

## Buttermere Parish Council

### Clerk's Report to the meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2016

#### Actions from the September 2016 Meeting:

- 23.16: Clerk to invite Phil Rushton from BT to the next meeting: See below
- 24.16: Clerk to inform MP of support for his proposal re: Coast to Coast trail: Done
- 26.16: Clerk to inform the Melbreak Com group of the views of the Council re: insurance: Done
- 28.16: Clerk to inform Allerdale BC of the views of the Council: Done
- 29.16: Clerk to inform Cumbria Highways of the concerns of the Council: Done (see below)
- 29.16: Clerk to request from Allerdale BC that the road sweeper visit the Parish: Done (see below)
- 29.16: Clerk to inform NT warden re: fallen trees across river: Done
- 30.16 Clerk to send out all payments: Done

#### Correspondence received since last meeting:

Correspondence	For information	For action
CALC Newsletter Sept, Oct & Nov	X	
Local Govt. Boundary Commission: Electoral Review	X	
Report from Allerdale Parishes LDNPA member: Sept & Oct	X	
Invoice: Buttermere Old School 2016	X	X
Information re: Hassness House proposals	X	
Information re: Muddocks Path	X	X
Letter from HSBC re: bank closure	X	
Email from Pensions regulator re: need for enrolment	X	

All relevant electronic mail has been forwarded to councillors.

#### Updates:

Cumbria Highways: I met with John Smitham, the new Highways Engineer for the area, and Ian Mayson who is in charge of the gully cleaning team for the area. We had a drive around the parish with me showing them the various highways issues that were outstanding, a list of which is given below. I was assured that work on these would be undertaken shortly. I have also requested that the road sweeper visit the Parish but have been told by James Irving from Allerdale BC that because of cut backs they only had one large road sweeper and three smaller ones. The large one was the one that would be used for the rural parishes but he had been told to prioritise the three towns in which flooding was bound to be an issue in the coming months, i.e. Cockermouth, Keswick and Workington, where homes would be under direct threat. He stated that he would aim to get Buttermere done early in the new year

- A number of the Passing Place signs were missing from the road (B5289) along the banks of Crummock Water.
- The drains at Hause Point need to be inspected and dealt with as water is constantly flowing onto the road (B5289). It is believed that some of the road drains were covered over when this part of the road was re-surfaced
- The road banks are collapsing and covering the double yellow lines on the main road into Buttermere village from the Lorton end.
- Two large pot holes coming down Newlands pass into the village.
- A sunken narrow strip of road, crossing the road, where United Utilities had been working on a pipeline, just above the bridge in the village.
- A pot hole by Lisa Beck Bridge

- Road flooding along stretch between the village and Honister
- Vicarage Brow down into the village needs drains attending to constantly overrunning with water.
- On-going problem - roadside along Crummock Water has collapsed and has not been fully repaired – B5289.

Openreach/BT: I met with Kevin Miller, Network Solutions Manager, and Stephen Southwell, the Engineer who covers Buttermere and is based in Whitehaven, in Buttermere on 15th November. They showed me around the Buttermere Exchange and explained that though the Exchange was the smallest in England it was a modern exchange with exactly the same equipment in it as the Whitehaven exchange, albeit on a smaller scale. 54 properties were served by the exchange. They were aware of some of the issues that were recurring issues but the team from Whitehaven can only respond if a fault is reported. At the present time there were no outstanding reported faults in the area. However, partly because of the concerns that the PC have raised with Openreach, they are going to proactively investigate the line that serves Syke Farm and the 'node' where five properties take their connections from the line in the Glebe House area. This work has been sanctioned from Manchester, the regional HQ.

Connecting Cumbria/Superfast Broadband: After discussions with Connecting Cumbria staff the following has become clear: Buttermere is not in scope for connection in the 2017 phase of the project. During January of next year a list of areas yet to be connected will be put together for initial investigations regarding feasibility and options. If Buttermere is on this list then we will wait for the outcome of the investigations. If Buttermere is not on this list then local residents might want to look at forming a Community Fibre Partnership. Please see: [www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/fibre-broadband/community-fibre-partnerships.aspx](http://www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/fibre-broadband/community-fibre-partnerships.aspx)

### **Planning:**

There are no planning applications to be dealt with at the December meeting.

One planning application was dealt with between meetings:

Ref: 7/2016/2259  
 Location: Bridge Hotel, Buttermere CA13 9UZ  
 Proposal: Installation of solar thermal collecting pipes on the roof  
 Reply by: 16th November 2016

A response of 'No Objections' was sent with regards to this application.

### **Notices Received:**

Notice of refusal of Planning Consent:

7/2015/2287: Croft House Farm - laying of grass reinforcement mesh to protect ground in part of field.

Notice of Planning Consent:

7/2016/2167: Palace How - various works

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