

Drigg & Carleton Parish Newsletter Autumn 2007



Welcome

We are pleased to note, that in recent months we have had several people move into the Parish, with some familiar faces returning. The Parish Council would like to extend a heartfelt welcome, and hope that you enjoy living in our beautiful corner of Cumbria.

Drigg & Carleton Gala Committee

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2007 Gala Committee, the Parish Council, the local community and businesses for their support this year in making Gala Day 2007 possibly the best attended with over 200 enjoying the attractions and events.

Next year's Gala Day is set for Saturday 14th June 2008.

I would like to thank Julie Shepherd and Andrea Kelly who have stood down from the committee, after their many years of valuable service. I am pleased to announce there are some new faces to replace Julie and Andrea; Keith Hitchen and Karen Wake.

The Family Halloween Party (Gala fund raiser) at the end of October was well attended with 100 tickets sold. The Mayor of Copeland attended the event and judged the fancy dress and pumpkin competitions.

John Jennings



**Parish children's
Christmas Party**
8th December 2007
1:30 – 4:00pm



During December, Santa will be visiting the Parish and joining in the fun at the children's Christmas party at Drigg & Carleton Parish Hall. The Party is open to all children of the Parish under 12 years old and is free!

Santa will be giving a present to all children who have told the organisers they are going to the party; the organisers also need to know how much party food will be needed! If you would like your child/children to attend contact:

Julie Shepherd 28454 or Denise Osborn 24605
before mid November



Victoria Hotel

Since the last Newsletter the Victoria Hotel (adjacent to Drigg Railway Station ) has come under new management. Along with the bar, there is now food and accommodation available. It wasn't many months ago we feared the pub might not re-open, so please support your local pub.



For more details of what the Victoria Hotel has to offer contact Dave or Karen on 24231.

Village appearance

One of the council's main objectives is to maintain and improve the standard of appearance of the parish in the face of decreasing support from District and County Council level, and some significant successes have been achieved.

Thanks to funding from LLWR/British Nuclear Group and NDA a scheme to provide a pavement, improved drainage and street lighting along the length of Station Road (from the B5344 down to the Railway Station) was completed in June. A long awaited improvement has materialised.



This year the council funded and organised the regular cutting of the grass verges through from Stubble Green through to south of Holmrook bridge. In addition work was done to remove some old and overgrown shrubbery opposite the former Post Office to further improve appearances. Both are positive steps though much still remains to be achieved. The council is continuing to talk with the people and organisations that could help to continue or improve this work.

Annual Parish Meeting 2007

This year the Annual Parish Meeting was held on 18th April in the parish hall. The two guest speakers spoke on topics highlighted in the Parish Questionnaire;

1. The digital switch over, which has now happened

digitaluk Telephone : 0845 650 50 50

2. Planned improvements to the electrical supply network to the parish.



Low Level Waste Repository

The presence of the LLWR in the parish inevitably involves a lot of the council's time and the last few months have been particularly busy ones. During this time there have been discussions on planning applications for a new rail siding and transient store, the construction and operation of Vault 9 and arrangements for the receipt of several exceptional load deliveries from outside the county. In the first two cases these projects will have a considerable impact on the parish, particularly during the project construction phases. The council have made formal responses on both applications seeking to maximise the use of rail transport and securing an effective traffic management plan for the significant amount of road traffic which will also inevitably result. Another significant milestone was passed this summer with the removal of the last 'bulk PCM' from the site; a long anticipated goal.

The LLWR marked a significant milestone in the history of the site when in July it became separated from the main Sellafield site and is now a standalone entity. To mark this achievement the LLWR team donated equipment to the Parish Hall, see the Parish Hall section for more detail.

The company operating the site from April next year will be a new company that has fought off stiff competition, and undergone a stringent assessment process by the NDA, which included input from the parish council. There will be more detail on this subject in our Spring Newsletter.

There will be more up to date information on the NDA web site;



www.nda.gov.uk

Holmrook Hill Parking

The shortage of parking spaces in the Holmrook Hill area and the associated road safety issues have been documented previously. It has been welcomed that residents are refraining from parking on the corner, as this had been particularly hazardous to North bound A595 traffic turning left up the hill towards Drigg.

When parking on the top half of the hill, please consider the milk tanker and delivery vehicles that require a large turning circle to access the farm.

Unfortunately there are not any easy or quick solutions to these problems that would be acceptable to the car owners and residents of the area, but your parish council is continuing to explore possible solutions.

Please, if you park in that area do so carefully and thoughtfully. If you drive through that area beware of the potential obstruction hazard and SLOW DOWN!



Drigg Charity

Once again the Drigg Charity provided funding towards many bodies and events throughout the year in the parish; Gala Day, Parish Children's Christmas Party, Christmas gifts for the senior households in the parish, church yard maintenance and the parish trip to Chester in the spring.

Direct payments for Social Services from Adult Social Care

Currently the Adult Social Care Scrutiny panel of Cumbria County Council is monitoring the number of people who receive services from Adult Social Care who choose to have a Direct Payment.

It was recently suggested that the scheme could be further publicised to the public by using Parish Newsletters.

Direct payments are cash payments made to individuals who have been assessed as needing services, in lieu of directly provided or care managed social care provision. Like all social care services they are subject to the council's financial assessment process and a contribution may be assessed.

People use Direct Payments in a various ways, for example they may pay a friend or carer to take them to a Social Club instead of attending a day centre. They may arrange to have lunch provided at a local pub or café instead of having a carer cook for them. Some purchase care from a local agency, others employ a personal assistant directly or pay a neighbour or friend. It is possible to have both care from the council and a Direct Payment for some of the things you need. Carers can use them to organise respite care at home or away from home. You can use them for minor adaptations and equipment where the standard issue equipment is not what you want.

You can take your Direct Payment on holiday with you and purchase care at your destination. Here are some examples of how people are taking control and making the choices that they want.

If you think Direct Payments might be right for you or someone you know, then contact your local Adult Social Care Office or contact the Direct Payment Advice and Support Service by ringing them on 0845 1249303 or emailing them at cumbriadp@aol.com.

Parish Council News

Parishes working together

From an initiative taken by Drigg and Carleton Parish Council, seven neighbouring parish councils have formed the 5 Rivers Parish Partnership. The group will work together to the mutual benefit of their communities while, of course, continuing to serve their own parishes. The member parish representatives from Seascale, Gosforth, Drigg & Carleton, Eskdale, Wasdale, Ponsonby and Muncaster have now all signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

The idea of the group is for the neighbouring group of parishes to work together on issues of shared interest or concern, to pool their resources so that with the combined energy of the group more can be achieved.

Membership of the Parish Council

On May 3rd this year local council elections were called. In Drigg and Carleton the number of nominations received for prospective members did not exceed the eight places available, so no ballot was required. One new member, Mr Keith Hitchen, joined the council, and he along with the other existing members signed their declaration of acceptance of office at the Parish Annual Meeting on 8th May. Also at the 8th May meeting John Jennings and Kneale Thompson were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

Also this year, a new Code of Conduct for members came into force which all councils were required to adopt. A resolution to adopt the new code was accepted at the council meeting on 11th September.

The Parish Plan

Although you may not have heard much about it in the last few months, work is continuing in producing the Parish Plan. In particular; on drawing up the all important Action Plan to deliver the improvements that people indicated in the questionnaire responses last autumn. The Action Plan is now nearing a form suitable for sharing with stakeholders, including the most important stakeholders, you the parishioners.

Parish Hall

The supper room and kitchen have been redecorated over the summer. The hall now has a high tech addition in the form of an overhead projector and large screen that can be connected to a laptop or DVD player. These items were provided by the Low Level Waste Repository team to mark their separation from the main Sellafield site and becoming a separate company.
Hall bookings contact : Jimmy Naylor (019467) 27841

Keynotes

Just a reminder that 10 times a year St Peter's Church PCC distributes Keynotes newsletter, which includes a Parish News update from your Parish Council. So, if you would like to hear about Parish News and forthcoming events on a more regular basis, and take advantage of their new section advertising local business and services, give me a call (Dave Millington on 24272), and I'll arrange to add you to the distribution.

Parish web site [www.westcumbria.org.uk/drigg.htm]

Finally, if you need to contact your Parish Council please contact any of the following.

John Jennings	(Chairman)	019467 24321
Kneale Thompson	(Vice-Chairman)	019467 24265
Jimmy Naylor		019467 27841
Adrian Dalton		019467 24394
Roy Young		019467 28968
Stephen Shepherd		019467 28454
Bob Williamson		019467 24546
Keith Hitchen		019467 24710
David Millington	(Clerk)	019467 24272

...or pop along to a Parish Council meeting, held on the second Tuesday of each month, except August, at the Village Hall – it's **your** Council.