

## Murton Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting

### **Chairmans Annual Report**

At last the worst of the Coronavirus Pandemic appears to be behind us, with life gradually returning to normal. Activities at the institute have started again.

#### **New Councillor**

I would like to welcome Jim Hardman on board, Jim was co-opted on to the council at the last meeting to replace Debbie Hewitt.

#### **Highways.**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> February, I had a meeting with Sean Mitchell the New Highways Network Engineer, Sean has taken over from John Banks who always very helpful, John has been promoted. Sean has been with Cumbria Highways for 30 years so knows his way around.

We had a drive around Hilton, Murton, Brackenber, Coupland Beck and down to Flakebridge. Noting potholes, puddles leaving the car on occasions to check on drainage. We also noted overhanging shrubbery, crumbling road edges and some road markings in need of redoing. Sean has promised that their Jet pothole filling machine will come up within the next few days!!!!

Don't forget anybody can register road issues on the Highways website. – June

#### **The Cemetery.**

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January we had a Cemetery clean up. – 17 volunteers (a record) turned out to clear/ clean up the cemetery, cutting back <sup>growth</sup> at the base of trees to try to protect the wall, cutting back laurel that had got out of hand and clearing fallen branches, creating two huge piles of debris which were subsequently removed by Mike Schug with the help of some councillors. Thanks to all who helped.

The Memorial Wall has been completed - pictures -  
With outstanding work by Hiltons Nigel Fields a real craftsman,  
together with a few apprentices.

The bench supports are in just waiting for the oak bench top to  
be made.

If anybody would like to have a plaque on the wall to  
commemorate a deceased relative then please contact June.

Show the Plaque

The Cemetery wall was damaged in the recent storms and we  
are awaiting tenders to get the breaches repaired. *asap* .

### **Volunteering**

Following the success of the cemetery clean up we will be  
asking for volunteers for some other projects.

The beck at Murton – clearing low hanging branches and any  
debris

Mill lane at Hilton usual annual clean up.

Our Annual litter pick is first on the list on March 21<sup>st</sup> at  
10.30am. I have litter pickers bag rings and bags.

I will ask Jules to send out an email reminder.

### **Murton Play Area**

James Harker has proposed a children's play area on Murton  
village green, the Parish Council support this community  
venture and James is busy getting advise, quotes and  
information on any grants before planning fund raising events.

### **Thank You**

A thank you to Alan Ormrod who has kindly sponsored a  
bookcase in the Murton bus shelter this is in the process of  
being built and will help keep the exchange books in good  
condition.