

Cleator Moor TOWN COUNCIL



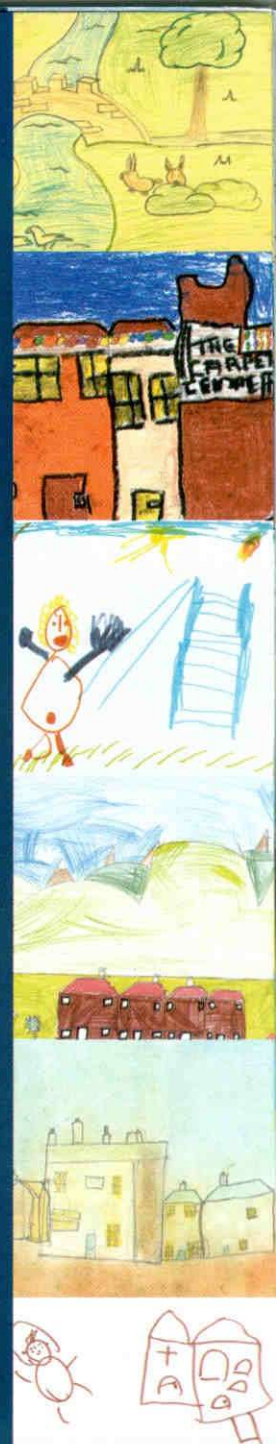
PARISH PLAN - FEBRUARY 2005

Index

Introduction	Page 2
History and Geography	Page 4
Services Overview	Page 5
The Consultation – The P.A. Process	Page 6
Results from the P.A Process	Page 7
Summary – Youth Issues	Page 8
Summary – Shops and Businesses	Page 9
Summary – Policing	Page 10
Summary – Environment	Page 11
Summary – Traffic and Parking	Page 12
Summary - Derelict Buildings	Page 13
Summary – Public and Community Transport	Page 14
Summary – Other Issues	Page 15
Action Plan	Page 16-18
So Where do we go from here	Page 19-20
Review Process	Pages 21
Conclusion	Page 22
Community Groups	Page 23
Members of Cleator Moor Town Council	Page 24
Acknowledgements	Page 25

Cleator Moor Town Council PARISH PLAN

Cleator Moor Town Council decided to produce this Parish Plan in conjunction with neighbouring parishes and community groups.



As Cleator Moor Development Ltd was coming to the end of the Single Regeneration Programme, the Town Council decided it was important to find out what local people thought before seeking new funding packages with partners.

A sub-committee of Cleator Moor Town Council was formed to take this forward. Membership included Arthur Baxter (Chair), John Seddon and Cornelius Barry (Town Councillors), Dave Banks (Copeland Councillor), Dave Smith (Neighbourhood Development) and Helen Gilmour (Clerk to the Council).



Cleator Parish – The History and Geography

Although this section is about geography, it cannot be best understood without a knowledge of history, for the two are intertwined with each other.

From pre-history, through early British, Roman, Norman, and mediaeval periods, the whole of the coastal plain of Copeland was forested, with very few exceptions. What is now Cleator Moor, was one exception, being a large clearing in the forest. There were others nearby at Egremont and Bigrigg, and as these clearings were most easily traversed, they became highways and places where people settled and grew crops. The first to use both of these to advantage, were the Romans, whose road north from Ravenglass forked at Egremont towards Papcastle, crossing the Todholes estate, where it was discovered, during the exploitation of the minerals beneath the surface during the 1700's.

The parish, sitting beneath the foothills of the Lake District is mainly on a Carboniferous limestone base, on a basement rock of Borrowdale Volcanics. As you move west away from the mountains, the limestone is overlain by the Coal Measures, and finally outside the parish by sandstone. It is this geology which took Cleator from being agricultural to industrial. Agriculture flourished as the forests were cut down during Elizabethan times, and corn, flax and hemp were crops that brought the first industries in the shape of mills. These were also the products that brought people to settle in Cleator village to work the crops and the emerging factories.

In the mid 1700's the demand for metals saw the opening of lead mines in the foothills at Kinniside, iron on what is now Cleator Moor, and in the 1790's coal to the east of the parish towards the River Keekle.

It was this upsurge in industrial use of metals that, combined with limestone, saw the rise of the area as an industrial entity, for the combination of coal, iron and limestone brought the ironworks, people, and eventually prosperity to the area. From the birth of the ironworks in 1842, the population soared, drawing in skilled and unskilled men to follow their womenfolk who had arrived earlier, particularly from Ireland, to work in the mills.

Although the raw materials are in many cases still available, the extractive industries that were so formative in the early years, have now ceased. Attempts in recent years have looked at extracting those minerals remaining, particularly coal, by opencast means, but modern environmental pressures currently outweigh the demand. The fact remains though, that many millions of tons of coal, iron, and limestone remain as an asset to the area of the parish.

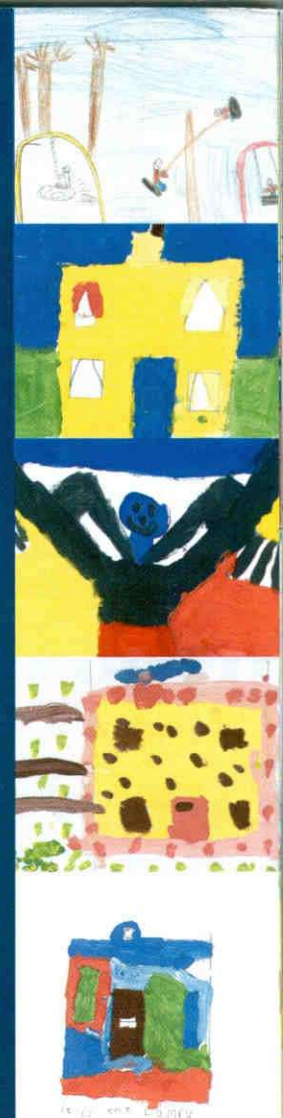
In a space of only 400 years, the parish is returning to agriculture, with only pockets of service industry occupying the old ironworks site, and the evidence of its past glories now turned over to environmental improvements and amenity areas.



Cleator Moor Miners



High street & market square, Cleator Moor



Cleator Moor – Services

Cleator Moor is situated close to the historic town of Whitehaven and close to the western Lake District. It is adequately serviced by a raft of local businesses and organisations including:

The Council Centre – One Stop Shop for the Town Council, Copeland Council and County Council

Dentist

Health Centre

Four Schools

National Westminster Bank

Cumberland Building Society

Petrol Filling Station

Garage Services and Repairs

Civic Hall

Police Station

Job Centre

Tool Hire

Home Housing

Building Supplies

Nursery Provision

Coast to Coast Cycle Way

Cycle Hire, repair and sales

Cleator Moor Business Centre

Home to Work

Sports Clubs

Post Offices

Four Supermarkets

Kangol

Take Away Outlets

Two Restaurants

Two Hotels with Restaurants

Plus a variety of shops



The Consultation Process

Participatory Appraisal

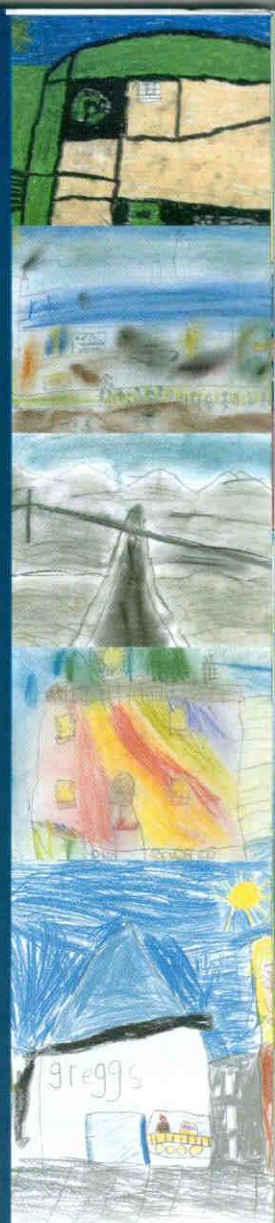
To find out what the people of Cleator and Cleator Moor wanted and needed, it was vital to carry out some sort of consultation process. The method selected was Participatory Appraisal, which originated in Africa. P.A. methods were devised because it was realised that people at grass roots level, were the ones who really knew what should be done to improve their community. It recognised that local people are experts in their own lives. A team of local residents, volunteers, Town Councillors, Cleator Moor Development and members of Groundwork Trust were issued with the task of implementing the P.A Process.

The P.A. process used pictures, maps, pie charts and matrices to create a visual impact with open questions. The process was explained to community members who were invited to record their comments and suggestions. Each person consulted was asked to record their gender, age range, where they lived, and if they were employed. This information was recorded carefully to ensure an even cross section within the community was consulted.

P.A stations were set up in many venues such as Cleator Moor Civic Hall, Montreal Healthy Hearts Group, The Council Centre, Cleator Moor Business Centre, Cleator Moor Celtic Football Club. Door to Door consultation was also used. The P.A team tried to visit as many community groups as possible to capture a variety of views.

The first level of questions identified the main issues affecting the people within the community. The issues that were identified most often at this level, were then taken forward to the next level and community members were asked for possible solutions. Level three and four gave people the opportunity to comment on the suggestions and solutions and to add and further comments. Finally in level five, all the suggestions and solutions were collated, with the community then being asked “who can help us achieve these goals?” or “who will be responsible?”

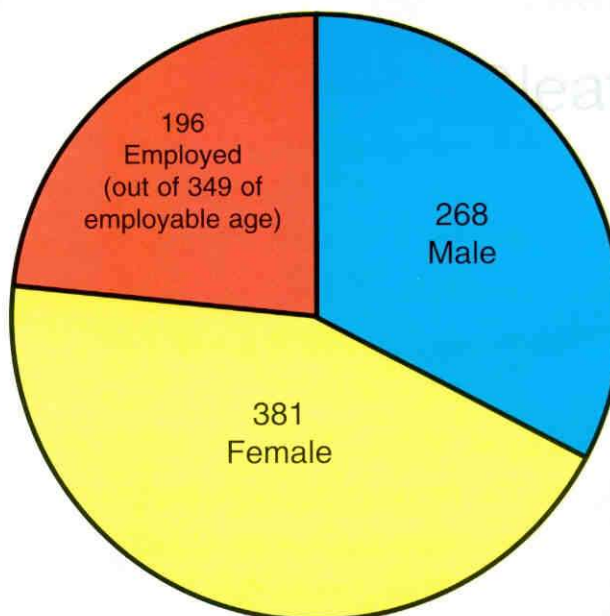
At each level the data recorded stated who said what, where and when. All this information was then gathered into the report “A Piece of the Action.”



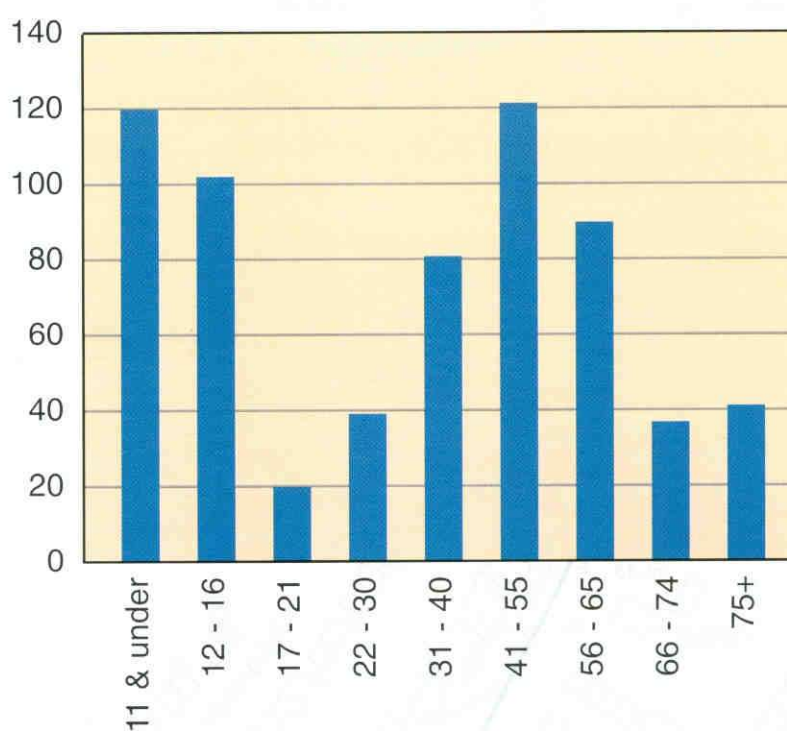
The Results from the Participatory Appraisal Project

This chart details the break down of people consulted during the P.A. project in Cleator Moor.

649 people consulted = 9.4% of the population



Breakdown by age:



The Issues - Youth

The lack of things for young people to do was the issue that caused more concern than any other.

Youth provision has had an unfortunate history in Cleator Moor over the last five/six years. Much was promised and, with some notable exceptions, little delivered. There can be little doubt that this has led to a certain level of disillusionment in the town.

Another factor that may well have resulted in such a high level of concern is the regular gathering of young people in the town square, particularly during the summer evenings. Though there are probably no more than twenty young people who regularly congregate in the square, this out of a population of over nine hundred 10 – 19 year olds in the parish, their visibility is high and this may well have had an impact on the level of concern expressed.

Over the various levels of consultation there were 237 responses that related directly to youth issues and this represented nearly 20% of the total number of responses. In addition, there were 43 responses that related to anti-social behaviour and vandalism and a further 21 responses that fell into the 'youth as a problem' category. Responses given were from across all ages groups and there was a good spread across the parish. The consultation was largely carried out between October 2003 and April 2004

As stated above, it was the perceived lack of things for young people to do that many people highlighted. A wide variety of solutions were suggested, the most popular being:

- Youth Clubs/Centre
- Cyber Café
- More Sports facilities
- Teenspace
- More Play Areas
- Skateboard Park
- More after School Clubs & Holiday Activities

As described below, a number of these solutions have already been developed. Others, including Teenspace, Cyber Café and Play Areas will be actively pursued through the Action Plan.

Since the consultation there has been a number of new activities set up for young people in the parish.

The Phoenix Youth Project has received funding support from Cleator Moor Development Ltd. (Single Regeneration Budget), Home Housing, Cumbria County Council and The Northern Rock Foundation amongst others to set up a youth centre in the parish and have offered a wide range of community activities in addition to the regular weekly sessions.

Mobex, the youth provision arm of Groundwork West Cumbria, continue to be active in the parish, and elsewhere in West Cumbria, and have recently been working with young people from the Mill Hill area.

Each of the sports clubs in the area, Cleator Moor Celtic, Wath Brow Hornets, Cleator Moor Boxing Club and Cleator Cricket Club have all recently developed new activities specifically aimed at young people. In addition, the uniformed groups such as Scouts and Guides continue to meet on a weekly basis.

One of the issues that tend to hamper the development of activities for young people is the shortage of local people coming forward to act as volunteers. If anyone would like to become a volunteer then please contact the Town Council Clerk who will point them in the right direction.



Shops & Businesses

It is clear that many people feel that there is an ongoing decline in both the number and range of shops and businesses in Cleator Moor and, more specifically, around the Square and along the High Street. It is equally clear that most people would like to see this decline reversed.

Within living memory Cleator Moor used to be the service centre for all the surrounding villages, up to and including Lamplugh some 8 miles away. This role has certainly diminished over time.

This issue was raised on 176 occasions during the consultation process and this equates to 14.6% of the total responses.

Though not always specifically stated, concerns regarding lack of employment opportunities in the area are linked to this issue and it should be noted that unemployment remains a major concern in the parish with figures well above the national average.

There can also be little doubt that this issue has a direct link in the mind of most people to that of derelict buildings, another issue that was highlighted during the consultation process,

There are a number of positive factors regarding shops and businesses in Cleator Moor. We still have a bank and a building society in town, there is a range of shops offering both goods and services and there are a number of small and medium enterprises, many of which are based in Phoenix Court managed by the Cleator Moor Business Centre.

Negative factors would certainly include the number of vacant units on the Leconfield Industrial Estate and the number of vacant shops in and around The Square. The depressing and boarded-up presence of the old Co-op building certainly does nothing to inspire confidence. The decline of the Friday market to the point where there is only one trader turning up on a regular basis was highlighted by a number of people as was the failure of the proposed Factory Outlet development on the Kangol site at Cleator.

The businesses based in and around The Square certainly help to support the various shops in the town. If English Partnerships are able to attract new firms to the Leconfield Estate, perhaps companies associated with nuclear decommissioning, and when the old Co-op building is refurbished, the increase in the number of businesses operating in Cleator Moor will hopefully attract new shops and services to the town.

Whilst there may well be some incentives, such as reduced business rates and rents, that the local authority and English Partnerships could offer to encourage more businesses into the town, it is the support of the local population that is required to ensure that shops and service providers thrive and survive. Shop local - use it or lose it.

Policing

A number of issues were raised during the consultation process have been pulled together under the heading of Police issues. These include the issues of police on the streets, anti-social behaviour, crime and public safety.

Of the above, the main area of concern was the lack of a visible police presence, particularly around The Square and, to a lesser extent, on the estates. Combined with the highly visible presence of young and, at times rowdy, people 'hanging around' The Square and the concerns expressed about anti-social behaviour, these related issues were highlighted across the age range spectrum. It was certainly not an issue of concern only to the elderly.

During the whole of the consultation process the above, related issues were mentioned on 105 separate occasions and this equates to 8.75% of the total number of responses.

It is interesting that the issues of anti-social behaviour and lack of police on the streets were the major concerns, as opposed to crime, as this reflects the numbers and type of reported incidents in the Cleator Moor area. Incidents of disorder and criminal damage far out number incidents of theft and burglary for example.

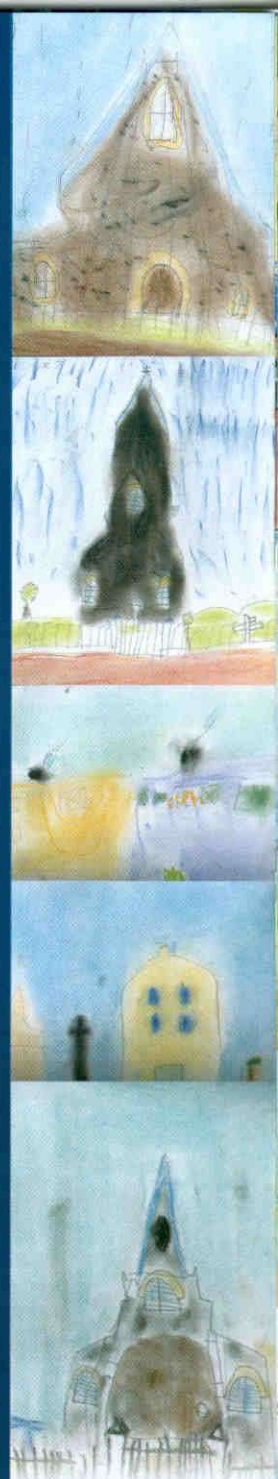
At the time of the consultation Cumbria Constabulary were in the process of developing a new policing plan for the Cleator Moor area. A new Sergeant was in place and he was building up a team of community constables each of whom would have responsibility for a specific geographic area within the Cleator Moor patch. This team includes constables with responsibility for the town centre.

Other new developments included a cycle patrol team who will be able to deal with incidents along the cycle track, for example, a 'Night Safe' scheme that will help reduce alcohol related crime and the introduction of a mobile video unit to help combat incidents of disorder.

At the time of writing work is underway on the refurbishment of the police station. When this work is completed the station will be open to the public for the first time for a number of years.

Solutions suggested by people included an increase in the numbers of police, more police on foot and the targeting of 'hot spots' in the area. It would appear that all these suggestions will be met by the policing plan for the area.

The police report back to the Town Council on a regular basis, a courtesy that is much appreciated.



Environment

A number of different but related issues that were raised during the consultation process have been brought together under the heading of Environmental Issues for the parish plan. These include dog fouling, littering and fly tipping.

In total these related issues were mentioned on 232 occasions during the consultation process and this equates to 19.3% of the total number of responses. Of the above, dog fouling was the issue that elicited most comment.

Dog fouling was specifically mentioned by a number of people in relation to The Square and to the Community Park at Cleator, however it is an issue for all the open green spaces, including sports fields, in the parish.

Suggested solutions to help deal with this issue included the employment of more dog wardens to ensure that more people were prosecuted. This would hopefully encourage more dog owners to become more responsible and use pooper scoops. Nobody wants to have to pay a fine and nobody wants his or her name in the paper as an irresponsible dog owner.

Other suggestions included dog parks and more dog bins placed in areas that are favoured by dog walkers. A number of people also made the point that if the dog bins were emptied on a regular basis then this would encourage more use of them.

A number of people also felt that there should be some education and awareness raising around the whole issue of responsible dog ownership.

Fly tipping was highlighted as a problem that was definitely on the increase. Many respondents suggested that this was as a direct result of the local authority deciding to charge for the removal of bulky items of waste. Others felt that there had been a noticeable increase in fly tipping due to the collection of household waste now being undertaken on a fortnightly basis as opposed to a weekly basis as used to happen.

People mentioned a number of fly tipping 'hot spots' during the consultation process and this information will be passed to the appropriate authority.

Solutions to this problem included the restoration of the free collection of bulky items of waste service, the return to a weekly collection of household waste and a more aggressive attitude to the prosecution of fly tippers.

The issue of litter on the streets was seen as an issue that the community could help with by holding 'Pick up litter' days, working in partnership with the local authority. Once again, education was felt by many to be a way of trying to deal with the problem.

Individual community members have a real role to play in highlighting areas of environmental concern, e.g. dog fouling and fly tipping, to the appropriate authorities.



Traffic & Parking

A series of related issues that are always going to raise a variety of concerns whenever and wherever community consultations are carried out. However, at the time when the consultation was carried out, Copeland Borough Council had recently introduced parking charges on the car parks in the town square. There can be little doubt that this had an impact on the level of concern expressed during the consultation process.

Traffic and parking within the parish was commented upon 196 times during the participatory appraisal process, second only to Youth issues, and this number of responses equated to 16.3% of the total number of responses.

As might be expected, those who raised these issues were over 18 and in the main were under 75. Parking was an issue of concern throughout the parish whilst there was a higher level of concern regarding traffic levels expressed by people living along the length of the A5086 between Wath Brow and Cleator.

The most popular solutions offered to deal with the issues raised were:

- * The reintroduction of free parking
- * The use of speed cameras in the recognised speeding 'hot spots' in the parish
- * The introduction of traffic controls/calming
- * The reduction of HGV numbers using the roads in the parish
- * A pedestrian crossing at Bowthorn

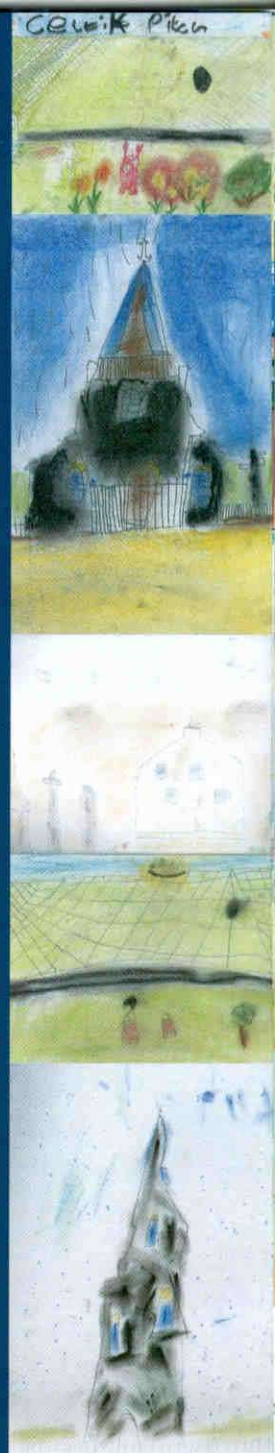
The Town Council has been at the forefront of the campaign to reintroduce free parking in the town square and will continue to be so. However it must be recognised that there are limitations to what the council can actually do with regard to these issues. Lobbying both the County Council and the Borough Council may be the most effective action the Town Council could take.

The County Council have taken the decision to use only speed camera vans in Cumbria and at present none of the sites used by the vans are in the parish. However there is the possibility that Cleator Moor could become part of the Speed Watch scheme in which local people are trained to use a hand-held speed cameras to monitor passing traffic.

The introduction of traffic calming is a contentious issue and one that usually splits communities down the middle, half being in favour and half totally opposed. Traffic calming of all types is expensive. The county council are becoming much more reluctant to fund the installation of traffic calming measures as a result of a number of communities demanding that they be removed or altered after their introduction.

Restrictions on the movement of HGV's in the area are unlikely to be introduced. This was an issue of particular concern for those living along the A5086 which is the main A road between Cockermouth and Egremont.

There can be little doubt that the B5295 between Whitehaven and Cleator Moor is a very busy road and it is clear that many people living in the Bowthorn area feel that there is a need for a safe crossing point. However, the sighting of such a crossing were the Highways Authority, Cumbria County Council, to agree to fund one, would be problematic. There are numerous road junctions in the Bowthorn area and the further towards Whitehaven, i.e. further away from the bus stop, the crossing was positioned, the less use it would receive.



Derelict Buildings

Though this particular issue is headed derelict buildings it should be noted that a number of people also referred to buildings that they viewed as in need of some care and attention.

There are two 'key' buildings that were specifically mentioned as being derelict and needing work carried out on them. These were the Old Co-op building on The Square and the disused Methodist church on Ennerdale Road.

Other buildings mentioned during the consultation process included the Knights club and some individual shop fronts.

There were 59 separate responses regarding this particular issue and that equates to 4.9% of the overall responses.

The Old Co-op was the building that was mentioned most during the various rounds of consultation and it was clear that this is a 'touchstone' issue for many people in the parish/ When the Co-op decided to relocate to new premises there was much unhappiness in the town about the decision and the fact that the building has remained undeveloped for the last seven years has done nothing to alleviate that unhappiness. So much consultation work has been undertaken with regard to the future of the building and so little has resulted from these consultations that a certain level of cynicism was encountered when this topic occurred during the Parish Plan consultations.

Suggested solutions included the redevelopment of derelict buildings for business and/or community use, the demolition of disused and/or derelict buildings followed by the redevelopment of the site and the extension of the shop-front facelift programme that was supported by the local regeneration company to include buildings like the Knights Club. Some people made the point that the town centre needs to be looked at and redeveloped as a whole, rather than building by building though they did recognise that there could well be ownership issues regarding such an overall approach.

Once again, car parking was raised by a number of people in relation to this issue in as much as there was a recognition that any organisation undertaking redevelopment would need to take the lack of free car parking in the town centre into account.

It is clear that the run-down feel of a number of buildings in the area has a negative effect on the ambience of the whole town centre and almost certainly discourages potential investors.

At the time of writing, Copeland Borough Council have now purchased the Old Co-op building and are in the process of putting together a funding package to develop the building. It is intended that it will be converted into small business units and will be managed by the Cleator Moor Business Centre.



Public and Community Transport

At first sight it would appear that Cleator Moor is well served by public transport, i.e. buses, there being a regular service to and from Whitehaven every 15 minutes for most of the day. Cleator is less well served with just one bus to and from Whitehaven per hour.

However, the issue of public transport was raised on 60 separate occasions during the consultation process and this equates to 5% of the total number of responses. As might be expected, the majority of these responses came from people who did not have ready access to their own vehicle, i.e. the elderly and the young.

The major concerns related to the time of the last bus from Whitehaven, the poor Sunday service, the ending of bus services serving the various estates in Cleator Moor (Mill Hill in particular) and poor bus timings for those wishing to visit people in the hospital at Hensingham.

The above, together with the “poor relation” service to Cleator, were the main issues raised and all these services are operated by Stagecoach Ltd., though two of the late in the day journeys made by the service 17 are financially supported by Cumbria County Council.

Obviously we as the Town Council, and you as individual members of the public, can lobby Stagecoach for a better service to address the issues raised above. However, the harsh truth is that if Stagecoach thought that there was a profit to be made from additional services, they would already be running them. Alternatively, lobbying the County Council to provide more money to support the expansion of the services might be a more appropriate way forward.

It may well be that community transport could be used to address some of the issues highlighted above. The Copeland Community Transport Brokerage scheme is actually based in Cleator Moor and a number of local community organisations are already registered with them.

At present there is no voluntary car scheme operational in the parish. This too is an alternative form of transport that might well be adapted to meet the needs of the area.



Other issues:

There were a number of other issues that whilst they were not mentioned as frequently as some of those previously highlighted, are important and it is appropriate that they are in the Parish Plan.

Employment opportunities, or rather the lack of them, and a rate of unemployment that continues to be above the Copeland, the Cumbrian and the national average are a continuing cause for concern.

This particular issue is clearly related to a number of other issues such as shops and businesses, redevelopment of derelict buildings and indeed the whole question of regeneration of the area.

The work undertaken by the local regeneration body, Cleator Moor Development Ltd., over the last five years has been of real value supporting a variety of local projects. However, lack of progress on the redevelopment of the old Co-op has led many to believe that the regeneration strategy for Cleator Moor has been ineffective. With the ending of the Single Regeneration Budget, which part funded the previous five-year regeneration programme, coming to an end in April 2005 it is time for a new strategy to be developed. This new strategy, which will be informed by the Parish Plan among other documents, will certainly have employment as one of the sought after outputs.

During locally held consultations on the Local Plan for Copeland it became clear that there were a number of people from the Cleator Moor area who would like to build their own house and wanted some land in the parish identified in the Local Plan as being available for self-build. This need was also raised during the Parish Plan consultations.

A number of people highlighted the lack of both facilities and activities for elderly people as being an issue of concern. The idea of a new social centre for elderly people was mentioned by some. Age Concern now run a 'Social Diary' that provides information on events for elderly people in the area.



ACTION PLAN

Continuing on from the Participatory Appraisal Process, the following action plans were agreed:

Issue	Solution	Location	Priority	Timescale	Lead	Budget	Partners
Lack of shops and amenities	Attract new shops and businesses	C/Moor	High	1-2 years	CBC		CCC TC Chamber of Trade Present shop owners Business Centre Regeneration Group
	Get the market back	Square	High	1 year	CBC		TC Regeneration Group/Business Centre
	Develop Factory outlet on Kangol Site	Cleator	Medium	1-2 years			CBC
Young Peoples Activities	Youth Clubs every night/ Cyber Café	Square	High	1-4 years	Phoenix Youth Project		CCC Connexions Early Years CYA Mobex Sports Clubs Parents Young People
	More sports facilities and pitches	C/Moor	High	1-2 years			
	Teenspace /sheltered seating	Away from Square	High	1 year	Town Council	Variety of funding bodies	
	Playground	Cleator	High	1 year	Town Council and local community	In Place	
	Afterschool clubs/holiday schemes						
	Skateboard Park	C/Moor behind play area at the Bighill	Medium		Town Council		

CBC = Copeland Borough Council CCC = Cumbria County Council
 TC = Town Council CYA = Cumbria Youth Alliance
 NCCT = North Cumbria Community Transport



Issue	Solution	Location	Priority	Timescale	Lead	Budget	Partners
Public Transport	More buses on Sunday	C/Moor	Medium		CCC		CCC Stagecoach
	Circular bus routes around different parts of C/Moor	C/Moor	Medium		CCC		
Community Transport	Volunteer drivers/car share scheme/ community bus	Whole area	High	1 year	CCC	In place	TC NCCT
Traffic Calming	Speed cameras Traffic Controls Traffic Calming	Cleator	Medium	1-2 years	CCC	CCC	Cumbria Police Community Safety Partnership Highways Local Residents
Traffic Management	Reduce HGV's	Cleator					CCC
	Free parking to be reintroduced	C/Moor	High	1 year	CBC		Cumbria Police Community Safety Partnership
	Pedestrian Crossing at Bowthorn	C/Moor	Low		TC	CCC	Highways Local Residents

CBC = Copeland Borough Council CCC = Cumbria County Council
 TC = Town Council CYA = Cumbria Youth Alliance
 NCCT = North Cumbria Community Transport

Issue	Solution	Location	Priority	Timescale	Lead	Budget	Partners
Derelict Buildings	Develop and deliver facelifts to new buildings: Knights Club/ old Coop Pull them down and redevelop site	C/Moor	High	1 year	CBC	West Lakes (renaissance)	CCC TC Local businesses Community
Environmental Issues	Education/ Information	Whole area		Ongoing	CBC		TC Local Agenda 21
	Prosecute offenders (fly tippers, litter dropping, dog fouling)	Hot spots within the whole area	High		CBC		TC COMM
	Pick up litter days/rotas	Whole area	Medium	Ongoing	TC	CBC have money for this type of activity	CBC COMM
	More dog wardens/ dog parks and dog bins	?	Medium		CBC and TC	LA21 fund	COMM
Policing Issues	More Police on foot	Around the Square and along the Main St and Cleator	High	Ongoing	Cumbria Constabulary		Cumbria Police Community Safety Partnership
	Target problem hot spots	See above	High	Ongoing	Cumbria Constabulary		TC

CBC = Copeland Borough Council CCC = Cumbria County Council
 TC = Town Council CYA = Cumbria Youth Alliance
 NCCT = North Cumbria Community Transport



SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The action plans make reference to a large number of organisations, the task now is for the community of Cleator Moor to convince them, and the organisations that fund them, to respond to the needs of the town.

The Town Council is already talking (and funding) some of these requirements. Cleator Moor Development Limited is coming to the end of it's work, but plans are already in place, for an organisation and strategy, to keep moving forward. This Parish Plan, others from around the area and the Regeneris "mini-masterplan will form the basis of funding applications and work for this new organisation.

But, and this is a big but, solutions or part solutions to a lot of the needs are in the hands of us, the people who live in Cleator Moor!

You may ask how – by volunteering to do something for the community.

For a population of about 7000 it is estimated that only about 120 (1.5%) people give up their time for the community. All the sports and clubs are managed by volunteers, the Town Council are all volunteers, even the new development organisation's main committee will primarily be volunteers.

The survey talked to 649 people (9.4%) from Cleator Moor, just think what could be achieved if there were that many volunteers working for the community

We could possibly have: -

- ❖ Youth clubs every night
- ❖ Even bigger sports clubs
- ❖ A Community Safety Partnership with the Police (these organisations have proved successful in reducing crime, disorder and traffic problems).
- ❖ More activities for Older People.
- ❖ Fewer environmental problems
- ❖ And many more!

But you may ask does it work? – yes

- ✓ Volunteers in Cleator have raised thousands of pounds to renew the play equipment in the village.
- ✓ Volunteers on Birks Road are providing an area for children to play.
- ✓ Volunteers at Celtic & Hornets have been successful in expanding their facilities.
- ✓ The Christmas and Arts & Craft events are mainly volunteers.
- ✓ The Pensioners hut was refurbished with money raised by volunteers, the Boys Club the same.
- ✓ A successful Credit Union started by volunteers.

And many more.

There is no limit to what could be done if enough people wanted to do it.

Cleator Moor Town Council PARISH PLAN

We worry about litter and dog fouling, who drops the litter? Yet we expect the council to pick it up.

Whose dogs foul the streets? How many people report offenders to Copeland Borough Council?

We worry about youth disorder, how many people report that to the Police? How many people assume that a group of youths gathering in a public place are causing disorder, if it's a public place and they are not causing damage or offence they actually can be there!



Review

The Town Council does not view this process as a “one off.” Constant reviews will be made on progress during Town Council meetings (members of the public are welcome to attend,) along with an annual feed back meeting with the public.

Liaison will also continue with other bodies to ensure progress.

The Town Council is committed to delivering the Action Plan that has come about as a result of this consultation process. However, we need all the help we can get so if you would like to get involved please contact the Town Council Office 01946 810 242.



IN CONCLUSION

Cleator Moor, in spite of reports in the press over the last few years, is a great place to live & work. There are a lot of clubs and activities available (but maybe people don't know of their existence) and there is a future for the town!

Yes we have our concerns, yes it can be better and yes, we can all make it better!

Mention has been made of volunteering, which often brings a minefield of excuses and urban myths.

"Working with young people is a problem" but many people in this town have done so for many years without problems.

"I'm unemployed and will lose benefit" – in most cases this is not true (ask the Job Centre) and you may even increase your skills.

"I can't do anything active" – most organisations need management committees to run them as well as active members to organise activities.

Need I continue?

Bear in mind the saying:

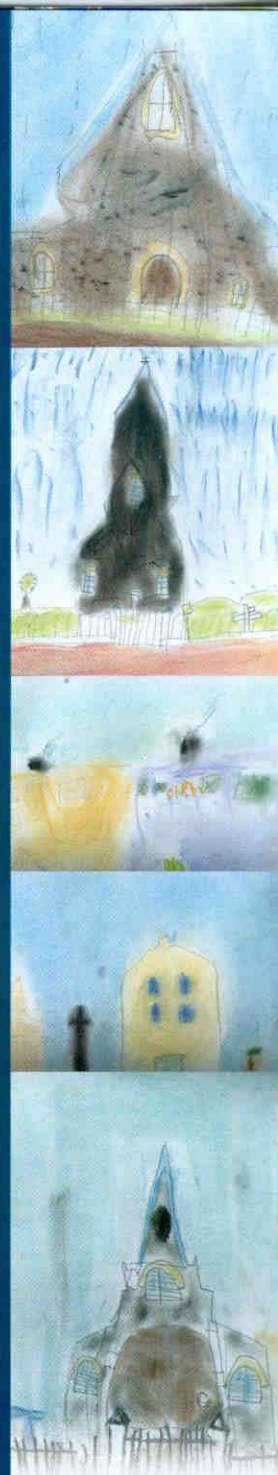
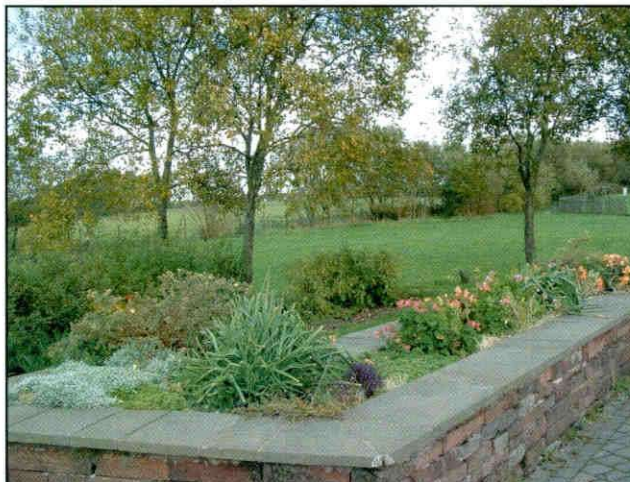
" The best way to get something done, is to do it yourself"

Let's stop talking about it, let's all get out there and do it, and if you are already operating a club or activity – tell the Town Council so we can set up a register to tell others.

I know a lot of what is written in this plan may seem to be banging a drum and seen as criticism. Perhaps it is, and if we have offended any individual or group then please accept our apologies. However there is no doubt that the people who can make a real difference are you, the residents of Cleator Moor Parish.

Arthur P Baxter

Chairman Cleator Moor Town Council



Community Groups within Cleator and Cleator Moor

There are many activities available for people of all ages to enjoy within the area. There is the opportunity for residents to pursue a wide range of interests. Some of the groups listed below, illustrate the diversity of sport and activity that is currently available within Cleator and Cleator Moor.

Wath Brow Hornets
Cleator Cricket Club
Cleator Moor Celtic
Cleator Moor Boxing
Phoenix Youth Group
Brownies / Guides
Cubs / Scouts
Women's Institute / Mothers Union
Karate
Dancing
Howgill - Mothers and Toddlers
St Mary's - Mother and Toddlers
Cleator Moor Credit Union
Cleator Moor Netball Club
University of the Third Age
Bowling
Keep Fit / Legs, Bums and Tums
Boxercise
Weight Watchers / Weight Management / Scottish Slimmers
Army Cadets
Methodist Church Lunch Club
Age Concern
Community Walks

To add your group details to the list, or to find local contacts, telephone the Town Council Office 01946 810 242 on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.

MEMBERS OF CLEATOR MOOR TOWN COUNCIL

Mr W Southward (N)
25 Longbarrow
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5NW
813 435

Mr C Barry (S)
1 Cleator Gate
Cleator
Cumbria
CA23 3DN
814 378

Mr M Fitzpatrick (N)
34 Crossfield Road
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5BY
810 606

Mr A Baxter (N)
31 John Colligan Drive
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5JX
812 277

Mr D Hully (N)
46 Montreal Ave
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5NJ
810 681

Mrs A Jackson (S)
12 Snowdon Ave
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5JN
812 053

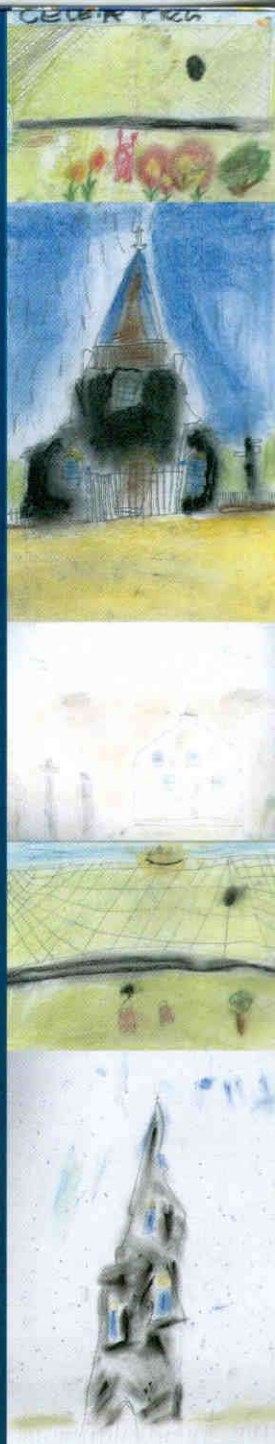
Mr M McDowell (S)
46 Clayton Ave
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5PF
813 490

Mrs J Hully (S)
46 Montreal Ave
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5NJ
810 681

Mr J Seddon (N)
2 Montreal House
Crossfield Road
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5BY
810 070

Mr D Fisher (N)
12 Weddicar Gardens
Cleator Moor
Cumbria
CA25 5JH
812 771

2 Vacancies



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cleator Moor Town Council wishes to acknowledge with thanks the support of the following people, in the production of this document.

Dave Smith – Neighbourhood Development

Sarah Mitchell – Voluntary Action Cumbria

Dave Banks – County Councillor

The Countryside Agency

Groundwork West Cumbria

Cleator Moor Development Ltd

Community Volunteers – PA Team

Cumbria Constabulary

Print Express

Thank you to all the local people who gave their time during the consultation period and to those who have attended the public meetings.

Children's Art Work Supplied by:

Cleator Moor Nursery

Montreal Primary School

St Patrick's Primary

Cleator Moor Town Council Office

The Square, Cleator Moor, Cumbria CA25 5AP

Normal opening times Monday to Wednesday 9.00am - 3.00pm

However you should note, that the office may be closed when the Clerk is out on site visits.

To contact the office - Telephone 01946 810 242

Email cleatormoortowncouncil@btconnect.com

Or a message may be left in the Copeland Brough Council Office.

