

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Held on November 3rd 2008 at Culgaith Victoria Institute**

Present: Councillors L. Wilson (Chairman), J. Findlay, E. Froggatt, J. Hay (Vice Chairman), J. Hindson, K. Philipson, H. Roper, J. Slann. M. Smith

In Attendance: Mark McKay, Community Safety Officer Eden District Council, PC Richard Harrison Community Policeman, and 7 members of the public.

90/08 APOLOGIES – None

91/08 MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of September 1st be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

92/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hay as a Director of the Fellrunner in Item 99/08 . It was noted that Councillor Smith is no longer a Trustee of Culgaith Recreation Ground.

93/08 COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mark McKay, Community Safety Officer, Eden District Council explained his role as a resource for Parish Councils to help to resolve local issues in relation to crime and anti-social behaviour. He worked with the Fire Service to reduce the risk of fire and at this time of year one issue of concern was the recommissioning of old fireplaces which may not have been checked or swept recently. The Council felt that the main issue affecting the Parish was speeding.

94/08 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- A reply is awaited from Network Rail about when the level crossing will be repaired.
- Capita Symonds have been contacted about the bridge over the Crowdundle Beck between Skirwith and Milburn and a reply is awaited.
- The trees on Bushby Corner had been pruned.
- Dogs roaming Skirwith Village Green. Environmental Health at Eden District Council had responded to the concerns raised by local residents. After several visits they had found no evidence of dogs roaming or fouling the Green. With regard to one dog which had been causing problems, it is no longer in the area. The Parish Council could apply for more dog waste bins but there is now a standard charge for this service.
- An updated list of Parish Councillors had been sent to Eden District Council at their request.

95/08 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Vice Chairman had represented the Parish Council at the following

- Cumbria Highways – Highway Steward Meeting September 3rd
- Eden Community Liaison Forum October 29th

96/08 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A number of concerns were raised by members of the public.

- Speeding through the villages particularly on the Langwathby Culgaith Road.
- Protection of the Flodder from damage by cars
- Skirwith Play Committee reported it was finding it increasingly difficult to raise funds or support from the local community and the future of the Committee was uncertain.

- A question was asked about when the Culgaith Langwathby Road would be closed. The Vice Chairman responded that the date had still to be finalised by Cumbria County Council.

97/08

PLANNING

Decisions received from Eden District Council – all approved

- 08/0601 15 Chestnut Close, Culgaith. Proposed new detached garage and conversion of existing integral garage to dining room with new bedroom extension above.
- 08/0621 Recreation Ground, Culgaith. Tarmac hard-standing, double ended ball wall with mesh fence surrounds on site of present grass tennis court.
- 08/0603 The Paddock, Culgaith 3 bedroom detached bungalow (with local occupancy clause)
- 08/0642 Phase 2 Otters Holt Culgaith. Proposed underground LPG tanks
- 08/0678 Land to the east of Ivy House, Culgaith Proposed demolition of redundant depot and redundant farm building and replacement with two dwellings, and change of use of part no 9560 to garden.
- 08/0680 Phase Two Otters Holt Culgaith Change of use to form extended residential cartilage plots 25 and 26 of Phase 2 Lake Meadows

Awaiting decisions from Eden District Council

- 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 to approve the following applications.

- 08/0782 Dairy Cottage, Home Courtyard, Skirwith. Provision of a porch/log store adjacent to the utility room door.
- 08/0823 Plots 42-53 Lake meadows, Culgaith. Substitution of house types

Planning Consultations received

- North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2009-14
- Eden District Council Development Plan Document Core Strategy Submission Document

Other Planning Matters

- North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021 had been published on 30 September
- Councillor Hay and the Clerk were due to attend a CALC Planning Consultation Seminar on November 11th.
- CALC had written to Eden District Council asking them to review its planning consultation procedures so as to ensure that they meet best practice.

98/08

FINANCE

- **Resolved** to raise the precept for 2009/2010 to £8000. The last rise having been in 2004/05. Since then the Council's expenditure had increased particularly in relation to grass cutting and expenditure was now exceeding income.
- **Resolved** that the Clerk should ask Eden District Council what the impact of the new housing in the Parish would have on the Community Tax and given the increased number of households whether this would offset any increase in the Precept.
- **Resolved** to award Kirkland and Blencarn Reading Rooms £250 as a contribution towards the repair of the wall in front of the village hall.
- **Resolved** to award the Fellrunner £325 towards their running costs.
- The Parish Council felt it was unable to make any contribution towards Eden Citizens Advice Bureau.

99/08 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

£481.21	Clerk's Salary Oct/Nov (includes back pay & new salary rate from Apr 1
£28.44	Clerk's expenses
£10	Hire of Culgaith Victoria Institute
£34	CALC. Training for 2 Parish Councillors
£10	Mrs J. Hay (Attendance CALC AGM)
£30	Land Registry (to register village greens)
£74.03	PlaySafety Ltd for the Culgaith Play Inspection
£1150	Nigel Preston (Grasscutting)

To Ratify the following payment

£70.50 PlaySafety Ltd for the Skirwith Play Inspection

An invoice from BTCV for £705 was expected before the next meeting.

100/08 FINANCIAL REPORT

In September £2000 had been transferred from the National Savings Account to the Bank account to cover the November payments. £400 has been received from Cumbria County Council for the Skirwith Village Green project.

As of 25 October (date of last bank statement) the balances at National Savings were £7,249 and at the Bank £2915, one cheque of £6 was still unpresented.

101/08 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS

County Councillor Henderson had sent her apologies.

PC Harrison explained the options for monitoring speeding. These included a speed indication device which had been used in May 2006, a speed logger attached to a lamp post, training members of the local community to use radar guns, or requesting the mobile safety camera van to visit the area. **Resolved** Councillor Hay should investigate the use of the speed logger which would monitor the level of traffic and the speed.

102/08 VILLAGE GREENS

Registering Village Greens

The Clerk reported that the Land Registry had informally reviewed the evidence collected to support the application to register ownership of the Village Greens and provided some advice on what to include from the Parish Council's Minutes and Accounts. **Resolved** that for the purposes of the application the estate should be valued at £25,000.

Skirwith Village Green

BTCV had thinned out trees along both sides of the stream to create a view and to prevent damming in the stream. They had also removed lower tree branches from playground area which was a RoSPA recommendation. The firewood had been cut into manageable lengths and stacked along side the brash. Neighbourhood Forum had provided a grant of £400 towards the costs. **Resolved** that BTCV should be asked to thin out more of the trees in the main part of the village green, thin out trees upstream of Beck Cottage and cut back a damaged tree on the green opposite Beck Farm. **Resolved** that Skirwith residents should be allowed to remove the firewood.

Resolved that Councillor Hay should seek advice from Cumbria Highways as to whether they would repair the wall at the top of Skirwith Village Green and in the meantime a quote would be obtained.

The RoSPA Play Inspection Report for the Skirwith playground had been received. A number of issues had been raised but all are considered low or medium risk. A copy had been sent to the Skirwith Play Committee.

The Flodder

Resolved to accept a local resident's offer to put boulders down the sides of the Flodder to protect it from damage by cars.

103/08 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Highways

- The Highways Steward is due to spend time in the Parish in mid November. Problems reported at the meeting included a ditch on the Skirwith Langwathby road, a pothole on the Skirwith Langwathby Road near Skirwith Abbey Farm, running water by the bridge on the Blencarn Kirkland road.
- Cumbria Highways had logged the problems associated with the top of the Pea and running water by Riggside and both were due for repair at some date in the future.
- **Resolved** that Councillor Hay should investigate what would be involved in repairing the "old" signs in the parish many of which are rusting and in a bad state of repair.
- **Resolved** that the Clerk should write the Langwathby Parish Council about the sign on the A686 directing traffic to Skirwith.
- **Resolved** that the Clerk should write to the Area Engineer (Eden) about the sign at Cross Hows the top of which was still missing having been damaged in the summer.

Footpaths

- The Clerk reported that the Registration of the Path by the church, around Wellgates Cottage had been delayed because the Definitive Map functions have been transferred from Cumbria CC's Legal Department to the Countryside Access Team. The Clerk had confirmed that the Parish Council was willing to be shown as the applicant on the register of applications for modification orders.
- In a response to a letter from the Parish Council the residents responsible for obstructing access on the occupation lane between Red House Farm and the Skirwith to Ousby Road had raised a number of issues. These were noted by the Parish Council. Further investigation had revealed that the lane is not a registered right of way and any concerns should be resolved by the residents consulting their deeds rather than the Parish Council.

104/08 MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME

Resolved to adopt the "Model Publication Scheme" and the "Guide to Proactively Published Information".

105/08 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk briefed the meeting on the routine correspondence.

106/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- The next meeting will be on Monday 5th January 2009 at the Kirkland and Blencarn Reading Rooms.
- **Resolved** to reschedule the March meeting to March 9th.