

CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL

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Fell View
Blencarn, Penrith
Cumbria, CA10 1TX

Minute of the Meeting Held on Monday 8th January 2024 in Skirwith Village Hall. commencing at 7.30pm

Unapproved.

1/24 Present

Cllrs Caroline Richardson (Chair), Pauline Toppin (Vice Chair), Sue Smith, David Witney, Nick Mason and John Fleming (Parish Clerk).

2/24 Apologies

Cllrs Ken Philipson, Andrew Clay, and WAF Cllrs Mary Robinson and Michael Hanley

3/24 A Tribute to Our Late Councillor – John Watson

Tribute to John Watson

As you know, our fellow Councillor passed away on the 10th November, 2023. He joined Culgaith Parish Council in 2018 and will be remembered by us all for his commitment to work for the benefit of the community. He was always a voice of logic and reason and bravely continued to contribute to the work of the Council throughout his illness.

I am sure that you will all agree that it was a privilege to work with John and I ask you to observe a minute's silence to remember him, both as a Councillor and a friend.

Minute's silence

The Chair has written to Jill Watson to express condolences on behalf of the Council. The Council has offered to donate plug plants to the Friends of the Culgaith Tarn as a lasting memorial of John's contribution to the community of Culgaith.

Cllr Caroline Richardson.

4/24 Minutes

The Chair was unanimously authorized to sign the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6th November 2023, as a true record.
Proposed by Cllr D Witney and Seconded by Cllr. S Smith

5/24 Declaration of Interests

There were none.

6/24 Willan Living – The Offer of Two Parcels of Land at Otters Holt

It was reported that at Otters Holt, Culgaith, there are 2 small areas of open green space in the development, which were created by the developer, Willan Living, at the request of the planners, as a community amenity. These 2 small areas of open green is ground that Willan Living would not wish to take responsibility for, indefinitely. As a consequence, they have asked if Culgaith Parish Council would agree to take over ownership, if they were gifted; with Willan Living covering all conveyancing cost.

Action: - It was unanimously agreed that the Council was mindful to accept this offer, on condition that Willan Development would agree to a sum of £2000 be transferred to the Council, at completion, to cover maintenance and any development cost, as nothing, in this respect, had been budgeted for in the Council's 2024/25 annual budget.

It was suggested and agreed that solicitors, Nicholson Portnell, at Hexham, be approached, with regard to acting on behalf of the Council.

7/24 Public Participation

There was none

8/24 Westmorland and Furness Council Reports

There were none

9/24 Finance (Incl.Vat)

9.1	The following balances were noted as at:-	21/12/2023
		£
	HSBC Account	2799.29
	Penrith Building Society	16954.24
	NSI Account	24.00
	Vat to be claimed	<u>461.32</u>
	Total Cash	<u>20238.85</u>

9.2 Presentation of Interim Accounts - 6th November 2023 to 8th January 2024

These accounts were unanimously approved.

Proposer Cllr D Witney

Secunder Cllr C Richardson

9.3 The Following Accounts were Ratified

8.2.1	J Fleming Salary November 2023	As per contract
8.2.2	J Fleming Office Provision November 2023	20.00
8.2.3	Fellrunner Grant	441.00
8.2.4	RBL Wreath	23.98
8.2.5	Mark Binney – Blencarn Grass Cut and Collect BBQ	54.00
8.2.6	Mark Binney – Grass Cutting	387.00
8.2.7	Room Hire, 3/7/2023 – Skirwith Village Hall	22.50
8.2.8	HSBC – Charges – 14/11/23	5.80
8.2.9	Coronation and Drove Rd Bench Fixing Cost	33.37
8.2.10	Culgaith Defibrillator Pads	179.99
8.2.11	Room Hire, 6/11/2023 – Culgaith Victoria Institute	22.50
8.2.12	David Willetts Silver Birch Prune - Blencarn	230.00
8.2.13	Skirwith Christmas Tree Lights	189.48
8.2.14	HSBC charges – 16/12/23	5.00

9.4 To Approve the Following Account for Payment

J Fleming Expenses, 6 th November 2023 – 8 th January 2024	25.30
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9.5 To Approve 9.3 and 9.4

These were unanimously approved

Proposer Cllr S Smith

Secunder Cllr N Mason

9.6 To Report a Transfer

Transfer from Penrith Building Society to current account.	2500.00
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10/24 Grass Cutting Contract

The 3-year contract with Mark Binney has expired. Councilors stated how very pleased they were with the service that Mark had provided over the last 3 years. It was unanimously agreed to seek a quote from him for the 2024 season, along with what discount he could offer if the contract was extended for a further 3-year period. On receipt of the quote, Councilors, by a majority decision, will decide whether to accept or to initiate an advertised tender process.

11/24 Planning

To Report.

23 0706 – Skelling Farm, Kirkland Road. Skirwith Penrith - Construction of a portal frame roof over an existing manure store Supported

23/0745, Ranbeck Farm Kirkland, Erection of agricultural building over existing open slurry lagoon and new concrete yard area. Supported

12/24 Highways and Land Matters**12.1 Skirwith to Langwathby Road**

It was reported that that funding had been acquired to undertake a major, 'Machine Lay' surfacing, along the Langwathby to Skirwith road, which will obviously improve the running surface but also reshape and put the camber back onto the road.

The works will take place at the two problem locations, the low-lying area by the Beck Mill turn off and from the 30mph limit sign in Skirwith, back towards Langwathby.

The ongoing drainage issues will be dealt with, along with a new drainage system, if required, as part of the scheme.

Work will take place under road closure (jnct. A686 to Skirwith) (full width works) and are programmed to commence 11/3/ 24 until the 5/4/24

Farms will need to liaise with the contractor for field and property access, though, long delays may be unavoidable, due to excavation extents and material laying and cooling times.

The closure is now on One Network - access for pedestrians and dismounted cyclists through the works maintained. Diversion via A66 and then through Culgaith.

This work to be reported in the next edition of the Memo.

12.2 20mph Introduction – Culgaith

Following discussion, it was agreed to apply for a 20mph limit to be introduced in the whole of Culgaith, primarily on the grounds of the road safety issues arising from HGV traffic being diverted through the village, as a result of the dualling of the A66.

A request was made that traffic not be diverted through the Culgaith Back Road, as it was unsuitable for HGV's.

12.3 Permissive Foot Path – By Tarn Villa Culgaith.

It was reported that both the landowners involved were in agreement for a Permissive Path to be created on the route used currently. The landowners have agreed and erected the appropriate signage, at their expenses. It was noted that the path would be formally closed for one day each year. A 'Memorandum of Understanding' had been signed by both landowners, along with the Parish Council; a copy being retained on file.

- 12.4 Skirwith Footway Light by Pear Tree House– Non-Functioning**
Reported that a wayleave agreement had now been signed between the landowner and E NW; connection was now awaited by WAFC contractors.
- 12.5 Beck Cottage, Skirwith – Revised Driveway Deed of Grant still with the Land Registry.**
- 12.6 Road Safety Markings – Culgaith Entrance Roads**
Reported that speed signs had now been painted on the road by the Culgaith entrance signs and also within the village.
- 12.7 HGV and Coach Traffic from Station Road to ‘Black Swan’ Junction.**
This matter is still in hand with Highways
- 12.8 Skirwith – Church St. Roadside Concrete Post and Rail Fence Repair**
This matter is still in hand with Highways
- 12.9 Skirwith Village Green. Path off road by Beck Cottage.**
Reported that this work is in hand and will be completed shortly.
- 12.10 Drainage issue - The Pea to A6412 Junction**
This matter is still in hand with Highways
- 12.11 Blencarn Green – Silver Birch Prune on Village Green – Work completed**
- 12.12 Skirwith Beech Tree – Christmas lights.**
Reported that the lights had been purchased and installed in time for a Christmas display.
- 12.13 Tree Safety Pruning – Kirkland.**
Reported that this work would be undertaken on the 27th February.
- 12.14 Skirwith – Kirkland Road - Overhanging Trees**
Work completed.
- 12.15 Voneus Broadband Fibre Installation Queries – Culgaith**
It was reported that detailed correspondence had be forwarded to the CEO of Voneus, raising concerns and seeking clarification, over the installation of full fibre broadband to the houses in Culgaith, Blencarn and Kirkland. (copy on file) A reply was awaited.
- 12.16 Langwathby Station Parking Charges.** An update
It was reported that these charges had been reduced to £3 per day and £12 per week, with a free 10 minute, dropping off concession. A cash/card machine had also been installed.

13/24 Councillor Co-option

It was agreed to initiate the procedure to fill the two vacant seats in Culgaith and the one vacant seat in Skirwith

14/24 Membership of ‘Friends of Settle-Carlisle Railway’

Following the Parish Council being offered complimentary, honorary, membership of the ‘Friends of Settle-Carlisle Railway’, it was unanimously agreed to accept this generous offer on the bases of ‘Honorary Member with no voting rights’.

15/24 Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications.

The following item of correspondence was received since the last meeting.

- 15.1 20 E - Mails** had been forwarded to Councillors since the 6th November; these being kept for 1 year.
- 15.2 Culgaith Recycling Centre**
Concern had been raised over the build up of material over the Christmas period. This concern had been forwarded to the Victoria Institute Committee, who are responsible for the site.

15.3 WAFC – CALC Conversation. The Year Ahead

It was reported that CALC's Westmorland and Furness Association of Parish Councils, which comprises members from the previous CALC District Associations,

alongside Westmorland and Furness Council, will deliver a programme of events and forums to support local councils throughout the year culminating in an AGM in July.

The topics come in response to the needs and request of local councils and partner organisations. The current intended programme includes:

- Budget consultation and winter preparedness
- Climate change / nature recovery and sustainability toolkit
- Poverty issues and initiatives
- Rural crime and community safety
- Year 1 in review

15.4 TOWN, PARISH & COMMUNITY COUNCILS - D-DAY 80 - 6TH JUNE 2024

This initiative was reported; decided to pass the information on to the Village Hall committees.

16/24 Councillor Matters.

An opportunity for Councillors to raise issues on behalf of residents.

16.1 Revised Standing Orders. – These were unanimously adopted.

16.2 Skirwith Beech Tree – By Defibrillator. -
Permission was granted to undertake very light pruning of the lower canopy.

16.3 Blocked Drain by 1 Cross Fell View, Culgaith
Action: - To reported to Highways.

17/24 Dates and Venues of 2024 Meetings.

All on Mondays at 7.30pm.

4th March	Blencarn Village Hall
13th May	Culgaith, Victoria Institute, (Annual Parish Meeting/AGM/May meeting)
1 st July	Skirwith Village Hall
2 nd September	Blencarn Village Hall
4 th November	Culgaith, Victoria Institute,

The Chair thanked Councillors for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.10

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

