

# Kirkby Ireleth Parish Council

Chairwoman: Mrs. D. Greenway, 2 Mill View, Beckside, Kirkby-in-Furness, Cumbria

## High Furness Local Area Partnership

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2011  
Lowick Community Hall, Lowick.

### Questions:

- 1) Where is Lowick Community Hall, Lowick?
  - 2) Who is allowed to attend a LAP Meeting?
  - 3) What are SID's?
  - 4) Why do Hawkeshead Parish Council send two representatives?
- See answers at the end.

I attended a second meeting of the LAP as your representative and will attend others as and when they meet. ***This was an extra special one at which the budget is decided!***

I estimate the cost of this meeting to be about £300.00!!  
It started at 7.00 p.m. and I did not get home until 10. 20 p.m.

All of the Parishes were represented except for Duddon. Unfortunately Jos was also absent. After introducing our selves I asked why there were two representatives from Hawkeshead. I was informed that as many Councillors or Parish Clerks who wanted to attend could do so, and speak, but only one could vote. Which one is a mystery, but more of that later. There were three officers again, one taking minutes and two giving advice, (this time NOT drinking soft drinks from bottles but coffee that had been prepared for all of us. Oh! and biscuits).

The main part of the meeting was to allocate the budget of £13,500.00.

Do you remember what we received last year?

**Two bright yellow grit bins that came too late for use in last year's bad weather!!**

I had sent in five suggestions as to how the money should be spent:

- a) all of the money to be divided amongst the Councils according to the number of inhabitants so that it can be spent fairly by each PC (K I have a number of projects that they just cannot afford among them rebuilding a slate wall that bounds its new car park at Soutergate)*
- b) decorative planters (about six each)*
- c) contributions to parishes for verge and grass cutting*
- d) planting of trees throughout the area*
- e) contribution for costs of street lighting*
- f) contributions to parish rooms for maintenance*
- g) help with coastal flooding*
- h) renewing sight line fences throughout the roads in the LAP area*

Other Councils had sent in:

- SIDs,*
- A2B Travel Cards,*
- Emergency Planning*

*Beware Cattle signs*  
*Warning signs for cyclists*  
*Speed signs*  
*Parking Pilot*  
*Green Roads*  
*Broadband*

These had been put into three categories:

- a) those that met the LAP's criteria,
  - b) those that nearly met the criteria and
  - c) those that did not have a chance.
- We had one in a), and four in b)!

I stated that I was concerned that all of this information was only sent to members the night before the meeting, thus there was no opportunity to let Councillors know as to what was going on. (Hopefully this will be sorted out in good time for next year). Discussion then went on and on and on and on.

Finally decisions were made.

Our idea of allocating most of the money to Parish Councils to spend on grass cutting and verge maintenance won the day and £8,000.00 is to be given to the Councils for this purpose. **Hurray!** Then £2,000.00 was allocated to the Broadband Initiative even after they lost the £5,000.00 last year because they did not spend it. £2,500.00 was given to Colton Parish to help them with their Green Roads and the rest into a contingency fund for A2B Travel Cards for Young People if it is to continue past March 2012. Ask me my views on these last two when you next see me.

The rest of the meeting was taken up discussing SLDC's and CCC's criteria for allocating houses as one had come up in Hawkeshead and certain people were not allowed to apply for it. District Councillor Colin Jackson then spoke for some time about the previous administration getting it all wrong, but it should now improve.

**Answers:**

- 1) By Lowick Church. It is the Church Hall as well.
- 2) Any member of the Public may attend.
- 3) SID's are snow shovels, drain rods, pruning saws etc. etc. (I think.)
- 4) At the conclusion of the meeting I was approached by the Chairman of Hawkeshead Parish Council to tell me that two representatives always attend because he is hard of hearing.

M. A. McPherson