

# Culgaith Parish Council

Annual Report 2016 – 2017 Serving:- Culgaith Skirwith Blencarn Kirkland.



## From The Chair.

2016/2017 has been a very busy year for Culgaith Parish Council, as outlined in this report. Pressures on public finances continue to frustrate when trying to achieve objectives. May I thank all our Councillors, the current Clerk and our retiring Clerk, Kathryn, for their support during the year.

Caroline Richardson  
Chair, Culgaith Parish Council

## Around The Communities

Some of the Issues raised are listed below.

### General

- A revised policy document in respect of Freedom of Information and Complaints Procedure was adopted.
- Green Bins - the Council fought for their adoption across the Parish; however the status quo remains for 2017/18 with a garden waste skip being located in Skirwith.
- Sought better Broadband and Mobile phone coverage throughout the Parish.
- Mark Binney Landscaping and Stonework's tender was accepted for the grass cutting contract for the 2017 season.
- Agreed to adopt On – Line banking, with associated safeguards.
- Local Draft Plan – Cllrs C Richardson and J Hay attended a meeting with the Principal Planning office to discuss any possible changes and the implications for the Parish.
- Grant aid to be sought for the provision of Defibrillator roadside signs for Skirwith and Blencarn.
- Work has been ongoing on preparing an Emergency Plan for the Parish, to cover the period from an incident occurring and the Emergency Services taking control.

### Highway Maintenance

Highways issues were very ably handled by Cllr Jill Hay. The Council have been very grateful to the staff of the Highways Department for their support of Parish issues, raised by the Councillors, during the year.

## In Culgaith

- Footpath lighting implementation and parishioner concerns.
- Concern over HGV's using the 'Pea'.
- Vehicle Parking at 'South Esk'.
- The 'Tarn' drainage issue was reported to the Highways Department and the situation continues to be monitored.
- During 2016/17 the Council considered 3 planning applications in Culgaith

## In Skirwith

- Establishment of a new Playground Committee.
- Playground Insurance
- In-appropriate parking outside Skirwith Church.
- Provision of 'Grip Strips' on Skirwith Footbridge.
- Skirwith beck backing up – referred to the Environment Agency.
- Skirwith Bus Shelter – agreement was sought to prune the adjacent tree and to repair the roof and guttering.
- Drainage issue on Skirwith green.
- During 2016/17 the Council considered 2 planning applications in Skirwith

## In Kirkland and Blencarn

- Parking issues at Kirkland Church in wet weather.
- Replacement of the Picnic Bench on Kirkland Green
- Agreed to repair the footbridge on Kirkland Green.
- Agreed a replacement footbridge at the Cornmill, Blencarn
- Repair of the Notice Boards in Kirkland and Blencarn
- Water leak on Blencarn Green
- The Council supported the Blencarn Playground Project.
- Redundant tree guard and overgrown bramble growth removed from Blencarn Green.
- During 2016/17 the Council considered 3 planning applications in Kirkland and Blencarn

## Learning and Development

- Eden Association of Local Councils meeting attended by Cllrs C Richardson and J Hay
- CALC Executive – Cllr J Hay was elected as a Parish Council representative for a further year
- Cllr J Hay attended the ‘Tripartite’ meeting between Eden Association of Local Councils, Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council, on behalf of Culgaith Parish Council
- CALC AGM attended by Cllrs J Hay and Caroline Richardson.
- Electronic Planning Consultation – Cllr C Richardson and the Clerk attended an EDC Planning Department Consultation meeting on the possible introduction of Electronic Planning Consultation at a date in the future.

## Finance

The Parish Precept (The Parish Councils share of Council Tax) for 2016/17 was £8700

The balance carried over at the end of the year was £10292.05

### Financial Summary

<b>Income</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
	£	£
Carried forward	9707	10292
Precept	7735	8700
Grants	299	0
Vat Recovered	599	190
Other Income	414	158
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>9047</b>	<b>9048</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Administration	4674	4345
Village Greens	2660	2191
Playgrounds	142	150
Grants	1396	1622
Wreath	17	17
Vat paid	88	51
Elections	210	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>9187</b>	<b>8376</b>

## Support For Local Organisations

	£
Memo – Mid Eden Newsletter	65
Fellrunner	385
Skirwith Village Hall	200
Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room	200
Kirkland and Blencarn Playground Project	200
Culgaith All Saints Church	200
Skirwith Play area	172
Culgaith Victoria Institute	200

## Appointment of Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Following the resignation of Kathryn Binney, John Fleming was appointed as Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer as from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

The Council expressed their grateful thanks to Kathryn for all the hard and conscientious work she had put in, on behalf of the Council, during her period of office.

## Parish Councillors 2016 - 2017

### Culgaith Ward

#### Jill Hay

1 Chestnut Close, Culgaith

#### Pam Jago

17 Chestnut Close, Culgaith

#### Pauline Toppin (Vice Chair)

Glenmara, Culgaith

#### David Witney

Sunnyfield, Culgaith, Penrith

1x Vacancy

### Blencarn and Kirkland Ward

#### Marjorie Helm

Rigg End, Blencarn

#### Caroline Richardson (Chair)

Smithy House, Blencarn

#### Ken Philipson

Glebe Farm, Kirkland

### Skirwith Ward

#### Laura Wilson

Skirwith Hall, Skirwith

#### Philip Hemingway

Old School House, Skirwith

### Parish Clerk

John Fleming

Fell View, Blencarn, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 1TX.

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### For More Information

For more information on the work of the Parish Council, including full copies of the minutes, visit:-

[www.culgaith.org.uk](http://www.culgaith.org.uk)

## Forthcoming Meetings

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 – Skirwith

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – Blencarn

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Culgaith

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – Skirwith

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Blencarn

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – Culgaith

(Annual Parish Meeting/AGM/May meeting)