

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Held on March 3rd 2008 at 7.30 pm at the Culgaith Victoria Institute**

Present:

Councillor J. Hay (Vice - Chairman)

Councillors, E. Froggatt, J. Hindson, K. Philipson, M. Smith, H. Roper, A. Urquhart

In Attendance: County Councillor Henderson and 7 members of the public.

Before the formal meeting began Anne Rogers and Lee Walker from Eden District Council Housing Team gave a presentation on housing surveys. A survey will be needed to establish the need for affordable housing within the parish of Culgaith.

15/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Findlay (holiday) and Wilson (holiday). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reasons approved.

16/08 MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th January 2008 be signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record.

17/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hay declared an interest in item (9) Donations as she was a Director of the Fellrunner. Councillor Urquhart declared an interest in item (14) Village Greens as he was Chairman of the Tarn Management Group.

18/08 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

- **Skirwith Green – Wall Encroachment.** Confirmation had been received that the exchanged land has now been registered as village green with Cumbria C.C.
- **Blencarn Development and Village Signs.** Signpost Restoration completed the work to restore the signpost.
- **“Conservation Area Tree Work Notification Notice of Decision”** Eden District Council had granted an extension until January 2011 to allow work to be done to the trees on Skirwith Village Green.
- **Notice boards.** Cumbria CC have agreed that the Kirkland notice board can be reinstalled next to the old one.
- **Culgaith Recycling.** The Village Hall Committee have confirmed that they, and other members of the community, are regularly cleaning up the site.

19/08 VICE - CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Vice Chairman reported that the Chairman had notified her and the Parish Clerk that he would not be seeking re-election as Chairman in May.

20/08 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Concern was raised about the amount of litter left by the Network Rail contractors on the B6412 after the recent work undertaken on the Carlisle Leeds railway. The Vice Chairman responded by saying that the Clerk had already taken up the matter with Network Rail and was currently awaiting a response.

21/08 STANDING ORDERS

Resolved to accept the new Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Complaints Procedures which will bring the Parish Council's codes of practice into line with national standards. Copies had been circulated to all the parish councillors.

22/08 PLANNING

Resolved to ratify the following application decisions:

- 08/0008 Sycamore House, Blencarn. Construction of garage & storage shed to the side, & extension to the existing conservatory to the rear of a dwelling house & provision of oil tank within the proposed shed. (no objection)
- 08/0072 Phase 3 Lake Meadows Culgaith Construction of 15 dwellings (Phase III) revised scheme involving a change of house style (no objection)

Resolved not to object to the following applications:

- 08/0119 Glenmara, Culgaith. Replacement of utility room with a single storey kitchen/diner extension
- 08/0149 Skelling Farm, Skirwith. Change of use from agriculture to launching & landing of gliders; installation of a portable building; wind sock pole; & parking of gliders for a temporary period of 3 years.

Resolved not to object to the following but seek clarification about the proposed removal of trees

- 08/0133 Abbey Farm, Skirwith Erection of agricultural building to house livestock

Extension to the Culgaith Waste Treatment Works

Councillor Hay and the Clerk reported on an informal meeting with United Utilities to discuss a proposal to increase the size of the Waster Water Treatment Centre at the bottom of the Pea in Culgaith.

Planning Procedure Consultations

The Council noted the new National Standard Planning Application Forms and Guide to Planning Application Requirements received from Eden District Council, and the consultation on the draft Regional Spatial Strategy from the North West Regional Assembly.

23/08 FINANCE

Resolved to make the following donations

- Culgaith PCC £125
- Skirwith PCC £125
- Kirkland PCC £125
- Fellrunner £300
- Memo Newsletter £200
- Culgaith Victoria Institute £300
- Skirwith Village Hall £200
- Kirkland and Blencarn Reading Rooms £100.

Resolved to increase the Clerk's salary by one spine point from April 1st to spine point 19 £8.92p per hour.

24/08 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments

- £407.29 Clerk's Salary February/March
- £ 81.03 Clerk's expenses
- £ 30 Hire of Culgaith Victoria Institute for Council meeting & Tarn workshops
- £ 46.49 Viking Direct
- £1,708.17 Signpost Restoration Ltd
- £70 SLCC-CiLCA Management

Resolved to ratify the following payment made in January £210 to Eden District Council for election expenses May 2007

25/08 FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report as of 15 February was considered. **Resolved** that the report be approved. Current Balances at the Bank are £4225.08 and at National Savings £5659.72.

26/08 COUNTY COUNCIL, DISTRICT REPORTS and POLICE REPORTS

- County Councillor Mrs Henderson reported on the additional £1 million being allocated to Cumbria Highways to tackle the potholes across the county.
- The District Councillor Mrs Orchard had sent her apologies.

- The Community Policeman had retired and it was not clear if he would be replaced. **Resolved** that Councillor Hay should follow this up with Cumbria Constabulary.

27/08 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Council considered a presentation from Eden District Council Housing Team about affordable housing and the need for an housing survey to identify the need. **Resolved** that the Council should organise a housing survey and that the Clerk should investigate the practicalities and report back to the next meeting.

28/08 VILLAGE GREENS

- The Clerk reported on the Tarn Workshop held on January 17th over 30 members of the public had attended and there had been a good exchange of views. As a result a Tarn Management Group had been set up and had had an inaugural meeting in February. **Resolved** that Councillor Urquhart should represent the Parish Council on the Tarn Management Group.
- The Rural Greens Project had confirmed that a factsheet will be published soon which will give guidance on how to register ownership of the Tarn, Flodder, Skirwith Village Green and Kirkland Village Green with the Land Registry.
- The Flodder. **Resolved** that Councillor Hay should talk to Councillor Findlay about repairing the ruts with topsoil and re-seeding the area.

29/08 HIGHWAYS

- The Vice Chairman reported that the Highways Response Team had been in the parish on February 25th and a number of potholes had been repaired. Work was due to start on the Skirwith Langwathby road in April to improve drainage and widen a stretch of the road. Any future problems should be reported to the Vice Chairman as she was the Parish Highwayman.
- Cumbria Highways had raised no objections to the placement of squirrel ropes across the Pea. However since the enquires had been made the landowner had cut back all the trees down one side of the Pea

30/08 QUALITY PARISH

Resolved that the Council should seek to aspire to Quality Parish Status, whilst recognising that it would not meet some of the criteria until after the next local elections.

31/08 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that Langwathby School was looking for a new community governor and that it was the turn of Culgaith to be represented. The Clerk briefed the meeting on the other routine correspondence.

32/08 GRASSCUTTING TENDERS

- **Resolved** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting while this item of business was considered because of the confidential nature of the business to be considered pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section 2.
- Two tenders had been received for the 2008 grass cutting season. It was **Resolved** to award the contract to Nigel & Jill Preston

33/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday May 12th 2008 at Skirwith Village Hall. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, followed by a normal business meeting.