

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
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The project for improving the Dixies site continues. The first priority is to ensure that the sea defences of the site are sound, before any money is spent on the visible surface. An enthusiastic local marine architect has joined the team considering options for development and an exciting outcome is expected. As always, financial constraints must be borne in mind.

The conclusion of the public inquiry into whether a number of paths through Burntbarrow Woods could be designated as public rights of way (ROW) was that, in principle, this new status could be confirmed given certain modifications to the original proposal. The similar inquiry for paths around Hale Marble Quarry is set to commence on 13th October 2015 at Storth Village Hall and, like the Burntbarrow Woods inquiry, is likely to attract much public interest.

The streetlamps issue has resurfaced with Electricity Northwest, as expected, now starting to work through the list of lamps mounted on its poles. Two lamps in Back Lane, Hale, have now been removed and cannot be replaced for technical reasons, despite the Parish Council's willingness to do so. A lamp, in Storth Road, is also to be removed in the near future and cannot be replaced for the same reason. Fortunately, in this case, there is not the same need since another lamp is sited nearby. The Parish Council continues to accumulate funds for replacing those lamps which may be removed in the future and where technical difficulties do not apply, although not all lamps that currently exist may be considered necessary. Each situation will be dealt with on its merits.

The issue of Fishwick's proposal to build a crematorium at its Beetham Hall site remains unresolved. SLDC's refusal of the planning application has been appealed and an informal hearing is now due to take place at Kendal Town Hall on 11th August 2015. An application, by another party, to build a crematorium in an adjacent parish has also been refused. Most people accept the need for such a facility, but agreeing on a suitable site is proving much more controversial and difficult.

Some of the previously installed, and then removed, white lining in Beetham village has now been re-instated at the request of residents and is proving helpful in controlling traffic entering and leaving the village at its northern access point onto the A6. Attractive planters have now been placed at all entrances to the village, mainly from the A6, as a result of co-operation between the Parish Council and Beetham WI. The problem of (mainly foreign) drivers of large delivery vehicles searching for the Billerud paper factory, and wandering into the village by mistake, is being tackled.

As you may have read in the local newspaper, the pheasant population has this year grown to epidemic proportions; they may be beautiful to look at but they can cause a great deal of damage in gardens. There seems to be no easy solution to this problem.

As a result of the parish elections in May, most members of the Parish Council were re-elected but there remains one vacancy which, by law, must be filled in order to bring the total number of members to nine. Notices of this vacancy have been placed in all parish notice boards – so far without response. You are urged to give thought to this and consider submitting your application for this very worthwhile job. It takes up very little time (eleven evenings a year) and provides the opportunity to have a say in the important decisions that constantly have to be made on an interesting variety of matters to do with the local environment and the welfare of parish residents.