

# The Gill

Sponsored by Hethersgill Parish Council for everyone in and around Hethersgill. Issue No. 11 December 2009

## Wind Farm Proposals – rumours abound!

It's a general rule that by the fifth time of telling the story is completely opposite to the first time it's told! This seems to be the case about the wind turbine developments.



Banks Developments have assured the Parish Council that there are no proposals beyond those made at the original exhibition earlier this year and there are no discussions taking place about turbine location unless someone has contacted them.

This of course doesn't rule out the possibility of other developers approaching landowners. Several companies appear to be exploring the area from Longtown to Bewcastle and down to the head of the Eden Valley. The Parish Council is anxious to be clear about the opportunities being taken for Wind Farm development and the designation of areas by Government as part of the European Green initiative. Enquiries are being made of County and District representatives.

There is also great merit in meeting with neighbouring local councils to identify common issues and importantly to be a strong group of like minds when representing residents.



NOWT is local group representing those anxious about Wind Turbine developments and the Parish Council has agreed to pass on their thoughts and contact details:-

## Are You in a Spin About Turbines?

"The discussion on climate change and the need to produce energy from renewable sources seems to continue relentlessly. The UK government has committed to reducing CO2 emissions significantly. There is a rush to install onshore wind turbines, even if it means placing them near to homes and communities. The debate on whether onshore wind turbines can really make a significant contribution to our electricity needs rages, with no clear conclusions. It is very likely they will not only make our electricity much more expensive but also divert funds from more reliable sources of energy.

The reality is that forty 126-metre high industrial wind turbines may soon be a feature of this area of Cumbria for at least 25 years. The sites proposed for these giant structures are close to dwellings and will be seen from miles away. It is clear the 3 locations for the turbines are neither ideal for wind speeds nor in terms of protecting people from the harmful effects of turbines. They are simply available sites. Noise, Shadow Flicker, Bird and Bat deaths, Water Catchments, Low Flying Safety, Property Values, and Landscape Effects are just some of the issues we should all consider carefully. "

If you would like more information before a turbine moves in next to you please contact:

[WWW.NOWT-CUMBRIA.ORG](http://WWW.NOWT-CUMBRIA.ORG)

[INFO@NOWT-CUMBRIA.ORG](mailto:INFO@NOWT-CUMBRIA.ORG)

Telephone Mob 07902 556365

For further information about the Banks development proposals please contact Emily Hooson, community engagement coordinator on 01740 658500 or email [emily.hooson@banksdevelopments.com](mailto:emily.hooson@banksdevelopments.com).

**Stop Crime, call - Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111**

## **POLICING - PC Alasdair Wright reports -**

The Police Service has recently introduced the Policing Pledge. This consists of ten bullet points highlighting the level of service you can expect from us and how we do business. There are posters up around the area telling you about it or check out the website or call us for more information.

Each Neighbourhood Policing Team within Cumbria now produces a monthly report which is available on the force website (details below) and for those not online, we put this out in poster form at various locations around our area. This monthly report tells you what has been highlighted as an issue by the local community, what we are doing about it, gives an update on crime in the area and lets you know when/where our next public meeting is.

We rely on you, our communities, to let us know what your policing issues are so that we can deal with them. There are various contact methods listed below or you can raise them with your local parish, city or county councillor who will pass them on to us on your behalf. Unless you let us know what the issues are we won't know and if we don't know we can't do anything about it.

We are lucky that as an area we don't have a vast amount of crime, but we are not exempt unfortunately and as such, we must remind you to be vigilant and security conscious, reporting anything suspicious to us - better safe than sorry!

Over the past few months we have had a rise in burglaries - both commercial and domestic, particularly sheds and garages being targeted for diesel, quad and push bikes, power/garden tools and anything saleable. The longer darker nights are with us so don't give opportunist thieves the chance - check your security and if you want advice - give us a call - we're here to help!

On occasion I go on about speeding and inconsiderate driving. Unfortunately, we still have an issue on all our 30 and 40mph speed

limits with drivers being in excess of those posted limits and putting other road users at risk and we still have an issue with vehicles of all sizes being driven without thought for safety of others. If we ALL do our bit by each driver checking their speed as they drive through our villages, give some thought as to where you park and how you drive in general, then together we should make it safer for everyone and reduce the collisions on our roads.

Lastly, have a Good Christmas and New Year. Look out for one another, especially the elderly and vulnerable and if there is anything we can help with please get in touch!

All the best, Alasdair

**Contact** - Emergency - 999. 24/7 non-emergency 0845 33 00 247. My mobile (duty time only) 07980 747 406. PC1564 Alasdair Wright, Longtown Police Station, Graham Street, Longtown, CA6 5NR  
email - [alasdair.wright@cumbria.police.uk](mailto:alasdair.wright@cumbria.police.uk) Also [www.cumbria.police.uk](http://www.cumbria.police.uk) - which now has monthly updates on crime in your area.

### Parish Hall - new supper room

A real Christmas present! - work has started on the supper room extension - the footings are down at the time of going to press. All we need now is some decent weather!



### Highways

It's important to ring the Hotline 0845 6096 609 or Cllr Heaton 01228 675328 if you see things that need attention



Recycling - a massive 4.09 tonnes of cans & glass was recycled from the Hethersgill Parish Hall site between April and September this year. Plastic, paper and cardboard was also collected in large quantities. This attracted just over £90 for the Parish Council and Hall Committee funds.

Keep "washing and squashing" that plastic!

For more information about recycling ring 01228 817200

## **The Parish Council - reports from recent meetings**

**The Wind Turbine proposals** will doubtless be on the Parish Council's agenda for some time and it's important that residents in the Parish make their views known. One way of doing this is to come along to Council meetings and have a say under "public participation". Duncan Griggs and representatives from NOWT came to the September meeting and other residents have written to the Parish Council about their concerns that wind turbines will have on the quality of their lives.

Recently the Parish Council has been anxious to clarify rules and regulations surrounding wind energy proposals and enquiry results should be available at the next meeting.

**Persistence with Highways** issues and the help given by County Cllr John Mallinson mean that quite a lot has been done - especially resurfacing part of the C1005. The Council remains concerned to get all outstanding works reported on the last issue of The Gill completed as soon as possible.

It's been quiet on **the planning front** recently. Significantly Rigghead was sold in lots recently and the listed farmhouse is the subject of a planning application to refurbish the interior. An application to extend the egg/hen facility at Henry's Hill will be considered at the Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

**Looking to 2010/11** the Parish Council has agreed not to increase the precept which will be fixed at £6500 for the coming financial year. Projects supported will include the upgrading of the roadside pavement at Netherfield which has been costed at over £10000. A grant of £300 to St Mary's Church has been agreed to help with ground leveling works in the churchyard.

**Comments about the Gill** We welcome comments about the newsletter or any topic - please contact:- Clive Moth, Clerk to the Council 01228 675328



## Parish Council meetings 2010



The schedule of meetings agreed for 2010 is:-

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November

Extra meetings will be arranged according to need and notices will be published on Parish Noticeboards

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and will be held in the Parish Hall, Hethersgill at 7.30pm- why not come along - the agenda allows for the public to talk about items on the agenda.**

The role of the Councillors is to represent your views and concerns to the Parish Council and to other public bodies.

### Your Councillors are:-

Cllr A Dalgleish - 675388

Cllr N Elliott - 675336

Cllr J Falder - 675690

Cllr F Heaton -675516

Cllr H Kay- 675910 (Chair)

Cllr M Kay - 675910

Cllr P L Nichol - 675383

Cllr A Sisson -675378

Cllr G Sisson - 675101

The Parish is also served by  
City Cllr Jonathan Devlin and  
County Cllr John Mallinson

Draft minutes of meetings are published on noticeboards.



Hethersgill Parish Council  
wishes you all a very  
happy Christmas and  
prosperous New Year





# SAFE AS HOUSES

HANDYPERSON SERVICE

## ***Need help with odd jobs around your home?***

If you live in the Carlisle or Eden District areas, are over 60, disabled or on means tested benefits then the Safe as Houses Handyperson Service may be able to help.

From unblocking sinks to fitting new doors and fitting grab rails to bleeding radiators, we can provide a wide range of minor repairs for your home. The service will cost just £10 per hour plus any materials needed.

### **To find out more contact:**

Tracy Andrew at Riverside on 01228 882807

Nicola Wood at Carlisle City Council on 01228 817079

Patricia Breen at Eden District Council on 01768 212488



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