

# INSIDE

**Your Parish  
Council Magazine**

**Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council**

**APRIL 2018**



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**and much more!**

## **Oughterside & Allerby Councillor contacts**

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### **Cumbria County Councillor**

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### **Inside Magazine Sub-editor**

Kieron Sutton

*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](http://www.ouughtersideallerbypc.org.uk)

## Why not get involved? Exciting community projects coming up!

You may have already seen the piece about a proposal for a new village hall on pages 6-7. It is going to be quite a challenge, probably unlike anything your council has taken on before.

A new building could be in a different location, it could include a new car park and a new play area. It could even have a proper community sports hall as well as a community centre. The parish council has potential parish land for such a project.



If you are excited by the proposals, the Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council would like to welcome you to join us as we currently have vacancies for parish councillors. The community really needs new residents with a keen community spirit to join the council. Members from the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee will be forming a group to develop proposals for this potential new project and need more local people to get involved – could this be you? The residents are being asked to voice their opinions, but do you feel your voice on the parish council could support the community while it makes this and other local decisions?

If so, please contact any of the councillors or the parish clerk, whose details are on page 2. Get involved at this very exciting stage of your parish's next exciting community project – become a parish councillor.

### ***Would you like to become a parish councillor?***

**No prior experience needed. Minimal commitment. Helping your community.**

The council is particularly looking for more Prospect residents to join, which is currently underrepresented, although we would appreciate applicants from anywhere in the local area. Please contact us if you are interested.

## Introducing Hugo Graham, your local County Councillor



Hugo Graham was elected in May 2017 to represent Dearham and Broughton.

This area includes:

- Allerby
- Oughterside
- Prospect
- Bullgill
- Tallentire
- Bridekirk
- Dovenby
- Dearham
- Great Broughton
- Little Broughton

“The County Council is responsible for matters such as Highways, Social Services, Education, Libraries, Fire Services, and (to a lesser extent) the Police,” says Hugo. “If you have any queries on the issues above, or if there’s anything else I can help with, don’t hesitate to contact me at:

[Hugo.graham@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:Hugo.graham@cumbria.gov.uk)

**07795 159837**

“Or, if you are on **Facebook**, like my page for regular updates: **Clr. Hugo Graham**

Thank you for your indulgence. All the best,

Hugo.”

## Aspatria Medical Group Information

West Street Health Centre, West Street, Aspatria, CA7 3HH. Telephone: 016973 20209

Information taken from [www.aspatriamedicalgroup.co.uk](http://www.aspatriamedicalgroup.co.uk)

### Doctors Consulting Times

	Morning	Afternoon
<b>Monday</b>	08:30 - 12:30	14:00 - 20:00
<b>Tuesday</b>	08:30 - 12:30	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Wednesday</b>	08:30 - 12:30	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Thursday</b>	08:30 - 12:30	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Friday</b>	08:30 - 12:30	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Weekend</b>	<i>closed</i>	<i>closed</i>



The doctors do occasionally consult at other times. Please ask at reception when making an appointment as we may have other times to offer.

The surgery itself is open from 08:00 - 20:30 on Mondays and from 08:00 - 18:30 Tuesday - Friday.

Please note that the surgery will be closed for one half day per month for staff training purposes. This is usually on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon from 13:00 and notices will be displayed.

The out-of-hours service will provide cover during these times.

### When We Are Closed

Out-of-hours cover is provided by 111. When the Practice is closed and you require the services of a doctor please telephone 111 where help and guidance will be available.

**Please do not ask to see a doctor out of hours unless you genuinely cannot wait until the surgery re-opens.**

**Call 999 in an emergency. Chest pains and / or shortness of breath constitute an emergency.**



## What about a new Village Hall?

### ***A message from your Parish Councillors:***

Many of you will have attended events in the Prospect village hall over the years and will surely have noticed that it is really very tired and uninviting these days, especially compared with some of the newer halls in places nearby like Bothel and Gilcrux. Of course, these new halls have had the benefit of lots of community funding from the installation of Wind Turbines etc.

You may not be aware though that as well as the fairly drab look of the place, there is now an issue with the flooring in the kitchen/stage area, which is going to need considerable renovation.

As well as the state of the hall, your parish councillors have also been discussing the state of the children's playgrounds in Oughterside and Allerby, and wondering whether any or all of them could be drained to provide a better playing surface, especially during the colder, wetter months.

They would also like to provide more and better play equipment if possible. There have been suggestions about adult exercise equipment being incorporated on site as well, which would encourage the whole family to make better use of these areas of public amenity.

A suggestion has been put forward about combining the work that is required on both the hall and the play areas. This would be along the lines of building a new Hall on the larger play site in Oughterside (the one that's opposite the infants school), together with a new family play exercise facility, sports areas with changing facilities in the hall etc. In the process, we would retire the old hall and the worst of the two Oughterside playgrounds (the one at the bottom of the hill opposite Pond Lane).

Clearly this a major proposal which will take some time to complete, but your councillors are in general agreement that it would be worth spending some time and effort to find out what might be possible.

***This is such a major proposal that we would really like to hear your initial thoughts.***

We would also like anyone with an interest or strong views in favour or otherwise to consider joining our soon-to-be formed working group.

This group will start from scratch and consider all aspects of the proposal but will not be making any decisions - it will simply report back to the Parish Council and the Parish Hall Committee. Progress will be reported regularly in this magazine and on the website.

You can send your views to any Parish Councillor, the Parish Clerk or post them on the web site. At this stage we are particularly keen to hear what you think about:

- 1. Whether you think the idea of combining the Oughterside playgrounds in favour of creating a better one has merit and why...***
- 2. Do you think the playgrounds are unfit for use in the wetter months...***
- 3. If you agree about the idea of retiring the Prospect Village Hall and building a new one with better facilities...***
- 4. Is the suggested site for both hall and playground a good one...***
- 5. If you have any particular skills or knowledge to help with Fundraising...***
- 6. If you would be willing to help on the working group...***

Please see the back cover of this magazine to read about the drop-in meeting about this issue at Prospect Village Hall on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April** between 4pm and 7pm.

## What Your Parish Council Does

During the public participation section of the March meeting, a member of the public remarked that the magazines of other parish councils contain community progress reports, and asked whether Inside Magazine could also feature such a report. It was agreed that this was a good idea, and in every edition from now on there will be an update to keep residents informed of actions taken or on-going.

The road down to Arkleby has a number of rain water gulleys in its kerbside. In October it was reported that one gully in particular was blocked, so that there was no rain water drainage, causing flooding down by the school on the main carriageway. The matter was reported to the Highways Department. A week later, we received an email to confirm the job was completed. However, during the next downpour, the drain proved to be still blocked and so the matter was reported again. We received a similar confirmation of the job being done again, followed by a similar result in the next downpour. As a solution, the parish clerk met the road gully team at 9am one morning and pointed out the blocked gully. It transpired they had never fixed it as it was not on their rota. This time it was unblocked and it now works correctly, and it is now on their job list.

Street lighting, or the fact that they often don't, is a constant job creation scheme for the council. There are 3 different departments for the lights in the O&A parish. Usually it is Cumbria Highways, although it is Connect who do the major A596 route lights, and then for good measure there is Allerdale BC for some streets, who then sub-contract the work back to Highways but pay the bill. Simple? Nothing ever is: first you need a light number and then you establish whose light it is, before you report it and wait for a working light or an email saying the job is done when it isn't. Outside Hillcrest House, West Moor End, it took 4 attempts to discover that a light on the main A596 was not the responsibility of Highways or Connect, but of Allerdale BC. Street lighting is a perseverance job.

In regards to perseverance, there is now a new bus stop flag outside Temple Bank on A596. This request stop has been an ongoing challenge for some time.

Currently we are tackling the postcode problem shared by Well Lane and Pitt Lonning, which confused the emergency services.

Fly tipping on the old pit road by the River Ellen is a problem, but the secret weapon for us is a photograph sent to Allerdale, which enables their team to locate and remove the items (although at some considerable cost to Allerdale). While writing about the River Ellen, the parish council – along with the rivers authority – monitors riverbank erosion. Local dog walkers are also part of the surveillance team, which means there is proper community involvement.

Speeding traffic through Prospects on A596 is a different problem to tackle. There are so many different agencies that we have to deal with: Highways Cumbria, Highways England, the Police: the interested parties are numerous and all we as a parish can do is to keep asking for action and changes, even though it is a water torture drip-drip process. Easier to get a street light working.

Remember O&A is just one of 60 parish councils in Allerdale alone. Our blocked gully could be one of 60 reported anywhere from Workington to Buttermere and Honister Pass on a daily basis. If you have a parish problem, please attend the parish council meeting held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Prospect village hall: the councillors don't bite. Or you can use the list of contacts on page 2 to contact a councillor or the parish clerk directly – write, email or phone, and you will get a response, as well as action if it is in your parish council's area of responsibility.

## 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*

## Bus Pass & Concessionary Travel News

*There is currently a Cumbria County Council poster on Stagecoach Buses regarding changes to bus passes. The poster reads:*

“From 1 February 2018 bus ticket machines will indicate if a NoWcard pass is valid for travel.

If a pass is not valid, it may have been cancelled by the local authority.

### **Why would a pass be cancelled?**

- The pass has been replaced by a more recent pass, or
- The pass has been reported lost or stolen or use fraudulently, or
- The holder is no longer entitled to concessionary travel.

### **I have two or more passes. How can I tell which one is valid?**

The card with the highest 18 digit number is the valid one.

### **What happens from 1 March 2018 if the ticket machine indicates that my pass has been cancelled?**

- The driver will inform you that your pass is not valid and you will be asked to pay the appropriate fare if you intend to travel. If you do not have your fare you may be refused travel.
- Contact NoWcard on **0300 123 6737**, or call into an issuing office as soon as you are able, to arrange for a new pass to be issued.”

## **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 **April 10<sup>th</sup>**



# ***IMPORTANT NOTICE***

## **Prospect & Oughterside Village Hall**

We have an opportunity to **build a new village hall!**

The hall is in dire need of renovation, but funding is now available: we hope to create a new Sports Hall with facilities for all age groups.

However, to do this, we need your support and commitment.

*If you would like to be involved in anyway, there will be a drop-in meeting at the village hall on*

**TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL between 4pm and 7pm**

Come along for a cuppa and a chat – we want to hear your ideas! All age groups welcome as we need input from both young and old!

Please see pages 6-7 for more information.