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**Your Parish
Council Magazine**

Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council

April 2019 Spring Issue



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and much more!

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Feel free to phone your councillors, but all email and written correspondence to the council via the clerk please.



Facebook: Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council

Website: www.ouughtersideallerbypc.org.uk

Oughterside & Allerby Parish Councillor Elections

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL UNCONTESTED

Date of Election: Thursday 2 May 2019

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that at the election of Parish Councillors for the abovementioned Parish, the following persons, the only candidates, will be duly elected as Parish Councillors:

Surname of Candidate, Other Names of Candidate, Home Address:

Lukeman Pauline, Fell View, Allerby, Aspatria CA7 2NL

Cowan John Edward, The Gholic, Oughterside, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 2PY

Preston-Miller Lyndsey, Millston, The Green, Allerby, Wigton CA7 2NH

Morris Alan, Mountain View, Prospect, Cumbria CA7 2LD

Parish Council Vacancies

No prior experience needed. Minimal commitment.

Back in March Allerdale Council advised that there was to be local council elections for borough and parish councils. It is not unusual at parish council level for existing councillors to be returned unopposed and above is printed a declaration of the Oughterside and Allerby uncontested poll result. The councillors all remain in post and take up their seats on May 7th.

PLEASE NOTE: your parish is **entitled to nine parish councillors**, but currently just four individuals represent you. There is an opportunity for five further individuals to now be co-opted on to the council. There must be some local residents who would like to participate in local parish council decisions.

Don't be shy, come forward, discuss the position with a local councillor, or contact the clerk directly. All contact details are on page 2. There is now remuneration, but you will be given training about your duties and responsibilities, plus you will gain an insight into the local planning regulations. A community needs input and commitment from its residents.

Dropped Kerbs: New Regulations

The parish council are aware that, since March 2nd, Cumbria County Council have amended their attitude and manner in which they manage Enforcement Protocol for Parking across Dropped Kerbs.

Pedestrian Dropped Kerbs On-Street.

A dropped kerb involves kerb stones lowered and the pavement being strengthened and made into a ramp. This helps people with pushchairs or in wheel chairs to access the road from the pavement more easily. There are two types of dropped kerbs – those for pedestrians and those for vehicle access to off-street parking.

Penalty charge level: Higher

Obstructing pedestrian dropped kerbs can:- make it difficult for people with wheelchairs and pushchairs; make crossing the road difficult for older and disabled people; obstruct the view of motorist turning at a junction.

Enforcement

Contravention Code 27. Parked in a special enforcement area adjacent to a footpath, cycle track or verge lowered to meet the level of the carriageway.

Parking across Dropped Kerbs will be enforced where there are dropped kerbs both side of the street/junction.

The offending vehicle does not have to be fully obstructing the dropped kerb to be committing a parking contravention. For the contravention to occur, the offending vehicle must be physically over (with any part of the vehicle) the point where the footway meets the carriageway.

A PCN can be issued without an observation period (SEA). **Disabled badge holders are NOT exempt from this restriction.** Parking very close to the dropped kerb or directly opposite is not illegal, even if it restricts or impedes access.

Exemptions. A vehicle that is parked wholly within a designated parking place or any other part of the carriageway where parking is specifically authorised. A vehicle parked outside a residential premise or with the consent of the occupier of the premises (BUT NOT in the case of a shared driveway)

Loading/unloading allowed, yes for commercial vehicles, **NO** for private vehicles.

The parish council has clarified the position, and will contact the relevant authorities now when complaints are made. Owners of vehicles who park across such kerbs, be warned: a fine could be closer than you realise.

Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council is Online!

On the website you can find:

- *Agendas and minutes of past meetings*
- *Back issues of Inside Magazine*
- *Cumbria and Allerdale bus timetables*
- *Link to Allerdale Borough Council website (where you can find out about their services, such as bin collection days)*
- *Photo gallery*
- *History of Oughterside and Allerby*
- *Link to Cumbria County Council website*
- *Contact information for your Parish, Allerdale Borough and Cumbria County Councillors*

www.oughtersideallerbypc.org.uk

*Does anyone in Prospect, Oughterside or Allerby have any **old pictures, hand-me-down tales or memories** about Prospect village hall? Or perhaps even some firm facts about the hall? We would love to feature **your favourite stories and reminiscences** about the hall in a future of issue of Inside Magazine! Please e-mail us at the address provided on page 2 if you would like to contribute to this magazine.*

Prospect Village Hall: Emergency Renovation of Floor

Over the past 12 months users of the village hall, especially in the kitchen area, were well aware of the ever-increasing slope towards the rear gable end and the “bounce” that the floor had developed. A **structural survey** last summer advised that aspects of the building needed refurbishment. The village hall committee after Christmas arranged for a section of the kitchen floor to be removed and contractors were invited to quote to repair the structure.

Come February a contractor was employed and the hall diary cleared to allow the work to commence. After the kitchen was cleared of all cupboard contents and the units were removed, the floor was taken up. It would be fair to say that the extent of the problems had been greatly underestimated. The **first two pictures on the back page** show the extent of the damage that was discovered.

By the end of that first day of work, all involved knew that not only had the floor disappeared but the roof too seemed fallen in. Thankfully the structural engineer had experience of timber framed buildings and a method to repair the rotted walls, which involve tackling the task a small section at a time so as not to have an adverse effect on the building’s structural integrity. The contractor followed the method proposed and the walls were repaired very successfully and speedily.

Where had the water come from?

At the March 12th parish council meeting, members of the village hall committee were in attendance as the council discussed financial contribution to the project. Fortuitously, the heavens opened during the meeting and, after the 10 minutes of torrential downpour had finished, all present could hear could hear the running water. A quick investigation confirmed that the drainage pipe under the kitchen floor was, from the downspout, taking the rain water from the roof.

One of the pipe joints was broken and the water was pouring in. You make your own luck, right place at the right time and thank you Lake District for some typical heavy rain!!! That pipe has been replaced with a modern plastic system, and while the walls were being repaired the whole of the area below the floor level has gained a number of venting bricks – there was only one prior to the refurbishment, which had become blocked, so any standing water could not evaporate via ventilation. Instead it had just made the old joist high in moisture, which resulted in the rotting.

The **bottom picture on the back cover** shows the now completed floor. It has been recovered to the high standards demanded of a food preparation area and also all the exterior surfaces of the kitchen units have been replaced. The hall once again has a kitchen area to be proud of, but without a pronounced slope or the unsettling impression that you are walking on a taut trampoline surface. There are still a couple of small areas of floor in the main hall that need some further investigation, but nothing like as serious as the kitchen floor. They are for a further project.

Turning the clock back to Monday 4th March at 5pm when, in the evening gloom, members of the village hall committee and others, plus the contractor Robert Johnston, looked at the damage uncovered – the unexpected rotted wall sections and a lake – the collective despondency was visible on all faces. The way forward was far from evident.

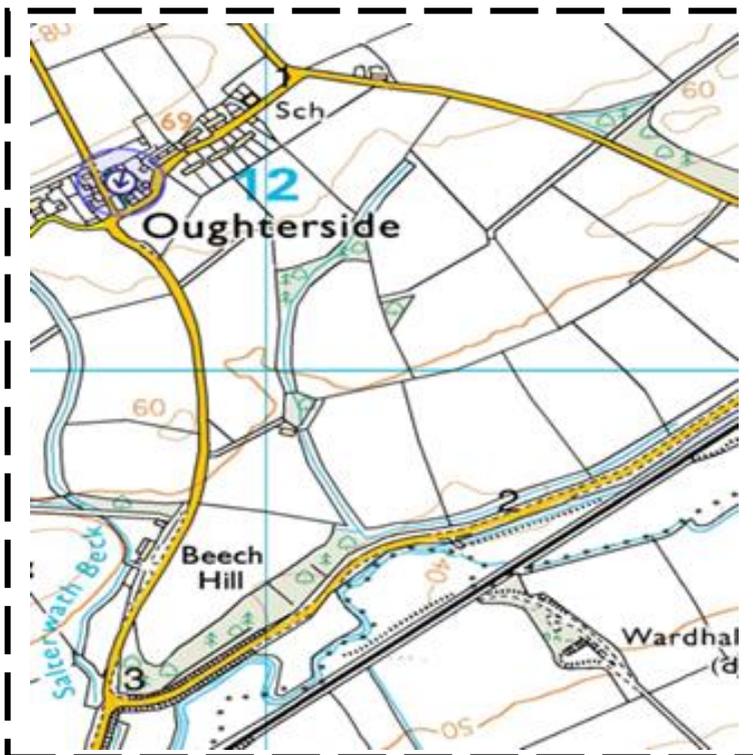
The structural engineer met Robert on the Wednesday morning and fully explained the technique for repairing the wall. They devised a work schedule and Robert followed it through to the letter. The result is what you see in the bottom back page picture.

A **big vote of thanks** to all the committee members and the numerous helpers who emptied cupboards, peered under floors, and dug holes to investigate the line of drains and soakaways. Prospect Village Hall has been returned to a useable community amenity. See the back page for the pictorial story in full colour: from horror to the new refurbished look.

New Bench Seats

The Parish Council are proposing to position four bench seats around the parish. One will be located at Allerby Road End. The others are to be in Oughterside and by the River Ellen.

Their positions are shown on the map. *(Acknowledgement of use of OS Map)*



No. 1 on the map is proposed for the corner beside the school.

No. 2 is alongside the River Ellen where new fencing has been erected and erosion prevention work has been done.

There is a clear view of the river and the hill beyond.

No. 3 is at the T junction just past Beech Hill and the road along by the river.

We would like to receive your views on what you think about having the seats and their locations. Suggestions for alternative locations are welcome.

Please send your comments to the Parish Clerk, or contact a parish councillor. Contact details are in the magazine.

Upcoming Village Events

Craft Fair

A Spring Fair will be held at the Village Hall on April 27th

Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea Rescheduled

Please note that this event has been postponed until May 5th.

Duck Race

Held at Ellen Villa Bridge, July 2nd



Fathers' Day Car Treasure Hunt, 16th June

Prospect Village Hall, 1.30pm – £5 per car

How will it work?

- First car departing 1.30pm, then remainder at short intervals.
- Sheet of instructions and clues suitable for all ages to follow and fill in.
 - Sheets marked at end to determine winner.
- Course is approximately 13 miles, lasting approx. 1 hour. Main road driving will be minimal, country back roads mostly.
- All clue answers visible from vehicles – RAIN WILL NOT AFFECT HUNT!
 - Refreshments on return.
 - In the event of a draw, a tie break question.

Proceeds for Residents' Association OPARA

Prospect Lunch Club

The club was started in September 2007 under the auspices of Age Concern but is now completely managed by local volunteers although Age Concern still provide help and assistance if required.

Most of the volunteers have undertaken training in Level 2 Food Safety and, through the Lunch Club, the Village Hall has a rating of 5 from Allerdale Council's Environmental Inspectorate. This says that the premises and practices are all to the highest standard.

The format is lunch at **12 noon** which consists of two courses with tea or coffee for the current price of **£3.50 per person**. This is followed by either a speaker or entertainment, or games and a quiz.

Over the years there have been many interesting and informative speakers and more recently an annual visit from the University of the 3rd Age Argentinian Dancers, who perform and also encourage members onto the floor to dance.

Anyone over the age of 55 years is welcome to attend. There is no annual membership cost, just the monthly meal charge.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month, apart from August when we take a holiday.

May and November we generally go somewhere else for lunch and each of us pays for our own meal.

Numbers have fluctuated over the years and at the moment we are looking for new members to come and join us.

If you are interested in coming along please ring either Gladys Hunter on 016973 21217 or Irene Gravenor on 016973 22241, so that they can make sure there is plenty of food.

Calendar of Prospect Lunch Club Speakers

14th May: Trip to Lakeside



**11th June: Ruth Hetherington –
Victorian Tin Boxes**



8th July: Adele Tyson – West House



13th August: HOLIDAY



**10th September: Chris Spencer –
Solway Coast AONB**



**8th October: Cockermouth Mountain
Rescue**



12th November: Trip to The Craggs



10th December: Carols

Village Hall Announcements

The Annual General Meeting of the Prospect and Oughterside Village Hall Committee will be held on **Tuesday 23rd April** in the Village Hall at 7pm.

All residents are cordially invited to attend.

This year it has been decided to hold the Craft Fairs in Spring and Autumn.

The dates are 27th April and 26th October. By changing the dates it is hoped that more people will be able to attend.

Parish Council Meetings

Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council meetings are held at Prospect Village Hall at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

The next meeting will be held on **May 14th 2019**

Inside Magazine

The Village Hall Floor – Before and After

See the full story on pages 6-7



The horror of discovering an unexpected lake, an assumed drainage pipe, and the sight of the flooring joists so badly rotted that they were not all on the pier supports. The floor was **near total collapse** - in fact it was lucky it had not collapsed over the recent months as slope and bounce had got greater.

The reflection off the water is evident in both pictures. The question was: **where had the water come from?** It was not there when an inspection hole had been opened and contractors had viewed it prior to quoting for the contract.



The finished kitchen now: after the walls, the floor and the kitchen units have been reinstalled.

The kitchen had achieved a 5 star hygiene review prior to the refurbishment and now it's back to pristine condition again. Well done to all the committee and the numerous helpers.