

NEWSLETTER - JULY 2011

UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

At the Elections held in May this year the following Councillors were re-elected :

Jim Wilson (subsequently elected Chairman)
Jan Boniface (subsequently elected Vice Chairman)
Betty Bulman
Tony Gibbs
John Wood

David Roberts and Edith Helme stood down from the Council owing to pressure of other commitments. This leaves the Council with two vacancies. Therefore the Parish Council makes an **URGENT PLEA** : The Council needs to co-opt two people willing to come on to the Council. This is a Notice of the Council's Intention to co-opt, and more formal Notices are being put on the two noticeboards in the Parish – at the Village Hall and at Thrushwood. The Notice is also on the Parish Website < www.underskiddaw.org>. All you need to do is to contact the Clerk to tell her you would like to consider coming on the Council, and to ask any questions you may have.

This is a small but useful form of public service and an opportunity to have new ideas about what happens in the Parish, and to work towards achieving them. It is not satisfactory to have two vacancies on the Council : the Council's voice will be more influential if it is up to strength. Please contact the Clerk, and be the new blood which is needed.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

When this was set up some years ago a number of people paid £5 as a float to start it. In fact none of the money collected has been used, so the sum of £270.90 has been transferred into the Parish Council's Account, where it is earmarked to be used only for an appropriate purpose. However if anyone wants to have their £5 returned to them, please contact the Clerk.

The Police are now moving on to a more internet based service where messages can be delivered by email. The Council suggests that as many

people as possible go on to an email list, which would be kept by the Clerk, who would relay messages to everyone on the list on a blind copy system (so only the clerk sees the addresses). If all the people in the Parish who are on email would join the list, it could be arranged for people not on email to be contacted by telephone, or by a visit, as appropriate.

As the first step therefore could all the people who are on email and willing to receive alerts in this way send an email to the Clerk confirming this. Please do this as soon as possible.

HIGHWAY STEWARDS

Sadly this system which worked so well for the period it was in operation has now been re-organised. This is supposed to make it more efficient because two men and a lorry will now constitute a team which could do more work than one individual. However the personal contact with the steward has been lost. If you now notice defects in the highway you can either contact the clerk, who will ring Highways Hotline, or you can ring the hotline yourself. Each call is given a reference number and it is important to keep a note of this, as otherwise it will be impossible to follow it up. If you do make the call yourself please could you keep the Clerk informed, including giving the reference number. The Hotline number is 0845 609 6609

PLANNING MATTERS

The matters which have concerned the Council over the past few months include the continued presence of a person living in a caravan on the field by the A66, and the flurry of developments at Underscar Manor, some of which are breaches of planning law.

With regard to the caravan field the National Park have served three notices requiring (1) the use of the Caravan as a dwelling to cease, and the removal of the caravan; (2) the removal of

the access track, hard standing, toilet, chemical disposal point water supply and bin storage areas; (3) the use as a car park to cease and the removal of hardcore forming parking areas. The owner appealed against 2 and 3 above, and the Inspector has now with a few minor exceptions found in favour of the National Park. He has also rejected a claim that the NPA should pay the owner's costs. With regard to the first enforcement notice, there was no appeal against this, and the next step is to start a prosecution in the Magistrates' Courts. This appears likely to be imminent, and could result in a fine. The situation is quite complex, and any Parishioner interested in having a more detailed analysis is most welcome to contact the Clerk for this.

With regard to **Underscar** a number of proposals & developments have aroused concern amongst residents. The Planners intend to take action against the circular temple near the Gale Road, but the one near the woods will be accepted. On appeal the design for the main gates was approved. The reconstruction of the private garage was considered by the Inspector who agreed with the planning authority that the nearby trees were endangered, and a revised scheme giving much greater protection to the trees during the progress of the work is now being considered. Meanwhile the planners decided to impose a tree preservation order on most of the trees on the estate as they were felt to be under threat. Permission was refused for the large outdoor pavilion.

Although the Parish Council has expressed dissatisfaction to the Planning Officials at the National Park about their response to some matters of concern to the residents, it does now seem that local concerns are being taken on board. The Chairman recently attended a meeting where a number of National Park Board Members were present, and he took the opportunity to speak to most of them, and to the Chief Executive of the NPA. His impression was that they have become well acquainted with local problems, and have a sympathetic interest in them.

BROADBAND

Parish Councils are being asked to appoint representatives (not necessarily Councillors) to a group trying to achieve better quality Broadband in the area. We are very fortunate that Maggie Climie has agreed to be the representative and to interpret to the Parish Councillors what the issues are, and how best to help to improve access in the Parish.

BUS SERVICE

Don't forget to use this service as much as possible, as otherwise it will be lost.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

If you have any ideas for marking this event please contact the Councillors or Clerk.

UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCILLORS

Jan Boniface	Croft House Applethwaite CA12 4PN	73693
Betty Bulman	Rowling End Millbeck CA12 4PS	72199
Tony Gibbs	Elm Close Applethwaite CA12 4PW	71166
Jim Wilson	Field View Applethwaite CA12 4PN	72475
John Wood	Spout Close Millbeck CA12 4PS	72105

Parish Clerk Pauline Soulsby Coledale Edge Braithwaite CA12 5TN 78141

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