

# GRANGE & CARTMEL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

## Summary of the meeting held at High Newton Village Hall, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Cllr Bill Wearing welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Cllr Rod Wilson.

### CUMBRIA YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

Hugh Williams is a Restorative Justice Worker, which is a civilian role seconded to the Police service. His job involves working with young offenders between the ages of 10 and 18 years helping to mediate between them and the victims of their crimes who may include wider family members and the local community and trying to put right some of the harm caused by crime.

Responsibility – holding offenders to account for their actions and encouraging more responsible behaviour in the future.

Restoration – exploring opportunities for making amends to their victims or the wider community.

Re-integration – providing support, assistance and guidance to help young people become law-abiding adults.

There are several ways in which Restorative Justice can be achieved.

Conferencing involves a face to face meeting between the offender and the victim, as well as supporters or members of each of their family if they wish, in a neutral venue with an independent facilitator, such as Hugh.

Direct victim/offender mediation involves a meeting between the offender, the victim and a facilitator where a face to face apology is usually given.

Indirect victim/offender mediation usually means that the victim or offender is not willing to meet face to face. The facilitator then meets each party separately and conveys messages, letters or video between them so that an understanding is reached. Sometimes a letter of apology can prove an acceptable resolution or the victim can request that the offender does some form of work for the general community or in a specific place, possibly connected to the original offence. It is not compulsory for offenders or victims to take any part in the process but it can give victims a chance to ask questions about why the offence was committed and it gives both victims and offenders a chance to put the episode behind them.

The reparation side of the service brings offenders into communities to work on local projects involving anything from gardening and painting to conservation or kitchen work. It is not the same as Community Service, which is an official sentencing option for the courts and is administered by the Probation Service. Reparation means that young people can give something back to the community, often the one where they have committed an offence. Work has been carried out recently at Ford Park in Ulverston, Manna House in Kendal and at the Green Heart Den in Barrow. Anyone who thinks they might have a suitable project which could benefit from additional help of this kind should contact Hugh Williams on 01229 407560 or via [hugh.williams@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:hugh.williams@cumbria.gov.uk) to discuss further.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Sgt Ken Jewell from the Ulverston & Lakes Policing team added to the item on restorative justice by advising that PCSO's are also trained in the process and a form of instant conferencing is often used between shoplifters and traders. It is generally felt this is a good option, as facing up to people often has more impact on offenders than a police caution. It also saves the police time and paperwork.

In his main update on the Grange and Cartmel area Sgt Jewell was pleased to report that, year on year, there had been a reduction in reported crime and an increase in detection rates. The local team now wants to establish the priorities that communities feel the police should be focusing on. Details of the three most reported issues within the local area were circulated and those attending the Forum were asked to indicate which one they considered a priority. There was also space for people to add an issue of their own if they felt that was even more important. The Police will obviously continue to deal with all reported crime but will target one specific issue.



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The highlighted issues were:

- \* Anti Social Behaviour: On Market and Main St in Flookburgh between 9pm and midnight
- \* Public Safety: Young people climbing into the Lido at Grange Promenade
- \* Road Safety: Drivers exceeding 30 mph on roads near Cartmel Priory School

Feedback on which option was chosen and how the Police have been working to tackle it will be given via the Cumbria Police website, [www.cumbria.police.uk/neighbourhood-overview](http://www.cumbria.police.uk/neighbourhood-overview) through regular updates to town and parish council meetings and at Neighbourhood Forum meetings.

### QUICKFIRE UPDATES ON LOCAL PROJECTS

#### Broadband Update

Mike Pye, the Broadband hub co-ordinator for the Grange & Cartmel Local Area Partnership reported to the Forum on the current status of the project. Cumbria has been selected as one of 4 pilot areas in the UK to benefit from central government funding to establish fast and reliable broadband services for all. Due to its mix of urban and rural communities, the Grange & Cartmel Peninsula has been given the opportunity to become involved in the technical pilots for Cumbria. Tests will be done using satellite, wireless and fibre optic cables to find the most appropriate systems that will be durable and can be upgraded as and when download speeds are increased by providers. All communities are urged to get involved and people can find out more through their Town or Parish Council. It is now, more than ever, vital that these services are available locally to encourage people and businesses to move to and stay in the area.

#### High Newton Village Hall

A new committee was recently elected to breathe new life into the facility and Neil Marsden updated the Forum in his role as current Chair of High Newton Village Hall Committee. A monthly newsletter is being set up which will be circulated in all the surrounding villages to advertise local events: new ideas for uses for the hall will be gratefully considered. A big spring clean has been done inside and the outside will be tidied up over coming weeks. The revival of the 100 Club and a very successful cheese and wine evening have both set the ball rolling on efforts to raise funds for roof

repairs, internal painting and ultimately new windows and a replacement heating system.

#### Upper Allithwaite Parish Council

Neil Marsden is also Parish Councillor for the Newton Ward on Upper Allithwaite Parish Council which mostly covers the Lindale area. However, with the help of the Probation Service, work has been done to improve the gardens in the village and in Lindale the Wilkinson monument has been re-furbished. After consultation with local residents, a dog control order has been put in place for the playing fields. The two biggest projects in the Parish are currently a plan to re-open the public toilets which have been closed for some time, and the restoration of Lindale Village Playground. It is hoped that Phase 1 of work on the playground will be completed in time for village Sports Day on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### Lake District National Park Authority

Steve Tatlock is the new Park Management Ranger for the Central South East Distinctive Area, which covers Upper Allithwaite at its southern end. Community housing is currently a priority focus and also transport, with a new fleet of electric bicycles. Steve also represents the Authority in Winderclean (litter picking and shore clearance) further down the lake from the Bowness area as part of the Windermere Reflections project.

Representatives from the parishes are sought to participate in a parish walk in the area on 27<sup>th</sup> September – contact Steve for further details via [steve.tatlock@lakedistrict.gov.uk](mailto:steve.tatlock@lakedistrict.gov.uk)

#### LOCAL ARA PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES

Results from the priorities exercise will be fed back to the next LAP meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July and also to the next meeting of the Forum

#### GRANT APPLICATIONS

**Cartmel Valley Baseball Club:** Awarded £600

#### COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

There will be a meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July to re-start Neighbourhood Watch in Haverthwaite.

If you need to get in touch please contact Kelly Alty on 01539 713447

Email: [kelly.alty@cumbriacc.gov.uk](mailto:kelly.alty@cumbriacc.gov.uk)

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