

# OBSERVATIONS AS MONITOR

Everyone is well aware of the misguided mistrust of the information which has been circulating between a small proportion of the residents of our two Parishes. I do not therefore need to go into detail.

In an effort to come up with some suggestions to assist to clear up the criticism.

I have in the past identified the frustration some people feel because the parish council are looking at the future whilst there are a great number of problems which need to be sorted now. A good example is the drainage at Steels Row and the lack of facilities for the youth which is as important as any other.

One of the greatest tests was how do we involve the youth, who are going to benefit the most eventually. This is a difficult one and so far we have not been able to involve them in the process of a Neighbourhood Plan.

I have met with two members of the Cricket Club and discussed this problem with them. Both live in Kendal, but one has deep connections with the club, having been born and bred here. The other one is totally committed to the club, and in particular to the development of youth participation in sport.

I was amazed by the amount of dedication and involvement they both, and along with others, have. A good example was the softball cricket they organised a couple of weeks ago.

Without going into too much detail there are plans to develop the cricket club so disabled people, and the youth can use the facilities all year round, not just in the summer. They have sourced part funding for this from the cricket board and other places but there is a lot more needed.

They hope to use parts of the cricket club grounds for other types of sport when the cricket season is finished. These sports will not of course damage the cricket pitch.

The drains in the ground have big problems and are part of their project. The cost of this alone will be between 50 and 75 thousand pound. They are looking at how alterations can include flood alleviation by the planting of hedges and other developments. They are not just thinking in isolation.

We discussed the possibility of using the cricket club as a youth club. This is a possibility.

Some of the above does not have to be included in our Neighbourhood Plan and I suggest should be encouraged and assisted by the Parish Council and Steering Group.

If the Burnside Residents Association is developed, maybe this would be an ideal project for them to become involved with.

I have already suggested to the group of residents who are in the process of re-forming the association that they could be involved with the Kendal ACT group for flooding and they have agreed to discuss this.

*Chris Chapman* 22.07.2017