

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2012

UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

All residents are invited to the Annual Meeting for Parishioners. This will be held at 7.30 on Friday 18 May at the Village Hall in Millbeck. The Minutes of last year's meeting are printed out on the back of this letter. The Chairman, Jim Wilson, will report on last year's activities and there will be an opportunity for anyone to ask questions or speak about parish matters.

This year's speaker will be Mrs Sue Forte of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, who will speak about the work of the charity, and it is hoped bring along Kyle to meet you.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL IN WEST CUMBRIA

The Consultation referred to in the last newsletter reached its end on 23 March 2012. The Parish Council submitted a full response to the West Cumbria Partnership – the body running the consultation. The crucial question to be answered was "Should Allerdale and Copeland move into the next stage of the process – which would be the carrying out of a review of all available information about the geology of the area, to see if it was suitable for an underground repository of the size required." The Parish Council's response was that the project should go no further : in general terms the reasons for this were that it was felt there was sufficient knowledge already for it to be clear that there were other areas with more suitable geology; that the principle that the Repository should be sited where someone volunteered to have it, rather than where was the best geology, was the wrong way to approach a decision; that the Government should take responsibility for this national project, not leaving it to two small councils; and that the so-called Right to Withdraw was illusory.

The Council would like to thank those who attended the public meeting to give their views, which was of great assistance.

The Council's response is on the Parish Website, or copies can be obtained from the Clerk, preferably by email, but also as a hard copy.

Subsequently it has become known that the majority of parish councils opposed this development, including those round Sellafield, and that only 3 voted in favour, and of these Keswick has indicated a wish to rethink. A copy of the Council's response to the consultation is on the parish website and can be obtained from the clerk by email or post.

**MINUTES OF THE UNDERSKIDDAW ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE
HALL MILLBECK ON WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL 2011 AT 7.00 PM**

The Chair was taken by Mr Jim Wilson, Chairman of the Parish Council who welcomed 13 members of the public.

1. Apologies were received from Maggie Climie, Jill Brocker, Rosemary and Barry Healey, Kathleen Mann, Nick and Elaine Moor, & Chris Corder.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28 April 2010 were read corrected as to spelling of a name and agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman noted that there had been six meetings during the year, and some members of the public had attended some of these. He stressed that the public is always most welcome at meetings and their input was appreciated. Time was made available early on each Agenda for them to contribute.

The draft accounts were on display and the precept had been slightly reduced in view of national austerity measures.

The Highway Steward scheme which had been a great success had been changed so the personal contact was more difficult to maintain.

The Chairman referred to planning issues, the Domesday Book produced by the History Group, the seat given by the Spearing family, and an addition to the Remembrance Day service in the form of reading out the names of those commemorated.

Elections for the Council were due in May and the Chairman was sorry to relate the resignations of David Roberts and Edith Helme, who had given such effective service on the Council, and he thanked them heartily for their contributions. They would be much missed. There were therefore two places to be filled and the Chairman asked people seriously to consider coming forward to take a seat on the Council. The Chairman thanked Jan Boniface for her hard work on the website, and the Clerk for services throughout the year.

4. Report on Derwent 7 from Councillor David Roberts

Derwent 7 had been formed to enable all the parishes round Keswick to speak on some issues with a united voice. The Transport group had succeeded in getting some useful amendments to bus timetables and frequencies. It had also joined in pressure to restore the X4 to this side of the Lake. This service must be used or it would again be threatened. Other sub-groups were looking into Housing, Youth and Environment.

5. Questions and Discussion

Matters mentioned : road sign abandoned beside Church; inappropriate new gates at Underscar by Gale Road; light pollution – automatic lights very bright – a softer glow would be better – others thought they deterred burglars. Information Board needed replacement.

6. County Councillor Mike Johnson

Budget cuts were mentioned. Mr Johnson was asked why numbers of County Councillors were not reduced – this is not their decision. It was hoped that in the following year the Emergency Plan would be extended to cover all parishes.

7. Mr John Spedding gave a very interesting talk about trees and woods in the Parish, including ancient trees which the Parish should identify and preserve. Lonscale Wood had been improved and it was hoped also to improve Gale Gill and Lattrigg.

The formal part of the meeting closed and refreshments were served.

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
Karen Hind	Almondgarth Applethwaite CA12 4PP	80973
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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