

LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH PLAN REPORT

JANUARY 2022

PARISH PLAN REPORT

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1. Introduction

Lowick continues to be a small rural village in South Lakeland mostly lying alongside the River Crake on the edge of the Lake District National Park. It has a little over 100 homes of which around 20% are second homes. Dwellings are scattered throughout the Parish with the largest concentrations around Lowick Green and Lowick Bridge.

Lowick Green is centred on a small section of the common. In recent years it has been bequeathed to the residents of Lowick Green for their benefit. It is managed by the Lowick Green Committee. Next to the Green are the allotments which are also maintained by a local group and they are highly valued and well used.

Lowick Bridge is a smaller hamlet clustered around the Red Lion public house. A short distance from Lowick Bridge are the Parish Church and the Lowick Community Hall. The Community Hall was developed from the earlier Sunday School Room, partly funded from the Kirkby Moor Wind Farm. It provides a focus for village activities and has a thriving schedule of meetings of local organisations.

There are a number of smaller hamlets, individual dwellings and farms within the parish but away from the main heart of the village.

The village school closed around 15 years ago and the premises are now occupied by an outdoor adventure business.

Farming continues to be a major business of the village. Increasing numbers of people either work directly from home or commute. There are some small tourist undertakings in the form of B&B or rented holiday homes.

Compared to the 2005 Parish Report the demograph has changed significantly with the 15 years plus gap meaning an increasing number of retired people and fewer younger families with consequently fewer young children.

Lowick continues to have no shops or services. There is no local Doctor's surgery. The surgery at Haverthwaite has largely taken on the role and provides an excellent but more difficult to access service. A very limited private bus service largely dependent on donations provides a vital but limited service. Ulverston (6 miles), Coniston (8 miles) and Barrow (16 miles) are the principal retail and service centres.

2. Review of 2005 Parish Plan Report

An action plan was developed from the analysis and conclusions of the 2005 Parish Plan Report and it is interesting to review what has and has not been achieved as a guide to the present day.

Housing and planning were issues of concern raised in the action plan with a need to maintain vigilance with regard to the area planning situation and the potential need for new housing. This has been a continuing action and remains a concern for residents.

A number of actions arose with respect to the general appearance and upkeep of the village. The bequeathing of the Green to residents has seen a major change in the appearance and use of the facility. Putting ownership into the hands of the people directly benefitting has been a great success.

The introduction of an active Parish Lengthsman has made a significant impact on appearance. Clearing drains, repainting signs, clearing footpaths and verges, repairing bus shelters have all made a positive difference to our environment. Liaison with CCC and the Highways Authority is ongoing on the subject of work needed adjacent to the major local roads.

In the 2005 report the ambition for a 'Crake Valley' website was included. Since then there has been an explosion in the digital world. We now have a Lowick PC website which also acts as a gateway to many other local sites such as the Lowick Show. Much information is now available on line, for example the Coniston and Crake Valley Newsletter and the desire is for better access to broadband.

Speeding traffic and danger spots were a subject of significant concern in 2005 and remain so today. There have been some successes for example the 40mph speed limit from Silver Lane out towards Woodgate but more action is needed.

Recycling was an issue in 2005 and SLDC have introduced a number of improvements both for household collections and through recycling centres. However, we and the world are increasingly concerned about the environment and climate change and demands for improvements continue.

The Parish Council took upon itself a number of actions. Communication with parishioners was an issue on which some improvements have been made through the Lowick PC website and the Lowick Newsletter. Coordination with adjacent parish councils has increased as is evident for example with the recent acquisition of the Farmers Arms by Grisedale Arts situated on the 'border' between Lowick and Egton cum Newland and with Blawith and Subberthwaite on the subject of off-road bikers.

In summary, there have been some successes, some failures, some concerns inevitably perpetuate and require constant attention while new ones develop.

3. Preparation of the Survey for the 2022 Parish Plan Report

Early consideration was given to a revision of the Parish Plan in 2018. Initially we had a meeting with members of the parish who had previously been proactive with the last Parish Plan. From this meeting Councillors decided that they would initially invite public interest through a stand at the Lowick Show in September 2018. People attending the show were invited to talk with Councillors and discuss the issues they judged were important to them. A broad cross section of the community expressed their views and subsequently the councillors were able to summarise them into 6 main headings.

These were

- Local housing
- The environment
- Transport and highways
- Community groups
- Parish newsletter and communications
- Emergency planning

At the same time, plans were being developed by a broad group of local parish councils and the Friends of the Lake District to submit a proposal to extend the southern boundary of the National Park which would impact the Lowick Parish, being partly within and partly without at present. Consequently, consideration of this issue was added as an additional item.

- Extension of the National Park southern boundary

From these main headings Councillors decided the most appropriate way in which to canvas parishioner's views would be through a survey based on these issues. A questionnaire was developed as the means of seeking more detailed input from all residents of the parish. This would form the basis of the revised Parish Plan Report.

The questionnaire was developed in early 2019 but the process was derailed by the Covid Pandemic. Councillors judged that residents and authorities had more significant issues to deal with. On a practical level it also would be difficult to manage the personal contact needed to distribute, discuss and collate the results of the questionnaire. This persisted through the rest of 2019 and 2020.

In 2021 the process was restarted. The questionnaire was updated to reflect some of the issues which had arisen during the pandemic and was issued in June 2021.

- A paper copy to each household in the parish
- A copy on the Parish Council website

.A copy of the questionnaire is included as appendix 1.

People were invited either to return a paper copy or complete an on-line form via the website. Although a single paper copy was delivered to each house, more paper copies were made available at specific sites and people were invited to submit either on behalf of the household or as individuals as they wished. The launch of the questionnaire was promoted on the Lowick Parish website and in the Parish Newsletter.

Completed questionnaires were returned from about one third of households in the parish. The results were compiled into an anonymised EXCEL spreadsheet which was shared between Councillors. The principal concerns and issues identified by parishioners were extracted, discussed and agreed between Councillors. A summary of the results was prepared and published on the Parish website and in the Parish Newsletter in September 2021 inviting comments should anyone felt their responses had not been correctly understood or indeed if the summary prompted any new thoughts.

4. Analysis and Summary Conclusions of the Survey

HOUSING

Housing strategy will clearly be a responsibility of the new unitary council. However, in Lowick we have our own views which should be input to the overall strategy.

Principal amongst the responses is the belief that there is nowhere within the parish in need of or suitable for significant new construction and that the wider strategy of the new council is not yet understood (or even developed). From this we would assume that in so far as residents are

concerned, development is more likely to be through conversions and extensions/additions with some change of use.

The survey strongly supports the principle of local and affordable housing for local workers together with high standards of environmental performance. There is no wish to see the proliferation of second and holiday homes which have adversely impacted many other small parishes in the area.

We asked what further infrastructure would be needed to support any further housing development and an interesting number of ideas were raised the most significant of which was better public transport (see later). Other suggestions included

- children's play facilities

- support to the Farmers Arms as a community hub

- EV charging points (we judged charging from home would become more significant but a few rapid charging points close to community centres could be sensible)

- only a modest response for local shops, surgery etc perhaps recognising viability in a small community is difficult. Nevertheless, recognising that there could be better outreach to Lowick from surrounding facilities to reduce travelling and support the less mobile residents.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Perhaps unsurprisingly this section probably generated the most interest. Ambitions and concerns ranged from the very local to much wider unitary council and national issues. There is a determined concern for our environment, in particular the challenging issue of climate change. While local initiatives help and people want to be active this is an opportunity to convey our concern and challenge county and national government. Key amongst the issues raised in this context were

- subsidies, support and information on solar power, heat pumps (ground and air), transport (public transport and electric vehicle infrastructure), home insulation and energy efficiency.

In respect of issues with more strictly local impact and solutions, there is general agreement that the current recycling arrangements are quite good but a number of possible improvements should be considered

- better information on how to consign waste and extend the range of waste that can be recycled

- provide more robust and larger recycling containers (bags and boxes)

- on line parish freecycling scheme

- construct compost bins for the allotments

- establish a local monthly village skip for unusual and occasional wastes to avoid many individual trips to (not so) nearby recycling centres and help more elderly residents.

Many issues were raised concerning the provision and maintenance of footpaths. Although specific mention was made of those from the Farmers Arm to Lowick Green, from Lowick Green to

Woodgate and from Lowick Bridge to Blawith, a more general footpath survey seems to be needed together with a longer term plan for improvement and maintenance. Encouraging walking for local journeys is seen as both a health and environmental benefit. Issues ranging from overgrown vegetation, damage from illegal off roaders, poor access for children's buggies and even lack of a suitable path are evident.

Road side litter, both from passing cars and lorries and also from cyclists (energy bar wrappers, energy drinks and gels packaging) is seen as a problem. While more litter bins are suggested others judge this would not stop those who simply throw away litter and anyway bins would need regular emptying. Education (through county and national schemes) was offered as one solution together with a focus on event organisers (running, walking and cycling events being seen as a significant source of litter). Generally residents already do and appear willing to volunteer to take part in organised litter picking.

There appear to be a number of locations impacted by flooding during periods of heavy rain. Specifically mentioned are Beckbottom, Woodgate and the fell road to Broughton Beck. A key need is the planned and regular cleaning/maintenance of drains along roadsides, recognising the seasonal nature of some flooding. This could involve the parish lengthsman but needs to be integrated with Highways.

A number of concerns were raised about road signs becoming unreadable with degradation and/or obscured by vegetation. Although raised under the 'Environment' heading this is also clearly a 'Highways' issue and again should involve both the parish lengthsman and Highways.

Questions on group purchase schemes for energy and environment facilities generated considerable interest and should be followed up with some vigour. In particular these included group purchase schemes for

- oil
- LNG (calor etc)
- electricity (particularly renewable)
- septic tank emptying
- water quality testing
- log delivery

Finally, broadband registered in a number of responses as a community asset with environmental benefits (see later in Communications)

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

This section of the questionnaire raised key safety issues with very evident concerns about speed and driving standards on our local roads. When asked if the present 40mph speed limits on the A5092 from Silver Lane to the Old School and the A5084 through Lowick Green were effective or not the responses were fairly evenly balanced between yes and no. Most responses believed these

sections should be extended to cover the A5092 south towards Penny Bridge and north towards Woodgate and the A5084 through to Lowick Bridge. There was no enthusiasm for local volunteer speed monitors along any sections of the roads.

In addition to speed limits, suggestions for automatically displaying speed measurements to oncoming vehicles were made for several locations. In particular, responses from residents close to Lowick Bridge made several observations about the speed of traffic on the A5084, the slight bends reducing forward visibility and the blind junction down to the bridge. Suggestions were made for additional measures such as double white lines either side of the junction.

A particular stretch of road between the Red Lion and the Community Hall was suggested for a 20mph limit. It is narrow, has many bends, is used as something of a 'rat run' between Woodgate and Lowick Bridge for Coniston and has many walkers.

All of these issues can only be taken forward through the new council and Highways England but the parish has a responsibility to make recommendations and pursue changes.

In respect of the state of the roads response varied between 'OK' at best to 'poor'. Damaged surfaces, poor drainage, potholes were highlighted in a number of areas. There is now a new on line reporting system for defects and part of the solution must be to utilise this to maximum extent. From individuals through to the Parish Council we need to press the new unitary council and Highways England on their response to issues raised and establishing an effective monitoring and maintenance strategy.

The state of footpaths alongside the roads was also considered 'OK' at best to 'poor' at worst. Responses were fairly evenly balanced between wanting more verge and hedge trimming for road and pedestrian safety or less trimming for bio-diversity reasons. We conclude it will always be a question of looking at individual sites and times and finding the best balance.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

We believe that in a parish like ours the encouragement of local groups for leisure, health, entertainment, information, skill development and sharing, meeting and discussion are important. We asked people to tell us what community groups there were aware of or involved in. and this is what we found, in no particular order:

- Lowick Show

- Parish Council

- Lowick Green Committee

- Fitness Groups, Tai Chi, pilates

- Allotment Association

- First Responders
- Farmers Arms and Grisedale Arts
- Lowick Fest
- Young Farmers
- Lowick Toddlers

In addition, responses suggested groups for more social gatherings such as 'meet the neighbours', walking groups, litter picking etc. Interestingly although many judged the facilities offered by the Community Hall were excellent, its location was considered a little too remote from the centre of the parish.

Clearly although the Parish Council does not exist to organise and run community groups it does have a role in supporting and encouraging them.

COMMUNICATIONS

Most responses indicated a generally satisfactory level of communication through the Coniston and Crake Valley Newsletter. However, there was a significant number of responses who preferred a paper copy or did not access material on line. Although broadly welcomed, some responses felt the newsletter was, perhaps inevitably, biased towards the larger population of Coniston with insufficient news concerning Lowick. Responses point towards the need for a careful assessment of the ability to reach all parishioners with meaningful local content through email, the parish website, Facebook, community Whatsapp group, parish notice boards and paper through the door if preferred.

In respect of content responses demonstrated a wish to be informed of, for example

- road works and closures
- planning applications
- local politics
- local events

Several responses judged more specific Lowick news including for example celebrating individual achievements of parishioners.

Clearly, the results indicate a need to review of the current approaches.

We asked about the adequacy of local broadband recognising this has a key part to play in communication for both information, leisure and business. Many responses were 'adequate' or 'satisfactory' but some recognised that a step change in improvement was possible with fibre straight to each home. B4RN is a local business most involved in making this possible in north western rural communities. The parish council is supportive of their initiative. The current system provided by Openreach FTTC, fibre to cabinet (green cabinets) and copper wire to each home seems

to be considered adequate by some people. For others who live some distance from the cabinets (with long length copper wire) the system is currently less than adequate and the concern is that the system is simply not future proof.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Road accidents resulting in serious injury and damage to property and infrastructure are among the most mentioned hazards. Speed limits, clear signage and road /junction line painting are seen as the main defences.

In respect of natural hazards floods predominate in the survey. Beck Bottom and Mill Close and Woodgate in particular are mentioned as increasing sources of concern but generally failing to keep gullies clear is another. River flooding, in particular by the Crake and Langholm Beck at Lowick Bridge is a specific risk for nearby households.

High winds and snow fall are both mentioned. Loss of electrical power either through a system fault or damage to overhead lines can be a problem as some key utilities for individual properties, eg water supply, do need electrical power. In addition to the main roads, more gritting of minor roads, particularly where there are exposed sections such as the Fell Road to Broughton Beck, is believed to be needed

Overall there was no strong feeling for a register of vulnerable households. We might assume this reflects the independent nature of parishioners taking responsibility for their individual circumstances.

The point was made that we should look to learn lessons from the pandemic which resulted in significantly increased isolation in an already sparsely populated community. Measures taken to maintain contact and ensure needs were kept satisfied might have a future purpose.

Overall, responses indicate that a simple emergency plan identifying a central contact person(s), a community evacuation centre (eg Lowick Community Hall), links to district and county councils and national authorities, contact telephone numbers and internet addresses for key utilities and services should be provided for all households.

EXTENSION OF THE LDNPA SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

-At the time of preparing the Questionnaire, Friends of the Lake District supported by a number of Cumbrian parish councils submitted to Government a proposal to extend the boundary of the National Park in a southerly direction which would include the whole of Lowick as well as much of the south of Copeland, Furness north of Barrow and the Cartmel/Grange peninsula.

We thought it would be useful to take the opportunity to ask how Lowick residents felt about such a proposal.

About 2/3 of the returns were broadly in favour of the proposed extension with around 1/3 evenly split between undecided and broadly against. Many registered that little information was available to better understand the potential advantages or disadvantages.

5. Action Plan

In broad terms actions to deliver solutions to the concerns raised fall largely into three categories

- Actions which should be routine, perhaps reinforced, ongoing Parish Council business
- Actions which can be simply and best developed and implemented by individuals or small groups of self-interested parishioners without the need for 'official' parish council support
- Specific actions needing the coordination of and involvement of the parish council including liaison with external authorities such as the new unitary council, Highways, police or emergency services

Actions to include in ongoing Parish Council business

- housing and planning
- development of local infrastructure (eg EV charging, broadband)
- local transport
- general environmental issues needing liaison with SLDC and subsequently new unitary council
- liaison with CCC and subsequently the unitary council and Highways (for example, with regard to condition of roads, adjacent footpaths, drains and flooding)
- use of parish lengthsman

Actions for individuals or small groups of self-interested Parishioners

A number of sensible and practical ideas emerged from the survey which could perhaps be directly by interested parishioners without the need for anything except encouragement from the Parish Council and by using the parish website and newsletter as the means of communicating and involving people

- group purchase schemes for electricity, oil, lpg, logs, septic tank emptying, water quality testing etc
- freecycling scheme for the parish

Specific actions requiring Parish Council lead and involvement together with parishioner support

- development of strategy for improved highway safety.
- emergency planning. Particularly in the light of the pandemic and more recently Storm Arwen. Improving our local resilience and working with others to best ensure the safety and care of parishioners.

6. Conclusions

It is over fifteen years since the last Parish Survey. While in many ways the parish of Lowick may not appear to have changed there have emerged many new challenges and opportunities.

The demography of the community is now subtly different. National and even global issues such as Climate change have their impact on us.

On the other hand many of the concerns affecting people fifteen years ago remain today, perhaps in an 'updated' form. Looking back over time, some progress has been made but there is still work to be done.

This latest Parish Survey shows that parishioners really care for the area in which we live and want to maintain and improve it as best we can.

From the survey we have tried to highlight key issues and concerns and identify the best ways of seeking improvements. Some of these can simply be incorporated in ongoing Parish Council business while others would seem to best left in the hands of interested individuals, encouraged by the Parish Council.

Two specific actions have been highlighted which have significant relevance for the safety and care of all parishioners and it is proposed these are managed through the Parish Council with small groups of parishioners with particular interests in them. Both actions will require detailed consideration, planning and organisation and liaison with external bodies. Both should result in proposals to implement solutions which will need the consent and possibly financial support of external authorities.

These two actions are

- Strategy for highway safety improvements throughout Lowick Parish
- Strategy for Emergency Planning to integrate with external authorities to the benefit of parishioners

For these two actions the Parish Council extends invitations to interested parishioners to join together and establish two working groups.

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APPENDIX

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

LOCAL HOUSING

The Parish is rural with no essential amenities such as a school or shop. It is also split by the National Park boundary with some houses in and some not. We would like to hear your views on how we can improve the housing:

1. Is there a need for more houses in the Parish?

YES ☐

NO ☐

2. If, yes what type of housing?

Low cost starter homes ☐

Local occupancy ☐

Family homes ☐

Second / Holiday Homes ☐

Other, please specify.

3. If there is a need for further housing in the Parish, what new infrastructure would you like to see?

	YES	NO
Local doctor surgery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Improved public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Local shop(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
---------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Other, please comment:

THE ENVIRONMENT

SLDC will help residents reduce the amount of household waste and extend the range of recycled materials from the kerbside.

1. Thinking about how you recycle please tell us how we can improve, we can explore opportunities to increase the range and ways we collect materials, we can use our waste as a resource to improve the economic return from the reuse and recycling.

.....

.....

Well maintained footpaths encourage residents to leave their car at home. Walking helps maintain your health and wellbeing. SLDC supports active travel, such as developing safer cycling and walking routes, they will promote cycle tourism.

2. Thinking about the non-vehicle routes near you, can we create new or improve existing paths. Tell us about paths which need maintenance so we can enhance the Parish's heritage and improve our environment.

.....

.....

You have told us the outdated Parishes drains are being overloaded due to increasing precipitation or previous poor maintenance. Routine cleaning of road gullies is now being performed by SLDC in house and blocked gullies should be reported to Highways. We are interested in incidences which need more than just routine maintenance.

3. Thinking about public areas near you that are prone to regular flooding please tell us their location and suggest ways we can improve or prevent future flooding.

.....

.....

You asked us to maintain and improve our local landscape. You have told us that footpaths and hedge rows are littered, road signs are dirty and faded. We need to know where the worst areas are and if you feel it is important for us to form a planned maintenance schedule, put up waste bins and signage.

4. Please tell us where littered area's and dirty road signs are and give some thought to ways, we can prevent this from happening, e.g. organise litter picks, signage.

.....

.....

SLDC will make progress in reducing carbon emissions and become more energy efficient.

5. Please tell about schemes you would support to help reduce our carbon footprint, e.g. improved local transport systems, planting trees – carbon capture, electric charging points for cars, help and advice with solar panel, heat pump schemes.

.....

.....

6. Collective action of residents could bring environmental and cost/efficiency improvements. Group purchase schemes for oil and gas or a joint scheme for septic tank cleaning are examples where both economic benefit and standards can be achieved. We would like to know what you think and what other areas might be of interest to you.

	Yes	No
Would you be interested in group purchase schemes for fuel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Would you be interested in a joint scheme for septic tank cleaning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there other joint schemes you think could benefit our Parish?

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

1. Do you feel that the 40mph speed limit is working on the A5092 from the Farmer's Arms to the old School? Yes ☐ No ☐
Do you feel that the 40mph speed limit is working on the A5084 to Coniston by the side of the Green? Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Should either of the speed limited sections of main road be extended?

State where

3. Should we as citizens actively utilise Speed guns from the police to monitor these speed limits? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you willing to volunteer your services? If yes please give your name

.....

4. Do you think we should be lobbying for a lower speed limit? Yes ☐ No ☐
On what sections of road?

.....

Should any other sections of road in the Parish have a speed limit? Yes ☐ No ☐
Where

.....

5. What do you think about the state of repair of the roads in Lowick?

Good ☐ OK ☐ Poor ☐

Please indicate any locations which require particular attention

.....

6. What do you think about the state of repair/maintenance of the footpaths/pavements in Lowick?

Good ☐ OK ☐ Poor ☐

Please detail specific problems with their location

.....

7. Have you any comments regarding the road signage in the Parish? If particular problems please state location

.....
.....

8. Should we undertake a greater amount/more frequent grass cutting of verges during the summer months? (The County undertake a 1 metre stretch of cut verge twice a year. We are conscious that a number of local residents maintain during the summer a more frequent regime.)

Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you feel that the grass cutting does improve the appearance of the village for visitors/passers through?

Yes ☐ No ☐

9. Do you feel we have a litter problem in the Parish?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Should we suggest a community day once a year for assistance with clearing litter?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you willing to volunteer your services? If yes please give your name

10. Have you any further comments/suggestions regarding Transport and Highways?

.....
.....

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Although a small community we already have a lot of groups active within the Parish. We think it would be useful to publicise these more widely. Also, we would like to understand what additional groups could usefully strengthen and add to the social wellbeing of the Parish

1. Please list all the community groups you know of? (doesn't necessarily run in the Community Hall)

Please put a tick next to the ones that you use.

1. <u>E.g Lowick Show</u>	9. _____
2. _____	10. _____
3. _____	11. _____
4. _____	12. _____
5. _____	13. _____
6. _____	14. _____
7. _____	15. _____
8. _____	16. _____

2. How often do you use these groups?

Weekly ☐
Monthly ☐
Annually ☐
Never ☐

3. What groups would you like to see in the Parish?

--

4. Do you use the community hall?

Yes ☐
No ☐

If yes, how often?

Weekly ☐
Monthly ☐
Annually ☐

Never ☐

5. Do you feel the facilities in the Parish are sufficient to support these groups?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If no, what do you think is needed?

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PARISH NEWSLETTER AND COMMUNICATIONS

With our parish being to spread out and with some in the National Park and other not, we feel that communication between us all is paramount to keep this Parish working as a whole. Recently, the various parishes along the Crake valley have combined to produce the Coniston and Crake Valley News. This has been delivered free of charge by volunteers to every household and is becoming the primary source of local news, replacing the Parish Magazine. It is also available on-line at conistonandcrakechurches.co.uk

Are you happy with the level of communication within our community regarding our parish?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If 'no' please use the space below for comments and thoughts...

What information do you want to be kept updated with?

Local Politics

Relevant Planning

Road works/closures

Local Events

Other, please specify.

With initial response to the new Coniston and Crake Valley News being positive, what additional sort of communication, if any, would you find useful?

Local Lowick Newsletter through your door.

Local Lowick Newsletter via email

Facebook page

Lowick Parish Magazine

Lowick PC Website

Community meetings/drop-in

Parish Notice board

How frequently would you like to be updated with parish information?

Monthly

Quarterly

Bi-annually

Annually

We are very keen to hear how you think communication can be improved and can realistically be achieved. If anyone has any methods they have tried and tested- with good results, then we would love to hear about them...

For communications to be most effective, robust and fast internet connectivity is essential. How satisfactory is your broadband connection and would you wish to see it improved.

My broadband connection is currently

Very satisfactory

☐

Adequate

☐

Unsatisfactory

☐

Please tell us what improvements you would like to see in future

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Emergencies, however unlikely, can and sometimes do happen. While we can always rely on the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services, First Responders backed up by the Coastguard, Mountain Rescue and maybe coordinated by the County or local Council some input of local parish knowledge and information can be very useful.

Severe weather in the form of rain, wind, snow and ice or even heatwaves and drought can and does affect our community. There may be other emergencies which may also have a community wide impact. Although the impact of emergencies may be broadly felt across the community their specific impact will depend on local details such as proximity to rivers, access limitations, drainage as well as potentially vulnerable parishioners.

The purpose of this part of the questionnaire is to understand your concerns and needs in the event of an emergency affecting our Parish. This can help in both planning to avoid severe impacts and as an input to actions to help the emergency services should a significant incident occur.

Thinking of your house and its immediate surroundings (tell us your location please)

1. What hazards (eg flood, snowfall, ice, drought etc) could seriously affect you and your family?

.....

2. What steps do you think could reasonably be taken to avoid these hazard(s)?

.....

3. Would you wish to appear on a register of vulnerable households to help emergency services recognise priorities?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Thinking of the whole Parish

4. Are there any other hazards which you believe could affect other parts of the Parish?

.....

5. Finally, what information would you like to see published in respect of a local emergency plan?

.....

EXTENSION OF THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE LDNP

There have been public meetings concerning the proposal to extend the Southern Boundary of the National Park to include areas from Silecroft to Millom, around Askam and across to Cartmel and Grange. Part of the parish is already in the LDNPA, other parts remain outside. Our parish currently sits astride the southern boundary and so we would like to understand your views.

Are you	YES	NO
1. Broadly in favour of the proposed extension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Broadly against the proposed extension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Undecided	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Not concerned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

You may wish to express your view in words or identify particular advantages, disadvantages or concerns

.....

.....

SUBMITTED BY

Please, personal information is requested only if you wish the Parish Council to respond directly to you on any issues you raise. Otherwise providing such information is your choice but will only be used by the Parish Council in respect of the production of this Parish Plan and will be kept in confidence between you and the Parish Council

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE.....

EMAIL.....

It would help us in analysis of the results to have an idea of age, please tick if you wish

AGE 16-25 26-40 41-60 61 and over