

## **THE PARISH OF BLINDCRAKE**

### **REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF BLINDCRAKE**

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

#### **1. Action Plan**

(a) Seat. It was with grateful thanks that the Parish accepted the kind donation by Derek Tyson of the land by the reservoir for the re-establishment of the seat. Legal matters have all been completed and work on reinstating the wall and constructing the seat will commence when the Spring weather permits.

(b) Website. This is now “live”. Thanks go to Keith Snell for all his hard work, ably assisted by Michael Dawson. This is another step on the way to the Council becoming a Quality Parish.

(c) Village Green. A new drainage pipe has been installed and the gulley near the troughs improved. Last Summer was particularly wet. The plan is to monitor the situation over the coming months, with targeted action planned particularly near the pound. Last year views were canvassed as to whether any permanent barrier to vehicles should be erected around the green. There was no significant support for such a proposal, and the “open plan” nature of the green will remain. A replacement cherry tree has been planted.

#### **2. Horace Winter**

The passing of Horace, who was 97 years old, and Blindcrake’s oldest resident was noted with sadness. The seat he erected dedicated to his late Wife was in such a state of disrepair that the Council has replaced it. A plaque will be affixed commemorating not only Horace’s Wife but Horace himself.

#### **3. Roads**

Everyone in the Parish, the County if not the whole country is becoming increasingly concerned about the state of the public highways. The lack of replacement of surface dressing, or regular maintenance, the cracking of road surfaces, verge erosion and potholes are all too common. The introduction of Highway Stewards has been a great innovation. This system has resulted in a targeted approach and the successful resolution of various problems on the Parish’s roads. Thanks go to the commitment of the Highway Stewards in

making this new system work. Concern remains however over the long-term maintenance and neglect of the likes of Moota Lonning and the Park Wood Road which are reverting to unmade tracks. These matters are being pursued with the Highways Department.

#### **4. Blindcrake Village Signs**

New cast signs have been installed on “wall” mountings on the Redmain and Carlisle entrances to the Village. Fingerposts have also been refurbished.

#### **5. Cumbria in Bloom**

Blindcrake was awarded a Silver Gilt Award in 2008. Congratulations are due to all those who put in so much hard work to prepare the Village for the competition.

#### **6. Water mains**

The pipe work had to be renewed through Blindcrake Village early last year. It was a major undertaking and was completed neatly and promptly.

#### **7. Low Farm**

The state of this site has been a source of aggravation for many years now. Enforcement to bring a resolution lies with other Authorities and not with the Parish Council. The Council has continued to put pressure on those who can take Legal Action, and after a number of false dawns it is hoped that by next year’s Meeting the matter might be closed. We shall see!

Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009

**David Ll. Roberts - Chairman**