

Bewcastle Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting - May 2019

Chairman's Report

This last year we organised a Summer Playscheme with Linda's help. It was greatly enjoyed and appreciated by our local children. We have managed to arrange another for this August so we hope it will be well supported.

We have secured grant funding for a picnic table with disabled access for the World War One Community Remembrance Garden at the Knowe Church. Many thanks to David Shepherd and Val Tarbitt for their help with this.

We have now got a nice, newly surfaced road between Sleetbeck and Penton on the B6318, despite all the confusion with the diversion signs. Hopefully, after many complaints, more care will be taken arranging these in future. The warning signs have at last appeared at the Blackpoolgate bridge and the sink on the hill at Fieldhead has been cleaned out.

It appears that we are now in a Forestry Investment Zone which gives us great concern as this threatens our traditional farming life and consequently our wonderful landscape. We have been looking into the possibility of becoming an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

We have continued to support the Public Hall and the fabric of our churches as well as making a small contribution to the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

This was election year and two of our councillors, Mary and Andrea, have retired. Many thanks for all they have done over the years; many years for Mary. Andrea's legacy is the speed limit in Roadhead which sadly is not always very well observed.

Finally I must thank Frank for his continued help with the cemetery and all the Councillors for their hard work. We welcome Pamela and Michelle who are joining us tonight. We must also thank Catherine for all her work on our behalf and a very big thank-you to Val and David, our City and County Councillors for supporting us and handling our complaints.