

**LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19**  
**Chairman's Report**

**Councillors**

Lower Holker Parish is represented by 7 Parish Councillors: Ruth Airey (Vice Chair), Barry Dawson, Gill Gardner, Margaret Keith, Susan Rawsthorn, Jonathan Ryland and Trevor Wilson (Chair).

**Meetings**

Lower Holker Parish Council usually meets on the first Wednesday of every month, with the exception of August, alternating between Lower Holker and Flookburgh Village Hall. The Police and the District and County Councillors attend the majority of these meetings and provide regular reports. All residents are welcome to raise concerns with the Parish Council and attend any meeting.

**Representation**

Parish Council representatives attended the following:  
Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity meetings  
Cumbria Association of Local Councils – District meetings  
Grange & Cartmel Wellbeing Group meetings

**Finances**

The Parish Precept for 2017/18 was set at £15,462.76 and other income was received from Grants, VAT repayment, Grants, Community Infrastructure Levy and Bank Interest, so total receipts were £29,694.05. Over the year £29,009.70 was spent, leaving a Bank balance at the end of the year of £26,788.10 (Receipts & Payments Account attached). Grants have been made for works at Flookburgh Cemetery and to support Flookburgh & Cark Christmas Lights.

**Communication**

The Parish Council website was launched on in 2014 and includes the next meeting Agenda, Minutes of previous meetings, Council contact details, Community information, News items, Policies and Procedures and financial details of the Parish Council. The visitors are mainly from UK but include USA, China and Canada. The Parish Council Facebook page was launched in 2012 and includes local information and news items and currently has 149 likes. The Parish Council also publishes a page in the monthly Parish Link newsletter and Agendas and Minutes are displayed in the Cark Noticeboard.

**Planning Applications**

Fourteen Planning Applications via South Lakeland District within the Parish have been considered and responses submitted, relating to domestic and commercial use. The District Council ceased to provide paper copies of plans necessitating the purchase of a projector to be used at Parish Council meetings to view the Planning Applications.

**Consultations**

During the past year the Parish Council has been consulted and responded to a range of issues including the North West Marine Plan, Cumbria Coastal Strategy, Community Governance Review & Statement of Community Involvement.

**Public Safety & Environment**

- The Parish Council has continued to manage the Toilets at Cark, with assistance from Dave & Heather who open them and Mike & Marion who close them each day.
- The Parish Council continue to pay for street lighting and emptying 4 of the litter bins (including 2 in the new Playground). The Parish Council participated in a South Lakeland District Council trial of 2 bin sensors which established the appropriate schedule for emptying the bins and resulted in a reduction in the cost of this service.
- Volunteers have used the Speed Gun to monitor traffic within the Parish, some vehicles have been travelling at nearly twice the posted speed limit. Regular reports are forwarded to Cumbria Police and they have undertaken additional speed monitoring when requested.
- The Parish Council requested and received information regarding the low water levels in the River Eea and the impact of water extraction during the very dry summer of 2018.

**General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

The Parish Council is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office as a Data Controller and information is only used of in line with these regulations and disposed on when no longer required.

