

## **BEAUMONT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Annual Report of Beaumont Parish Council for the Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Good evening and welcome to the 2024 Beaumont Annual Parish Meeting. I am pleased to present the annual report for Beaumont Parish council.

In May 2023 Mrs Kirk, Mrs Bowron and Mrs Reay retired from the Council and I thank them for all their efforts and hard work over the years. We have been fortunate to co-opt Mr Cleminson and Mr Dry in their place, however we do still have two more places available and would welcome applications from parishioners who would like to help us make a difference to our community.

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 the new Cumberland Council started providing services to residents living in the Carlisle area and the Parish Council works hard alongside and in partnership with Cumberland Council to make Beaumont Parish a safe and happy community. I would like to thank Mr Allison our Cumberland Council Councillor who is now the only representative for the Dalston and Burgh ward, for his continued support and financial aid this year.

I would also like to thank all Cllrs and the Clerk for their continued support and Mrs Irving, Vice Chair of the Council, for the support she has provided throughout the year and for acting as responsible financial officer.

Mr Cleminson and Mr Betts are working hard to improve access to local information for parishioners, in a timelier manner, by the introduction of Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp accounts. Watch out for the poster with all the details which will be published in the parish magazine.

Our thanks also go to Albinas Stasaitis who is the local contact for the parish magazine and is also responsible for the parish website which is extremely informative and contains records and photographs of the Parish.

As the cost of living continues to rise the Parish Council made the decision not to increase the precept for the third year running, however as it is anticipated that certain costs may be reallocated to us from the Cumberland Council, we may need to implement an increase starting from next year.

With the support of Mr Allison, we continue to monitor and report the state of our roads and residents are encouraged to report problems using the online reporting form. Councillors continue to monitor and arrange the maintenance of footpaths and continue to monitor planning applications, liaise with the planning officers, and make site visits where we try to represent the views of parishioners when they have particular concerns. The Parish Council maintains the Pound in Kirkandrews which continues to be regularly used by visitors. We would like to thank Michelle Dickinson for her help with the dustbin there and Liz Morton for her help in maintaining the plants.

Speeding continues to be a concern throughout the parish. We have worked with Mr Allison and Highways and now have road markings and signs in Beaumont which has helped to slow the Agricultural traffic throughout the village.

We are also working with PCO Graham Kirkpatrick to organise a community speed watch team of volunteers and are planning to trial speeding stickers for wheelie bins to see if this will help to slow the traffic throughout the parish.

We continue to support projects within the community and were pleased to see the success of the Kings Coronation event at the Beaumont Parish Hall where we provided packets of wildflower seeds to mark the occasion for those that attended.

Grants were given to Beaumont Parish Hall and the churchyards in Beaumont and Grinsdale towards the cost of grass cutting. The Parish Council is grateful to Chris and Allsion Bolton for maintaining the grass at the Green in Beaumont. A grant is also given towards the cost of the Parish Magazine which continues to be delivered free to all houses in the parish. The Parish Council would like to thank those volunteers who distribute the magazine to every house in the parish.

The Summer Playscheme ran extremely successfully for 4 days during the Easter holidays 6 days in July and August 2023 and was very well attended. We are planning to run a further 6 days in Summer 2024. We would like to thank Burgh by Sands Parish Council for their financial support towards this popular scheme.

The Parish Council provided a Portaloo situated next to Beaumont Parish Hall for the use of all walkers during the 2023 summer walking season and we are planning to do so again for the 2024 season. Thanks to the Parish Hall Trustees for permission to do this.

We signed up for the Litter Champions scheme with Cumberland Council who provided us with litter picking equipment. Many thanks to all the parishioners who attended the litter picking days throughout the parish. Please apply to the Clerk should you wish to use the litter picking equipment.

The picking up of dog poo continues to be a problem and signs have been put up to remind dog owners to act responsibly and clean up after their dogs.

We would like to thank all parishioners who have raised concerns this past year and we will endeavour to work hard to resolve them. The Parish Council are working on an action plan for the parish plan, and we welcome input from parishioners.

I would like to finish this report with thanks to our Clerk, Vice Chair and Councillors, new and old, for another year of their time and support.