

Draft Subject to approval at the next meeting

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 7.30 pm at Culgaith Victoria Institute**

**Present:** Councillors L. Wilson (Chairman), J. Hay, J. Hindson, P. Toppin, J. Slann

**In Attendance:** Sheila Orchard (District Councillor), PC Taylor and 2 members of the public. Jayne Potts (Cumbria Rural Housing Trust), Anne Rogers (Eden District Council). Carl Glynn (ACT) and Oliver Shimell (Eden District Council)

**63/10 APOLOGIES**

Councillors Philipson (work) and Findlay (family reasons). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reasons approved.

**64/10 MINUTES**

**Resolved** that both the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the normal business meeting held on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2010 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**65/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**66/10 HOUSING SURVEY**

Jayne Potts of Cumbria Rural Housing Trust reported on the results of the housing survey. There had been a 38% return which was above average. 9 households were in need of affordable housing, with the need being identified for houses to rent, shared ownership or self build. The households were predominantly young people, small families and adult children. Two other groups had been identified, which whilst not deemed to be in need, were in unsuitable housing. These were adult children living with parents and older people living in houses which were too big for them or difficult to maintain.

The survey had shown that there was a need for affordable housing and a number of sites had been suggested, some of which will be included in the Eden District Council Housing Development Plan Document. These will include Rose Bank Farm, Lime Tree Farm and Loaning Head Farm.

Anne Rogers of Eden District Council confirmed that 4 to 5 units could be built at Loaning Head Farm but as Culgaith was a Local Service Centre some open market building would be allowed so not all the units would necessarily be affordable.

**Resolved** that the Parish Council should approach the Church Commissioners and Eden Housing Association with regard to Loaning Head Farm. **Resolved** that the Clerk should continue to work with the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust.

The Parish Council formally thanked the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust for their work on the housing survey.

**67/10 COMMUNITY LED PLAN**

Carl Glynn of ACT updated the Parish Council on Community Led Plans (CLPs). Unlike Parish Plans which had often been driven by parish councils, with CLPs other groups within the community are involved as well as partners such as the District Council, County Council and Primary Care Trust. The idea was to have a co-ordinated approach where priorities could be identified which would feed into District and County strategic plans.

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Oliver Shimell of Eden District Council explained that the District Council had been working with local groups such as the Heart of Eden to develop CLPs and this had led to these projects having a dedicated co-ordinator. The District Council could help with advice and a small amount of funding.

In the discussion that followed it emerged that a new CLP for Culgaith parish would not need to cover the same historic ground as the Parish Plan. A starting point could be a snapshot of where the community is now and how it is moving forward. Consultation within the community does not have to be in the form of a questionnaire it can be done at community events as long as the same questions are asked. The consultation period can be over a few months.

The process involved identifying the themes (for example Housing, Environment, Schools, Highways, Health, Business and Employment, Broadband, Digital television, Mobile coverage). Then identifying the issues and consulting on them before developing targeted action plans.

**Resolved** that the Clerk should look at the ACT models and examples of other CLPs to identify the common themes and report back to the September meeting.

#### **68/10 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR**

The Monitoring Officer had confirmed that it had not received a request for an election to fill the vacancy for the Kirkland and Blencarn ward so the Parish Council can co-opt. A note about the two vacancies had been put into the July Memo with a closing date for applications of July 31st. To date two candidates had come forward. **Resolved** that the Clerk should invite all candidates to the September meeting.

#### **69/10 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting**

- Highway Steward had repainted two signposts in Culgaith and replaced the lettering on the finger posts .
- The residents who had offered to plant snowdrops on the Flodder had been thanked and given an explanation as to why the Council was unable to accept.
- A letter had been sent to the occupiers of 1 and 2 The Green Culgaith about boulders on the verges.
- The report of the May meeting for the Memo included mention of the problems of fly tipping at the Culgaith Recycling Centre and that there would be no flowers this year around the Culgaith Victoria Institute because of vandalism.
- The Annual Report had been distributed to every house in the Parish and was available on the website.

#### **70/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillors had attended the following meetings:

- Presentation by Sir Martin Holdgate on "The Scope for Renewable Energy in Cumbria"
- Eden Association of Local Councils and Cumbria CC Meeting

#### **71/10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A number of issues were raised by members of the public and councillors:

- A resident of 1 and 2 The Green Culgaith explained that he was trying to tidy up the verges which had been damaged on both sides of the road. The boulders had been put down to protect the verges during this regeneration. It was planned to move the boulders across the road from the house once the verge was re-established.
- Speeding through the village particularly on the road from Langwathby and down the Back Lane was a problem again.

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- Network Rail vehicles on the road bridge across the railway on the Culgaith to Langwathby road were parking badly and causing an obstruction.

## 72/10 PLANNING

**Eden District Council had approved the following applications:**

- 10/0213 Field North of Twistappel House, Skirwith Erection of stable building
- 10/0226 10 Otters Holt, Culgaith. Conversion of garage to additional room and new garage.
- 10/0237 Inglenook Barn, Culgaith Proposed alterations and extension to dwelling
- 10/0282 Holmeland Church Lane, Culgaith. Erection of conservatory on front elevation
- 10/0284 The Granary Skirwith. Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for use as a single dwelling not in association with Gate Farm
- 10/0311 Skirwith Hall, Skirwith. Proposed agricultural building
- 10/0322 Post Box Cottage, Kirkland. Erection of conservatory to side of dwelling
- 10/0342 Long Meadows, Blencarn. Proposed single storey side extension

**Eden District Council had refused the following application**

09/0964 Rosebank Farm Culgaith. Change of use and alterations to existing barns to form 3 dwellings, erection of single holiday let dwelling in place of existing barn and alteration to access (amended proposal originally seeking the erection of 6 dwellings). The application had been refused because there was no affordable housing in the scheme.

**Resolved** to ratify the decisions taken by the Clerk under delegated powers to make no objections to the following:

- 10/0406 Lerual Culgaith. Two storey side extension with garage to dwelling (This had since been withdrawn)
- 10/0425 Site adj Ghyll Brow, Culgaith 1 dwelling

**Resolved** to make no objections to the following:

- 10/0521 Millrigg Culgaith. Listed Building consent for double glazed windows fitted into existing window openings
- 10/0543 The Old Tile Works, Peafoot, Culgaith. Change of use to include service and repairs to tractors plus sales.

**Notification of an Appeal**

- 09/0650 Land at Home Farm, Skirwith, Erection of detached house. Eden Valley Developments were appealing against the decision by EDC to refuse this application. The Parish Council had agreed at its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 Minute Ref 94/09 that it would support the application if it went to appeal and accordingly a letter had been sent to the Planning Inspectorate.

**North Pennines AONB Building Design Guide and Planning Guidelines**

The AONB consultation on the above closed on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Cumbria CC 3<sup>rd</sup> Local Transport Plan 2011 to 2026**

This is currently out for consultation. **Resolved** that the Vice Chairman should respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

## 73/10 FINANCE

- **Resolved** to accept the Review of the System of Internal Control.
- The Annual Return for 2009/10 had been submitted to the external auditors BDO LLP on May 18<sup>th</sup> ahead of the 18<sup>th</sup> June deadline.

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- At the request of the Parish Council and on advice from the Internal Auditor the value of the parish laptop and printer had been increased to £1000. The cost is an additional £8.04. Revised documents had been received from the Insurer. The Land and Asset Register had been revised accordingly.
- Cumbria County Council Members Divisional Capital Grant. The County Councillor Mrs Robinson had asked the Parish Council for proposals for a capital grant of about £1,400. **Resolved** that the Clerk should seek possible projects from the Village Halls, the Recreation Grounds, the VIC Community Café, and the Guardians of Culgaith Tarn.
- **Resolved** not to make a grant to Hospice at Home. Hospice at Home Carlisle and North Lakeland.

#### **74/10 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**Resolved** to make the following payments

£475.91	Clerk's Salary June/July
£50.19	Clerk's expenses (includes £35.50 for production of Annual Report)
£10	Culgaith Victoria Institute (Room Hire)
£8.04	Aon Ltd (additional insurance for laptop)
£893	Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance Ltd (Grass cutting)
£111.57	Viking Direct (stationery)
£70.36	GC Anderson (website hosting)

#### **75/10 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Resolved** to accept the accounts of 28<sup>th</sup> June as a true record of the Council's finances. The balances at National Savings were £10,731.76 and at the Bank £2,200.24.

#### **76/10 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS**

- Mrs Robinson (County Councillor) had sent her apologies.
- Mrs Orchard (District Councillor) was present but had nothing to report.
- PC Taylor reported that the main concerns were diesel thefts from farms and HGVs laid up in laybys, and hare coursing. She recognised that speeding was a problem in the village but unfortunately the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) were currently out of action and the Council may wish to follow this up.

#### **77/10 GRASSCUTTING**

The Clerk had met the contractor to review the areas to be cut at Skirwith, of particular concern were the playing field and the area outside the Eden Valley Developments. In both cases the contractor was doing what he has been contracted to do. A review of the land owned by the Parish Council outside Eden Valley Developments showed that part of it was now village green. **Resolved** to ask the contractor for a quote to cut this additional part of the village green for the remainder of the season. **Resolved** to give the Clerk delegated powers to accept or reject the quote.

The contractor had also agreed to look at Kirkland and make sure that the correct area was being cut.

#### **78/10 LITTER PICKING**

Following a request from the Parish Council Eden District Council had inspected the verges between Skirwith and Culgaith for litter and advised that no significant litter problems had been noticed but recognised that perhaps the vegetation had grown and may be obscuring any litter that was visible during the Spring. It had confirmed that EDC was responsible for undertaking litter picking of highway verges throughout the District where this is necessary to comply with the standards specified in the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. Normally litter picking is done during the

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Winter/Spring months when litter is most evident due to the lack of vegetation. If similar litter problems were noticed next Spring the Parish Council should make Eden District Council aware of it and it could arrange a litter pick before the grass/vegetation started growing.

**79/10 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk briefed the meeting on the routine correspondence.

**80/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved** that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday September 6<sup>th</sup> at Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room.