



LOWER ALLITHWAITE PARISH COUNCIL – NEWSLETTER

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. Currently the LAPC have been developing a plan and defining the neighbourhood and, eventually, when the plan has been approved it will be subject to a Parish referendum.

Neighbourhood planning allows us to have a greater influence about what is built and how it fits into our community. However, it won't allow us to prevent houses being built, we have to comply with national and local planning policies.

There are 5 key stages to Neighbourhood planning.

Stage 1: defining the Neighbourhood - done

The parish or town council will take the lead on Neighbourhood planning.

Stage 2: preparing the plan – next stage

Local people will need to pull together and prioritise ideas and plans. We are working on this with our consultants and will soon be ready to share our ideas with you before and find out if you think we are on the right track. We will re-draft it to include any new ideas which may have come forward from the consultation.

Presentations are to be held in both Allithwaite and Cartmel in the weeks of 11th July and 18th July, venues and times to be confirmed.

Stage 3: independent check

Once a neighbourhood plan or order has been prepared, an independent examiner will check that it meets the right basic standards.

Stage 4: community referendum

The community has the final say on whether a neighbourhood plan or order comes into force following a referendum.

Stage 5: legal force

Once a neighbourhood plan is in force following a successful referendum, it carries real legal weight plan. It will also mean that the Parish will receive an increased amount of money which developers have to pay to support community projects. We will be able to use this to support local projects such as playgrounds and footpath improvements.

PARISH PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES

Lower Allithwaite Parish Council took an active part in the land allocation process. This enabled them to take an early view on what was valued in each village and how developments might contribute. We are still working on this document which you can find on our website: www.allithwaite.com and we would welcome any comments from you. This document will help support the Neighbourhood Plan.

COMMUNITY PLAN DELIVERY

The village completed a Community Plan adopted 2013 and an action plan to deliver the priorities – further consultations have taken place including Footpaths in Allithwaite Paths for Communities Bid July 2013, The Cartmel Township Initiative adopted 2015 and Allithwaite Community orchard consultation 2014.

The Parish also has an Active travel group which is looking to improve footpath links and where possible develop new routes. The protection of country lanes as essential amenity assets for pedestrians and cyclist as well as environmental importance is seen as vital.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

The Boundary Commission has carried out an electoral review of South Lakeland District Council and have proposed that Lower Allithwaite Parish is divided with Allithwaite being part of a 3-member Grange Ward and something described as Rural Cartmel being part of a 3-member Ward including Upper Holker, Stavely and Lythe Valley. This means that there will be 6 District Councillors serving our Parish.

The Boundary Commission are currently inviting local people and organisations to tell them where they think new electoral ward boundaries should be drawn across the South Lakeland District Council. Period of consultation is from **10th May – 16th July 2016.**

Further information and to view PDF files can be found on:
<https://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk/> also www.allithwaite.com.

The Boundary Commission will be publishing the final outcome of the consultation exercise and their recommendations in October 2016.

ORCHARD

The community plan identified that Allithwaite residents felt there was no defined centre to the village, ideas put forward included a Community Orchard and so Allithwaite Community Orchard came into fruition from ideas from the local Parish Plan, an open day was held at the local primary school in order to gauge ideas and support.

Background research was displayed to show what was required and the possibilities of what could be achieved in the parish field. In 2014 the decision was taken by the parish to establish a Community Orchard in the area and volunteers came forward to design the orchard and establish a working team.

Three new gates have been installed, the upper Vicarage Lane gate and Playground gate are open, the Lower Vicarage Lane gate remains closed until the PC decides to install the foot path between the gates and include the hard standing for the kissing gate or just the gate hard standing.

The PC has installed a new notice board with public access (via the Parish Clerk) on the Allithwaite Terminus bus stop with permission of the local branch of the WI.

Children are playing in the meadow area and the orchard in general, and all in all the area as a whole seems to be successful as a public green space, with parents and visitors using the small picnic area and hill top bench.

CARTMEL TOWNSHIP INITIATIVE (CTI)

Following the long-term concerns of residents, businesses, visitors and Councillors of the pressure upon Cartmel's fragile and historic infrastructure, a representative group was formed in May 2013, known as the Cartmel Township Initiative.

Following a lengthy tender process Allies and Morrison were appointed and carried out a comprehensive review of the village including extensive public engagement. The outcome was publication of their Report and Recommendations in January 2015.

Subsequently and to address the Study's Action Plan, a Delivery Group was brought together in April under the umbrella of the Parish Council, the prime objective of which are to:

- To enhance the character of Cartmel.
- To make sure the village becomes safer and a better experience for pedestrians
- To review parking for residents, businesses and visitors.
- To improve traffic flow through the village.
- To improve and enhance the Cartmel visitor experience.
- To support and promote local businesses.

The Delivery Group are currently addressing 'thirteen Key Actions' ranging from improving signage, cycling, forms of parking including resident and business permits, time limited parking, traffic movement both to and from the racecourse, visitor coaches, commercial vehicle delivery points and improvements along the River Eea.

A grant of £60,000 has been received from South Lakeland District Council to help deliver these actions.

On Thursday 9th June 2016 a site visit by the CCC – Traffic Management, Highways and Transport was held in Cartmel. The main purpose of the visit was to familiarise the appointed consultant, Chris Harrison from Royal Haskoning DHV, with the village layout and explain the initial CTI Management proposal within Cartmel.

The CTI will start one-to-one (businesses) and small group consultations for specific locations, to absorb the views of the people that will be impacted upon, prior to the official consultation day in the Village Hall.

The CTI report to the LAPC at their monthly Parish Council meeting which are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month (except August) at 7.15 in the Village Hall, Cartmel and everyone is welcome to attend.

THE QUARRY

The Parish Council has allocated a sum of money to improve access to the Quarry. To this end we have formed a working party to assess what needs to be done and drive the project forward.

