

**BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**  
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**Councillors (East Ward)**

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Mr M Phillips 07802-493455  
Mr W S Yates (Joint Vice-chair) 015395-62384

**Councillors (West Ward)**

Dr B C Meakin (Chair) 015395-65722  
Mrs R M Dewar 07961 100044  
Mr P Greifenberg 015395-64182  
Mrs J M Knowles (Joint Vice-chair) 015395 64457  
Mr P Harnett 015395-65705

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Our late Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebration is almost at an end. Beetham’s ‘Green Canopy’ trees are now with us and planting will soon begin at selected sites; some may have already taken place. They represent a fitting tribute to a wonderful and dedicated lady who did ‘long reign over us’.

The planters at the A6/Leighton Beck Road junction in Beetham, originally provided and maintained by Beetham WI, await their 2023 planting. This will be undertaken by Beetham Nurseries who have agreed in future to be responsible for their maintenance. We all look forward to enjoying an eye-catching display. Similarly, if Storth’s wild flower verge trial proves successful, we can expect similar dedicated sites elsewhere in the parish. New outdoor benches are being installed at Storth Playing Field, funded by generous donations from the Playing Field Committee enabling continued spectator enjoyment of this wonderful facility – just one of so many in our beautiful parish. How fortunate we are!

Tree management is an on-going task for the Parish Council – and accounts for a substantial chunk of our annual budget. There is always something to do at the two parish council-owned sites – Sandside Cutting in West Ward and what we know as ‘Plot 4’ in East Ward. The latter runs off in a northerly direction from Leighton Beck Road and provides access to Fairy Steps via the Dallam estate. Trees on these two plots do, sometimes, pose potential danger to nearby property as well as to users of the sites, so have to be dealt with professionally. Our team for this purpose is made up of Dr Jennie Keighley, a professional arboriculturist based in Carnforth, and Scott Thwaites, a local tree surgeon. They work under the direction of the Parish Council.

The permissive footpath along the embankment between Friar Cote Bridge and Arnside Station is a brilliant and well-used local facility, with dedicated parking and access for the disabled. It was recently badly blighted by cattle droppings along much of its length to the point where it became virtually unusable by walkers. Prompt action by the tenant farmer was welcomed, after being alerted to this problem by the Parish Council with the cooperation of Dallam Estate as landowner. Regrettably the path itself may have suffered long-term damage. Another well-used path is the one through Sandside Cutting. This is now to be effectively upgraded into a Trumper Path, at the suggestion and expense of the local AONB.

The popularity of our area also brings its problems. Motorcar-borne visitors rather than walkers are thought to be largely responsible for increasing amounts of litter. One such location is Lovers Lane, just south of Sandside. The Parish Council is working with Dallam Estate to deal with this.

The year 2023 is an election year for Beetham Parish Council. In May 2023 all members of the Parish Council must stand down, but may offer themselves for re-election – although some may not! It could be that we may soon be searching for new blood. Might you be interested?

JRS 20/12/22