

Walton News

**Welcome to the August 2014 Edition of the
Newsletter brought to you by Walton Parish Council.**

CAMP OUT AND SPORTS DAY

A children's **sports day** will take place on Saturday 16th August from 2pm on Walton Village Green. This will be



followed by a **camp out** from 4pm.

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and you need to provide your own camping equipment (no camp fires or barbeques please). Meals and refreshments for the children will be provided so **booking is essential**. The Green must be cleared by 10am on Sunday 17th. If you would like



to book a place please telephone Mel on 016977 41848, Fiona on 016977 41354 or Emma on 016977 45409.

BUS SERVICE PROVISIONS

Unfortunately we have received the news that Cumbria County Council are withdrawing their subsidies to the bus service companies. This will more than likely lead to the inevitable loss of the service bus we receive. The



Parish Council are playing an active role in trying to secure alternative services and are working closely with neighbouring parishes of Hethersgill, Scaleby, Irthington and Stanwix Rural for a potential community solution. We would expect the subsidies to be withdrawn by October and as it is highly unlikely we will have found a practical alternative by then. We would recommend that

you take advantage of the Rural Wheels Service until a solution can be considered. Although we published an article about this service in our last newsletter, we would like to remind that Rural Wheels provides door-to-

door transport for people who do not have, or are unable to access scheduled transport. The service can be used for a variety of purposes including:

- Making connections with buses or trains
- Doctor, Dentist or Optician appointments
- Visiting friends or family in hospital
- Shopping
- Visiting friends or family

It does not duplicate other County Council transport provision and therefore cannot be used for transport to day care, school, nursery or college and cannot be used for hospital appointments/treatment if Patient Transport is available. If you need transport to get you to your hospital appointment please check your eligibility for Patient Transport by contacting the Patient Transport Service run by North West Ambulance on 0800 032 3240.

Rural Wheels uses a 'Smartcard' to pay for travel and a central booking system to plan journeys. Passengers need to apply for the Smartcard before they are able to travel. The value of the Smartcard can be topped up with the transport provider or alternatively at local post offices (including Brampton Post Office), libraries and mobile libraries. It can be topped up by £5, £10 or £20 per time. Transport requests must be booked by telephone before noon the day before travelling and passengers may be asked to be flexible about their travel time and also to share transport which will be at a reduced fare.

Further information on the service can be obtained by telephoning 0845 602 3786 or by emailing integrated.transport@cumbria.gov.uk

GRASS CUTTING

The Parish Council are aware of recent issues with the condition of the grass on the Village Green. We have been working with the grass cutting contractors to resolve the problem and we hope to ensure that (weather permitting) the situation is not allowed to recur. The grass cutting contract is due to go to tender during 2014 and this will be discussed at our September meeting.



CHILDREN'S PLAY SCHEME



We would like to remind you that we will be holding some children's activity days in the village hall. We have arranged dates of **Thursday 7th August, Thursday 14th August and Thursday 21st August** between 10am and 3pm. The scheme will be delivered by the Cumbrian Sports and Physical Activities Foundation using fully trained play workers. The days are open to all children aged between 5 and 12 years old and will cost £5 per day. You will need to send your child with a packed lunch and drink. All bookings for the days are to be made directly with the Cumbrian Sports Foundation by telephoning 01228 591241 or by emailing sheepmount@carlisleleisure.com. The days have been funded by the Walton Parish Play Area Group and the Cumbria County Council Community Grants.

SPEEDING

You may recall that we were hoping that we would soon have the use of a Speed Indication Device in the village. Unfortunately there is no update to this as there have been problems with many of the machines and they are currently being repaired. We are however on a waiting list and we will hopefully get one as soon as possible. The Police are also willing to train up a team of four volunteers to operate a hand held radar gun. If you are willing to volunteer for this please get in touch— we have one volunteer so another three would make this scheme possible.

TREES

A climbing risk assessment was carried out in April and we have just had the findings back from the tree surgeons indicating that we have a number of trees on the Village Green that require some work (in some cases some extensive work) to make them safe in the long term. We have put the necessary works out to tender to various tree surgeons and we will receive quotations to be considered at our September meeting.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

A healthy number of parishioners attended a very short annual parish meeting in May. Issues raised included a request for the provision of cattle grids on Walton Moss and also a request for some signage warning of the sharp bends on the road towards Solmain. Both of these issues were passed onto Cumbria Highways for their consideration and we are very happy to report that some signage will be installed at Solmain in the near future.

BROADBAND

Good news - the new green cabinet is due to follow those in Brampton and go live any day now. Councillor Brocklebank will try and obtain some more information so keep your eyes and ears peeled for updates. The Connecting Cumbria website also contains up-to-date info.



OIL BUYING CO-OPERATIVE

Unfortunately not enough households were interested in joining the oil buying cooperative. For those houses that did respond we will keep your details on file in case there is any renewed interest in the future.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS

Members of the public are more than welcome to attend all of our Parish Council meetings and we have a standing agenda item to allow you to voice your opinion on agenda items. This is always at the start of the meeting after the authorisation of the minutes and declarations of interest by councillors. Unfortunately you legally do not have the right to speak during the rest of the meeting as this is reserved for elected Council members therefore please do ensure that you take the opportunity to speak when invited to.

FACEBOOK

Did you know that we have a very active page on Facebook? Although social media may not be to everyone's taste, it is a very useful and quick method for the Parish Council to relay information to parishioners and those from nearby areas on a whole host of topics and you are free to share local events and news through it. There is also the facility to message the Parish Council using it which is handy if you are a frequent user. Please do "like" the facebook page by searching for "Walton Parish". Also, if you have any suggestions as to ways in which we can improve our communication methods please do let us know.

NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE

Our next edition will be due out the last week in November. Would you like to contribute any articles? This may be a favourite recipe, a local story, a nice photograph—anything you may wish to share with your fellow parishioners. We can't guarantee to publish everything we receive as we are limited with space but we would be happy to include relevant articles of community interest where possible. If you do have anything please email it to clerk@waltonparish.co.uk or post to Hill House, Walton, Brampton, CA8 2DY

before 14th November.

We would still like to see many more households receive an electronic version of this newsletter in the future. If you are willing to receive the email version please email clerk@waltonparish.co.uk with your home address and we will ensure you are added to our mailing list.

LAND TRANSFER

The transfer of the two pockets of land from Cumbria County Council is almost complete. Work is still be being undertaken to confirm the legal arrangements but we are hopeful this will be completed within the next few weeks.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The dates for our Parish Council meetings in 2014 are set to take place as follows:

Monday 8 September 2014

Monday 10 November 2014

Please do bear in mind that we sometimes need to change the date due to unforeseen circumstances but we always post the official notice of the meeting date on the noticeboard and website three clear working days in advance (the Tuesday before the Monday meeting). Additional meetings are also called when necessary for urgent business, such as planning applications.

RECYCLING BINS

Please note that we have been having problems with people attempting to recycle plastic and other waste that cannot be recycled. These include items such as plastic bags and plant pots. New signage has been placed on the bins to remind you of what can and cannot be left and we would appreciate your co-operation in ensuring that only the correct materials are placed in the bins. The Parish Council are currently conducting a review of the recycling facilities—if you would like to make a comment please get in touch with Councillor Tom Brocklebank.



EMAILS TO THE CLERK

The Clerk would like to reiterate that if she does not respond to an email within three working days then the chances are she has not received it.

There has been a couple of recent examples of emails not coming through and we would like to take this opportunity to apologise for any inconvenience this has caused. If the Clerk does not respond to any correspondence please don't forget that your councilors can all be contacted using the details on the back page.

TELEPHONE SAFETY

An increasing number of scams are being conducted over the telephone. Some useful advice includes:

- Never reply to unsolicited text messages, even to try and stop them. Just delete them
- Never agree to anything over the phone. Don't be shy of just hanging up on telephone cold callers.
- Never give any personal information over the phone unless you made the call and are certain of who you are speaking to
- Use a password, passcode or pattern code to lock your phone
- Don't store password reminders on your phone
- Don't open suspicious or unsolicited messages

Sign up to the Telephone Preference Service (www.tpsonline.org.uk or 0845 070 0707) and the Mail Preference Service (www.mpsonline.org.uk) to minimise unsolicited calls and mail. You can register your mobile with: www.immobilise.com using your IMEI number (a 15 to 17 digit code usually behind the battery or key in *#06#)

If you have a smartphone:

- Install anti-virus software specifically designed for mobile phones. Ask for advice at the store where you bought your phone
- Avoid opening links or downloading games and apps unless you are certain of their source
- Clear your browser history - especially if using online banking

Remember, if you have a smartphone take the same precautions as you would when accessing the internet over any other device

Be careful with your location settings.

If you use your phone to update social media or to upload photos, location data could be uploaded to the internet without you realising it. Burglars could use this information to find out where you live and even when you are likely to be out of the house. If you are unsure, ask a member of staff at the store where you bought your phone to show you the location settings.

Get Safe Online is a not-for-profit organisation that provides advice and support on protecting yourself online. They have an easy-to-navigate and really useful website at www.getsafeonline.org.

BRAMPTON BUSINESS HUB— OFFICE FACILITIES ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Cumbria is one of five regions to benefit from a national project to provide a Rural Growth Network to assist areas like Cumbria to overcome economic barriers to sustained growth. The Brampton Hub is part of this ground breaking project to support local businesses. The Hub provides a central point for support, advice, access to technology, conference facilities and meeting rooms. If you are a business owner or manager looking to grow your business or are looking to start your own business, Brampton Business Hub can support you in achieving your goals.

They offer a suite of dedicated PC's with access to fast broadband, conference and meeting room facilities for up to 30 people, smart board and video conferencing technology, training and access to people across Cumbria who can help answer your business questions. Much of this is offered free of charge.

So if you need a letter typed or need to do some research or need a place to have a meeting or would just simply like to network with other businesses in the area then the Brampton Business Hub offers you a one stop shop to all of this. Please call in or email the Hub Manager if you need further information or help email: fionajo@bramptoncommunitycentre.org.uk or telephone: 016977 45023.

VOTING RIGHTS

The way to register to vote changed in June 2014. The new system is called '**Individual Electoral Registration**'. The new system means:

- You can register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
- Everyone has become responsible for registering themselves. Under the old system the 'head of every household' could register everyone who lived at their address
- You need to provide a few more details to register – including your National Insurance number and date of birth. This is to make the electoral register more secure.

Look out for your letter between August and September. Most people who are already registered to vote will be registered automatically under the new system and won't need to do anything. Your letter will tell you whether you are on the register or whether you need to take action. It will tell you what to do.

Parish Councillors, your Clerk & Useful Contacts



Chair	John Evans john@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 42122
Vice Chair	Jonathan Fowler jonathan@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 3431
	Alan Armstrong (Montcalm) alan@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 3164
	Simon Wood simon@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 42570
	Gordon Kyle	016977 2521
	Austen Davies austen@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 2438
	Tom Brocklebank tom@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 45409
	Alan Armstrong (Townhead)	016977 2730
Clerk	Sarah Kyle Hill House, Walton, Brampton, CA8 2DY (Office Hours Monday— Friday 9am—3pm) clerk@waltonparish.co.uk	016977 2769
Highways Hotline		0845 609 6609
Dog Fouling		01228 817380
Police		101

Sid Bowman represents our Parish at Carlisle City Council. If you have a City Council related issue which you wish to raise, he can be contacted at: **01228 561185 or SydB@carlisle.gov.uk**

John Mallinson is your local County Councillor. If you have a County Council related issue which you wish to raise he can be contacted at:

01228 533746 or john.mallinson@cumbria.gov.uk