



Beckermets Village Newsletter

November 2018

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Chairman's Report

Apologies for the delay in holding our Annual General Meeting but this was unfortunately due to a variety of reasons. I am pleased to say that it took place on Thursday 6th September in the Reading Room with approximately fifteen members of the village in attendance. I would like to express my thanks to all the present officers of the BVA for all their efforts throughout the past year, giving freely of their time for the benefit of the residents of Beckermets and secondly, I would also like to thank all those residents who have been able to attend our meetings to participate in open and frank discussions on a number of important matters relevant to our village.

With regards to the election of officers for the coming year I am pleased to say that all are willing to continue in their roles for the coming year with the addition of Simon Spencer who has accepted the position of vice-chair, a post that has been vacant for the past year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Simon on board and hope that he enjoys his time on the BVA serving the residents of our village. The officers of the BVA for those who may not be aware are as follows: -
John Mackay (Chair) Simon Spencer (Vice-Chair) Alan Kiel (Treasurer) Sarah Moore (Secretary) and Margaret Woolley (Newsletter Editor)

Although I am pleased that all present officers are continuing in their roles both Sarah and Margaret have indicated that this will be their last term in their respective roles and will be standing down at our next AGM in the summer of 2019. By indicating their intentions now, it is giving us time to seek their replacements. If you are interested or would like to know more before making any commitment then please come along to our next meeting or contact myself, John Mackay on 01946 841429.

Alan Kiel our treasurer gave a brief update on the finances of the BVA and the First Responders, both accounts having sufficient funds at present to continue although we are always willing to accept donations some of which have been received from local residents and business in the past year.

A main item during this meeting was the proposal and the subsequent production of a Community Led Plan for Beckermets. The purpose for such a plan is to involve as many members of our community as possible to be involved in any potential future needs and developments

for our residents. Such a plan, as its name suggests, is to be driven by residents and not from people outside and therefore it is vital that everyone has the opportunity to put forward their opinions. To that end a meeting took place on 20th September in the Reading Room when all residents had the opportunity to express their views. Not all suggestions are necessarily achievable but many will be, and those that are will undoubtedly improve the quality of village life. Every household has received several newsletters from Simon Spencer regarding this opportunity with more to follow in the months ahead.

The position regarding the project at Moorside is still in the balance. Nu Gen who has been in charge of the project are having to lay off a large percentage of their workforce due to the uncertainty of the project going ahead in the short term. Ongoing negotiations with possible new investors continue, but until there is something of substance to report on any future development it is just a case of wait and see.

Concerns expressed by residents who attended included fly tipping, dog fouling and the choking of the village beck near the nursery due to the increasing growth of Himalayan Balsam. It is affecting the flow of water which could have significant consequences as the weather deteriorates and heavier rains become the norm. All such concerns will be passed on to the appropriate departments responsible.

May I kindly remind you all that as residents of Beckermets you are all automatically members of the BVA & therefore not only entitled but actively encouraged to come along to these meetings which are held in the Reading Room. As I have stated on numerous occasions it is important that we gain as wide variety of views from as many residents as possible so please make every effort to come along to one of our meetings which are held approximately every three months.

The date for our next meeting will be: - Thursday 31st January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room
John McKay (Chairman)

Fire Risk from Chinese Lanterns

Shortly after our last Newsletter in June, about 50 yards of a dyke was set alight just along from St Bridget's old church. The fire occurred late in the evening during the very dry period, when just by chance it was noticed and

the fire brigade was called. The culprit, a Chinese lantern was seen to be hanging on the wire. These lanterns are extremely dangerous being a fire hazard and causing injuries to grazing animals. *Editor*

Community Led Plan – 20th September

Event Follow Up

Thank you to everyone who came to support this event on 20th September. We were very pleased to see 64 of you, particularly since it was such a cold, wet evening.

Our aim was to gather views from all those interested in Beckermets future, so we can use those views to inform our Community Led Plan. This follow-up is designed to keep you updated on the process.

During the event we collected over 200 comments across the 5 headlines, broken down as follows:

AMENITIES – 72

EMPLOYMENT – 21

HOUSING – 20

ISOLATION – 51

ROADS - 38

There was a significant amount of duplication and cross-over between the comments, so this is a summary of them all:

AMENITIES – Mostly about the need for a shop, sports facilities, improving public transport and safety for children.

EMPLOYMENT – Local employment could be offered in a shop, tea room/café, or in a local leisure centre.

HOUSING – Comments were split between those attending, with some saying that they did not want any more housing in Beckermets and others saying that they do want to see more affordable housing here.

ISOLATION – Comments were mainly about improving transport links, better mobile phone coverage, activities for seniors & children and clubs & events organised in the village.

ROADS – These comments centred around traffic calming, speed restrictions, road repairs, road closures, footpaths and zebra crossings.

For a full breakdown please contact the CLP Steering group.

We were also pleased that a number of people added their names to the Steering Group members list, offering their time and experience to help us move this project forwards. Thank you to everybody who offered their support and involvement.

EXISTING MEMBERS:

Geoff Nugent

Simon Spencer

Sarah Lewis.

Sam Nugent

Simon Oliver

Zach Hudson

Wendie Johnson

Iain Irving

POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS:

NickMurray

Chris Mathieson

Les Coan

Tim Barlow

Brian Healey

Malcolm Richardson

Mark Hamton

The next thing we're going to do is get together as a whole Steering Group - the existing members and as many of the potential new members as can make it - to elect the various official roles like Chairman and Secretary. In the meantime, we'll use all the responses from the 20th September event to start building an action plan and we'll engage with the Cumbria ACTION group for support and possibly funding.

We will publish details of the roles elected within the Steering Group and updates to the plan as they become available. Please note that it isn't too late to get involved, regardless of whether you attended the event or not. If you'd like to be a part of the Steering Group, please contact one of the existing members listed above. Also, if you have views which you weren't able to share at the event, let us know as soon as you can and we will include them in the process.

CLP Steering Group

Mill Lane Playing Field (next to Beckermets Nursery)

Dear Beckermets residents,

Due to health and safety concerns, dogs will no longer be permitted in the above playing field from 1st January 2019, regardless of whether they are on or off lead. The majority of us clear up after our dogs, but sadly a minority do not. This piece of land is owned by the Parish Council, but we do not have the resources to clear up after that minority, so we have reluctantly taken the decision to prohibit all dogs from the playing field. We hope that you understand and politely ask that you do not use the field for exercising your dogs after 31st December 2018.

Kind regards,

Beckermets with Thornhill Parish Council

NSPCC

We had a "Home Produce" stall at Gosforth show and raised £285.

Our latest fundraising event was a Quiz Night with Pie and Pea Supper on 10th October at the White Mare, Beckermets. This was a most enjoyable and very successful evening. With very generous donations from The White Mare and A and B Autoparts, we raised the magnificent total of £720! The committee would like to thank you for your continued and generous support for this very worthy cause.

Val McKee (Chairman)

The Lengthsman

If any resident notices anything needing repair or tidying around the village then please get in touch with the Lengthsman through Wendie Johnson email wendie67@live.co.uk

Women's Institute

Nov 11th – Beckermets WI's 92nd Birthday
Lyndsey Carver – 'Citizen's Advice Bureau'
Dec 12th – Bring and Share Supper Party, Carols and National Songs.
Meetings held in the Reading Room at 7pm.

Reading Room

It is that time of the year again!!!
The READING ROOMS CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER 7.15 FOR 7.30

TICKETS are £7 which includes a Pie and Pea supper with desserts. There will be a BAR for drinks; tea and coffee also served. Tickets for the party can be bought from Jean Cowman or contact any member of the committee.

ALSO at the party will be the BIG RAFFLE DRAW this is our big fundraiser for the year so please support the rooms by buying tickets from committee members (those selling tickets should return stubs with monies to Jean Cowman 841209

Diary

November

5 Art Class 10.00
6 Rainbows 18.00
7 Reading Room Committee 19.00
10 Private Function 17.00
12 Art Class 10.00
13 Rainbows 18.00
14 W.I. 19.00
18 St John's Church 15.30
19 Art Class 10.00
20 Rainbows 18.00
21 Soup Lunch St John's 12.00 for 12.15
24 Oddfellows Meeting 13.30
26 Art Class 10.00
27 Rainbows 18.00

December

1 Reading Room Christmas Party 19.15

3 Art Class 10.00
4 Rainbows 18.00
5 Reading Room Committee 19.00
8 Village Christmas Party 13.00
9 St John's Messy Church 15.30
10 Art Class 10.00
11 Rainbows 18.00
12 W.I. 19.00

Please continue to support the Reading Rooms as a valuable village asset, thank you.

Kathleen Cook (Secretary 841363)

Beckermets History group

The group appreciate the favourable remarks that people have made regarding the new information board which was put up by the group on the village green and hope it will prove to be a valuable asset to the village.

We had a stall at Gosforth show which resulted in interesting comments which we hope to follow up. We are also in the process of buying a new computer as the original one was just too old to work. If anyone has old photos of the village or people we are always interested to copy or to add to our collection

Kathleen Cook (Secretary) 841363

Beckermets School

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Air Ambulance collection in June, with your help we raised £78.10 towards school funds. We will be having another Air Ambulance collection on Friday 30th November 2018 at 10.00, 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 5th November.

On Monday 29th October at 5.30pm in school we will be holding an Open Evening for prospective parents so if you have a child due to start school you are very welcome to come along and meet us.

On the afternoon of 9th November starting at 2pm we will be holding an assembly in the school grounds to

commemorate the end of the 1st World War which you are welcome to attend.

From Friday 23rd November until Thursday 29th November 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 November & December, these are as follows:

28 Nov Christingle Service in St John's Church at 9.30am

06 Dec Dress Rehearsal of Christmas Plays starting at 1.00pm

12 Dec Beckermet School Christmas Fayre starting at 1.00pm

19 Dec Crib Service in School Outdoor Classroom at 9.30am

Lenore Thomson (Administrator)

Beckermet Brownies and Rainbows are recruiting!

We are looking for girls to join our Rainbow and Brownie Unit, and for volunteers to help our existing volunteer leaders.

Rainbows and Brownies

Girls age 5-7 are invited to join our Rainbow Unit and Girls aged 7-10 are eligible to join Brownies.

We meet on Tuesday evenings - Rainbows at 6pm in the Reading Rooms, and Brownies at 5.30pm in the school.

If you would like to be an inspiration for girls and young women, and want to help girls to realise their full potential, and share in some unforgettable moments along the way, please contact the following:

Brownies: Gwen Rea - Tel 841554

Rainbows: Jean Slater - Tel 841254

Volunteering: Sarah Moore – Tel 841332

Beckermet Sports Committee - Christmas dates for your Diary!

Childrens Film Night - 10 November at 6 pm in the Reading Room –refreshments available

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 – Friday 30 November 2018 at 6.00pm

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

This will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Church.

Children's Christmas Party – Sunday 9 December, 2-4pm in the Reading Room

Come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon with party games, a disco and refreshments.

Young at Hearts Christmas Party – Sunday 6 January 2018, 12noon – 3pm in the Reading Room

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

Inbetweens Party – watch out for more details!

Please come along and enjoy these village events - we look forward to seeing you!

Julia Harrison, Beckermet Sports Committee

Recycling Bins

The recycling bins formerly in the school car park have been removed. This was because of the hazards caused to children by overspill from over-full containers.

Whilst most of village now has curbside collection of recycling items, those without this service will have to now use alternative facilities; the nearest ones are in Thornhill, Calderbridge or Seascale.

Volunteers needed: Can you help?

Three essential volunteer posts will come vacant in 2019 and these need to be filled to keep information freely available to the village.

1. Administrating the Parish Council Website. The website is all set up for information from the PC to be entered by someone with basic computer skills. Training will be given if required. Contact Donna email donna@dmpe.co.uk

2. Secretary to the Beckermet Village Association
This is essential if the BVA is to continue. There are only 4 meetings per year. Contact Sarah email moores@live.co.uk

3. Editor of the Beckermet Village Newsletter.
At present there are 3 issues per year. Contributors send in, usually by email, their items for inclusion which are put into a template of the newsletter using 'Word'. They are sent electronically to the printers and then they are collected and given to the distributors. Contact Margaret email becknews@btinternet.com