

CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2024-25

Welcome everyone to the Hayton & Mealo Annual Parish meeting, and thank you to all who have attended the meetings this past year and that have given their reports and input over that time.

District and County Councillor

Councillor Kevin Thurlow attended a number of our meetings to provide updates on relevant issues arising from Cumberland Council and gave us valuable support in getting the village roads and footpaths cleaned from time to time and taking on concerns about the speed of traffic into the village and the need for road signs warning of sharp bends.

Newsletter

The Parish Council Newsletter continues to be circulated twice yearly in spring and autumn with the aim of keeping residents informed of activities.

The Village Green

Cutting of the grass has improved following a change of machinery used in the last year. A request was made to cease using weedkiller along the green edges which has improved the appearance of the green.

Trees outside the Quietways property have been felled and the remains are being chemically treated to stop any re-growth.

The possibility of installing a play park has been discussed but not taken forward due to the likely high costs of installation, ongoing maintenance and also the burden of liability insurance that would be required.

Dog fouling on the green has reduced a little, due to there being fewer dogs roaming loose.

Planning

The old smithy has been renovated and is now used as stabling and storage for horses.

Donations

£400 to St James Church to go towards maintenance.

There has been a further request from St James Church council to see if the parish council can help fund the churchyard's annual maintenance the cost for which continues to spiral.

Parish Council Clerk

Trevor continues to provide an excellent service to councillors circulating material to councillors from Cumberland Council and other bodies as considered appropriate. We are indebted to Trevor for his thoroughly professional support and work for our parish.

Vacancy

There are currently three vacancies for parish council members with one application to be considered.

Trees on the Moor

The trees are thriving although it will be prudent to leave the plastic collars in place for another year or two to deter rabbits and deer attacking them.

The tyre planters on the roads into/out of the village are well looked after and there have been no more instances of vandalism. The parish council continues to contribute to their annual planting and upkeep.