

## WASDALE CIVIL PARISH

MINUTES of the Parish Meeting held on Thursday 3 November 2005 in the Old School Community Hall, Nether Wasdale. There were present 18 residents and 5 visitors (Councillor David Gray, Richard Palmer of the National Trust and Chris Berry, Rachel Bland and Helen Houghton of the Lake District National Park Authority). A few apologies had been received.

136. MINUTES of the Meeting held on 18 May 2005 were taken as read and signed as correct by the Chairman. Matters arising: 126 - Ed Drinkall had agreed to be Neighbourhood Watch Representative (to include Police Liaison). 129 - No-one had yet informed the Clerk of any amendments required to the Directory of Facilities at the back of the Parish Plan. 132 - The LDNPA's announced intention not to invite Parish Chairmen to future Site Meetings was being re-considered. 133 - The Wasdale Local History Group had arranged for John Todd to talk about Medieval Farming in Wasdale, and all would be welcome on Thursday 17 November at 7.30 in the Old School.

137. HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY FOR WASDALE? Rachel Bland of the LDNPA explained that new housing in the National Park is allowed only if a housing need is proved, "housing need" being very precisely defined. A survey would have to be carried out to discover if the need really exists, and this would involve distributing prepared questions and having the results analysed in an approved manner. The Meeting agreed that further steps be taken, with Sarah Mitchell volunteering to initiate the process and Howard Christie offering to help fund it. Rachel Bland was thanked for her very lucid and authoritative exposition.

138. CUMBRIA IN BLOOM. At a ceremony at Muncaster Castle in September, Nether Wasdale Village had been presented with the Cumberland News Trophy as Cumbria winner in the "Tidy Small Village" category plus The Holmes of Natland Nurseryman's Trophy and Silver Gilt Award as "Best Hamlet" in Cumbria. The judges had particularly commended The Screes and Strands Hotels and the Church Stile Campsite.

139. CALOR "VILLAGE OF THE YEAR" COMPETITION. This is totally different from the "Cumbria in Bloom" competition, being concerned not with outward appearances but with community spirit and inclusiveness. It involved the whole Parish - Wasdale Head as well as Nether Wasdale. So far the Parish had won £170 on being chosen to represent Cumbria, and following a visit from 4 judges in October we had now been invited to an Awards ceremony in London on 6 December. Geoff Linaker volunteered to join the Clerk at that event. Those who had attended the Presentations to the Judges in October were thanked for their support.

140. FINANCIAL MATTERS. **2004-2005:** The External Auditor had approved the accounts without reservation. **2005-2006:** The R.F.O. reported expenditure to date in accordance with approvals given at the last meeting: CALC Fee and LC Review £36.50; Insurance £239.87; Grasscutting £190; Audit fee £58.75; Cumbria in Bloom £5; Use of Old School for meetings in May and November £50. **2006-2007:** The R.F.O. said that although gross expenditure would exceed £600, we could expect a grant and we had reserves, and so he proposed that the Parish Precept should remain at £500. This was agreed.

141. PARISH BOUNDARY REVIEW. The Clerk expressed his extreme dissatisfaction with the fact that Copeland appeared to have done nothing of any consequence since our last meeting in May. Councillor David Gray had ascertained that a letter from the Chief Executive was on its way to us, expressing the hope that a meeting between ex-Councillors from Irton-with-Santon and officers from Copeland would be held within two weeks. It was not clear what such a meeting could achieve.

142. THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE EVENTS. Richard Palmer expounded the National Trust view of these events, in which thousands of people came to the valley in the middle of the night (specially in June) on their way from Ben Nevis to Snowdon via Scafell Pike, and in doing so created noise, damage, dirt (including excreta), parking mayhem and general disturbance. Richard had been involved in monitoring the situation, and in seeking co-operation from official