



Beckermets Village Newsletter November 2020

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Chairman's Report

Welcome to our November edition of the BVA newsletter. Back in July when I last wrote, I had hoped by now that we would have been socialising with family & friends, even be able to get away for holidays and getting back to normal. Unfortunately, we are now well into November by which time many of us had hoped we would have been coming out of all the problems caused by the Covid19 pandemic. Having seen the progress made when we were all taking extra care during lockdown with many having to shield in self-isolation, we now find ourselves heading in the same direction we were back in March with the rapid increase in infection in many parts of the country.

Nowhere in the country is free from the problems we face and now we find ourselves yet again facing further restrictions on meeting others, even our family and friends both in the home and outside. The whole country is now in stricter lockdown measures which will have an even greater impact not only on family and social life but could have significant financial implications with employment and therefore family income. As a community we must adhere to the restrictions and regulations in the hope that such measures will keep the level of transmission low and eventually down to zero if that can be achieved.

Our next scheduled BVA meeting had been arranged for Thursday 22nd of October but taking into consideration the restrictions we have not be able to hold this meeting as such a gathering would contravene the rule of six. It is anticipated that such regulations could well be in force throughout the winter months when it is anticipated that the rate of Covid19 will get significantly worse before hopefully improving sometime in the Spring by which time a vaccine may be available to help fight the pandemic.

Although we find ourselves almost back at square one, we must all think positively, stick to the guidance as much as possible in order to keep everyone within our community as safe as reasonably possible. Although not foolproof, the wearing of face masks by all at the appropriate time is vital if we are all do everything within our power to keep not only ourselves, our family and friends as well as all our members of the community safe. Back in those lock down days, weeks and months the members of our village rallied around helping those who needed support with shopping, getting prescriptions or even just a regular friendly phone call to those who were self-isolating. Such times appear to be possibly looming around the corner once again so if and when family, friends, or neighbours need that extra support, I'm sure that we will all do our bit once again to support those in need with helping them get through what could be a long, strange and most difficult winter many of us will ever have to face.

Hopefully the pandemic will not take hold as before and the winter months will pass without major increases in cases especially those with severe reactions which can have fatal consequences. As the winter nights draw in, shut the doors and curtains and leave the virus out in the cold while you are safe and warm inside. If anyone is in need of support do not be afraid to ask for help. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next BVA meeting whenever that can be arranged. Please remember as residents of Beckermets you are all members of the BVA and it is important that we get your views on our village. On a final note, please ensure you wear light or reflective clothing when walking around the village during these darker evenings. Stay safe.

The next meeting will be in the Reading Rooms on a date to be arranged

John Mackay (BVA Chairman)

Beckermet Community Led Plan (CLP) – Autumn 2020 Update

The CLP Committee met in late August to discuss the next stages of the results of the Questionnaire, sent to all residents in late 2019 / early 2020.

Therefore, the Committee has summarised below the issues raised so that some action can be taken as soon as it is possible. Work is currently being made on producing a full detailed plan, based on the analysis of the questionnaire. Once completed it will be published and distributed.

Outdoor Activities Running, cycling and walking clubs were put forward. If anyone is interested in joining or helping to set up one of the clubs, please contact a member of the CLP Committee, so that a notice can be put in the next Newsletter and on the Beckermet Facebook page.

Indoor Activities Within the village, a number of activities and societies have been proposed which would require an indoor setting. Currently this is difficult because the Reading Rooms is closed and there is no pub at the moment. However, it would be good to know if anyone would like to volunteer to set up any of the following, or would be interested in joining, once it is possible for such activities to take place. Again, please let a member of the Committee know, so that it can be advertised through the Newsletter and village Facebook page:

Yoga, Thai-chi, pilates, exercise classes, slimming, kickboxing, film club, food and wine-tasting, quizzes, history, horticulture, wildlife, environmental issues, health & well-being, arts and crafts, knitting, theatre group, IT, dance, language-learning.

Children and Toddlers A babysitting service has been requested. The easiest way to contact a babysitter is through the Facebook page for the village.

The play areas in the village have recently been discussed at the Parish Council meeting and a health & safety audit has taken place. New equipment should be installed in the near future and further information will be provided.

Transport Links The main concern regarding transport links was the lack of a bus service to the village. Unfortunately, Stagecoach has recently cut back on some of its services in Cumbria, however, to ascertain the chances of a bus linking Beckermet with Egremont, Whitehaven and beyond, a request for further information will be sent to the relevant authorities.

Roads and Parking With the planning permission granted for housing close to Hunter Rise, cash has been allocated to improve traffic and safety through the centre of the village. The Parish Council will be monitoring the improvements that are suggested and how these are implemented. A dialogue with other local authorities has commenced and the suggestions made through the Village Questionnaire noted.

In addition, a suggestion to limit parking in the village car park has been made and the feasibility of limiting time in accordance with the Cumbria Council Parking Disc scheme will be explored.

Village Appearance Thank you to all those who took part in September's tidying and weeding of the public spaces in the centre of the village – and those who have made such a difference to the cycle path. Further events will be advertised on the Facebook page and via the Beckermet Village Association, such as litter-picks, tidying other areas of the village etc.

Public House, Shop and Other Facilities While the re-opening of the White Mare and/or Royal Oak are commercial decisions, they will of course give an additional outlet for any society or club that may be established. Likewise, a shop or café will be a commercial venture, but, it is noted, that local produce was the most popular suggestion in the Questionnaire.

The CLP Committee will approach the Post Office and Cumbria Library to see if it is possible for a mobile outlet to be trialled in Beckermet.

CLP committee
timbarlow@btinternet.com

Thornhill with Beckermet Parish Council

Firstly, can I say a big thanks to everyone who turned out to tidy up the centre of the village in September, it was a fantastic effort and one that hopefully we can arrange again before Christmas. The play parks will remain open during lockdown, but please everyone needs to ensure that they are following the correct Covid guidance. Those of you who regularly use the park will have noticed that a couple of pieces of equipment have recently been removed, this was due to damage/wear and tear and after inspection it was felt that they were unsafe to use. The parish council are looking to procure a new piece of play equipment in the New Year and will work with the village children, hopefully over the coming months, in choosing this. The PC has resumed their monthly meetings and there are still vacancies, if you are interested in helping the community by becoming a parish councillor please get in touch.

4 week Lockdown

During the last lockdown it was wonderful to witness how Beckermet as a community came together and I have no doubt that we will again support each other in whatever way is needed in the months ahead.

Covid had presented a difficult time for everyone but please remember there is always someone willing to help. Please do not hesitate to get in touch over the coming weeks if you need help with anything, shopping, picking up prescriptions or you just need a friendly chat.

Stay safe and look out for each other in these tough times.

Julie Nugent 841569

Julienugent1966@yahoo.co.uk

Beckermet Nursery

Tel: 01946 841941

www.beckermetnursery.co.uk or

Email: admin@beckermetnursery.co.uk

Due to COVID-19 our usual events have had to be cancelled until further notice.

We are looking at new ways of ensuring the children have valuable experiences we arrange events that ensure our nursery still has that 'family feel'.

Please get in touch if you have any ideas.

Events that usually take place during nursery sessions

Annual General Meeting

Farm visits

Play Park visits/walks

Phunky Food Activities

Celebrating Halloween, Bonfire Night,

Diwali, Remembrance Day,

Christmas, Thanksgiving, and many more

Children in Need week - wear your Pyjamas.

Trip to Boonwood to choose Christmas Tree and

gather natural materials for table decorations

Christmas party and visit from Santa

Visits from Zoolab – live animals

Family Photograph Day”

World Book Day

Red Nose Day

Nursery Annual Trip with Parents

Some of these events will be still be taking place as we ensure the children have a good time and enjoy their time with us. Please contact us for a chat as all needs can be met.

Community

We have been a part of our local community for almost 45 years!

We enjoy working closely with a wide range of people and agencies to enhance our provision and the experiences of all the children in our care. Pre-Covid we regularly welcomed visitors into our setting and have enjoyed

several educational visits with the children. Some of these visitors included reception teachers from local schools, health visitors, early years advisors, local police officer, fire service and many more. We are looking forward to beginning these visits once we get the go ahead to do so.

Drop and Collection for Nursery/School

With restrictions as they are with social distancing and the 2/1m rule, may we ask anyone who visits nursery or indeed the school to please drive into the lay by from the roundabout end and exit from school end? Parents are currently having to make a queue to make drop offs and pickups whilst adhering to government guidelines. If someone drives in from the school end it results in chaos. Many thanks for your help with this.

Tricia and Staff

Beckermet WI Update

After much deliberation regarding our Members' health and welfare, Beckermet Women's Institute will not be holding any meetings between now and December. Probably into the New year as well.

The Committee continues to keep up to date with issues relating to the Covid situation and for the moment feel that it's best not to hold any meetings just yet. As soon as it is safe to gather once again - we will 'Err on the side of caution'. Members' health is paramount in this decision. So, we will continue to make best use of our telephones and E-mails.

Angela Walls

Residents Affected by Moorside

We now have a contact representing the Moorside Green Hub and through them had access to a 'Feasibility Report' by EDF. This report reasons that it would be feasible to build two Nuclear Reactors on the Moorside Site. We will discuss the details of the report with representatives of the Moorside Green Hub and EDF in the coming weeks and let Beckermet residents know of any further developments as soon as we can.

Geoff Nugent. RAM Chair



A small business owned by Beckermet resident
Liz Bowe
Pleased to support the Beckermet Village
Association newsletter for 2020.
Best Liz

Editor's Note

As you will see from what you have read in the text of this Newsletter, its content is reduced. But we felt it should be published, as what is included has important news for the village. But as an addition we would like to list all the small businesses operating in the village. This will be a regular feature in the Newsletter. Currently the list below contains those we are aware of but please send your details to me to be added if your details are omitted.

Beckermet Small Business Link

Andy Pratt Milk & Groceries
019467 24097
Beckermet Nursery Child Preschool
01946 841941
Bread by Sarah Bakers
01946 841158
Busy Bees Buffets Home Cooking
07858 808495
Coney Garth Cottages Holiday Lets
01946 841569
Eskdale Stores Newspapers & Groceries
019467 23229
Hillgreen Designs Personal Gifts
01946 841522
Revive @ Hopesdale House Holistic Massage
07734050193
Ted's Tatties Organic Potatoes
07768624791

If anyone requires a PDF copy of this Newsletter or wants to contribute to our next issue please Email geoffrey.nugent@outlook.com

Also a reminder that the Facebook page for the village chat is 'Beckermet Village'. If you need help with access you can contact wendie67@live.co.uk