

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 14TH MAY 2007 IN THE SKIRWITH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Mr John Findlay, Mrs Jill Hay, Mr John Hindson, Rev. Elaine Froggatt, Mr Howard Roper, Mr Ken Philipson, Mrs Laura Wilson

In Attendance: Shelia Orchard (District Councillor), Derick Cotton (out going Parish Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

Apologies: Mrs Isa Henderson (County Councillor)

06/07 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2007/2008

Resolved that Mr Findlay be elected Chairman, proposed by Mrs Hay and seconded by Mrs Wilson.

Resolved that Mrs Hay be elected as Vice Chairman, proposed by Mrs Wilson and seconded by Mr Findlay.

07/07 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

Resolved to co-opt John Hindson (Culgaith Ward), Howard Roper (Skirwith Ward) and, Ken Philipson and Rev. Elaine Froggatt (Blencarn and Kirkland Ward).

There were still two vacancies in Culgaith and one in the Blencarn and Kirkland Ward which must be filled by June 22nd if a new election is to be avoided.

08/07 APPOINTMENT OF THE PARISH CLERK

The Chairman reported that Sue Smith had taken up her appointment as Culgaith Parish Clerk and Proper Finance Officer on 1st April 2007.

09/07 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the held on 12 March 2007 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

10/07 The Parish Clerk reported that:

Skirwith Green – Wall Encroachment. The Deed of Transfer has been signed by both parties at the end of March and the developer's solicitors were waiting for the final order from DEFRA. Once received they will apply to the Land Registry to the registration to take place.

Notice boards. It is planned to install them in next few weeks.

Sewerage Leak, The Greens Culgaith. On the advice of Environmental Health an additional soak away has been dug and this seems to have resolved the problem. Environmental Health will continue to monitor the situation.

War Memorial Seat was painted at the end of April.

Blencarn Development. Awaiting completion of the project to arrange a meeting with Ian Blackett of Cumbria Homes to discuss any further remedial action required

Village Signs. The project would be progressed after the meeting with Cumbria Homes.

Skirwith Footbridge. The contractor was currently awaiting delivery of the wood.

Parish Council Elections. The Clerk and Clerk designate had attended the briefing at EDC on 14th March.

Village Garden Waste Skip Service. EDC has agreed to loan Positive Recycling the Council's 5 garden waste skips and Skirwith is one of the 10 sites selected to benefit from the continuation of the service.

11/07 CALC Road Show. **Resolved** to defer a decision on whether to participate in the CALC Roadshow until later in the year.

12/07 The Pea, Culgaith. Cumbria Highways had responded to concerns about the dangerous trees and potential landslip adjacent to the Pea. Two additional trees

had been deemed to be unsafe and will be felled. Cumbria Highways felt responsibility for the bank lies with the adjacent landowners. **Resolved** that the Clerk would pass a copy of the letter on to Mrs Donaldson who had raised the issue and also seek clarification from the Land Registry to try and identify who owned the bank.

13/07 POLICE, COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT REPORTS

No reports had been received from the County Council or Police. Shelia Orchard was elected to the District on 3rd May and would be attending her first Council meeting on 17th May.

NEW BUSINESS

14/07 Promoting the Parish Council

Resolved that the Clerk should a) draft a Newsletter for distribution in the Memo, b) update the CALC website with the names of the Parish Councillors and dates of the next meetings, c) investigate the issues associated with setting up a village website.

15/07 The Flodder

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow electors present to raise concerns about the use of vehicles, including parking of cars, on the Flodder. The Chairman reconvened the meeting and it was **resolved** to take up the offer by the District Councillor to raise the issue with the EDC.

REPORTS

16/07 Parish Plan Project.

The Clerk reported that no action had been taken on the Parish Plan. **Resolved** that the Clerk should prepare a report for the next meeting so that the Parish Council could review progress and reconsider priorities.

17/07 Parish Paths. Mrs Hay reported on the Parish Path Project - the footpath behind the Culgaith Chapel. A £900 grant had been received from Cumbria County Council for Phase 1 which had been completed. A further meeting was planned in Mid June with Cumbria C.C. and the Ranger to discuss Phase 2.

18/07 Training. The Clerk reported that she had attended Module 1 of the Parish Clerk's Induction Course run by CALC.

19/07 Policing Services in Cumbria. Mrs Hay reported on the Cumbria Constabulary stakeholder event she had attended on 26th April 2007 to examine community and public protection.

20/07 Consultation on Unitary Cumbria Proposal. The meeting noted the request from EDC for the Parish Council's views on the proposed Unitary Authority but based on current information felt unable to comment.

21/07 Code of Conduct –The meeting noted that the New Code of Conduct had come into force on 3rd May 2007 and the Parish Council had until 1 October to adopt it. **Resolved** to defer discussion until the next meeting.

PLANNING

22/07 Notices of Decision have been received from EDC as follows:

Approved: 07/0166 – Rigglands, Blencarn. Small scale wind turbine 6kw, 9 Metres high.

23/07 Planning applications considered by the Parish Council:

The Parish Council had made no objections to the following:

07/0251 – Wellfield, Culgaith. Conservatory to the side.

07/0256 – Otters Holt, Culgaith. Siting of a non illuminated 1200 x 2400 mm advertising sign.

24/07 Currently under consideration

88/1252 – Lake Meadows (Otters Holt), Culgaith. Alterations to the Footpath

07/0292 – Blackhill Lodge Stud, Blencarn, Erection of poultry housing and ancillary egg packing unit for free- range hens; removal of existing wooden building
07/0308 – Old Vicarage, Skirwith Use of existing coach and stables for ancillary accommodation

25/07 Reviewed

06/0137 – Replace shed with double garage – existing garage converted to sitting room. Helmwinds, Culgaith. The EDC has responded to the PC's concerns and would continue to monitor the development.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

26/07 Resolved that the audited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2007 be signed by the Chairman as accepted and approved.

27/07 Audit Commission

Resolved that Section 2 "Annual Governance Statement" of the Audit Commission's Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2007 be approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman.

28//07 Signatories for the Bank Account

Resolved that a bank account be continued with HSBC Bank plc (the Bank) and the bank is authorised to pay all cheques and other instructions for payment or accept instructions to stop such payments on behalf of the Culgaith Parish Council by John Findlay, Jill Hay, John Hindson and Laura Wilson.

Resolved that for the purposes of the bank account mandate the Parish Clerk, Mrs Sue Smith be deemed to the 'Secretary'

29/07 Signatories of the National Savings Account

Resolved that the signatories to the National Savings Investment Account be John Findlay, Jill Hay, John Hindson and Laura Wilson.

30/07 Resolved that John Fleming be re-appointed as Internal Auditor for 2007/8

30/07 Accounts

The Clerk reported that the balances at 13 May 2007 were:

£9812.85	HSBC
£5799.70	National Savings

The following income had been received:

£900	- Cumbria County Council for Phase 1 of Paths Project
£7,500	- Precept
£802.16	- VAT Repayment

Resolved that the following payments be made:

£389.32	Clerk's Salary April/May
£6.00	Hire of Skirwith Village Hall
£371.60	Allianz Cornhill
£142.50	CALC Annual Subscription
£15	Cumbria Playing Fields Association
£50	John Fleming for auditing 2005/6 and 2006/7 accounts
£45.79	Viking Direct (computer consumables)
£6000	Transfer to National Savings

Resolved to endorse that the following payment made in April.

£900	Cumbria Walling (Phase 1 of Paths Project)
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38/07 CORRESPONDENCE BOX

The Clerk briefed the meeting on routine matters.

39/07 DATES FOR ANNUAL CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Resolved that the Parish Council would meet on the following dates and venues

July 2nd 2007 – Blencarn

September 3rd 2007 – Culgaith

November 5th 2007– Skirwith

Jan 7th 2008 – Blencarn

March 3rd 2008 – Culgaith

May 12th 2008 (AGM) – Skirwith

CHAIRMANS REPORT

The following were noted:

40/07 Information Packs. The new houses in Skirwith needed Information Packs. The Clerk would organise these.

41/07 Pothole on the Skirwith to Langwathby road. The Clerk would report this to the Highways Hotline.

42/07 Culgaith Recycling Centre. Dog mess was being left at the Recycling Centre.

The Clerk would put up a notice directing people to the dog bins.

The Recycling bins at Culgaith need to be emptied more often particularly the Clothing bin. Mrs Hay will take this up with EDC.

The Culgaith Village Hall was responsible for the Recycling Centre as they received the income for it. The Chairman would discuss with Alan Harryman of the Village Hall Committee.

42/07 Retirement of Parish Clerk. To mark his retirement as Culgaith Parish Clerk the Chairman presented Derick Cotton with a painting of the fell side above Kirkland.

43/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday July 2nd 2007 at Blencarn.