



Beckermets Village Newsletter

November 2015

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EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE

The Nuclear Regulator has required that the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone around Sellafield be extended from 2 km to approx 6 km, so our village will now be within it. A leaflet should be distributed to all households in November, giving information on what action to take. This updates one issued previously. The arrangements will come into force during the winter. It will aim to get everyone to sign up to a system, where they receive an automated telephone message in the event of an incident. It should also advise on what action to take.

Peter Manning

BVA – Chairman's Comments

Since the last Newsletter there have been meetings of the Beckermets Village Association in July and October.

The July meeting was the Annual General Meeting when all the Officers were re-elected for the coming year and no new nominations were received. At the meeting Chris Harrison noted that he was continuing to try to raise funding for further changes to the playground and that he would welcome any help and support on his proposed project. The meeting also agreed to support and help a proposal from John Mackay to organise a quiz to raise funding for the BVA.

At the October meeting John MacKay announced the winners of the quiz and that it had raised around £200.

The winners were:-

1st prize – Doreen Head, Beckermets.

2nd prize – Margaret Pritt, Drigg.

3rd prize – Elsie Jenkinson, Beckermets.

Free Draw Prize – Marilyn Graham, Beckermets.

Sincere thanks to everyone who supported and participated and congratulations to the winners.

The main focus of the October meeting was to up-date members on the NuGEN /Moorside proposal and the associated scheme proposed by National Grid for the North West Connection. Articles on both of these are included in the Newsletter.

Finally, I would like to thank all members who give up their time to help out at the village gardening sessions but three ladies in particular, Doreen Head, Janice Oliver and

Barbara Edwards who routinely and voluntarily pick up litter in various parts of the village and surrounding roads and tracks to keep the place clean and tidy and a great place to live.

John Edwards (BVA Chairman)

Moorside, NuGen – Parish Council Perspective

The Parish Council has been at a number of meetings with NuGen, regarding the proposed new power station. We are satisfied that they are aware of the issues affecting West Cumbria, and our parish in particular. However, they have not yet presented any detailed proposals of what they plan to do about the problems (traffic, roads, dust, noise, light, etc.). The next meeting will be around November 10, when we hope to start to address these issues.

Peter Manning

Moorside Progress from NuGen

NuGen is preparing to start site characterisation, which will inform the site layout and support NuGen's planning application. This work will involve a further campaign of borehole drilling with other surveys including that of the ocean floor, flooding and emergency planning assessments.

The recent *N-eboc15* event, held at Energen in Workington, included several speakers from NuGen who spoke about the opportunities associated with different aspects of the new build at Moorside. They took this opportunity to update the audience on some of their local announcements including the *Green Grants Scheme* that will help fund local environment initiatives in the communities close to Moorside, and the early plans for NuGen's *Bright Sparks* educational initiative - which aims to forge a strong link with senior schools close to the site.

Engagement continues with the local communities in the lead up to the Stage 2 Consultation taking place next year. If you have any questions please contact Kathryn Booth, at the NuGen Moorside Information Centre in Whitehaven.

*Kathryn Booth; (NuGen
Operations and Engagement Manager)
(01946 691 006)*

Improved lighting in Beckermets

Cumbria County Council and Electricity North West have confirmed that funding is available to improve the street

lighting in the parts of the village this financial year. The first phase of the work will be the installation of 22 new lamp columns and LED lanterns starting from the column opposite the paper shop and moving north up Morass Road to the end of the village. The second phase of the work will focus on replacing the supply and improving lighting along Main Street. In this phase the overhead cables will be replaced and located underground. It is anticipated that this work will be carried out next financial year. For the lighting on Braystones Road & Mill Lane the lamps are going to be changed to LED units as part of the first phase but the lighting on Bankfield, Hunter Rise and Station Crescent and adjoining roads will remain unchanged this financial year.

Please note that the installation of the lighting will involve some disruption to the village as roads may need to be closed and temporary traffic lights may be used to control traffic. The latest proposal was provided on 13 October following discussions between ENW and the County Council and may be subject to further changes as the plans are developed.

Beckermet Traffic Survey

The Cumbria Constabulary Sellafield Team carried out a traffic survey in Beckermet between 1420hrs on Thursday 9 July and 0800hrs on Monday 13 July 2015 using a Speed Indicator Device (SID) that could log traffic data. The location of the SID was on the approach to the village below Bankfield on Morass Road and was designed to record traffic at its most likely fastest speed, coming downhill into the village.

The survey showed that of the 5661 vehicles monitored, 1342(23.7%) were travelling at speeds in excess of the 30mph speed limit. A total of 6% were travelling in excess of 40mph.

A similar SID was placed near Beckermet School for a number of days but this was not a data logger. Observational evidence suggests the problem is not as great in this area although a number of vehicles are speeding as they enter/leave the village.

The Police are planning some high visibility policing in the Beckermet area to address the issue.

Parish Council

Following the request for some new councillors I am pleased to be able to report that we have had two additions to the Thornhill and Beckermet Parish Council. Keith Woolley from Beckermet and Peter Sherwood from Thornhill. If anyone else would like to become a councillor we still have some vacancies and the next meeting is on 18th November at Thornhill Social Club, so please come along.

Apart from the obvious topics (NuGen, North West Connections, Traffic, etc.) that are covered elsewhere in the Newsletter recent Parish Council meetings have agreed to include a useful numbers/information page on the website, considered ROSPA reports on play area inspections and commented on a number of planning

applications for developments in Beckermet and Thornhill. Through links with Sellafield and the West Cumberland Site Stakeholder Group sub groups, Parish Councillors attend various meetings covering some of the activities at Sellafield. One of these covers emergency planning at the site and a Draft version of a New Emergency Plan was issued in early October.

John Edwards (PC Chairman)

National Grid Lines

National Grid has been updating its consultation about how the electricity lines will link into Moorside.

From Moorside, there will still be one line going southwards, and one line northwards. They are minded to site the northwards line about 150 metres to the west of the existing high voltage line; from the new reactors right up past Thornhill. It will, therefore, be further away from Beckermet. They have not decided upon the type of pylon or their exact locations, but seem to favour the tall 46 metre one. Now, they only seem to discuss removal of one of the existing routes, not both. There was no discussion of which line(s) would be removed.

Further consultation is planned for spring 2016.

Peter Manning

NSPCC

Our next fundraising event will be a Race Night with Pie and Pea Supper, home-made puddings, followed by coffee and mints on Friday 27th November 2015, at 7 for 7.30 in Calderbridge Village Hall. There will be a bar and a raffle. Tickets are available from me at £12.50 per head. As usual, special dietary arrangements can be made and tables can be reserved for groups.

Val McKee (Chairman 841485)

MacMillan Coffee Morning

A huge THANK YOU for all your kind donations and for coming to the coffee morning. we actually raised £472.40...!!! which is quite unbelievable...!!! It was so lovely to see so many faces, many whom I've haven't seen for ages. Unfortunately we're all so busy and yet when events like this get us all together again...and raising money for charity...it makes us reflect.

It was great day and my friend Kathy was rather overwhelmed by you all...thank you all again for your support.

Janice Oliver

Women's Institute

The meetings for the rest of the year are as follows:-
November 12th - Clare and Ceri, "The Craft of Baking"
December 9th - 'Every Picture tells a Story'
Members to bring a photo or object and speak for about 5 minutes.

Doreen Head

Superfast Broadband for Beckermet.

The unfortunate reality is that at the point of writing this article, installation is running late. What is causing the delay remains unclear as Connecting Cumbria have not been willing or able to supply me with detailed

information, however they do say that Beckermets should have Superfast broadband this Autumn. BT Openreach have Beckermets Exchange down as "Coming Soon" which, at worst, could mean early Spring 2016 but as they currently appear to be making rapid progress connecting the remaining non-Superfast exchanges, I have no reason to doubt Connecting Cumbria's prediction of this Autumn.

So when it arrives, what does it mean for Beckermets Residents? There are four Superfast cabinets connected to Beckermets Exchange, two within the Village at Mill Lane and Beckermets Bridge with the remaining two at Braystones and Calderbridge respectively. The Mill Lane cabinet will supply the north and east of the Village, the Beckermets Bridge cabinet supplying the south and west. Residents on the edge of the village may not get full superfast speeds because of the length of cable between their residence and the cabinet so you would be advised to check with your Internet Service Provider (ISP) what speeds you could expect. Full superfast speeds are approximately 8 to 10 times what we get now using basic broadband, so a significant increase to both upload and download speeds are possible. Superfast broadband requires a broadband contract upgrade so you will need to contact your ISP to get the Superfast speeds as the current basic broadband will remain unchanged. Connecting Cumbria publishes a list of enabled exchanges and as soon as Beckermets exchange goes live it will be reported on the Parish Council website.

Donna McGhee.

North West Grid Connections.

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Peter Manning

Beckermets Nursery

Well here we are again almost Christmas, as we write there are only 65 days, fourteen hours and 13 minutes, Oh how this year has flown!!

Notice Board

Please note there are several posters advertising events ie: coffee mornings etc.. Take a look as you walk past If you would like to advertise anything, give the bell a ring and we will be happy to display it for you.

Nursery Funday

A huge thank you to all those who attended - Over 400 hundred adults and children enjoyed the day we had an amazing time and over £1750 was raised. We would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped.

Money raised has been put towards purchasing outdoor equipment and will help towards refurbishment of our cloakroom area. Save the Date for Funday - 25th June 2016, we have even more planned - hope to see you there. We always need volunteers if anyone has any spare time please give us a call. 01946 841941

Parking

Can we please ask if parking in the layby outside nursery to be aware of the gates. They are used regularly and on several occasions the gates have been blocked by people parking inconsiderately, thereby making it difficult for disabled users and indeed the parents/children coming and going. Many thanks.

Art & Craft

If anyone has any: bottle tops, cereal boxes, etc., sweetie wrappers we would be grateful as we use them for junk modelling and collage pictures. Once again ring the bell and we will be happy to take them from you.

Spaces

We have waiting lists extending to September 2016 - if you know of anyone wanting to come to nursery please make them aware we are very busy and they need to get in touch sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

From myself, all the staff, volunteers and children - may we take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Patricia Gallagher (Manager)
(01946 841 941)

Reading Room

The room is available to hire for meetings and events and is used by many groups. However the committee would welcome new customers to make the rooms more viable (we are a non-profitmaking organisation). They would also welcome new blood and new energy on the committee in the future in order to keep the hall going. Please contact any member of the committee if you would like to help - we meet once a month for approx. 1 hour.

XMAS PARTY on SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 7PM FOR 7.15PM.

This will be a pie and pea supper with delicious deserts. There will be a Beer and Wine bar. Tickets cost £6 and can be obtained via members of the committee; J.S.Jacques, I.Tyson, M.Eilbeck, J.Cowman, M.Richardson, K.Cook, B.Brown, S.Oliver, D.McDevitte, C.Reay.

This the culmination of our annual fundraising effort with the drawing of the Grand Raffle at the party with many valuable prizes. If you have not already purchased raffle tickets 20p each, they can be bought by contacting members of the committee.

DIARY

NOVEMBER

2 ART CLASS 10:00

4 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN 10:30

9 ART CLASS

10 U3A PHOTOGRAPHY 10:00

11 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN 10:30

W.I. 7:00PM
16 ART CLASS
18 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN 10:30
SOUP LUNCH (ST JOHN'S CHURCH) 12:00
41 CLUB 7:00PM
23 ART CLASS
24 READING ROOM COMMITTEE 7:30PM
25 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN 10:30
FIRST RESPONDERS 7:00PM
30 ART CLASS

DECEMBER

2 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN
5 READING ROOM XMAS PARTY 7:15
7 ART CLASS
8 U3A PHOTOGRAPHY 10:00
9 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN 10:30
W.I 7:00PM
16 SINGING FOR THE BRAIN
PARISH COUNCIL 7:00PM
20 XMAS PARTY FOR THE YOUNGSTERS RUN BY
THE SPORTS COMMITTEE .

JANUARY 10 PARTY FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART
RUN BY THE SPORTS COMMITTEE

Xmas Wishea and a Happy New Year from the Reading
Room Committee.

Kathleen Cook , Programme Secretary (841363)

History Group

We are hoping to have a meeting and talk before
December, date to be arranged. Please watch out
for notices around the village and in the local press.

Kathleen Cook , Secretary (841363).

Beckermet School

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Air
Ambulance collection in June, with your help we raised
£132 towards school funds. We will be having another
Air Ambulance collection on Monday 23rd November
2015, all donations are much appreciated. Bags are
available from the school office or you can use black bin
bags.

Once again this year the school is taking part in the
Operation Christmas Child Appeal. If you would like to
donate a shoe box, leaflets are available from the school
office, please can we ask that shoe boxes be returned to
school the week beginning the 9th November.

From Thursday 26th November until Thursday 3rd
December we will be having a Scholastics Book Fair in
school; everyone is welcome to come along between
8.30-9.00 am and 3.00 - 3.30pm to purchase those last
minute stocking fillers.

We would like to invite the residents of Beckermet
Village and surrounding area to various events happening
in school during December, these are as follows:

2nd Dec Dress Rehearsal of Reception, Year 1 & Year
2 Christmas Play starting at 1:00pm
3rd Dec Christmas Play starting at 1:00pm

11th Dec Christingle Service in St John's Church
starting at 1:30pm

Lastly, we have had some trespassers in our school
grounds over the last couple of weeks and we would be
most grateful to our neighbours if they could let us know
if they notice any suspicious activity in the evenings or at
weekends. Thank you .

Lenore Thomson(Administrator)

Beckermet Sports Committee

Christmas dates for your Diary

With Christmas fast approaching please put these dates in
your diary and join us for these village festivities.

Church service and Christmas lights switch on followed by a Pie and Peas Supper – Friday 27 November 2015 at 6pm

Join us for Christmas carols in the Church followed by the
switching on of Beckermet's Christmas lights.

Then come and have a glass of mulled wine and a pie and
pea supper in the Royal Oak. Tickets are available from
the Royal Oak (£5 for adults and £3 for children).

Children's Christmas Party – Sunday 20 December 2015, 1-3pm in the Reading Room

Come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon with party games, a
disco, refreshments and ssshhhhh – you know who will be
visiting....!!

Young at Hearts Christmas Party – Sunday 10 January 2016, 12noon – 3pm in the Reading Room

Home cooked food and a relaxing afternoon of
entertainment. If you would like to join us please contact
Jean Slater on 841254.

Inbetweenies Party - watch this space for more details!
Please come along and enjoy these village events - we
look forward to seeing you!

Julia Harrison (Sports Committee)

Crab Fair Competition

It was decided earlier this year to run a competition for
children to design what to put on a gurning board. (This
would be a cut-out board, so people could have a try
gurning on Main Street in Egremont-- like the ones at the
seaside!). Over the past few months I have contacted
various schools and Youth Clubs and told them briefly
about the long History of Crab Fair. I took in some photos
of the Fair, in the past and in many cases showed them the
braffin--(horse's collar), used for gurning through. The
children listened well and told me of their own memories
of Crab Fair. Some then decided to draw ideas of what we
can have put on the board, when we get it made. I have
asked a local artist to judge this competition Jenny Payne,
from Florence Mine, when I collect all of the entries-- so
watch this space for the results !

Les Coan

Proposed dates for BVA meetings for 2016:

Tuesday 19th January 7.30pm
Tuesday 10th May 7.30pm
Tuesday 12th July AGM 7.30pm
Tuesday 11th October 7.30pm

All held in the Reading Room.

Sarah Moore (BVA Secretary)