Round & About

Nether Kellet



ISSUE 256 **October 2026**

EDITORIAL

The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the editorial team, who reserve the right to edit submissions for reasons of space, content or grammar. Items for publication should bear the name of the author, with address and telephone number - *although this information will not necessarily be printed (*we may need to contact the author for clarification or further information.)

The final day for submission of items for the next issue – December 2026 – is 10th Nov. Items for inclusion should be submitted to

John Bentham, 'The Bungalow', Halton Road 734353 **benthamje1@outlook.com**

John and Judith Bentham are editors and also responsible for distribution

Julie Burrows deals with advertising (commercial or "small ads."); contact via 07796 994990 or email: julie.burrows53@gmail.com

Remember – this is YOUR magazine. We welcome your views and contributions

You will also find this edition on the village website https://www.netherkellet.com

Cover photos

Front cover: The Black Box

Unfortunately, at present, Nether Kellet is without a post box. Some residents are finding this very inconvenient because posting a letter involves going to Bolton-le-Sands or Carnforth.
There are plans to install a new box when a suitable location is identified possibly near the Village Hall.

Rear cover: The glorious flower beds

These photos show two of the flower beds planted and maintained by Nether Kellet volunteers. The flowers have provided a magnificent show throughout the summer and have lasted well until beyond the end of September. There must have been a suitable balance between sunshine and rain. Congratulations and thanks to our volunteers. The display of bright and intense colour helps to raise our spirits.

The attractive limestone borders to the beds help to define the areas of colour and show a connection to an important local industry.

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tel: 01524 590640

Summary Parish Council Minutes August 2026

This is a summary. The full Parish Council minutes are available at www.netherkellet.com

Clerk report and correspondence

Halton FC have provided a phone number contact for the Parish Council to report any parking issues when Halton FC are using the football pitch.
Councillors considered the suggestion that a parabolic mirror/convex traffic mirror is erected at the junction Ashmeadow Road and Main Road due to visibility issues. The Parish Council felt that the best way forward was to look at how to ensure the bushes/trees were cut back that were overgrown from the properties adjacent to the junction on Ashmeadow Road.
The annual grant from the Aura Windfarm of £1,622.90 has been received.
It was agreed by Councillors to reimburse the Nether Kellet Primary School for the biodiversity project works carried out for the period March 2025 to April 2026. Lancashire County Council have now ended the grant funding for the Parish Council for both public rights of way and biodiversity projects.

PRoW

The PRoW in and around the Parish are all very dry.

Village Hall Report

The Village Hall (VH) Chair Tim Coglan provided a detailed update to the Parish Clerk which had been passed to Councillors in advance of the meeting. Tim presented his update to Councillors as follows;

The Solar Panels have now been fitted to the roof of the VH. Unfortunately, due to illness the electrical works will not be completed until 14.08.2026.
Once the solar panel system works are completed there will be a press launch as per the terms of the grant funding. Invitees to include Parish Councillor Uttley, National Lottery and Lakes Solar.
The Annual General Meeting was held on 12.07.2026. It was decided to continue to work via a series of subgroups and delegations where appropriate for example the Field Day, Bar, Health and Safety, etc.
The VH have reluctantly accepted Tina, Katie and Michelle stepping down from the Committee and moving to the Volunteer Group. Sincere thanks to them for all their efforts. Subsequently, following the meeting Dave and Jayne Crowe have stepped down from the Committee, and again do so with our sincere thanks for their efforts.
A full list of all the names and roles for the following is available; Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Bookings (Vacant), Bar Manager, Health and Safety, Marketing and Promotion and Hall User Representatives.

A Review of Trustees has been carried out with Matt, Katie and Michelle stepping down and Maggie joining as a Trustee. The Charity Commission have been notified of the changes.
A vote was held and it was decided to use VH funds to replace the non-operational CCTV system. Quotes are currently being obtained, hopefully from local companies.
The leaking roof above the bar storeroom has been repaired.
The situation regarding parking during football practice and matches is much improved, and thanks to the Parish Council for their help in facilitating this.
A trial use of a standalone fish and chip van, the Village Fryer, will begin once a month on the car park from Friday 07.08.2026.
The VH are trialling a new booking system called Hallbookingsonline which provides a public calendar that allows people to book and pay online and also performs admin functions and issues invoices.
The VH are now using a hand-held payment system for the Bar called Sumup. This enables more than one person to take payments at a time and removes the bar till as a bottleneck and even allows orders to be taken at tables.

Lengthsman Report

The Lengthsman monthly Time and Works Record sheet for July had been received and passed to Councillors in advance of the meeting for their information. Summary of works carried out was as follows;

Carrying out the visual inspection to the play area. General maintenance, strimming and grass cutting to the recreational field area.

Grass/verge cutting

Third cuts to visibility splays and verges have been carried out in and around the Parish.

Other Matters

The Deputy Chair commented that the fixed football goal posts in the recreational field area needed to be painted. A discussion was held by Councillors, and it was agreed that the Lengthsman would be asked by Councillor Mason to refresh the existing white paint.

Planning Applications

These can be viewed on the village website: www.netherkellet.com

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Book Reviews

Atlas of Botany An exploration of plants across time and around the world Hardback £30

A sumptuous reminder of the botanical wonders that have shared our planet for 500 million years.... Atlas of Botany is a great read and reference book for any gardener, naturalist or armchair traveller.

Travel through time and across the world to discover the enthralling, pragmatic and downright devious strategies that plants deploy to adapt, survive, and thrive. Plants first emerged on a very different looking Earth 500 million years ago.

As land masses moved, they were brought together in fierce competition with one another or separated to continue their lives in very different conditions. On this evolutionary journey, plants developed ingenious strategies to disperse and extend their range and increase their diversity. Plants populate almost every part of Earth's land surface – from tropical zones to cracks in city pavements – and have fundamentally shaped the natural regions of our planet.

In a work of breathtaking narrative scope and visual mastery, Atlas of Botany maps the changing conditions and continents of the prehistoric world and the biomes of the modern one.

Complex biology is transformed into clear, engaging text that explores how plants have overcome the challenges of survival, and describes the numerous ways in which they have interacted with pollinators and people along the way.

In the pages of this sumptuous botanical book, you will discover a unique blend of plant science, geography, nature and human history that provides an unparalleled view of plant life on Earth .

The intricate and sometimes bizarre ways that plants have adapted to live almost everywhere. A detailed understanding of where plants come from and the conditions in which they prefer to grow.

Produced in association with the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh this beautiful book combines the best elements of gardening books, science books and nature books – featuring exquisite botanical illustrations, detailed photography and clear, concise explanations – to tell the story of how plants evolved and survived, and how they continue to thrive.

Portly the Otter - The untold tales from The Wind In The Willows M.G. Leonard Hardback £14.99

Follow the thrilling animal adventures of young otter Portly – including all your favourite characters such as Mole, Ratty and Toad, from the countryside classic, The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame.

A magical tale of one mischievous otter bursting with charm, wit and wonder, beautifully illustrated in full colour by Polly Dunbar, this gorgeous hardback gift book is inspired by and celebrates the 95th anniversary of EH Shepard's iconic artwork for The Wind in the Willows.

There is a time in a young otter's life when they must be introduced to their river, for Portly today was that day.

Told across four seasons in one year, little Portly has the greatest of adventures. Among other fur-raising encounters, the youngest of Mrs Otter's pups learns to swim, battles a large trout, rescues a human girl, outwits the weasels and stoats of the Wild Wood and sleeps in the care of the god Pan – a scene familiar to readers of the original book. It is full of all the charm, nostalgia and sounds of splashing in the river that fans of The Wind in the Willows have fallen in love with over the years. M.G.Leonard`s faithful spin-off will enchant an entirely new generation.

Meet The Newmans Jennifer Niven Paperback £9.99
Glamorous and nostalgic, chaotic and warm-hearted, but with important things to say – the perfect recipe for an immersive read about a family in the spotlight and the truth behind the façade from No. 1 Sunday Times bestselling author Jennifer Niven, a novel about America's favourite TV family, whose perfect façade starts to crack: perfect for fans of Lessons in Chemistry and The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo. Maybe it's time for perfection to fall out of style.
Los Angeles, 1964.
For two decades, Del and Dinah Newman and their sons, Guy and Shep, have ruled television as America's Favourite Family. Millions of viewers tune in every week to watch them play flawless, black-and-white versions of themselves. But now the Sixties are in full swing, and the Newmans' perfection suddenly feels woefully out of touch. Ratings are in free fall, as are the Newmans themselves. Del is keeping an explosive secret from his wife, and Dinah is slowly going numb. Steady, stable Guy is hiding the truth about his love life, and rock 'n' roll idol Shep may finally be in real trouble. When Del is in a mysterious car accident, Dinah decides to take matters into her own hands. She hires Juliet Dunne, an outspoken young reporter, to help her write the final episode. But Dinah and Juliet have wildly different perspectives about what it means to be a woman, and a family, in 1964 America. Can Dinah Newman bring her family together to change television history? Or will she be cancelled before she ever had the chance? This addictive, thought-provoking and funny book is perfect for a holiday read.

Lancaster`s Line to the Sea – **A History of the Glasson Branch of the LNWR Dave Richardson** Paperback £15
I feel like I have to review a railway book this month as we have such an extensive range downstairs.

This book examines the branch from Lancaster Castle Station to Glasson Dock. From 1883 when the line was opened, the operation of the port was in many respects a collaboration between the Lancaster Port Commissioners and the LNWR and the relationship between these two bodies is fully explored. The former dealt with all maritime matters, whilst the railway dealt with the loading and unloading of vessels and of course the movement of cargos by rail. In addition to serving the wet dock at Glasson, a siding from the branch served the river quay, situated upstream at Lancaster itself.

The book covers in detail the origins of the scheme, the construction of the branch and then its operation under the LNWR and its successors. There are also separate chapters on locomotives and passenger rolling stock and on signalling and train control.

A significant amount of the information relating to the branch has been drawn from the records of the Lancaster Port Commissioners and this has helped to provide a detailed and unique insight into the story of the line and its operation. For most of the line's existence, rail traffic at the Lancaster end was dominated by the activities of James Williamson & Son, linoleum manufacturers, who, by the eve of the Great War, commanded huge markets at home and abroad and in the British Empire. Williamson's colossal Lune Mills sat alongside the branch and the firm's archive has been examined with a view to providing a detailed account of its relationship with the railway.

Sam
(new@carnforthbooks.co.uk)

NETHER KELLET WI

There is no August meeting of WI but on September 11th Gillian Sheath came to talk about her long-distance cycle rides for charity. She started off with a 60-mile cycle ride but has done longer ones since, staying overnight with friends if necessary. In total she has so far raised £2500 for a number of charities. She very much enjoys the long rides in themselves but raising money for charity at the same time is a bonus. She was a very good and entertaining speaker. Unfortunately her laptop would not work with the Village Hall projector but there was quite a small audience so they managed to gather round the laptop to see her images.

On Wednesday September 30th the Nether Kellet WI is going to present a cheque for £1400 to St John's Hospice. This very pleasing amount was raised by the Fashion Show and the Coffee Morning. Many thanks are due to those in the village who supported these events so well.

Judith Bentham

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VILLAGE HALL OPEN DAY

A date for your diary: - **SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER**

Doors Open:- **10.30 am**

Please come and see the launch ceremony of our brand new solar panel system.

This will be performed by a special guest at 11.00 am.

There will also be stalls and information available from:

- **Lakes Solar**, who installed the system , on solar power generally.
- **Jackson and Co**, who installed our brand new CCTV system
- **Holcim**, regarding their quarrying business and their groundworks to the rear of the hall that will enable us to develop our own Wellbeing and Wildlife Garden

Interested in taking up a new interest or activity? - Come and see the stalls, and talk to the representatives of our Hall User Groups who will be in attendance.

Even if you just fancy a brew and a cake and a chat to others, please come and join us any time between 10.30am and 14.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you !

The new Solar panels on the roof of the Village Hall



Solar panels have been installed on the East facing roof of the Village Hall. They should help to reduce the running costs of the hall by lowering the electricity bills. Their output is fed to an inverter that converts the low voltage DC produced by the panels into 240 volts AC operating at the standard mains frequency of 50 cps.



Consumer Alerts from August 2026

Beware cold callers offering insulation products.

The Service has received a spate of reports about cold callers in the South Ribble area knocking on doors offering to replace boilers on a government scheme. In one instance the seller was very pushy to the point of being aggressive, not taking no for an answer and not leaving the property when asked.

Best advice is to not engage with any cold caller and if you are interested in finding out if you could benefit from a government grant scheme check independently. Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHiL) is a Council run initiative that can provide advice and help in relation to eligibility for the Government Warm Homes funded grants. **www.chil.uk.com**

Trading Standards advice is to always say no to cold callers. The Safetrader scheme can help you find a trader in your area, contact 0303 333 1111 or go to **www.safetrader.org.uk**

Beware scam 'X' email

Be on the lookout for a current scam email claiming to be from X (previously Twitter). The email informs you there has been a login to your account from a new device and gives the location as Arizona. The email states that if this wasn't you, to complete steps to protect your account. The steps include clicking a link to change your password, and to click another link to review the apps that have access to your account and revoke any that are unfamiliar. Whilst the advice is legitimate X advice, using the links provided in the email to do this is not and is attempting to trick you into giving scammers your password, or direct access to your X account.

If receiving such an email, be suspicious, never click on the links provided, check the security of your account by accessing through the genuine app.

Scam clothing ads

Beware websites that advertise clothes they don't stock and instead ship cheap items from third-party sellers overseas – a practice known as dropshipping. These websites and social media ads can use brand names with city references to make them look like trusted British brand names, claim they are long standing independent businesses, that products are handmade or made from cashmere, wool etc and claim false money back guarantees or free returns policies.

Often customers receive substandard products and, in many instances, cannot contact the seller or get refunds. Some businesses give the misleading impression they are UK-based when they are actually overseas, in countries such as China, making it even more difficult for people to return goods or get their money back.

Forward suspicious emails to **report@phishing.gov.uk**

Contact the Trading Standards Service via the Citizens Advice consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133.

ART FAIR

9 - 11 October 2026

36 JUNCTION ART FAIR

Hosted by Green Door Artists

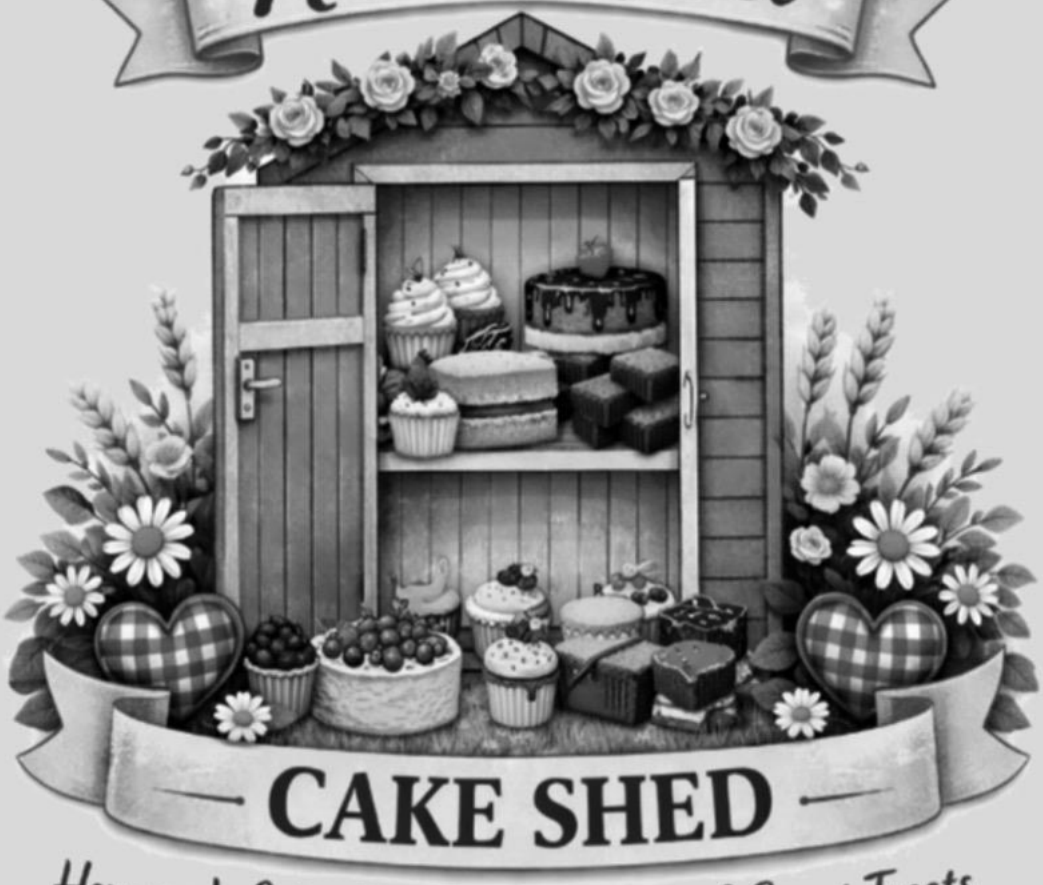
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Baked Apple Lemon Sponge

It is something like an old-fashioned Eve's pudding but this makes its own creamy lemon sauce. If using bought lemon curd, check that it contains butter, sugar and lemons. It may be labelled lemon cheese or luxury lemon curd. They are very similar.
This recipe serves 6.

Ingredients

For the base

- 300ml ($^1/_2$ pint) single cream
- 6 tablespoons lemon curd
- 2 level tablespoons caster sugar
- 1 heaped teaspoon plain flour
- 750g ($1^3/_4$ lb) cooking apples

For the topping

- 2 large eggs
- 175 g (6 oz) self-raising flour
- 100 g (4 oz) caster sugar
- 100 g (4 oz) softened butter
- 1 level teaspoon baking powder
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 – $1^1/_2$ tablespoons demerara sugar

1. Pre-heat the oven to 160 ^{o}C/Fan 140 ^{o}C/Gas 3. Put a heavy baking tray to heat in the oven. You will need a 27 x 18 cm (10.5 x 7 in) deep ovenproof dish.
2. To prepare the base, measure the cream, lemon curd, sugar and flour into a bowl and beat until smooth. Peel, core and very thinly slice the apples. Mix the sliced apples into the cream mixture, spoon into the baking dish and level with the back of a spoon.
3. To make the topping, measure all the ingredients except the demerara sugar into a mixing bowl. Beat until smooth, then spread gently over the fruit in a baking dish. Sprinkle with demerara sugar.
4. Bake in the pre-heated oven on the hot baking tray for 30 minutes or until perfect golden brown.
5. Cover the pudding with foil then continue to bake for a further 45 minutes or until the sponge springs back when lightly pressed in the centre with a fingertip. Serve warm.

Tip: The unbaked pudding can be kept covered in the fridge for up to 6 hours. Bring up to room temperature before baking in the pre-heated oven on the hot baking tray.

Apples

This year has seen another bumper crop of apples. What better way to celebrate than by publishing a recipe from Lesley that is based on cooking apples. Most agree that Bramley's Seedlings are the tastiest of cooking apples. A Bramley tree was named by Matthew Bramley in 1846 after a tree on his property was used for cuttings.

This photo shows some Nether Kellet Bramleys ready to be picked before, like many others this year, they 'fall off'.



French Onion Sausage Pasta

Rigatoni is a popular pasta shape for a reason. The large, ridged tubes are great for capturing chunky sauces, such as this rich, meaty take on a classic French onion soup.

Hands-on time: 15 min
Cooking time: 40 min
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1 pack of Cumberland sausages, roughly 400 g
- 4 onions, thinly sliced
- 50 g butter
- 400 g rigatoni
- 3 tbsp plain flour
- 400 ml beef stock, using 1 beef stock pot
- 3 bay leaves
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme
- 70 g Gruyère, grated

Method

1. Put a large pan of salted water on to boil. Remove the sausage meat from the skins and break into small pieces.
2. Heat a large frying pan over a high heat and brown the sausage meat. Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside.
3. Add the onions and butter to the same pan with a large pinch of salt. Cover with a lid and cook over a low-medium heat for 20-25 minutes, until deeply softened and caramelised. Meanwhile, cook the pasta according to the pack instructions.
4. Stir the flour into the onions and cook for 2 minutes. Gradually pour in the beef stock while stirring, then add the bay leaves and thyme. Simmer until thickened. Remove the herbs and season to taste.
5. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 200 °C (180 °C fan) mark 6. Line a baking tray with baking parchment. Arrange the grated Gruyère into thin strips and bake for 5-8 minutes until melted and golden. Turn the oven off, leave the door slightly open and keep the crisps inside until cool and crisp.
6. Stir the sausage meat back into the sauce, then add the drained pasta and toss to coat. Divide the pasta between bowls and top with the Gruyère crisps, snapping them to garnish.

Energy Data per serving

891 cals, 34 g protein, 39 g fat, 95 g carbs, 10 g fibre

Lesley Williams

Nether Kellet and surroundings viewed from space



This is a satellite image of Nether Kellet downloaded from Google Earth.

It shows the location of our village close to the M6 and only a short distance from the sea in Morecambe Bay. The triangular green area in the middle of the village stands out and the image emphasises how important the ‘Green’ is to the character of the village.

The satellite image also shows that limestone quarries are very close to the village. Except from the quarry viewpoint, reached via Laithbutts Lane, it is difficult to register the size of the northern quarry. It is clear from the satellite view that Back Lane quarry is immense. The whole of Nether Kellet could be dropped into the quarry with plenty of space left over. It is interesting to see from the air how much Back Lane quarry has grown recently now that it is seamlessly joined to the Tarmac quarry to its north. These quarries have recently been granted planning permission to expand. They will do so not by increasing their area but by becoming deeper until the quarry base is below sea level.

The Tarmac quarry to the east of Nether Kellet is not used for extracting limestone at present. It has filled with water. It would prove very expensive to pump out the water. When the supply of limestone from Back Lane quarry is exhausted, it is proposed to let that fill with water and possibly find use as a water-sports centre!

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

Bowling	Thursday Michael Watson: 12 Ashmeadow Road	10.00 - 12.00 noon	**734624**
Rainbows & Brownies	Thursday Sophie Smalley: brownies.netherkellet@gmail.com	5.45 - 7.00 pm	**07798 876108**
WI	2nd Friday in the month Mrs B Bellis: Westlyn, Halton Road	7.30 pm	**733445**
Quilting Club	Last Saturday in the month Mrs V Atkinson 19 Shaw Lane	10 am - 3 pm	**733539**
Bacon Butty Brunch	Usually the last Sunday of the month Mrs Maria Steele	11 am - 1 pm	**07837 724287**
Hug in a Mug	Monday Mrs Maria Steele	10.30 – 11.30 am	**07837 724287**

Booking Clerk	Jayne and Dave Crow: nkvillagehallbookings@gmail.com	**07798 876108**

NETHER KELLET COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher	Ms N Bradbury	**733778**

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Prices are as follows-: full page advertisement £10.00 per edition
half page advertisement £5.00 per edition

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE

Congregational Church	Morning Service 10.45 am Evening Service 6.30 pm Sunday School in Church Hall approx. 11.15 am	
Coffee Morning	2nd and 4th Friday in the month 10.00 - 12.00 noon in the Congregational Schoolroom Muriel Ward	**737895**
St. Mark's Church	Services on Sundays 9.00 a.m on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday in the month 10.30 a.m on 2nd & 4th Sunday in the month (led by members of congregation) Vicar - Revd. Peter Hamborg The Vicarage, Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands.	**823106**
Book Club	1st Thursday in the month 7.30 pm Please email Carole at baynecarole@gmail.com for more information	
Mobile Library	Every third Thursday morning from July 16th Hornby Bank Meadowcroft before 11.00am Village Hall Laithbutts Lane ???	
Police	Police Station, Lancaster PCSO Paul Shepherd Paul.shepherd@lancashire.pnn.police.uk	**63333**
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Position not filled	
City Councillors for Halton with Aughton and Kellet ward	Sarah McGowan smcgowan@lancaster.gov.uk James Sommerville jsommerville@lancaster.gov.uk	**07792 395985**
County Councillor	Graham Dalton graham.dalton@Lancashire.gov.uk	**07856 930 866**
Parish Council Chair	Mark Uttley	**0796 7557608**
Parish Clerk	Adrian Osmotherley clerk@netherkelletpc.org.uk	**07916 029265**

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The bed beside Main Road going towards Over Kellet



The bed at the junction of Main Road and Back Lane