside - graveyard	200.00

A full Annual Report is available at the Parish Office or at [www.amblesideonline.co.uk/parish](http://www.amblesideonline.co.uk/parish)

## WATERHEAD – AMBLESIDE – A NEW APPROACH

Many readers will recall the work that was undertaken last year to develop proposals to enhance Waterhead for residents, businesses and of course visitors. There were many lessons learned from that piece of work, both good and not so good, not least the importance of consulting as widely as possible with the community.

SLDC was asked in October to take up the reins of the project, learn the lessons and take it forward - which it has done. A new working group has been formed which includes many of the groups previously involved, together with others to ensure that as many contribute their views and guide the process as possible. These organisations are:

Ambleside Civic Trust, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Tourism, Cumbria Vision, Lake District National Park Authority, Lakes Parish Council, North West Regional Development Agency, South Lakeland District Council, South Lakes Development Trust, and all of the businesses in Waterhead together with representatives from the community. Continued support from the North West Development Agency has meant that the steering group has been able to appoint consultants TEP to take the project forward. By the time this magazine has been published the first of three participative workshops will have been held in Ambleside designed to get your ideas and views for what could happen at Waterhead.

These workshops will have looked in detail at issues surrounding the Environment, Local Economy, Tourism, Transport, Mobility, Parking and of course public realm – in practical terms a way of describing the type of material that would be most suitable for this unique and beautiful part of the lake together with street furniture, signage, lighting and all of those elements which individually come together to create the space we live and work in.

So what is happening now? The consultants have been asked to develop three proposals based on your views gathered at the workshops.

These will range from smaller improvements to more significant changes. These will all be exhibited widely in Ambleside and Windermere in the autumn and will also be available on the consultants website.

[www.tep.uk.com/design-waterhead.php](http://www.tep.uk.com/design-waterhead.php)

Once again the community will be asked for views, which design is preferred and why. A questionnaire will be produced which you will be able to complete on line and by hand throughout this consultation period.

The questionnaires will be independently analysed and the outcome published. Will anything happen? That depends on the outcome of the consultation and it clearly depends on funding. The project is included within the LDNPA's Windermere Waterfront Local Development Framework and is one of several projects around Windermere, which will all be looking for funding from the North West Development Agency and others. We will have to apply for funding for Waterhead.

If we all work together to create a sensitive and sustainable project which everybody is supportive of, and which really can make a difference to the area and in turn the economy and the lives of those who live and work in Waterhead, Ambleside and the communities in this area then we have a real chance of delivering this project. If you would like to receive bulletins on what is happening, please send your e-mail details to:

[econdev@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:econdev@southlakeland.gov.uk)

Your details will only be kept while this project is in development.

If you would like to talk to somebody please call me on 01229 588499 or speak to representatives from any of the organisations on the group that are listed above. Your Lakes Parish Council representatives are Cllr Maureen Colquhoun and Cllr Elwyn Bradshaw. From Jayne Kendall  
South Lakeland District Council.

## **AMBLESIDE SPORTS 2009**

After months of planning Ambleside Sports is now only a few weeks away – Thursday 30th July. Gates open to the general public at 10 am and the opening address is at noon with a full programme in each of the following categories:

- Cumberland & Westmorland Wrestling
- Hound Trails
- Track Running
- Track Cycling Races
- Fell and Guides Races
- Children's Races

We usually try to bring you something new or unusual and this year is no exception. Before the official start we will be staging a unique, novelty race in the arena. None of us could have witnessed the first cycle race at Ambleside (it was in 1886) but we can all see the first unicycle race! Get there early (11.30) to witness it and let us know what you think. To help us celebrate our Wrestling Bicentenary the Wrestling Association has awarded us the 14 stone World Championship which will start at about 3.20 Besides all the trophies the winner will receive £200 so it should be a fantastic event - we have already had lots of enquiries from overseas.

There will be an incredible number of activities and attractions for all the family. Here are just a few: Quad Bikes \* Trampolines \* Climbing Wall \* Bouncy Castles \* Juggling & Circus Workshops \* Children's Rides

For the shopaholics we have:

- Lots of Trade Stands
- Made in Cumbria shopping village
- Craft & Small Business Marquee

Bring your own picnic or use the large variety of caterers who will satisfy every taste. There will be live music in the large beer tent where locally produced hand pulled beers will be featured.

We are getting quite used to having TV cameras at the Sports. For those of you looking for that moment of fame we have had indications that one Company is looking to do some live broadcasts and another is aiming to film a programme and will be bringing their own celebrities.

Adults - £5.00; Accompanied Children U12 – Free; Juveniles - £2.50

Please leave your car at home we always struggle for car parking space.

### **SUMMER FLOWER SHOW**

WANTED! Exhibitors interested in Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, Floral Art, Handicrafts, Cookery, Wines, Eggs, Honey or, if you prefer, just come and have a look!

There are 250 classes including children's classes to be admired at the 67<sup>th</sup> AMBLESIDE FLOWER and CRAFT SHOW to be held at Ambleside Primary School during the last weekend in **July**, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments available. Plant stall. Show schedules free from Ambleside Library.

Further information from: David Capstick, Tel. 015394 -32252.

### **HELLO AND GOODBYE**

Welcome to Malcolm Parsons who has been co-opted onto Lakes Parish Council to fill the Vacancy in Rydal advertised in the last edition of this Newsletter. Malcolm lives in the Ward, works locally and is settling in well to his new role representing the community.

Goodbye to Allen Green from Grasmere who has decided to take a well earned retirement from public life having served Lakes Parish for the past 28 years, latterly as Vice Chairman of the Council. A small reception was held by the Council to show their appreciation of the work of Allen over the years. We wish him and his wife Betty all the very best for the future.

### **YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS**

#### **Ambleside Ward (6)**

Cllr Leslie Johnson 015394 32904 – Chairman of Council

Cllr Elwyn Bradshaw 015394 32760

Cllr Nick Martin 015394 31124

Cllr Anne Sowerbutts 015394 32691

Cllr Maureen Colquhoun 015394 34325

Cllr Philip Thompson 015394 33410

#### **Grasmere Ward (3)**

Cllr Elizabeth Braithwaite MBE (Freeman of Lakes) 015394 35297

One Vacancy

Cllr Vivienne Rees 015394 35401

#### **Rydal and Loughrigg Ward (2)**

Cllr Malcolm Parsons 015394 32228

Cllr Fiona Sparrow 015394 32441 (Vice Chairman of Council)

#### **Langdales Ward (3)**

Cllr Sheila Ogden 015394 32341

Cllr Liz Wilson 015394 37327

Cllr Jonathan Smith 015394 37592

#### **Troutbeck Ward (2)**

Cllr Harry Allen 015394 44021

Cllr Roger Westmoreland 015394 33287

District Cllrs – David Vatcher and Vivienne Rees.

County Cllr – David Earnshaw

**Clerk** – Michael Johnson J.P. 015394 31656

([lakesparishcouncil@fsmail.net](mailto:lakesparishcouncil@fsmail.net))

The Police Station

Rydal Road

Ambleside

LA22 9AY

For online details of the Parish Council you may like to visit

[www.amblesideonline.co.uk/parish](http://www.amblesideonline.co.uk/parish)

### **AND FINALLY – CONGRATULATIONS**

To Ambleside FC for retaining the Bluefin Westmorland Football League First Division Championship.