

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL**  
Held at Culgaith Victoria Institute,  
on Monday 7 November 2016 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors: Caroline Richardson (Chair), Pauline Toppin (Vice Chair), Pam Jago, Jill Hay, David Witney, Ken Philipson, Philip Hemingway  
Clerk: Kathryn Binney  
Residents: John Fleming

**85/16 Apologies**

Cllrs Laura Wilson and Marjorie Helm

**86/16 Minutes**

With the exception on one amendment required to show Cllr Marjorie Helm as present the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2016 were signed as a true record.

**87/16 Declarations of Interest**

A declaration of interest was heard in respect of item 92/16, the Fellrunner Grant application by Cllrs Jill Hay and David Witney.

**88/16 \*Public Participation / Open session (15 mins allowed)**

Resident John Fleming was present to discuss the footbridge at the Cornmill, Blencarn that is in need of repair. He believed that the Parish Council repaired the footbridge some time ago, that it doesn't belong to anyone and that the Parish Council should consider fixing it. The landowners have raised no objections to residents using the unregistered footpath. John estimated that the materials would cost £30 to replace the rotten wood.

Chair Caroline Richardson responded that an investigation into the options had been made and unfortunately understands that the Parish Council has neither a power nor a duty to spend public money on this project. It remains the responsibility of landowner. If a member of public registered this as a public footpath, the situation would change and it could be looked at again.

John Fleming had hoped the Parish Council could do something for the community to keep this permissive path open but felt the landowners (Bill Dodd, Celia Sharpe) would not be keen to formally register this as a public footpath.

It was agreed to put this on the agenda for January as a substantive item for further discussion.

**89/16 Progress Reports**

Parish Clerk's report, Following the clerks resignation on 2.10.16, an advertisement has been made in the Herald, the Memo, our web pages, notice boards, CALC pages and various local facebook groups. To date; we have had six keen enquires – two of which have submitted applications already.

It was agreed that the Council would be willing to reconsider the date that they meet. It was also suggested that this might mean better engagement from our district councillors if we avoid clashing with other Parish Council meetings.

It was agreed that the Grass Cutting contract could go out to tender as soon as possible and that doing this at this time of the year would enable a decision to be made in January which was more sensible than leaving it close to the commencement of the cutting season.

#### Chairs report

Cllr Jill Hay attended the Tripartite meeting between Eden Association of Local Councils, Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council Monday 10th October 2016. An update on the Eden Local Plan was circulated. Hellen Aitken, Action with Communities in Cumbria presented "Rebuilding Together, Communities in Control" - New Big Lottery Funding to support Community Emergency Planning and Resilience. The Rural Funding- LEADER programme was discussed by Martin Allman, Economic Programmes Manager, Cumbria County Council and Area Working in Eden - Nick Wright, Eden Area Manager, Cumbria County Council. Jonathan Smith, Senior Network Manager, Cumbria County Council Highways also gave a Cumbria Highways Update.

Nothing was heard about devolution.

All planning applications will be electronic in the future.

Cllrs Caroline Richardson and Jill Hay will be attending the CALC Annual General Meeting, to be held at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal on Saturday 12th November.

#### **90/16 County and District Councillors reports**

No update received – noted that a change day of the meeting, to avoid clashing with other Parish Council Meetings might help gain better engagement.

#### **91/16 Planning**

No new applications that have not already been circulated for comment.

For note, the current applications are;

16/0776 Ranbeck Farm

16/0787 Land at Loaning Head (outline approval)

16/0788 Crowdundle Park Farm House

16/0801 Kirkland and Blencarn Village Hall (full approval granted)

#### **92/16 Finance**

The bank reconciliation, cash flow and budget comparison were discussed and agreed.

Current A/c 825.15

NSI 12168.63

A transfer of £2000 was proposed and agreed from the savings account to the current account.

It was noted that we will need an estimated £2098.42 to the year end.

Considering the various savings and cuts we have achieved across the year we estimate £2248 free (Spare £149.58).

The payment schedule was agreed and the following payments will be made;

M Binney Skirwith Footbridge 122.60

Herald Situation Vacant 56.70

M Binney Grass cutting 438.86

|              |                             |        |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| K Binney     | Expenses (£17 for S137)     | 35.90  |
| Fellrunner   | Grant (Subject to approval) | 385.50 |
| Memo         | Inclusion                   | 12     |
| Culgaith Vic | Hall Hire                   | 10     |

The precept and budget for 2017 /18 were discussed in depth. The actual spending this year was taken into account and detailed comments made for each budgeted item. It is of concern that we have no allowance for the maintenance of any of our assets and it was proposed to add a sum to cover anticipated work required.

Immediate work required that was noted was some tree work, and roof repairs as necessary to Skirwith Bus Shelter roof and the picnic bench at Kirkland, which is badly rotten and unsafe.

A grant application for the sum of £385.50 was discussed in support of the Fellrunner. It was noted that nearly the full budgeted sum of £1300 had been already given out in other grants and this will lead to a potential overspend on the budget. Cllrs were happy that we always do contribute to this and it was agreed to give the full donation.

**93/16 Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications**

Items of correspondence received since the last meeting include Updated bank terms and conditions, Two applications for Clerk Vacancy, CALC annual report and a poster for the EDC Chairmans Carol Service on Monday 12 December at 630pm, St Andrews Church, Penrith.

**94/16 Training**

The CALC Learning and Development opportunities were circulated.

**95/16 Footpath Lighting**

Update on Eden District Councils Footpath Lighting Project; After the last Parish Council meeting the decision reached was circulated to the Amanda Ward EDC, Cllr Sheila Orchard EDC and Cllr Mary Robinson CCC (Eden). We have had a write up in the Cumberland and Westmorland Herald and the next Memo newsletter as well as the normal minutes that are published on our webpages.

EDC advised that the next steps will be to connect the head lights which will be w/c 7th Nov and the final connection will be made w/c 14th Nov. All residents in attendance at the last meeting have been informed by us and EDC.

ENW have been seen around the parish checking supplies, EDC noted that a number of residents passing had stopped to speak with the engineer and been positive about the new lights, advising that it has been very dark without the lights.

**96/16 Asset Maintenance**

The asset maintenance record was updated.

Immediate work required that was noted was tree work, and roof repairs as necessary to Skirwith Bus Shelter roof and the picnic bench at Kirkland, which is badly rotten and unsafe.

**97/16 Skirwith Play Committee**

An update to the 'at risk' Skirwith Play Committee was given by Cllr Philip Hemingway. Slow progress has been made. The funded work – is going ahead – although there has been a small delay, the work is pending.

Three people have stepped forward willing to manage although they have not yet met. The Terms of Reference may be likely to change to give management of the playground but it is unlikely there will be further events planned.

Consideration of the insurance was made as to whether adding this to our insurance could be a cheaper way forward. This is to be looked into.

**98/16 Community Emergency Planning**

Time hasn't been available to meet further however an initial draft has been made and Cllr Caroline Richardson agreed to add some extra detail and then circulate to Cllrs Toppin and Hemingway for consideration.

**99/16 \*Councillor Matters**

Drainage for the tarn was discussed and it is still causing great concern. Concern had been raised that there were blocked drains – but drains have been cleared. CCC Highways have been consulted about the bog at front of tarn, perhaps leaking pipe. They are going to look at this but it is a low priority for them at the moment. The roadside drain opposite is backing up onto The Tarn and Chestnut Close. It is hoped these will be jetted out when priorities allow.

Cllr Jill Hay reported the blocked drains on the Skirwith to Langwathby Road that Cllr Laura Wilson reported and Highways will action these.

**100/16 Date of the next meeting 9 January 2017 at Skirwith - 1930hrs**