

Moresby Matters

and surrounding area

September 2020

Issue 6

Welcome to 'Moresby Matters' issued by your Parish Council.

Our plans to produce a newsletter around Easter 2020 were overtaken by the lockdown but we aim to increase the number of publications each year.

The parish council meets on the first Monday of each month at the Rugby club. There is a public participation item on each agenda which allows any resident to have their say. Since May 2020 the meetings have been held remotely on the Zoom platform. Please see the parish website for details on how to join the meeting. We hope in the not too distant future we shall be able to return actual meetings but legislation prevents parish councils and other organisations meeting at present other than by virtual meetings. (Coronavirus Act 2020 schedule 22).

Moresby School (Note from Ross Peacock, the Headteacher)

We're pleased to say that we've got all of our Year 6 children back in school for the last couple of weeks, and so we're able to hold a Leavers' Assembly on the last day. This is particularly important this year as the Year 6's have missed out on so much due to COVID 19, and we're delighted to be able to mark the end of their time with us appropriately.

As regards September, we're working on our plan to be fully open, and we're hoping that every child will be back with us. Finally, I'd just like to say that our children and parents have been wonderful over the last term. It has been an enormous challenge for us all, but with their help and support we've made a success of it, despite the difficulties.

Please look at the school website:

<http://www.moresby.cumbria.sch.uk> for all current information.

St Marks /St Bridgets (Note from Rev. Paul Kerry)

Because of the lockdown the usual events held at St Mark's chapel have not been held.

St. Bridget's Moresby has gone online! It's been a bit of a sharp learning curve! Over the weeks these services have developed and grown. At first prayers and readings by other church members were delivered via pre-recorded audio links. Now Paul connects with people live in their homes. If you have been asked to take part you will know how scary that can be! But together we are moving forward with twice weekly services on Sundays and Wednesday, occasional evening broadcasts or "Sunset Praise" and weekday daily bible readings.

The children are still very much involved with the "children's slot" during the Sunday services and they are having their own get together via a Zoom link before the morning service. We also use Zoom for House Group get togethers and for Church Council meetings.

With this creative use of technology, the church is reaching out to a wider number of people giving comfort and hope at this time. During the last service at St Bridget's this Bible passage was used: "save you people, bless your inheritance; be their shepherd and carry them forever" (Psalm 28v9). As your church we hope you all have felt God's shepherding arms through this troubling time and will continue to do so in the days ahead. Do be in touch if there's any other help we can give 01946 66168.

Please look at the church Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/stbridgetschurchmoresby>

Ward and County Councillor

Graham Minshaw is the elected councillor for the Moresby ward on Copeland Borough Council.

He can be contacted on 07747 232069

Martin Barbour is the county councillor for the Howgate division on Cumbria County Council.

He can be contacted on 01946 691269.

Post Office Outreach Service

The post office mobile shop is at the Square in Moresby Parks each Thursday from 12noon to 1.00 pm.

Parish Council Annual Report

The parish council as a public body is required to produce an annual report setting out the work undertaken in the year and the way in which the council complies with the transparency regulations that apply to all small local councils. The annual report for 2019/2020 can be found on the parish council website: www.moresbypc.org.uk

Copeland Age and Advice Service (CAAS)

Following the end of Age UK West Cumbria's Place Based Prevention Service, CAAS has taken over to provide information advice and guidance to individuals over the age of 55 in relation to financial matters housing issues and in enabling people to continue to live safely and independently in their own homes. CAAS work with health care professionals, social care staff, housing providers and various third sector organisations to ensure people in Copland have access to the relevant support. They can be contacted on 01946 552166.

Their website is www.caasteam.com

e-mail: referrals@caasteam.com

Mary Jackson Fund

All widows in the parish are entitled to a payment around Christmas from the fund. Lesley Coward is the councillor who represents the parish council on the management board and can be contacted through the parish clerk.

A polite reminder! Dog walkers – please always bag and bin – keep Moresby tidy.

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Volunteer Work

A group organised by Ward Cllr Minshaw spent time a week or so ago weeding the footpaths and surrounding areas beside the school. Moresby Parks is on a county council list for pavement improvements but resources are scarce and volunteer work does at least make some difference. The parish council have in the past organised a litter picking session on a Saturday morning and we shall do so again.

Walkmill Community Woodland Update

The parish council working with local residents and the West Cumbria Rivers Trust have submitted an asset transfer request to Cumbria county council, the present owners of the land. The county council agreed to bring up to adoptable standards the footpaths across the land and work to improve the path beside the pond has been undertaken. The parish council agreed to fund the cost of improving a short section of footpath from Emmaus House to the old railway line footpath which is outside the boundaries of the country park. We hope that this work will be completed before the autumn but there is a drainage issue which does need to be resolved. The parish council has been advised that the asset transfer application will be considered by the county council at their September meeting. If successful the parish council aim to continue to work with other partners to ensure that the land is a community asset for many years to come.

Traffic Issues

i) Moresby Parks Road

The parish council continues to receive complaints about both general speeding through the village and the disregard for the speed bumps. Councillors have seen farm and commercial vehicles travelling far too quickly and on one occasion saw a van lose its trailer after going over a speed bump at excessive speed. We have asked that the safety camera attends on a more frequent basis but in addition we would ask residents to note licence plates and dates and report these to the police. If we get multiple people reporting there is a greater chance of gathering information and if there is a volume we are more likely to get a positive response from the police. But please remember not all speeders are drivers from other parts of the county and we must all watch our speed.

ii) Low Moresby

The parish council were advised some months ago that a weight restriction would be placed on Gallows Lonning. As with many other issues the events of the summer have delayed this matter although we believe the public consultation supported the restriction.

iii) Footway Lighting

Copeland Borough Council have approached the parish council to consider whether the costs of power and maintenance of certain footway lights should be met not by the borough council but by the parish council. The borough council have listed 22 lights, 4 of which, the parish council already meet the costs. Of the remainder 9 are sited beyond the old railway line bridge and past

the Commercial Park. The parish council have agreed to discuss the matter but are reluctant to take on the costs which would result in the precept being increased. It may be that some lights where there is duplication will have to be dismantled.

Winter Warmth Fund

Each year the Cumbria Community Foundation offers financial assistance to vulnerable older people who struggle to heat their homes so that they can stay warm and healthy during winter. The parish council make a donation to the fund each year. If you know an older person who lives in the parish who you believe may benefit from a grant please contact either the Foundation direct or through the parish clerk.

Play Area

There have been a number of complaints about the amount of litter around the play units and the grassed area. With the closure of the area in the spring the local man who attended each week to check the units and undertake litter picking gave up the work. Volunteers from the parish council are undertaking litter picking but not as frequently as many would like. We have ordered a new bin and hopefully that will be emptied weekly. We are however bound to say that whilst much of the litter is the result of children simply not using the bin it would not be a child who dropped a used disposable nappy without a sack on the ground by the bench.

Parish Website and Facebook Page

The website contains information which the parish is by law required to publish on a free to use website. These are mainly financial matters such as the annual accounts and a record of all payments made. We are also required to publish details of councillor's entries in the register of member's interests. The minutes of meetings and the agenda for the next meeting are posted on the site together with any information that the council believe is of interest to parishioners. The Facebook page is used to advise parishioners of social events and the Facebook manager will share matters of interest. The website is www.moresbypc.org.uk and contains a link to the Facebook page.

What's on:

Rugby Club Summer activities

Over 60's bingo each Tuesday afternoon 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm and Thursday evening Bingo sessions starting at 7.00 pm Over 18 all welcome. At present the club is open Friday evenings and both Saturday and Sunday all day. The Coronavirus restrictions will apply.

Getting in touch with your Parish Council

Tel: The Clerk Mr C Shaw 01946 695701

Go to the Moresby PC website: www.moresbypc.com and facebook page

Here you will be able to access council details and minutes and be able to comment via facebook or email to: jcshaw@talk21.com

A polite reminder! Please put all litter in the bins provided or take it home – keep Moresby tidy.

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