

# THE THRELKELD PARISH PLAN

*Produced by the Threlkeld Parish Plan Steering Group  
on behalf of Threlkeld Parish Council  
in association with the Countryside Agency*

*September 2004*



## **Background**

This is the Parish Plan for Threlkeld. It has been prepared under the terms of the Countryside Agency's "Vital Villages" initiative; and was adopted by Threlkeld Parish Council on Tuesday 3 August 2004.

The purposes of Parish Plans are

- to provide a vision of the future of the Parish ie what it should be like in 5-10 years' time
- to provide an "action plan", a systematic framework for changes necessary to achieve this vision.

Official advice emphasises the importance of involving the whole community in production of the Plan. The Plan has been produced by a Steering Group initiated by the Parish Council; following a number of general meetings and the circulation of a detailed questionnaire to ascertain views and priorities. This questionnaire was very useful. It consisted of a number of statements which respondents were asked to comment on and to prioritise. Details of the questionnaire and its results are given in an appendix. The Plan in particular reflects the priorities expressed by the community through these responses.

The Parish Plan provides overall guidance for change, including coordinated bids for funding to promote specific schemes and to carry out the more detailed assessments necessary in several instances.

This report follows broadly the structure set out in guidance from the Countryside Agency. It includes:

- a brief description of the Parish and what is here already
- a description of the consultation process leading up to adoption of the Parish Plan
- a "vision" for Threlkeld in 5-10 years' time
- a summary of the action plan for change, subdivided into:
  - action to protect and improve the **village environment**
  - action to secure the village **facilities and "infrastructure"**
  - action to develop Threlkeld as a **community**.
- a summary of the main "projects" needed to develop the plan
- more detail on the contents of the action plan
- information on how the Plan will be implemented
- a schedule of timescale and implementation.

## ***Threlkeld Parish now***

Threlkeld Parish is in Cumbria, between Keswick and Penrith, very roughly bounded by the Blencathra “massif” to the north (a mountain group just under 3000 feet high, which overlooks Threlkeld) and the River Glenderamackin to the south. (Clough Head, the northern end of the Helvellyn range, dominates the view southwards). It consists of the village of Threlkeld itself, which accommodates most of the population of the Parish; and a few outlying farms and hamlets. The A66 Penrith-Keswick trunk road runs through the middle of the Parish, although it by-passes the village itself.

The Parish is entirely within the Lake District National Park. The Lake District National Park Authority is the local planning authority. Other local authorities are Cumbria County Council and Eden District Council. It is part of the Penrith and Borders Parliamentary Constituency.

About a mile to the south of the main village of Threlkeld is the community known as Threlkeld Quarry. This is a physically distinct area, which is in a separate local authority area (Allerdale), separate Parliamentary Constituency (Workington), and separate Parish (St John’s in the Vale, Castlerigg and Wythburn). Nevertheless, the residents of Threlkeld Quarry are inextricably part of the general Threlkeld community, and the Threlkeld Parish Plan must inevitably relate to and refer to Threlkeld Quarry in many places, even though this area is technically beyond its remit.

The resident population of Threlkeld is approximately 400. A significant proportion of the housing in Threlkeld is used as holiday accommodation for visitors and/or as “second homes” for people who come to Threlkeld mainly at weekends and holiday periods.

Employment opportunities in the village itself are limited. There is a significant food distribution business, “Four Seasons”, based on an industrial area at the east end of the village; a plant hire business operating in the village itself; and relatively extensive work, including casual and part time work, associated with the public houses and supporting the needs of visitors in various ways (including maintenance of properties, cleaning, catering etc). Otherwise residents tend to work in Keswick, Penrith or further away; and/or conduct businesses based in their homes.

There is a good range of village facilities and services, including:

- a well supported Church of England Primary School, attended not only by children from the village but also from further afield, including children from Threlkeld Quarry
- a church, St Mary’s, with a Rector based in the village but serving other churches in the area
- the Public Room, a traditional style village hall, in the centre of Threlkeld, very well used for a variety of activities by a wide range of organisations
- a joint school/community playing field (Jubilee Croft) opposite the school; incorporating a childrens’ play area
- a recreation field on the opposite side of the A66 from the village; this has been used for soccer in the past, but its condition makes it unsuitable for serious matches, and the field is only used for a few special events, including in particular the Threlkeld Sheepdog Trials and its associated activities
- a cricket pitch on which has been built recently a modern Sports Pavilion; this is the base for extensive cricket related activities in the summer, and also the pavilion is used more generally as a base for smaller scale meetings and social events (this facility also involves crossing the A66)
- three well established and distinctly different public houses, two in the village itself, one at Scales about a mile to the east; all of the pubs attract visitor and holiday trade, and the two in the village offer bed and breakfast accommodation
- a post office service on three days a week, operated by a local resident from her own house; this also provides a few other things for sale

- a weekly refuse collection (plastic bags) on a Tuesday; and a fortnightly collection of recyclable items; there is a recycling facility on the Jubilee Croft opposite the school; this is managed by the school, which receives the proceeds
- there is some specific provision of affordable housing for people with a local connection, by Housing Associations, including rented accommodation in Threlkeld village and shared ownership housing at Threlkeld Quarry
- a good bus service to both Keswick (also Workington) and Penrith, extending into the evenings, with less frequent services to Caldbeck and the Keswick Town Service which visits Threlkeld Quarry as well as Threlkeld village; there are four bus stops in the village, at one of which the Parish Council has recently constructed a bus shelter
- a range of community and recreational voluntary groups in the village; and a simple monthly newsletter, *Beneath Blencathra*, which keeps people informed of events and activities.

## **Consultation on the Parish Plan**

### **General**

The Parish Plan is based entirely on locally-generated ideas and consultations. The consultation process is described in this section with the results of the prioritisation questionnaire referred to are set out in an Appendix.

### **Initial public meetings**

Threlkeld Parish Council organised a public meeting in late May 2003, with the assistance of staff from Voluntary Action Cumbria. This was attended by about 30 people, all of them local residents. Discussion groups were asked to focus on the good points and bad points of Threlkeld; and how things could be improved. Their conclusions were pulled together and discussed more generally.

A list of possible improvements was generated from these initial discussions. This list was refined and extended at a further public meeting. Although this was less well attended than the first (about 15), about half those coming had not attended the first meeting, and their suggestions for change were incorporated into the list.

### **The prioritisation questionnaire**

A small group (of about 10 people) continued the process by preparing a prioritisation survey.

This took the form of a questionnaire setting out a series of proposals based on the list of suggestions already made. In relation to each statement, respondents were asked to agree with/support the proposition; disagree with/not support the proposition; and to select up to ten propositions which they would regard as having "priority".

These questionnaires were distributed to all properties in the Parish during early September 2003; and were also made available in the pubs and the paper shop (the aim being to get some input from visitors, which was specifically referred to in the covering note). Roughly 300 were distributed. Some 111 responses were received, of which 10 were completed anonymously. Of the identifiable respondents, 10 were from the area but living outside Threlkeld; and one was from a visitor. The vast majority of respondents were local residents.

As well as reacting to the propositions, respondents were asked an open-ended question as to other ideas and comments. This produced a useful additional list of ideas.

### ***Further discussion and refinement***

The list of key priorities emerging from the survey was published in *Beneath Blencathra*, the Threlkeld newsletter. This provoked some further comment; in particular that the survey results seemed to undervalue the role of the Public Rooms (the existence of which seemed to have been rather taken for granted).

The small group which had organised the survey considered the results carefully at two meetings. They assessed the priorities and other suggestions in terms of:

- the priority given to them
- the degree of support and opposition to them
- their apparent feasibility (some uncontroversial elements, while not being accorded a high priority, were relatively straightforward to pursue).

They also considered the context (eg in terms of what was already happening, which agency might be responsible, where finance might be obtained for change etc); short reports were produced for each proposition, relating prioritisation, support and feasibility to these contextual factors.

From this process of survey, analysis and informed discussion/refinement, an initial draft document was produced and considered by the small group (which was now an informal Parish Plan Steering Group). They considered the document in detail before ratifying its publication as a Draft Parish Plan.

### ***Informing the relevant authorities***

In accordance with the official advice, the local authority (Eden District Council) and the local planning authority (the Lake District National Park) were informed that the Plan was in course of preparation. Helpful responses were received from both, indicating in particular their willingness to enter into discussions at the appropriate point.

Voluntary Action Cumbria was of course aware of the initiative from the outset and their staff were involved in most of the meetings described.

### ***Consultation on the Draft Plan***

A Draft Plan was produced on this robust basis of survey, analysis and discussion. This was subject to full consultation as follows:

- wide circulation of a general leaflet, including delivery to all properties in the Parish, inviting comments and reactions
- consultation on the basis of the full document to relevant statutory agencies
- consultation on the basis of the full document to about 25 local groups and organisations seeking comments both specifically and generally (this request was supported by an offer for members of the Steering Group to attend any meetings where the Draft Plan is discussed)
- consultation with Threlkeld School, the Community Police Officer, local businesses etc.

This consultation process produced a number of replies, containing a few specific comments but generally expressions of support. It culminated in a public meeting in June 2004, where the Draft Plan and comments/suggestions were considered prior to a final version being produced for formal ratification by the Threlkeld Parish Council.

On the basis of the consultation on the Draft Plan, some fairly minor modifications were made to the Draft Plan. The revised version was formally adopted by the Threlkeld Parish Council on 3 August 2004.

## ***The vision of Threlkeld in 5/10 years' time***

The response to the questionnaires and other discussions have indicated a reasonably clear “vision” of what Threlkeld should be like in 5/10 years time; even though there might be some dissent over details and aspects of how this “vision” might be achieved.

In some cases the “vision” implies getting rid of very immediate problems or making simple changes to the current scene. In other cases the vision implies more fundamental change, with the necessary actions not always being clear, and needing more detailed investigation and consideration before a course of action is determined.

The widely shared vision of Threlkeld as evidenced by discussions and consultations so far is as follows:

- *a “community” consisting of many and varied groups rather than a single entity*, making it essential to recognise their individual importance, offering support wherever necessary in meeting their local needs while respecting their independence
- *facilities and services which relate to all groups in the community* (old and young, working and retired etc), but with some emphasis on facilities and services for young people and teenagers, for whom there seems to be a shortage of opportunities at the moment
- *a clean, safe, secure and “sustainable” village environment*, which is free from litter, dog excreta, unnecessary eyesores etc, has traffic of all sorts under control, makes the most of its built and natural heritage, and is visually attractive at all times of the year; however, all this to be achieved without becoming too “twee”, artificially contrived or over-organised
- *key services (such as the pubs, the school, the post office etc) continuing as viable facilities and enterprises; and where there is good, reliable and affordable public transport*
- *carefully provided affordable housing to meet local needs*
- *has the necessary services and organised provision to allow local businesses to operate successfully and contribute to the local economy, including farmers; local tradespeople; those providing accommodation and other facilities for visitors; village based enterprises; and people who work from homes in Threlkeld*
- *has a high quality, well supported and well managed village hall as the focal point of community life.*

This generalised “vision” forms the framework for the Parish Plan. The “action plan” set out below attempts to set out the changes necessary to achieve this vision.

## ***The Action Plan in brief***

In order to achieve this vision, the Parish Plan incorporates an “action plan”.

Some aspects of this action plan involve changes, or the consideration of changes, in order to achieve the “vision”. However, in other cases the actions involved are not so much to change things as to protect what is there already, because it is possibly under threat. Satisfaction with what is here does not mean “do nothing”.

The action plan is subdivided into three categories:

- action to protect and improve the ***village environment***
- action to secure the village ***facilities and “infrastructure”***
- action to develop Threlkeld as a ***community***.

This is only a structure; the categories relate to one another and in some cases overlap. So far as possible, the action plan incorporates all the various suggestions and comments generated in the initial consultation, prioritised appropriately.

In some instances, the Plan suggests straightforward action, usually by the Parish Council or some other village organisation. In many instances, however, the Plan identifies the need for further detailed consideration, which can involve research/survey work, exploration of options, discussions with relevant authorities and agencies etc. This level of work will usually require some external funding or support, which will be sought using the Parish Plan as a basis.

### **Action to protect and improve the village environment**

- E1. A detailed Parish wide wildlife conservation scheme should be drawn up.*
- E2. Efforts to keep the village clean, tidy and free from dog excrement will be intensified and maintained.*
- E3. Measures to facilitate pedestrian crossing of the A66 at the eastern end of the village should be implemented as soon as possible.*
- E4. Traffic management measures should be undertaken, with a view to the protection of the rights of all road users (including cyclists and pedestrians).*

### **Action to secure the village facilities and “infrastructure”**

- F1. A fully researched scheme of street lighting improvements will be conducted and implemented.*
- F2. A thorough appraisal of the needs for/provision of shopping facilities in the village be conducted, with a view to ensuring that the level of provision is sufficient for the needs of residents and visitors.*
- F3. Recycling should be encouraged and recycling facilities extended.*
- F4. The bus services will be maintained and enhanced where appropriate; and concession schemes introduced if possible to get the level of fares reduced.*
- F5. There should be a comprehensive appraisal of the options for ensuring the Public Rooms continue to provide an appropriate and up to date level of service to the community.*
- F6 A Threlkeld internet web site will be established and maintained to promote the village accommodation and other facilities.*
- F7. A broadband internet connection will be established to encourage businesses and general community use of the internet*
- F8 A booklet/leaflet will be produced, giving details of local walks, attractions etc.*

### **Action to develop Threlkeld as a community**

- C1. A booklet/leaflet will be produced annually, giving details of village organisations and events to be held throughout the year; and where appropriate joint activities and events will be encouraged.*
- C2 Facilities and activities for young people in the village will be developed and managed consistently, based on a thorough assessment of what they would prefer.*
- C3. The Threlkeld “community” must incorporate and relate to the residents of Threlkeld Quarry*
- C4. A careful assessment of the needs for low cost housing will be carried out, and appropriate sites identified for housing development indicated as necessary.*



**C5.** *The village bonfire will continue to be held on Kiln Howe unless and until an equivalent site becomes available.*

**C6.** *A group of volunteers will be set up to be the core of an action team to undertake conservation and related projects in the Parish as required.*

## **Projects to develop the Plan**

The Parish plan sets the framework for action. However, in several cases, the Plan does little more than highlight an issue or indicate a general direction for change. Before any specific action can be taken, it specifies that further investigation and consideration is required. These additional steps may themselves require funding and/or other forms of support from outside agencies.

The main “projects” concerned are:

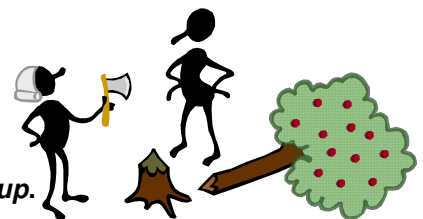
- a *review of wildlife and conservation* leading to a conservation strategy for the whole Parish
- a *review of road safety issues* and appropriate measures
- an *appraisal of shopping and related facilities*, now and in the future, with a view to at least retaining what we have
- an assessment of the *options for the future of the Public Rooms*
- an appraisal of the *needs and opportunities for services/facilities aimed at young people*
- an assessment of the *needs and opportunities for affordable housing for local people*.

In the shorter term, effort will be required to focus these proposed projects and to find the resources to conduct them properly.

## **The Action Plan in detail**

### **Action to protect and improve the village environment**

**E1. A detailed Parish wide wildlife conservation scheme should be drawn up.**



Several of the suggestions and priorities indicated by initial consultation related to wildlife conservation. The Parish Council has already promoted considerable work on its own land at Kiln How, and is hopefully able to ensure that the management of this area handles the potential conflict between conservation and active community use (including its continued use as the site for a village bonfire). It is also currently considering how to achieve a reasonable standard of grass and verge maintenance without threatening wildlife. These are sensitive matters, which would benefit from a comprehensive and expert assessment.

The Parish Council should commission a detailed investigation and report into:

- local wildlife, its special characteristics, what is special to this area
- any threats to wildlife, habitats etc and how these should be handled
- how maintenance of public and private land can contribute to wildlife conservation, with appropriate advice to public bodies and private individuals

- any specific conservation schemes which should be promoted; including the potential for footpaths and access related to the River Glenderamackin, a somewhat neglected asset of the Parish
- how the community can be effectively involved in conservation and promoting environmental sustainability
- how awareness of wildlife conservation in Threlkeld can be promoted and used to encourage visitors etc

Grant support for the production of this report may well be available. However, there are a number of local people with an interest in the topic, and the input of local expertise is anyway essential. Also this is a project where the Field Studies Council at the Blencathra Centre may well be able to assist.

Initially, during 2004, the Parish Council should establish a Conservation Sub Committee, involving coopted members; who should develop this project in more detail, establish contact with the relevant bodies, draw up the terms of reference for a full investigation, and apply for any necessary funding; with a view to the project going ahead in 2005.

## ***E2. Efforts to keep the village clean, tidy and free from dog excreta will be intensified and maintained***

Consultation responses gave high priority to issues associated with straightforward village maintenance and management; in particular to the need to keep grass verges cut properly; to take more steps to protect the village against dog fouling of footpaths, grass verges etc; and to prevent people putting out their rubbish sacks earlier than the day of collection (especially prevalent among holiday/weekend homes).

These are all practical matters on which the Parish Council has already taken action. The Plan indicates that these matters are regarded by the community as of considerable priority, and clearly supports the efforts of the Parish Council.

Action should be taken in 2004 by the Parish Council, in conjunction with the relevant local authorities as appropriate, to:

- provide more dog excreta bins, intensify the campaign against dog fouling (including the use of prosecutions) and maintain this consistently
- examine the issues associated with refuse collection (including the use of wheelie bins, which some people in the village advocate and which are used by Allerdale District Council), but initially getting an officially backed effort to prevent people putting out their refuse in advance of the collection days, a practice which is unsightly, a nuisance and a potential health hazard
- devise a systematic programme for grass and verge maintenance, but with due regard to the need to protect wildlife etc.; even if this does require significant outlay of Parish Council resources
- provide financial and any other support necessary to the volunteers who organise the summer displays of flowers; this is a valued contribution to the village image, but any "official" help should value and not undermine the efforts of the volunteers involved, who understand what is needed and some of the problems (eg petty vandalism) which discourage them and are not easy to resolve.

There were some suggestions under this heading not widely supported and are not included in the Plan: the idea of a sponsored "garden competition" (support for the flower displays was preferred); and an organised system for Christmas lights/decorations.

## ***E3. Measures to facilitate pedestrian crossing of the A66 at the eastern end of the village should be implemented as soon as possible.***

Significant village facilities - the cricket field, the Sports Pavilion and the Recreation Field - lie on the opposite side of the A66 from the village, at its eastern end. There is significant pedestrian movement across the road at this point, especially during the summer months when vehicular traffic is at its greatest.

For both safety and convenience, some measures to make it easier and safer for pedestrians (including children and the elderly/infirm) to cross the road at this point are essential. Approaches by the Threlkeld Cricket Club have been made, and a more general campaign promoted more recently. A scheme has been drawn up by the agency responsible, which tries to meet the various technical criteria involved.

Hopefully this scheme will be finalised and implemented. The Parish Council and other relevant village organisations should continue to promote and pursue this scheme. Action on it should be achieved in 2004, 2005 at the latest.

**E4. Traffic management measures should be undertaken, with a view to the protection of the rights of all road users (including cyclists and pedestrians).**

Several other road safety and related measures were suggested and considered in the initial consultation, including speed limits and parking restrictions. Consultation established that there is widespread support for a 20mph speed limit through the village, although the suggestion is not without opposition. There is little support for “speed bumps” or similar.

There is little evidence of any actual accidents, although there is anecdotal evidence of “near misses”. Parked cars in the village itself and near the western turn off from the A66 do cause occasional problems (which can especially affect the bus service). Vehicles driving too fast through Threlkeld (including up and down Blease Road) do cause problems for pedestrians, even if no accidents have resulted. Some people drew attention to traffic problems associated with cyclists.

It is clear that the measures being discussed need to be thoroughly assessed on the basis of hard evidence, not anecdotes, hearsay or opinion. This will require careful research, observation and expert assessment; alongside local knowledge.

The Parish Council should commission a proper study of traffic management and road safety measures, incorporating among other things an objective survey of the speed of traffic through the village; clear evidence of traffic problems and conflict between vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians. Provided it is expertly set up, such a study could involve local volunteers. It is possible that the County Council might assist with such a study in partnership with the Parish Council. This option should be explored during 2004, with a view to the study taking place as soon as possible afterwards (hopefully during the summer of 2004), and any resulting measures implemented in 2005 and 2006.

**Action to secure the village facilities and “infrastructure”**

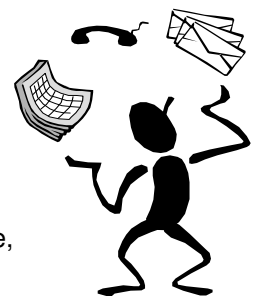
**F1. A fully researched scheme of street lighting improvements will be conducted and implemented.**

The Parish Council has promoted or provided improvements to street lighting from time to time, and the general level of street lighting is satisfactory. However, the Plan has indicated the desirability of assessing the level of street lighting more systematically, to identify necessary improvements, and to make provision for them (street lighting is provided for out of Parish Council funds).

This is not a high priority. It is suggested that the Parish Council conduct this appraisal in 2006, with any subsequent improvements being carried out over a three year period afterwards.

**F2. A thorough appraisal of the needs for/provision of shopping facilities in the village be conducted, with a view to ensuring that the level of provision is sufficient for the needs of residents and visitors.**

The last village shop closed over 10 years ago, although there are a number of continuing but limited “retail outlets” in the form of the post office, a mobile shop, a newspaper shop, the pubs, the milkman. The main food shopping provision is at Keswick, Penrith or beyond. Home deliveries by internet ordering are a possibility and may increase.



The possibility of a village convenience store (as exists in some other villages, such as Rosthwaite, Portinscale, Glenridding) has been suggested. This would not be easy to develop in Threlkeld. Not only would there have to be a demand from residents and visitors, but the location would be critical. Without a bedrock of consistent local support, it is unlikely that a shop would be viable. Furthermore, such a development would have implications for those who operate businesses already; it seems highly unlikely that any development of a village shop could occur separately from the post office, or even from a newspaper supply concession. In other villages, there have been examples of shop development based on specialist provision to a "niche" market eg organic produce; this cannot be ruled out as an option in Threlkeld if someone were interested.

It cannot be assumed that the existing provision can go on indefinitely, even at a limited level. The key businesses are all run by people with other sources of income, and to a significant extent they continue because of commitment to providing a community service rather than for economic reasons.

This situation is delicate. There is a clear view that the village needs a post office and some level of "convenience" shopping provision, at the current level of provision or ideally a little bit more. This facility is required by residents, especially those who find it difficult for any reason to get into Penrith or Keswick; and by visitors, especially those staying in accommodation locally. While there is no immediate pressure or suggestion that the existing provision will cease, some appraisal of the situation and the options available is required. (This is a common problem in villages throughout the UK, and various approaches have been adopted, some of which may be applicable in Threlkeld).

The Parish Council should commission an independent study, to be conducted by someone or an agency from outside Threlkeld, in confidence if necessary (since some aspects of it will be personally and commercially confidential), to:

- make a realistic assessment of the demand for convenience shopping facilities in Threlkeld and how it is likely to develop
- assess the extent to which provision to meet this need exists, now and in the foreseeable future
- suggest ways in which the existing provision can be enhanced, organised and promoted more effectively in relation to the identified needs
- review possibilities to increase provision as appropriate, including via new types of shopping services as well as by possible new shopping facilities in the village.

Although this is a very important issue, there does not seem any immediate threat to the facilities currently enjoyed (and the priority is to see these remain, as distinct from developing anything new). For this reason, it is suggested the Parish Council should establish and seek the necessary support for this review in 2005. Any conclusions from the review would be implemented in subsequent years.

### **F3. Recycling should be encouraged and recycling facilities extended.**

There is a collection of recycled material every other Thursday; the service has been operational for about a year, but even so many people are still leaving out recyclable materials for the normal weekly collection. There is a well utilised recycling centre in the Jubilee Field opposite the school; there was a suggestion in the consultation questionnaire that this should be extended, and although this was supported, it was suggested that any extension of provision should be at another site towards the eastern end of the village. There are other recycling centres outside the village, the main one being the Civic Amenities Site at Flusco, about six miles to the east.

This is an issue largely falling to the Parish Council and other village organisations to handle. It is suggested that:

- the recycling services and facilities continue to be promoted regularly in *Beneath Blencathra*
- the Parish Council review the options for increasing recycling facilities in the village, by the extension of the existing site at Jubilee Croft and/or the provision of another site in the eastern part of the village.

Both of these measures should be pursued in 2004.

**F4. The bus services will be maintained and enhanced where appropriate; and concession schemes introduced if possible to get the level of fares reduced.**

Bus services in the village are good but expensive. The frequency of the main Cumbrian Connexions link between Penrith, Keswick and Workington (including the provision of services into the evening) is maintained by Government subsidy to rural transport, which has just been extended. Use of the services by local people in preference to using cars could be improved if there are fare concessions (as operate elsewhere).

Fortunately the recent announcement of additional Government funding suggests that at least the basic level of services is safe for the time being. Other improvements should be pursued by the following measures:

- use of the services (including the local Keswick Town Services, which serve the Threlkeld Quarry) should be promoted among residents and villagers alike; this should be done by regular “slots” in *Beneath Blencathra*.
- the welcome provision of a bus shelter at the eastern end of the village should be matched by one at the western end. The Parish Council should explore this during 2005 (a site will be difficult to identify) and raise the funds to provide it.
- the Parish Council should nominate a volunteer to act on its behalf to raise with the appropriate authorities and Stagecoach the matter of fare concessions; this should commence in 2004.

**F5. There should be a comprehensive appraisal of the options for ensuring the Public Rooms continue to provide an appropriate and up to date level of service to the community.**

The vision of Threlkeld indicates the desirability of a village hall. In Threlkeld, the village hall is officially called the Public Room.

The Public Room was built just over 100 years ago. It consists of a large hall; a meeting room; kitchen and toilet facilities. It has a car park, part of which now accommodates the recently completed public toilets.

It is currently used by a whole range of village and external organisations, for community, social, official and recreational events. Many of the other elements of the Plan are likely to depend on the availability of this vital community facility.

The Public Room is managed by a small Committee of volunteers. The Committee employs a local person part time to handle the bookings, do cleaning etc. The Committee organises a number of direct fund raising events, to supplement the income the Public Room receives from those organisations which use it. The Committee also organises some other general village social events, including in particular the annual village bonfire, which is a popular and highly regarded family occasion.

Although it has been improved and maintained regularly over the years, the Public Room clearly shows its vintage - it has a definite “village hall” atmosphere; and as the various regulations concerning disabled access, fire safety, risk assessment etc become more demanding, it becomes increasingly difficult to meet the requirements. However, it is probably in better condition than many similar village halls; and provides useful, cheap accommodation for a wide range of activities.

Recently the construction of the modern Sports Pavilion, which is in some respects a “rival” facility, has highlighted the shortcomings of the Public Room. However, the Sports Pavilion could never be an alternative to the Public Room in most key respects; while suitable for some smaller scale meetings and social gatherings, it is not big enough and in the wrong location for anything more ambitious.

If the Public Room is to provide the vital and positive facility clearly required in Threlkeld, the time may have come for its thorough regeneration. The villagers of a century ago had the foresight to produce something which has served the community here well for over 100 years. It is now up to their successors to consider the needs of the next 100 years. What this involves is unclear, and will depend on a realistic appraisal of the actual and potential use. It may well be that a modest facelift is all that is needed. On the other hand, it may require a total modernisation of the existing building, or even its complete replacement.

Any options would need to be based on a thorough assessment of what the functions of the Public Room are and should be - exactly what it should be providing for the benefit of the community.

The Public Room Committee should be the mechanism to consider and initiate these key changes. It may well need to set up a small separate sub-group, distinct from its ongoing role in managing the Public Room and its current activities on a day to day basis. It needs to commission an appraisal which looks at:

- the current users of the Public Room and their requirements
- possible new users and their requirements (including the possible use of the Public Room as the base for visitor and information services)
- lessons about how village halls elsewhere function and have evolved
- a review of the fabric of the building itself, and options for change (including their costs)
- how the Public Room should be managed, including aspects such as charges, licensing, insurance etc
- a review of sources of funding to finance any necessary changes, especially if these are to be extensive.

This appraisal should conclude with a recommended programme of action, including funding possibilities etc. If any major change does take place, this will be a major challenge for the village, and it will necessitate the whole community pulling together in a concerted manner, not least to raise money which will inevitably be required locally.

Before even an extensive appraisal of this nature can take place, the Public Room Committee will need to devise a brief in some detail, and raise the money for the appraisal itself. This money, although insignificant relative to the costs of a regeneration project itself, is nevertheless likely to be quite substantial if the appraisal is to be as thorough and wide-ranging as envisaged. Fortunately there are sources of funding for this type of appraisal; and it is suggested that the Parish Council itself should contribute.

In terms of timescale, it is suggested that the development of the appraisal should be conducted in 2004; the appraisal itself should take place in 2005; raising funds for a major regeneration should take place in 2006; with a view to the new facility being developed in the period 2007-2009. By 2010 it is envisaged that the village will have a modern Public Room, ready to meet the changing needs of the community for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

#### ***F6 A Threlkeld internet web site will be established and maintained to promote the village accommodation and other facilities.***

The feasibility of such a project is being assessed already, on a voluntary basis - many other villages have web sites. In Threlkeld's case, it would have a promotional role as well as a community information role (in which respect it links to some of the other parts of the Action Plan).

It will be initially developed on a voluntary basis, although professional assistance may well be required (for which funding is likely to be needed). The continuing operation and maintenance of a Threlkeld website will need some consistent voluntary arrangements. The whole operation will be under the auspices of the Parish Council.

Threlkeld School has a web site, as do some local businesses (it is now the main means of booking bed and breakfast accommodation). There is a well established Keswick website. A Threlkeld website would link to all these.

Depending on the outcome of the initial feasibility study, a web site sub committee of the Parish Council should be established in 2004, with a view to inaugurating a Threlkeld website in 2005.

**F7. A broadband internet connection will be established to encourage businesses and general community use of the internet**

Steps to investigate and promote this significant development are already in hand. Several businesses and individuals, especially those individuals conducting business from home, rely increasingly on the internet for information and communication. Threlkeld School already has such a connection as part of a special initiative in the education field.

Broadband gives continuous, rapid internet connection at a fixed monthly price. It will improve internet access and for anyone who uses the internet a lot it will reduce costs. It is the internet equivalent of a motorway connection into Threlkeld, and is the standard of internet access becoming normal in urban areas. Rural areas have been “deprived” because there are not so many potential users per telephone exchange. This is an issue of general concern.

A small scale campaign is being conducted by some of those affected in Threlkeld, linking into a broader campaign in Keswick. This will continue on a voluntary basis until it succeeds. The Parish Council should endorse this effort.

**F8. A booklet/leaflets will be produced, giving details of local walks, attractions, etc.**

This facility would be aimed essentially at tourists and visitors, although it will also be of benefit to local people. If people staying in Threlkeld can be encouraged to walk in the vicinity, and appreciate their surrounding more, this seems likely to benefit the village, economically and socially.

The production of such a booklet or series of leaflets and maps is not so straightforward as it might seem. Some walks in the Threlkeld area are very lengthy, demanding and challenging; others clearly less so. Decisions need to be made about the target groups, the format, the production methods, distribution and funding (although this is something where sponsorship by locally based businesses may well be available). It is essential that any production should be of a high standard, since it will need to compete with other types of publicity material.

Action on this in the short term will be undertaken by the Parish Plan Steering Committee on behalf of the Parish Council.

There were two suggestions which consultation and discussion indicated should not be part of the Plan:

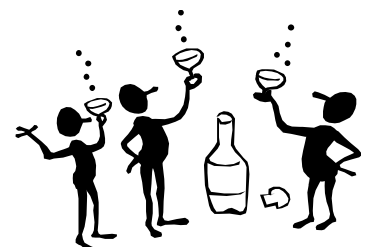
- attempting to obtain a mains gas connection for Threlkeld, where the realities of the situation and previous efforts (albeit over ten years ago) indicate this would be fruitless
- pursuing improvements to the A66 between Threlkeld and Penrith, where there was no great enthusiasm for major changes, although any moves to improve road safety on what is a critical stretch of road for many local people would be welcomed.

**C Action to develop Threlkeld as a community**

**C1. A booklet/leaflet will be produced annually incorporating details of village organisations and events throughout the year; and where appropriate joint activities and events will be encouraged..**

Initial consultations indicated little or no support for any more robust framework for organising community events and activities. There is a wide variety of organisations, all coexisting fairly happily. Specific suggestions for more ambitious joint or communal events/activities were not supported.

Nevertheless, there has been some limited but successful cooperation in recent years; for example, the school and the village summer fair and sports have been combined. It is possible that there may be similar moves in



the future, but these will emerge only if the people involved find the idea attractive, not as a result of any planned changes.

There is scope for greater awareness of the activities of village organisations, partly to encourage more general support, partly to ensure there is no duplication or clashes of dates etc. It is therefore proposed that there should be an annual "calendar of events" detailing all the organisations in the village, their activities and the dates of social, sporting and similar events. This publicity material is designed to promote awareness of what is happening locally, mainly for the benefit of residents, although it will be of considerable interest to visitors as well (it links to item F8 in the Action Plan).

This is an initiative which has been considered from time to time but has not really developed. It can be reasonably easily implemented through the cooperation of village organisations. The document will need to be produced annually. Financial support may be available, but the costs should be limited and may be affordable by the Parish Council. The Public Room Committee is an appropriate organisation to coordinate the initiative. Initial steps to implement this have already been taken. It should be pursued, and financial support obtained if required, during 2004.

### ***C2 Facilities and activities for young people in the village will be developed and managed consistently, based on a thorough assessment of what they would prefer.***

There is a wide spectrum of organisations and activities in Threlkeld, mainly organised and funded voluntarily. All age brackets and sectors of the community are catered for to some extent. Initial discussion and consultation indicated the main shortage of provision related to young people - teenagers, but also those slightly younger.

There is a formally established Youth Club, which has operated from time to time, largely depending on the availability of volunteers to run it; this has recently been revived. The Cricket Club attracts young people to play, and also offers regular coaching to children and young people during the summer. There is an after-school club at Threlkeld School.

Despite this, there is little in the village to attract and entertain teenagers, who in the main either do not go out; visit friends; or go to Kewick, Penrith, or Workington for entertainment. So transport provision might well be more important to them than some other types of facility. It is normal for teenagers in the village to take casual jobs in the pubs when old enough.

This is a difficult problem to tackle. However, it is an issue faced by every village in the country, so there may be something to learn. Initially it seems worth involving those with some experience and expertise in the matter; and also talking systematically but informally to younger people in the village. Funding may well be available for such an initiative.

This exercise could be initiated appropriately by the Youth Club Committee. It is not possible to specify anything definite until discussions and consultations have taken place. However, once they emerge, proposals should be implemented quickly, with any necessary fundraising being a priority. Some organised provision for young people, incorporating that already provided where appropriate, should be developed during 2005.

### ***C3. The Threlkeld "community" must relate to the residents of Threlkeld Quarry***

It is administratively awkward perhaps that Threlkeld Quarry is under separate "authority" from Threlkeld village and Parish. However, this must not (and does not) mean that the Quarry residents are not part of the general Threlkeld community. They have a certain identity of their own, and some Quarry-based groups (in particular the Play Area Committee). However, so far as activities in general are concerned there is no distinction, and no Threlkeld developments or activities in general will exclude the Quarry (and hopefully vice versa).

The Parish Council will maintain links with St Johns Parish Council as much as may be required to coordinate any activities, events or developments.

A specific proposal to be investigated is the possibility of improved footpath access along the River Glenderamackin from the existing railway footpath; in conjunction with a possible footbridge providing a more direct route between the main village and the Quarry.



**C4. A careful assessment of the needs for low cost housing will be carried out, and appropriate sites identified for housing development indicated as necessary.**

Threlkeld has comparatively high house prices. There is a strong demand for property to use for holiday letting and weekend/holiday use. There is also a strong demand for houses from people wishing to move or retire to this area. The result appears to be a more than average level of difficulty for local people, first time buyers in particular, to purchase properties. This is coupled with a shortage of homes to rent; many former local authority houses for rent were sold to their tenants under the right to buy scheme.

“Affordable” housing was regarded as an important issue in the consultation, even though it is an issue which directly affects few people. The community generally clearly sees this as something which should be addressed if possible.

There are four current sources of “affordable” housing:

- former local authority housing coming onto the market can only be sold to people with local connections
- some privately built housing for sale is subject to a local occupancy clause under the terms of the planning permission
- a scheme of housing for rent to people with local connections (Mellbutts) was built about 10 years ago
- a scheme of joint ownership housing (Saddleback View, Threlkeld Quarry) for sale was built about 10 years ago, and is managed by the Threlkeld Housing Association.

The definition of “local connection” can be fairly flexible, and does not necessarily simply relate to people from Threlkeld or even adjoining places. However, the Threlkeld Housing Association is keen to develop more joint ownership housing if possible; and there is a steady waiting list of 8 or 9 people requiring this type of housing, so any vacancies do not last long.

This is a very complex issue. It requires an accurate and detailed assessment of the nature and extent of the need/demand; the timeframe involved (since by the time houses are built the “need” may have moved away); and a realistic, informed assessment of the possible opportunities available, which at first sight appear limited. Because it involves housing at the Quarry, it will also involve joint consideration across the administrative boundaries.

In commenting on the proposed Parish Plan, even at this stage Eden District Council has expressed interest in being involved in any initiative connected with the provision of affordable housing, and indicated a willingness to become involved in any “partnership” involving the Parish Council, Housing Associations etc.

It is recommended that the Parish Council invite Threlkeld Housing Association to undertake a detailed appraisal of this issue, in partnership with other organisations as appropriate. It is likely that such an appraisal will require funding or equivalent support, although this may be available from the agencies involved. This project should be developed during 2004 with a view to being conducted in 2005. Any implementation would be beyond that date. The intention would be however for Threlkeld to have sufficient affordable housing to match existing and anticipated need by 2010.

**C5. The village bonfire will continue to be held on Kiln Howe unless and until an equivalent site becomes available.**

This proposition received massive support in the consultation process. However, the background to this is that the Parish Council had decided that the continued use of this site for the bonfire was incompatible with its regeneration in recent years as wildlife conservation zone. Considerable Parish Council effort has gone into implementing this project.

The Parish Council has subsequently reviewed its decision, and allowed the bonfire to take place subject to proper conditions about how it was organised; conditions which were fulfilled. Provided the bonfire continues to be operated in this way, there is no immediate threat to its future.

However, the basic incompatibility of the use of Kiln How in this way remains. An alternative site for the bonfire should be actively sought by the Public Room Committee, free from the pressure of having to move the bonfire from Kiln How. An alternative site should be found if possible by 2006.

***C6. A group of volunteers will be set up to be the core of an action team to undertake conservation and related projects in the Parish as required.***

There are periodic appeals for volunteers to assist in implementing environmental works of various kinds, usually on behalf of the Parish Council. The response has been poor.

The Parish Council will attempt to establish a specific permanent group of people to form the core of an action team with some ongoing interest in the village environment and its care. There are a number of projects in the Parish Plan which will benefit from the availability of such a group.

## **Implementation, Monitoring and Review**

The Parish Plan provides a framework. Implementation of its provisions will take time, in some cases a long time.

The main local agency for undertaking, organising and promoting change is the Parish Council; and many of the actions envisaged involve the Parish Council to some extent. However, several actions will involve substantial projects, to be financed and undertaken by various agencies; in these cases the Parish Council (and any others concerned) will have to advocate and promote the necessary action.

There are however a variety of other village organisations, essentially of a voluntary nature, in some cases operating under the general “umbrella” of the Parish Council. Where appropriate, these organisations will be the mechanisms for handling action.

The Parish Plan Steering Group will not have a direct role in implementation (except in a few instances where it and its members do things on behalf of the Parish Council). However, it is envisaged that it will remain in being so that it can

- work with any of the organisations responsible for implementation
- support and facilitate action by these organisations, who may well need some help
- generally coordinate the processes of change on behalf of the Parish Council
- make any necessary arrangements if problems arise in implementing the Plan.

The Steering Group will also report regularly to the Parish Council on progress on implementing the Plan; and will be responsible for reviewing the Plan in the light of changing circumstances (experience indicates the necessity of being flexible - the Plan is a guide for change, not a complete “blueprint”).

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08 and later
<b><i>E1 A wildlife conservation scheme will be drawn up</i></b>	Parish Council to establish a Conservation Group to commission a detailed study and obtain funds.	Study reports and detailed measures assessed.  Any necessary funding applications made.	Implementation of schemes	
<b><i>E2 Efforts to keep the village clean and tidy will be intensified and maintained</i></b>	Parish Council takes action on the various measures in conjunction with the local authorities etc, and involves people to assist as necessary.			
<b><i>E3 Measures to facilitate pedestrian crossing of the A66 at the eastern end of the village will be implemented</i></b>	Parish Council and other organisations to stay involved until plans are finalised.	Scheme implemented		
<b><i>E4 Traffic management measures will be undertaken to protect all road users, including cyclists and pedestrians</i></b>		Parish Council to commission full appraisal	Pressing for and implementing agreed measures	
<b><i>F1 A fully researched street lighting scheme</i></b>			A survey of street lighting needs	Implementation of any necessary improvements
<b><i>F2 A thorough appraisal of shopping facilities etc</i></b>		Parish Council to commission a systematic review of needs and provision	Implementation of any necessary changes	
<b><i>F3 Recycling should be encouraged and recycling facilities extended</i></b>	Publicity in <i>Beneath Blencathra</i>  Parish Council investigate options for new/extended sites	Implement new site provision.  Continue publicity as required.		
<b><i>F4 Bus services to be maintained and fares reduced if possible</i></b>	Publicity for services in <i>Beneath Blencathra</i>  Parish Council to nominate a representative to discuss issues with the appropriate agencies	Parish Council to explore potential for other bus shelters and obtain funding for these	Possible construction of bus shelter(s)	

<b>F5 Comprehensive appraisal of the future of the Public Rooms</b>	Public rooms Committee to establish the remit for a review and obtain funding	Review conducted and considered	Funding for improvements obtained	Improvements implemented
<b>F6 Threlkeld Web Site established</b>	Feasibility investigated and appropriate management mechanisms established	Implementation		
<b>F7 Broadband internet connection established</b>	Options investigated, promoted as necessary.			
<b>F8 Booklet of local walks etc</b>	Feasibility established, funding obtained, implementation commenced	Implementation, production and distribution		Review
<b>C1 Calendar of events etc</b>	Detailing and production	Continued implementation by the Public Room Committee.		
<b>C2 Facilities and services for young people</b>	Youth Club Committee to obtain funding for and commission a full appraisal	Implementation of proposals emerging from the appraisal		
<b>C3 Relate to needs of Threlkeld Quarry</b>	Parish Council will maintain links with St John's in the Vale PC All village organisations will continue to involve Quarry residents. Investigation and if possible implementation of better pedestrian links with the Quarry.			
<b>C4 Assessment of the needs of low cost housing</b>	Parish Council establish partnership to systematically consider the issue.	Development of the details of any findings and recommendations	Implementation	
<b>C5 The bonfire to continue at Kiln How until another site becomes available</b>	Public Room Committee search for an alternative site	New site to be established		
<b>C6 Establishment of a voluntary conservation group</b>	Parish Council establish the group	Annual and periodic work programme		

## APPENDIX RESPONSES TO THE PRIORITISATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Respondents were invited to provide their views on the series of propositions 35 in all. They were asked to record:

- Is there anything on the list which you strongly support and would like to see happen?
- Is there anything on the list which you are against and do not think should be in the Plan?
- Is there anything missing from the list of proposals which you would like to see included?
- What are the priorities – which of the proposals do you think is most important, and which least important?
- Are there any other things you want to say about the proposals?

They were asked to tick any proposals with which they agreed/supported; or conversely to tick any where they disagreed/did not support. Additionally they were asked to tick *up to 10* priority boxes for proposals which they regarded as the *most important*.

The results are given here in terms of the numbers agreeing/supporting; numbers disagreeing/not supporting; the numbers according a priority; and the prioritisation order. The list of propositions is in the same order as in the questionnaire. The propositions were subdivided into environment (E); facilities and “infrastructure (F); business and economy (B); and community development (C).

- A clear cut grass cutting and verge maintenance plan will be set up, coordinated by the Parish Council  
Agree/support: 90 Disagree/do not support: 3 Number prioritising: 26 Order of priority: 12
- More dog mess bins will be installed and a consistent and continuous campaign mounted to eradicate dog excreta from the village  
Agree/support: 97 Disagree/do not support: 6 Number prioritising: 36 Order of priority: 3
- The speed limit through the village will be reduced to 20mph, not just for improved road safety but to reduce noise and disturbance generally  
Agree/support: 81 Disagree/do not support: 21 Number prioritising: 32 Order of priority: 4
- Parking restrictions will be imposed in certain key locations, especially near the junctions with the A66  
Agree/support: 84 Disagree/do not support: 12 Number prioritising: 28 Order of priority: 7=
- Measures will be taken to reduce the level of traffic noise from the A66  
Agree/support: 70 Disagree/do not support: 18 Number prioritising: 17 Order of priority: 17
- A protected crossing for pedestrians will be constructed across the A66 at both ends of the village, but especially near the Sports Pavilion  
Agree/support: 96 Disagree/do not support: 6 Number prioritising: 50 Order of priority: 2
- A system will be introduced to prevent or discourage people from putting out their refuse before the day of collection; this will involve second and holiday home owners as well as permanent residents  
Agree/support: 79 Disagree/do not support: 16 Number prioritising: 28 Order of priority: 7=
- Kiln Howe will be managed as a wildlife conservation centre  
Agree/support: 73 Disagree/do not support: 18 Number prioritising: 15 Order of priority: 19

- Other sites, including the churchyard, will be developed as wildlife conservation schemes  
Agree/support: 68 Disagree/do not support: 18 Number prioritising: 6 Order of priority: 30=
- The summer flower display will be continued and supported by the Parish Council  
Agree/support: 97 Disagree/do not support: 2 Number prioritising: 11 Order of priority: 23=
- A garden competition/open garden scheme will be established  
Agree/support: 60 Disagree/do not support: 24 Number prioritising: 3 Order of priority: 34=
- A scheme will be devised to organise Christmas lights and generally give a festive look to the village over Christmas.  
Agree/support: 67 Disagree/do not support: 27 Number prioritising: 10 Order of priority: 26
- A fully researched scheme of street lighting improvements will be produced and any necessary changes implemented  
Agree/support: 82 Disagree/do not support: 16 Number prioritising: 20 Order of priority: 15
- The feasibility of re-establishing a village shop will be properly explored  
Agree/support: 88 Disagree/do not support: 11 Number prioritising: 30 Order of priority: 6
- The recycling centre opposite the School will be extended and its use promoted  
Agree/support: 92 Disagree/do not support: 10 Number prioritising: 27 Order of priority: 11
- The level of bus services will be maintained and enhanced where appropriate; and concession schemes introduced if possible to get the level of fares reduced  
Agree/support: 97 Disagree/do not support: 4 Number prioritising: 31 Order of priority: 5
- A comprehensive improvement of the Public Room will be undertaken, based on a systematic assessment of likely future needs  
Agree/support: 88 Disagree/do not support: 5 Number prioritising: 11 Order of priority: 23=
- Any necessary steps will be taken to maintain the future viability of the village's school, post office, paper and milk delivery and pubs  
Agree/support: 105 Disagree/do not support: 1 Number prioritising: 52 Order of priority: 1
- Support will be given to upgrading the A66 between Penrith and Keswick, to improve its capacity and its safety  
Agree/support: 65 Disagree/do not support: 19 Number prioritising: 12 Order of priority: 20=
- The feasibility of getting a mains gas supply to the village will be pursued.  
Agree/support: 62 Disagree/do not support: 28 Number prioritising: 21 Order of priority: 14
- A leaflet will be produced and regularly updated detailing all accommodation in Threlkeld, and promoted via Tourist Information Centres  
Agree/support: 75 Disagree/do not support: 15 Number prioritising: 6 Order of priority: 28=
- A Threlkeld internet web site will be established and maintained to promote the village accommodation and other facilities  
Agree/support: 78 Disagree/do not support: 14 Number prioritising: 9 Order of priority: 27
- A leaflet will be produced about attractions in and around the village for visitors/tourists  
Agree/support: 84 Disagree/do not support: 8 Number prioritising: 8 Order of priority: 28
- A booklet of walks in and around Threlkeld will be produced, featuring local places of interest  
Agree/support: 91 Disagree/do not support: 5 Number prioritising: 12 Order of priority: 20=

- A broadband internet service will be established to encourage businesses in general and especially to encourage working from home  
Agree/support: 76 Disagree/do not support: 11 Number prioritising: 18 Order of priority: 16
- A directory of village based tradespeople will be established and maintained, and local people and property owners encouraged to use them where possible  
Agree/support: 88 Disagree/do not support: 8 Number prioritising: 16 Order of priority: 18
- Village businesses, including Four Seasons and the Blencathra Business Centre, will be promoted as part of the village "scene".  
Agree/support: 72 Disagree/do not support: 11 Number prioritising: 3 Order of priority: 34=
- A village "calendar of events" will be produced and circulated widely, detailing all village organisations and activities over the year  
Agree/support: 97 Disagree/do not support: 3 Number prioritising: 12 Order of priority: 20=
- Facilities and activities for young people in the village will be developed and managed consistently, based on a thorough assessment of what they would prefer  
Agree/support: 97 Disagree/do not support: 1 Number prioritising: 28 Order of priority: 7=
- A Threlkeld Community Council will be established, on which all village organisations will be represented, to coordinate community activities in an integrated manner, so that they support one another  
Agree/support: 78 Disagree/do not support: 13 Number prioritising: 7 Order of priority: 29
- Joint activities/events, involving in particular the church, the school, social/sporting organisations, will be developed, including a periodic "village festival"  
Agree/support: 81 Disagree/do not support: 6 Number prioritising: 5 Order of priority: 33
- Special attention will be given to the relationship between the main village and the Quarry, with the needs of the Quarry being given proper attention  
Agree/support: 84 Disagree/do not support: 6 Number prioritising: 11 Order of priority: 23=
- Events and activities designed to involve visitors and second home owners to contribute to community life will be devised and implement  
Agree/support: 69 Disagree/do not support: 17 Number prioritising: 6 Order of priority: 30=
- A careful assessment of the needs for low cost housing will be carried out, and appropriate sites identified for housing development indicated as necessary  
Agree/support: 83 Disagree/do not support: 8 Number prioritising: 28 Order of priority: 7=
- The village bonfire will continue to be held on Kiln Howe unless and until an equivalent site becomes available.  
Agree/support: 92 Disagree/do not support: 8 Number prioritising: 25 Order of priority: 13

The Threlkeld Parish Plan was produced by a Steering Group of local people under the auspices of Threlkeld Parish Council.

The Steering Group consisted of:

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The cover picture is by courtesy of Jane Roberts.

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