

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter



We were delighted to welcome David Willacy, who retired after 39 years of service to Sedgwick Parish Council, to celebrate the planting of a monkey puzzle tree in the Millennium Field which commemorates his outstanding contribution to our community.



Find our Parish and Resilience Groups on Facebook



Sedgwick **NO COLD CALLING ZONE**

COLD CALLERS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN SEDGWICK!

If they call on you, contact Cumbria Police on 101 immediately and if possible, report them to Cumbria Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Helpline on 03454 04 05 06

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY ADVICE

If you have to call the Emergency Services, remember to make sure they know which side of the aqueduct a vehicle is needed, because many modern appliances cannot pass under the aqueduct and the detour required is very long.

SEDGWICK **Community Emergency Plan**

Sedgwick Parish Council has a Community Emergency Plan to help minimise the impact of a major local emergency on residents. In event of a major emergency, contact our Coordinator Gerry Stoker -Tel 60939

WELCOME



This year is proving almost as extraordinary as 2020 and as lockdown finally eases, we still seem to be a long way from normality. However, following the easing of restrictions on July 19th, our first priority was to welcome David Willacy, to celebrate his outstanding service to the community by planting a monkey puzzle tree in the Millennium Field. It was a pleasure to honour him in this way and we thank him again for his 39-year long contribution to the Council.

Thanks also go to all members of our community who have contributed to our response to the pandemic and continue to do so; key workers, volunteers and all who have supported others.

The Parish Council Elections which had been delayed from 2020, took place in May 2021. All 6 of our Councillors were re-elected and look forward to serving the Parish over the next 3 years. Councillors' details are on the back of this leaflet.

We held a remote **Annual Parish Meeting** in March, with 23 residents in attendance. Village organisations reported on their year and District, County and Parish Councillors presented their annual reports. The proposed cycle path along the Lancaster-Kendal Canal and the introduction of B4RN high-speed internet in the village were discussed. And, after over a year of successfully holding remote **Council meetings**, face to face meetings finally resumed in July with COVID-19 safety measures in place. Thanks go to the Village Hall Committee for re-opening so that we could fulfil our statutory duty to meet in July. The Council has re-installed broadband to the Village Hall so all users can take advantage of free WiFi.

The **Millennium Field** has continued to be incredibly busy over the summer months. We have begun a new compost scheme whereby the grass cuttings from the field are being composted and will be available for community use when ready.



The **Canal Wildlife Area** has flourished this summer. Spring bulbs have given way to summer irises and other flowers and shrubs. The felling work carried out in Spring which removed the ash trees that have died as a result of Ash Die Back, has further opened up the area and encouraged more plants at ground level, further improving the habitat. We have appointed a Woodland Contractor to work alongside Councillors and our Woodland Management Consultant to keep the area in tip top condition. The Parish Footpath Display Board at the foot of the Aqueduct has been re-furbished and information updated.



In July, we were informed of a **Cold Calling incident** in the village and that several Cold Calling signs have been removed. The incident was reported to the Trading Standards Office and all signs have been replaced. If any Cold Callers visit you, please report them immediately, (details on the cover of this newsletter), remembering to report any registration numbers or details of the individuals involved; but remember your own personal safety is the most important factor.





Highways issues continue to take up a significant amount of our time as we campaign to make our roads safer for all. All faults are logged to ensure they are assessed and prioritised for repair. Crosscrake Road has been extensively patched, along with repairs at Riverside, Natland Road and Hincaster Lane. We are still waiting for pavement repairs at Castle View and opposite Old Row, replacement of the Back Lane sign and several potholes but we are on the case! *We urge residents to report any repairs on the Cumbria County Council HIGHWAYS HOTLINE 0300 3032992 and any accidents or near misses to the police, ensuring there is a crime number allocated if appropriate. It seems we can only make progress on highways issues if more people complain, as statistics seem to drive crucial safety decisions.*

In July, our Parish Clerk attended one of Local MP, Tim Farron's village visits and was able to show him the Millennium Field and, together with Cllr Doug Rathbone, lobby for the highways safety improvements which he is helping us campaign for. We have joined with Stainton, Hincaster and Heversham Parishes to form a pressure group to campaign for a reduction in local speed limits. We met with the new CCC Traffic Manager to discuss pedestrian and cyclist safety and a 20mph limit for Sedgwick; they have agreed to carry out another speed monitoring exercise in Sedgwick to investigate whether a reduction in the speed limit is applicable.



There are some very important local issues, that will profoundly affect our area. Firstly, there is going to be a significant **reorganisation of local government**. It has been proposed that Cumbria County Council and its local authorities - in our case South Lakeland, will be abolished and together with Barrow and Eden, we will become the new **East Cumbria** unitary authority. Transition is already being planned with Parliamentary approval expected in early 2022 and the "vesting day", when the new authorities "go live" and the old authorities cease to exist will be on April 1st 2023. We are attending briefing sessions and information events and as details become clearer, we will keep residents informed.

Secondly, SLDC is reviewing its **Local Development Plan** to meet the development needs of the area until 2040. The new plan will update and replace its Core Strategy, Land Allocations and Development Policies which govern all new development. Any plans drawn up now will be transferred to the new unitary authority in 2023. There are a number of consultation documents to read through along with a 'Call for Sites 2021' that allows for anyone to suggest sites for development. It is important to note that just because a site is suggested does not mean that it will be chosen or suitable for development. For further information and to comment please visit: <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/planning-and-building/south-lakeland-local-plan/local-plan-review/local-plan-review-overview/>

Thirdly, there are also going to be significant changes to the Parliamentary constituency of Westmorland and Lonsdale. The **Boundary Commission** has proposed that under the review, Lancashire and Cumbria will lose two seats and consequently, Sedgwick will be in the Morecambe and South Lakeland Constituency. Although the initial public consultation period has now closed, there will be another opportunity to have your say next year.

If you did not respond to the initial consultation, you can do so when the next one opens in 2022. See <http://www.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk> and <https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2021-06-08-Initial-Proposals-North-West-Region-Summary.pdf>

Finally, the **annual canvass of the Electoral Register** is in progress. You will have received an email or letter asking you to update or confirm your details, to ensure you are eligible to vote. If you need help to complete the forms or require further information, please contact the Electoral Services at South Lakeland House by email: elections@southlakeland.gov.uk or by telephone: 01539 733 733.

Our next newsletter will be published at Christmas but if you need any help or support in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details below,

Boyan Holmes Sedgwick Parish Council

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

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07923641910

County Councillor; Brenda Gray,
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Councillors:

Chair: Boyan Holmes;
The Oaks, 61644

Andrea Holmes
5, Wakefield Meadow, 61364

Robert Smith:
Stable Cottage, 60314

Gerry Stoker;
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Bernie Tanham
The Wharf, 60179

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Railway Cottage, 07814575880

District Councillors:

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tom@tom-harvey.co.uk

Cllr Brian Cooper 015395 84991
b.cooper47@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr. Roger Bingham 015395 63694
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Cumbria County Council
HIGHWAYS HOTLINE 0300 3032992

COUNCIL MEETINGS 2021

2nd Wednesday of every Month@ 7.30pm

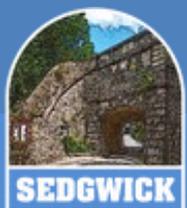
8th September, 13th October, 10th November

Residents are always welcome at meetings.

Each meeting includes a Public Forum as part of the agenda for residents to ask questions, raise items of concern or simply comment on issues.

Submission of questions in advance of the meeting is welcomed, so that they can be answered more fully.

Matters raised that are not included on that agenda will be considered for subsequent agendas.



Our Website www.sedgwickparishcouncil.org.uk
Our Email sedgwick.parish@gmail.com

