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ISSUE 134

OVER KELLET VIEW

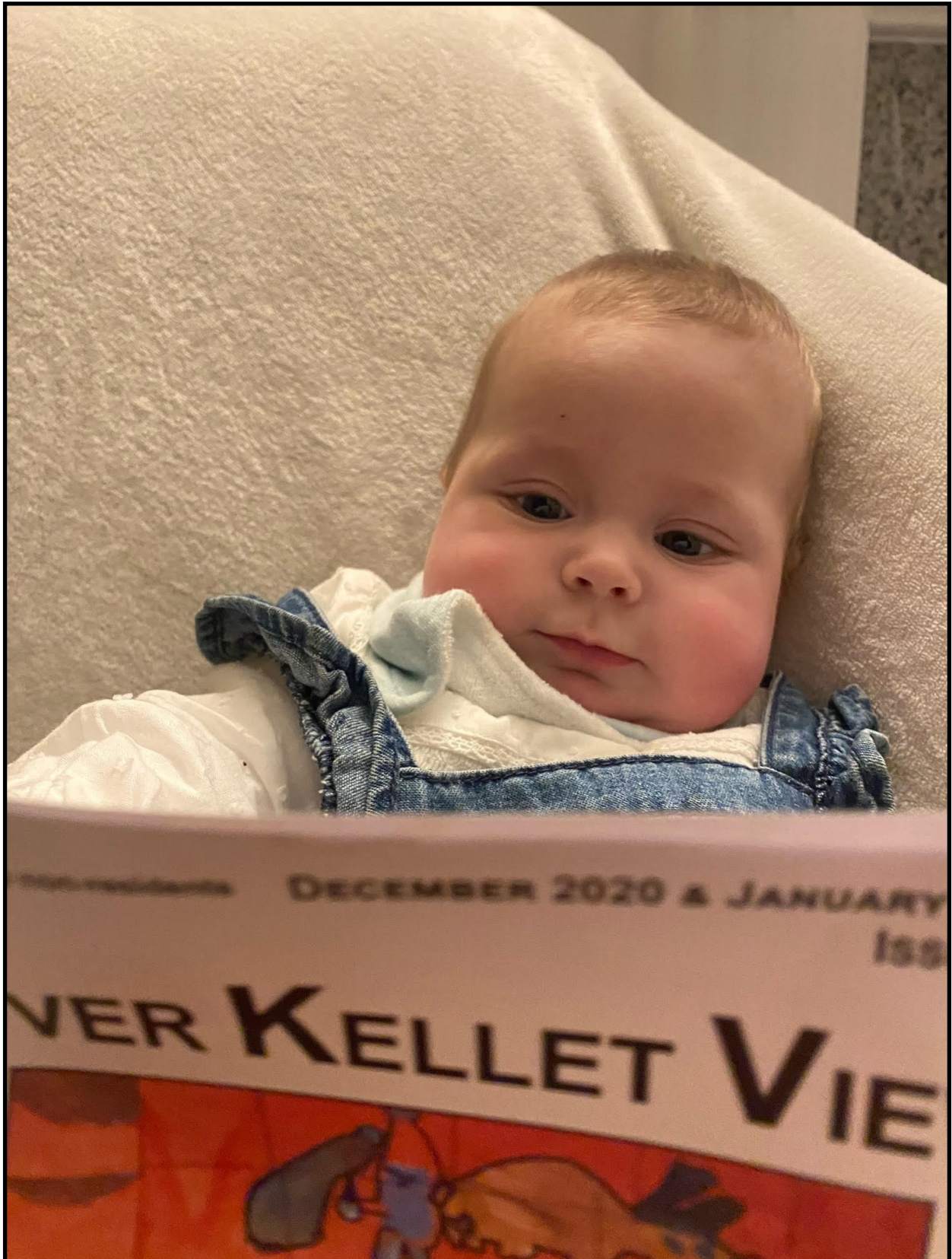


Photo: Luke Duckworth

**Editorial Board: Peter Clinch (Editorial & Advertising),
Paul Budd (Editorial and Production), Josie Candlin (Distribution)**

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairs of the Parish Council and Parochial Church Council

We are grateful to the above organisations for their financial support

HOW TO PREPARE A CONTRIBUTION

We are happy to receive electronic, typed and *legible* hand-written contributions. For a copy of the *OK View* Notes for Contributors please e-mail overkelletview@gmail.com

Electronic text contributions should ideally be in Microsoft Word format, but we can accept most other formats. Please set the page size to A4 and use 14pt Arial font. Photos and illustrations should be sent as separate files, NOT embedded within documents; most are reproduced in black and white and benefit from good contrast. Pictures intended for the front cover should be in portrait format.

For help or advice phone: Peter (01524 734591), Paul (07749 897999), Josie (01524 942079).

WHERE TO SEND IT

Hard-copy contributions should be sent to The Editors c/o Tree Tops, Moor Close Lane, Over Kellet, LA6 1DF; electronic ones to the e-mail address: overkelletview@gmail.com

DEADLINE

For each issue the closing date for contributions is the fifteenth of the previous month, but earlier submissions are always welcome.

ADVERTISING

Please e-mail us at overkelletview@gmail.com for an advertising stylesheet, rates and guidance. We are unable to offer a design service and will only accept material electronically.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of either the Editorial and/or Management Board. Every care is taken to provide accurate information, particularly in the Village Listings, Directory and Local Services. We apologise for any errors and would be pleased to have them pointed out to us.

Over Kellet View is published monthly except for January and August; it is distributed to all homes within the parish of Over Kellet and is available for purchase at the Village Store. Each issue can also be seen in a colour version on the Over Kellet village website www.overkellet.org We are grateful to Gordon Galloway, the webmaster, for his expert help.

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New Year - Continuing Challenges

Best wishes to all our readers for 2021.

Housing - No apologies are made for once again drawing attention to the planning applications for new housing developments considered recently by the Parish Council (see pages 10-14). Fellside Land Developments Ltd of Yealand Conyers have submitted a detailed application for nine houses on part of the field opposite St Cuthbert's Parish Church. The Parish Council (PC) has raised concerns about the scheme. In addition, the Company has submitted three applications relating to the site they purchased last summer at the end of Greenways, behind Church Bank, for a total of twenty-two houses. The PC has objected to this scheme. Elsewhere, the detailed plans for the fifty-five houses on fields formerly part of Old Hall Farm remain with Lancaster City Council for a decision. Judging from the list of revised plans displayed on the City Planning Portal, discussions continue between officers of the Council and the developer. In December the PC received a request from the Shuttleworth family, owners of Bay Croft (the open ground at the side of Cockle Hill), to remove the seat, platform and view indicator as the land is to be sold. We wait to see what alternative use the new owner will put to this space, which is an integral part of the open character of the village.

The Pandemic - we are well into the new lockdown. On page 18 we include information from the Support OK Team. On pages 20-22 County Councillor Phillippa Williamson provides details of how County Council services have adapted to the circumstances, including many links to websites where further information is available. Her diligence in keeping residents informed is applauded.

OK View Editorship

On page 19 we feature a notice seeking a new Editor for the start of 2022. By that time I shall be well into my seventy-seventh year and feel it is time for a younger person to take on the responsibility. If no-one comes forward it is possible that the magazine will cease, as it nearly did at the end of 2017. The future of *OK View* is in the community's hands.

Our Cover Photo – OK View's Youngest Reader?

In last November's issue, under the heading 10 Years Ago (page 26), we mentioned an article on the Millerbeck Light Railway by eight-year-old Freddie Wollard – possibly our youngest-ever contributor.

This month's cover shows a photograph of six-month-old Amelia Brooks, sent to us in December by her uncle Luke Duckworth. Luke and his sister Erica, Amelia's mother, were brought up in the village by their parents Claire and Mark, who have lived here for over thirty years. We do try to ensure that *OK View* appeals to all ages and Amelia certainly seems engrossed about one item – is it the Christmas Puzzle? **Is** she our youngest ever 'reader'? Or do you have any photos that show otherwise? If so, send them in! We can't promise to print them, but maybe we could mention them in a future issue.

Christmas Puzzle

We apologise to readers and to the donkey who carried Mary to Bethlehem for leaving him out of the list of answers.

Peter Clinch

CHURCH NEWS

Are you a worrier? I didn't think I was but the events of the last year have made me wonder.

During the first lockdown two events coincided. My brother had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and he was in hospital where he was to spend the next three weeks. My mother, who lives fifty miles away from here and is practically housebound, spent a week in complete isolation as her 'pop-in' carers suspected she might have had the virus. Poor mobile-phone signals, dodgy hearing-aids, no supermarket delivery slots – things which might in more normal times have seemed straightforward frustrations absorbed a disproportionate amount of thinking time.

At some point, I noticed that I was worrying. It helped me to remember Bible verses like these: "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10) and "Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6). There is a verse in 1 Peter 5 which, when 'unpacked' in the Amplified Bible translation, reads like this: "casting all your cares, all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all, on Him, for He cares about you with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully."

Other people helped. In our church home group we considered some of the reasons for our reluctance to ask each other for help. During this very strange season the prayer support of others, enabled through phone calls and meeting by video-conference, has been a huge blessing.

You're probably much better at this than I am, but I realised that I needed some sort of check-list for tackling worry. Here's one which I find helpful:

1. Pray.
2. Ask God specifically what I can do – if anything - in this situation. What are my responsibilities?
3. Ask for help – from the right people.
4. Work hard at the bits which God wants me to do.
5. Give God the glory – or, to put it more simply, notice when prayers are answered and remember to say 'Thank you'.

One other thing. In Jack Kent's delightful book for children, 'There's No Such Thing as a Dragon', a dragon which starts off as kitten-sized grows bigger and bigger as people continue to deny its existence. It shrinks to a manageable size as soon as people start to acknowledge that it's really there. It's a bit like that with worry.

The Lord Jesus knows everything troubling us today. He loves us to cast it all onto him, because he cares for us very, very much.

Sunday Services from St Cuthbert's Church

At the time of writing, our Sunday services are taking place at 11.15 am on Zoom. We are continuing our series in the Acts of the Apostles. All are welcome. For log-in details please e-mail penny@dpburnside.org

Penny Burnside, Church Warden

Ian Edwards

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WILSON'S ENDOWED SCHOOL NEWS

Appointment of a new headteacher

The governors are delighted to confirm that Mr Darren Newiss will become our new headteacher on Monday 12th April, the start of the Summer Term 2021. Mr Newiss is currently deputy headteacher at Poulton-le-Sands School. In the coming months he will be making regular visits to meet with staff, governors and pupils as part of the transition process. He is looking forward to connecting with the wider school community when COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed. Mr Newiss was presented with a bible by Les Saunders, chair of governors, as a welcome gift on his first visit to the school on Friday 27th November.



Community Support and 'Let's Localise'

Throughout the pandemic, the school continues to be grateful for the wonderful support we have received. Prayers from our church community have meant a great deal, as has practical support from our neighbours. We are particularly grateful to David Walling of Walling UK for caring for our school vehicle during the lockdowns. Our little bus would certainly have aged, had it been left 'parked up' on our school forecourt. **Let's Localise** is a new website that we have signed up to. It tries to connect schools and the local community to match need. So far we have asked for chess sets, concrete paving slabs and guttering! All of our requests have been met by local businesses and community groups. We are still hoping for some more guttering for team-building activities with our older pupils. Follow this link for more information: www.letslocalise.co.uk/par-event-detail?eventId=10900.

Christmas Fair and Raffle

Things were a little different for Christmas 2020. We held five small Christmas Fairs in classroom bubbles so that the children did not miss out on the usual fun. The





Governors' raffle included luxury prizes of Harrods teddies, hampers and champagne. We were thrilled that the raffle raised just over £1000 for the school. Thank you to anyone who bought a ticket, your support really makes a difference.

Staff Vacancy

We are looking to appoint a cleaner to work alongside our site supervisor. The hours are 3.30pm - 6.30pm daily, term time only, paying £9.30 per hour. This is a permanent contract. Please e-mail Sarah at school for further details: bursar@wilsons.lancs.sch.uk.

Interested in the PTA's 'Bonus Ball'? Here are the details ...

The PTA Friends of the School Bonus Ball Club is a private lottery. It is a way you can help support our school's future by providing those much-needed little extras for our children, as well as having a chance to win a cash prize every week. If you choose to join, you will be allocated a number; tickets are not transferable. You may purchase more than one number. The weekly prize is determined by the bonus ball number drawn on Saturday's National Lottery 'Lotto' draw throughout the year. Winners will receive 50% of the prize fund's weekly income. The remaining 50% will be added to the PTA fund-raising. Contact the school for further details.

Jo Williams, Headteacher

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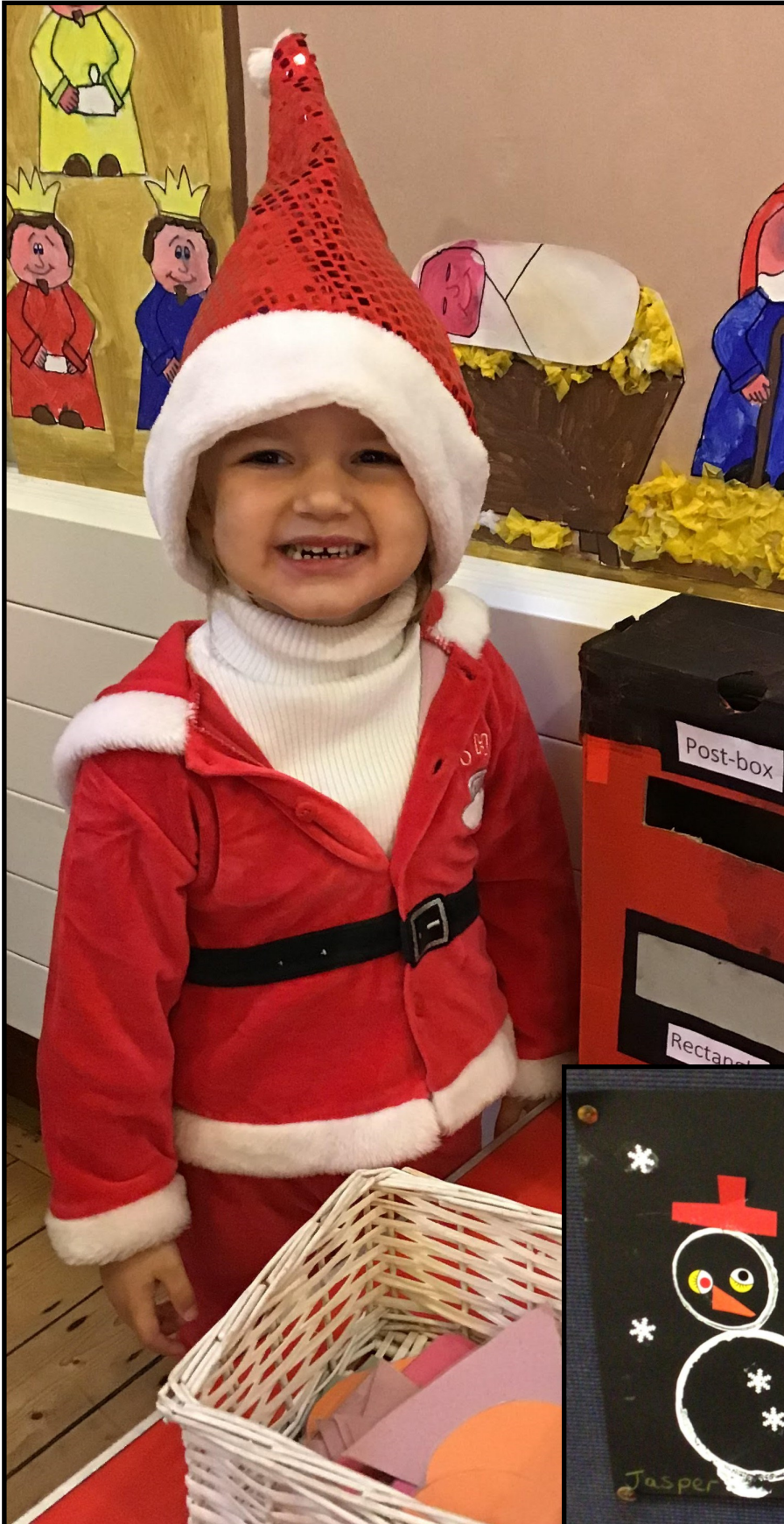
NEWS FROM OVER KELLET PLAYGROUP

After a busy December filled with glitter and festive excitement the children were ready for a well-earned rest. They decorated the windows of the Village Hall to bring some cheer to the residents and visitors of Over Kellet, which they loved doing. Unfortunately we could not have our visit from Santa this year due to visitor restrictions; however he did send a video message, thanking them for decorating the hall and wishing them a safe and happy Christmas.

Each child was also left a present at the hall by Santa. We have been loving the frost and snow we have experienced and are outside a lot to explore our natural surroundings and to get plenty of fresh air. Inside we have created some winter wonderlands, played with ice and water and are loving making pictures of snowmen and winter scenes.

Playgroup returned after the Christmas holidays as normal, despite the national lockdown. We are keeping a sense of normality for our children despite these strange times and are immensely proud of how they are all coping. We hope you are all keeping well and staying safe at this time.

Lynsey Winder





PARISH COUNCIL – DECEMBER 2020 & JANUARY 2021

The meetings, held remotely using Zoom video-conferencing software, were attended by Parish Councillors Agnew, Atkins, Johnson, May and Metcalfe. County Councillor Williamson was not available for the December meeting but did attend in January. Two members of the public were present at the December meeting and three in January, as well as our reporter.

Planning applications

The following new applications to Lancaster City Council were considered:

20/01072/REM – reserved matters application for the erection of fifteen dwellings on land south-east of Church Bank.

20/1073/FUL – full planning application for the erection of seven dwellings and associated access road on land south-east of Church Bank.

20/01220/VCN – outline application for the erection of fifteen dwellings and creation of a new access road on land south-east of Church Bank.

The Parish Council (PC) considered these three interlinked applications as a single item. An application for outline consent for up to fifteen dwellings had been submitted in 2016 and granted in 2019. The present applications were for detailed consent for fifteen dwellings on a **portion** of the original site, and outline and full consent for a further seven on the remainder of the site, a total of twenty-two. Following a long discussion the PC decided to object to the application for fifteen on a smaller site for a range of reasons set out below, and to urge Lancaster City Council to refuse consent for the additional seven dwellings as an infringement of the original outline consent for up to fifteen dwellings on the whole site.

The reasons the PC gave for reaching these decisions were:

- over-development of the site;
- the plans indicate at least two parking spaces per dwelling with a total of forty-five parking spaces on the entire development – the impact of this number of vehicles on surrounding roads, especially the quiet residential street of Greenways, would adversely affect traffic and pedestrian safety; the concept of an environmentally sustainable development in the village was questioned;
- an ecological survey was carried out as part of the 2016 application. According to Natural England requirements this is now out of date and needs to be undertaken again. The survey carried out in the summer of 2020 was deficient and ought to have been accompanied by a survey carried out in the winter months. Insufficient effort had been made to determine the current status of the wildlife in the pond and the area surrounding it. The application also fails to include an environmental management plan;
- the groundwater survey is inadequate and does not meet the guidelines set out in the Lancaster City Council Advisory Notes; it was conducted when water levels would be at their lowest in the summer, not in the winter;
- no evidence was provided of housing need, which will be required for an application to Natural England to grant a licence to support development close to the Dub, a site of wildlife interest.

20/01246/FUL – Erection of nine dwellings with associated access and alterations to land levels on land south-west of Church Bank with access off Nether Kellet Road.

This application is on the lower half of the field below Kirk House Farm, across

Nether Kellet Road from St Cuthbert's Church. In 2019 an application for planning permission in principle for the erection of nine dwellings on the same site was refused by Lancaster City Council on the grounds that the "development would be incongruous within the landscape, poorly related to the existing built form of the settlement and have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the landscape and area in general". The letter of refusal continues: "the proposed development would lead to a level of harm to the setting and significance of two designated heritage assets" (the farm house and particularly the church).

The present application is for detailed consent with full drawings of the three 3-bed, and six 4-bed houses. A thorough heritage and environmental analysis accompanies the application which proposes that a substantial belt of tree planting will shield the view of the houses from the church. The plans also indicate that there is an intention to create a road link between this site and the field at the end of Greenways, which has been purchased by the same developer: Fellside Land Developments Ltd of Yealand Conyers. After a lengthy discussion the PC agreed to a) require that the beck running alongside the development should be safeguarded; b) object to the impact of the development on the landscape and visual amenity, in particular any impact on views towards and from St Cuthbert's Church; and c) express concern at the suggestion to create a link between the two development sites with a road through a belt of trees covered by a preservation order. The PC agreed that the heritage team of the City Council should be urged to scrutinise the proposal thoroughly.

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PARISH COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

20/01379/AD – agricultural determination for the erection of a agricultural storage building at Netherbeck. The PC submitted a response objecting to the application.

[*Editorial Note: during general discussion the PC made the point that residents who wish to submit views on a planning application to the City Council should note that it will accept and consider views submitted after the closing date and up to about ten days before an application is due to go before the City Planning Regulatory Committee. For a table with the dates of meetings and deadlines until January 2022 see <https://committeeadmin.lancaster.gov.uk/mgAgendaManagementTimetable.aspx?RP=315>.]*

The decision of Lancaster City Council was still awaited on the following applications:

19/01575/FUL – erection of a dwelling on land at 2 Hall Garth, Capernwray Road.

20/00405/REM – reserved matters application for the erection of fifty-five dwellings at the rear of Old Hall Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale Road.

20/00811/RCN – removal of planning condition number 4 of planning consent given in 1993 for forty caravans at Old Hall Caravan Park, Capernwray Road, Capernwray.

20/00912/FUL – change of use of agricultural land and buildings to agricultural livestock haulage depot, erection of an agricultural livestock and HGV maintenance

ALAN M. FAWCETT

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building, and retention of an area of hardstanding (part retrospective) on a field at Netherbeck, Carnforth.

20/01025/RCN – use of land as holiday and touring caravan park to allow for all year round occupancy (removal of condition number 2 from planning permission granted in 1993). Old Hall Caravan Park, Capernwary Road, Capernwary.

20/01201/FUL – Change of use of open space to site three static caravans and other works. Castle View Caravan Park, Borwick Road, Capernwary.

Lancaster City Council has decided the following applications:

20/00395/FUL & 20/00396/LB - listed building application and change of use and conversion of redundant agricultural barns to create three 4-bed residential dwellings and other works at Hall Farm Barns, Kellet Road. Application permitted.

20/01179/AD – agricultural determination for the erection of a storage building. Green Pastures, Capernwary Road, Capernwary. Approval not required.

Other planning matters

1 Church Bank central green space

The PC had received a response from Lancaster City Council on the planning status of the open area, saying it had responded that it is “protected as open space through the Local Plan”.

2 Application for new bridleway, Lords Lot Road

Following the PC’s discussions at its November meeting (see *OK View Dec 2020*, page 13) it had received a letter from a resident seeking the support of the PC in favour of the application by the British Horse Society to register the path as a bridleway. The PC agreed that the letter should be submitted to the County Council expressing support for the application and seeking assurance that, if successful, the County Council would maintain the bridleway to a suitable standard.

3 Lancaster City Council Planning Portal

The PC was concerned that on-line access to planning applications had been unavailable since the end of November owing to the site’s security certificate having become out of date. In addition a resident raised concerns that a number of other residents were not able to use on-line services and were at a risk of being ‘disenfranchised’. The PC asked the Clerk to contact City to express concerns about public access to planning information. [*Editor’s Note: the portal was re-instated in mid-December.*]

Potholes on School Lane

Some residents had complained about the state of the lane. It is an unadopted road meaning that County Highways have no duty to keep it in a good state of repair. Two organisations own it: South Lakes Housing and Lancashire County Education Department. The Clerk was asked to contact both owners and County Councillor Williamson to express ‘pressing’ concern about the poor condition of the surface.

Grit bins around the village

The PC stated that it was the responsibility of residents to use the contents of bins to spread on icy areas of village roads (especially Greenways, Church Bank and Kirklands). In keeping with its policy for rural locations the local authority is unable to provide staff to spread grit.

PARISH COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

Cockle Hill: Bay Croft seat

Solicitors acting for the Shuttleworth family, the owners of the field at the top of Cockle Hill, have asked the PC to remove the platform, seat and vista indicator as the field is about to be sold. The PC noted that the seat had been in position for only about four years under a concessionary arrangement. There followed an inconclusive discussion on where the seat could be relocated to enjoy a wide view. [Editor's Note: the platform, seat and vista indicator were removed in the middle of December – see photo.]



Re-instatement of Royal Mail postbox on Kirkby Lonsdale Road

The Clerk was asked to continue pursuing Royal Mail for progress.

Defibrillator

The PC agreed to investigate the provision of a defibrillator in the Capernwray area.

Domestic bonfires

Complaints had been received about the nuisance caused by what appeared to be an increase in domestic bonfires. It is probable that with more people at home, and a number of days of still air, smoke has hung in the air and so been more noticeable. The PC encouraged residents to consider the impact of bonfires on neighbours.

Vandalism on parked vehicles

There had been a spate of minor acts of vandalism overnight on parked vehicles, most frequently involving the theft of front bumper bars. The Police were actively investigating this as the work of a gang from outside the area.

PC Budget for 2021/2022

The Clerk presented estimates for expenditure in 2020/2021 and a draft budget for 2021/2022. It was agreed that there should be no increase in the precept (the PC's share of the Council Tax raised within Over Kellet by Lancaster City Council).

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th February at 7.15pm using Zoom video-conferencing software. Members of the public are very welcome to attend and should contact the Parish Clerk by e-mail clerk@overkelletpc.org to request details of the link and password to join the meeting.

Peter Clinch

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Please contact Peter Clinch (01524 734591) or e-mail overkelletview@gmail.com for further information.

OVER KELLET AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWS

Best wishes for 2021 from the OKDHS Committee.

Because the Society had to cancel so many events last year, we have decided not to charge subscriptions to current members who wish to renew their membership for 2021. Their new cards will be delivered in the next few weeks, as Geoff Jackson, our Membership Secretary, will explain by e-mail shortly. He would appreciate being notified of anyone who does not wish to, or cannot, renew their subscription. Any non-members who would like to (re)join can do so, for the usual sum of £2 per household, by contacting Geoff on 01524 736103 or by e-mail at [<okdhs16@gmail.com>](mailto:okdhs16@gmail.com).

We can't say when 'normal service' will be resumed, but we are still pencilled in for a coach trip to the RHS Flower Show at Harlow Carr in Harrogate on Saturday 26th June. Let's hope that the Show does go ahead so there's something to look forward to then, if not before.

Even when we *are* allowed to hold meetings again, it will be difficult to arrange for speakers and other events at short notice – but we do hope to start our 2021 season off as soon as possible and with a bang in the form of Phil 'n' Sam's Quiz Night. This time there'll be a music round on Buddy Holly, and an award-your-own points singalong. As someone who couldn't sing in tune to save my life, that's 'nul points' for me before we've even started!

We'll keep you informed. Stay safe and enjoy your gardens.

Verity Clinch, Secretary, OKDHS

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SURPRISES ON OUR DOORSTEPS

Sometimes even common birds can surprise and impress us with their actions, and you don't have to go far to find examples. Last year most of us didn't do much travelling but I saw four examples of bird behaviour that interested me, and these were in my own garden.

The collared dove doesn't seem to be an aggressive bird, but last spring I saw a different side to one particular bird. It had a nest in a neighbour's conifer but would frequently come to my feeders and help itself to seeds. The feeders were also visited by a magpie, a more aggressive bird who will add other birds' eggs and baby birds to its menu. One day the magpie was near the feeders and suddenly a grey flash appeared and chased the magpie away. At first I thought it was a sparrowhawk, but after the initial incident it happened many times and the chasing bird was definitely a collared dove. It was bravely keeping a known predator away from its nesting and feeding area.

The crow family is known to be intelligent; a rook, a large-sized member of the family, solved its own problem in my garden. Standing on a perch it had difficulty reaching a certain feeder. Finally it made a lunge and managed to start the feeder swinging. As the feeder came towards it, the rook grabbed some food before the feeder swung away. Then, by keeping the swinging motion going with an occasional peck, the rook enjoyed some well-earned seeds. It repeated the performance on many occasions.

I thought I had a very thirsty female blackbird visiting my pond in the spring. She was returning at regular intervals always to the same corner where the water was shallower and often in the sun. Further investigation revealed that the blackbird was actually helping herself to tadpoles which were congregating en-masse in this part of the pond. No doubt she had a nestful of youngsters who were enjoying a change from a diet of worms and grubs.

The coal tit appears to be very fond of sunflower hearts but, as well as eating them, it also plants them, taking them from my feeders and depositing them in many





Blackbird

places throughout the garden, and in fact also around Over Kellet. I counted approximately forty sunflowers seedlings in the pots and troughs in my garden. There were also a fair number in nooks and crannies round the village. Rather impressively, there was one growing out of the chimney stack at the Eagles Head. I assume the coal tit is planting them with the intention of retrieving and eating them at a later date. Possibly, but not very likely, the bird is planting for the future, and hoping the seeds will grow into mature plants with big seed heads!

February is nearly here and signs of spring are everywhere. Perhaps we'll be able to travel further afield this year, but whatever happens the natural world is full of surprises even on our own doorsteps.

Margaret Mosey

PAUL MCLACHLAN

OWNER

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VILLAGE LISTINGS FOR FEBRUARY (AS AT 16TH JANUARY)

(CHURCH SERVICES: SEE PAGE 4)

Mobile Library	Thursday 11 th	13.30 13.55 14.20 15.15	The Green 47 Greenways 4 Winder Garth Church Bank
Parish Council	Tuesday 9 th via Zoom video-conference (see page 14 for details of how to join)	19.15	OKVH
Playgroup 2-4 Years	Monday to Friday Except week beginning 15 th	08.30	OKVH



REFUSE COLLECTION FEBRUARY
Grey Bin: 1st & 15th
Green Bin & Recycling Boxes: 8th & 22nd



SUPPORT OK (OVER KELLET COVID-19 SUPPORT TEAM)

It was perhaps tempting fate in the September *OK View* to say we no longer needed a specific 'COVID-19 Support Group' and we were changing the name to simply 'Support OK', but whatever its name our band of willing volunteers have swung back into action during the current 'lockdown' to assist with shopping, prescription collection, or just someone to talk to. In most cases we are also able to assist with providing a lift to the doctors' surgery or for a COVID-19 vaccination. Sadly on occasions we have had to say 'sorry, but we can't' if the person is unable to get into an ordinary car without specialist help or equipment. Our volunteers are all very willing but they are generally untrained at the correct handling of those with mobility problems and in these cases we ask that specialist transport be sought.

The group is operating in the same way as previously, with anyone wanting to make use of its services contacting one of us by telephone or e-mail and we will then contact a volunteer to carry out what has been asked for. It will of course be open to the volunteer, for whatever reason, to decline this request in which case another volunteer will be contacted. If you would like to be involved as a volunteer but are not already on our register of volunteers, please contact one of us. Stay safe!

**Graham Agnew (733407), Lesley Gee (733240), Jane & Nick Ward (733947),
Paul Bond (team@okplan.co.uk)**

Wanted - Editor

Over Kellet View requires an Editor to take overall responsibility for the production of the magazine from January 2022. Once COVID restrictions are lifted it would be best for anyone interested to shadow the present team to gain on-the-job training and experience.

For more information contact Peter Clinch (phone 734591) or e-mail overkelletview@gmail.com

KELLET ROAD DISRUPTION

During December Electricity North-West began excavating the verge of Kellet Road close to the village, to lay a high-voltage supply into the new Porsche garage development off the A601(M). The usual smooth flow of traffic was disrupted by two-way then, as the work approached the junction with the A601(M), three-way and finally four-way temporary traffic signals. According to Lancashire County Council's Roadworks Bulletin website <http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/roadworks/bulletin.aspx?district=Lancaster> the work is due to be completed by 5th February. The verge is maintained by County Highways and it is hoped that efforts will be made to repair the damage to the wild flower population.

Peter Clinch

COVER PICTURES

We are always looking for photographs to feature on our front cover. Photographs of local activities, scenes, flora or wildlife are especially welcome and all will be credited in the magazine. Portrait format is preferred if possible. Please send your pictures to us at overkelletview@gmail.com



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A MESSAGE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHILLIPPA WILLIAMSON

This is a round-up of news related to the pandemic and details on the availability of some County Council services.

Household Waste Recycling Centres - Our local site at Carnforth continues to be open from Thursday to Monday between 9am and 5pm. Private cars will continue to be allowed access to the recycling centres without an appointment. Drivers of vans, hire vans, and trailers (including single axle trailers) must have an appointment and can book via the website at www.lancashire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/book-appointment/ or by phoning 0300 123 6781 (the telephone booking system is available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm only).



Libraries - These are now operating reduced opening hours and limited services in line with the government guidance. The libraries are open for essential computer use, photocopying, printing, at-the-door collection of book reservations and Six of the Best selections, with measures in place to help prevent the spread of coronavirus. Unfortunately, you are not able to come into a library to choose your own book or browse. But if you only want to return books, you can drop them into a returned-books container during the revised library opening hours, without an appointment or entering the library building. All books now on loan are being renewed to Thursday 1st April. Any fines incurred will be waived so please do not feel obliged to make an unnecessary visit to the library to return them. If you have any queries, please e-mail: library.online@lancashire.gov.uk.

The 'digital library at home' is also still available, full of brilliant reading, learning and information resources for everyone. You will need your library card number, PIN, and an e-mail address to use some of them. Full information is at www.lancashire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/libraries-archives-and-museums/.

COVID vaccination roll-out - Currently there are thirty-two vaccination sites at GP surgeries across Lancashire and south Cumbria and six hospital hub sites in Lancashire, including at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary. A number of larger-scale vaccination centres will come on-stream over the next few weeks. For the latest locations where COVID-19 vaccinations are available and for updates on the vaccination programme visit: <https://healthierlsc.co.uk/CovidVaccinationCOVID>.

Vaccination Scam Warning - Sadly, some people have received suspicious calls and text messages offering the COVID-19 vaccination. It is worth repeating that the vaccine is only available on the NHS to people in priority groups, and the NHS will contact you when it is your turn. You will never be asked to press a button on your keypad or send a text to confirm you want the vaccine, and never be asked for payment or for your bank details. Also, at the moment the NHS is not making house calls to deliver or discuss the vaccine. Anyone offering this now is committing a crime. If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, just hang up and report this

directly to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040. For more information visit: www.actionfraud.police.uk/vaccine

Education and Childcare - All early years' providers, nurseries, childminders and nannies are able to operate; in addition, parents can form a childcare bubble with one other household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is under fourteen years of age. In addition, some households will also be able to benefit from being in a support bubble.

Primary, Secondary and Special Schools - These are now open to children of critical workers (previously called key workers) and for vulnerable children. The definitions of critical workers and vulnerable children have been extended and parents should show an ID card or a wage slip to prove they meet these criteria.

Access to Technology and Mobile Data - The government has committed to providing over one million IT devices to help schools and colleges throughout the pandemic and support home learning. Support is also available so families without internet access can use the 4G mobile network, with schools able to request free mobile data packages to help children get on-line. Schools can also request free mobile data uplifts for disadvantaged families. The providers supporting the offer include Three, EE, Sky Mobile, Vodaphone, Tesco Mobile, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, and O2. In addition, the government is working with these operators to provide access to educational sites.

Free School Meals - Schools are providing food parcels or meals to eligible students who are accessing learning remotely. The national voucher scheme is also available so, if a school cannot offer food parcels or an alternative local solution, every eligible child can access free school meals while learning at home.

Coronavirus Testing in Schools and Colleges - A rapid testing programme for secondary schools and colleges is continuing for people [on site](#). Early Years settings and Primary staff will shortly also be included in this programme.

Exams - You will be aware that students will not be asked to sit GCSE, AS and A-level exams this summer. The Education Secretary expects Ofqual to consider a teacher-assessed system as a replacement for GCSEs, AS and A-levels. A rapid consultation will be launched in mid-January involving schools, colleges, and students to give them an opportunity to have their say.

Get the Data and Help - Every week the County Council publishes the latest COVID-19 data for Lancashire at www.lancashire.gov.uk/covidweekly. There is plenty of support and advice at www.lancashire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/financial-help/ and at www.lancaster.gov.uk/sites/coronavirus-information.

Become a #LancsCareHero - The County Council urgently needs to recruit more paid care-workers. The roles include supporting older people or other adults with disabilities in residential care or supported living, as well as roles as catering or cleaning staff, driver attendants and passenger assistants. If you have recently left a role in the care sector, have previous experience in a care setting, or even if you don't have any experience at all but want to help out, get in touch (training will be provided where necessary). More information on the roles on offer and how to apply is at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/jobs/carers/.

Highways - The County Council is responsible for over 4,300 miles of roads, of which around 1,800 miles are part of Lancashire's 'Priority Road Network' for salting

COUNCILLOR PHILLIPPA WILLIAMSON (CONTINUED)

and snow clearing. County Highways cannot grit every road in Lancashire; even if they had the resources needed, they couldn't grit them quickly enough to make a real difference. No Council does this. Despite best efforts, winter weather can still make roads treacherous and there is no guarantee that roads will always be completely free of ice and snow, so we all need to take extra care. But you can keep up to date in several ways:

Latest gritting updates: www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter/gritting/updates

Highways England latest traffic updates at: www.trafficengland.com

Follow #LancsWinter on twitter

And remember, you can let Highways know if your grit bin is running low or you want to request a new bin at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter/gritting/grit-bins or if you spot a pothole at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/pothole.

Policing – In December there were seven incidents reported to the Police within the Lancaster Rural North area. Of these, two were reports of suspected COVID regulation breaches and two were hoax calls. No crimes were recorded (as at the end of December), which of course is excellent news.

Fostering

You can be single and foster; you don't need to be a home owner to foster; you don't need to have any qualifications to foster. The County Council wants to appeal to people whose circumstances have changed due to the pandemic and who may be looking for a new and rewarding challenge and also to people who have considered fostering in the past, but maybe the time wasn't right for them to progress. Please get in touch via www.lancashire.gov.uk/fostering/can-i-foster/, which helps prospective foster carers understand whether they are likely to be eligible to foster, or use the fostering enquiry line 0300 123 6723.

Countryside Code - Natural England has a statutory duty to produce and promote the Countryside Code to guide people visiting the countryside. It is now planning to update both the short and full versions of the Code with the aim for them to be ready to welcome people back into the countryside in Spring 2021. Any changes will be based on the views of a range of interested parties, and the general public via an on-line survey which takes about 25 minutes to complete and is at: defragroup.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9sosQ0YlnPyfv3T.

Lancaster Railway Station - Work to refurbish the Grade II listed footbridge which links platforms three to six has begun as part of a £1.3m Great North Rail investment project. In addition to making sure the bridge remains safe and reliable, the work will also improve its appearance both inside and out. The work runs to the end of August 2021 and has been planned to keep trains running and passengers on the move, whilst following COVID safety advice.

I hope you found this update interesting and helpful. Please get in touch (contact details on the outside back cover of *OK View*) if you would like to know more about any of the items covered in this update or you would like to receive a copy directly.

County Councillor Philippa Williamson

B4RN CONTINUES TO GROW IN STRENGTH

It is four years since the first digging took place to bring the main B4RN ducting into the village. It is now more important than ever to have a reliable broadband connection with so much going on-line, people working from home and households using multiple devices at the same time. B4RN provides higher speed, unlimited internet use and there is no drop-off or slowing down when using multiple devices.

Although our wonderful band of volunteers have not been gathering to extend the network in Over Kellet, there has been some work undertaken by individuals to connect additional properties where occupiers have requested a B4RN connection after hearing positive reports from neighbours. Ducting has been left at the boundary of the majority of houses in the village, meaning that they can be connected quite easily to the network

with a small amount of digging through gardens. B4RN brings hyperfast fibre broadband directly into your house, not just to the nearest distribution cabinet.

During January you may have seen contractors completing a crossing over The Ginnel which will enable properties in the triangle around the shop to connect to B4RN. The ducting to individual properties was already in place ready for this work to be completed.

82.5% of properties in the village now have the opportunity to connect to the B4RN network and, of these, 38.3% already have a live connection. The monthly cost is £30, with no hidden extras should there be a break in service or an issue with the router. Subscribers in the village have not experienced any breaks in service over the last twelve months but, in the unlikely event of a problem, it should be solved within twenty-four hours and often much faster. There is always someone on call at B4RN to deal with any problems.

Normally we would have held our AGM in January but under the circumstances this has been postponed until conditions improve; there are certainly no urgent decisions to be taken.

If you require further information about a B4RN connection you can visit the website at www.b4rn.org.uk, or our Facebook page: B4RN OK. Do not hesitate to e-mail: lesleygee54@gmail.com or nkdw01@gmail.com if you have any concerns.



Lesley Gee & Nick Ward

LOCAL CITIZENS ADVICE NEWS

Dealing with Debt when You are on Furlough, Unemployed or Redundant



New research by Citizens Advice has found that the equivalent of seven million people – about 14% of the population or one in seven – have fallen behind with payments on essential bills including energy, water, mobile phone, broadband, council tax, rent or mortgage payments. Sixty percent of those surveyed with children under eighteen years old reported having already cut down on any regular or non-essential spending to ensure their children don't go without. The pandemic has caused many people who thought their incomes and livelihoods were secure to be facing a significant drop in income as a result of being furloughed, or made unemployed or redundant. Help is at hand either through the national Citizens Advice website or by phone or e-mail (details at the end of this article). February is always the busiest time of year at Citizens Advice for requests for help to deal with debt problems, as bills from Christmas spending become due for payment. But, first, make sure you are maximising your income.

1 Make sure you are receiving your entitlements to furlough support, redundancy pay and/or benefits

1.1 Furlough

If your employer is able to use the Government's Coronavirus Retention Scheme to pay you while you are not working you'll be paid 80% of your normal pay up to a maximum of £2,500 a month. This will continue until the end of April 2021. Conditions as to who is eligible are set out at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/work/coronavirus-being-furloughed-if-you-cant-work/. On the same page you will find details of many other issues including how your furlough pay should have been calculated; what to do if it is not being paid to you; what to do if you have been made redundant while receiving furlough pay; and the legality of your employer asking you to work while you are receiving furlough pay.

1.2 Unemployment

If you are unemployed then the key benefit to claim is Universal Credit. There are conditions as to who is eligible to receive it and it has to be claimed on-line, although there are a limited number of circumstances when an alternative route to registration is accepted. Before you attempt to apply you need to have some basic information beside you to ensure the process runs smoothly, see the checklist at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/Documents/Advice%20\(public\)/beta/UC-checklist-applying.pdf](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/Documents/Advice%20(public)/beta/UC-checklist-applying.pdf). A lot of information about the benefit is available at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/universal-credit/ and, in addition, the North Lancashire Citizens Advice unit has specially trained staff dedicated to assisting you over the phone with a Universal Credit claim – contact them using either the phone or e-mail details at the end of this article. If you wish to 'go-it-alone' then the Government website through which to apply is at www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit.

1.3 Redundancy

There are rules surrounding how an employer should select employees for redundancy, the period of notice required, and the amount of redundancy pay to be awarded, set out at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/work/leaving-a-job/redundancy/check

[-if-your-redundancy-is-fair/](#). If you need help understanding how the rules apply to your situation contact Citizens Advice.

1.4 How to check which benefits you are entitled to

There is Government help that has been made available directly as a result of the pandemic. You can read about it and follow the links at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/coronavirus-check-what-benefits-you-can-get/. There are also several free-to-use benefits calculators that check which benefits you are entitled to. You'll need to provide information about savings, income, pension, childcare payments and any existing benefits received (for you and your partner). Details of the three on-line services (which are registered charities and unconnected with any Government Department), and the types of personal circumstances each can deal with best, are given at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/benefits-introduction/what-benefits-can-i-get/. Alternatively, if you do not have access to the internet or are not confident using the calculators, contact Citizens Advice for help.

2 Dealing with debt

If you cannot pay your bills because of the impact of the pandemic on your household, introductory guidance and information on sources of help and advice are at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/if-you-cant-pay-your-bills-because-of-coronavirus/. Set out briefly below are some of the practical steps you can take.

2.1 Contact your creditors

The people to whom you owe money are your creditors. Contact them to see if they will agree to a change in the terms of your debt, such as reducing the amount or frequency of the payments you make for a limited period of time - or even agreeing a payment 'holiday' for a month or two if your circumstances are particularly acute. It is always best to take the initiative and approach your creditors at the earliest opportunity rather than to ignore any warning letters you receive.

When you contact your creditors ask them to: a) confirm all the details of your debt; b) stop chasing the debt while you sort out how you are going to deal with the situation; and c) stop charging interest or penalty charges to prevent the debt getting larger. It is usually better to put this in a letter sent by signed-for delivery so you can check that it has been received. Keep a copy of the letter and the Post Office receipt for yourself (to show what the letter contained and provide the means of confirming its delivery). Alternatively, send an e-mail. These methods of communication require your creditors to reply by the same means and so ensure you have a record of what they say. Phoning a firm means you may only be

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LOCAL CITIZENS ADVICE NEWS (CONTINUED)

speaking to a call-centre operator and not someone with authority, and you will not have a record or proof of what was agreed. On the Citizens Advice website www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/sample-letters-to-creditors/Holding-letter/ there is a template letter where you can add the details of your particular debt; the software will then create an appropriately worded letter for you.

2.2 Make a list of your debts

It is surprising how many people who contact Citizens Advice wanting help to deal with debt have no clear idea of how much they owe and to whom. Make a list with the name of every person or organisation to whom you owe money and how much you owe them. Providing us with other details such as what the agreed repayment terms were (how much a month and for how many months), the reference number for your account (usually at the top of the account statement), and when you first missed a payment will enable us to assist you more speedily. Remember to include any sums owed to the Government, such as unpaid income tax and repayment of overpaid benefits.

2.3 Identify what type of debts you have: priority or non-priority

Debts are categorised into priority and non-priority debts.

Priority debts include arrears relating to: rent or mortgage; secured loans; council tax; gas or electricity; phone or internet bills; TV licence; court fines; overpayments of tax credits; payment for goods bought on hire purchase or conditional sale; unpaid income tax, National Insurance or VAT; unpaid child maintenance or child support. They are called priority debts because non-payment can lead to serious consequences such as losing your home, having energy to your home cut off, or facing court action leading to a custodial sentence (imprisonment). If you are struggling to deal with priority debts, or have more than one priority debt and need help deciding which to deal with first, contact Citizens Advice without delay.

Non-priority debts include: credit-card or store-card debts; catalogue debts; unpaid water bills (your creditor cannot cut off your water supply); and unpaid car-parking tickets. Whilst the consequences of having these debts are less severe than for priority debts, the creditors can take you to court to obtain a County Court Judgement (CCJ) setting out what you need to pay and by what date. The CCJ will be registered with credit-reference agencies and it will appear on your file. This will considerably reduce your credit rating and make obtaining credit in future much more difficult. If you have non-priority debts Citizens Advice can help you negotiate



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with your creditor(s) and, if you contact us in time, possibly avoid them obtaining a CCJ against you.

2.4 Make a list of your income

How much income do you have and from what source (job, benefits, pension)?

2.5 Make a list of your outgoings

What do you spend each month on necessities (such as food, rent/mortgage, water, energy, council tax, travel) and non-essentials?

How Citizens Advice can help

We will use the information on your income and expenditure to draw up a financial statement. The figures need to be accurate and comprehensive since they will be presented to your creditor(s) as the first step to negotiating revised terms for the debt(s). We will also search credit-reference agencies to ensure your list of debts is complete, and check the information you have provided against the data they hold.

It cannot be emphasised too strongly: get advice early.

More information and help can be found on our national website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/

North Lancashire Citizens Advice

We are still able to offer e-mail advice via enquiries@northlancashirecab.org.uk. To speak to an adviser use the Adviceline Service 0800 144 8848 (Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm). Our national self-help website is at www.citizensadvice.org.uk

The image shows two business cards side-by-side. The left card is for Butler Interiors, featuring a red and white logo and contact information for two showrooms. The right card is for Choice Caterers, decorated with a floral border and listing contact details for Bev Carling.

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www.butlerinteriors.co.uk	

JILL CLAPP

On 18th December Jill collapsed and died suddenly while walking around the village, something she enjoyed greatly. She was eighty-nine years old and the widow of the artist and sculptor Roy Clapp, who died in 2009. They met at Bristol Art School and married in 1951, coming to Over Kellet ten years later. They had four children, Helen, George, Jim and Theo.

Roy's work was not widely known outside the village for he rarely parted with the drawings and sculptures which adorned their house and garden. After his death Jill compiled a biography, 'The Life and Art of Roy Clapp: A Reminiscence', to bring his work to wider attention. This was published by the Marius Press in 2014.

We offer our condolences to Jill's three surviving children, her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends.

Peter Clinch

(Compiled from information in the OK View archive and Lancaster Guardian)

VILLAGE WEBSITE

Past and current issues of the Over Kellet View, including photographs in full colour, are available for download from the Village website at www.overkellet.org

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WEATHER REVIEW FOR 2020

Last year may have been one you wish to forget; but it actually gave us some memorable weather. It included some record wet, record dry and record sunny weather. We had spells of hot weather and the year overall was warmer than average, but this masked a very cool July and record wet summer with little sunshine. In this article I'm taking you through the year and also reflect on the trends I'm starting to see in the weather data I've been recording continuously in the village since 1997, over twenty-three years ago.

January's average temperature was 1.8°C above average and the second warmest I have recorded. There were just three nights of frost and, at 12.7°C, 7th was the third warmest January day in the last twenty-three years.

The first week of February was mild but otherwise unremarkable. The arrival of Storm Ciara on 8th marked the beginning of one of the wettest periods I have ever recorded, with 367mm of rain collected over the next six weeks (30% of what we normally receive in a whole year). This period included two other named storms, Dennis and Jorge, with periods of very heavy rain and frequent gales. February rainfall was a record for the month, and the first month I have recorded with over three times the average rainfall. Average temperatures were 1°C above normal.

From 19th March the weather changed completely. Over the next forty days just 6mm of rain fell – the least I have ever recorded over a period of this length. With clear skies and sunshine from dawn until dusk we had some unseasonably warm days.

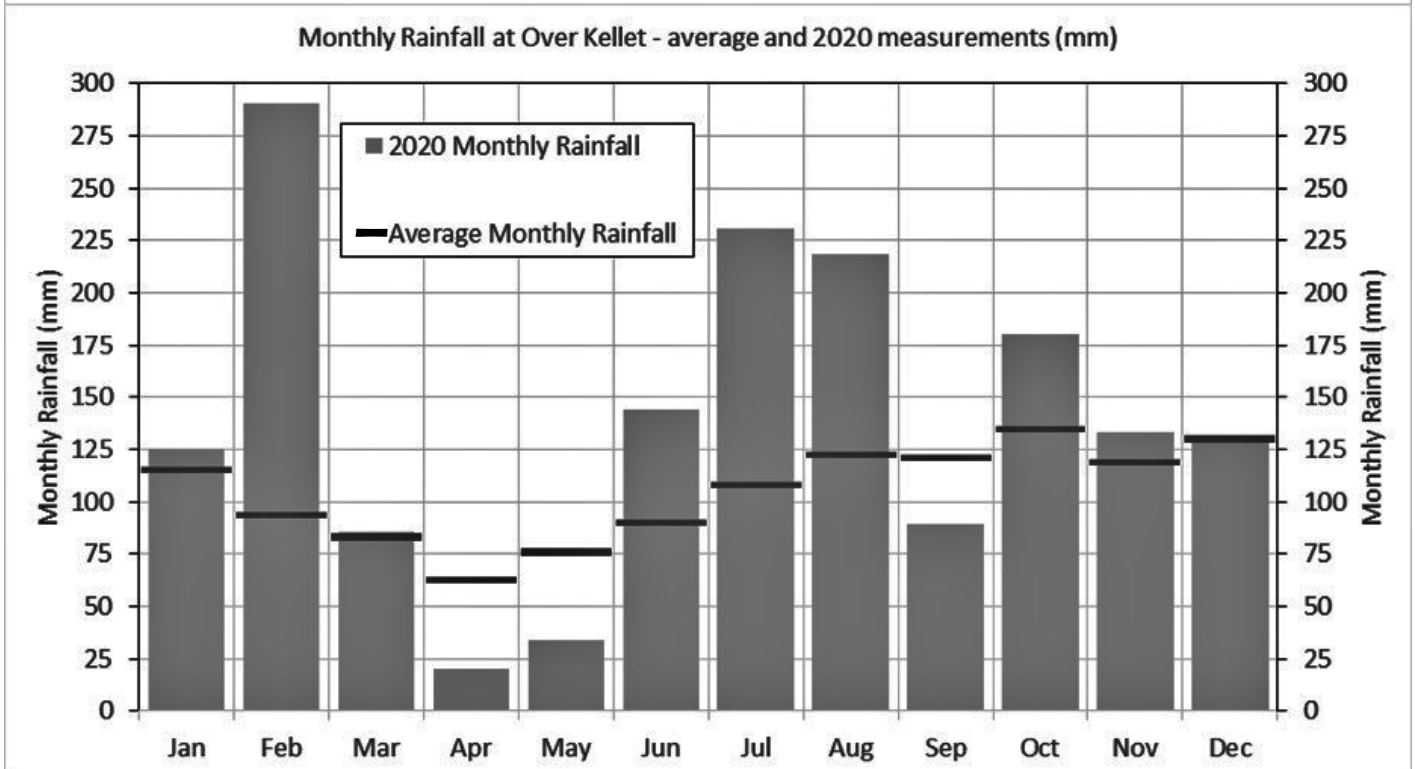
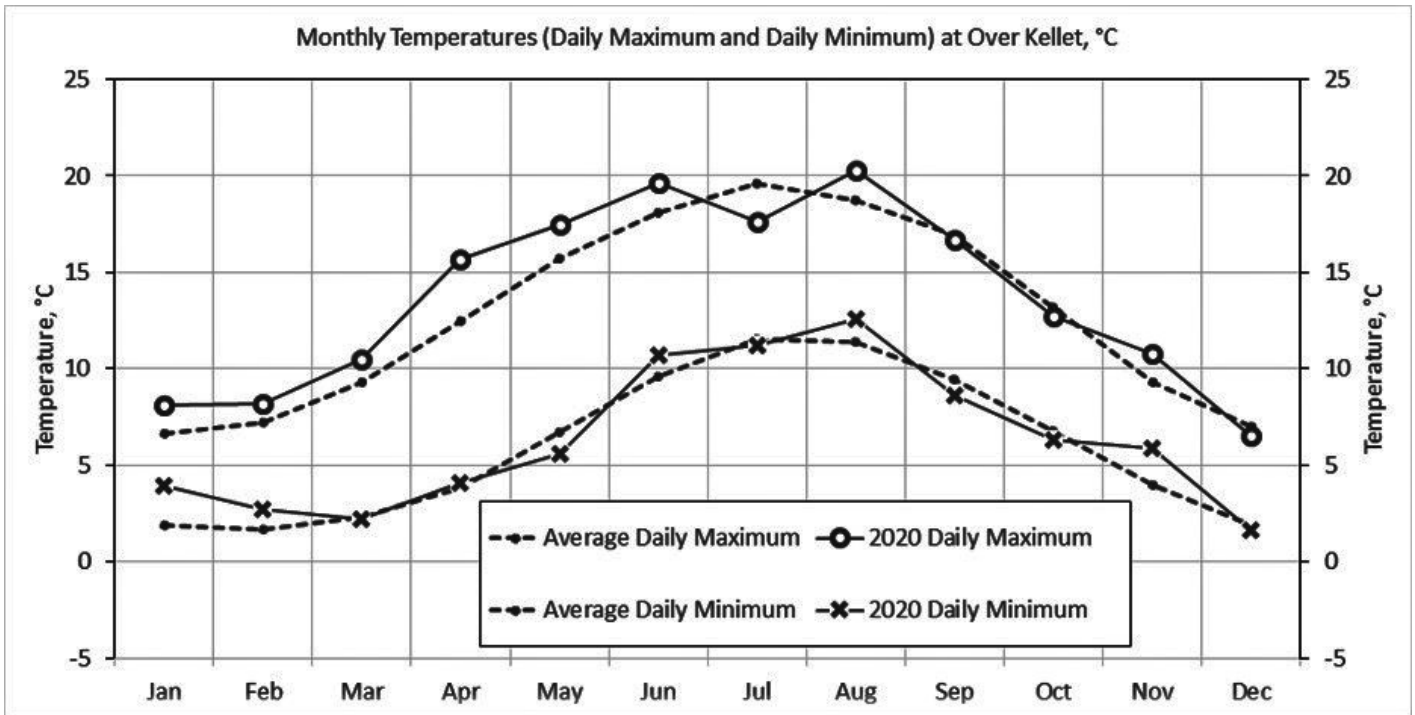
Average maximum temperatures during April were 3.2°C above normal, a record for the month. One week after Easter, from 19th to 25th April, was like mid-summer with an average maximum temperature of 19.8°C and over eleven hours of sunshine every day.

May continued dry and sunny, with daily maximum temperatures well above normal, except for the middle week which was cool and gave the last frost of the season on 14th May. A heatwave from 27th May to 2nd June brought average daily maximum temperatures of 24.6°C, some 7°C above average. Lancaster University data ranked 2020 as having the sunniest spring (March, April and May) in the last fifty years.

The summer delivered heatwaves in the second half of June and the first half of August, but much of July was cool with little by way of bright sunshine. The week from 28th June to 4th July was the wettest week I have recorded in twenty-three years, with 142mm of rain, yet in the middle of this week a brief but intense heatwave gave us our warmest day of the year with 30.2°C.

Spectacular lightning was seen overnight on 10th/11th August with a heavy thundery downpour. Total rainfall for the summer (June, July and August) was by far the greatest amount I have recorded, at 594mm – nearly double the average for the season. New monthly rainfall records were set in both July and August.

There were a handful of welcome warm dry days in September, notably 15th with a maximum of 25.9°C, but also some cold days such as 24th, which only struggled up to a high of 10.4°C. Overall the month had near average weather for the time of year.



Storm Alex on 3rd and 4th October gave wild conditions across the UK and much of western Europe. The Met Office calculated that 3rd October was the wettest day ever recorded in the UK, with 7.7 cubic kilometres of rain falling in twenty-four hours.

Late October through to mid-November was yet another very wet period, but the second half of November was fortunately much drier. November was unusually mild and the first frost of the winter wasn't recorded until 28th.

December was generally unsettled with some rain on nearly every day until Christmas Eve. The year ended with frost and temperatures down to -5.7°C on 30th, and with light snowfall on New Year's Eve.

Despite the record dry spell in the spring, the year as a whole was by far the wettest of the last twenty-three with 1681mm of rain – the average is 1240mm. This

WEATHER REVIEW (CONTINUED)

included seven days with over 35mm of rainfall; normally we would get just two such days per year. Average daily maximum and minimum temperatures were 0.9°C and 0.4°C above average respectively, but with wide variations during the year. The graphs show the monthly rainfall and temperature figures for 2020.

Global satellite observations clearly show a warming of the atmosphere and oceans over recent decades, due to increasing carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere. On a local level, the effects of climate change vary greatly from one place to another. In the south-east of the UK, summer heat waves and drought are likely to become more common. In the north-west of England the principal effect is to see more frequent spells of heavy rain caused by increased evaporation from the Atlantic bringing moisture-laden clouds to the west of the UK. These changes can now be seen in Over Kellet's weather. Average annual rainfall over the last six years is 16% higher than that over the previous 17 years, with summer rainfall showing the largest increase. These six years have given us two thirds of the wettest months I have recorded (those with over double the average rainfall). The same six-year period includes the wettest week (July 2020), the wettest fortnight (October 2019), and the wettest four-week period (December 2015) on record.

Other types of extreme weather are also expected to become more common. Perhaps the record dry sunny spell last spring and the violence of Storm Alex in October were an indication of what we can expect in the future.

Martin Lord

ADVERTISE IN THE OVER KELLET VIEW WITHOUT CHARGE

Most advertisements in the magazine are paid for. We do however have an occasional section called 'To A Good Home'. This is for residents who wish to dispose of items which they no longer want but which are of possible use to others. These entries are free (provided, of course, that the transaction is itself without charge).

We also, at the editors' discretion and subject to availability of space, accept without cost advertisements entirely for charitable purposes.



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200 CLUB

The money raised by the 200 Club helps towards paying the production costs of *OK View*. It entered a new year with the January draw; annual subscriptions (£6 per number per year) are now due. Our thanks go to the various voluntary collectors who by now should have contacted you to collect your subscription. Sometimes individual numbers become available so, if you do not subscribe and wish to, please send an e-mail to overkelleview@gmail.com. Please help to keep your village magazine going. Thank you!

Lesley Gee

THE 200 CLUB

The result of the draw for November was:

- 1st (£25) Mrs G McIlmurray (176)
- 2nd (£15) Finn Harris (62)
- 3rd (£10) Dr A Lloyd-Williams (111)

The result of the draw for December was:

- 1st (£25) Mrs T Burns (199)
- 2nd (£15) Mrs A Cullinan (115)
- 3rd (£10) Mrs M Mosey (165)

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Tree Care and Forestry, Pruning, Thinning and Reductions, Hedging Work

OK VIEW - 10 YEARS AGO (FEBRUARY 2011)

The winter weather crops up in a number of reports and the cover photo shows a view along a snowy footpath between field hedges. Cloud Watcher's weather observations had been hampered in December by his rain gauges freezing and filling with snow. He reported that the village had basked in twenty-five hours more sunshine than the average during the month but "there was a price to pay for the sunny days (over six hours on some) the night-time temperatures fell to new record lows. On 3rd December the local temperature fell to -9.5 C (14.9 F)". The Arctic conditions were short-lived for, in his report for January 2011 printed in the March issue, he reported that the first month of 2011 was snow-free and "close to the average" in rainfall and sunshine.

The Parish Council had received a 'snow code' from central Government and, although the anonymous reporter noted that the PC felt "much of it seemed rather obvious", it was to be posted on noticeboards and a page of the magazine was given over to reprinting it.

Bob Escolme wrote about the packet boats which plied the Lancaster Canal from 1833 to the late 1840s. They carried passengers, not freight, and were pulled at a cruising speed of ten miles per hour by horses which were changed every five miles. The journey time between Preston and Kendal was seven hours. Food was provided on board by a steward; only the first class passengers had a seat in the cabin, the others sat outside in all weathers. As the competing railway service improved and became cheaper it sounded the death-knell for the packet boats. I guess few of us would fancy a journey over several hours in the open air during winter, with the prospect that on days of severe weather the canal could be covered in ice and difficult to negotiate.

Peter Clinch



A frosty afternoon view looking NW over Kirk House and St. Cuthbert's. Photo: Paul Budd

LOCAL SERVICES

Please note that the 'normal' opening times listed here may be subject to change during the COVID-19 emergency. You are advised to check before visiting.

OVER KELLET

Village Store and Post Office, Craig & Tracy Burns, The Green, LA6 1BU 733207
M-F 7.00-17.45 (PO 9.00-17.30); Sa 7.00-13.00 (PO 9.00-12.30); last postal collection: M-F 16.45, Sa 11.00

The Eagles Head Pub, Gary & Helena Torch, Nether Kellet Road, LA6 1DL 732457
M-F 11.30-14.30, 17.00-24.00; Sa, Su 11.30-24.00

CARNFORTH

Health: **Ashtrees**, Market Street, LA5 9JU
Pharmacy M-F 7-23.00; Sa 8-18.30; Su 8-18.00 727877

Surgery M 8.30-19.30; Tu 8-18.30; W, Th 7.30-18.30; F 8-18.30 720000

Boots Pharmacy, 24 Market Street, LA5 9JX M-Th 8.30-18.00; F 8.30-17.30; Sa 9-17.00 732955

NHS Out of Hours Service 111

Park View Surgery, 21 New Street, LA5 9BX M-F 8-16.45 01539 715555

Well Pharmacy, 9 Market Street, LA5 9JX M-F 8.30-17.30 732712

Dentists: **Anne King**, 46 Market Street, LA5 9LB M, Tu, W 8.30-17.00; Th 8.30-17.15; F 8.30-16.30 (closed daily for lunch 12.45-13.45) 733867

Viva Dental, 29A Market Street, LA5 9JX M 9-17.30; Tu, W, Th 8.30-18.30; F 8.45-16.30 735431

Opticians: **Butterfields**, 46c Market Street, LA5 9LB M-F 9-17.30; Sa 9-14.00 732724

Philip Jones, 15 Market Street, LA5 9JX M-F 9-17.30; Sa 9-17.00 730055

Vets: **Alison Lee**, 2 Queen Street, LA5 9EB M-F 9-19.00; Sa 10-13.00; 24-hour emergency service 735249

Burch Tree Vets, 39 Lancaster Road, LA5 9LD M-F 8.30-19.00; Sa 8.30-12; emergency clinic Su 10-12; 24-hour emergency service 720002

Library: Lancaster Road, LA5 9DZ Su & M, Closed; Tu, 9.00-19.00; W & Sa, 9.00 -13.00; Th & F, 9.00-17.00 0300 123 6703

STAGECOACH ROUTE 49 BUS TIMETABLE (at time of going to press)

	M-Fri	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	Sat	M-Sat
Warton, Croftlands	07.20	09.20	10.20	11.20	12.20	13.20	14.20	15.20	17.05
Carnforth, Market St	07.28	09.28	10.28	11.28	12.28	13.28	14.28	15.28	17.13
Over Kellet	07.36	09.36	10.36	11.36	12.36	13.36	14.36	15.36	17.21
Nether Kellet	07.42	09.42	10.42	11.36	12.42	13.42	14.42	15.42	17.27
Halton	07.52	09.52	10.52	11.52	12.52	13.52	14.52	15.52	17.37
Lancaster	08.10	10.10	11.10	12.10	13.10	14.10	15.10	16.10	17.55
	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat	Sat	M-Sat	M-Sat
Lancaster	09.30	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30	16.15	17.15
Halton	09.47	10.47	11.47	12.47	13.47	14.47	15.47	16.32	17.32
Nether Kellet	09.57	10.57	11.57	12.57	13.57	14.57	15.57	16.42	17.42
Over Kellet	10.03	11.03	12.03	13.03	14.03	15.03	16.03	16.48	17.48
Carnforth, Haws Hill	10.12	11.12	12.12	13.12	14.12	15.12	16.12	16.57	17.57
Warton, Croftlands	10.20	11.20	12.20	13.20	14.20	15.20	16.20	17.05	18.05

Kirkby Lonsdale Coaches Route 490, M-Sat:

Carnforth, Market St, 20.28; Over Kellet 20.36; Nether Kellet 20.42; Halton 20.52; Lancaster 21.10

OVER KELLET DIRECTORY

LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES

COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor Philippa Williamson 221788
 Denny Bank, Arkholme, Carnforth LA6 1AX
Philippa.Williamson@lancashire.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCIL

(Currently Vacant)

PARISH COUNCIL

Meet at 7.15pm on second Tuesday of month

<i>Chairman</i>	Graham Agnew	733407
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Stephen Atkins	720605
	Derek Johnson	733804
	Martin May	881256
	Jean Metcalfe	07795 482403
<i>Clerk</i>	Derek Whiteway	07805 260976

clerk@overkelletpc.org

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Police Station, Lancaster 101
 PCSO Paul Shepherd
Paul.Shepherd@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

PC Rob Barnsley, Community Beat Manager
3573@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Co-ordinator Jane Ward 733947

Area Co-ordinators:

Central	Malcolm McIlmurray	732921
Kirklands	Tony Wells	733848
Western	Bev Carling	736393
Eastern	Sandra Klijn-Passant	884331
Far Eastern	Jane Ward	733947
Northern	(Currently Vacant)	
Southern	Alison Harper	734372
Northeast	(Currently Vacant)	
Capernwray	Derek Burnside	07905 449636

QUARRIES

Liason Officer Graham Agnew 733407
 Leapers Wood Quarry 07483 357834
 Back Lane Quarry 738888

FOOTPATHS AND TREE OFFICER

(Currently Vacant)

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

Mike Ashton - contact Cllr Metcalfe or the Parish Clerk

THOMAS WITHERS CHARITY

Secretary David Mills 732194

St CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

<i>Vicar</i>	Rev Paul Boulter	770300
<i>Secretary</i>	John Halsey	732972
<i>Church Warden</i>	Penny Burnside	884962
<i>Church Warden</i>	Linda Thomas	720628

VILLAGE SCHOOL

Headteacher Jo Williams 732097

VILLAGE HALL

<i>Chairman</i>	Peter Thomas	298979
<i>Secretary</i>	Liz Moody	733877
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Gooch	
<i>Bookings Sec.</i>	Lesley Gee	733240
<i>Maintenance</i>	Roger Cowling	733088

VILLAGE ACTIVITY REPRESENTATIVES

Badminton Jane Storer 734265

Bowls Lindsay Angus 734964

Keep Active Lesley Gee 733240

OK & District Horticultural Society

<i>Chairman</i>	(Currently Vacant)	
<i>Secretary</i>	Verity Clinch	734591
<i>Treasurers</i>	Marilyn Whinfield	07753 435792
	Pat Woolstencroft	733965

Playgroup Lynsey Winder 730904

Short Tennis Joan Shaw 736503

Twinning Assn Liz Brumitt 735013

Walking Group

<i>Contacts</i>	Geoff Jackson	736103
	Ron/Lorna Oswald	736523

Womens Institute

<i>President</i>	Christine Bolton	735030
<i>Secretary</i>	Lindsay Angus	734964
<i>Treasurer</i>	Sheila Cooper	733787

VILLAGE WEBSITE

www.overkellet.org

Updated info. to: Gordon Galloway 720872

OK VIEW

200 Club Liz Moody 733877

B4RN

<i>Contacts</i>	Nick Ward	733947
	Lesley Gee	733240

EMERGENCY PLAN GROUP

Paul Bond paul@okplan.co.uk

SUPPORT OK

Graham Agnew	733407
Lesley Gee	733240
Jane & Nick Ward	733947
Paul Bond	team@okplan.co.uk

All six-figure telephone numbers in the directory are prefixed by the STD code 01524

(note that VOIP-based landlines, including those of many B4RN subscribers, require the full telephone number, including the STD code, to be dialled)