

ANNEX B: COMMUNITY PLAN: ACTION PLAN

ACTION	HOW?	PROGRESS AT March 2018
1. THE LOCAL ECONOMY		
AE1 We will support and promote initiatives that aid local farming (and related) activity as prescribed by policy PE2, provided this does not conflict with other parish policies.	Ensure planning decisions about farm diversification/development are informed by policy PL1. (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)	
AE2 We will lobby government for better broadband and IT support for farmers, particularly now that CAP scheme submissions must be made online.	Make submissions to and respond to consultations from Government and relevant agencies to provide the necessary infrastructure (ref AE5) for rural areas and IT support for farmers.	
AE3 In relation to tourism, we will support only those planning applications that relate to low-level, low-impact tourist activity linked to the local economy, as prescribed by policy PE3, provided they do not conflict with other parish policies (especially regarding peace and quiet, and housing).	Ensure planning decisions about tourism are informed by policy PE3. (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)	
AE4 We will support initiatives (such as the current Rusland Horizons project) that help to conserve traditional skills.	Nominate a councillor to liaise with the Rusland Horizons project and to give quarterly up-dates on relevant developments. Use the Parish Newsletter to share information about relevant initiatives.	
AE5 We will take an active part in the Connecting Cumbria Broadband initiative through supporting our 'Broadband Champion' in raising awareness and in lobbying for super-fast broadband connections in	We will continue to support and liaise with the appointed Broadband Champion for the parish. PC to be kept informed of progress	

ACTION	HOW?	PROGRESS AT March 2018
the parish. We will explore with the appropriate authorities how to connect those properties excluded from the Connecting Cumbria initiative.	and to respond positively to requests for support and help.	
AE6 We will support initiatives that provide employment for local people, provided they do not conflict with other parish policies (esp. regarding peace and quiet).	Ensure planning decisions about employment are informed by policy PE1 and PE4. (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)	
AE7 We will explore the potential benefits of keeping a register of business premises operating in the parish.	Seek information from parishes that may have tried this. Agree approach in the light of findings.	

2. LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT		
ACTION	HOW?	PROGRESS AT March 2018
<p>AL1 We will share information about environmental initiatives and opportunities.</p> <p>We will remain alert to any activities that might be detrimental to the natural environment (e.g. illegal off-roading and poaching) and refer concerns to the appropriate authorities</p>	<p>Make active use of parish newsletter, notice boards and website. Nominate a parish councillor to liaise with the Rusland Horizons Project and provide feedback on relevant items.</p> <p>Encourage residents to report illegal activity. Councillors to inform clerk and contact police where appropriate. Maintain representation on relevant Working Groups</p>	<p>Councillors have attended/ contributed meetings/activities organised by Ruslands Horizons.</p> <p>Information about environmental/conservation events displayed on notice boards throughout the parish. Information about Rusland Horizons displayed and discussed at the Spring Show.</p> <p>Police reports received regarding illegal activity in the parish. Councillors and the public are encouraged to report illegal activity</p>
<p>AL2 We will ensure policy PL3 (peace and quiet) informs Parish Council decisions about relevant planning applications and maintain vigilance about developments which might jeopardise this policy.</p>	<p>Ensure planning decisions are informed by policy PL3. (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)</p>	<p>All planning applications are reviewed with reference to policy PL3</p>
<p>AL3 We will share information about initiatives and opportunities arising in connection with the special heritage of the area and invite participants to attend Parish Council meetings to inform the community.</p>	<p>Invite participants to attend Parish Council Meetings to inform the community.</p> <p>Use the newsletter and website to share information.</p>	<p>Information shared via the newsletter.</p>
<p>AL4 We will ensure that policy PL5 (wildlife conservation) informs Parish Council decisions about relevant planning applications.</p>	<p>Ensure planning decisions are informed by policy PL5 (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)</p>	<p>Updates about Rusland Horizons are provided by the liaison councillor.</p>

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<p>We will request up-dates from the Rusland Horizons Project in this respect.</p> <p>We will encourage the community to raise concerns about and activities that might threaten wildlife (e.g. poaching) and wildlife habitats.</p>	<p>Use the website and newsletter to encourage the community to raise concerns about any issues/problems that arise.</p>	<p>Meetings regarding poaching have been held with the deer management organisations, forestry commission and neighbouring parish councils.</p> <p>Regular information received from the Police regarding the incidence of poaching in the parish. Recent improvement in the reporting and recording of the incidence of poaching.</p>
<p>AL5 We will ensure that policy PL2 (farming) informs Parish Council decisions about relevant planning applications and share information about successful initiatives with parishioners.</p>	<p>Ensure planning decisions are informed by policy PL2. (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document). Use newsletter and website to inform parishioners about local initiatives</p>	<p>All planning applications are informed by PL2. Local farmers have attended council meetings to consider applications in the light of conservation, economic and heritage factors.</p>
<p>AL6 We will encourage and support information-sharing about community woodland and wood-sharing schemes, liaising with woodland owners such as the Forestry Commission, the National Park and the Woodland Trust, and will seek regular updates from the Rusland Horizons project on its initiatives concerning woodland management and conservation skills.</p>	<p>Use Newsletter and noticeboards to publicise opportunities and developments.</p> <p>Updates from Rusland Horizons project at Council meetings.</p>	<p>Meeting held with the manager and public participation officer of Rusland Horizons specifically to co-ordinate the developments in their interim report with the further development on the Colton Community Plan.</p> <p>Discussion/information exchange with the chair of the Ruslands Horizons Legacy Group regarding the continuation of the conservation woodlands beyond 2019.</p>
<p>AL7 We will encourage appreciation of 'dark skies' and work to reduce light pollution in the parish.</p>	<p>Encouragement via newsletter articles.</p>	<p>No progress</p>

We will ask properties and caravan sites to turn off lights at night or use low-output lighting (if lighting is regarded as necessary).		
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3. COMMUNITIES AND WELL-BEING		
ACTION	HOW?	PROGRESS AT March 2018
<p>AC1 We will consider the effects on the peace and quiet of the parish of any development initiative, planning application, or other proposal put before the Parish Council and make this consideration a key element in our decision making.</p>	<p>Ensure planning decisions are informed by policy PL3 (peace and quiet) - (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)</p>	<p>Policy PL3 has been taken into account as a key element in all Planning Applications considered by the Parish Council. We have supported, objected and remained neutral on all submitted planning applications with this policy in mind and where required explained our policy to parishioners and the planners.</p>
<p>AC2 We will support the village hall committees in maintaining and developing these important community assets.</p>	<p>We will be alert for opportunities to help Village Hall committees maximise their income and seek grant funding. We will ask village hall representatives to share with a meeting of the PC their current issues /challenges. We will promote the use of village halls for events, meetings etc.</p>	<p>We have informed members and representatives of Village Halls of grant opportunities (including LIPs) and encouraged their use wherever possible. The PC has representation on village hall committees in Bouth, Finsthwaite, Oxen Park and Rusland. (More can be done)</p>
<p>AC3 We will seek to include important community assets on a 'Community Assets Register' (Localism Act 2012) where they meet the necessary criteria.</p>	<p>Working Group to produce Community Assets Register and update at suitable intervals.</p>	<p>Rusland Reading Rooms, The Manor in Oxen Park and Stony Hazel Wood, Rusland have been registered on the Community Asset Register and plans are under consideration to register further assets. (Working group to be reformed)</p>
<p>AC4 We will lobby the responsible authorities to maintain and improve local health and other services that are essential to well-being, particularly for the older and more vulnerable members of our community.</p>	<p>We will assess priority issues and work actively to influence decision-making regarding local health service provision, especially when it is threatened or inadequate. We will encourage local initiatives that support health services.</p>	<p>We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lobbied local health service providers over hospital services in Kendal and GP and Pharmacy services in Hawkshead. - publicised relevant messages via the Community Link including HeartStart courses - publicised community transport facilities for hospital visits - supported with grants the provision and maintenance of defibrillators in Oxen Park, Bouth and Finsthwaite and the work of local First Responders.
<p>AC5</p>	<p>Support the Bouth Village Green and Playground Voluntary Committee in its</p>	<p>We have supported the Committee over safety and maintenance issues, received reports, financed necessary work and maintained</p>

<p>We will continue to maintain the Bouth Village Green & Playground as a facility for local residents and visitors.</p>	<p>management. Receive annual reports from the Committee. Continue financial commitment. Maintain the necessary insurance, health and safety, and other requirements as lease-holders.</p>	<p>insurance cover. We have successfully arranged for Cumbria CC to renew the double yellow lines road makings around the green.</p>
<p>AC6 We will maintain our eight parish council notice-boards and keep them up-to-date. We will examine ways of improving communications with parishioners, particularly the vulnerable and hard to reach, using appropriate formats. We will develop and put in place an 'Information and Communications Strategy'.</p>	<p>Set up a Working Group to draw up a strategy. Maintain the eight parish council notice-boards and keep them up-to-date. Maintain and further develop the website. Review the newsletter format.</p>	<p>We have maintained and kept up to date the 8 existing notice boards and replaced notice boards on a planned basis. The new website has been developed and will shortly be made 'live'. The Colton Parish Link email facility is established and has issued over to 50 emails to over 100 subscribed parishioners concerning local events and news.</p>
<p>AC7 We will support the development of resilience plans for each settlement in the Parish, based on the plan drawn up for Finsthwaite, and encourage the participation of parishioners.</p>	<p>We will ensure interested settlements have access to practice and procedures developed elsewhere. We will encourage the participation of parishioners. We will invite applications for funding.</p>	<p>The Finsthwaite resilience plan has been further developed with the introduction of a contact card. (More work needed)</p>
<p>AC8 We will survey the rights of way in the Parish and work with the LDNPA and the County Council for their maintenance and development. We will assess the potential for new footpaths where appropriate.</p>	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • survey existing rights of way, • form of footpath support group, • report and support maintenance • explore the potential for new rights of way. 	<p>We have noted and supported the Rusland Horizons project to establish Greenwood Trails footpaths in the Parish but made no progress in our policy. In view of the lack of demand, we should consider scrapping this policy.</p>

4. HOUSING AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT		
ACTION	HOW?	PROGRESS AT March 2018
<p>AH1 We will consider opportunities for small-scale affordable housing development according to policies PH1 and PH3.</p>	<p>We will consider any proposal put forward for small-scale affordable housing according to policy (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document).</p> <p>We will liaise with the authorities and the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust to re-run the Housing Survey every 4/5 years, to assess demand.</p>	<p>None Submitted Should councillors work to identify possible sites – My view is we should after the results of the next Housing Survey (end 2019)</p> <p>Last Housing survey completed in April 2012, propose next survey in 2019. Issue could be support for survey following the demise of Cumbria Rural Housing Trust</p>
<p>AH2 We will continue to monitor the housing stock in the parish, particularly the proportion of main residences vs second homes, holiday lets and empty homes.</p>	<p>We will maintain a register of housing stock and use this to inform decision-making.</p>	<p>Colton Address List obtained from SLDC Proposed Classification of properties agreed Councillors completed templates for their area (except Nibthwaite) Next step draft consolidation to understand information and issues. Complete by August 2018.</p>
<p>AH3 We will consider applications for other development on a case-by-case basis, based on an assessment of the impacts as described in policy PH5.</p>	<p>Ensure planning decisions are underpinned by reference to the Parish Plan policies (ref. Colton PC Planning Policy Summary document)</p>	<p>Ongoing Each application assessed individually against Policy</p>
<p>AH4 We will monitor the Neighbourhood Planning process taking place in pilot areas in the National Park, and the associated resource implications. The Council will communicate with neighbouring parishes about a possible joint approach to a Neighbourhood Plan for this area.</p>	<p>Monitor the NP process underway locally and keep updated through CALC and NALC information.</p>	<p>Not progressed</p>

5. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>HOW?</i>	<i>PROGRESS AT March 2018</i>
<p>AR1</p> <p>We will press for better liaison and consultation with the County Highways on road maintenance.</p> <p>We will encourage parishioners to report road condition problems to the relevant authorities.</p> <p>We will maintain a list of highways and flooding problems and press County Highways to resolve them.</p> <p>We will lobby County and District Councils for improved road maintenance and road sweeping in the Parish.</p>	<p>Continue to press Area Highways Engineer for better consultation and liaison. Meet regularly with local Area Highway Steward.</p> <p>Contact and format information to be provided on notice-boards, newsletters and website.</p> <p>Maintain regularly updated list on the website. Provide progress reports to the Council every 3 months.</p> <p>Raise with County and District Councillors at meetings. Submit requests and meet with County and District representatives as necessary.</p>	<p>Current local highways contacts have now been identified (David Sankey and Karen Dockery). Initial meeting held with lengthsman on key issues and further follow up contact will be made by designated councillor to develop closer working relationship. Agreed any critical issues can also be escalated to county councillor if no progress made</p> <p>Method to report highways defects publicised via Parish Council website, Colton Link, Parish newsletter, noticeboards and will be added to Bouth website</p> <p>Top 5 priorities list identified and will be updated on rolling basis as problems are solved. Designated councillor keeping track of critical items via lengthsman to escalate to county councillor if necessary.</p> <p>Initial meeting with local highways contacts in Q1 2018 kicked off this process and will continue as detailed above. Where county and district councillors are available to attend Parish Council meetings they are updated.</p> <p>Agreed Q2 to look at a local litter clearing initiative as road sweepers only visit the parish on roughly an annual basis at present. County councillor will support this initiative and tools can be provided and bagged rubbish collected. This initiative will be joint developed by designated highways and environment councillors</p>

<p>AR2 We will continue to engage the services of a Lengthsman, funded through the precept for at least 2 days per month, seeking grant funding to increase the number of working days.</p>	<p>Ensure funding base, contract and remuneration systems in place. Ensure good management and liaison system in place for dealing with residents' requests and feedback. Monitor effectiveness of Lengthsman.</p>	<p>All necessary contractual items and funding in place. The role is being reviewed at county council level but we have not received feedback on finding as at end of Q1 2018. Hoped we can continue as at present. Excellent feedback from residents on prompt and efficient response by lengthsman to any requests. Overall liaison via parish clerk and councillor representative working well with meeting approximately monthly with the late</p>
<p>AR3 We will consider community self-help schemes where feasible, for example encouraging able residents to clear local drains of surface debris to prevent flooding.</p>	<p>Encouragement through newsletter articles. Look for any funding opportunities.</p>	<p>Lengthman provides advice to local residents on local drain clearance as part of job to try to prevent recurrence. Also makes contact with local farmers where issues are water run-off from fields. The need help keep drains clear to prevent recurrence should be re-enforced via newsletter articles especially in run up/during Autumn/Spring when flooding issues become more frequent. Small funding opportunities may exist via the highways priority identification where a portion of county council funds may be available. This is being pursued via county councillor with funding round due Q2 2018</p>
<p>AR4 We will review and identify the need for grit bins and grit heaps in the Parish and press for their provision and maintenance. We will participate in County Highways winter-maintenance schemes where feasible.</p>	<p>Annual review of bins and heaps before the winter season and refer to County Highways. Maintain a map of bins and heaps. Liaise with County about appropriate schemes. Assess feasibility and decide on participation.</p>	<p>Grit bins were filled as required during winter 2018 but on a rather ad hoc basis. Plan to create a map of bin location in 2018 with target completion before winter 2018 season (designated councillor and lengthsman will address). Note that general grit heaps will not be re-supplied by council as loose grit heaps not considered to be environmentally acceptable No progress due to change in highways and parish councillor representatives. Will be picked up as part of wider initiative to develop relationship with highways contacts per above</p>
<p>AR5 We will lobby for speed limits and speed reduction measures particularly along well-known 'black routes', for example the C5026 Newby Bridge to Stott Park road, the C5023</p>	<p>Encourage residents to report their speed and safety issues to the Council via newsletter articles and website.</p>	<p>Speed tests were conducted around C5023 Spark Bridge Q4 2017 and a further test is underway Q1/2 2018 in opposite direction. Residents have attended Parish council meetings to discuss. No</p>

<p>Tollbar to Spark Bridge route and the C5022 through Oxen Park.</p> <p>We will monitor the effectiveness of the '20's Plenty' zone in Bouth.</p> <p>We will report 'black-spots' and near-miss incidents to the police, including on green lanes.</p>	<p>Consider priority issues and liaise with the appropriate authorities (County, Police).</p> <p>Consult Bouth residents about the perceived effectiveness of the zone.</p> <p>Report to Police and County Council.</p>	<p>progress on C5026 or C5022 roads. Funding cuts make this subject difficult to resolve but consideration being given to speed calming on C5023. Further develop this area as part of key highways priorities.</p> <p>No progress in terms of feedback. Pick up via Colton Link and newsletters in 2018.</p> <p>Ongoing. No recent reports or specific issues raised to Parish Council other than continued problems with green lane damage due to 4 x 4 legal activity</p>
<p>AR6</p> <p>We will assess the need for public transport and community transport schemes in the parish and will lobby for provision of such services in relation to demand.</p> <p>We will publicise and encourage the use of transport services by residents and visitors.</p>	<p>Assess the potential for new public services based on use of existing services in the local area.</p> <p>Promote the use of community transport schemes (ref Annex C)</p>	<p>The Voluntary Car Scheme (Lowick, Blawith and Oxen Park) currently providing an invaluable service. They are looking to expand the reach of the service – trying to enlist volunteer drivers in Finsthwaite and Bouth.</p> <p>FB awaiting a copy of the last annual report from Katy Wood at CCC – but Marguerite Calvert, the local coordinator, thinks there were 263 journeys made last year – by the 13 drivers currently volunteering.</p> <p>Colton Parish Link recently sent out a list including this scheme and others – this can be done again when the information on the schemes has been updated. And included in the Rusland Valley Newsletter.</p>

6. ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY		
ACTION	HOW?	PROGRESS AT March 2018
AS1 We will explore options for further recycling schemes to be made available in the parish.	Liaise with District Councillor with recycling portfolio.	Plastic and card now included in SLDC's kerbside collection in the Parish. 100% of houses now served as SLDC recently bought smaller vehicles. Should we actively encourage reducing waste? Linking to sites such as Plastic Free Cumbria and Cumbrian Revolution Energy? SLDC re-instated their 'Green Team' and aim to be single-use plastic free by end of 2018
AS2 We will help to maintain fuel oil/gas syndicates and to publicise their activities.	Ensure syndicate details are available in newsletters, on website and on notice-boards.	Oxen Park Oil Syndicate operating in Oxen Park area (?) FB to meet with Mike Postle and find out more how this works and whether we can help publicise this. Could this type of scheme be set up in other villages within the Parish?
AS3 We will talk to local organisations and agencies about the potential for local fuel-wood purchasing schemes.	Liaise with Rusland Horizons Programme for local wood supply.	Bouth Sharewood Project still running with input from Rusland Horizons. FB made contact with Dougie from Rusland Horizons and will talk to him to see how their free wood might be best distributed
AS4 We will encourage residents to take advantage of grant schemes for all types of home insulation and ensure that information is available to householders.	Publicise schemes in newsletters, notice-boards and on website.	Quite a maze of schemes and grants – such as the Energy Company Obligation (ending September 2018) who have worked with the 'Green Deal' government initiative (now being relaunched and run by private companies). Best bet seems to contact the Energy Saving Advice Service (run by the Energy Savings Trust) and they will say if you qualify for free home insulation/boiler repair – if you are claiming benefits. This comes under the 'Affordable Warmth Obligation'. 0300 123 1234 energy-advice@est-org.uk FB can ring if thought appropriate and get something more concrete
AS5 We will encourage residents to consider sharing car-journeys for regular outings, such as shopping trips and social events.	Publicise emerging opportunities and help to share good practice.	Finsthwaite currently operates an informal car-sharing scheme. Do we want to try and share their good practice with other villages?

