

BURGH BY SANDS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held on 7th May 2019 in Burgh by Sands Village Hall

1 The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.15pm and welcomed all present. He was authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st May 2018 as a true record.

2 Review of the Year – The Chairman read out his report of the year 2018/2019:

Burgh by Sands Parish Council Chairman's Report 1st May 2019

Burgh by Sands Parish Council Chairman's Report for Burgh by Sands Parish Meeting 1st May 2018.

Over the past year Burgh by Sands Parish Council has continued to maintain and where it can, improve the social and physical fabric of the whole Parish.

The most visible change to the Parish Council this year has been the retirement of both our beloved Parish Clerk, Mrs Vivien Sealby and equally beloved Responsible Finance Officer Peter Ditch who both decided to lay down their quills in the Autumn. We cannot thank them enough for their help and wise guidance in all parish matters during their tenure. We are fortunate in being able to retain their valuable knowledge and support as they both have agreed to be selected and elected to serve as Parish councillors.

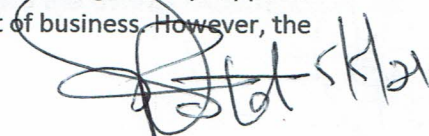
This perhaps an opportunity to welcome our new Clerk to the Parish Council Ms Isobel Elsdon who we hope has not found stepping into her new role too traumatic and when she has settled finds the work interesting and fulfilling without being too tiring and complex. We wish her well.

Speeding in all of our villages remains a concern. The Parish Council actively combats this in whatever way it can and it remains a regular Agenda item. We continue to encourage Cumbria Constabulary to increase their visits to both major thoroughfares of the parish and give our support a team of volunteer speed monitors. Currently we have actively deployed Speed Indicator Devices at Moorhouse and Thurstonfield and it does seem to have a positive effect. To this end negotiations continue to take place to site a further device, already budgeted for, in Burgh by Sands Village.

Flooding continues to an issue in several locations within the Parish and much work has been put in by both our City and Councillors and we thank them both, However, it is small actions by the parishioners and parish councillors that make a real difference and those that report the problems to City, County and Environment agencies are encouraged to persist and are reminded that some, limited funds the clearing of some ditches within the parish are available. Special thanks must go to those who alleviate actual problems with machinery and by hand in the poorest of weather.

Fly-tipping and litter continue to be a concern and despite the provision of both parish and city facilities seems to be on the increase once more. The Parish Council would like to thank those parishioners who not only notify us and the city council of new incidents but frequently facilitate their collection by the appropriate agency by collecting and relocating offending material to more accessible sites. We continue to seek ways of limiting the opportunity for fly-tipping and are grateful for the support of the public.

The Parish Council spends much time on Planning considerations and generally supports improvement of the lot of individuals and the encouragement of business. However, the



maintenance of the fabric, and indeed the lifestyles on offer within the Parish, has been fought with some diligence and the development of open spaces and gardens is generally resisted where possible but considered small scale developments and the development of derelict Brown field sites are acceptable. Our Ward Councillor has been very supportive of our efforts in this matter.

Many of the successes around the Parish of Burgh by Sands is due to the partnerships within the Parish.

A good example of this would be the Parish Allotment Society who with the Parish Council and our own county councillor have created a vibrant, busy and fully occupied set of allotments. The Parish Council would also like to add many thanks to those green-fingered individuals who continue to volunteer to look after the various planters which add so much to the feel of a cared for parish.

Much of the Parish Council work involves the maintenance and provision of Play Areas, street furniture and grass cutting and this continues.

We have continued to support financially small Parish Projects and parishioners are reminded of this facility. Two example are:- funds have been contributed, together with monies from our County Councillor and the BBSSRA towards the provision of a Portaloo in order to limit unwanted pollution and to provide facilities to those using 'the Village Green' and Parish council supports to the Parish magazine and maintenance of the old churchyard.

In order to maintain participation in the Parish Council process and to make the Parish Council more accessible parishioners are encouraged to put their aspirations for the parish to councillors. All are reminded that all meetings have a slot for public participation. Saturday morning Parish Council meetings in conjunction with the Parish Hall coffee mornings where councillors linger afterwards is a slightly more informal setting if that is required.

As always, special mention must be made of the Officer of our Parish Council; Ms Isobel, our Clerk who puts in hours greater than her pay grade illustrating the point that it is clearly a vocation rather than just a job. We cannot thank her enough for her help, support and guidance in all parish matters and in conclusion I would like to thank all of our Parish Officers, Councillors, County, District and Parish past and present who have given unstintingly of their time.

Parish Hall Management Committee

Chairman's summary Report for Parish Council AGM 7th May 2019

Some of the highlights of our achievements over the last year include:-

Continued to develop our IT capability with now a fully operational website o Booking events and reviewing information and a fantastic array of photographs relative to the history of the village.

Facebook page.

Significant savings on various annual costs such as gas/electricity, insurance

Upgraded the electrics and alarm system to be compliant with safety requirements

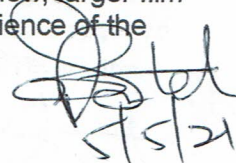
Painting programme has been completed

Refitted storage cupboards to enhance capacity and flexibility (additional storage for Parish Council now available)

Needed to address some petty vandalism to the toilets (cisterns)

Fitted external security/safety lights for ease of users of the hall

Successful in attaining grants from Cumbria CC and Parish Council to buy a new, larger film screen and we also upgraded the sound system to enhance the overall experience of the film night



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The Events Group has facilitated a wide range of events which includes :-

Highlights events, War of the Worlds and Cello Recital

Craft Fayre

Table Top sale

Easter Egg hunt

Screened the royal wedding and provided catering

New Year's Eve party

Events being organised include

Halloween party for the kids

History talks

We are continuing to see our regular users for badminton, bowls, WI, Young Farmers, as well as the Youth Club who are using the hall over the winter months, albeit reduced numbers and hence income down

The weekly Saturday Library and Cafe plays an important part in the life of the local community, with increasing numbers enjoying the opportunity to socialise over refreshments. We have noted some unauthorised usage of the hall, including unsupervised use by children. We are considering addressing this by installing an electronic entry system. The estimated cost would be £350 and we would seek grant support for this cost. We do need some further volunteers, not necessarily to commit to being on the committee but to support various initiatives, such as events organising/publicity and ongoing routine tasks. Still struggling to get people from the village to support events through attendance or indeed use for other regular activities.

In summary financially, our balances are reducing because regular income has reduced with expenditure increasing over the last few years predominantly through having to deal with the upkeep and enhancement to the fabric of the building, as well as IT costs.

The committee is continuing to target ways to increase usage of the hall.

Alan George

Chairman, Parish Hall Management Committee

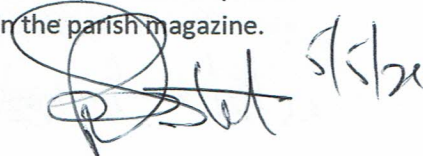
7th May 2019

Burgh Parish Allotment Association

Annual report to Parish Council April 2019

Once again the allotment has seen much activity during the last 12 months. A number of plots have changed tenants but although there is no waiting list nearly all the plots have been occupied throughout the period. At the time of writing there is just one full plot and a half plot vacant. This vacancy is due to the fact that Paul Nolan who was one of the original tenants and also treasurer of the Association has recently moved to Wigton and therefore will be unable to carry on with his plot. As far as the Association is concerned another tenant, Gary Lawrenson, has agreed to take over as Treasurer.

We are aware that there will shortly be quite a few new house(holds) in the village, probably all with small gardens, so there may be potential tenants moving into the parish and that we intend doing our best to keep vacant plots in good condition for new ploholders. To this end we might well need to approach the PC for a grant for suitable black polythene until such time as the plots are required. In the meantime we will ask the Parish Clerk to advertise the vacant plots in the parish magazine.

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2018 was a mixed year for most plotholders. The 'Beast from the East' brought very cold weather at the end of February and this delayed the start of the growing season. Later in the summer the (very welcome) dry, hot period in June and July produced its own challenges. The main one being access to water. We did manage to obtain 2 further large containers for water but without rain collecting it was difficult. The problem is exacerbated by a number of plots having polytunnels which inevitably use more water. However in the main soft fruits did well as did crops which were harvested later in the year when rain had returned.

Another difficulty we are currently encountering is access to well-rotted farm manure. The person who was letting us have a supply is no longer keeping livestock and we have been unable to find any other local farmer who can provide us with a large trailer full for general use. If any members can help we would love to hear from you!

Members of the Parish Council paid us a visit one evening in the summer and had a look round accompanied by our Chairman and Secretary. As far as we are aware they were satisfied with what they saw and no issues or problems were identified. We would welcome further visits whenever any members wish to do so.

Finally the allotment is a lovely place to work. We are fortunate to be able to spend time amongst so much bird song. We can currently hear chiffchaff, willow warbler, blackcap, nuthatch, blackbird, song thrush, our resident robin, blue tits and nearby drumming woodpeckers.

We are very grateful for the continued support of the Parish Council and look forward to working with you in the coming years.

David Singleton
Secretary
Burgh Parish Allotment Association
01 May 2019

Report for Burgh by Sands Parish meeting 7th May 2019

St Michael's Church

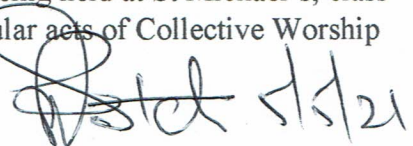
www.eastsolwaychurches.org

2018-19 has been a mixed year for the St Michael's Church family.

We have experienced the sadness of the deaths within our church community of Lynn Edwards and Barbara Lamb. Our regular Sunday 11am congregation has also been diminished by people stopping coming who have moved away etc. with less people joining than leaving at this stage.

Positively we held a much appreciated supper and discussion panel on end of life issues in the village hall. We have completed working through the contrasting lives of David & his king Saul (in the bible book of 1 Samuel), and the choices they made to either trust God or trust themselves. We have celebrated anew the ever wonderful Easter & Christmas true stories of God taking on human flesh to show and win real Life for anyone who comes to Him in trust.

We are very thankful for our ongoing partnership with Burgh school, with: Church members volunteering in school; their Harvest and Christmas Services being held at St Michael's; class visits to the church building; and church members leading regular acts of Collective Worship

 5/5/21

in school. We also hold services for the Mother's Union, the Annual Memorial Service for those who have loved ones who have died, and a much valued regular poetry gathering in association with the Wordsworth Trust.

It continues to be an honour for us to be part of the flow of weddings, funerals, thanksgivings for the birth of a child, and baptisms, acknowledging God in all parts of life, making promises before Him, and seeking his wisdom and blessing. Our home-based study groups continue to offer a relaxed interactive communal time to enjoy soul food as through the bible we discover and grow our relationship with Jesus. We also continue to provide Marriage Preparation so to help couples marrying thrive for years beyond their wedding day.

We continue to be very grateful for the kind support of the Parish Council in providing grants towards the costs of maintaining the churchyard to a high standard (as an asset for the whole community), and also to the parish magazine to enable it to provide a valued forum for the local community in publicising events and other information relevant across the area.

Hadrian's Wall tourists and local groups make good use of the Church facilities, and we are most thankful for our committed team of volunteer guides from the church family and local community. Our prayer box is used both by tourists and local residents.

In the next few months we will be considering the eyewitness accounts of Jesus' life (in 'Luke') so we can (re)discover more of his wonderful power and surprising purposes. Later in the year we'll also be examining the letter of 1 Corinthians which speaks into a celebrity obsessed culture (there is nothing new under the sun!) about how to show the unique love of Jesus which values everyone equally wonderfully.

We are also undertaking some significant and urgent building work repairing the tower this summer, and are most grateful for donations given towards this, and the work of our volunteer fund raisers.

There is much to thank God for, and I'm delighted for the support and contributions of our Churchwardens Carolyne Baines and Lisa Turner, our PCC, the ministry team, our faithful Tuesday prayer lunch group, and so many from the rest of the congregation, as (in the strength of the Holy Spirit) we seek to pursue our aim of *'Helping everyone enjoy life in all its fullness through being disciples of Jesus'*.

Please do come to your local church building, or invite us to where you are. We'd love to pray for and help you however we can, be helped by you, and hear your thoughts & comments.

Rev Tudor Boddam-Whetham

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