



**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS**

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2013/2014

The start of the new Parish Council year saw a big change with the retirement of our Clerk, Clive Moth, whose work over the years was both extensive and diligent, resulting in a smooth running and cohesive Council. We have also had a change in Councillors with Alex Dalgleish, Linda Nichol and Grant Sisson all leaving us. Our sincere thanks are given to both Clive and past Councillors for their contributions. We are pleased to welcome James Eaton, Ann Oswin and Tony Gash as their co-opted replacements.

Sarah Kyle, our new Clerk, took up office on 1st April 2013 and has quickly settled into her role. Sarah is an experienced Clerk now steering four Councils.

The main project for the past twelve months has been the resurfacing of the Parish Hall car park. This was a large project and considerable grant funding was sought to enable it to proceed. We are very pleased with the end result and hope you agree that it is a positive enhancement to our Parish Hall.

Thanks must go to Carlisle City Council, Carlisle Parish Councils Association, the Co-op Charitable Trust, The CN Group Charitable Trust, The Hadfield Trust, County Councillor Mallinson and Cumbria County Council for their financial support to the Parish Hall Committee and the Parish Council. The project was however of considerable expense to the Council and will see us carry forward a much reduced reserve than in previous years. Combined with a reduction in the main grant that we receive from the City Council and the complete abolition of the recycling payments, which we received, we have felt it necessary to request a small increase in the precept. This increase will see us able to continue to meet our administrative and legal obligations whilst allowing us to continue to consider small amounts of financial support for local facilities and charities such as the Parish Hall, Parish Church, Great North Air Ambulance and the Hethersgill Social Committee. These organisations have all received grant assistance from us during the last year for worthwhile expenses and projects.

Broadband was the other area of focus for us this year and will feature prominently in our plans for 2014/15. The BT Connecting Cumbria Project is gaining momentum to bring superfast broadband to the County. Unfortunately

Hethersgill is only forecast to receive approximately ten percent coverage of the superfast service. To help explain the situation further we held a public meeting in January 2014. Over twenty parishioners came along to listen to BT explain how they intend to maximise the coverage. Thanks are especially due to Gill, for organising this. The Parish Council are to help in these efforts by gathering information and you will see a questionnaire enclosed with this newsletter to continue this process. Please do fill it in and return it to us as we would like to try and help ensure that our parish is not left behind with this technology.

As in all other years, the condition of our local roads has been paramount and we have an on-going dialogue with the Highways Agency about numerous poor road surfaces: we expect these efforts to continue in the forthcoming year.

We had a flurry of planning applications earlier in the year. Most notably the proposal to restore Kirkclinton Hall was considered again and the application was passed by the City Council.

The closure of Bolton Fell as a working Peat Moss is in process. The Parish Council have been involved with the continued consultation to restore the Moss and the newsletter produced by Natural England is uploaded to our website to ensure everyone is kept informed.

Fly-tipping at the Sand Hole Common Land, which is owned by the Parish Council is an area of concern and we have installed a sign to help alleviate the problem. We do plan to start to restore Sand Hole during 2014 so please get in touch if you have green fingers and would be willing to spare a few hours to make this area more appealing and attractive to both people and wildlife.

Finally I would like to offer thanks to our Clerk, Parish Councillors, City Councillor Judith Prest and County Councillor John Mallinson for their contributions and hard work.

Harry Kay, Chairman

Hethersgill Parish Council, April 2014

2012/13(£)	<u>Receipts</u>	2013/14 (£)
6,500.00	Precept	6,500.00
1,177.00	Project Grants	8,874.00
0.00	Grants Pre-paid for 2014/15	1,000.00
160.00	Recycling	180.00
0	VAT Reclaimed	2,780.42
50	The Gill Ads (2013/14 figures includes £37.50 pre-paid for 2014/15)	52.50
7,887.00	TOTAL	19,386.92
	<u>Payments</u>	
651.14	Administration	423.28
2,871.12	Clerk's Salary	2,899.63
1,293.00	Parish Hall Projects	13,492.10
500.00	Parish Church Grant	500.00
80.00	Recycling	0
400.00	Donations (S137)	650.00
503.77	The Gill	704.00
225.00	Insurance	243.80
144.00	Audit Fees	0
0.00	VAT Incurred	2,707.02
300.00	Website	300.00
6,968.03	TOTAL	21,919.88
Summary		
3,747.98	Brought Forward	4,666.95
7,887.00	Add Income	19,386.92
6,968.03	Less Payments	21,919.88
4,666.95	Balance at Year End	2,133.99
4,666.95	Represented by bank (31st March)	2,433.99
-	Less Uncashed Cheque	300.00
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