

CALDBECK PARISH PLAN UPDATE JANUARY 2020

Caldbeck Parish Council produced a ten year plan for 2005 to 2015 following extensive consultation. Progress against the Plan has been reported by the Chairman at the Annual Parish Meetings.

Much of the thinking behind the Plan remains relevant today. This short document provides an update capturing progress and highlights future actions. It is refreshed annually as part of the Parish Council's planning and budgeting arrangements. Shaded lines are where actions are complete.

MAJOR ACTIONS FROM 2005-15 PLAN	PROGRESS	FUTURE ACTION	TIMETABLE
<p>1. Work with relevant agencies to provide a safe footpath & cycleway between Caldbeck and Hesket Newmarket and use the opportunity to put the adjacent telephone cables underground. This is the number one action identified by very many people. It is also probably the largest and most expensive - which just means we will have to try harder to make it happen.</p>	<p>Detailed plans have been drawn up of the proposed route of the footpath. Significant funds are available following a generous donation. Whilst agreements have been made with 8 of the 10 affected landowners, no agreements are in place with 2 landowners.</p> <p>The Parish Council secured the release of the February 2018 report of the County Council's independent reviewer following a ruling by the Information Commissioner.</p> <p>Mike Johnson, County Councillor, has attempted informal mediation with two landowners but without success.</p> <p>In Autumn 2019 the Parish Council met the County Council and the National Park to discuss options when all parties recognised the merit of the direct footpath alongside Hesket Lonning.</p> <p>In November 2019 the Parish Council consulted parishioners about next steps and putting in place arrangements to ask a question at County Council. Respondents supported the footpath (70%) and a small majority supported lobbying the County Council (52%). The Parish Council agreed to submit a question to Full County Council but the County Council refused the question.</p>	<p>Consultation exercise as part of updating the Plan and budget option. Parishioners are asked for their views on next steps.</p> <p>Preparations to publish press notice with supporting documentation and lobby press and the media to exert pressure on the County Council.</p>	<p>Consultation November - December. Results to be discussed at extraordinary meeting 16 December</p> <p>January 2020</p>

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2. Progress the provision of affordable housing, as identified within the Housing Needs Survey.	Three Housing Association dwellings for rent at Brewery Barn Cottages. Grant received from Allerdale Borough Council to support preparation of a proposal for pre planning advice for self build/affordable family homes with attached workshops across a number of sites. Architect consultant appointed. Further discussions ongoing in light of difficulties in finding appropriate sites.	Request pre planning advice and in light of outcome support establishment of a Community Group to develop the detailed project.	Submit request by March 2020. Other milestones to follow.
3. Promote the preservation of important facilities and amenities identified within the Plan.	Following potential closure of Caldbeck shop late 2015, the Parish Council called a public meeting to save it. Caldbeck and Hesket Newmarket Village shops successfully operating. Doctors' Surgery highly regarded. The Parish Council considered future options to save bus route without success. Some routes withdrawn following ending of County Council subsidies. Tysons now provide services on Tuesday & Wednesday to Wigton and Carlisle respectively.	Further consideration of public transport facilities and tailored services to meet needs.	
4a) Investigate provision of public WCs, including disabled, in Hesket Newmarket and Caldbeck.	Disabled toilet access at Caldbeck Methodist Chapel. An 'all ability' toilet facility is available in St Kentigern's church, Caldbeck, when the church is open - daily, around 9am to 5pm, but may vary in the Winter.	Included in Budget consultation November 2019	December 2019
4b) Hesket Newmarket	There are no public facilities in Hesket Newmarket.	Explore the scope for supporting facilities.	December 2019
4c) Caldbeck public toilets	Allerdale Borough Council is to end provision of public toilets in Caldbeck. The Parish Council is looking at options, including what refurbishment might be carried out prior to any transfer of assets and whether refurbishment might include provision of disabled facilities. Budget consultation supported continued provision of public facilities in Caldbeck.	Detailed consideration of options for continuing provision of public toilets in Caldbeck, including disabled facilities.	March 2020

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5. Promote a local chiropody service, preferably through the Surgery.	Available via Northern Fells Group. Also separate provider advertises in Parish Magazine. Caldbeck Surgery provide chiropody services, including as part of diabetes annual reviews.		
6. Press for winter gritting of main through routes.	Winter gritting route extended from Caldbeck along unclassified road to Howbeck, Hesket Newmarket. Snow clearing budget for other routes established. The Parish Council and Castle Sowerby Parish Council successfully lobbied for extending gritting from Howbeck to Millhouse and the B5305. County Council three yearly review of gritting routes - September 2019. Significant difficulties during winter 2019-20 with the County Council not gritting Howbeck to the B5305, then not gritting Howbeck to Millhouse, with action not being taken despite assurances from Assustant Director Highways.	Maintain provision for snow clearing of minor roads not on County Council gritting routes. Need to ensure that Caldbeck to B5305 via Howbeck and Millhouse is included in the 2020-21 gritting routes to avoid repetition of 2019-20 problems.	Summer 2020
7. Pursue local provision of adult education.	Various services provided via Northern Fells Group.		
8. Discuss with the Police Authority, contact with and support of the community.	Police reporting arrangements have changed with PCSOs no longer reporting to Parish Council meetings and attending when duties permit. Quarterly meetings with PCSOs for all Parish Councils were prosed as an alternative but have not proved effective and have been abandoned. The Clerk receives information from community links which are circulated when directly relevant. The Police and Crime Commissioner's newsletters are circulated which provide an overview of activities.	Continue using Cumbria Police Community Messages Service.	
9. Support the Northern Fells Group.	Parish Council represented on Northern Fells Group. Annual donation to Northern Fells Group (minibus) included in Parish Council budget.	Continued funding included in budget.	

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10. Contact mobile phone providers about the potential for a local mast.	Actions taken to support digital inclusion. Vodafone femtocells provided at 4 locations in Caldbeck. New phone masts now at Newlands Heskett Newmarket and Berrier. Support for additional mobile masts. Support of new technologies such as home based 4G.	Support of new initiatives and technologies where appropriate. Continued promotion of digital inclusion for Caldbeck Parish Council residents.	
11. Establish a Parish web-site.	Parish website established. For 2019 full agendas will continue to be posted on the two notice boards in Caldbeck and the notice board in Heskett Newmarket. Meeting dates/venues and full contact details are posted on the notice board in Fellside. Agendas are published on the website.	Extend use of Parish Website. Consider messaging arrangements to alert parishioners to Parish Council news items/agendas/papers.	December 2019
12a) Parish Council always to bear in mind the preservation of the rural character of the Parish, and its conservation areas, when considering planning applications. Influence the planning authority to take this into account also.	The Parish Council has sought to respond in accordance with these principles when considering planning applications and provide timely, appropriate comments to the planning authorities. Local residential criteria extended to include Northern Fells Group and neighbouring parishes. Restoration work completed on Caldbeck and Heskett Newmarket historic signposts.	The Parish Council will continue to follow this approach in responding to future planning applications. Further restoration work of historic signposts.	Ongoing
12b) Seek to safeguard the Parish's environment.	Ongoing discussions with the National Park regarding surplus land including Heskett Newmarket green and village carparks. The National Park has accepted the Parish Council's offer for the land subject to consultation.	Finalise arrangements for land purchase Arrange fundraising to replenish reserves.	Awaiting National Park's final response
13. Encourage the formation of a Red Squirrel Conservation Group	Group formed, Rosemary Bailey main contact. The Parish Council has supported with a small donation.		

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14. Pursue the needs of young people identified in the Youth Survey, for transport, recreational facilities and other amenities.	Promoted use of Northern Fells Group minibus. Youth club at Cricket Club (later folded). Northern Fells Group organise a variety of activities during school holidays.		
New Actions 2018-19			
15a) Street lighting: Provide additional footway lighting where needed.	Agreed to install a solar powered footway bollard between Fellview School and the Village.	Installation of solar bollard. Review impact and consider further installations.	December 2019
15b) Street lighting: Agree what street lighting is required and incorporate electricity charges following Allerdale Borough Council's decision to charge for electricity.	A contingency was established in the budget in 2016-17 when changes in responsibilities were first mooted. That contingency has helped build an earmarked reserve which is to be used for funding new footway lighting. Allerdale has revised its approach. It will retain responsibility for maintenance of street lighting stock but will charge parish councils for electricity from April 2021. Budget consultations undertaken in November/December 2019. Respondents in favour of maintaining street lighting services but would like to see some reductions in numbers and fitting of timers.	Review lighting stock and decide which lights should be retained. Consider fitting of timers. Build firm estimates of the costs of electricity supply.	Spring 2020
16. Parish Lengthsman	Consideration of contracting a part time lengthsman to provide a local Highways service - maintaining gulleys, ditches, drains, verges; helping to keep the villages tidy; liaising with County Council Highways. Budget consultation undertaken and lengthsman agreed.	Contract for lengthsman's services and monitor trial year.	March 2020