

Culgaith Parish Council

Annual Report 2017 – 2018

Serving:-



Culgaith



Skirwith



Blencarn



Kirkland.

From The Chair.

As the weather warms after a long, cold winter, Culgaith Parish Council can look back on a productive year in 2017/18. May I thank all our Councillors for their commitment and support throughout the year. The work of the Clerk, whose dedication and tenacity in enacting the decisions of the Council and liaising with EDC and CCC, is also highly appreciated.

Caroline Richardson
Chair, Culgaith Parish Council

Around The Communities

Some of the Issues raised are listed below.

General

- Electronic Planning Consultation was implemented by EDC. A laptop projector was issued to the PC, by EDC, to facilitate the viewing of plans.
- Mark Binney Landscaping and Stonework's tender was accepted for the grass cutting contract for the 2018 - 2020 seasons.
- A 'Parish Community Emergency Plan' was agreed and implemented.
- Newly elected County Councillor, Claire Driver, was warmly welcomed.
- An 'ACT' Household Emergency Leaflet was distributed
- A replacement office Laptop computer was purchased, finance by the NALC Transparency Fund.
- Police and Crime Commissioner – Public Consultation Survey, was noted.
- Modifications to the 'Eden Local Plan' were considered and accepted.
- The 'Neighbourhood Watch' provision in the Parish was reviewed.
- The work of the 'East Cumbria Family Support Group' was publicised.
- Grant received to provide Defibrillator road signs. Signs have been ordered.

Highway Maintenance

Highways issues were very ably handled by Cllr Jill Hay and the Clerk. 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

- Parking of cars on footpaths in the village was discussed and advice taken from the Police.
- Drove Road seat, had been repaired privately, PC agreed to undertake the cutting of grass around it and to facilitate the provision of a litter bin.
- War Memorial Seat has been repainted.
- Pinfold Plaque has been cleaned.
- It was agreed to undertake maintenance pruning of the roadside trees alongside the Tarn.
- Loaning Head Development – Accepted the site be called 'Primrose Hill'.
- During 2017/8 the Council considered 9 planning applications in Culgaith

In Skirwith

- Skirwith Bus Shelter – Roof and guttering has been repaired.
- Skirwith crossroad verge damage by heavy vehicles was addressed, no action was taken.
- A 'Garden Waste' skip was provided, as in previous years, in Skirwith.
- Partial repair was made to Skirwith Notice Board.
- The Parish Council was liaising with United Utilities regarding future minor mains water improvements in Church Street Skirwith.
- Small, self-sown trees were removed and the stumps treated to prevent regrowth, opposite Aglionby Farm, Skirwith.
- During 2017/18 the Council considered 5 planning applications in Skirwith

In Kirkland and Blencarn

- The footbridge on Kirkland Green was repaired.
- A replacement footbridge at the Cornmill, Blencarn has been installed.
- Water leaks on Blencarn Green were reported to United Utilities.
- A new drain was installed at White Hall corner, Blencarn.
- The bench on Blencarn Green received a coat of preservative.
- During 2017/18 the Council considered 4 planning applications in Kirkland and Blencarn

Learning and Development

- Electronic Planning Consultation. A meeting was attended by the Chair and Clerk
- Eden Association of Local Councils - Tripartite meeting, was attended by Cllrs J Hay and Caroline Richardson
- A 'Common Land' workshop was attended by Cllr C Richardson.
- A CALC 'Neighbourhood Plan' meeting was attended by Cllr J Hay

Finance

The Parish Precept (The Parish Councils share of Council Tax) for 2017/18 was £9135

The balance carried over at the end of the year was £10505.17

Financial Summary

Income	2016/17	2017/18
	£	£
Carried forward	10292	10351
Precept	8700	9135
Grants	0	1352
Vat Recovered	190	0
Other Income	219	222
Total Receipts	9109	10709
Expenditure		
Administration	4003	3927
Village Greens	2191	2576
Village Maintenance	342	1968
Playgrounds	150	290
Grants	1622	1393
Wreath	17	17
Vat paid	51	384
Elections	0	0
Total Expenditure	8376	10555

Support For Local Organisations

	£
Memo – Mid Eden Newsletter	50
Fellrunner	343
Skirwith Village Hall	200
Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room	200
Culgaith All Saints Church	200
Culgaith Victoria Institute	200
Guardians of Culgaith Tarn	50
Skirwith Parish Church	200

The Winter Snow Storms

The severity of the winter blizzards was felt by all in the Parish. Councillors were very grateful for the efforts of the Highways Department to make the roads in the Parish passable, within a few days of the storms. The snow clearing work undertaken by local farmers was especially appreciated.

Footway Lighting

The EDC policy to devolve the ownership and maintenance of Footway Lighting to Parish Councils was discussed at great length during the year. There was a strong feeling that Councillors were being 'held over a barrel' on the issue; not to take over the lights would result in them gradually being removed by EDC, as they failed, but to take them over would result in a substantial rise in the Parish Precept. In the interest of Parishioners safety, a reluctant decision was made to take over this responsibility, subject to the legal document on the takeover being agreed with EDC.

Parish Councillors 2017 - 2018

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

Forthcoming Meetings

Monday 2nd July 2018 – Skirwith

Monday 3rd September 2018 – Blencarn

Monday 5th November 2018 - Culgaith

Monday 7th January 2019 – Skirwith

Monday 4th March 2019 – Blencarn

Monday 13th May 2019 – Culgaith

(Annual Parish Meeting/AGM/May meeting)