

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Held on March 9th 2009 at Skirwith Village Hall**

Present: Councillors L. Wilson (Chairman), E. Froggatt, J. Hay (Vice Chairman), J. Hindson, K. Philipson, J. Slann

In Attendance: 5 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Tony Brunskill, Chairman of Eden District Council to the meeting. Apologies were received from the County Councillor Mrs I. Henderson

18/09 APOLOGIES Councillors Findlay (illness), Roper (illness) and Smith (work). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reasons approved.

19/09 MINUTES
Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of January 5th 2009 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

20/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Councillor Froggatt (PCC), Councillor Hay (Fellrunner), Councillor Slann (Guardians of Culgaith Tarn), Councillor Wilson (Skirwith Village Hall) on item 28/09 funding local organisations.

21/09 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- The Countryside Ranger had reported that a replacement bridge over the Crowdundle Beck between Skirwith and Milburn is on the structures list but in the present financial climate is unlikely to be replaced soon.
- EDC's Arboriculturist had confirmed that the ash tree to the west of Bridge House on Skirwith Village Green can be added to the agreed list of consented work.
- A Project Completion Report on the work done on Skirwith Village Green had been sent to Neighbourhood Forum.
- RoSPA had confirmed that Cumbrian playgrounds would be inspected in August
- A request from Ullswater Community College for potential projects as part of their "Make a Difference Day" had been passed on to the Village Halls, Culgaith Recreation Ground and Guardians of Culgaith Tarn.
- A plea for people not to leave inappropriate material at Culgaith Recycling Centre had been included in the report of the January Parish Council meeting in the Cumberland and Westmorland Herald and the Memo.
- The outcome of the application to register the Public Right of Way by the church, around Wellgates Cottage and into the field was still awaited from Cumbria CC.
- A quote is still being sought to repair the wall at the top of Skirwith Village Green.
- An update had been sent to Cumbria Rural Housing Trust and it was hoped that the housing survey for the parish would be included in their programme of work.

22/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
Parish Councillors had attended the following meetings:

- Cumbria Police Authority. Eden Area Community Liaison Forum
- Cumbria Improvement & Efficiency Partnership "Duty to Involve" Seminar
- CALC conference "Achieving Influence by Working Together in South Lakeland".
- Neighbourhood Forum

23/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public raised concerns about the following:

- A blocked drain running from Glyndasan to the edge of Culgaith Tarn.
- The need for affordable housing in the parish.
- Whether land outside Webster's Place Skirwith was part of the registered village green.
- The state of the walk way through Hag Wood Culgaith
- The need to replace the litter bin outside Culgaith Victoria Institute as the inside of it had rusted away.

24/09 PLANNING

EDC's Core Strategy Submission Development Plan Document

EDC was undertaking a second consultation on the Submission Document with previous representations still valid.

Correction to Minute 97/08

The following planning application was refused not granted as minuted under 97/08. 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.

Eden District Council had approved the following applications

- 08/0895 Arondale, Culgaith Roof alterations/extension to enlarge first floor bedroom to rear elevation
- 08/0942 Garth House, Skirwith Tree Works. Removal of Cherry Tree and Cypress Tree in a Conservation Area

Planning Applications received since the last meeting

Resolved to ratify the following decisions, no objections having been made

- 08/0951 Blackhill Lodge Variation of Condition 2 on planning application 98/0627 - retention of mobile home for a minimum of a further two years
- 3/09/9001 Culgaith Waste Water Treatment Works. Land North East of Stampers Yard, Culgaith. New Waste Water Treatment Works
- 3/09/9002 Stampers Yard Culgaith. Temporary Compound site for use during construction of the new Waste Water Treatment Works

Minor Amendment to 08/0158 Ivy Cottage, Culgaith had been received for information only. Replace the stone clad chimney stack with render up to the upper stone string course to match the gable render

Handling Planning Applications between meetings

Resolved that the Clerk should have delegated powers to decide on planning applications received between meetings. The Clerk would consult the chairman and other appropriate councillors over uncontentious applications. Where the application was contentious then the Clerk would consult the Chairman and a full meeting would be arranged of the whole Council.

Resolved to add to the Standing Orders the following amendment "When the LPA's deadline is prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Council, the Clerk is authorised to determine the Council's observations on uncontentious planning applications following consultation with the Chairman and other appropriate members. "Uncontentious applications" and "other appropriate members" shall be determined by the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman. The decision of the Clerk shall be reported to the next meeting of the Council."

25/09 FINANCE

Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit

Resolved to accept the Review the Effectiveness of the Parish Council's System of Internal Audit carried out under The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006.

Internal Audit Plan for 2009/10

Resolved to accept the Internal Audit Plan for 2009/10.

Review of terms of the Insurance Policy

Resolved that the Parish Council's laptop and printer should continue to be valued at £490 for insurance purposes.

Review the Clerk's Salary for 2009/10

Resolved that the Clerk's salary be increased to spine point 21 £9.843p per hour based on the salary rates from April 1st 2008.

26/09 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments.

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| £448.66 | Clerk's Salary Feb/March |
| £9.90 | Clerk's expenses |
| £6 | Hire of Skirwith Village Hall |
| £50 | G C Anderson – annual website maintenance |
| £325 | Fellrunner |
| £250 | Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room |
| £225 | Memo |

Resolved to ratify the payment to BTCV of £690 for tree thinning on Skirwith Village Green. The payment was in line with the quote accepted by the Parish Council in September 2008.

27/09 FINANCIAL REPORT

Resolved to accept the accounts of 25 February as a true record of the Council's finances. The balances at National Savings were £4,510.70 and at the Bank £2,877.67. Annual interest of £260.98 had been credited to the National Savings Account.

Overall Budget

The Clerk reported that at the start of the year the Parish Council had reserves of £6,150 and during the year it has received income of £8,848. On the expenditure side a contingency of £800 was still shown in the accounts and a quote to repair the wall on Skirwith Village Green was still awaited. Assuming that the budgeted £1,675 was allocated to local organisations there would be a deficit of expenditure over income of between £942 and £1,742, depending on how much of the contingency was used.

28/09 FUNDING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

The Parish Council had resolved at previous meetings to make the following grants:

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| Fellrunner | £325 | Local bus service |
| Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room | £250 | Repair of a wall |
| Memo | £225 | Publication of Council articles |

Resolved to make the following additional grants:

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| Guardians of Culgaith Tarn | £300 | Support for maintenance costs |
| Skirwith Village Hall | £200 | Improve the hall heating, improve insulation and install photovoltaic panels |
| Culgaith Victoria Institute | £200 | Towards 8 new tables as part of £80K refurbishment of Hall |
| Culgaith PCC | £100 | Grass cutting |

29/09 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS

- Councillor Brunskill reported on the New Squares Development in Penrith.
- PC Alison Taylor, the new Community Policewoman for the East Fellside Area reported on the speed checks carried out in Culgaith in January. They showed that 21% of vehicles were travelling over 35mph by the school with most offences occurring being between 4.15pm and 7pm. 25% of vehicles were travelling over 35mph by South Esk in Culgaith with the problem occurring throughout the day. The Cumbria Police website provided monthly information on local crime.

30/09 HIGHWAYS

2009/10 Highway Maintenance Programme.

Following representation from the Parish Council two additional roads had been added to Cumbria Highways Maintenance Programme.

C3013 Skirwith to Langwathby Road around Beck Mill

B6142 From just North of the Level Crossing in towards Riggside

Winter Gritting

The Parish Council's request to add the Skirwith Culgaith road to the winter gritting schedule would be considered by Cumbria CC when it reviewed the gritting schedule for 2009/10. **Resolved** that the Clerk should remind Cumbria Highways, prior to the meeting, about the request to grit this road used by the school bus.

Signposts

Langwathby Parish Council had agreed to contact Cumbria Highways to try and get the signpost to Kirkland/Skirwith from the A686 repaired or replaced.

31/09 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk briefed the Council on other routine correspondence.

32/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting will be the Parish Council's AGM on Monday May 11th 2009 at Culgaith Victoria Institute followed by a normal business meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting of electors will be on April 27th at Culgaith Victoria Institute.

33/09 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT

Resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting while this item of business was considered due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 2.

Three tenders had been received for the 2009 grass cutting season. **Resolved** to award the contract to from Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance once written assurances had been received that the contractor had visited the sites before preparing the tender and understood the difficulties particularly at Skirwith.

