

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER – April 2010

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

'A MONTH IN THE LIFE' **of a Parish Council Handyman**

Once again it is time for an update of the work of Robin Lees, our Handyman and general workhorse on behalf of you, the Electors of Lakes Parish. Robin works 10 hours each week and tries to cover the whole of the Parish in his monthly schedule. Sometimes he doesn't quite make it but be assured he will be there as soon as he can. He gets to those parts that others can't or don't want to reach!!! Here is a flavour of his work in his own words... 'January..snow causing problems still when working with my Trolley. Did what I could. St Mary's Lane, Cheapside, parts of Lake Road, Millans Park, Vicarage Road, King Street car park, Old Lake Road, Low Fold car park, Mclver Lane. Two further cm of snow so went to clear flood debris on Riverside walk. Collected a door, huge bag of foam backed plasterboard, car battery, various plastic tubs, 5 large traffic cones, one old hotel sign then on to Clappersgate where I dragged a huge bag of rubbish back to the Rugby Club for collection. Snow receding and lots of rubbish exposed. Langdale Valley, usual laybys and car parks with many dog poos. Grasmere laybys with the one at the bottom of Dunmail Raise really poor. Top of Dunmail lots of rubbish spotted and dumped rubbish by one of the salt boxes. Lot of rubbish cleared from A591 near Travellers Rest pub. On to Rydal, Pelter Bridge and a tidy of Rothay Holme. Section of A591 up to Troutbeck via Broadoak Hotel with the layby on that road unbelievable, as was the field opposite. Into Troutbeck and on to Limefitt and Holehird layby which was poor as usual. A591 Waterhead to Low Wood, loads of rubbish in the hedgerow and laybys.

Coniston Road, up to Skelwith, Langdale Valley, Elterwater, Old Dungeon Ghyll, Chapel Stile then on to Greenbank and Castlefield. Trolley to Clappersgate to clear a field opposite Bronwen Nixon Bridge with loads of rubbish due to floods. Field opposite Rugby Club has loads of rubbish and will need to return when I have more time. Back into Ambleside clearing rubbish ready for weekend.' Thank you Robin - you are a star!!!

PUBLIC TOILETS

A full scale consultation is going on at the moment and if you have not been able to make sure your views are expressed then time is short. The consultation ends on 4th April so please please make your views heard. For more information please complete a questionnaire by visiting the website www.southlakeland.gov.uk/talktoilets. Or ring them on 0845 230 0139 where one of the talk toilets consultation team will be ready to take your call. Cost of the call is at local rates.

CHAPEL STILE BUS SHELTER

Well done the Langdale Valley Association. Your shelter is in place and has been officially opened by the Chairman of Lakes Parish Council, Cllr Leslie Johnson. The shelter is a testament to the determination of local people coming together with a specific goal in mind. On to the next project!!

AMBLESIDE ALLOTMENTS **ASSOCIATION**

The promise of two allotment sites in Ambleside has enabled the local Allotment Association to make real progress. The possible sites are adjacent to the former Kelsick Grammar School) and to the rear of Hayes Garden Centre. A Tenancy agreement, an association constitution and a plot holders agreement are all in the process of being negotiated. A waiting list has already been drawn up of people who have expressed an interest in a full/part sized plot. However it is not too late to join the list. Queries and expressions of real interest in joining should be directed to Jane Durrant on Ambleside 32222.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

GRASMERE WARD

Due to the sad death of Cllr Mrs Braithwaite MBE, there is a Vacancy on the Council for the Grasmere Ward. No Election has been requested and the Council must fill the Vacancy by co-option at its earliest convenience. Applications are now invited from interested electors who live in Lakes Parish, preferably in Grasmere or the surrounds, to be co-opted as a Councillor to serve their local community. If you are interested please write to the Clerk by Tuesday April 6th to express that interest. Any information regarding yourself and your reasons for wishing to become a Councillor will be helpful.

CLAPPERSGATE

At last the work that has been going on to improve sewers and fresh water is drawing to a close. It has lasted many months beyond its projected time and Jerry McCarthy who is the Project Co-ordinator for the Wastewater Team, has written to Lakes Parish Council, thanking them and the users of the road for their support, understanding and patience towards what has been an extremely challenging job. The scheme is now up and running, transferring foul flows into the Treatment works in Ambleside. The main reason for the slow progress was the rock, in and off the highway which was probably the hardest that project workers have ever encountered.

YOUR HEALTH CENTRE

Ambleside Health Centre wish to let all their patients know that they now have a number of routine appointments offered between 6.30pm and 9.30pm one evening a week. These late appointments have been available since the autumn and are proving particularly useful for those patients who find it difficult to attend in 'office hours' or due to other commitments. One of the potential limitations of the extended hours surgery is that other routine services are not provided by the NHS during these times, so laboratory requests and other investigations may not be so available during the evening or early morning surgeries. The Centre have had lots of positive feedback from patients who found the availability of these surgery times to be helpful. Periodically, early morning 6.30am to 8am routine appointments are available.

It is important that patients with urgent problems out of hours should contact the out of hours service in the usual way where the full emergency service runs as normal.

TWO YEARS ON

It is now two years since the Parish Council moved into Ambleside Police Station. Has it been a successful move? Undoubtedly it has. The Police Station, closed to the public for years, has had a friendly face for visitors and locals alike. Now we have the Community Volunteers who have taken over reception duties at the Station for four days a week. When you see the orange light on they are open for business. The future of the Police presence in Ambleside is secure for at least the medium term. Over 560 individuals from all walks of life have been directly assisted by the open door policy of your Council. The Council works with Community Police Officers, the Highway Steward, the Parish handyman and many others to give a service to you, the residents of Lakes Parish.

RURAL CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Top quality advice for free – it's official!!

The Citizens Advice Bureau serving Lakes Parish from Windermere gives top quality advice, guaranteed. In a recent national Quality of Advice Audit, it achieved a score of 87%, which makes it one of the highest scoring bureaux in the country BUT...the service is under threat because the costs are greater than the income and the bureau is desperately trying to raise more funds to keep open.

'It is very sad that such a high quality service is not properly funded at a time when demand for help, especially with debt, is higher than ever' said manager Linda Wilkinson. 'We could open for longer if we had more resources'. If anyone can help with fundraising for the bureau, please contact Linda.

Free confidential advice and help is available on debt, benefits, employment and any other problems. You can contact the bureau by phone or in person on 015394 46464

SQUIRREL MANAGEMENT IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

There has been a number of initiatives on squirrel management recently. Now the Lake District Park Authority are looking to help co-ordinate a plan of action that will represent the best chance of success in terms of controlling greys, so enabling red squirrels to flourish. The Red Squirrel Survival Trust and Northern Red Squirrels are two of the partners who will help to develop this plan. Part of the background to a recent report states that despite the continued incursion of grey

squirrels into the Lake District, it has become clear that there is room for optimism that the reds can survive and thrive. To enable this a sustained and concerted programme of action is required to keep reds and greys apart; protect reds where numbers have stabilized; control greys; research vaccines and fertility control for greys and also raise awareness of the plight of the reds. Lakes Parish Council has been invited to become part of the action group and is to discuss the nomination of a representative at its March meeting.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th April 2010 in the Library, Ambleside commencing at 7.30pm and the one after that on the 21st April 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 contribute when the Chairman adjourns the meeting at 8pm to allow members of the public to speak on any matter of concern. The Parish Council positively welcome contributions from people who live in the Parish of Lakes. If you receive one of these Newsletters – that generally means YOU! Why not come along to listen?

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Ambleside Ward (6)

Cllr Leslie Johnson 015394 32904(Chairman)
Cllr Elwyn Bradshaw 015394 32760
Cllr Nick Martin 015394 31124
Cllr Philip Thompson 015394 33410
Cllr Maureen Colquhoun 015394 34325
Cllr Anne Sowerbutts 015394 32691

Grasmere Ward(3)

Vacancy
Cllr Ella Footit 015394 35918
Cllr Vivienne Rees 015394 35401

Rydal and Loughrigg Ward (2)

Cllr Malcolm Parsons 015394 33804
Cllr Fiona Sparrow 015394 32441(Vice Chairman)

Langdales Ward(3)

Cllr Sheila Ogden 015394 32341
Cllr Liz Wilson 015394 37327
Cllr Mark Dugdale 015394 37447

Troutbeck Ward(2)

Cllr Harry Allen 015394 44021
Cllr Roger Westmoreland 015394 33287

Clerk – Michael Johnson JP

(lakesparishcouncil@fsmail.net)

015394 31656 Parish Office: The Police Station, Rydal Road, Ambleside. LA22 9AY
Open Mondays and Wednesdays 9.45 to 5pm and one other weekday..

FOR DETAILS OF ALL PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES – MINUTES, AGENDAS, PARISH PLAN, DIRECTORY OF SERVICES. PAST AND PRESENT NEWSLETTERS ETC GO TO
WWW.AMBLESIDEONLINE.CO.UK

TO ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS IN THE PARISH OF LAKES.

Take note that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held at the Kelsick Centre, St Mary's Lane, Ambleside, on Wednesday May 12th May 2010 at 7.00 pm in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 Part 3.

Representatives of local charities, organisations, clubs and social bodies are invited to participate and to report on their activities; the Parish Council will present its annual report.

The meeting is open to all members of the public but only local government electors from the Parish of Lakes are permitted to vote.

This notice is given by:-

Leslie Johnson

Cllr. Leslie Johnson,
Chairman,
Lakes Parish Council.

March 29th 2010