

A scenic landscape photograph of a grassy field. In the foreground, there is a small, shallow pond with dark water, surrounded by green grass and some muddy patches. To the right, a large, mature tree with dense green foliage stands prominently. In the background, a rolling green hill is visible under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and rural.

# ***Lyvennet Link***

**September 2020**

**The Newsletter for Maulds  
Meaburn,  
Crosby Ravensworth,  
Kings Meaburn and Reagill**

**Number 202**

## **LYVENNET LINK**

**Next Issue - 1st October 2020**     **Copy deadline 25th September 2020**

c/o Nick Thomas, Brackenslack Cottage, Maulds Meaburn. Tel. 01931 715 010

e-mail: [nickthomas@macace.net](mailto:nickthomas@macace.net)

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor, the Parish Council or MMVI. The right to edit any contributions is reserved and inclusion is subject to available space. Articles and contributions etc., would be appreciated preferably by e-mail [nickthomas@macace.net](mailto:nickthomas@macace.net). Please send items as either text in the body of the email or as a word document. (apple-mac files acceptable)

Please do not send Microsoft publisher documents as I am unable to open them.

Text as an image file (e.g. a scanned document or photographed page) is not acceptable.

This edition is being sent out as an email.

It has been kindly distributed by Darren and Sarah Rogers and Kitty Smith.

Their contact lists will not reach everybody, so please feel free to distribute this as you wish.

**Welcome to the September edition of the Link.**

Many thanks again to Darren Rogers and Kitty Smith for distributing the Link through their contact lists.

I would be interested to hear view on whether the Link could continue as an email only newsletter, particularly as to how we might reach the dwindling number of people without access to email.

**Nick Thomas.**

## **AIR AMBULANCE COLLECTIONS**

The collections are to re-start on Wed 8<sup>th</sup> July, Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Aug, Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, 14<sup>th</sup> Oct, 11<sup>th</sup> Nov & Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Items collected are Curtains, bedding (no duvets or pillows ) towels, clothes, Shoes, belts, hats, scarfs, books ( hard & soft back) handbags, costume jewellery, Cd's, ink jet cartridges, mobile phones.

**Please no Bric a Brac.**

**Leave items in the bus shelters at CR,MM, Reagill & KM  
before 9am collection on the day.**

Further info contact Kitty 01931-715375

[Kitty.s65@btinternet.com](mailto:Kitty.s65@btinternet.com)



## **Required as soon as possible**

**Crosby Ravensworth CE Primary School** is looking to recruit a permanent **Midday Supervisor** to join our happy team on Monday afternoons.

The hours for the post are 11.45pm – 1.00pm, Mondays, term time only. Salary Range: Grade 3A (£9.36 per hour).

The deadline is Friday 11th September and shortlisting and interviews are expected to take place the following week.

The post is subject to a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Enhanced Disclosure Certificate.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Successful applicants will be required to take first aid and food hygiene training as part of the full induction process.

To read the full job description, please visit the 'vacancies' page at our school website.

Please apply in writing (preferably by email to [head@crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk)) referring to any previous experience you feel relevant to this post working with children.

You should also provide the name and contact details of two referees, stating the length of time you've known them and your relationship with them.

## News from your Parish Church of St Lawrence

To quote a recent Country Life contributor:

‘People of faith and of no faith, people looking for something and people looking for escape, to connect with the landscape or reconnect with their past are criss-crossing our land. They are going to the woods and the fells, to the wells and holy places, to the churches and chapels built by their forebears. Not since the papal interdict placed on King John in 1208 have our parish churches been shut at Easter or Whitsun, until now. We have had plagues, invasion scares and civil war ...but not churches closed like this, until now’

For many across this land, their churches remain closed with all rites of passage [such as Baptism, Marriage, Funeral] either reduced to a few people or not able to happen at all.

So it is with gladness and thankfulness that here at St Lawrence we can report that in August we celebrated not only regular Sunday services and Holy Communion but also:

Rebecca Wood’s Baptism, the marriage of Iona Darroch and Jack Woolley and the funeral of Mary Woof.

On September 5th we will also have the marriage of Felicity Robson and John Lynch.

The Wilkinson Organ is back where it belongs, looking and sounding splendid.

And now we can share with you the exciting news that your church will also be open every day - yep, that’s every day - from **September 1st**.

There are the inevitable ‘rules and regulations’ but if you stick with the clear notices inside church, keep socially distanced and wear a mask at all times you should be fine and safe. This way you will help us to keep you and your community on the right track.

After all, we need and want to keep this ancient place of refuge and support open, do we not?



## **Harvest Thanksgiving Service Sunday September 20th 11.00am**

We look forward to seeing you at this service as we cannot have our successful, annual Harvest Supper or Primary school/Lunch Club service. Please come with your family to celebrate the end of one agricultural year and the start of the next, a celebration which has gone on for centuries.

Again, we are not 'allowed' to receive groceries and veggies.

However, you do have at least two alternatives for your giving at this Harvest time:

Upper Eden Food bank at The Sands Church, Appleby (07596 690902) or bring a monetary gift to pop into the wall safe at the back of church. This will be split between The Bishop's Appeal for 2020

[to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Palestine] and St Lawrence. You can put your gift in an envelope to identify Gift Aid and where you would like it to go. Thank you.

## **October 31st Candles in the Night: 5pm - 9pm on All Hallow's Eve.**

## Monthly Weather Summary - June 2020

### Warm and wet.

June saw the rain return.

In many ways it was a mixed bag - frequent spells of rain or showers, some very warm and sunny days along with a number of cooler days, especially in the first half of the month.

The very sunny and warm weather of late May continued into the start of June, then breaking down through to the 10<sup>th</sup> as a cool northerly type became established, this bringing showers and/or spells of rain.

There was a spell of warm, humid, showery weather 13-18<sup>th</sup> with a couple of thunderstorms, then after a brief cooler interlude there was a hot, sunny spell from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

The last few days were cloudy and windy with showers and longer spells of rain, that rain being especially persistent and heavy within the LDNP.

Whilst overall the first half of the month was coolish, the second half saw the temperatures pick up, but rainfall was fairly consistent through the month with blocks of 4-5 days having rain and then only broken by one 1-2 dry days - the thunderstorm on the 16<sup>th</sup> was short and intense with 20 mm of rain falling in just 15 minutes.

MSLP of 1012.0 Mb was -3.4 Mb below the local average for the month and overall a mean minimum of 9.52c and a mean maximum of 18.69c saw the temperature 0.84c above the eleven year average for this site.

It was the warmest since 2018 and of the twelve now recorded, nine have been colder and two have been warmer - the highest maximum temperature recorded being 27.8c (25<sup>th</sup>), the lowest minimum 4.0c (9<sup>th</sup>).

Rainfall of 147.9 mm (Crosby Ravensworth School 153.3 mm - Castlehowe Scar 186.9 mm) was 175.6% of average for 2007-19 and made it the wettest June since 2017.

Of the fourteen now recorded, ten have been drier and three wetter.

During the month the following was recorded: thunder was heard on four days, with hail on one day (26<sup>th</sup>). Wind speed averaged 6.77 mph, with a maximum gust of 51 mph (28<sup>th</sup>).

## Monthly Weather Summary - July 2020

### A poor summer month - cool and unsettled

Apart from recording the third equal warmest day in my records, July was an unremarkable month that often disappointed.

It certainly could not have been described as a summer month as it was often cool and cloudy, actually quite dull at times and there certainly wasn't any hint of a warm spell.

Only five days managed to attain the seasonal average of 19.6c with the mean maximum temperature for the month markedly below average and whilst not showing such a marked difference, with a number of cool nights, the mean minimum was also down on average as well.

Rainfall came frequently, albeit not heavily.

However, whilst the final total fell below my 13 year average, totals across the county were above the 30 year long term average.

This poor weather came courtesy of frequent low pressure systems arriving from off the Atlantic with high pressure never managing to become established

At the end of the month an area of low pressure in the Atlantic acted to draw warm air up from the continent which provided for one very warm day on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

MSLP of 1014.0 Mb was -0.4 Mb below the local average for the month and overall a mean minimum of 10.01c and a mean maximum of 17.89c saw the temperature 1.12c below the eleven year average for this site.

It was the coldest since 2012 and of the twelve now recorded, two have been colder and nine have been warmer - the highest maximum temperature recorded being 29.5c (31<sup>st</sup>), the lowest minimum 5.7c (20<sup>th</sup>).

Rainfall of 87.5 mm (Castlehowe Scar 116.8 mm) was 85.5% of average for 2007-19 and made it the driest July since 2018.

Of the fourteen now recorded, five have been drier and eight wetter.

In what was a fairly quiet month, there were no '*Days of*' although it has been the windiest July yet recorded here - the wind speed averaged 8.52 mph, with a maximum gust of 42 mph (3<sup>rd</sup>).

Many thanks this month to Alison and Margaret for stepping up to become 'official Met' Office deputy observers'



# Confused in the Vegetable Patch!

## ANSWERS

Tomatoes  
Carrots  
Mint  
Parsnip  
Chilli peppers  
Runner beans  
Garlic  
Red onions  
Rosemary  
Garden peas  
Parsley  
Courgette  
Thyme  
Cucumber  
Oregano  
Lettuce  
Basil  
Rocket  
Sage  
Potatoes  
Beetroot  
Swiss chard  
Broccoli  
French beans  
Spinach  
Broad beans  
Mange tout  
Strawberries  
Blackcurrants  
Raspberries  
Blueberries  
Rhubarb  
Spring onion

**Vicky Welch**

# Local Fundraising.

In May of this year Sass Robertson from Crosby Ravensworth took up the '*Mile a Day in May*' walking challenge arranged by Eden Valley Hospice (EVH) whereby she would walk at least 1 mile every day during the month (she actually managed far more than a mile day) with people invited to select a particular day on which they wanted to sponsor her.

Her motivation to do this was due to the fact that EVH had cared for her father and more recently Daphne Baird from the village.

At the end of May she had walked a total of 62.03 miles and raised a grand total of £400 which was donated to EVH.

Then in June, Karen Winder took over the challenge along with her mother and daughter Frankie - they walked a total of 74.2 miles raising £300, again for EVH.

In July the baton was taken on by Katie and Sarah Rogers, but now with '*Eden Animal Rescue*' and '***Penrith and District Red Squirrel Group***' being the beneficiaries.

Their walks were both local and further afield (when they were able to get over to the North Yorkshire coast), their daily walks ranging in length from 1½ miles to 9.77 miles (Ravenscar to Scarborough) ... in total they walked 114.11 miles over the 31 days.

However, a good number of the walks included their own '***Squirrel Round***' of just over 2 ½ miles in checking and topping up the various feeders and changing the memory cards in the motion feeders around Maulds Meaburn and Crosby Ravensworth.

The final total raised by them was £330, shared between the two charities.

Naturally all those involved would like to thank everyone who sponsored, all of whom have shown an amazing amount of kindness and generosity

The two photos attached are

1. Katie and Sarah Rogers with Gary Murphy of P&DRSG handing over £165
2. Katie with Jenny Whitfield from Eden Animal Rescue handing over £165







## Red Squirrels

July and August have been another couple of very busy months with the presence of greys continuing to be an issue.

However, significant progress has been made and every feeder that I have out has reds using it. The greys (6) that were in the area of Brackenslack Lane and wood have now all been dispatched.

We were left with one, maybe two greys, between Longhill Wood and Three Cornered Wood, but it now appears that they have 'moved on' as they have not made an appearance on camera for over a week.

At the time of writing (18<sup>th</sup>), in this two month period a further six greys have been dispatched in our parish, making a total of 19 for the year.

There have been two random sightings of greys, one in Maulds Meaburn and the other in Crosby Ravensworth, but these were solitary and fleeting.

The **REDS are** doing well though, we have good numbers and all seem to be in good health.

I am conscious that a number of the locations (woods) that I mention are not public rights of way and access to them for myself and Gary are with permission (which now with the pheasant season upon us will be in abeyance until about February) so I want to try and get some feeders up in 'viewable locations'.

This would be from such as public footpaths, but with the safety and security of the squirrel in mind.

I erected a further feeder in Flass, which is about 30 yards from the tunnel and more than viewable from the path – after 8-9 days of having been up it was 'found'.

One morning when I went to check it there was a young, healthy red sat atop the feeder holding onto a monkey nut.

There is now a feeder back in the church yard and I hope to get one or two more feeders up soon.

I must thank the parents of Andrew Haggart for the two feeders and bag of feed that they have donated and also to Kitty for a feeder (now in the church).

If anyone else has old, unused feeders going spare ....



Patience was key with this photo and after several hours of hanging about upside down the blood had certainly gone to my head – but I think it was worth it!!

If you see any greys ring Gary (07974 788 434) straight away – but could you also drop me an e-mail as well please.

In that e-mail can you please confirm that you have notified Gary

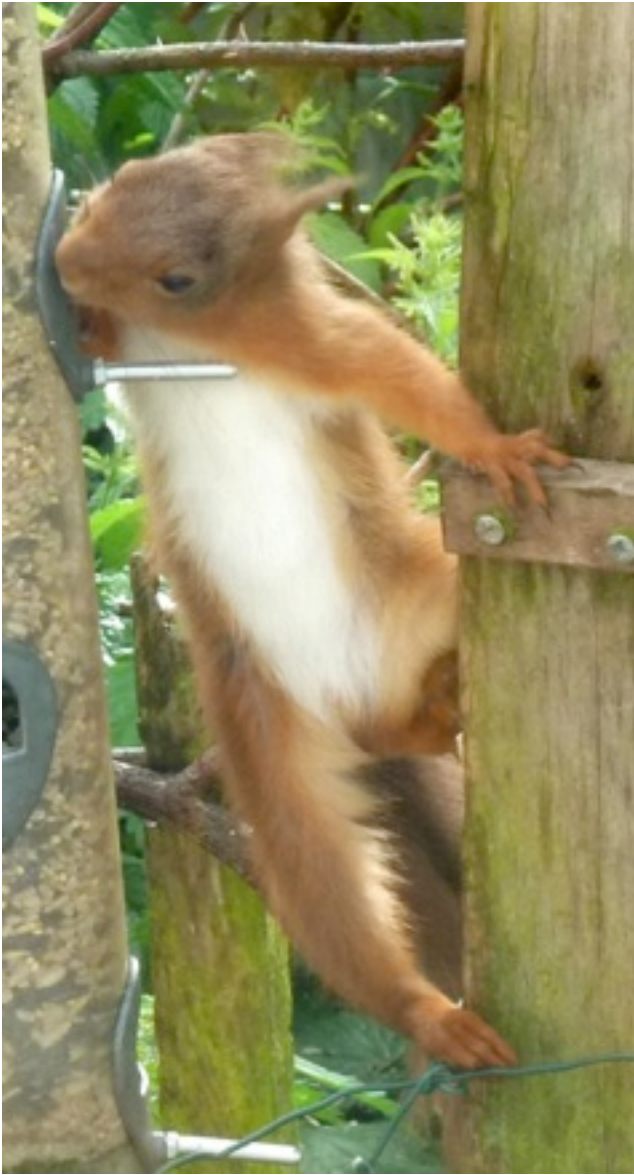
**PHOTOS** – I'm getting some lovely ones sent to me and please keep them coming in – they go to Jerry Moss (ranger at Centreparks) who puts them on the P&DRSG Facebook page and I use them in our bi-monthly report as well

**REPORT SIGHTINGS** – as you know I am now doing our little report bi-monthly and it is only as good as the reports/photo's/sightings that you send me

I'll take them from anywhere in our catchment, but some more from MORLAND, REAGILL, KINGS MEABURN, BOLTON, NEWBY, SLEAGILL would be great.

If you are not on my distribution list ... why?

E-mail me at [darrog@btinternet.com](mailto:darrog@btinternet.com) and I will add you on



The photos above and below are by John Gore in Morland, the one above has '*tickle my tummy*' all over it.





Additionally, with two motion cameras in use it is quite surprising what else turns up – below are a selection of some of the birds ‘caught on camera’ thanks to Neil McCall for helping with confirming the identity of them



Jays have been in abundance on all feeders



The story behind this Peregrine Falcon was that moments before this photo there had been a red squirrel on the wall – it survived









## **Crosby Ravensworth Virtual Show**

**Many thanks to Vicky Welch for responding to the request.  
Photos of her would be entries are below.**









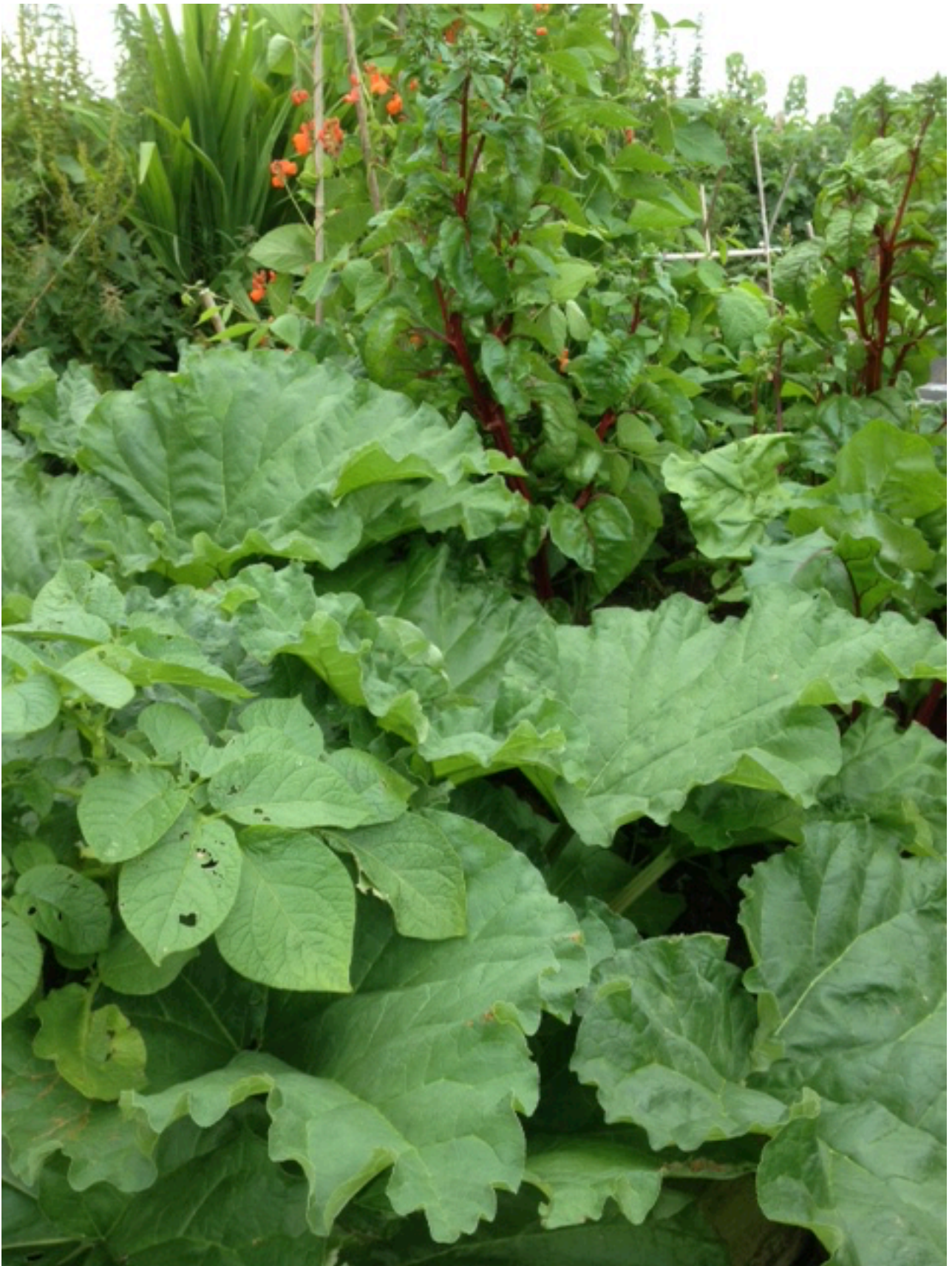




















Best ever beetroot I've grown! Weighing in at just over 2lbs!







August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020,

## **Ordinary Meeting of Crosby Ravensworth Parish Council.**

### **Draft Minutes**

#### **Present:**

Councillors: Cllr D Graham, Cllr. J Raine, Cllr D Hewitt, Cllr V Holroyd, Cllr A Beatham, Cllr J Taylor, Mr C Barnes (Clerk).

Cllr Neil Hughes CCC (Part)

1 member of the public.

#### **Apologies:**

Cllr McIvor (Unwell, unable to comply with Covid 19 Risk Assessment).

Welcome, Councillors were welcomed to the meeting and reminded if necessary, to update their declarations of pecuniary interest.

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 as a true record. Subject to an amendment in the header to show the correct date.

#### **Finance 2019 2020, Councillors RESOLVED:**

1. to approve the 4th Quarter, Budget Monitor,
2. to approve the 4th Quarter Bank Reconciliation, Schedule of Payments,

#### **Receipts and Internal Transfers**

3. to approve the full year accounts for publication

#### **Internal Auditor's Report 2019 2020, Councillors RESOLVED:**

1. to approve the internal auditor's report for the year ending 2020 dated 20 April 2020. There were no matters of concern arising
2. to receive and note the internal auditor's certificate (AGAR) 20 April 2020

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019 2020, Councillors RESOLVED to authorise the Chairman to complete and sign the Annual Governance Statement

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019 2020, Councillors RESOLVED to authorise the Chairman to complete and sign the unaudited Annual Accounting Statement.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019 2020, Councillors RESOLVED To authorise the Clerk to publish the 'NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION OF UNAUDITED ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 26 and 27. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234) starting on Tuesday 11 August 2020 and ending on Tuesday 22 September 2020.

Planning Matters during Lockdown

Councillors RESOLVED to ratify planning responses made during the lockdown by email correspondence as follows:

1. CR Oddendale Cottage E/03/35E (Support)
2. MM Flass E/03/52 (Support)
3. MM Hill Top E/03/47 (Support)
4. MM Crake Trees E/03/51 E/03/23A (Support)
5. MM Mason House E/03/50 (Object)
6. CR Lyvennet E/03/49 (Support after amended plans submitted)

Report of items transacted under delegated authority during lockdown,

Councillors RESOLVED to ratify:

1. Receipt of Cumbria Community Foundation Grant (£886.00) Covid 19 Community Support Grant support for volunteers supporting elderly and vulnerable people during the lockdown. Disbursement of the funds would be determined at the end of the project
2. Councils and Public Liability Insurance. A 5-year discount deal ending 2025 had been agreed with Zurich that had resulted in a substantial saving.

3. Commission of Repair to the beck wall adjacent to the Sun Hotel Crosby Ravensworth at a cost of £150. A question was raised as to whose responsibility this should have been, Environment Agency or Cumbria County Council as Highways? However, it was agreed that neither would have acted promptly leading to more significant works being required and this was a reasonable thing to have done
4. Land Registry Amendment East View, Maulds Meaburn Consent (letter sent 27 June 2020). The council had previously agreed ‘in principle’ to a revision of the green boundary at East View (141/19 10 February 2020)
5. Electricity North West removal of apparatus at Reagill Village Green
6. Painting of Render at Police House (Start Date 18 Aug – weather permitting)

The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, Councillors noted the provisions of the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 as follows:

1. The cancellation of the Annual Parish Meeting
2. All appointments made at the Annual Meeting 2019 to stand until

resignation or the Annual Meeting due to be held in May 2021 (the following year).

Chairman’s Report. The Chairman read out the annual report that he would have given to the council at the Electors/Annual Meeting. It is appended in full.

Public Participation.

Correspondence has been received from the occupant of the Old Chapel in Maulds Meaburn regarding an unacknowledged request to the Parish Council that he had made in 2011 to purchase land adjacent to and in front of the Old Chapel. The existing licence had been examined and it was found and not to have been transferable from the previous occupant to whom it was granted. The council did not hold a formal document relating to the current occupant.



However, since 2013 the Clerk had invoiced the occupant for £10 a year on the instructions of a previous Chairman. Two payments had been received from the occupant during this time amounting to £70 including a recent payment for £50. It was agreed to reply to the occupant with a holding letter until the position could be satisfactorily resolved.

An approach had been received from the District Council on behalf of BT. They planned to decommission and remove the phone box in Crosby Ravensworth opposite the Village Hall. No 'phone calls had been received or made from it in 2019/20. The council had previously agreed that it should be decommissioned and removed, however two members of the community had come forward wanting to explore plans to repurpose the phone box. It was agreed to contact them and ask if they wished to bring any plans forward before the deadline of 18th of September. The item would be discussed again at the next council meeting which was expected to be the 7<sup>th</sup> September.

The problem of speeding cars was raised. This had been noticed as a problem particularly along by the straight by the school and it was agreed to raise the matter with the PCSO and seek her advice.

Planning (YDNP) E/03/54, field adjacent to 15 Stoneworks Garth, Crosby Ravensworth, full planning permission for erection of general-purpose agricultural building. It was agreed that the proposal was for an agricultural building of modest scale in an appropriate location. There were no objections.

Stepping Stones at Dalefoot, the promised repairs had been overlooked by a local contractor. The reinstatement of the stones would be requested from the contractors undertaking the construction of a wall at Dalebanks before they left site.

Play Area Crosby Ravensworth, the condition of a table/bench and fence was raised. The fence had a hole in it and a central wire required replacement. It was agreed that this should be raised with the District Council who were responsible for safety on the site. These items should have been picked up in the safety inspections they had carried out.

Proposed Bequest of Holly Cottage. Councillors had had advice of a bequest in the will of the Late T Relph (A former Chairman of the Parish Council and

lifelong resident of the Parish) of his home 'Holly Cottage', the bequest was conditional upon the Parish Council making the cottage available for rent. It was a 3- bedroom family home. Councillors had had an opportunity to visit and inspect Holly Cottage on the 22 July 2020. Arising from this were a series of questions that a landlord would have to address regarding; Energy Performance Certificate, the general condition of the building, the general condition of wiring, the general condition of plumbing & heating systems, ceiling and floor insulation and glazing. It was estimated that the works required to bring it up to a lettable standard would cost somewhere in the region of £65 to £85k. It was agreed not to engage a surveyor as it was felt that the works could be adequately costed by contractors and managed by councillors who had a track record in relation to rented property including the Police House in Maulds Meaburn. The question therefore arose as to how this work could be funded. The council had made enquiries in relation to the Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) which could lend at 2% or otherwise by a commercial mortgage. It was argued that rental income would easily defray the expense of borrowing at this level and that the property would be a net contributor to the council's funds in the short and medium term and a significant asset going forward. Cllr Taylor raised a question as to whether a project of this type was something that it was appropriate for the council to get involved in. He expressed unease about going forward with it. Councillors also expressed concern that in the current downturn the property may go unlet and leave the council facing significant costs. It was decided to keep these matters under consideration and to research the project further. No decision was made at this point as to 'in principle' acceptance and the will had yet to be proved. Councillors reflected on the very full life led in the village by Mr Relph, the visit had been very moving and the proposed bequest was a generous offer to the community in which he had lived and served in several capacities.

Crosby Commons update, Councillors received an update on the Crosby Commons proposals for grazing/planting currently with the Secretary of State for decision. The council's ownership had been misstated in error to the favour of the Lowther estates in the application to the Secretary of State by the applicant and this had now been corrected. It was understood that there had been some objection to the proposals to establish woodland/scrub in the area of the motorway corridor arising from its heritage importance. No determination had been announced by the Secretary of State.

Internal Auditor, the council confirmed the re appointment of Rachael Little for 2020/21 as Internal Auditor (1 DG, 2 JR)

Finance 2020 2021, It was RESOLVED to approve the 1st Quarter, Bank Reconciliation, Schedule of Payments, Receipts and List of Internal Transfers. The council's closing balance at the end of the first quarter was £28,750.13

Finance 2020 2021, It was RESOLVED to approve the 1st Qtr. Budget Monitor. Exceptional items were noted as follows: A miscellaneous receipt of £1,000 to the benefit of the Maulds Meaburn Recreation Ground Trust in respect of the final agreement with the owners of Maranetha House. This amount had now been transferred to the Maulds Meaburn Recreation Ground Trust. A receipt of £886 in respect of a grant from the Cumbria Community Foundation connected to the support of community volunteers assisting the elderly and shielding with the Covid 19 outbreak. It was noted that the render to the Police House was to be painted soon and the budget available for that exceeded the quotation which had been unexpectedly low. This budget was likely to be underspent.

It was agreed to look at the grants budget in the September meeting.

Date of Next Meeting. It was agreed to meet virtually for the next meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> September in order to deal with some planning matters and to develop the capacity for virtual meetings. The Covid 19 risk assessment and associated precautions had extended the notice period for 'in person' meetings and

arrangements were cumbersome and not responsive to planning timelines.

Councillors agreed however that they were satisfied with the arrangements for the meeting. It was agreed to use the Zoom platform for virtual meetings and to meet in person (if possible) less frequently.

Computer Equipment, if any councillor felt that they needed equipment to participate in virtual meeting they were asked to speak to the Chairman.

## Appendix 1

### Parish Council Chairman's Report, Cllr D Graham, July 2020

The Parish Council held 11 meetings over the 2019/20 year with the April meeting cancelled due to Covid 19 lockdown. All were scheduled in advance and mostly held on the first Monday of the month. In all 22 members of the public attended during the year.

Elections – Five individuals stood for election in May 2019 and were appointed as councillors; David Graham (Chair), Joan Raine (Vice Chair), David Hewitt, (Ginny) Holroyd, Andrew (Pandy) Beatham.



Given there were 2 vacant Councillor posts the opportunity for co-option was advertised and five expressions of interest were received. Following a selection process Rob McIvor and Jonathon Taylor were co-opted.

Planning - The Parish Council is a consultee on all planning applications in the Parish. Fourteen planning applications have been considered over the year. Of the 14 applications; 10 were from Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and 4 from Eden District Council. The Council supported 12 and objected to 2 planning applications.

Generally, the PC's focus on new housing continues to be to promote local occupancy / affordable housing and this has also been heavily promoted with the Park Authority.

Finances - The Council had £20,589 of income against a budget of £15,331 with the majority of additional income coming from earlier than expected letting of the Old Police Station. Expenditure in

the year was £24,071 up £12,323 on budget. The overspend against budget is mostly as a result of the £10,895 of invoices received in the early part of the year for refurbishment work on the Old Police Station. This work was funded from reserves accrued over the last few years specifically for the property.

The Parish Council Precept for 2020/21 (Band D property) remained unchanged at £54.04 per chargeable household providing the Parish Council with £12,440 of income.

As a taster, some of the key issues discussed and actioned over the last 12 months include;

Emergency Planning – The completion of the PC Emergency Plan in 2019 and submission to Cumbria County Council and the Emergency Services allowed the Council to access 8 dumpy bags of sand and 200 sandbags. The bags were positioned at Maulds Meaburn shelter and in Crosby Ravensworth in front of the phone box. These were replenished from stocks held at Midtown Farm during the autumn and winter months and were well used during storm Ciara, Dennis and Jorge.

Registration of Parish Land - The Parish Council succeeded in completing its first Land Registry registration of Maulds Meaburn Village Green in September 2019 and is continuing with the Land Registry to resolve some minor

inconsistencies with the original Village Green registration and the current area between cattle grids.

The investigative work carried out during the registration process has given the Parish Council a clearer understanding of all the 21 householder and land owner Licenses, Deeds of Grant and Easements impacting on the Green as well as the Parish Council legal duties in protecting the area.

During the year and in line with the Council's agreed approach a number of refreshed agreements were instigated as formal Licenses,

The Commons Act 1965 was enacted to provide for the registration of common land or town and village greens albeit that the primary legislation comes from the 1857 Enclosure Act and 1876 Commons Act. Information from HM Planning Inspectorate (Common land guidance sheet 2b) Works on Town and Village Greens clearly states that the only allowable works to a village green must be with a view to its better enjoyment. The legislation suggests that no form of construction, hardening or setting aside appears to be allowed.

With this increased knowledge the Parish Council will in future take a much firmer approach with activities and agreements relating to the Village Green.

Work has commenced with the first Land Registry registration of Reagill Village Green.

Monks Church Bridge – The Parish Council had given its support to the bridge widening planning application lodged by Cumbria County Council (CCC) with the Yorkshire Dales National Park. This would have seen the bridge widened by circa 1.5m, the alignment over the river unchanged, and the upstream parapet rebuilt. The planning application was refused on the grounds of protecting the fabric of the bridge, lack of community support and insufficient traffic volumes. The Park Authority in conjunction with CCC Highways then designed a scheme of signage and road markings aimed at improving the ability of drivers to negotiate the bridge.

CCC then lodged a planning application to repair the parapet of the listed bridge which gave the PC the opportunity to object and attend and present our views on both the traffic management proposals and the need for widening.

A joint meeting of key parties was to be arranged until Covid 19 struck.

The bridge parapet has been struck on at least two more occasions whilst we have awaited repairs. The latest report is that CCC may well have to go back to YDNPA planners for approval to introduce new stone as there is now damage to the secondary arch ring.

The PC's preferred solution remains the carefully designed and sympathetic bridge widening solution proposed by CCC.

Old Police Station – Following extensive refurbishment in early 2019 the property was re-let on 23 April 2019. During the summer of 2019 lime pointing to the West Gable (rear) of the property was undertaken.

Crosby Ravensworth Commons – The PC was consulted during the year on proposals being developed by the Commoners' for submission to Natural England. The Commoners' Association was looking to enter into a 10 year agreement with Natural England, the third such agreement it had made regarding the management of the common. The commoners who had rights to graze specific numbers of stock on the fell were proposing a scheme that reduced grazing and increased tree cover. The public had a right of access to the common and the agreement aimed to balance the needs and rights of all concerned with the establishment of areas of planting.

Presentations on the proposals were given at a PC meeting and at Crosby Ravensworth Village Hall as part of the consultation process.

The PC supports the proposals which have now gone to the Secretary of State for approval. Grants – The Parish Council awarded grants to the following organisations during the year

- First Responders - £400
- Parish Tree Group - £440 – The PC have been working closely with the Tree Group and authorised planting on Maulds Meaburn Village Green and signed an agreement with CCC to allow planting on roadside verges
- Fell Runner bus - £100

Dark Skies Initiative – The Parish Council signed up to the YDNPA Dark Skies Initiative

Administration - Population of the website has continued with the addition of a section specifically related to Covid 19.

The Parish Council received an unqualified audit with no matters arising.

Annual Parish Meeting – The last PC meeting was held on 2nd March 2020 with meetings then cancelled due to Covid lockdown. PC business was then undertaken by the Chair and Clerk through Delegated Powers whilst consultation on planning submissions was made by email.

## 28 August 2020 – Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

### Draft Minutes

Present: Councillors: Cllr D Graham, Cllr. J Raine, Cllr D Hewitt, Cllr V Holroyd, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr R McIvor, Mr C Barnes (Clerk).

No members of the public attending.

Apologies: Cllr Neil Hughes

Welcome, Councillors were welcomed to the meeting. This was the council's first video conference meeting. There were no declarations of Pecuniary Interest. Concern was expressed that Cllr Beatham may not have been able to join the meeting as no prior apologies had been given. The Clerk would check that Cllr Beatham was able to participate in future video conferences.

### Public Participation

Cllr Hewitt reported that a member of the public had raised a concern with him over the condition/possible undermining of the beck road at Dalebanks. It was agreed to survey the bank from the field side and report findings to Highways at Cumbria County Council regarding any undermining of the road.

The Clerk had circulated a photograph of an Ash Tree on Tenter Row having been alerted to its condition by the arborist. Councillors had been asked to look at the tree. The tree had been affected by dieback disease and it was thought possible that it might shed limbs in the near future, placing powerlines at risk and potentially undermining the riverbank. It was agreed that the Clerk would press the arborist for the annual report which was overdue. The



council would discuss this issue at its next meeting. The tree was not owned by the council but the council had acted before to remove trees that presented a hazard. The Clerk would seek advice from Nicola Child Trees officer at YDNPA as the tree stood in a conservation area.

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020 as a true record.

The Local Government Act 1972-Section 85(2A). This extraordinary meeting had been called to circumvent the risk of a councillor's disqualification after six months absence from meetings after the 2<sup>nd</sup> September and to practice the use of video conferencing. It was agreed that the circumstances surrounding the absence were exceptional and arose directly from the unanticipated suspension of meetings for a period of 5 months during the Covid 19 lockdown. The councillor involved had provided reasons for absence for the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> August which had been accepted by the council, 'unwell: absent to comply with a covid risk assessment for in person meetings'.

Advice had been sought from the monitoring officer and will be fed back to the council in due course over whether an apology for absence deals with any such issues in future. It was AGREED that a further extension of the period (6 Months) for which councillors may be absent from a meeting without being disqualified where grounds for absence were associated with the Coronavirus Pandemic. A question was raised as to whether this needed to be added to the standing orders.

Planning. Councillors had received a schedule of the planning applications that would be considered at the ordinary meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. As this would again be a virtual meeting, councillors were asked to look at the applications carefully prior to the meeting to facilitate discussion.

Reagill Swings. A volunteer had overhauled, cleaned and painted the swings at Reagill Village Green to an exceptionally high standard after this years inspection. It was agreed to write a letter of thanks to the individual concerned. It was proposed (DG1:JR2) and agreed that the Greens at Reagill/Maulds Meaburn should have signs to indicate that they were Village Greens managed by the Parish Council.

## Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership Scheme

Local Newsletter Update August 2020

Despite the inevitable disruption over the last few months and the cancellation of many events and activities, the Westmorland Dales team and its partners have been doing their best to carry on with their projects. The apprentice team has been back at Tebay since June undertaking a variety of projects both close to our base and further afield. We have awarded our first two grants through our Love Your Landscape small-grants scheme for community groups; one to the Crosby Ravensworth Parish Tree Group, one to the Northern Viaduct Trust. So if you have ideas for projects that you'd like to implement have a look at the Westmorland Dales website and do get in touch. We're also developing another grant scheme which will be launched in the autumn, this one aimed at farmers and landowners to help restore a handful of traditional farm buildings in the area.

National Meadows Day was one event cancelled but in its place we've produced a film guide to the wildflowers of the area, working with local photographer and film maker Jon Chappell. 20 short films have been produced show-casing some of the distinctive flowers found in the meadows as a guide to their identification. And Nicola has been working with local primary schools at Shap and Lowther, trialling outdoor education sessions in their school grounds, something we hope to replicate with other schools in the autumn. Details of all these grants and activities can be found on our website [www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk](http://www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk).

The Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership Scheme, which has been funded by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, aims to engage people in revealing, conserving, enjoying and sustaining the hidden heritage of the Westmorland Dales.



**WM PR 016**

**August 5th 2020**

### **'Sensational' Sessions for Home Schoolers**

Lowther Endowed Primary and Shap CE Primary school children have been encouraged to use their senses to connect with their environment and friends in themed teaching sessions such as 'Sensational Senses', 'Magical Mini-Beasts', 'Terrific Trees' and 'Fabulous Flowers'.

These 'sensational' sessions have been created to help those socially isolated children who have not been allowed to return to main school to come together in a safe space, meet friends and take part in outdoor

learning in an attempt to try and reverse some of the ill effects from COVID 19 and the isolation that it imposes.

Home schoolers have been able to come into school grounds once a week for an hour to take part in this series of environmental education activities with Nicola Estill, Community Engagement Officer for the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership Scheme; funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Shap Primary home schoolers have been having fun making 'smelly cocktails' during a 'Sensational Senses' session using their sense of smell. They've been encouraged to use their sense of hearing to draw sound maps with chalk on the playground depicting the sounds of wind in the trees, dogs, children's voices and birds. Their sense of touch has been used to find opposites on a scavenger hunt; something rough, something smooth, hard, soft, warm or cold.

Nicola Estill, Community Engagement Officer for the Westmorland Dales Scheme said,

"The children have been brilliant at socially distancing and following procedures with equipment but most importantly they were back in a school environment and were able to meet each other again and take part in organised activities.

"The emphasis is on socialisation and shared experiences, creative thinking, self-expression, play, exercise, fresh air and environmental learning.

"It's been a pleasure working with the children and I do hope I have the opportunity to show them the fantastic natural and cultural heritage in the Westmorland Dales when school life returns to normal."

The sessions have involved 20 to 30 children in the same groups or 'bubbles' over consecutive weeks at Lowther Endowed Primary and Shap CE Primary schools.

The Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership Scheme, which has been funded by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, aims to engage people in revealing, conserving, enjoying and sustaining the hidden heritage of the Westmorland Dales. More information about the scheme is available on its website at: [www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk](http://www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk)

**Ends**

**392 words**

## **Notes to editors**

### **Contact:**

For further information please contact Westmorland Dales Communications Officer: Chris James [chris-james@fld.org.uk](mailto:chris-james@fld.org.uk) 01539 720788.

### **Images:**

WP PR 016 - School grounds ED Sensational Senses1.jpg

WP PR 016 - School grounds ED Sensational Senses2.jpg

WP PR 016 - School grounds ED Sensational Senses3.jpg

WM PR 016 - School grounds ED Sensational Senses4.jpg

## **About the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership**

The partnership comprises Friends of the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Natural England, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Cumbria County Council, the Woodland Trust, Cumbria Geoconservation,

Eden District Council, the Lunesdale Archaeological Society, the Farmer Network, Eden Rivers Trust, the CLA, the NFU, the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and Electricity North West.

Full details of the Scheme can be found within the Landscape Conservation Action Plan that was submitted as part of the application to Heritage Lottery which can be viewed on-line at:

[www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk](http://www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk)

### **About Friends of the Lake District**

1. Friends of the Lake District is an independent charity and the only membership organisation dedicated to protecting and enhancing Cumbria's landscapes. We believe that the Lake District offers some of the most spectacular and precious landscapes in England. We take action to protect and conserve the natural beauty of these landscapes for the benefit of visitors, local communities, wildlife and habitats.
2. Our campaigning helped lead to the creation of the Lake District National Park, one of the first national parks in the country. We were at the forefront of the campaign to see the boundaries to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Dales extended.
3. Friends of the Lake District has owned land in Cumbria since 1937. We own land in order to enhance the landscape of the area; carry out practical conservation projects; increase access and model best practice in land management. Our land includes valleys, native woodlands, moorlands, uplands and commons.

Our Little Asby property sits within the newly extended Yorkshire Dales National Park. Little Asby is common land situated on one of the most important limestone landscapes in England. The land has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation. Mazonwath, adjoins this land and is a rough grassland habitat being managed to support ground nesting birds such as curlews and lapwings.

Our High Borrowdale property sits within the newly extended Lake District National Park. Through the extensive work of our volunteers this land has been transformed into a stunning landscape haven for wildlife and people. We have re-created two upland hay meadows, restored two barns, stabilised a derelict farm house, re-built 5km of dry stone wall and planted 10,000 native trees - ash, oak, rowan, holly, hawthorn, alder and willow - to enhance the habitats and landscape and help stabilise erosion.

4. Friends of the Lake District represents CPRE in Cumbria.

### **About Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority**

1. The Yorkshire Dales National Park is one of 15 National Parks in the UK. It is administered by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, which has two main purposes: "to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage" and "to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park". In carrying out these purposes, the Authority has a duty "to seek to foster the economic and social well being of local communities". The National Park Authority comprises 25 members, made up of county and district councillors and members appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment to represent parishes or in recognition of their specialist skills or knowledge.



2. All of our work is guided by the vision for the future of the National Park set out in the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan: “Through their passion for this special place, local people and businesses will keep the Yorkshire Dales National Park a thriving area. Its unique cultural landscape will be treasured for its stunning scenery, exceptional heritage and wonderful wildlife, and every year millions of people will be inspired to be a part of it.”  
[www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/1420224/NPMP-7.pdf](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0015/1420224/NPMP-7.pdf)
3. All Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority media releases can be viewed online by visiting  
[www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk)

### **About the Heritage Fund**

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and use #NationalLottery and #HLFsupported.