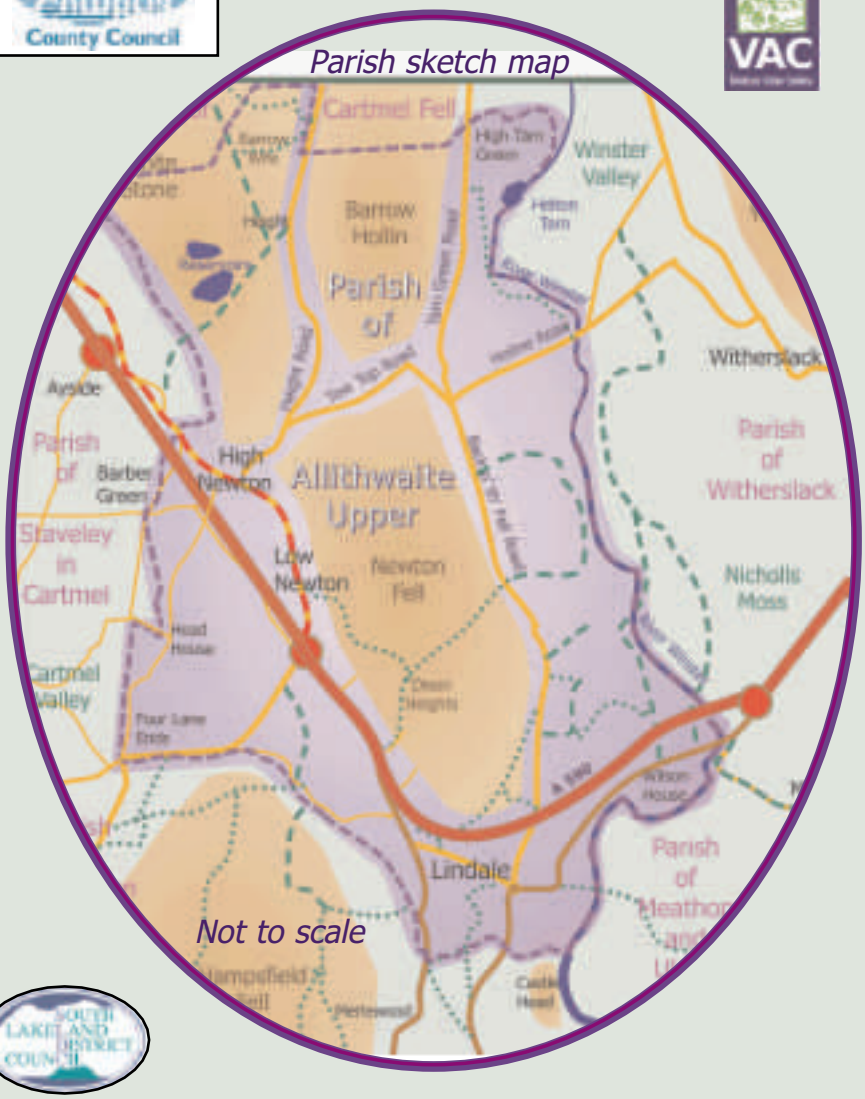
Lindale High Newton and Low Newton
Community Plan

Parish sketch map



Allithwaite Upper Civil Parish
Community Plan Steering Group 2008

Contents

	Page
Foreword by Tim Farron MP	2
Introduction	
1. Background to the Plan	3
2. Portrait of the Parish	5
3. Community Life	11
4. Community Plan Process	15
5. Overview of results	17
The Main Issues	
6. Business and Employment: Economic Issues	18
7. Green Villages: Environmental Issues	19
8. Services and Housing: Social Issues	24
9. Traffic and Safety: Transport Issues	27
Action Plans after page	32
Conclusions	
10. A Parish Vision	33
11. Next Steps	34
Appendices	
A. Division of responsibilities	35
B. 1992 Appraisal summary	35
C. Historic Environment Record	36
D. 2006 Community Survey results	37
E. 2007 Business Survey results	39
12. Acknowledgements and Glossary	41

The Tow Top Crossroads

The Parish across the Sands

Towards Castle Head and Ingleborough

Tim Farron MP at the opening of the Village Visions Exhibition in June 2007

Foreword

From Tim Farron MP
Westmorland and Lonsdale

I am very pleased to be asked to write a foreword for Allithwaite Upper Community Plan. I have followed progress with interest, having formally opened the very successful Village Visions event in June 2007. The event attracted over 170 people, and I was particularly pleased to see activities for children so that adults had time to study the displays and ideas for the Plan, derived from your previous survey.

At the event I was not surprised to hear the concerns expressed about high levels of second home ownership in some parts of the parish. I am pleased to note that the Plan highlights the problem of providing affordable homes, as the purchase of so many houses as second homes has transformed formerly vibrant communities into apparently lifeless ghettoes. I am interested to note that the Plan supports my ideas to address this problem, by requiring second homes owners to apply for an official change of use through the local authority. This would allow a legal upper limit to be enforced on the number of second homes. I like the focus on encouraging innovative solutions, though I note the suggestions do not go as far as adopting my idea of making second home owners pay business rates.

I have received hundreds of letters of support for Lindale Post Office and have been pleased to support the fight to keep open essential services such as this, which are absolutely vital to our communities. I am pleased that this community continues to support me in the fight to defend essential services.

I see that kerbside recycling collections are so well supported here that you want plastics and cardboard also to be collected. I am also impressed to see the emphasis in the Plan on trying to encourage sustainable transport, by making more use of public transport, to make sure you don't lose these services. Similarly it is encouraging to note proposed actions to allow some employment developments in the parish, so people don't have to travel so far to work. This Plan is one of the first I have seen which is moving towards adaptations to a changing climate. I applaud your vision.

Allithwaite Upper Community Plan is a crucial element of the new Local Development Framework. It is important that the aspirations of your community are taken into account in the planning process.

With best wishes

INTRODUCTION

1. Background to the Plan

'The lack of affordable homes to rent and buy continues to be the single biggest issue highlighted to me on my tour. Affordable homes underpin the future sustainability of rural settlements'.
Dr Stuart Burgess, Prime Minister's Rural Adviser 2008

1.1 Work on Allithwaite Upper Community Plan began with a search for information about the parish. Previous surveys have included a 'Village Appraisal' of Lindale and Newton-in-Cartmel carried out internally in 1992, and a service provision checklist for Lindale (LDNPA 2005). The parish lies just within the Lake District National Park (LDNP), which since 1951 has controlled planning decisions. The Community Plan is part of the portfolio of documents for the **Local Development Framework** for 2009, an important new approach to planning. It outlines the community's aspirations, illustrated by quotations from community surveys in 2006 and 2007, and provides a vision for the parish's future, with a list of suggested actions.

It is consistent with the **LDNPA Vibrant Communities Vision for 2030.** The Parish Council (PC) and Voluntary Action Cumbria (VAC) provided funding for the production of the Plan. Funding for actions will need to be sought by the parish council and partners, such as the LDNPA for planning matters, South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) for waste collection and recycling, and Cumbria County Council (CCC) for roads, health, policing and education (Appendix A).

What is the Local Development Framework (LDF)?

Entirely new approach to planning

Replaces Local and Structure Plans

Consists of portfolio of documents to include Community Plans

LDNPA Vibrant Communities: Vision for 2030

'People successfully living, working and relaxing within …places where distinctive local character is maintained and celebrated'

1. Balanced housing markets to provide opportunities for people to live and work in the community
2. Effective access to a broad range of life long learning opportunities and essential services
3. Support for the retention of the basic 'ingredients' which keep rural communities alive (a school, a gathering place such as a village hall or pub, a post office or shop)
4. Provision of an integrated transport network which offers attractive alternatives to the car
5. Everyone understands and feels part of the National Park and its cultural heritage
6. Young people enjoy their lives in the National Park

*Displays at the exhibition **Sharing Village Visions** in Lindale Village Hall in June 2007*

*Local councillors with **Steering Group Chairman** David Clapp and Michael Sykes (Taylor Newton & Hibbert Charity)*

1.2 In 1992 a **'Village Appraisal'** of Lindale and Newton-in-Cartmel was carried out by the parish council. The survey asked questions about housing, education, employment, transport, recreation and improvements to roads and lighting. The views of 179 Lindale and 53 Newton households were returned, representing a 50% and 70% return rate respectively on questionnaires delivered (Appendix B). Some of the views were polarised; more people did not want more houses in the villages than those who did, who wished to see more housing for the young. Respondents were very satisfied with local schools. While some people worked in the parish others worked in Grange-over-Sands, but many travelled to Kendal, others to Ulverston or Barrow, with a significant number of long distance commuters. Grange-over-Sands was the main destination for shopping and medical services, though more of Newton's residents used Kendal, rather than Grange-over-Sands, for social activities. Transport in both villages was predominantly by private car, while 2/3 of all respondents said they never used the bus. Many wished to see additional social amenities, some of which have been provided since 1992. Lindale now has a bowling green, an annual Sports Day, Car Boot sales, and both villages have Village Fairs. The 1992 survey showed a complex picture with most people having to meet their need for services outside the parish.

1.3 A **service provision checklist** was conducted in Lindale for the LDNPA in 2005. Using a checklist primarily designed for larger settlements it recorded the absence in Lindale of diverse retail uses, banks, doctors, fuel providers, pharmacy, museum, theatre, police station, fire station and café. Lindale's service provision according to this list is very restricted, amounting to car parking spaces, two bus services, church, Post Office and stores, local information board, primary school and nursery, skateboard area and bowling green. The checklist design was not best suited to a village, and its completion was not entirely accurate, underlining the need for this Community Plan in supplying accurate local information, about this small rural parish of about 800 people, to our planning authority, the LDNPA.

1.4 There is a **presumption against development** in the parish at present, but the planning framework is changing. Previous LDNPA planning documents (the 1998 Local Plan, and LDNPA Management Plan 2003) identified no land as scheduled for employment or residential use in the parish. The Plans show a 'development boundary' for Lindale and indentify development in High Newton as subject to certain criteria. The Community Plan's findings reflect the following Local Plan policies:

- A strong environmental and conservation ethos
- A clear priority for housing to meet local needs
- A need to foster the local economy
- A framework for the management of traffic

1.5 Work on the **Allithwaite Upper Community Plan** began in September 2006 at a public meeting called by the parish council, and held in Lindale Village Hall. Those people who expressed interest were invited to the first meeting, held at Castle Head Field Centre, as a result of which a Steering Group of about ten people was set up. Subsequent alternate meetings were then held in Newton Village Hall, and at Castle Head.

1.6 This **Community Plan** shows that residents would like to see some appropriate, small scale and sustainable development occur within the parish in order to meet the needs of young families, and to ensure the future viability of the community.

The southern boundary of the ***Lake District National Park*** *and our neighbouring villages. The 'W' symbols show sites associated with John Wilkinson*

1.7 The parish forms the southern boundary of the **Lake District National Park**, while the adjoining Grange-over-Sands parish lies outside the National Park. There may be a case for consideration of the parish's future development as 'Outer Zone' National Park, to allow greater partnership working with Grange-over-Sands Town Council, and neighbouring parishes.

2. Portrait of the Parish

'We live in a beautiful area which has a friendly and supportive community for all age groups'

The Parish in 1610 according to Speed. The spellings give an idea of how places were pronounced at the time

2.1 A peripheral parish

'Easy access to major roads and other places'

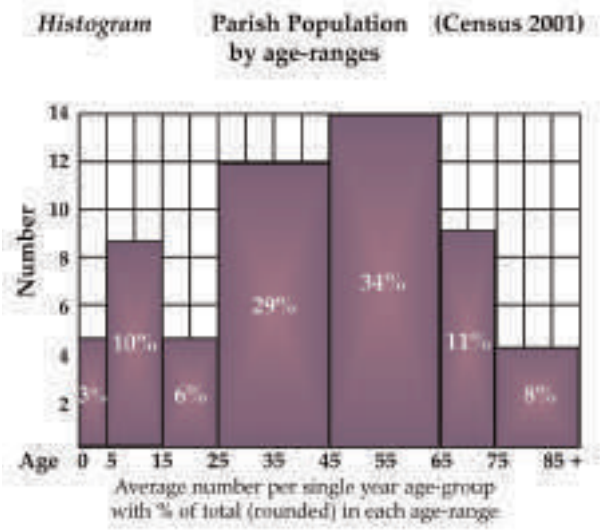
Allithwaite Upper parish, one of 269 civil parishes in Cumbria and 71 in South Lakeland, lies at the southern 'gateway' of the Lake District National Park, in an area now marketed as 'Lake District Peninsulas'. It is a small parish, approximately six km from north to south, and three km from west to east. Lindale, the largest village, lies at the southern tip of the parish. A couple of miles to the northwest lie the hamlets of Low Newton and High Newton, the only other significant settlements. Allithwaite Upper parish is bounded to the west by the parishes of Broughton East and Staveley-in–Cartmel, to the north by Cartmel Fell, to the east by Witherslack parish, and with Grange-over-Sands to the south.

The Edwardian seaside resort of Grange-over-Sands, about two miles to the south, is the nearest large settlement, approached via the B5277 road through lower Lindale. Grange-over-Sands is designated a Key Service Centre by SLDC, with a railway station with direct links to Manchester airport and the Cumbria Coast. Kendal is about 12 miles away, Windermere 15 miles, and Lancaster 20 miles away. The parish is only 10 miles west of the M6 motorway, to which it is joined by the largely dual carriageway A590 trunk road to Barrow-in-Furness, making it easily accessible for commuters and visitors. The A590 passes through the southern edge of the parish, and was formerly, before 1977, the main road through Lindale, linking it to Low and High Newton and Newby Bridge beyond. Construction of the Newton bypass began in July 2006 and was completed in April 2008. Not surprisingly the bypass dominated concerns in the Newton area during the preparation for this Plan, and village residents are hoping for a quieter environment in future.

2.2 Few young people

'We must keep young people in the village'

Allithwaite Upper parish is a sparsely populated rural area, with two main villages and one hamlet and around 15 farms. The 2001 Census recorded 824 people, about 2/3 of working age. 3% were under fives, 10% were between 5-15 years, and with only 6% in the 16 to 24 age range, a percentage of young people almost half the average for Cumbria.

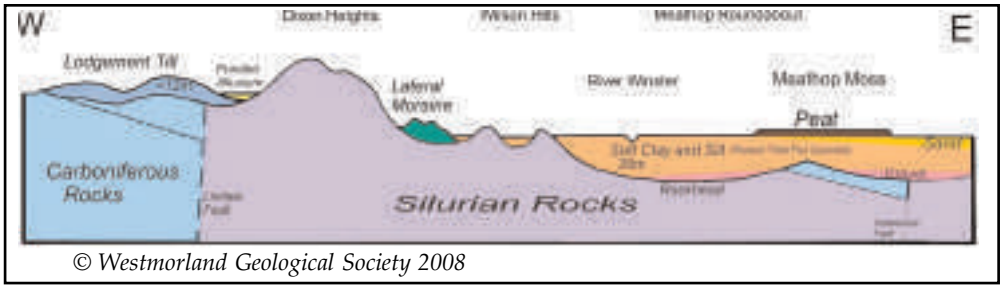


The 2001 Census returned 378 households, a further 22 vacant and 52 second or holiday homes, (14%). 51% are semis or terraced houses, 44% of dwellings are detached, with 5% flats/ mobile homes. An above average 87% of properties are owner occupied, but only 4% of households are social renting and 9% privately rented. 28% of households have lone occupants, while 26% of households are pensioners. Only 26% of households in the parish have children. Car or van ownership is significantly above average for Cumbria; only 5% of households have no car or van, only 1/5 the average for Cumbria. 682 voters were registered in 2006, 525 in Lindale and 157 in Newton, making Lindale about three times larger than Newton.

As a result of our 2007 survey we know that there are 456 households in the parish, considerably more than the 378 recorded in the 2001 Census. 78 properties were observed to be empty, second homes, or holiday homes, accounting for 17% of the parish's housing stock.

2.3 Slate and Limestone Rock

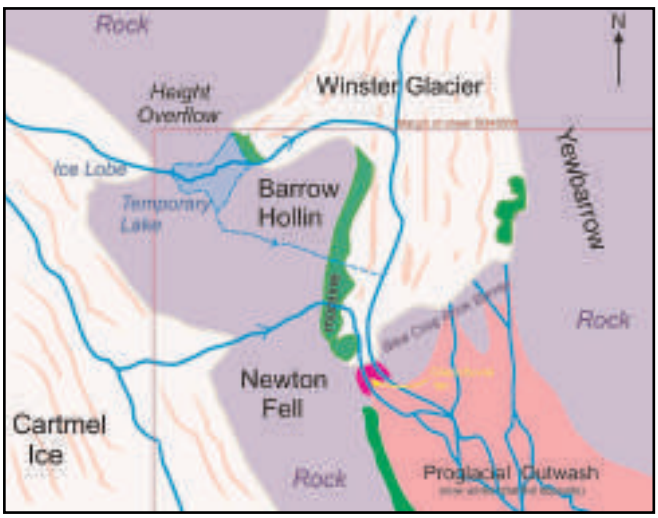
'This place is a geologist's paradise. You can actually see the fault, where the earth moved, by the church'



© Westmorland Geological Society 2008

The parish is in the unusual and fortunate position of having had a recent geological survey. Members of the Westmorland Geological Society resurveyed the geology of the parish in 2000-2002, and their work has been published as a new map and report, (British Geological Survey 1:10,000 Solid and Drift geological map for Lindale and Witherslack). The Bannisdale Formation (Upper Silurian Ludlow Series of the Windermere Supergroup) form the oldest rocks underlying much of the parish, locally called 'Lindale Rag'. These are dark ancient deep-sea mudstones and sandstones, now altered and uplifted into tight folds, with a steep dip generally to the east. They form the north to south trending rocky ridge of Newton Fell, and at Blea Crag they form a rock barrier across the Winster valley. There is a small outcrop of Carboniferous Limestone (Park Limestone and Urswick Limestone) in the west of the parish at Newton Heads and Lindale, where the Lindale Fault brings older Bannisdale rocks directly against the younger limestones. The limestone outcrops end at Lindale in former sea cliffs, marking an old coastline. Both 'slate' and limestone are used in local buildings.

On each side of Newton Fell is a cover of glacial till, a clay with boulders deposited by the ice. In the Cartmel valley west of Newton are two drumlin mounds, whose orientation shows the north to south movement of a glacier. The Winster valley in the east of the parish was once occupied by a postglacial lake, of which Helton Tarn is a remnant. The valley floor is flat and low-lying, and is underlain by tidal flat deposits, a silty clay deposited by a higher level sea.



The Cartmel Valley, Newton Fell and the Winster Valley in the Ice Age © Westmorland Geological Society 2008

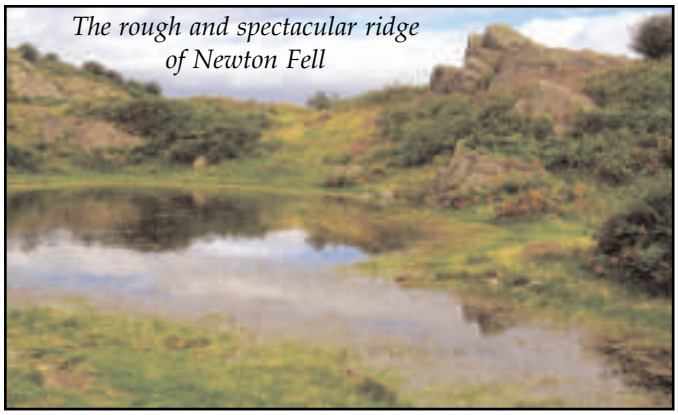
2.4 An intimate landscape

'Access to fantastic countryside: hills, estuaries, woodlands'

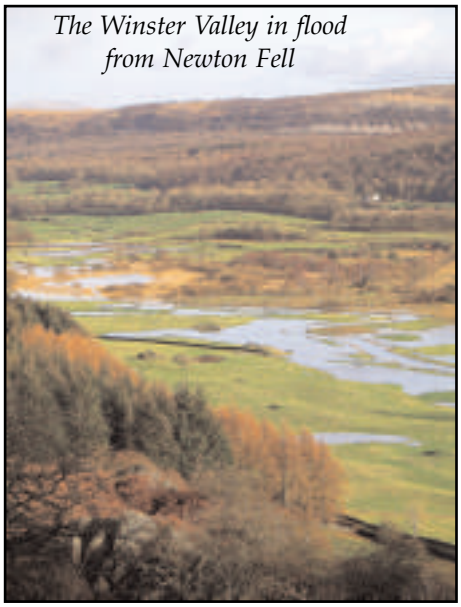
The Cartmel Valley from Dixon Heights looking to Field Broughton Church

The scenery of Allithwaite Upper parish is varied and attractive, with stunning views of the Coniston fells of the Lake District to the north, and the tidal expanses of Morecambe Bay to the south. The area was once, until 1974, part of 'Lancashire over the Sands'. The variety and character of the landscape is understated by the LDNPA, which groups the parish in Landscape Character Area 16: Whitbarrow (limestone). The parish has three different north-south trending landscape type areas, the Cartmel valley, Newton Fell and the Winster valley, none of which is dominated by limestone. In the west is the green and peaceful **Cartmel valley**, where the spire of Field Broughton church rises above low ice shaped hills. The small villages of Low and High Newton nestle at the foot of the wild, rough and spectacular ridge of **Newton Fell**, where the dark Bannisdale rocks were previously quarried for slates and building stone.

Now mostly Open Access land, bracken clad rough grazing with very steep slopes,


The rough and spectacular ridge of Newton Fell

Newton Fell has extensive and exhilarating views over to the Winster valley. To the east, the parish boundary follows the meandering course of the River Winster across its flat valley floor. The **Winster valley** is a haven of tranquillity; a very attractive, little visited corner of Lakeland.


The Winster Valley in flood from Newton Fell

The Lindale Beck rises near Low Newton and flows steeply south to join the River Winster at Castle Head. It was formerly used to generate waterpower. Its course has been much altered over the years, and the stream has been culverted in many places, under roads, gardens and buildings. A waterfall on the Gill marks the position of the former millrace, although Lindale's Mill Pond was infilled in the 1960s. Small reservoirs lie above High Newton providing water supply and fishing. These also represent potential for waterpower development.

The waterfall on The Gill

2.5 Some archaeological and historical background

'It's a down to earth working community'

Little is written about Allithwaite Upper parish, and its most important archaeological and historical sites are privately owned (see Appendix C). **Broca cave** near the old shoreline is an important archaeological site, used as a shelter by the earliest people (Mesolithic hunters and fishers) who arrived by sea up the Winster Bay. Finds there of 'angle backed blades' of reindeer bone of Cresswellian type, dated at 10-14,000 years old, are the oldest known in the area. A Bronze Age spearhead was also found. **Sheepbarrow** was formerly covered in heaps of stones, but is now not thought to be a Bronze Age burial site. It was probably quarried for stone and walled to keep sheep in. **Atterpile Castle**, (Castle Head) was probably used as an Iron Age fort. The top of this former small island (just south of the parish) in the tidal river Winster gives all round views of Morecambe Bay and was an excellent lookout in times of attack. It may have been a Roman station, and a fortified site in the Dark Ages. Northumbrian and Danish coins were also found at Castle Head.

Early records refer to the area as hamlets with small farms growing oats and raising sheep and cattle; it was always too wet for wheat. There was probably some fishing from **Winster House wharf** in Lindale. The Kent estuary was important for shipping, though the channels were shallow and changing. Stockdale writing in the *Annals of Cartmel* notes a mention of **'wreck money'**. Farming would have been supplemented by working in the local coppiced woodlands and in stone quarries for 'slate and flag' on Newton Fell and in Lindale. Fields below Low Newton had ponds used for 'retting' hemp. **Lindale chapel** was probably the first stone building. **George Fox**, founder of the Society of Friends preached there in June 1662.

Lindale Chapel in 1811

Height Farm on top of the Fell

A former Quaker Meeting House and Warden's cottage still stands at Barrow Wife on Height Road with a walled burial ground, still in use, opposite

In the 1700s the parish was poor. Several **charities** were started. Myles Taylor's Charity was set up in 1714 for 'the most poor and necessitous and best deserving people' principally of Lindale, while recipients of Lawrence Newton's Charity were principally poor residents of Newton. In 1792 The Holme near Blea Crag was deemed to be 'a proper place' for the setting up of a **poorhouse** for the whole (former) Cartmel parish. Gallows Hill was also located here. In 1757 the Winster valley was described as 'mossland', where 'corduroy' wooden walkways, similar to modern boardwalks, were laid over wet areas. The valley bottom meadows were 'so thick with moss', that they had to be ploughed up every 7 to 10 years in order to make crops grow.

From 1796 the **enclosure** of Cartmel Commons began 'behind and upon Newton Fell' from Ayside and Newton, down 'Tautup' to Witherslack. As the uplands were enclosed from 1800 to 1854 they also were 'improved', by burning and liming to allow ploughing for a hay crop, and bracken was cut for animal bedding. 24 new public roads were also constructed. The dry stone enclosure walls form a characteristic part of local landscape.

Down 'Tautup' to Witherslack with Whitbarrow and the Howgill Fells on the horizon

High Newton seems to have developed as a point for changing horses. The old coaching route from Lancaster climbed steeply out of the Winster valley, up the Tow Top road and steeply down into High Newton to the Cartmel valley beyond. In 1786 according to Yates' map, 'Newton' had about fifteen buildings clustered into two groups, one, still traceable, based around the central triangle in the village and an upper cluster around the Hilltop and Browside area. It is in the latter location that the earliest dated house, or two cottages as it was then, of c1620 is found. There may be others of the same period.

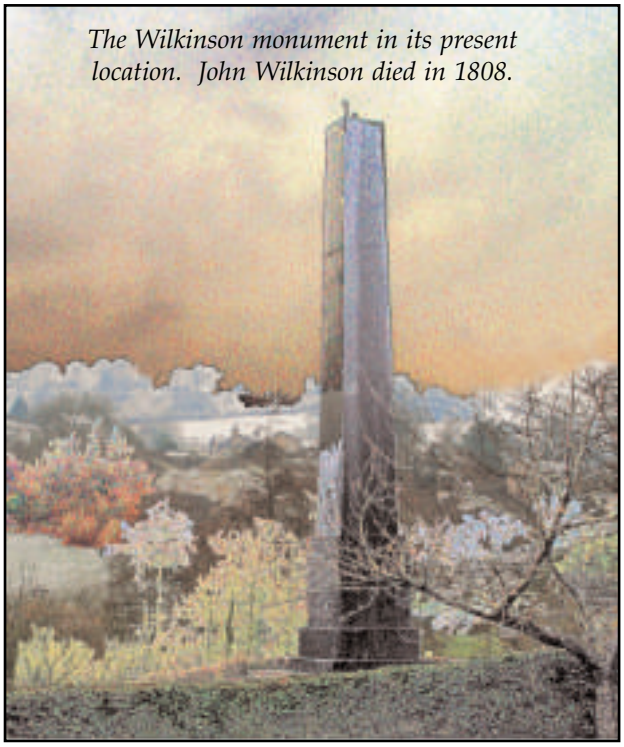
*Part of **Yates' map of Lancashire 1786**. Note the use of the parish name; the road up and over Tow Top to Witherslack (the main route to Kendal); the string of houses in Lindale and the clusters in Low and High Newton. Signs of things to come are shown by the label 'Mr Wilkinson's improved Moss' and a new lane across it to 'Milnthorp'. Westmorland is left blank.*

Around 1750 Isaac and John Wilkinson were beginning to experiment with smelting iron, at first using a water wheel at Skinner Hill above Lindale's Top House, and later using peat and charcoal at Wilson House. This was the real birth of the Industrial Revolution, and the first ever iron boat was launched from the parish. **John Wilkinson**, Iron Master, built Castle Head House in 1780 and designed his own iron obelisk which now stands on a small hill in Lindale. His iron coffin which may lie in Lindale Church has never been directly identified. Edward Mucklow made some Victorian alterations to **Castle Head** House which later became a seminary before being bought as a field studies centre.

The **Websters** of **Eller How** were marble cutters and architects well known in the Kendal area. They designed many houses, bridges, schools and churches, including Lindale Church and School. Eller How was chosen for its remote position in the valley above Lindale. George Webster endeavoured to improve his estate by adding follies, one of which can be seen on the top of Dixon Heights. The family mausoleum lies in Lindale churchyard, and is one of the Listed Buildings in the parish.

Lindale School and Master's house in 1874

The **school** in Lindale dates from 1759, and there were also several 'Old Dames' Schools', where local ladies taught pupils in their cottages. Fanny Brocklebank's was at The Fold in the centre of the village, and Aggie Akister's opposite the present school. Nellie Rawlinson opened an infant school in 1830 in a cottage on Bell Hill, recorded as pulled down by 1914. Nellie taught in Lindale for 18 years, later in a cottage on Smithy Hill.



The Wilkinson monument in its present location. John Wilkinson died in 1808.

The cottage between Sunset Cottage and Ivy Cottage was used as a Sunday school in winter, and the original cottage of The Rockeries was a Dames School in 1825.

High Newton Village Hall built in 1874 as an elementary school

High Newton Village Hall was built in 1874 as an elementary school, attended by 66 children, on land provided by the Trustees of Lawrence Newton's Charity and the Churchwardens of Field Broughton. It also acted as a chapel for the villages of High and Low Newton and the surrounding hamlets and farms. The school survived under the control of the Carlisle Diocesan Board until 1970 when it was closed. The chapel remained active until fairly recent times. The school was sold to the community of High Newton in 1971 for the sum of £2750.

Listed Buildings in Allithwaite Upper Parish

John Wilkinson Monument	Grade II*
Barrow Wife, Height Road	Grade II*
Wilson House Bridge	Grade II
Greensyke, High Newton	Grade II
Newton Hall, High Newton	Grade II
Newton Hall Cottage and Jessamine Cottage	Grade II
Skinner Hill, Lindale	Grade II
Church of St Paul Lindale	Grade II
Webster Mausoleum	Grade II
East View and Fell Cottage, Low Newton	Grade II
Limekiln at Newton Heads, Low Newton	Grade II
Barrow Hollin, Height Road	Grade II
Friends' Burial Ground wall, Height Road	Grade II
Bleacrag Bridge, Holme Road	Grade II
Low Green Farmhouse and barn	Grade II

Source: LDNPA Heritage Environment Record

Listing ensures that the archaeological and historical interest of a building is carefully considered before any alterations are made.

Grade II buildings are of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them.

Grade II are particularly important buildings of more than special interest.*

The history of the parish has been strongly influenced by the development of roads, and **carriers** were important, travelling to Kendal every week to fetch supplies to sell in the villages. In 1822 the **Turnpike Road** from Lancaster and Levens to Staveley was built through the parish, with a toll bar at Wilson House. The turnpike road wound its way from the 'Bottom House' up steep rocky slopes, past horse troughs to the 'Top House', past Burnbank Farm to the coaching halt at Low Newton, from where the old road kept at a lower level before climbing to High Newton. The steepness of the road through Lindale was well known, and resulted in frequent accidents to properties and people from runaway vehicles.

Peggy Keith and her carrier's cart

An **1851 directory** records that Newton had a beer house (the Queens Arms), plus the Coach & Horses and Horse & Farrier. Lindale had the Mason's Arms, Commercial (now Lindale) Inn, and Royal Oak. Both villages had blacksmiths, schoolteachers, grocer, postmaster, and wheelwright. Newton had a carrier, and Lindale had stonemasons and a shoemaker. 12 farmers were named, most identifiable today. In 1852 the River Winster was redirected into a narrow channel, and the Winster Pool was cut off from the sea by the construction of the railway embankment from Milnthorpe to Grange in 1856. Later directories record full lists of village professions, which now have largely disappeared. Newton's 'Old Shop', Lindale's 'Old Police House', 'Old Coach House' and 'Old Pottery' are now private houses. In the 1930s a wider road was cut at a higher level between Low and High Newton. A 1970s proposal to bypass both High and Low Newton and Lindale was approved only for Lindale, perhaps because three routes were suggested for Newton, one to cut into the fell behind the Crown Inn. In 1977 the 2.5 mile £4.3m **Lindale bypass** was completed.

The Cartmel Lane flyover on the A590 linking the new High & Low Newton bypass (2008) to the Lindale bypass (1977)

In July 2006 work began on the 2.3 mile, £35.3m **Low and High Newton bypass** on a route just south of the villages. It opened in April 2008. 'De-trunking' of the former A590 by some road narrowing and removal of overlarge road signs would, it was hoped, secure High Newton's return to a rural Cumbrian village, enabling residents to focus on a different future ethos. The de-trunking plans include installing features such as Cumbrian finger posts, relocating bus stops and shelters and providing information to attract visitors to the bypassed villages.

Tree Preservation Orders in Allithwaite Upper Parish

Address	*Designated*	*Description*
Eller Howe	1973	Avenue of 15 trees, (since severed by bypass), 5 Horse chestnut, 4 Lime, 4 Sycamore, 2 Beech
Coronation Tree	1979	Horse chestnut, planted on site of Old Corn Mill in 1902 to celebrate the Coronation of King Edward VII
Recreation Field	1981	Oak Tree presented to PC and planted to commemorate the Royal Wedding in July 1981
The Gill	1995	Amenity woodland of mixed deciduous trees

3. Community Life

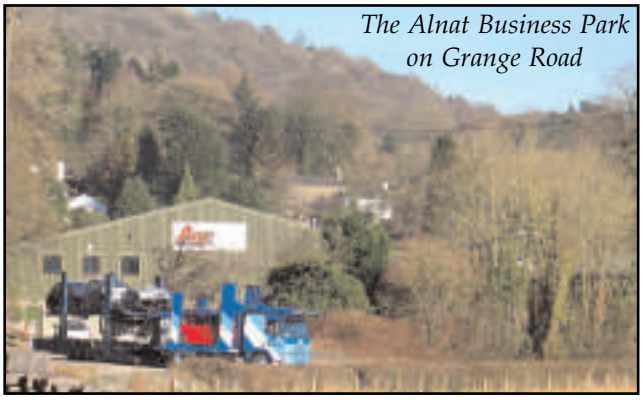
3.1 Economy and employment

The motor trade, haulage and repair service has long been important in the parish. Lindale is noted for three large **car dealerships**, selling 'brand marque' (Audi, BMW, VW) vehicles. Other local employment stems from long established professions such as farming, woodworking, stone walling and building, and in addition there are service industries, small construction firms, plumbing and many **self-employed** and people working from home. There is a high level of entrepreneurial spirit.

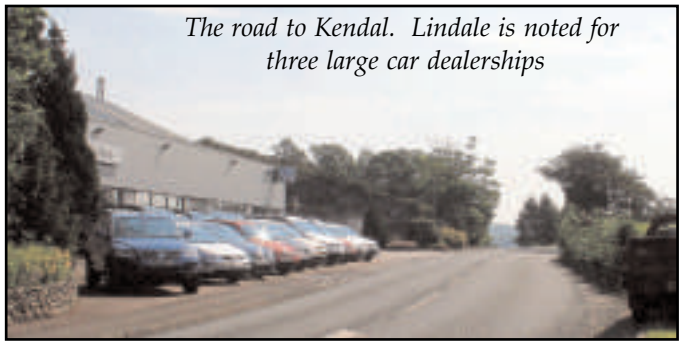
Some occupations in Allithwaite Upper parish

Antiques, art and craft workers, architects, builders, car mechanic, chef, decorators, driving instructors, farmers, garden designers, handymen, horticulture, hospitality business, joiners, painters, photographers, picture framer, plasterers/tilers, plumbers, potters, printers, specialist consultants, stone-wallers, timber merchants, wrought iron worker

Places of work are varied, with parish residents travelling to Grange-over-Sands, Kendal, Barrow and Windermere for work. A higher percentage of Lindale's employees work in Grange-over-Sands than for Newton; both have a few long distance commuters. Most journeys to work are by car. The average distance travelled to work is 20 miles (Census 2001). In the 1992 survey 72% of Lindale respondents expressed a wish for more local employment. Figures for unemployment in the 2001 Census were very low. Roughly 20% of residents are retired. Most larger businesses are now located on the outskirts of the villages, garages on Grange Road, the Alnat Business park on Grange Road, and at Low Newton Barn.



The Alnat Business Park on Grange Road



The road to Kendal. Lindale is noted for three large car dealerships

3.2 Tourism

The parish operates as a **gateway** to the Lake District, Cumbrian coast and Grange-over-Sands, and, while tourism is not the mainstay of the parish as a whole nor so dominant as in some parishes in central Lake District, tourists do form an important part of the economy. Tourists support small businesses, including the three pubs, one guesthouse, the café and antique/craft centre in Low Newton, and many holiday-let properties. The business at Low Newton, an antiques and reclamation centre, with Cumbrian sourced art and craftwork gallery, a potter, design artist working in silver, a photographer and picture framer and a café, has formerly relied on passing tourist trade. Lindale having been bypassed in 1977 has a lower tourism profile.

Gateway to the Lakes: the new bypass and Coniston Fells 9th April 2008

3.3 Health Services

There are none in the parish. The nearest doctors, dentists and pharmacies are in Grange-over-Sands. The nearest hospital is the Westmorland General in Kendal, 20 minutes away by ambulance. There is much concern about the proposed closure of the Accident & Emergency Ward. The Cumbria Care organisation looks after some elderly residents in their own homes. There is no sheltered housing; the nearest is in Grange-over-Sands.

3.4 Housing

' We need housing for local people to encourage young people and families to stay in this area'

Old Castlehead Farm: the farmyard converted into an award winning courtyard development - now a mix of permanent residents, weekenders, holiday homes, and medium term lets

Housing stock in the parish is limited: the area is seen as a highly desirable place to live. A **Housing Needs survey** for SLDC in 2006 reported that properties in the area are sought after because of their good road and rail access, fantastic scenery, a place where people want to live. Prices are high and choices are restricted, particularly for first time buyers and low-income households, and for those wishing to downsize. House prices have nearly doubled since 2002. The average is now over £200,000. There is a large gap between local incomes (average £20,000) and property prices. There is a need for **affordable housing** with rents below market prices. Second home ownership is a particular problem, as is the purchase of houses for holiday lets, reducing housing supply for local families, and making the future of Lindale school less secure. Available housing stock is also reduced by under-use of some properties, which local owners visit only infrequently. Some second home owners make an important contribution to community life, and several do rent to local people on a longer-term basis. **Old Castlehead Farm** was converted into the relatively small units of The Orchard and Stonebeck about half of which are second homes. In 2006 64 (19.8%) of the 322 houses in the centre of Lindale were largely second homes or holiday lets. Our priorities survey of 2007 showed that the impact of second homes and holiday lets is uneven. While the percentage for High and Low Newton and the parish average is 17%, some areas, particularly in lower Lindale, have 18-50% second homes or holiday lets. The parish appears to meet the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust criteria to establish an affordable housing need. (See table below)

There is very little property for rent, as most of the former local authority housing at **Lingarth**, Lindale is now privately owned, and many local occupancy conditions have been lifted, allowing properties to become second homes. It is difficult for people wishing to stay in the parish to find affordable homes.

Lingarth on Windermere Road - formerly local authority housing. Many local occupancy conditions have been lifted. The view from here is exceptional.

Affordable housing need criteria (Cumbria Rural Housing Trust)	
Criteria	**Parish**
Ratio of income to house prices is greater than 1:3½	Ratio of income to house prices 1: 10
Over 15% of housing stock is second or holiday homes	14% in 2001 Census 17% in 2007 Priorities survey
Less than 15% of housing stock is available to local people at/below market rents/ low cost home ownership	Only 13% properties available for renting

3.5 Essential Services

'The Post Office is a valuable resource for all the community. All village functions rely on it as a collection point for tickets, information etc. It is also vital for the elderly who oan't travel'.

Lindale Stores halfway down Lindale Hill

Lindale has a post office and general store, two public houses and a guesthouse. Newton has one pub, a café and antiques shop. There are milk, newspaper, and food deliveries. Airey's farm shop is just outside the parish in Ayside. There is no petrol station in the parish nor in Grange-over-Sands.

St Paul's Church Lindale is the only church in the civil parish of Allithwaite Upper. High Newton and surrounding hamlets belong to the ecclesiastical parish of **St Peter's** in **Field Broughton.** Lindale has not had a resident vicar since 1994. It now forms part of the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry (which also includes Allithwaite, Cartmel, Grange-over-Sands, Field Broughton and Flookburgh) which together share the services of three and a half stipendiary clergy, assisted by several retired clergy. Apart from regular weekly services, baptisms, weddings and funerals, the church building is used for meetings, coffee mornings and concerts. Recent improvements as a result of bequests or successful grant applications have included a new carpet, kitchen and toilet, new boiler and a tarmac path. The church runs a Come Along And Meet Each Other (CAMEO) club, organises Fairs and produces and distributes a monthly newsletter.

The bowling green Lindale

Lindale has a Church of England **school** and an adjacent preschool playgroup and nursery with 68 children from 3-11 years. The school is on School Hill in an attractive limestone building, originally designed by George Webster, though now modernised to be more suitable to its purpose. The 1992 survey showed high levels of satisfaction. The school attracts children from outside the parish, and recently had a very good OFSTED report. There are after school clubs and an active Friends group. There is imaginative play space, decorated with artwork. Games are marked out in the playground, while the playing field behind the school is a steeply sloping field giving an open-air activity space and spectacular views across the village and Morecambe Bay to distant Ingleborough.

High Newton ornamental garden

The **recreation ground** in lower Lindale has a children's play area with swings and wooden climbing frames donated by the Taylor, Newton & Hibbert Charity. The field has mini football goal posts, a half basketball court and skateboard area, and public toilets. There are no facilities for Lingarth children at the top of the village, and none in Newton, which no longer has a school. Other **amenity areas** are High Newton ornamental garden, Yew Tree Green, Coronation Tree area, Wilkinson Monument, the War Memorial and the 'snicket' Skittergate, 'from the main hill t' back'.

3.6 Leisure and Social activities-

There is a thriving range of social activities available in the parish, which mostly focus on the village halls of Lindale and High Newton, where societies such as the Field Broughton and Newton Women's Institute meet every other month.

Lindale Village Hall: once an auction mart in Ulverston

Lindale Village Hall began life in Ulverston as an auction mart, with a ventilated roof and open sides, which was dismantled and moved to Lindale. It was used as a coach-builder's and later Wilson's garage repair and respray workshop. It was bought by the PC in 1952, and given to the community. Its first committee and other local people worked hard, holding coffee mornings, baking cakes, organising carnivals and trips, to raise money to pay for the internal changes needed, and addition of a toilet and kitchen block at the back. It is managed by a committee which maintains, cleans and insures it, and takes bookings for various events, such as talks, film shows, flower arranging, with Car Boot sales outside in good weather. It is used by the school, and for children's parties. It is well booked with Scottish and sequence dancing, a toddlers' club and some indoor bowling in winter. A 2008 'Lindale Lads' calendar raised funds towards measures to stop the ventilated roof from leaking.

High Newton Village Hall is now a charity with an annually elected management committee, which currently has a membership of five people. The committee has a regular monthly 'gathering', which acts as a social meeting point, book exchange and promotion of local products and services. There are several social functions throughout the year. The hall is not fully used, and its income barely meets running and maintenance costs. The general feeling in the village is that High Newton Village Hall should be supported and preserved, as an important focal point for the community. If this is to be a reality there needs to be imaginative thinking to solve the funding problems.

Lindale **Sports Club** has been very active since the Millennium and runs annual events such as Sports Day, Bonfire and Christmas tree lighting, and a Christmas lunch together with other social activities in the village hall. Other social events are organised by the three pubs in the parish.

Lindale has a successful and popular **Book Club** which meets monthly and has a full complement of 16 members and a waiting list. The variety of books provided by Cumbria County Library Services, ranging from traditional classics through lighter contemporary fiction, adventure, romance, history, tragedy and comedy has ensured there is something for everyone.

Lindale's **bowling green** is a recent addition, opened in April 2006 by Tim Farron MP. Excavated into a steep field at the top of the village, it now has a tool shed, pavilion, and a scorers' hut. With its 'committee' garden and views of the church and distant Ingleborough, the green is a significant new attraction to the area. With about 80 members Lindale Bowling Association has become a valuable additional asset to the community. Visitors are welcome to play, for a small fee, during the bowling season from March to September, when the green is not in use for matches.

Local businesses sponsor many of the community events. Information about events is posted on many telegraph poles around the villages. There are notice boards outside Lindale PO and Newton Village Hall. There are no Scout or Guide groups or Youth Clubs in the villages. The nearest are in Grange-over-Sands or Cartmel. Adult education courses are available in Milnthorpe or Cartmel outside the parish. The Open Access land on Newton Fell and the miles of public footpaths and bridleways are a great resource, though the network is far from complete. There are no information leaflets about walks or rides in the parish.

3.7 Recent changes

2007 saw a major expansion of car dealership in Lindale. Around £1m of investment in workshops and refurbished showrooms created four more jobs. Closure of a post box and increased night illumination caused some concern,

*No account of community life in the parish would be complete without recognising the very significant contributions made by the **Taylor Newton & Hibbert Charity (TNH)**. This was formed in 1996 by amalgamating the earlier Myles Taylor's and Lawrence Newton's charities with the 'Lindale Sick & Poor Fund' established in 1919 by Dame CH Hibbert. Over the past 10 years TNH has made grants to both village halls, the Bowling Association, St Paul's Church, Lindale School and Pre-school, Lindale Sports Club, Allithwaite Upper Parish Council, as well as to needy individuals and and to care organisations used by local inhabitants*

4. Community Plan Process

'Thank you for taking the time and trouble to canvas our opinions'

4.1 How we set out

In May 2006 the PC Chair proposed developing a Community Plan. An initial **public meeting** of 40 people, called by the PC in September 2006, set the scene for a Community Plan for the parish. Expressions of interest in joining a **Steering Group** were called for, and a group of about ten people was formed in a first meeting at Castle Head Field Centre. The Steering Group set up action groups, (Business, Green, Housing, Traffic, Youth Groups) which met separately and whose members attended various VAC conferences, such as 'what future for the 21st century village?'

4.2 Open ended survey

An initial short open-ended **questionnaire** was circulated in late 2006 to individual households by volunteers. Residents were asked to drop completed survey forms at the Post Office or pubs. The response rate was disappointing at just under 20%, but comments made were extremely helpful. The responses (Appendix D) showed that most residents liked living in the parish. People valued the beautiful setting, good community spirit, facilities such as the Post Office, access to other places and the countryside, and the safety and peace and quiet of a rural setting. It was thought that most of these aspects should be protected, especially the Post Office and the surrounding countryside. Many suggestions were made for future improvements. These were grouped into traffic and safety, facilities and housing, sustainability (environment), village character, promotion of village events and social inclusion. These aspirations provided a sound basis for issues presented at the consultation events and final priorities survey. Throughout early 2007 meetings were held with specific groups, such as the Over 60s 'CAMEO' Club run by Lindale church. They felt their needs were public transport, sheltered housing, the school, shop and PO, pub and good neighbours. The Steering Group met approximately monthly, and paragraphs in the Lindale church and Newton newsletter kept residents informed.

4.3 Village Visions Events

A **major event** was held in Lindale Village Hall in June 2007, attended by over 170 people. There were interviews on Radio Cumbria, and photos in the Westmorland Gazette. The Steering Group produced themed posters and displays to explain issues related to the Plan, and provided a Bouncy Castle and other activities for children, together with simple refreshments, and a raffle, which raised £75 towards the production of the Plan. There were also stalls for Castle Head, Friends of the Lake District, Lindale Bowling Association, Lindale School, Newton Bypass, Newton Village Hall, Post Office, Sports Association, St Paul's Church, Women's Institute. Tim Farron MP opened the event and launched the Nursery/ Pre-School cookery book. Other speakers included the PC Chair, and representatives from LDNPA and VAC. The Chair of the Taylor, Newton & Hibbert Charity hosted the event. The event revealed great interest and some strong feelings, about the need for affordable and rented housing, concerns that restricting parking could jeopardise the viability of Lindale Stores, and that the villages should not become urbanised. There were comments that the LDNPA planning rules were inconsistently applied, favouring the large garages, and restricting farmers from housing their workers. The suggestion, derived from the initial survey, for setting up a Business/ Services Directory for the parish was not supported by service providers at the event and was not included in the subsequent priorities survey.

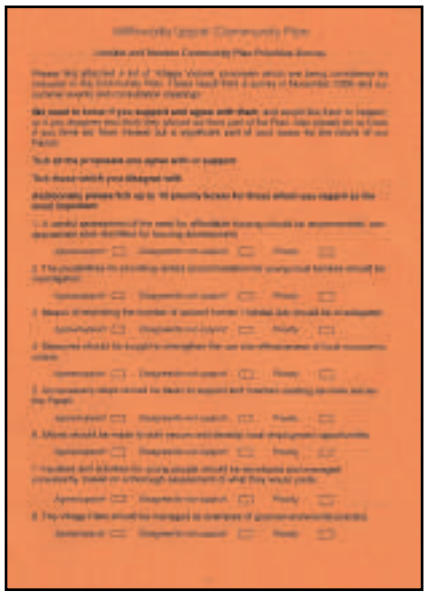
Claire Dawson, Nursery Leader, & Angie Leonard, Headteacher, with Lindale School children's visions of their village

4.4 Newton Fete and meetings

The Village Visions Event posters were displayed again at Newton Village Fete in July 2007, when 70 people attended. Many Newton post-bypass meetings were held. Cartmel Cubs, some of whom are parish residents, presented ideas for their perfect village to a couple of Steering Group members. All their villages had wind farms, a place for dogs to walk, and some imaginative 'magnetic pod' public transport systems.

4.5 Priorities survey

A second survey was designed along the lines of one used at Threlkeld, asking people to tick to show their support or disagreement for 32 priority statements, derived from the previous survey, meetings and events, and to indicate their top 10 priority issues. In addition a final open-ended question allowed residents to raise any other issues. Like the earlier survey it was piloted on a captive group of Lindale bowlers, not all of whom were residents of the parish. Printed on bright orange paper, one survey form per household was delivered in November 2007 via newsletters and personal delivery to outlying farms. A team of about 20 volunteers collected responses, resulting in a 73% response rate.



The Priorities survey

We are confident that responses show a resounding mandate in support of the issues raised. Collectors increased our knowledge of the number of households in the parish, resulting in the identification of 70 more than in the 2001 Census. Collectors also noted down verbal comments, which often referred to current (garage) developments. During this time concerns over affordable housing and threats to rural Post Offices were headline local news.

4.6 Business survey

When reviewing the Priorities Survey findings the Steering Group became concerned that local business voices had not been heard. A wide mix of businesses exists within the parish, and it was deemed impractical to attempt to identify and survey every business. A structured sample of the business community was drawn up to represent a range of business sizes, from the largest employers, through small businesses employing two or three people, to self-employed people. Individual face-to-face interviews were conducted, using a set of prompt questions. Responses have led to the proposed actions for Business and Employment.

4.7 The final stages

Writing up of the Plan began in 2008, and initial proposals for Action Plans were reported to the PC in February 2008. The Steering Group liaised with officers from the PC, VAC, SLDC, LDNPA, CCC and studied other Community Plans from across Cumbria. A draft plan was drawn up and sent to local authotities for consultation. Throughout this process the views of young people have been difficult to gain. This must become a major focus for implementation of the Action Plans for the parish.

Timetable of what we did

September 2006	Steering Group set up
December 2006	Open ended questionnaire delivered
April 2007	Meetings with groups such as Over 60s
May 2007	Newton post-bypass Exhibition
June 2007	Village Visions Event, Lindale
July 2007	Newton Village Fete
November 2007	Priorities survey: 73% response
November 2007	Cartmel Cubs present their ideal villages
November 2007	Structured Business Survey Interviews
February 2008	Preliminary Action Plans presented to PC
April 2008	Draft Plan sent to local authorities for consultation
May 2008	Launch of Community Plan

5. Overview of results

'Only one form per household restricted individuals having their own choice'

5.1 Overview

The process of drawing up this Community Plan has involved much consultation with the community, to discover people's preferences and aspirations for the future. These were first researched in the 2006 survey, which formed the basis for later events, meetings and interviews. From these a Priorities Survey was designed in late 2007. 277 replies were received, from 456 households. If the 78 empty, second homes, or holiday let properties, as recorded in the 2007 survey, are excepted this makes a 73% return rate. We are confident that the issues identified have the overall support of the community. Because only one form per household was delivered we cannot correlate results to specific age groups within the community.

5.2 Summary of results

There was significant, though not unanimous, support for all of the statements, which is not surprising as they were a distillation of views already expressed in previous community consultations. Maintaining existing services was supported by 96% of households, and the need for affordable houses by 74%. Even those issues which many people did not support, such as setting up a community orchard, received 39% support. Priority votes were more limited, as not all respondents identified up to ten priorities. The **highest priorities**, ranging from 44% to 35%, were expressed for additional kerbside recycling, support for public transport, maintenance of existing services, restricting second homes and affordable housing.

5.3 Other issues raised

Responses to the open-ended question identified a great many additional issues, which may need to be tackled in future.

Among these additional needs were:

- **To rejuvenate the villages, provide safer road crossings, a tea room**
- **More maintenance of hedges, verges and drains required**
- **More encouragement of walking, horse riding and cycling**
- **More community activities and clubs, in village halls and the church**

A recurrent theme was the need for better communication within the parish. Requests for a parish Web site were reiterated, especially by those in remote and isolated parts of the parish, who felt they were regularly missed out as they were not informed of social events in the villages.

5.4 Business survey results

The sample of business views conducted in late 2007 showed that most businesses considered themselves to be providing services to the community (see Appendix E). Many had supported community activities and events in the past and expected to continue to do so. Several were willing to become involved in future projects. Many wished to see some relaxation of planning restrictions especially to permit some mixed development including affordable housing. Several stressed that their business does not operate solely within the parish and that neighbouring areas are crucial to their business plans. Several businesses also said they wish to advertise their services. As advertising road signs are not allowed in the National Park, a Web based parish information circular could meet this need. It might also be worth reviving the business/ services directory idea.

5.5 Discussion of findings

The issues raised by the 2007 Priorities Survey and Business Survey are discussed in four categories, presented alphabetically: **Business and Employment, Green Villages, Services and Housing, Traffic and Safety.** These correspond closely to the categories identified by Voluntary Action Cumbria in their guidance to parishes (see table). Issues are set into context, with suggested actions, which are presented in approximate priority order, and summarised as Action Plans.

The results presented are for the whole parish. Quotations are from the 2007 survey which after 32 response questions asked for any additional comments.

Issue	*VAC category*	*Code letters*
Business and Employment	**Economic**	**BE**
Green Villages	**Environment**	**GE**
Services and Housing	**Social**	**SH**
Traffic and Safety	**Transport**	**TS**

6 Business and Employment: Economic Issues

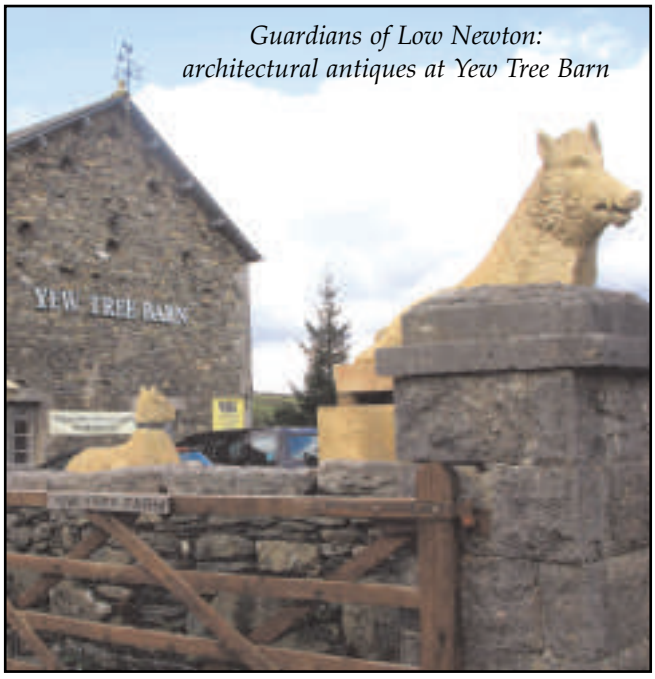
BE1 Efforts should be made both to secure and to develop employment opportunities

Response:
Priority 79 Support 238 No support 12

'We like the availability of local businesses'

'I'm looking for skilled employees, so have to cast the net fairly widely across the region, but I'd much prefer to employ local people whenever possible.'

Parish residents expressed strong support for local employment opportunities and there is latent support for new enterprises to establish within the parish. More could be done to encourage employment for local people and to help source materials as locally as possible. Businesses are closely related to the services needed by local people. One local business expressed the view that, although their presence was tolerated, there was considerable scope for improving local relations, and a two-way interaction and dialogue could be mutually beneficial (see Appendix E). Another had identified growth opportunities in the region, and found a base in Lindale an ideal position to enable them to service a wide area of South Lakeland. Their plan for expansion would require more employees, and they would prefer to recruit locally if possible. The appointment of a business-link co-ordinator, and the setting up of a Joint Business Forum could help identify future business opportunities with community benefits. This would also help local employers to make the community more aware of their aims and future development plans, and possibly also to enhance employment opportunities. A survey could also help identify opportunities for business development in the parish.



Guardians of Low Newton: architectural antiques at Yew Tree Barn

Possible actions:
BE 1.1 *Appoint a 'Business-link Co-ordinator' to liaise between businesses, the parish council and residents*
BE 1.2 *Establish a Joint Business Forum*
BE1.3 *Survey businesses in the parish to identify development opportunities*

BE2 Sharing knowledge and expertise

'Our Business has a long history of providing employment in the village. Residents have been tolerant of our existence and development over the years…we would be very willing to contribute to a two-way partnership with the wider community.'

Some of the larger local businesses have considerable experience of planning matters and are large enough to employ specialist Planning Consultants to help them develop a case for business development, to pursue planning applications and to meet planning conditions. Through the joint business forum, it might be possible for the larger employers to share this expertise. Liaising with the pilot Community Board for Grange-over-Sands and Cartmel could also be useful, as the issues facing business and employment are not likely to be solved solely by parish action, nor are they unique to this parish. By joining regional and county business initiatives, local employers could gain the benefit of current thinking on a wide range of environmental imperatives and actions required to address the far-reaching consequences of climate change and development in the future post-oil society.

Possible action:
BE2.1 *Explore links with other business forums*

7 Green Villages: Environmental Issues

GE1 Essential rural character of the built environment to be maintained

Response:
Priority 77 Support 254 No support 9

'Lindale is a beautiful village and everything should be done to maintain its character and encourage a sense of community'

'Aggressive acceleration in motor vehicle development threatens Lindale's rural attraction'

Parish opinions strongly supported the LDNPA planning restrictions, which are to prevent development in any part of the parish. The rural building character consists of irregularly sited and differently styled farm and older attractive cottage style properties, with varied small-scale infill. Other than 'rural vernacular', there is no overall architectural style: local building materials are slate and limestone, with green slate roofs, and pebble dashing is common. Eyesores are minor and mainly involve tidying of some (redundant) small commercial premises.

Developments need to be small scale. A new category of mixed development is advocated as appropriate to a rural location, in line with recent thinking on rural planning. A major fear, which residents expressed, was concern about the recent large-scale development of car showrooms on the Kendal and Grange Roads in Lindale. Despite facing the new buildings with stone, sales of expensive cars sit uneasily with a small working village seeking to support its marginal services such as shop and church. It is recommended that any further car-based development or large-scale development should be rigorously avoided. A future concern must also be to prevent infill of High and Low Newton around the bypass.

Possible action:
GE1.1 *Aim for a stronger voice in the planning process*

Informal verges on Windermere Road

GE2 Kerbside recycling for plastics and cardboard

Response:
Priority 122 Support 258 No support 6

'We have no room for yet more bins'

The parish has a collection on alternate weeks of garden waste (green wheelie-bin), glass and cans, and paper (blue boxes). Plastics and cardboard currently need to be taken to Berners car park; or the Council tip at Guides Lot in Grange-over-Sands, or elsewhere.

More provision for kerbside recycling was the highest supported issue, with only a very few people expressing concern about the lack of room for more recycling containers. Recycling is the first stage of the positive environmental commitment of waste reduction, followed by 're-use and reduce', with an ultimate aim of working towards 'zero waste'. All 21st century lifestyles will need to change to adapt to climate change in the not too distant future. An environmental sub-group could investigate additional recycling initiatives, while recycling campaigns could be advertised via the PC web site and circular.

Possible PC actions:
GE2.1 *Lobby SLDC to add plastic and cardboard to recycling collections*
GE2.2 *Show environmental commitment by setting up an environmental sub-group*
GE2.3 *Put recycling news on a Web based Parish Information Circular*

GE3 Darkness at night as a priority over more streetlights

Response:
Priority 64 Support 177 No support 83

'Continuous security lights are a problem'

'We need a path or lights on Lindale Hill'

Views on lighting were strong but divided, with over twice as many supporting dark skies as those requesting specific streetlights. Many people felt that watching the stars in the night sky is a fundamental pleasure of rural areas, and is part of the parish's rural attraction, which needs to be preserved. Some find the experience of walking in the dark with a torch to be a very special experience, and one which should be shared with urban visitors. Inappropriately bright lights such as currently displayed on the new garage developments are causing distress to their immediate neighbours and providing a dazzling hazard to drivers and walkers. The PC is urged to keep instances of light pollution, now a Statutory Nuisance, to a minimum.

Exterior lights necessary for safety are better shielded to direct the light downward, to prevent upward spillage of light. Downward shielding is needed on the light outside Lindale Village Hall. Modern lights can be motion sensitive and on time switches. While some people requested another streetlight on Lindale Hill, others liked the dark tunnel effect. Severely cutting back the overhanging trees, removing ivy and brambles from the rock cuttings, and clearing the drains could leave enough room for a narrow walkway which would greatly enhance pedestrian safety and remove the need for additional lights.

Possible actions:

GE3.1 *Urge commercial premises to reduce night time light pollution*
GE3.2 *Fit better shielding to exterior light on Lindale Village Hall*
GE3.3 *Raise awareness of the special qualities of dark skies in rural Cumbria*
GE3.4 *Cut back encroaching vegetation to remove need for extra streetlights*

GE4 Encouragement of energy efficiency

Response:
Priority 55 Support 237 No support 20

'We should make our homes and businesses as energy efficient as possible'

The importance of using energy efficiently is becoming apparent as fuel prices increase and climate change causes more frequent storms which whip heat away from poorly insulated houses. Cumbria County Council (CCC) Climate Change Strategy predicts considerable misery for the single elderly households which form so much of the parish, as more people struggle to heat their homes. Energy efficiency will take on much more importance in the search for 'low carbon solutions'. A recommended approach is to commission an energy survey to determine energy use in homes and public buildings. The village halls can play an important role here as good examples. The PC can provide information to allow residents to make informed choices, and endorse the LDNPA commitment to be Carbon Neutral by 2012. This is not an easy task. Energy efficiency measures are more difficult to fit into older properties, while new houses, which are built to more stringent building regulations, are not allowed at present. Research shows that mid terraced style houses produce the lowest carbon emissions; any new housing development should incorporate more energy efficient terraced village style housing. Planning restrictions may need to be relaxed to allow double-glazing and porches to reduce heat loss. Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre is a useful source of advice for householders.

Possible PC actions:

GE4.1 *Explore the possibility of energy footprint surveys, and of 'low carbon' solutions and opportunities for homes and public buildings including village halls*
GE4.2 *Sign a Carbon Reduction Policy, and endorse LDNPA commitment to be Carbon Neutral by 2012*

GE5 Local generation of renewable energy

Response:
Priority 41 Support 194 No support 51

'We would like a small HEP unit'
'We need a tidal barrage for Morecambe Bay, to generate energy'

This issue received slightly less support than the previous one. The prevalence of high winds in the area suggests a useful source of energy if some current negative opinions can be challenged. The steep slopes above Newton, and the steep nature of Lindale Beck suggest potential for small-scale hydropower generation. A holding pond for the latter could help mitigate damaging effects of flash flooding of Lindale Beck. A specialist sub-group could investigate whether summer flows are adequate. LDNPA planning requirements need to be more supportive of community initiatives to generate their own electricity, whether by domestic or collective means. CCC Climate Change Strategy suggests that local authorities, such as parish councils, may consider setting up an Energy Service Company.

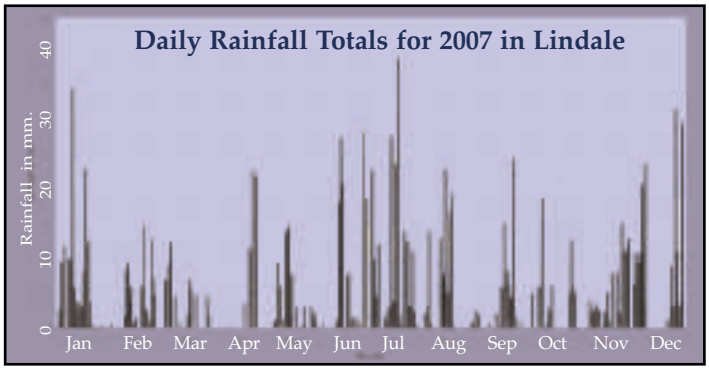
Possible PC actions:
GE5.1 *Lobby LDNPA to support planning applications for small-scale hydropower, farm biogas, PV cells on roofs, and domestic micro generation schemes*
GE5.2 *Research the viability of local power generations schemes to help meet renewable energy targets for Cumbria*
GE5.3 *Explore the benefits of setting up an Energy Service Company*

GE6 Planning for climate change and possible fuel shortages

Response:
Priority 38 Support 204 No support 46

'We need to think now how we can prepare for a future without oil'

The PC can do much to adopt the strategies being developed within Cumbria. CCC Climate Change Strategy is aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enable people, organisations and industry to adapt to the impacts of climate change. By 2080 it is estimated that Cumbria will not only have warmer temperatures, but also will have less summer rain, more winter rain, less snow, more extreme weather and a sea level rise of 67cm. While seawater incursion into the Winster valley is likely to be held back by the railway embankment, impacts on agriculture and food production may be severe. Higher temperatures may lead to more pests (ticks, midges, Blue Tongue) and crop failures. World oil production is already past its peak and oil prices will inevitably rise, causing escalating food and transport costs. Lifestyles and infrastructures will need to adapt. The PC can respond by offering to host a climate change awareness event, and could support Kendal in seeking to join the Transition Towns Movement (Transition to Life after Oil). Climate change is already apparent in terms of more frequent flooding linked to intense rainfall events. Excavations for the Newton bypass in 2006-7 released huge quantities of fine orange mud into the Lindale Beck, suffocating aquatic life and blocking culverts. The short steep Lindale Beck has been much culverted by road developments in the past; essentially Lindale Hill follows its course. The stream has been put underground into pipes (culverts) which are not well enough maintained or large enough for the more frequent flood peak flows which follow intense rainfall (see rainfall chart above). The PC needs to lobby for a review to assess the possibilities of cleaning, enlarging or opening up the culverts, and excavating one or more holding ponds, which could also be used for small scale HEP.



Possible PC actions:
GE6.1 *PC to look at its responsibilities and powers in regard to climate change*
GE6.2 *Adopt Cumbria's climate change strategy with special reference to possible fuel shortages*
GE6.3 *Consider offering to host a Cumbria Climate Change awareness event*
GE6.4 *Consider joining the 'Transition Towns' movement (Transition to Life after Oil)*
GE6.5 *Consider plans to minimise further flash flood damage in Lindale Beck*

GE7 Village Halls managed as examples of good environmental practice

Response:
Priority 40 Support 240 No support 18

'We need more community events'

Voluntary Action Cumbria's scenarios for climate change are that village halls will become even more crucial parts of the community. They need to take environmental considerations into their decision making, to become examples of good practice and to be as efficient as possible with increasingly expensive and diminishing supplies of oil and gas. Neither exhibits good practice at present. The buildings are old and poorly insulated, without double-glazing. Ambient temperatures are rarely comfortable: Newton too cold and Lindale frequently too hot. Making them more comfortable is an important part of increasing their use and revenue, and ensuring their future importance to community life. VAC is an important source of advice and there are many examples of good practice locally.

Possible Village Hall Committee actions:

GE7.1 *Consider short-term measures to save energy*

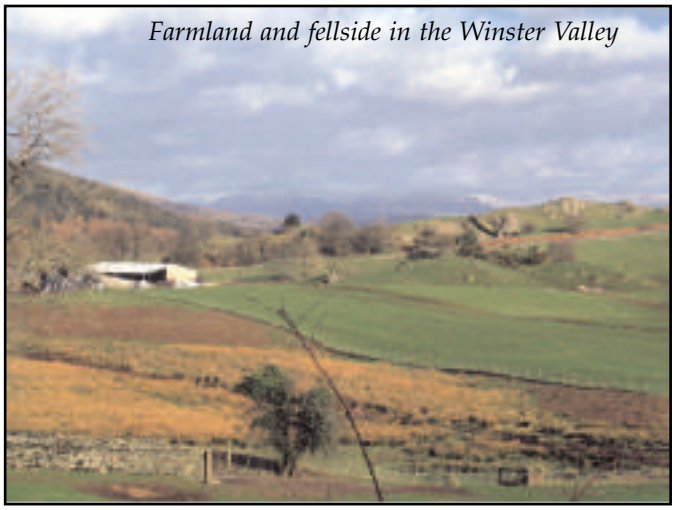
GE7.2 *Consider changing to a green electricity supply*

GE7.3 *Obtain estimates for insulation and alternative heating*

GE8 Support for local and seasonal food

Response:
Priority 42 Support 228 No support 24

Responses showed a large latent demand for locally sourced food, which may provide business opportunities for the parish, though the parish cannot in any way provide food for its population. Increasingly it is uneconomic to farm animal products in the parish, and farmers are looking to diversify into alternative incomes from their land. Growing crops is not an option, given the poor agricultural land (Grade 4-5), poorly drained acid soils and wet climate. Such



Farmland and fellside in the Winster Valley

initiatives as there are in the surrounding area, such as venison, free range wild boar, and game (pheasant, duck and salmon), are expensive and often sold in London, thus not adding to local food sources.

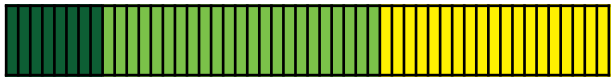
It is suggested that the PC Web site carries information on the benefits of a 'Buy Local' Scheme, for environmental, health and ethical reasons, to aid consumer choice. Evidence from the business survey identifies that the local field centre, Castle Head, an important local employer, though just outside the parish, sources local food and Fair Trade products, and provides a good role model. The PC could encourage people to grow their own food in gardens or allotments.

Possible PC actions:

GE8.1 *Consider promoting a 'Buy Local Scheme', and encouraging residents to weigh up the carbon footprint and 'product miles' of imported food*

GE9 Litter problem

Response:
Priority 40 Support 150 No support 90



'Look into fly tipping on Windermere Road'

In central areas of the villages there is relatively little litter, as responsible walkers pick it up. Surveys show that litter is greatest on the outskirts of the villages where footpaths cease. Providing footpaths for walkers could reduce the amount of litter. A lengthsman to pick up litter would keep the approaches to the village looking tidy. Voluntary litter picking teams are

not recommended as safe, as traffic travels too fast on approaches to the villages.

Possible PC actions:
GE9.1 *Consider employing a lengthsman to pick litter, and to consider the benefits of lobbying for more pavements, where walkers will pick up litter*

GE10 Dog fouling problem

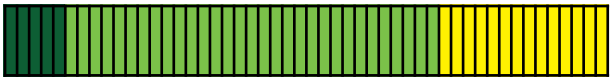
Response:
Priority 38 Support 157 No support 82

'A lot of people bring their dogs into the park. I have not used it for this reason'

Many felt this problem is better than it used to be, but in certain areas it remains a problem, especially the few dog owners who let their dogs foul children's play areas and churchyard. Encouraging responsible dog ownership and reporting infringements are felt to be the only way forward.
Possible actions:
GE10.1 *Local people to report instances to SLDC*

GE11 Further provision of allotments

Response:
Priority 18 Support 177 No support 62



' We need more allotments' 'The green area at the top of Bell Hill needs to be better maintained'

Responses suggest that demand for allotments in the parish may exceed supply. Provision of allotments is the statutory responsibility of local authorities. There are no allotments in the Newton area. Lindale has about 6 allotments taken out of a field owned by the TNH Charity. Some years ago the allocated area was reduced as a result of low take up. Recently take up has increased, and more people have expressed an interest in growing their own vegetables. Nationally there is a resurgence of interest in allotments for providing home grown food, good exercise and fresh air. Due to high local demand Grange-over-Sands has made another field available for additional allotments. The PC believes it has the power to provide allotments, but does not do so at present. Benefits and availability of allotments could be advertised on the PC Webcircular, and residents could make their wish for an allotment known to the PC.
Possible PC actions:
GE11.1 *Ascertain whether demand for an allotment in the parish exceeds supply*

GE12 Setting up a Community Orchard

Response:
Priority 10 Support 108 No support 132

One way of providing some local food is by the development of orchard crops, such as apples, damsons or hazel nuts. This idea had not been adequately publicised and there is no obviously ideal site at present. A Community Orchard could however be important for local varieties of

Damson hedge in the Winster Valley

apple or Westmorland damsons: the charity Common Ground holds an annual Apple Day, and there is scope for children to plant the trees. Many of the damson trees in the Winster valley are very old and wind damaged, and new orchards could rejuvenate this local crop. There is a successful orchard in the valley, supported by a Countryside Stewardship Scheme.

Possible actions:
GE12.1 *Consider providing information about the food and environmental rationale for having a Community Orchard*

8 Services and Housing (SH): Social Issues

SH1 All necessary steps should be taken to support and maintain existing services across the Parish

Response:
Priority 108 Support 266 No support 3

'We must keep the Post Office'
'Everything that can be done should be done to save our village Post Office'

People in the community expressed very strong support for the maintenance of existing services, especially the Post Office, but a dilemma can arise between support for a 'service provider' and interference in a 'commercial business'. The PC is urged to continue to lobby as widely as possible to maintain Lindale's Post Office, and to encourage residents to support and use local businesses whenever possible. Information on the parish Web site could feature local businesses. It is proposed that a Web based Parish Information Circular (PIC) should be produced to supplement the current newsletters which do not reach all parish residents. This could feature articles on parish services.

The PC could consider developing a set of 'kite-mark' criteria for businesses in the parish, reflecting their level of community involvement. Advantages for the businesses could be better communication with the PC, membership of the Parish Business Forum and possible consideration in planning and funding issues. Discussions with SLDC could lead to a review of business rates and rents to provide an incentive for local businesses to attain a designated 'service provider' kite-mark.

Possible PC actions:

SH1.1 *Lobby as widely as possible for the maintenance of the existing services*
SH1.2 *Encourage residents to support and use local businesses*
SH1.3 *Feature articles about small local businesses on the Web based Parish Information Circular (PIC)*
SH1.4 *Discuss a more favourable business rating system for local services*

For Sale signs at High Newton

SH2 Investigate means of restricting the number of second homes/holiday lets

Response:
Priority 107 Support 206 No support 59

'Force second home owners to contribute to local budgets' 'Restricting second/holiday homes removes employment'

The issue of second homes provoked some very strong feelings, particularly in some Lindale neighbourhoods. Feelings were expressed more strongly in 2006-7 than in earlier surveys, as the effects of reduced and expensive housing stock are seen in the missing young people in the parish age profile and fears that the community will die if young families cannot be retained. This is an issue common to many rural areas across Cumbria, yet is not easy to solve. The housing issues raised in this survey are complex and interrelated. A PC housing sub-group could investigate ways to make more properties available for longer term local renting. Other approaches could be to investigate increasing Council Tax payable on second homes, and ensuring that all holiday lets are charged business rates, and to lobby for second home ownership to be recorded as 'change of use', allowing tracking of the number of houses used for this purpose. These measures are now being widely advocated.

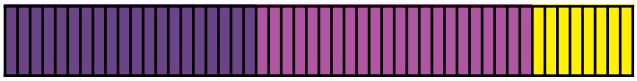
Possible PC actions:

SH2.1 *Set up a housing sub-group for further investigations of all housing issues*
SH2.2 *Explore the possibilities of more longer-term lets for local people*
SH2.3 *Investigate higher Council Tax on second homes in the parish*
SH2.4 *Lobby for second homes ownership to be recognised as 'change of use'*

SH 3 Assessment of the need for affordable housing

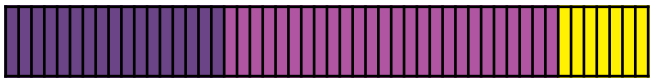
Responses:

Priority 97 Support 206 No support 45



[Rented accommodation for young local families]

Priority 79 Support 218 No support 37



'Make new houses Housing Association only so they are always available for rent'
'Careful site selection is needed for any new houses'
'Prevent affordable houses from becoming holiday homes'
'Land for businesses must be made available at the same time as houses'

More affordable housing for local young people was given a high priority by the survey with the proviso that such houses should remain affordable; while others felt that some small areas of mixed housing were preferable. An amendment to the Housing and Regeneration Bill should abolish to right to buy shared equity houses, to ensure that in future homes remain affordable in perpetuity. Results from a Housing Needs Survey by the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust will need to be interpreted carefully, as many of the young people wishing to live in the parish have already been forced out in the search for an affordable home.

More flexible approaches to land use planning are needed from the LDNPA, to make allocations of affordable homes in the parish; not only in the villages but also on farms to provide housing for farm workers to help keep farming enterprises viable. It should be possible to create a mix of housing types together with opportunities for small enterprise units. This would also meet the expressed need for local employment, and would be an innovative solution such as Cumbria County Council is advocating in its strategy statement to address climate change. The PC should work with the LDNPA, SLDC and landowners to identify suitable sites; there may be some land which could be released for some housing development. Any new homes should aim to meet zero carbon regulations. Community support was also high for more rented accommodation for young local families. It is recommended that the housing sub-group should investigate this.

Possible PC actions:

SH 3.1 *Request a Housing Needs Survey from Cumbria Rural Housing Trust*
SH3.2 *Lobby LDNPA for an allocation of affordable homes to be built in the parish*
SH3.3 *Lobby LDNPA to create a more flexible planning designation of mixed housing with enterprise units*
SH3.4 *Survey the level and variety of rented accommodation currently available*

SH4 Facilities and Activities for the young

Response:

Priority 83 Support 244 No support 14

'A children's play area is needed in High Newton'
'A youth club could be introduced'
'Activities for teenagers are needed'
'Kids could come together once or twice a week in the village halls'

A strong community feeling was expressed that there is not enough for young people to do, and that more activities for the young should be provided. There is no youth club in either village and little leisure provision for the over 11s. Cubs, Scouts and Guides meet in Cartmel or Grange-over-Sands, while teenagers go to Grange-over-Sands or further away for much of their social life. Some older teenagers work in the local pubs or at Castle Head Field Centre when they are old enough to work, saving up for a car. Surveys did not effectively sample the views of young people themselves. It is suggested that a Youth Forum with membership of the PC, or Youth Council as in Grange-over-Sands, should be set up to ensure that a youthful voice is heard. There was a view that the rough ground at Lingarth needs tidying and could make a useful children's play area, fenced from the road, with perhaps a few rocks and tree trunks for natural play.

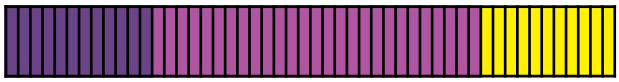
Possible PC actions:

SH4.1 *Set up a Youth Forum to research if more activities can be created in village halls or Lindale Church*
SH4.2 *Investigate providing a play area at Lingarth*

SH5 Measures to strengthen the effectiveness of Local Occupancy Orders

Response:

Priority 57 Support 191 No support 57



'The orders are there but the authority chooses not to apply them'

Measures to assure that properties are available for local people received considerable, though not unanimous, community support. Mechanisms to assure houses for local people are not effective. Local Occupancy Orders (LOOs), drawn up by LDNPA, are required for planning consent to build properties within the parish. These conditions are recorded on the Land Charges Register held by SLDC. In the past it has been possible to have these orders removed. It is hoped that this practice will be stopped, and that serious consideration will be given to re-establishing such orders on houses where they existed previously as a planning condition.

Possible PC actions:

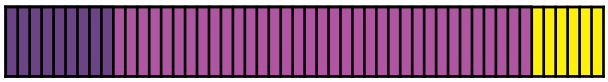
SH5.1 *Consider how to ensure that LOOs are reflected accurately in house sale details*

SH5.2 *Seek to reactivate all former Local Occupancy planning conditions*

SH6 Support for continuance of St Paul's Church, Lindale

Response:

Priority 44 Support 218 No support 30



'Do present numbers justify keeping an expensive building?'

The households expressing support for the continuance of the parish church greatly exceed the active supporters and weekly congregation of St Paul's Church Lindale. The building is Grade II Listed, and costs nearly £20,000 a year to keep going. More support is needed. Options to keep the building maintained and to provide a more active focus for community life should be explored.

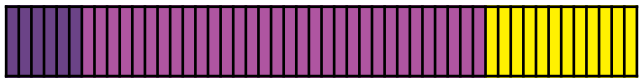
Possible Parochial Church Council action:

SH6.1 *Consider hosting more community events in the church*

SH 7 Information leaflets should be produced about recommended walks, cycling and horse riding routes in and around the parish

Response:

Priority 30 Support 194 No support 61



'A Web site is needed especially for those in remote parts of the parish'

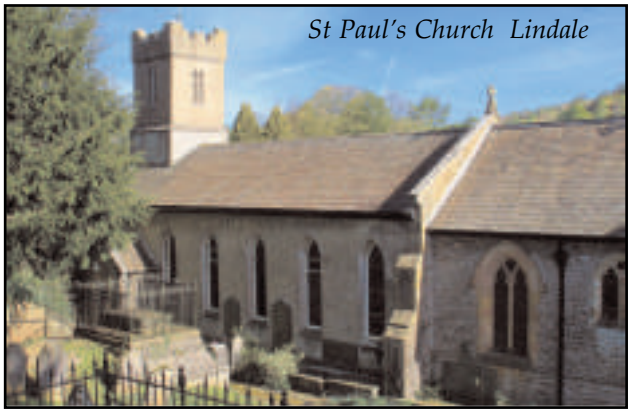
The idea of providing leaflets recommending walks around the parish was quite well supported, although accorded a low overall priority. Discussions with some of the larger businesses in the parish have identified the possibility of targeting visitors to the Lindale garages, who have time to spend while awaiting car services, and who might be persuaded to explore the area on foot, or even bicycle. A John Wilkinson trail leaflet is planned for July 2008, as the bicentenary of his death. Similarly there has been support for leaflets about cycle rides around the parish, possibly mostly for visitors. An idea for an annual 'walk the bounds of the parish' would raise the low current awareness of the parish's extent, and could be used for fund raising. Using local knowledge of the rights of way networks, woods and views of the area, guided walks leaflets could be another method of encouraging a limited amount of green tourism, and could be crucial to the Newton area post bypass. Walks and cycle leaflets could be available via the Web site and parish information circular.

Possible PC actions:

SH7.1 *Commission a series of self guided walks with leaflets for both local people and visitors*

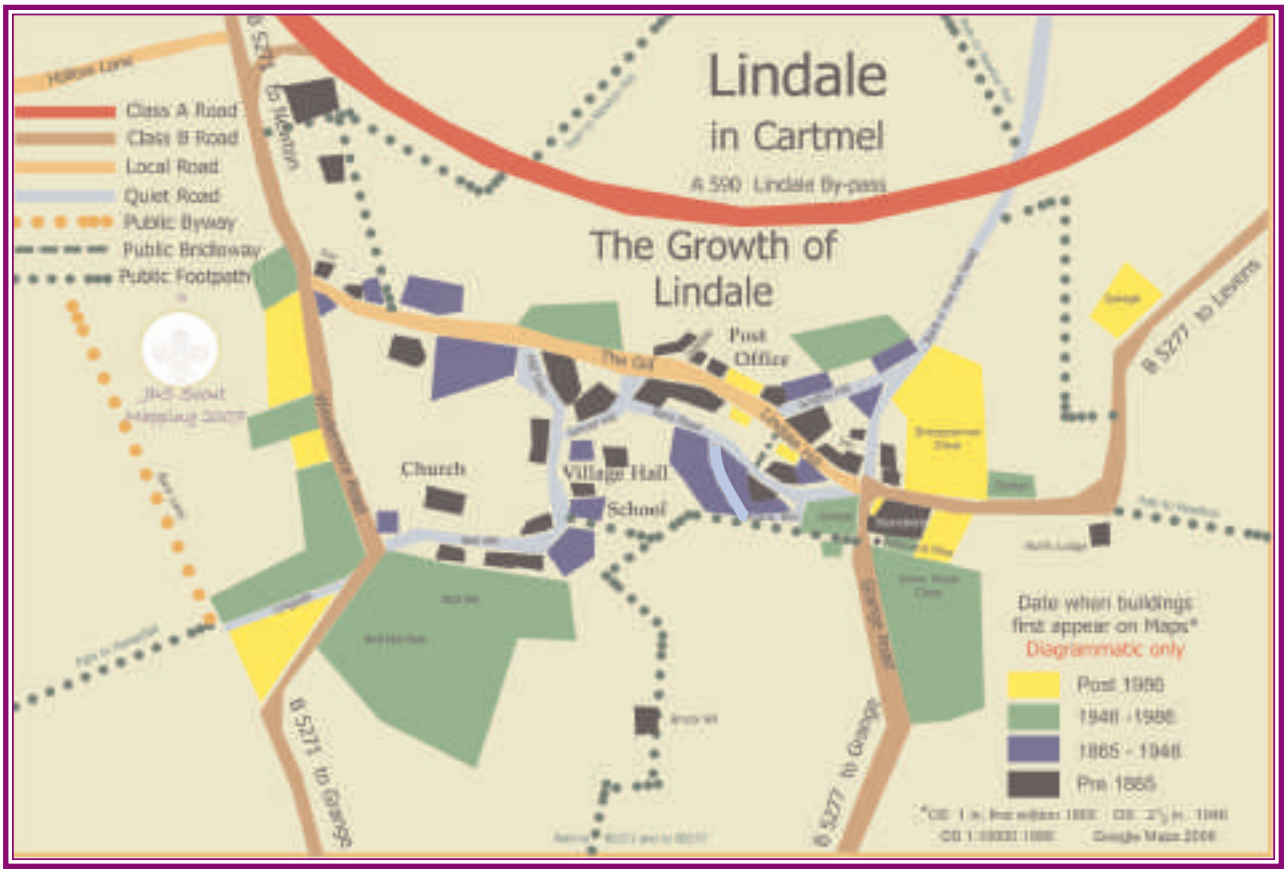
SH7.2 *Commission leaflets of self guided cycle and horse riding routes*

SH7.3 *Consider inaugurating an Annual event of 'Walking the Bounds of the Parish'*

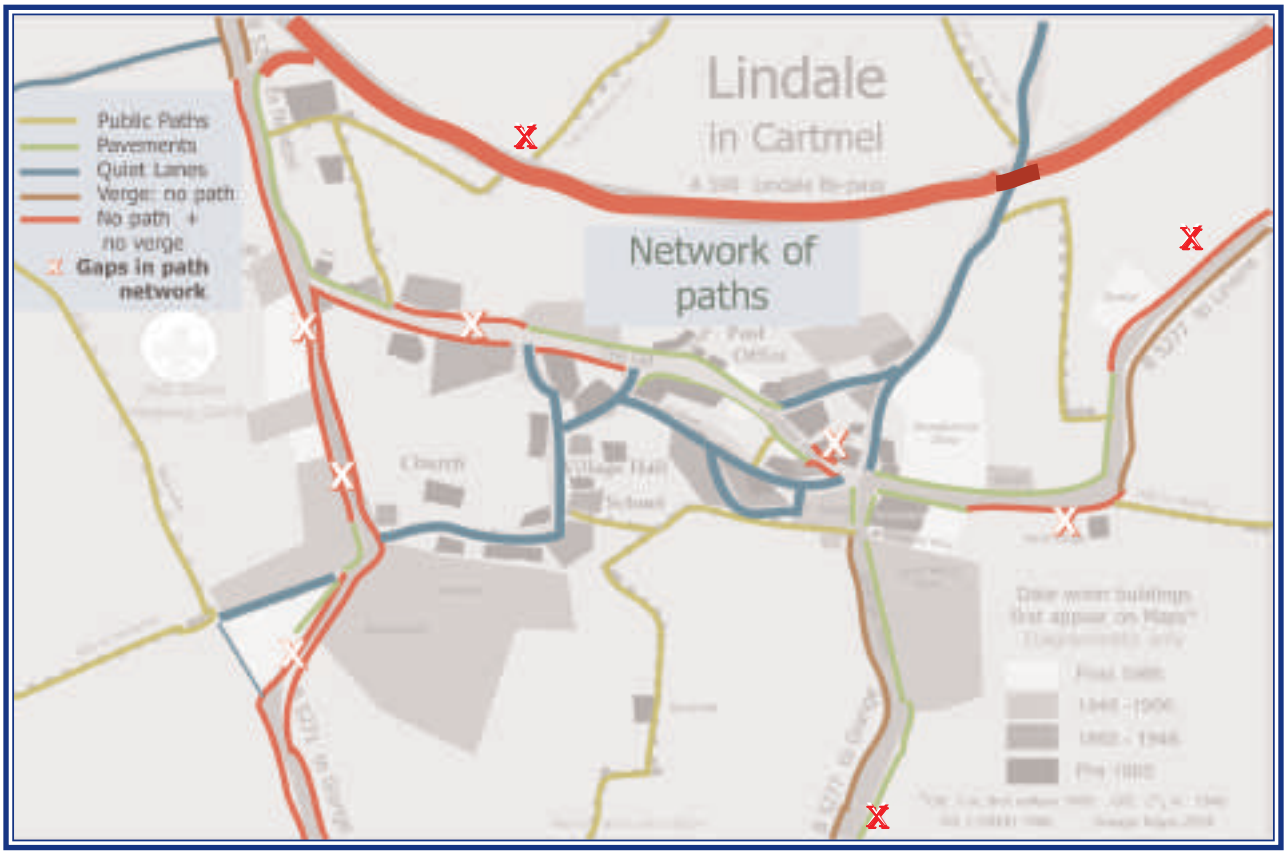


St Paul's Church Lindale

Sketch Maps of Lindale for reference in the Social and Transport Sections



Housing areas in Lindale:
the colours show the dates when each area first appeared on a map



Network of roads, lanes, and paths in Lindale:
the red lines and crosses show where there are gaps in the footpath network

9. Traffic and Safety: Transport Issues

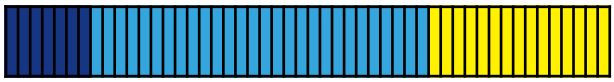
TS1 Support for bus & rail transport

Responses:

Priority 111 Support 258 No support 6

[Bus shelters for all X35 stops]

Priority 34 Support 175 No support 73



'We need more accessible bus stops for the elderly and families' 'Seats would help' 'We need integration of bus and train times at Grange'

The issue of public transport was seen as vital, but is a difficult topic on which to take action. The parish is fortunate in having two good bus services, which deserve to be used more. The X35 Barrow to Kendal express bus service runs hourly Monday to Saturday with stops in High Newton and Lindale. The positions of stops/shelter in High Newton are currently under review. On Grange Road, Lindale there are two stone built bus shelters. More bus shelters were not seen as a high priority though many would welcome shelters on Windermere Road and at School Bus stops, preferably with seats. The last bus leaves Kendal at 23.02 hours. The return fare to Kendal is £3.65, but is free to over 60s who often appear to be the major users. The 532 Grange Area Circular Bus travels through Lindale at similar times to the X35. The last bus on this service is at 17.04pm. The 530 is a school bus service to Cartmel and Kendal from Lindale. The nearest train station is at Grange-over-Sands, with services north to Barrow and Carlisle, and south to Lancaster and the rest of the country. It is expensive to park at the station, while reported reductions in train services are causing concern. In the 1992 survey there were complaints that bus and train times are not co-ordinated. The nearest taxi services are in Grange-over-Sands. There is a need for a specialist transport sub-group to examine the factors which are reducing public transport use at present, and to seek innovative solutions to the community's wish to support public transport. Further investigations are needed to look at possible inducements to encourage alternatives to car transport for young people, and the provision of more conveniently timed workers' buses. These actions could be addressed by active participation in the Accessibility Task Group of the Local Strategic Partnership for South Lakeland.

Possible PC actions:

TS1.1 *Set up a specialist transport sub-group to conduct further surveys and to propose innovative solutions to the community's expressed wish to support public transport*

TS1.2 *Lobby for more/ different fare concessions on buses for young people*

TS1.3 *Investigate the possibility of introducing a workers bus to and from Grange*

TS1.4 *Investigate the possibility of more effective co-ordination of bus and rail times*

TS1.5 *Consider bus shelters/ seat/ levelling of ground at Windermere Road bus stop, Lindale*

TS2 Managing the footway/ bridleway/ cycleway networks:

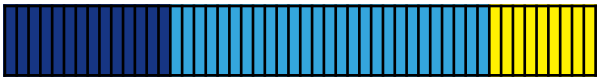
Gaps in the footpath and bridleway networks ***Response:***

Priority 93 Support 232 No support 24

Linking Lindale and Lyndene (Grange Road)

Response:

Priority 71 Support 202 No support 43



Linking the villages with footpaths and cycleways ***Response:***

Priority 39 Support 216 No support 56

'Footpaths across the bypass are needed' 'Walking to Grange is very dangerous:It needs a No Footway sign'

'The Church could free a strip of land along its Windermere Road boundary to enable a footpath for the benefit of the whole community'

There is much latent support for the encouragement of more sustainable forms of transport, which should be the remit of the transport sub-group. Many people said they would walk to Grange-over-Sands to shop, or would walk or cycle more, if it were safer. The problems are gaps* in the pavements and footpaths, and speeding traffic. *[*see map on previous page]*

There is strong support, especially in lower Lindale, for an off-road route, (actually in Grange parish) from Lindale to Grange-over-Sands, perhaps as a permissive 'over the wall' path, such as have been used elsewhere in Cumbria. Walking, cycling or riding safely between the villages of the parish is made more dangerous by the need to cross the speeding traffic on the 70 mph dual carriageway bypass.

Turn verges into a footway/cycleway? The route from Lindale to Newton. Summer growth obscures road signs

For better integration of the parish there need to be safe crossings of the bypass: no provision was made to enable the safe use of the three public rights of way (PROW) severed by the Lindale bypass in 1977. Within the villages, on Lindale Hill, along Windermere Road and Grange Road in Lindale, and between Low and High Newton, it is unsafe to walk in places because of encroaching vegetation. If this were to be cleared, and the verges cut, there would just be room for a narrow pavement. At the moment 'No Footway' signs are needed. Improving footpaths not only leads to better personal health but also contributes to reduced litter, as many walkers routinely pick up the litter they see. Walking, cycling and riding are also excellent ways to appreciate the distinctive character which is at the heart of the parish: some leaflets are planned for the bicentennial of John Wilkinson's death. Other improvements in PROW, such as gaps between the Open Access areas on Newton Fell, need to be referred to Cumbria Rights of Way Improvement Programme (ROWIP).

Possible PC actions:

TS2.1 *Develop plans and solutions to encourage more use of sustainable transport such as walking, cycling or horse riding*

TS2.2 *Negotiate linking Grange-over-Sands and Lindale by safe off-road routes*

TS2.3 *Investigate linking Lindale with Low Newton by footpath, bridleway and cycle path, with safe crossing of A590*

TS2.4 *More regular maintenance of vegetation encroaching on minor roads*

TS2.5 *Promote a Wilkinson Way*

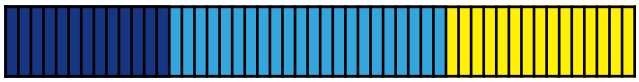
TS3 Enforcing speed limits

Responses:

Priority 82 Support 227 No support 36

[Slow down traffic]

Priority 64 Support 182 No support 75



'Speeding traffic is dangerous throughout the villages' 'There are too many speeding vehicles, especially motor bikes, on Lindale bypass' 'Lowering of speed limits to 20mph should be considered' 'We need speed cameras or a speed indicator sign'

Concerns were expressed about the high speed of vehicles using roads past and through Lindale. Speeding is expected to become more of a problem after the bypass completion, creating a stretch of nearly 6 kilometres of dual carriageway. Surveys to check vehicle speeds are urgently required. Windermere Road is still dangerous to walk along, as reported in the 1992 survey, as there are no pavements and no designated crossings: the HGV ban in early 2008 is an improvement. Many Newton residents have requested a 30mph speed limit through High Newton; some support a 20 mph limit. There is a general call for traffic calming throughout the villages, and especially down Lindale Hill, around the school, and at the Lindale Inn roundabout on the B5277, where there are many hazards. The telephone box, bus stops, parked vehicles, garage delivery vehicles, and the concealed entrances to Stonebeck and Dixon Wood Close are all immediately around the corner. Some traffic from the Kendal direction turns left to Grange-over-Sands without slowing down or stopping. More rigorous enforcement of speed limits through the villages was a high priority.

Possible PC actions:

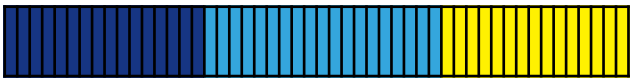
TS3.1 *Lobby Highways Agency to monitor traffic speeds on A590 post bypass*

TS3.2 *Commission surveys of adherence to speed limits through the villages*

TS4 Improving safety of A590 Eller How and Lindale junctions

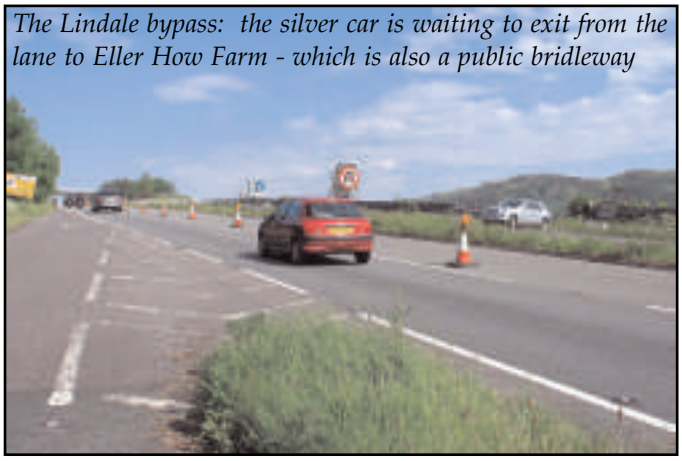
Response:

Priority 78 Support 181 No support 73



'We have concerns about excessive speed'
'We need a speed restriction on the A590'
'It will be a dangerous journey by car from High/Low Newton to Lindale (and Grange) to cut across the dual carriageway to access the Lindale Road'

Following completion of the Newton bypass in April 2008 traffic speeds on the Lindale bypass are expected to be higher, and using the junctions to prove more hazardous. Those respondents who have attempted to turn on and off the A590 dual carriageway bypass appreciate the potential danger of these manoeuvres.



The Lindale bypass: the silver car is waiting to exit from the lane to Eller How Farm - which is also a public bridleway

The junctions to Eller How Farm and to Eller How are currently unsigned. There is an urgent need to rectify this, as there is a great fear of further accidents, such as have occurred at the Lindale right turn junction. It will be vital to monitor traffic speeds both on the new bypass and through the villages.

Possible PC actions:

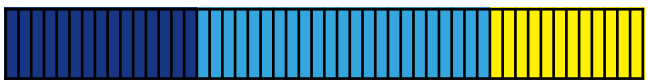
TS4.1 *Lobby to ensure that road markings and signs reflect increased traffic speeds on bypass completion*

TS4.2 Commission traffic monitoring on the Lindale-Newton bypasses and through Newton villages

TS5 Parking Issues

Response:

Priority 73 Support 199 No support 59



'Car parking on Grange Road is unsightly and Hadwins are still parking on the recreation area' (Skate board park)
'Ban parking outside the school'

Views on parking were divided; in many areas it is not an issue. Most people felt it to be vital for the viability of Lindale's Post Office and only shop to be allowed to park immediately outside. The request for more parking spaces, in High Newton and on Grange Road Lindale, was not unanimously supported, as some rejected the possibility of marked out parking places being out of place in a village setting. Parking places are limited, and there are not enough spaces along Grange Road Lindale to meet the needs of Hadwins employees and customers, visitors to the village and its Wilkinson heritage and those wishing to park to use the X35 bus service, or for car sharing.

Lindale Primary School has formulated a travel plan under the 'Better Ways to School Programme', and from summer 2007 started a 'walking bus' on Wednesdays from Sheepbarrow. The school has a well-organised system of parking agreements with parents, and an informal one-way system on School Hill, which villagers are asked to respect at school delivery and collection times. Some residents feel that there should be a wider No Parking zone around the school exits. Solutions are not easy as the road is narrow and bending.

Inconsiderate parking, and the pressure of visitors' vehicles, was an issue of moderate priority for some residents. In High Newton on the south side there are problems with parking close to a particular junction, and overnight parking also causes disturbance alongside the memorial garden. Problems arise from vehicles parked outside holiday lets blocking access for delivery lorries, while conversely the huge car transporters delivering new cars to the three car showrooms in Lindale can cause traffic problems. Employees' car parking on Kendal Road has led to the closure of a much needed and used post box.

Possible PC actions:

TS5.1 *Lobby for additional parking spaces in the villages*

TS5.2 *Continue to monitor parking on School Hill, Lindale*

TS5.3 *Appeal for more considerate parking, especially near road junctions within the villages*

TS6 Roads signs to respect the rural character of the villages

Response:
Priority 49 Support 187 No support 71

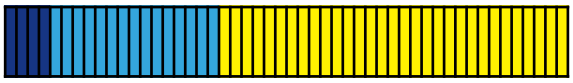
'Ensure that signs deemed necessary are kept clean to avoid a shabby image for the community'
'Fewer road signs' 'No yellow lines'

This issue was not accorded a very high priority, although it is directly related to maintaining the rural character of the built environment (GE1), which was one of the highest priorities. In 1993 the LDNPA, in agreeing the bypass for Newton, set conditions that visual dominance of the villages by major roads should be reduced. The de-trunking of the former A590 in High and Low Newton has created an opportunity to restore the rural character of the villages and 'heal the scars' made by the widening of the trunk road in the 1930s. Consultations organised by a dedicated group of villagers have resulted in agreement to remove unnecessary signs and road markings, following bypass completion in April 2008. This will involve a 'gateway' feature (village name sign), road narrowing through High Newton with grass verges, narrow pinch points at junctions, removal of the more major current road signs and removal of the central white line. Cumbria style finger post direction signs are unlikely to be of part of the initial phase of the scheme, but may well be added by CCC/partners in the future. Lindale village did not get the benefit of these 'de-trunking' arrangements in 1977, when its bypass was completed. It is widely felt that all signs should be in keeping with the character of a rural village, though that might be hard to maintain around the B5277 roundabout area which carries mainly though traffic. It is proposed that Friends of the Lake District be approached to carry out a survey using their Rural Roads Character Project.

Possible PC action:
TS6.1 *Provide Cumbria style fingerposts where appropriate in villages*
TS 6.2 *Survey the size and character of road signs in Lindale, as done for High and Low Newton*

TS7 Developing a more obvious centre for Lindale

Response:
Priority 18 Support 91 No support 136



'We need an identifiable focus for the 'centre' which is recognised as the hub for the majority of groups, so that a village identity is more obvious. It currently lacks a 'heart', (other than the Post Office)'

This issue had the lowest overall support. People like living in Lindale and do not wish it to be changed. Most people are opposed to 'urban' solutions such as cobbles or coloured road surfaces. However older inhabitants refer to 'the square' where they used to meet as being the cross roads outside the village hall. This area also had a series of shops, including the Masons Arms, fish & chip shop and sweet shop, and was a former village centre.

The Coronation Tree and 'The Square' Lindale - once a centre for the village

While through traffic may see the Lindale Inn roundabout as the village centre, the local village centre is the area between the Post Office and the Village Hall, incorporating the Coronation Tree and the map of the village. Friends of the Lake District could be asked to look particularly at this area when carrying out their survey for TS6.2

Possible PC action:
TS7.1 *Commission a visual appearance appraisal of Lindale 'square'*

The Action Plans - who is involved?

The action plans which follow are in the the same order and use the same colour code as the preceding pages on the main issues. In addition to restating the proposed actions we have suggested possible priority levels and a time scale and listed those official bodies who will need to be involved with funding and decision making.

Except where specified the information below is derived from the appropriate Web site

Allithwaite Upper Parish Council (PC) whose responsibilities are:

- Give views, on behalf of the community, on planning applications and other proposals that affect the parish
- Undertake projects and schemes that benefit local residents
- Alert relevant authorities to problems that arise or work that needs to be undertaken
- Help the other tiers of local government keep in touch with their local community

Source: *Allithwaite Upper parish council 2008*

A Community or Parish Plan is a local action plan at parish level that aims to involve the whole community from the initial appraisal to making decisions to improve the quality of life. *Source CCC 2008*

Parish Plans are seen as a valuable resource for identifying issues affecting parishes. Parish Plans will be important in the development of strategic documents such as the South Lakeland Community Strategy.
Source SLDC 2008

Community Action Plans are local, action-based plans which address a wide range of problems and opportunities facing rural communities. They can include social, economic and environmental issues and give everyone in the community the chance to be involved.
Source VAC 2008

Cumbria County Council (CCC) is the **Highway Authority** for the county of Cumbria. It is responsible for highways and footways and has a statutory duty to manage and maintain all public rights of way throughout Cumbria.

Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre provides free energy efficiency advice for householders in Cumbria. It can give advice to householders wishing to install solar panels or air source heat pumps. It gives talks to community groups and gives grants for insulation.

Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) is the planning authority for the parish, and may be a potential source of funding for any community initiative linked to energy efficiency, local generation of renewable energy, planning for climate change, village halls and a community orchard.

South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) can offer financial help for small projects arising from the production of Parish Plans (such as improving village halls or play areas).

South Lakeland Community Strategy aims to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of South Lakeland in a sustainable way by highlighting the key issues of the quality of life of the district and by seeking ways of working together to tackle them.

South Lakeland Strategic Partnership (SLP) has been set up to bring together key public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations at a local level.

The **Taylor, Newton & Hibbert Charity (THN)** is an important local source of funding which has made considerable grants to organisations and needy individuals in the parish.
Source: TNH Charity 2008

Voluntary Action Cumbria (VAC) is the **Rural Community Council** for Cumbria. It works with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria. It offers a Village Hall Advice Service. VAC was the major funding source for this Community Plan.

A Vision

deriving from the Action Plans

As a result of the Community Plan surveys, discussions, and consultations, the following emerges as a vision for the future of the parish:

- *A community where local businesses operate successfully and contribute to the local economy, including farmers, local trades people, village enterprises and those working from home*
- *The essential rural character of the Parish is maintained, with clean, safe, secure and sustainable villages*
- *Good environmental practice extends beyond kerbside recycling*
- *High quality, well supported and environmentally managed village halls act as focal points of community life*
- *Key services (PO, school, church, pubs) are sufficiently supported to continue as viable enterprises*
- *Further use of properties as second homes or holiday lets is monitored and prevented where possible*
- *Small areas of land are designated for development as 'mixed use' consisting of starter homes, with small work spaces, plus a couple of larger homes, all with off road parking*
- *A family friendly parish which provides jobs and houses for young families*
- *More rented accommodation is available for local young families*
- *Good, reliable and affordable public transport is used by all sectors of the community*
- *Vehicular traffic is slowed down through the parish*
- *All junctions on or off the A590 are designed with safety foremost*
- *Gaps in networks of pavements, footpaths, cycle and bridleways are rectified to give safe, off road multi user tracks to link villages to Grange-over-Sands and to each other*
- *A parish which works together in partnership with neighbouring parishes and communities*

11 Next steps

11.1 Plan into Action

The Community Plan makes many recommendations for action which is in line with Community Plans from other villages. Many of the issues are interlinked, and addressing one action point may well help solve a series of others. Some of the action points will require rapid action, and the PC is already addressing some of these, as they have become apparent during the drawing up of this Plan, while others are longer-term strategic issues, and their outcomes will become apparent only after several years. Actions requiring funding will need to be addressed when formulating budgets for the next financial year.

11.2 General recommendations

Some of the recommendations are general issues, which may be partly resolved by effective communication of PC actions, and it is suggested that the Parish Council should:

- **Use its new Parish Web site to hold the full Community Plan**, be a repository of information about the parish, and show monitoring and achievement Actions recommended in the Plan. It could advertise parish meetings and events, and be a forum for young people to contribute their ideas, perhaps via a blog facility. Those in remoter parts of the parish particularly requested a parish Web site.

- **Produce its own, in-house Web publication** informing all residents, especially those in outlying areas, of current developments and opportunities. Printed copies could be available at selected outlets.

- **Consider setting up a Community Plan Management Team**, to help ensure that the recommendations are pursued and reviewed. The team could review the Plans of neighbouring areas to seek out potential for joint action.

- **Consider appointing a Parish Council member to research and apply for grants** available to support Parish Councils to achieve their planned actions. Many grants are available. This person may be the same as a PC 'Enforcement Officer', charged with ensuring that designated actions are achieved.

- **Set up a number of specialist sub-groups**, in order to help the PC to deliver the Community Plan in action. Sub-groups would be time limited, and report regularly to the PC. Sub-groups could be Joint with Cartmel and Grange Community Board for example. A particular advantage of this proposal will be to involve more people in working with the PC to undertake community activities, and to implement the Action Plans from the Community Plan.

A possible sub-group template for membership might be

- Member of Community Plan Management Team, as Chair
- Secretary
- A PC member
- Youth representative
- Advisor from a neighbouring Parish
- SLDC/ LDNPA/CCC officer representatives
- A working professional in the specialist area of the forum/ sub Group
- 3-4 members with differing specialisms

Suggested initial Specialist Sub Groups are:

Business Forum
Environment
Heritage Sub Group
(including John Wilkinson)
Housing Sub Group
Transport Sub Group
Youth Forum

11.3 Review and Monitoring

Actions deriving from the Plan should be reviewed annually in order to set new targets for consideration at the Annual Parish Meeting. Regular updates should be made available via the parish web site.

Community Plan Steering Group members and responsibilities

David Clapp (Chair) (TS)
Peter Woodhead (Vice Chair) (BE)
Helen Churchill (Secretary) (GE)
Paul Bond (Treasurer) (Youth matters)
Carolyn Hey (GE)
Judy Morris (GE)
John Shippen (TS)
Sylvia Woodhead (SH)

May 2008

APPENDIX A

Division of Responsibilities in Allithwaite Upper Parish

Cumbria County Council	*Lake District National Park Authority*	*South Lakeland District Council*
Education	**A**ffordable housing allocation	**A**llotments
Highways, road defects, pavements, street lighting, road signs, flooding, traffic management, gritting, grass verges & hedges	**D**evelopment control	**B**uilding regulations, Business, Housing, Second Home designations, Neighbourhood Services, Regeneration
Libraries	**L**ocal Occupancy Orders	**C**ar parking
Local Development	**P**lanning consent	**C**oncessionary fares
Police	**R**ights of Way	**E**nvironment: dog dirt, fly tipping, noise & light pollution
		Waste & recycling

APPENDIX B

Summary of 1992 Lindale and Newton-in-Cartmel 'Village Appraisal'

Lindale

- 179 out of 360 questionnaires were returned, a 50% return
- 88 households did not want more houses compared to 78 who did
- Of those seeking accommodation, ½ wanted to stay in the village
- Housing 'for the young' was identified as needed
- 129 wished for more local employment in the parish
- Others would welcome a full range of Adult Education classes in the village
- There were few facilities for prams and bikes on the buses
- Bus and train times need co-ordinating
- 33 households wanted a Youth Club, 11 a play area at Lingarth
- 11 households wanted a full size football pitch/ cricket ground
- 49 households wanted a new telephone box at the top of the village
- 32 households wanted more seats
- 41 households wanted better footpaths
- Windermere Road was seen as dangerous.

Newton

- 53 out of 75 questionnaires were returned, a 70% return
- 33 did not want more housing, 16 did (for young people)
- 27 families wanted to see the village hall used as a primary school
- People's areas of work were varied. 9 were retired, 11 worked in Kendal, 6 in Grange-over-Sands and 2 were long distance commuters.
- 30 shopped in Kendal and 28 in Grange-over-Sands. 8 said they shopped in the village
- 41 obtained medical services in Grange-over-Sands
- 12 followed social activities in the village
- 35 never used the bus
- There were varied requests for social activities
- 33/53 (62%) wanted the bypass

Survey by Allithwaite Upper Parish Council assisted by SLDC

APPENDIX C

Allithwaite Upper Historic Environment Record

Name	*Monument type*	*Period*
Lindale Low Cave flint scatter	Cave	Prehistoric
South of Low Newton	Possible barrows	Prehistoric
Head House	Strip lynchets	Mediaeval
Longmire Allotment & Moss End		
Ridge and Furrow	Earthwork	Post mediaeval
High Newton	Circular enclosure	Uncertain
Moss End Farm	Defensive dyke system	Uncertain
Wilson Hills enclosure bank	Earthwork	Uncertain
Whin Brow	Field system	Uncertain
Sheepbarrow	Earthwork	Uncertain
Barrow Hollin	Burnt Mound	Uncertain
Newton Heads	Lime kiln	Post mediaeval
Height	Bee bole	Post mediaeval
Height	Meeting House	Post mediaeval
High Pines	Rock carving	Uncertain
Dixon Heights (summer house destroyed)	Tower	Uncertain
High Newton & Wilson House	Pill Box	Modern
Broca Hill	Saw mill	(Destroyed)
Tarn Green, Sheepbarrow, Simpson Ground, Hare Hill, Barrow Wife	Gravel pits	(Destroyed)
Newton Tarn, Wilson Hills, Barrow Hollin, Raven Scar, Lindale, Head House, Tom Tarn.	Slate quarries	(Destroyed)
High Newton	Potash kiln	(Destroyed)
Head House & Thistledene	Lime kiln	(Destroyed)
Eller How	Sundial	(Destroyed)
Bowes Lodge	Footbridge	(Destroyed)
Wilson House iron furnace	Blast furnace	(Destroyed)
Lindale & Sheepbarrow	Pill Box	(Destroyed)
Lindale Mill	Watermill	(Destroyed)

Source: LDNPA March 2008

APPENDIX D

2006 Questionnaire Survey Results

1. What do you like best about the local area and its community?

Beauty of setting	'Backdrop of trees, gorse, hills and rock outcrops', glorious rural scenery, unspoilt, 'the bowling green a great asset', quaintness of properties, variety of housing, few street lights at night
Friendly people	Our neighbours
Good community spirit	A diverse community with several organisations that bring people together, close knit but welcoming Social events in the Village Hall
Facilities	Shop/ PO, pubs offering food and entertainment, school, play area for children, church, availability of local businesses
Access	Good public transport links, easy access to Grange-over-Sands and other places, 'location in the Lake District' Proximity to walks both short and long, access to open countryside without using the car
Safety	
'Peace and quiet'	Sense of freedom to move around safely, very little crime or vandalism
Other	Local information & communication through Grange Now & 'Parish Newsletter'

2. What aspects of the local area need protecting or conserving?

Facilities	PO/shop should be kept open, church, school, pubs, village hall, bowling green, public toilets, local groups supported. The doctor's surgery in Grange-over-Sands, hospital in Kendal, and 'Berners Swimming Pool in Grange'
Open Space and countryside	Playing fields and sports fields within the village, 'Green belt' between Lindale and Grange, Sheepbarrow hill saved from despoliation. Scenery; rural setting Access to countryside for walking; access to coast Footpaths kept cleared. Active hedgerow and woodland management; some tree planting Protect against overdevelopment of car showrooms 'The stream running through the village'
Public transport	Bus and rail services
Essential village character	Mix of architecture & housing styles; farming community
John Wilkinson Heritage	Monument; 'original foundry at Wilson House'; water trough below PO
Night sky	'Dark skies for star watching', 'the night sky should remain dark'

continued ...

APPENDIX D

3. What needs to happen to make our villages better?

Access to countryside	More footpath maintenance. Footpaths/ pedestrian links between Lindale and Low and High Newton
Facilities	Youth club/ Meeting place/ shelter for teenagers to congregate Football team, cricket team, badminton, table tennis in village hall. More 'whole village' activities in Village Hall; for example for young & families, Keep Fit, Non-Conformist Christian group, more for elderly. More community activities in the Church Play area for children at Lingarth, playground at High Newton Dogs kept off play area. Bus shelter on Windermere Road, Lindale Litter bins in bus shelters. More litter bins & dog foul bins, regular litter clearing of roadsides. Travelling library Small shop for High Newton
Housing	Discouragement for second/holiday homes by increasing Council Tax & limiting availability. Affordable houses for young local workers Stop practice of getting local occupancy orders lifted
Promotion	More information on village activities & facilities, local newsletter Local business/ expertise gazetteer A village correspondent for Westmorland Gazette & Grange Now Organised events to help all appreciate what we have Existing footpaths & cycle ways in local area to be published & promoted, and new ones developed
Safety	Footpaths along B5277 between Lindale & Lyndene. Footpaths along Lindale Hill. Footpaths along Windermere Road, Lindale Easier pushchair & wheelchair access at bus stops Enforce no parking on pavements, pavements kept clear of overhanging branches. More street lights, on Lindale Hill, Windermere Road, Grange Road Lindale Hill gritted in snow. Better road surfaces- potholes filled More police around
Social inclusion	Ways to include frail, sick, elderly, lonely, disabled in village activities, e.g. by rota of home visits, transport and appropriate activities
Strategies for Sustainability	Roadside collection of plastic & cardboard Explore possibilities of local renewable energy sources, solar, wind & water: test current planning restrictions Encourage energy efficiency in homes New buildings to be carbon neutral Support for local businesses as employers & generators of income More awareness of implications of impending climate change Growing food on allotments: a local bakery or brewery? Encourage cycling and walking, including to school Infrastructure for all residents to live in a sustainable way Any developments to be appropriate in design, scale and location

continued ...

APPENDIX D

Traffic	Active enforcement of 30mph speed limit through Lindale 'Be careful driving through our village' road signs Traffic calming for vehicles exiting by-pass. Speed limit on bypass past Lindale. Speed bumps, speed warning lights, other traffic calming on all approaches to villages. Weight restriction on Windermere Road Zebra crossing at top of Bell Hill Give way sign at junction of Smithy Brow and Back of Fell Road Traffic calming on old A590 through Newton 'Slow down traffic'
Village character	Continued protection & enhancement of existing facilities Keep village shop, PO, church, bus services 'Use them or lose them' campaign More recognition for Wilkinson heritage, model iron boat at monument. Identifiable focus for village centre. More litter picks
New Ideas	New activities or community events, such as Beating the Parish Bounds

4. What Community activities do you take part in?

Adult Education classes, Age Concern Luncheon Network, Bonfire, Book Club, Bowling Association, CAMEO, Christmas lights, Churchyard maintenance, Dance Group, Grange Forum, Litter picking, Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, Pub quizzes, School & Playgroup, Sports Club events, Sports Day, Sports Committee, St Paul's Church, Toddler Group, Village Hall Committee, Village toilet upkeep, Women's Institute

APPENDIX E

A Business Perspective

A sample of responses from 12 businesses, November 2007

1. How do you see your business fitting into the parish in the future?

'Provide services to the community, a milk round, and rent grazing land for horses'
'Looking after the land and landscape, as well as trying to make a living'
'Try to source food and other services locally where possible; education of local children and adults'
'A vital part of the village'
'Bringing revenue into the village, supporting its activities and commerce'
'Skilled tradesman providing a service'
'This is an ideal location to reach my range of clients across southern Cumbria. I promote other businesses'
'Providing professional advice to the building trade'
'A good location for business which is not restricted to the parish'
'Low profile business working from home: location ideal'
'Significant employer of people in the parish'

continued ...

APPENDIX E

2. What support could you provide in the future to help community needs?

'Community projects, bringing business to the area and parish'
'Continued sponsorship of community affairs and events '
'Direct support for community events, e.g. Lindale Sports day'
'Central support for a range of community groups and events'
'Long standing involvement with community, donations to local services, including the school. Funded renovations to the Wilkinson Monument in 1984'
'Support for village activities, willing to provide a venue for meetings for small groups or families, with good hospitality and catering'
'Support for village community events, e.g. Sports Day and Lindale Lads calendar initiative'
'Support for community development; sponsorship of Bowling Association, Sports Club, donated time to maintenance of church fabric and estate'
'Recruitment of local employees'
'Maintaining a viable farm and landscape within the National Park '
'Plans for conversion of old workshops and barns if planning permission for change of use to affordable housing could be obtained'
'Willing to get involved with the right project, for example for promotion of walks leaflets'

3. Can you suggest any planning changes which might help community involvement?

'Freeing up of restrictions and planning constraints by the National Park to permit appropriate developments for rural business'
'Ease restrictions in development of farm buildings for affordable housing'
'Free up planning permission with planning gains where necessary'
'Extend the development boundary around Lindale to allow a housing mix which needs to be of appropriate scale and of relatively low cost and for local occupancy'
'Address anomalies between neighbouring communities creating regional and local variation, e.g. caused by boundary of National Park between parish and Grange'
'Relaxation of the interpretation of current planning regulations to permit multiple use development for affordable housing with business units'
'Current rules for signage can be detrimental to business. It needs regulatory control but could be much more sympathetic'
'Reduction in speed limits and traffic calming would enhance the safety and tranquillity of our beautiful village'
'Production of short walk guides to engage and inform visitors'
'Business expansion may involve development of new buildings or conversions of existing ones'

4. What would you consider to be a priority for your investment which might enhance the community?

'If the business continues to thrive there will continue to be local employment and patronage of local services'
'Our brand marques bring people in to buy and have their cars serviced'
'To keep visitors returning to Lindale because of its clean and green activities, quieter and safer road access'
'We plan to grow the business and to create more employment. I would prefer to employ local people'.
'A development opportunity may arise just outside the parish the influence of which will reach across boundaries in terms of service provision and commerce'

Acknowledgements and Glossary

The Steering Group gratefully acknowledges the support and help of:

Allithwaite Upper Parish Council for initiating this Community Plan

Voluntary Action Cumbria (VAC) for additional funding:
Gail Knopfel and Julia Wilson of VAC

Paula Allen, Eleanor Kingston, Clive Wickham
of the Lake District National Park Authority

Paul Mountford of South Lakeland District Council

Michael Sykes, Chairman of the Taylor, Newton & Hibbert Charity

Councillor Bill Wearing (CCC) and Councillor Robin Brown (SLDC)

Castle Head Field Centre and High Newton Village Hall Committee
for providing venues for meetings

Debbie Griffiths-Jones for inspirational help towards the Village Visions event

The local community who rallied round for many tasks, including delivery and collection of survey forms; voluntary efforts of a great many people made the events and meetings successful and very cost effective

Members of the Steering Group for drafting sections of the Plan

Sylvia Woodhead for co-ordinating and editing the Plan

John Shippen for photographs and for designing and printing the Plan

The following abbreviations are used throughout the Plan

CAMEO	Come Along and Meet Each Other
CCC	Cumbria County Council
CEEAC	Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre
CLA	Country Landowners Association
CRHT	Cumbria Rural Housing Trust
EA	Environment Agency
FLD	Friends of the Lake District
HIPs	Home Information Packs
LDNPA	Lake District National Park Authority
LOOs	Local Occupancy Orders
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
PIC	Parish Information Circular
PC	Parish Council (Allithwaite Upper)
PCC	Parochial Church Council
PROW	Public Rights of Way
PV	Photovoltaic cells
SLDC	South Lakeland District Council
TNH	Taylor, Newton & Hibbert Charity
VAC	Voluntary Action Cumbria
VHC	Village Hall Committee