

Message from the Chairman

Roger Atfield.

At the May meeting of the Parish Council, I was re-elected Chairman and thank my fellow Councillors for their continued support and all the work they do.

Our Parish Clerk resigned in June as he has moved to Somerset to take up a Town Clerk position. As a Council we are very fortunate that Councillor Sylvia Roberts offered to take over the role of Parish Clerk. Facilitating this change has meant her resignation as a councillor and a vacancy has therefore arisen – see item later in this Newsletter.

The Levens Community Project continues with small but definite steps.

On a more personal note I am sure you have noticed that our village shop has new owners (If not – where have you been ?). As you know Wendy and I had the shop up for sale for some time and towards the end of last year we decided to close the shop at the end of May this year if a sale did not appear likely. It seemed the logical time as it would coincide with us having the shop for 19 years. By Easter this year the prospect of a purchase by Vanessa and David looked possible so we deferred our retirement plans. The sale took place on 20th July but because of a lack of professionalism from certain ‘professionals’ integral to the sale, all was not finalised until, literally, the last possible minute. It is for this reason that the changeover appeared to be somewhat abrupt and therefore Wendy and I now thank you for your custom over the years and hope you will support Vanessa and David in their new venture

Land Drainage Proposal

The Parish Council was asked to reply to the proposals from the new ‘Internal Drainage Board for the Lyth Valley and Winster. After two Parish Councillors attended the Consultation Meeting at the Gilbin Bridge Inn along with Councillors from Witherslack and Brigsteer, the proposals were discussed at the July Parish Council Meeting. The Councillors voted unanimously in favour of keeping the pumps working.

SLDC have extended their consultation period to six months, to allow further information to be provided.

Defibrillator/First Responders

A Defibrillator has been installed outside Levens Village Institute. Several villages attended the Heartstart & AED course in the Institute on Thursday 3rd September. Sue Cox the Course Leader is getting together a First Responders Team for Levens

Refuse Collection

Change in collection day: Start Day Monday 21st September with recycling & green waste (green bin & boxes). The following Monday 28th September will be waste only (black bin). Letters & new calendars have been posted to all householders in the village, also this can be viewed on the SLDC website.

Village Website

Five years ago the Village Website went 'Live' thanks to Geoff Cooks son David who kindly hosted it through a company he worked for as a temporary arrangement. However this year Levens Parish Council arranged to have it re-hosted and rebuilt with new up-to-date software by Treble 3 (whose Principal is Paul Calland, a leading light in Bay Rescue in Milnthorpe)

To visit the new site <http://www.levens.org.uk>. Any enquires contact the Webteam at <mailto:website@levens.org.uk>

Mobile Library

The Mobile Vehicle is no longer road worthy so sadly this service will no longer be happening for Levens.

Cllr Annie Rawlinson and Rev Ruth Crossley are investigating the possibilities of a online ordering and delivery point service.- Awaiting further information

Allotments

Do you want an Allotment?

As part of the Levens Village Project it is necessary to move the village allotments. The 3 Underhill allotments are on land which is owned by Levens Charity and has planning for 4 affordable houses (2x2bedroom and2x3bedroom) which are hopefully to be retained as part of the project to rent to young families.

The allotments on Church Road are on land owned by Levens Parish Council which has planning consent for two full value houses. It is still to be decided on what is the best course of action for these plots to benefit the village

The Parish Council has been offered the use of an excellent piece of land by Richard Bagot at Levens Hall for use as new allotments for the Village. Previously this land was used as the kitchen garden for the Hall. This is situated opposite Ninzergh Farm Road end, just past Levens Hall on the way to Milnthorpe (behind the high wall).

The Project Group is applying for some funding to help create the allotments.

These will be purpose built, the boundary will be rabbit fenced and there will be a water supply to each allotment. The ten allotments will be ploughed and rotivated ready for use. The size of the plots are 20m x12.5m = 250sq m. Some will be split in half providing allotments of 10 m x12.5m = 125sq m.

There are currently allotment holders who are very keen to make the move and a number of residents who have expressed an interest in the new allotments but if you are interested in the new allotment scheme , please put your name forward to Councillor Helen Burrows telephone 015395 61082 or email dhj@burrow3.wandoo.co.uk

The Allotment holders have discussed setting up an Allotment Society.

Discussions are ongoing with Levens Hall but it is hoped everything will be in place shortly, to enable the allotment holders to transplant fruit trees & vegetation in the dormant months ahead.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor

A vacancy has arisen because Sylvia Roberts resigned from this post to take up the post of Clerk to Levens Parish Council.

If you are interested in your Village, want to be a part of a group of forwarding thinking People, then we need You !

To apply for this post you would need to reside in Levens Village, the meetings are once a month and it is a voluntary position. If you need further information please contact a Parish Councillor or Sylvia Roberts (Clerk) All details bellow:-

Sylvia Roberts

Clerk to the Council

The Nook Levens LA8 8PN Tel: 015395 60080 Email: levens.parish@gmail.com

Levens Parish Council 2014/15

Councillor	Address	Tel.	Email
Roger Atfield (Chairman)	The Old Court, Church Rd Levens, LA8 8PU	015395 61574	rogeratfield@btinternet.com
David Martin (Vice Chair)	Lords Plain, Levens	015395 52263	lordsplain@gmail.com
Roger Mason	Heaves Farm, Levens, LA8 8DU	015395 60200	roger@heavesfarm.co.uk
Susan Bagot	School House, Levens, LA8 8PU	015395 60588	sbagot@schoolhse.co.uk
Helen Burrow	Davlen Fold, Brigsteer Road, Levens, LA8 8NT	015395 61082	dhj@burrow3.wanadoo.co.uk
John Thacker	Over Plain, Levens, LA8 8DU	015395 60136	overplain@yahoo.com
Christopher Hammond	Rockgate, Levens, LA8 8PB	015395 61128	chrish@pvdobson.co.uk
Vacant			

County Councillor Jim Bland, Oakridge, Underbarrow LA8 8BL

Tel: 015395 68576 Email: james.bland@cumbriacc.gov.uk

District Councillor Annie Rawlinson, Littlegarth, Lowgate, Levens LA8 8NJ

Tel: 015395 61531 Email: annie.rawlinson@hotmail.com