

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Held on July 7th 2008 at 7.30 pm at Kirkland and Blencarn Reading Rooms

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

In Attendance: County Councillor Henderson, District Councillor Orchard and 3 members of the public.

56/08 Co-Option of new Councillor. Resolved to co-opt John Slann as a Councillor for the Culgaith Ward. The Chairman noted that there was still a vacancy in Kirkland and Blencarn.

57/08 APOLOGIES
K. Philipson (work). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reasons approved.

58/08 MINUTES
Resolved that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12 May 2008 and the Minutes of the Ordinary Business Meeting held on 12 May 2008 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

59/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
The following declarations of interest were declared.

- Councillor Smith in 63/08 Planning Application 08/0505 6 Otters Holt
- Councillor Hindson in 63/08 Planning Application 08/0484 Land near Station Rd
- Councillor Findlay in 71/08 Footpath down to Moorside Farm

60/08 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- Kirkland notice board needs reinstalling. Councillors Smith and Roper agreed to look into it.
- Sewerage on the Greens, Moorside Rd, Culgaith Eden District Council have investigated and can see no cause for concern.
- A questionnaire has been completed on local facilities as part of the development of Eden District Council's Sport and Active Recreation Strategy.
- Notification has been received that the level crossing will be closed overnight on 14th July and 16th July.
- The Parish Council annual report has been circulated via the July Memo and posted on the website.
- The Council has responded to a questionnaire from AmeyMouchel about the work on the Eden Bridge, the only comment was that the work took longer than planned.
- Eden District Council have sent out a list of the telephone boxes that BT are proposing to close, none of the phone boxes in the parish are at risk.
- The Clerk has successfully gained the Certificate in Local Government Administration (CiLCA) qualification.

61/08 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Chairman and Vice Chairman have represented the Parish Council at a number of meetings recently.

- Meeting to Agree a Community Development Response to the Potential Loss/Reduction of Post Office Services, May 22 (a copy of minutes is available)
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust & the Development Trust Association - '*Owning the Assets*'. Exploring the potential for Communities to develop their own Affordable Housing through Local Trusts, 26 June, Melmerby

- Joint Meeting Between the County Council Local Committee for Eden and Parish and Town Councils in Eden, Melmerby 30 June

62/08 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A number of concerns were expressed:

- Some of the street lights in Culgaith are not working
- A pothole in the road at the top of the Pea
- The state of the level crossing which is very uneven

63/08 PLANNING

Notices of Decisions have been received from EDC as follows:

- 08/0358 Wileman Croft, Skirwith. Construction of single storey side extension to provide a garage (approved)
- 08/0377 15 Chestnut Close, Culgaith. Proposed new detached garage to the rear garden and to convert existing garage into ground floor dining room with first floor bedroom. (withdrawn)
- 08/0113 HazelDene Garden Centre. Redevelopment of the garden centre with a change of use of an existing building to create two holiday lets (approved)

Awaiting decisions from EDC

- 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 ratify the decisions to approve the following Planning Applications

- 08/0401 Chrodenn, Church St, Skirwith. Dismantling & Alteration of section of churchyard, west boundary wall and erection of two storey extension
- 08/0408 Chrodenn, Church St, Skirwith. Dismantling & Alteration of section of west boundary wall (listed building consent)

Resolved to approve the following planning applications

- 08/0495 Helmwynds, Culgaith. Household extension (extension to provide lower ground floor – gym/play room, ground floor - breakfast room and living room, 1st floor - 2 additional bedrooms & ensuite)
- 08/0484 Land near B6412, Station Rd, Culgaith. Stable for Horses
- 08/0518 Ivy House, Culgaith – Amendments to Planning Application 07/0484 resulting in revisions to windows and door openings plus alterations to the roof profile to the former cottage and new garden room.
- 08/0505 6 Otters Holt, Culgaith. Conservatory to rear.

CALC Guide to Planning.

The Council noted the recommendations in the document and will continue to consult councillors about planning applications.

Langwathby Waste Water Treatment and Briggle Beck Improvements

Residents of Skirwith had been invited by United Utilities to a public exhibition on June 30th showing the work to be done at Langwathby and Skirwith Waster Water Treatment Works and Winskill septic tank.

Eden Local Development Framework Housing Development Plan Document : Consultation on Alterative Sites Proposed.

The consultation period ended on June 27th and the Parish Council's comments on the 6 sites in Culgaith and 3 in Blencarn have been submitted to Eden District Council.

64/08 FINANCE

- **Resolved** to approve the Review of the System of Internal Control.
- **Resolved** to increase the Clerk's salary to Spine Point 20 from 1 June 2008 in recognition of the successful completion of the Certificate in Local Government Administration qualification.

65/08 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments

£437.45	Clerk's Salary June/July
£250	Additional payment to Clerk for hours spent on CiLCA Qualification
£11.79	Clerk's expenses
£6	Hire of Kirkland and Blencarn Reading Rooms
£106.13	Viking Direct
£122.65	Laura Wilson for Turf for the Flodder
£42.16	Geoff Anderson – website hosting annual fee
£1,150	Nigel Preston - grasscutting

66/08 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial Report of 25 June 2008 was considered. A grant of £250 had been received from CALC to cover the additional hours spent by the Clerk on the CiLCA qualification. As of 25 June the balances at National Savings were £9,249 and at the Bank £3,451.

67/08 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS

County Councillor Henderson and District Councillor Orchard briefed the Parish Council on recent matters. PC Harrison had sent a report on a recent disturbance near the railway on the Culgaith Langwathby road.

Resolved to invite the new Chairman of Eden District Council, Tony Brunskill to a Parish Council meeting. **Resolved** to invite Eden District Council's Community Safety Officer, Mark McKay to the November meeting.

68/08 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Feedback was awaited from a draft questionnaire currently being piloted at Alston. The programme was on hold as Eden District Council's Management Team are reviewing the process as an outcome of the 2007 Rural Excellence Programme.
- The Core Strategy Development Plan Document had been accepted by Eden District Council on 19th June and there is a new definition of Local Service Centre, Culgaith may now be eligible. The plan is awaiting Government approval.

69/08 VILLAGE GREENS

Registering Village Greens

The Clerk reported that discussions have been held with the Land Registry and work continues to collect the supporting evidence and prepare the Statutory Declaration.

The Flodder

Parish Council recorded its appreciation to two local residents who had supplied top-soil and organised the re-turfing of the bald area on the Flodder.

Temporary barriers have been put up to protect the area. **Resolved** that the Clerk should investigate the costs of a more permanent barrier, i.e. poles and chains.

A local resident had approached the Parish Council with regard to building a new house behind The Paddock in Culgaith. This would require a Deed of Easement over the Flodder. Easements are a complex topic and it was thought that the best approach would be for the resident to seek legal advice.

Skirwith Village Green

United Utilities have been authorised to cut back side branches of two trees on the green overhanging the power lines. A meeting has been arranged with BTCV to discuss tidying up Skirwith Village Green.

A letter has been received from residents concerned about dog fouling and roaming dogs on the Village Green. **Resolved** to pass the matter over to Environmental Health at Eden District Council .

70/08 DIGITAL SWITCH OVER

- The Parish Council noted that the digital switchover date will be announced in October 2008 and is likely to be between April and June 2009.
- **Resolved** that the Parish Council should express its concern to Ofcom about the proposed axing of Border TV's local new programme "Lookaround".

71/08 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

- Councillor Hay, as the Parish's Highwayman reported on the new Highways Steward Scheme.
- Cumbria Highways were investigating the removal of fencing on the Pea at Jink Bank House.
- The damaged signpost by Cross Hows has been reported to Cumbria Highways.
- Cumbria CC have supplied the forms so that path across the field by Wellgates can be registered as public right of way. **Resolved** to ask local residents to fill in evidence forms to show that the path has been used regularly. **Resolved** to inform the landowners of the action the Parish Council was taking.
- Concern was expressed about the new footpath sign recently erected in Culgaith directing walkers down towards Moorside Farm which was a dead-end. **Resolved** to find out why this sign had been installed.

72/08 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk briefed the meeting on the other routine correspondence.

73/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 1st September at Skirwith Village Hall.