

**Minute of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING of IRTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on 7th April 2010 at 7.30 pm at Newtown Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors J. Harris (in the Chair), M. Ogden, C. Guy, D. Rutherford, T. Moscrop, L. McAleese, I. Gibson, M. Ridley and G. Beck.

**IN ATTENDANCE** – The Clerk.

Councillors Mrs. M. Bowman and J. Bainbridge, Carlisle City Council  
1 member of the public

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillor Bloxham

Councillor John Mallinson, Cumbria County Council

**1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – Approved.

**2 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman J. Harris gave a report on the activities of the Council over the past year.

Thankfully, the work of the council during this last year has not been dominated by Airport matters, although we are all aware of the legal matters going on elsewhere. Despite this 2009-10 has been a busy year.

We try to bring improvements to the community where we can. An example of this was the provision of additional street lighting, with the considerable help of the City Council. At first, we tried to bring this to a part of Irthington which had been subjected to an incident of anti-social behaviour, but after a failure to agree on a suitable site, this was redirected to Newby East, where it is now working satisfactorily. Another example is our agreement to provide funding to assist in the redecoration of St.Kentigern’s Church. Our contribution was necessary to enable the PCC to successfully apply for the bulk of funding elsewhere.

We have obtained funding to enable the printing of a publicity leaflet outlining a circular walk around the footpaths within the parish, and to up-grade three stiles on the route to kissing-gates. Completion of both of these improvements is imminent.

During the extended cold spell during December and January we obtained a supply of grit-salt from the County Council, which we distributed around the parish to render the main hazard areas safer for road users.

We also try to protect our environment and the interests of our parishioners. To this end we very actively opposed the plan by Natural England to carry out an extensive programme of tree-felling on White Moss. I am pleased to say that we were successful in preventing this action, but remain vigilant, as it is believed that Natural England may well re-apply for permission in the future.

Following the disbandment of the Brampton and Area Joint Parish Plan Group, we have decided to devise, publish and implement our own Community Plan. We have obtained funding from the Neighbourhood Forum and ACT, and formed a Steering Sub-Committee. The work is already underway.

Two parish events are well worth commenting on. May Hetherington, a former councillor, celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last November, and, once again, Newtown with White Flatt was successful in the “Cumbria in Bloom” competition. We congratulate them all.

It gives me great pleasure, once again, to record my gratitude for the support of all the councillors, but in particular, Margaret Ogden, our Vice-Chairman. I would also like to record my thanks for the support and guidance provided by Allison Riddell, our excellent Clerk.

### **3 OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS**

A member of the public raised the issue of the increase in HGV drivers through Irthington other than those drivers delivering to businesses in Irthington. The increased use often made it difficult to negotiate the road through Irthington.

**3.1 NOTED** the point raised.

**3.2 AGREED**, after discussion, that Councillor Bowman would raise the matter with County Councillor Mallinson for further information as the issue had already been passed to the highways authority.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.