



1. The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking those present for attending.

Members present: John Mackay (Chair), Lesley Barlow (Secretary), Tim Barlow, Margaret Benn, Margaret Collinson, Anne Dickinson, John Dickinson, Doreen Head, Alan Kiel (Treasurer), Frank McKee, Peter Manning, Geoff Nugent, Simon Spencer (Vice Chair).

Apologies received: Linda McDevitte, Douglas McDevitte, Sam Meteer, Sarah Moore, Andrew Moore, Keith Wooley, Margaret Wooley.

2. **Previous meeting minutes:** The minutes of the AGM held on 18th July 2019 were approved.

3. BVA Financial Update

Alan Kiel gave an update on the finances of the BVA. There had been no income for the year to date. Expenditure to date amounted to £142.40 relating to hire of the Reading Room (£36) and Newsletter costs (£106.40), leaving sufficient funds for the remaining year (Balance £162).

4. First Responders Update

Alan Kiel gave an update on the finances of the First Responders, and it was noted that the group has sufficient balance to cover the hire of the Reading Rooms for training sessions and the planned purchase of a training defibrillator.

The team have had a number of callouts in the past few weeks.

It was agreed that an article on the First Responders should be included in a future newsletter to ensure that residents were aware of the work the group does and how the service is accessed.

5. Parish Council (PC) matters

Update on Parish Council business:

- There had been limited response to the recent PC appeal for new members to come forward.
- The Green on Station Crescent had been cleaned up but it was emphasised that the land is not owned by the PC.
- The annual assessment of the playground had identified that some remedial work was required but that it was in a generally satisfactory condition.
- Plans for a smart meter mast near the nursery had been referred back for a second time with a request that alternative locations be identified.
- Hunter Rise development – no further news as the expected site visit from the Council is still awaited.
- Copeland Council have received a £2million grant to raise the profile of the 'hidden coast' including the development of a 50 mile walking/cycling route from Millom to Whitehaven.
- There had been no progress regarding NDA underground disposal facilities.
- The NDA strategy for Sellafield was focussed on clear-up operations taking place over the next 35-plus years.
- The Whitehaven News had reported on very early discussions taking place regarding Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and the suitability of this area as a location for development. An information event had been held on 9 October where interested parties had given presentations on the technology and infrastructure involved in SMR development and production. Investment required to become an SMR production facility ran into £billions and would require significant lobbying for government investment.

- Cumbria County Council plan to carry out an informal consultation on roads in the village early in the new year. There will be a number of proposals for consideration:
 - Gateway improvements - larger and brighter signage, rumble strips at each entrance to the village
 - Speed limiters within the village (37 – 75mm speed humps)
 - Making the whole village a 20mph zone – for this proposal there has to be an intervention of some sort to slow the traffic every 100m.

There was a general feeling at the BVA that speeding and the use of Morass Road as a 'rat-run' presented a growing problem.

- Residents had been encouraged to volunteer to take part in training to use speed check equipment. The training event had been scheduled for 30 September. A further update would be provided to the next meeting.

6. Community Led Plan

The CLP group provided an update on progress. A questionnaire to obtain residents' views had been put together for distribution in the Autumn and return by end of November. It was suggested that, in order to improve response rates, a draw could be made from completed returns for a voucher at The White Mare.

7. Newsletter

Thanks were extended to Geoff Nugent for the new-look Newsletter which had been well-received. The anticipated sponsorship from Atkins had been replaced by an offer from SEB Services to cover the costs of production for one year (5 editions of the Newsletter). The possibility of securing adverts from local businesses to establish a self-funding Newsletter would be investigated.

8. Matters of concern to residents.

In addition to the previous concerns reading speeding traffic and the proposed smart meter mast, the following concerns were raised:

- white road markings across the village are in very poor condition and need repainting (to be passed to Cumbria Highways via Sam Meteer)
- pot holes on Nursery Road (to be passed to Cumbria Highways via Sam Meteer)

9. AOB

9.1 Councillor Sam Meteer had asked if residents could be reminded of the existence of the Parish Council website which was a useful source of information.

9.2 John Mackay's quiz had been distributed and had raised £123 for the BVA. Winning entries were drawn by residents present at the meeting and the following winners were confirmed:

1st Prize £25:	Karen Haile, Thornhill
2nd Prize Box Chocolates:	J Hughes, Thornhill
3rd Prize Bottle of Wine:	Barlow, Beckermat
Free Prize Draw Bottle of Wine:	James Haile, Thornhill

A copy of the answers will be attached to these minutes.

10. Dates for 2020:

All meetings 7.30pm in the village Reading Rooms. Everyone welcome

30 January

23 April

23 July (AGM)

22 October

Lesley Barlow

Secretary – Beckermat Village Association

November 2019