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# Bellerby Parish Council Newsletter

## June 2013

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### Parish Council

John Weedon who has been Chairman of the Parish Council for the last eight years has decided to retire from that position, but will remain as a member of the Council. John Hutchinson was elected chairman, and Frank Rycroft was elected as Vice Chair.

Sarah Weatherald the Parish Clerk, is also retiring after eight years, and will be succeeded by Lynn Watkinson.

We would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the village to thank them for all of their hard work over the past few years, and wish them both well in their new situations.

### Bellerby to Leyburn Footpath

Over the last few months negotiations have continued, to secure agreements with landowners to site the footpath route on the west side of the road.

The County Council Rights of Way officer is in the process of contacting all landowners to get 'agreement in principle' for this route.

The next hurdle is to obtain new funding for the project, as previous funding pots are not now available. The new Chairman is submitting applications on behalf of the PC to 3 potential funding streams, which may be available.

If anyone knows of any others that may be suitable please get in touch with John Hutchinson (contact details overleaf).

### Flooding Issues

#### Flood Damage Repairs

Parish Councillors are busy preparing further grant applications to Richmondshire District Council and other funders for flood mitigation measures, repairs to the mill-race, village green, enhancements, extra street lighting and other improvements to the village. We have the support of various departments within North Yorkshire County Council and Local and district Councillors. We are confident that we can put together an excellent case, which may be successful.

#### Volunteers

We will be organising beck weed clearing days very shortly. It appears that the weed (Water Crowsfoot) that is causing some of the problems is only apparent in the Mill Race and not present in the beck. (If this is wrong please let us know). Theoretically if we work with the flow from the top of the village to the bottom we should be able to eradicate the weed in the village

#### Flood Group

Members of the Flood Group and Parish Council walked were recently given a guided tour of the new developments on Bellerby ranges, and used the opportunity to explore the catchment for Bellerby Beck more fully. There appears to be no simple explanation for last years flooding problems arising from alterations on the moor, there being no physical evidence of above ground cross connections between Bellerby Beck and Black Beck, as had been suspected. The Flood Group members are continuing to work closely with the MOD and their contractors to investigate any possible causes and correlation with recent events, and are in the process of compiling Environment Agency data, for any future project.

#### Planting Schemes

Money provided by the Open Gardens fund paid for a small planting scheme on the entrance to the village. The Church has donated a further £60 that will be used with other funds to purchase more bulbs for autumn planting. Thank you to everyone who helped to plant bulbs last year, we'll be in touch with for a repeat performance for this year...

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### Memorial Hall & Playing Fields

The Village Hall has experienced some damage to the roof and rainwater gutters, which has led to an expensive repair bill. This seems to have occurred through over exuberant use of the playing field and a disregard for the fabric of the Village Hall. The Hall and playing fields are valuable assets to the Village, and in their central location are enjoyed by an extensive number of users.

Can all users of the Playing Field please make sure that it is used solely for its intended purpose of playing sport and games, and show due respect to the fabric of the Hall and neighbouring properties? We hope to keep maintenance bills to a minimum and ensure that the facilities are fully maintained and continue to be available to everyone.

**The Trustees of Bellerby School Charity**

## PARKING

As mentioned in previous newsletters, there have been further complaints to councillors regarding inconsiderate parking particularly on Moor Road, but also in other areas of the village.

Can we politely ask people, that where they have space **that they park on their drives**, and that they minimise any parking 'chicane' effects? There have been a number of instances of inconsiderate drivers parking too close to other vehicles, and opposite drive entrances, which caused problems for longer wagons, tractors and trailers, delivery vehicles, and people getting in and out of driveways and accessing field entrances.

The Parish Council would prefer not to introduce any parking restrictions, but this will have to be considered if householders who have empty driveways, continue to park on the roadside or inconsiderately.

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## OPEN GARDENS

Bellerby Open Gardens will take place this year on Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>.

As usual there will be a Scarecrow trail, Band, and the normal attractions to raise funds for local good causes.

It would be great if we could have some extra gardens open this year, as visitors like to see 'real' gardens, to get ideas and visualise mature plants in an established setting. No garden is too big or too small with allotments and flower gardens being equally popular with visitors. It's also a great way to advertise if you have a business or are in the process of selling your house.

If anyone would like to be involved through opening their garden, helping with car-parking, other odd jobs, donating plants, or helping with refreshments, would they please contact -

Denise Morley 07837 621650 email [denise.morley1@live.co.uk](mailto:denise.morley1@live.co.uk) or

David Jameson on 01969 622 905 email [David.jameson@talktalk.net](mailto:David.jameson@talktalk.net)

## Best Kept Village

Bellerby is again entered in the Best Kept Village competition, in the smaller village category, in the annual competition run by Richmondshire District Council.

We've done very well in previous years, having won various prizes, but could everyone make an effort to ensure the village is and properties are looking their best. Judging is expected to take place in the first couple of weeks in July.

## Scarecrow Trail

If anyone is thinking of completing one (or more) scarecrows for the Open Gardens event would you please let one of the organisers know? Ideally we could do with one made early so photographs can be arranged for some free advertising. **Contact Lyn Matheson on 01969 622470**

## FREE EVENT ADVERTISING

The **Lower Wensleydale Website** <http://www.lower-wensleydale.com> is a free community website for villages and groups in lower wensleydale. If you would like your event/s, pub theme night, or club activities publicising, to reach a wider audience, visitors and tourists it's simple to do by posting details on there or contact John Hutchinson (Hall Garth, Moor Road), 01969 623 663 who will do it for you.

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## Parish Council & Flood Group Contact Details

Chair	John Hutchinson (Flood Group)	01969 623 663	Email: <a href="mailto:john1hutchinson@btinternet.com">john1hutchinson@btinternet.com</a>
Vice Chair	Frank Rycroft	01969 623 528	Email: <a href="mailto:rycroft46@btinternet.com">rycroft46@btinternet.com</a>
Clerk	Lynn Watkinson	01969 623 116	Email: <a href="mailto:lynnstamps@gmail.com">lynnstamps@gmail.com</a>
Councillors	John Weedon (Flood Group)	01969 622 596	Email: <a href="mailto:johnwkit@aol.com">johnwkit@aol.com</a>
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Flood Group	Jane Travell	01969 624 661	
Members	Dawn Southern	01969 622 624	

**To include any items in future newsletters please contact John Hutchinson on the above email or number**