**PRIEST HUTTON PARISH MEETING**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH 2019**

At the Priest Hutton Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 17th September in the Memorial Hall

the first discussion centred on a family of feral/ semi feral cats found wandering in the village in June. The two adults have now, with support from Cats' Protection, been captured, neutered, received veterinary treatment ( both were in a distressing physical condition) and been returned to the village. Of their 4 kittens, only 1 has survived, has been neutered and has kindly been rehomed by someone living in the village.

In common with other Animal Welfare Charities, Cats' Protection support a humane programme of Trap, Neuter, Return which is in line with the 2006 Animal Welfare Act. Neither they or any other Animal Welfare Charity seem to have capacity to "take in" feral cats.

Cats Protection Lancaster and Morecambe would like to inform farmers and others who may use un-neutered cats to keep down vermin, of their free service of Trap/ Neuter/Return. This will help keep the numbers of cats down and minimise unnecessary suffering, in line with the law.

Cats Protection are trying to find an alternative home for our couple (now named Henry and Lady Jane). They need to be kept together on a smallholding or in a working stable or similar. If anyone knows of a suitable place they should contact Cats' Protection on the number 01524 850112

Several people in the village have been so very kind and have helped by feeding, monitoring the condition of the adult cats and searching for the missing kittens. Special thanks go to Kath and Dave Moffatt for their kind attention to this matter.

Our Priest Hutton Flood Action Group, PHFLAG, has made good progress albeit a lot slower than wehad originally thought.

The survey to establish the causes of flooding in parts of the village is now underway. A site meeting, including a thorough walk around our village with several members of PHFLAG, and Jacobs (the Manchester firm commissioned to do the survey) was completed in early August. Jacobs have been sent copies of all our photos and videos of the flooding. When we receive the full report, villagers will be invited to an open meeting to discuss their findings.
Other works that are finally nearing completion are the new storm culverts outside the houses on Hutton View at the top of Upp Hall Lane.

The Treasurer, Phil Horsfield, presented a very comprehensive report on our finances. The predicted closing balance at the end the year 2019/20 will be £2,853.66.

It was agreed to donate £500 towards St Mary’s Church remodelling fund and £500 towards the cost of the new War Memorial (out of our 2020/21 budget).

It was decided to remove the three benches from the two Nature Reserves in the Village as they are being damaged by the sheep grazing in there. Ken Dunn and Tony Johns offered to come up with some ideas as to where to re-site the benches and bring their ideas to the next Parish Meeting in January to be discussed.

The meeting finished at 9.20 pm when everyone enjoyed a chat over a glass of wine and nibbles.

Our next Parish Meeting, which will be the AGM, will be held on Tuesday, 21st January at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Everyone welcome!

*Jean Johns – Clerk to Priest Hutton Parish 22.09.19*