

NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2008

UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCIL

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Road Repairs

Repairs to pot-holes along the Applethwaite and Millbeck sections of the Terrace Road were reported in the last Newsletter. Since then the road has been given a new surface. Although there have been some problems with this, on the whole Councillors believe we have been given a good deal by Highways. After the bitumen and gravel had been laid a sweeper lorry came along on a very hot day, and rather earlier than it should have done, with the result that in places the gravel was swept off the tar, leaving a sticky surface. Also in some places stop taps and manhole covers have been stuck down, and depressions have been left in the surface which conduct water away from drains rather than into them. The road will be inspected again and it is hoped defects will be put right.

Highway Stewards

This is a very hopeful new scheme which CCC are funding. An identified individual will be responsible for minor repairs in a group of Parishes. Our Steward is Peter Barnes who already knows the area quite well. He will do one-man jobs such as cutting back vegetation; weeding; clearing blocked gully gratings, small culverts, pipe ends; tidying storm debris; hand cutting small areas where visibility is affected. The hope is that by dealing with jobs at an early stage he will prevent their becoming major problems.

The Highways Hotline will continue to deal with problems that need a team of men or some machinery.

Residents can report problems either to the Clerk (78141) or direct to the Hotline (0845 609 6609) and they will be passed on to the Steward or the Area Team as appropriate. CCC decided not to make the Steward's number generally known as he would never get any work done. Always keep the Hotline Ref No.

ACTION The Steward is planning to spend 6 days in the Parish at the end of August so **please look out for things needing to be done and pass these on to the Clerk on this occasion, if possible by email - see over for this.**

Underskiddaw Historical Group - Domesday Book 2008

Most of you will already be aware the Underskiddaw History Group is putting together a Domesday Book 2008 that will be a legacy for the parishioners of the Parish of Underskiddaw to leave for future generations. Some of you came to our coffee afternoon in June to see some of the preliminary work on display.

The Book will be kept as a record of the Parish of Underskiddaw and will not be available to people outside the Parish.

This will be a unique record of our Parish in 2008.

Every parishioner has been asked if they would like to produce a page for the book including some or all of the following information -

- Who they are and where they live.*
- What their job is and, if retired, what they did before retirement.*
- A brief history of their home and any interesting features.*
- If known, a list of previous owners of their home.*
- A photo of themselves outside their home.*
- Other photos which would add interest to their page(s).*

You decide what information you want to include and how many pages to use.

One of the members of the group Alan Dean of Millbeck has offered to take photos for you if you would like him to.

We would like to have all your contributions returned by 1st November. They can be returned through any member of the group you may know or to Bill Bell, Aydon Cottage Applethwaite or Ros Roberts, Toft Garth, Raven Lane, Applethwaite.

We will follow this up with a display at an open day for all parishioners in the Village Hall.

YOUR OPINION PLEASE

The bus shelter at Millbeck Lane End on the A591 needs some repairs carried out to the roof. An estimate has been obtained for £400 to do the work. This bus shelter and the one at Thrushwood are covered under the Council's insurance policy, but not for deterioration of the fabric of course. The Council paid £499 this year for insurance, which includes various matters it is compelled by law to cover and also the two bus shelters. A suggestion has been made that the bus shelters could be taken out of use and not insured and this would reduce the premium by £100 approximately.

The Council seeks your views on whether or not you think it would be acceptable to take either one or both shelters out of use. Please write to the Clerk either by mail or email expressing your views or drop a note into the house of the nearest Councillor to you

HIMALAYAN BALSAM

As you will know this is becoming a great pest, particularly near water, where it both grows well and spreads easily by dropping seeds into the water which disperses them. There have been workdays to clear this plant but these are over now; however individuals can help to deal with it by pulling up the plant by the roots before it seeds.

PLANNING MATTERS

Approval has been granted for work on Glenside and also in spite of objections from the Council and from neighbours, for the enlargement of Merelstead. Little Dodd Garden Centre has also been granted approval for its rebuilding and the Council wishes this enterprise well for the future.

CONSULTATION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN CUMBRIA

The Council has received a Consultation on this subject. If anyone in the Parish has specialist expertise in this area and would like to contribute to the response the Council would be grateful if you would contact the Clerk

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions from readers would be most welcome and help to make this Newsletter more interesting. Please send them to the Clerk.