

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 52

DECEMBER 2024

Councillors (East Ward) (West Ward)

Mr D B Clark 015395 63341
Mr A Marsden 07831358631
Mr M Phillips 07802-493455
Mr W S Yates 015395-62384

Councillors (West Ward)

Mr P C Greifenberg (Vice-chair) 015395 64182
Mrs J M Knowles 015395 64457
Dr B C Meakin (Chair) 015395 65722
Mr D Phelan 07736364870

Clerk – J R Scargill 01524-782811

Website - www.beethampc.co.uk

.....

Traffic speeds in our parish continue to be a problem and a major safety concern, particularly where the A6 passes through. Despite this, getting something done about the issue is not straightforward due to the many agencies involved. Nevertheless, your councillors are persisting in pressing for action based on the findings of a comprehensive study. Based on this study, a detailed report has been prepared and circulated amongst those agency and positive action is hoped for in 2025, in particular aimed at reducing permitted speed limits on the relevant section of the A6

During recent months there has been progress with various projects. Soundings amongst residents in Beetham village showed a clear majority in favour of retaining its iconic stocks and undertaking the work necessary to make them safe. This work has now been completed using the Parish Council's own resources; whether the stocks are put back into their original intended use remains to be seen! Finding a firm competent (and willing) to undertake extensive renovation of the Beetham war memorial has been surprisingly difficult. However, Parkin & Jackson of Kendal have now agreed to take this on, starting in the new year. This is an important matter and it is reassuring that we can now expect a satisfactory outcome.

Another project, to relocate the original Storth water pump to a new and more prominent site in the village, is ongoing. The art content of the BPC information board on Storth Green has deteriorated badly and needs to be replaced - an existing detailed sketch plan of the village has been suggested as a suitable alternative. Also under consideration is the idea from a resident to install a pictorial information panel showing in outline the view north from Sandside, for which a suitable site along the A5282 would need to be found. Sponsorship funding for this project is being actively sought.

As you will be aware, the Parish Council owns and is responsible for a number outdoor seats at many locations in the parish; many of these were donated by relatives in memory of departed loved ones. There is also a lengthy list of other 'outdoor furniture' items which need to be regularly assessed and maintained, involving significant annual expense. Bus shelters are some of the most costly items and there are three of these, of which one (at Green Lane end) is in a bad state of repair. Discussions are ongoing about what action to take here.

Reseeding has been successfully completed at one of the two Parish Council-owned plots of land following damage by unauthorised parking of motor vehicles. River pollution is currently a matter of serious concern and Beetham Parish Council has agreed to join the parish councils of Arncliffe and Milnthorpe in expressing this concern when and wherever appropriate.

At its meeting on 2 December 2024, your parish council approved its financial budget for 2025/26 which requires a precept from Westmorland and Furness Council of £25,723, which is in line with the previous year.

JRS 08/12/24