

Know your Parish Council

Chairman	John Bull	Garshill Farmhouse,	Ravenstonedale
Vice Chairman	Caroline Morris	Manor House,	Ravenstonedale
Councillors	Janet Brownrigg	Lane Farm,	Newbiggin on Lune
	Paul Capstick	High Lane,	Newbiggin on Lune
	Fanny Jackson	Weasdale Farm,	Newbiggin on Lune
	Ernest Leach	Street, Fell End,	Ravenstonedale
	Hilary Mirrey	The Bield,	Ravenstonedale
Clerk to the Parish Council	Chris Elphick		

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Meetings

Normally held on the second Thursday each month except for August and December. Alternate venues are Ravenstonedale High Chapel Room and Newbiggin-on-Lune Public Hall.

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend any meeting.

Public Participation

You are reminded that a period is set aside for members of the public to address the council at its meetings on matters of local interest or concern. It helps if those wishing to speak would notify the Clerk prior to the meeting.

The Quality Town & Parish Council Scheme

The Government believes that parish and town councils, as the tier of government that is closest to local communities, have a central role to play in improving local quality of life.

The Quality Parish initiative is designed to enhance the role of parish and town councils; to develop a framework for partnership working; and to equip parish and town councils to take on a stronger role for the benefit of the local community.

Criteria for a Quality Parish include:

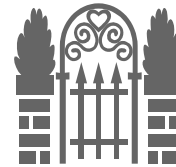
1. at least 80% of councillors elected rather than co-opted
2. a qualified Chief Officer/Clerk
3. effective communications with the electorate, including an Annual Report
4. an adopted Code of Conduct
5. good accounting and audit practices
6. regular meetings, with good councillor attendance

Whether a council reaches the required standard is determined by a Cumbria based Accreditation Panel appointed by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

Achieving 'Quality' status is also a kind of 'chartermark' - the public recognition of a good council

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

AUTUMN 2005



Ravenstonedale Parish Council

A Parish Plan for Ravenstonedale

What is a Parish Plan?

"A Parish Plan should set out a vision for how the community wants to develop and identify the action needed to achieve it."

More inside

Ravenstonedale Parish National Park or AONB?

The Countryside Agency commissioned research about whether the Agency should commence the process to designate any land in the North West of England as a National Park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - they could be new designations or extensions to existing designations. The Study Area includes the Howgills, the Lune Gorge, the parishes of Tebay, Orton and Ravenstonedale.

Currently the proposal is for the greater part of Ravenstonedale Parish, as far north as the A685, to become part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The effect of this proposal would mean that for planning applications part of the parish would come under Eden District and part YDNPA.

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Re-Designation of Ravenstonedale as National Park or AONB

Ravenstonedale Parish Council would like to hear your views on the proposed re-designation to aid the consultation process

Joint Parishes Plan Proposal for Kirkby Stephen & District

A meeting was held at Kirkby Stephen in May to explore the possibility of creating a Parish Plan which would include contributions from the surrounding parishes

Questions to be addressed include "What is the future for this area in the next ten years" and "What are the main areas for concern"?

Reference was made to Ravenstonedale's 1981 Survey. It was asked "What has been done and how has the parish changed since then?"

Councillor Morris has attended several meetings at Kirkby Stephen and reported back to the parish council.

Anna Scamans from Voluntary Action Cumbria has explained the consultation process and the advantages of producing a parish plan and answered councillors' questions at the September parish council meeting.

The Chairman thanked Anna for her presentation. It was decided that further discussion would take place at the next meeting before a final decision is made as to Ravenstonedale's participation or otherwise.

Children's Playgrounds

The Playground Committee organised a Ceilidh & Barbecue at

High Lane Farm, courtesy of Paul and Anne Capstick. Almost £1200.00 was raised towards the Children's Playground Fund. The evening was enjoyed by more than two hundred people.

Over four hundred balloons were released in the "Balloon Race" at the event.

Balloon tags were returned from places as far apart as Ferry Nab, Windermere and Bala, Gwynedd (Near Snowdonia). The owner of the most distant balloon returned by 30th September will receive a cash prize.

The next fund-raising event will be a Variety Show in Newbiggin Public Hall on 10th December.

Planning Consent has been granted for the change of use of part of field no.6616 at Newbiggin-on Lune from agricultural to recreational use. We can now continue negotiation of a lease from the landlord. Details have been agreed in principle.

A generous donation towards the fund has been received from the N-o-L Music Hall members. Thank You.

Ravenstonedale Recycling Centre

A site meeting had been held between representatives of Eden District Council, Cumbria Highways and the Parish Council in an attempt to resolve the impasse regarding the location by the school, proposed by the parish council and supported by EDC.

The Highway Authority remained adamant in its refusal to permit the use of the wide verge as proposed. Suggestions are being sought for

possible alternative sites for a recycling centre in the parish.

The Shrubbery—Village Garden

It had been noted that the Village Garden was suffering from neglect and lack of maintenance. A schedule of works required to make safe and enhance the appearance of the garden was prepared.

Following consultation with Eden District Council's Tree Conservation Officer, Alizon Hall, it was agreed that two mature cypress trees at the back of the garden should be felled in order to expose the large oak tree and increase light to the undergrowth. This work has now been carried out and the stumps removed.

Thanks are due to Frank Chalmers and Barbara & Roy Hopkins who have been trimming the shrubs and grass and generally tidying up the area.

Red Squirrel Signs

Arising from the minutes of the last meeting the Clerk reported that, following consultation with Kevin McGeough of Cumbria Highways regarding Red Squirrel Signs, the policy is as follows:

The "Red Squirrel" plate is NOT prescribed in the Traffic Signs and General Directions 2002.

Signs denoting red squirrel image are illegal as are private, unauthorised signs.

The installation of "!" signs with a "red squirrel" legend in Mallerstang has been authorised for that area only and is part of an ongoing experiment which is being conducted in conjunction

with Judith Palmer, CCC Ecologist. Area Traffic Engineer, Jim Smith, says that no further signs will be erected until a report has been considered at the end of the experimental period.

Appleby Fair

It was reported that there had been fewer early arrivals on Cote Moor this year and that damage to property had been slight, although still unacceptable.

Letters of thanks to be sent to Peter Marshall and Linda Brook of Hwith who carried out a Litter-Pick after the event and to Elaine Lomas, EDC Environment Officer who organised the provision of toilet facilities, drinking water and rubbish skips on Cote Moor.

Open Forum

A question was posed by Mr Christopher Irwin regarding the correct name of the main thoroughfare between the Black Swan and Chantry, Ravenstonedale. Mr Irwin enquired "is it correctly named "Front Street"?" The question may have been prompted by the need for a street name in completing computerised forms.

There was much discussion but hard evidence appeared to be lacking. No reference had been found on maps past or present.

It was concluded that the area was divided into three; "Town Head, Mid Town and Town End" although the exact dividing lines were vague.