

Season's Greetings from Sedgwick

Sedgwick House in the Snow by Richard Gill

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS 2016

As the year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As I write, our main Parish Projects which aim to make improvements to the Millennium Field and to establish a No Cold Calling Zone in the Parish have been completed and our ongoing Canal Management work is going well. Thank you to everyone who has supported us throughout the year. Looking to the future, one of the first things on our agenda for 2017 is to develop an Emergency Plan for the village. This will provide a framework for dealing with a range of unforeseen emergencies such as bad weather or power cuts and will also give us a capacity to deal with more major disasters that could occur. If you have any experience in this area or would like to get involved, please contact us because we would very much appreciate input from as many people as possible. Also in the New Year, we hope to compile a questionnaire about priorities for 2017-18, so please be ready to contribute your ideas. Meanwhile, if you would like the Council to discuss any issues you feel are important, please let us know or come along to the public forum at one of our meetings. [Merry Christmas!](#)

Boyan Holmes on behalf of Sedgwick Parish Council

NO COLD CALLING ZONE Our Sedgwick No Cold Calling Zone has been up and running since September and has hopefully deterred any Cold Callers. Thanks to Sheila Eccles, who gave us a grant from her Parish Allowance to cover the associated costs. We will be evaluating the scheme in the Spring at our Annual Parish Meeting and would welcome any feedback. In the meantime, please report any callers using the number on the back of this newsletter.

Village Hall Despite BT having problems providing a line to the Village Hall, we expect our new Broadband and free wi-fi service to be up and running by mid-December. It is wonderful to see that so many groups have used the Village Hall during 2016. A special mention goes to our thriving Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Groups who have achieved so much this year. David Willacy represented the Council recently by helping to judge their very own "Great British Bake Off".

Highways We have been informed that Cumbria Highways have assessed the road under the Canal Aqueduct in the centre of the village and that they will be carrying out work to increase pedestrian safety. Meanwhile, we continue to request repairs to the roads in the Parish; potholes by the River Kent and the broken road surface near Carex Farm have been mended. We are still waiting for repairs along Crosscrake Lane and have reported the poor condition of the pavements on Castle View and Hill Close. If you notice any problems, please let us know so we can register them on the system. We continue to be part of a group of parishes that operate extra road gritting to supplement the County Council's gritting routes and we also provide grit boxes at locations throughout the village- we do check them regularly but please notify us if you notice they need refilling.



Canal We have completed the first part of our work to restore the canal area. The canal bed has been invaded by self seeded ash and goat willow trees which are not only weak at the base and becoming unstable, but are creating a dense canopy of leaves which prevent light from reaching the lower levels. This is choking the herbaceous plants below and reducing the quality of the habitat along the canal and allowing the erosion of the towpath. After commissioning a Woodland Management Report, the work required to rectify the situation has been identified and is ongoing, partly funded by a grant from SLDC. This conservation work will ensure that the canal area continues to offer a variety of well maintained



habitats which will act as a corridor for wildlife. We have also extended the hand rail along the path to make access easier, especially with wetter weather on the way. The recent Towpath Trail consultation drop-in session at Sedgwick, run by the Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership was well attended. Their vision for the future of the canal was explained and although their planning is in the very earliest of stages, feedback from residents and users of the canal is invited via a questionnaire available on their website (see www.lancastercanalregenerationpartnership.wordpress.com.)



Millennium Field The new basketball hoop and football nets have already proved popular and a replacement swing has been fitted. Please make sure all young children are supervised and that safety notices are observed. Thanks go to George, David and Gerry for their continued work keeping the Millennium Field safe and tidy.



Affordable Housing Applications Helsington Community Land Trust has opened a register of interest for their new affordable housing at Brigsteer and we have been informed that Sedgwick residents are eligible for consideration. Further details are available from www.hclt.org.uk or by emailing secretary@hclt.org.uk.

Consultations You will have received consultation documents regarding the National Grid's North West Coastal Connection proposals for the region. Although the Parish is not directly affected, we are planning to attend the local consultation meetings. Please visit the project website www.northwestcoastconnections.com for more details. We have also taken part in a recent Government Councillor Commission meeting led by Professor Colin Copus of De Monfort University, voicing the issues particularly relevant to small, rural, northern parishes. There are also consultations taking place regarding the Boundary Commission for England's proposals to change constituency boundaries in England.



And Finally.... Just a reminder about parking in the village..... There have been several complaints about unsafe parking – please make sure that you park legally and considerately at all times. Our PCSO, Martin Boak would like any complaints to be made at the time of the offence by calling 101, so that he can follow them up.

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

CONTACT DETAILS

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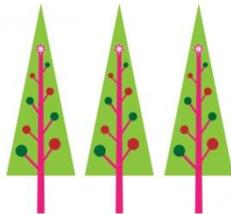
4, Wakefield Meadow, 60939

David Willacy;

Hill Top, 61858

George Willacy;

Fox Hall, 60825



Future Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of every Month:

Village Hall; 7.30pm

11 January 2017, 8 February 2017,

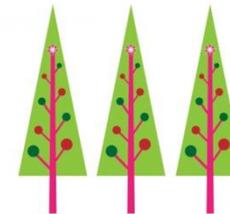
8 March 2017

Each meeting includes a Public Forum as part of the agenda for any resident to ask questions, raise items of concern or simply comment on issues. Residents are always welcome at meetings

Notice of the Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 15 March 2017

All residents welcome



County Councillor

Brenda Gray,

Rose Cottage,

Hincaster,

Milnthorpe,

LA7 7ND Tel: 61135

District Councillor

Sheila Eccles,

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Find us on Facebook and Twitter too!



Sedgwick
NO COLD CALLING ZONE

To report a Cold Caller; Call Cumbria Police on 101 immediately and if possible, report them to Cumbria Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Helpline on 03454 04 05 06