



# LAZONBY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

November & December 2023



*The Parish Council would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Peaceful New Year.*



## Welcome to Our New Parish Councillors!!



After a great response to the appeal for new Councillors the Parish Council are very happy to welcome Councillors Maralyn Wade and Craig Wilkinson. We look forward to working with them in the near future.

There are also three more parishioners who have shown an interest in becoming Parish Councillors, or have already given their Councillor co-option applications in and observed a meeting.

So the future of the Parish Council is thankfully looking so much brighter than a couple of months ago, and we can look forward to continuing to work on behalf of the local community.

***"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."***

Coretta Scott King  
(wife of Martin Luther King )



## Egg Packing Station Affordable Housing News...

It was reported at the November 2023 meeting of the Parish Council that the future of the development of the old Egg Packing Station is still being considered. The new Westmorland and Furnace policy for the affordable housing fund is being finalised and will be considered by the Council Cabinet in December 2023. In the meantime a review of the Parish Council's application against the prospective policy and application process is being carried out so that any implications for the project can be identified.

However, the project costs will have to be reassessed as the figures in the original application were from February 2023 and had a six month life span. However, this work will not be done until the Council have confirmation that the project complies with the policy requirements and details of any changes to the application process.



## **THE COST OF LIVING INFORMATION & HELP ...**

### **Cold Weather Payment Scheme.**

There will be a cold weather payment if the average temperature in your area is recorded as, or forecast to be, zero degrees Celsius or below over 7 consecutive days. The amount of £25 will be paid to cover each 7 day period for very cold weather between 1st November 2023 and 31 March 2024. This is paid automatically to people who are on the eligible benefits (e.g. Disability Living Allowance, Pension Credit). So please check that you are signed up for the benefits if you are eligible for them.

### **To help passengers save on bus fares**

Passengers are still being encouraged to 'Get Around' for £2 by bus. The £2 bus fare scheme has been extended until December 2024, and includes most services in Cumbria. Bus operators such as Blueworks, Cumbria Classic Coaches, Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire and Stagecoach Cumbria and North Lancashire will be taking part in the fare cap extension.

### **Food Support**

If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family, there are organisations that can help. They are used by hundreds of people every week in Cumbria, and from all walks of life. There are food banks and other food projects located across the county, find your nearest at [Ways to Welfare](#) on the Westmorland & Furness Council website, or call the council's support line on **0300 373 3300**.

### **Mental Health Support.**

There are many things that can affect your mental health, particularly if you are dealing with financial problems. If someone is in a mental health crisis and needs urgent help, they can call their local Crisis Team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. People in North Cumbria can call **0800 6522 865**. (Those who are Deaf/hard of hearing can text **0779 565 62260**. People in South Cumbria can call **0800 953 0110**.

The Samaritans are also available 24/7 on **116 123** for people who need to talk to someone urgently.

NHS psychological therapies services in Cumbria can provide treatments for a range of common mental health problems including depression, anxiety disorders and panic attacks, and post-traumatic stress disorder. You can refer yourself for support or ask your GP to make a referral for you.

## **Your Parish Council Continues to Work for the Local Community ...**

- *The Parish Council continues to deal with Highways issues and report any problems.*
- The Parish Council continues to work hard to ensure the Parish is represented at all levels.
- *The Parish Council continues to meet regularly in order to discuss issues in the parish and the wider county.*
- The Parish Council continues to be the first point of contact regarding issues and concerns raised by parishioners, giving a voice to the community and working hard to ensure these concerns are dealt with.
- *Parish Council Members continue to represent the community at external and events, and take part in public consultations on behalf of the parish.*
- The Parish Council continues to support local community groups and not for profit organisations that benefit the parish through their annual grant-giving.
- *The Parish Council continues to develop and progress beneficial projects in the parish.*
- The Parish Council endeavours to put the needs of the community first.

## **Issues Being Currently Resolved in the Parish...**

- *The Parish Council are still working on the possibility of collecting donations for the use of Eden Bridge Car Park with signage giving all the details, including notice of no flytipping or over night parking allowed.*
- *Several footway lights are out around the village that have been reported and will be fixed in the near future.*
- The Parish Council are discussing the B4RN fibre optic broadband proposals for the parish.
- *The Parish Council are still negotiating with an Angling Club to regarding taking over the membership of angling in the parish including being responsible for ballifing the river too.*
- The Parish Council are working on a social media policy that will be used to maintain a social media presence.
- *The Parish Council are currently updating their report regarding footway issues that need to be dealt with within the parish which will be given to Highways.*
- Highways are currently assessing the speed signs coming in and out of the village on the road to Great Salkeld and to Carlisle, at the request of the Parish Council.

## **Please Note the Changes to Postal and Proxy Voting ...**

From 31 October 2023, all postal and proxy vote applications must contain a National Insurance Number, or a reason why one cannot be provided, in order to verify the applicant's identity. Name, address, date of birth and National Insurance Number will be verified against the Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) data. Where an application fails to match with DWP data, applicants will be required to provide documentary evidence to verify their identity, e.g. photo card driving licence, or passport. Where this is not possible, electors must submit an attestation to confirm their identity. A new service will launch on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) where voters can apply for a postal or proxy vote online.

## **Contact your Councillors....**

### **Councillor Tim Wright**

**Vice-Chair**

Tel: 01768 897104

### **Councillor Peter Foley**

Tel: 01768 897143

### **Councillor Phillip Whitehead**

Tel: 07989077857



### **Councillor Andrew Miller**

Tel: 01768 897140

### **Councillor Ruth Hookway**

Tel: 07910489204

### **Councillor Maralyn Wade**

Tel: 01768 201114

### **Councillor Craig Wilkinson**

Tel: 07375951543

## **Date of the Next Meeting...**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th December 2023, in the Village Hall, at 7.30 pm. The following meeting will be Wednesday 7th February 2024. There is no scheduled meeting for January 2024. *Please see the Parish Council notice boards for meeting information & the Agenda which is usually posted up no later than the Friday before the Meeting date, or visit [www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org](http://www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org) for more information.* Copies of the Agenda or the Minutes of the Council are available by Email on request. Please contact the Clerk on 0843 2894416 (*Calls at local rate*); or Email: [LazonbyPC@googlemail.com](mailto:LazonbyPC@googlemail.com)

**Please visit the Parish Council Website for Agendas, Minutes and other information: [www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org](http://www.lazonbyparishcouncil.org)**