

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
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First of all an apology if the previous (June) Newsletter never reached you. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the prepared text was omitted from Gateway during the publication process. Although other means of distribution were used, there would doubtless be readers who failed to find a copy and we hope they will now be able to pick up information on what has been happening.

The long-running issue of traffic calming in Beetham, and particularly in Stanley Street, is about to reach a favourable conclusion. This street is to be closed for one week from 29th October for the first phase of a comprehensive village scheme, put together by Cumbria Highways engineers. We trust it will bring much needed traffic control to this area – and greater peace of mind to residents. We shall then look forward to the complete scheme taking shape in the not-too-distant future. Also, at Carr Bank, where speeding traffic is a problem, new traffic signage is to be installed.

The Bela River Garden, the inspirational idea of our Cllr Pru Jupe for an appropriate Queen's Jubilee project, is now complete and open to all. Two attractive interpretation panels can be seen from the A6 and should tempt passers-by to take a closer look. One gives fascinating information about the paper mill and the paper-making process. The other provides beautifully coloured illustrations of local flora and fauna. The garden itself is now cleared of untidy vegetation to offer a small quiet area beside the river, with a lovely bench for those wanting to rest and contemplate. As the garden matures and fresh planting develops it will really come into its own. Do investigate this beautiful addition to an already attractive and historic village. Very many thanks to Cllr Jupe.

On a similar theme, the long-awaited Hale interpretation panel is also nearing installation on Hale Green, by the bench. Moreover, an identical panel is to be installed at the western end of Sandside Cutting, by the new entrance gate and picnic table. These panels cover the whole delightful area between these two corners of our parish, with details of natural and historic features, all linked by a network of footpaths. They should prove a great asset to those wanting to explore the area.

As many will be aware, a major development of the Heron Corn Mill is planned, with the help of funding through the National Lottery grants system. This is intended to make the most of another invaluable parish asset by attracting a wider range of visitors. The nearby Beetham war memorial benefited from a thorough spring clean as another jubilee project, with a new stone plinth to mark the occasion.

With all this beauty around us, and the prospect of many more visitors wanting to sample it, it is up to everyone to keep it looking its best. Two problems we all face, and can do something about, is litter and dog-fouling. Dog-fouling is entirely the responsibility of dog-owners, be they local or visitors. Please support the current SLDC campaign against this unnecessary blight.

The strategic planning process, started with the Local Development Forum and eventual land allocation proposals by SLDC, will soon come to a head with the government inspector's public hearing to consider the objections they have attracted. For Storth and Sandside, this hearing will be at Kendal Town Hall (Assembly Room) starting 10.00am on Wednesday, 24th October. Do make time to attend if you have concerns on this subject.