

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on July 4th 2011 at Skirwith Village Hall**

Present: Councillors J. Hay (Chairman), M. Helm, P. Jago, K. Philipson, J. Ravetz, C. Richardson, P. Toppin, J. Slann.

In Attendance: No members of the public.

Apologises: Mrs Robinson (County Councillor)

64/11 APOLOGIES

Councillor Philipson (work) and Councillor Wilson (work). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reason approved.

65/11 MINUTES

Resolved that both the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the normal business meeting held on May 16th 2011 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

66/11 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Noted that Councillor Ravetz had signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

67/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jago as Member of the Culgaith Village Hall Committee and Trustee of the VIC, Councillors Hay and Slann as Trustees of the VIC in Item 72/11 Finance Divisional Members Grant.

68/11 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- The following had been reported to Cumbria Highways – Blencarn to Skirwith various potholes, The Pea Culgaith – potholes. Skirwith to Langwathby - the continuing concern re sinking edges, road to Bank Hall at Kirkland – potholes, Skirwith to Kirkland near the entrance to Skelling farm - drain is collapsing, sign at Kirkland - white writing on white background, Sign on A686 to Skirwith - rusty. It was also noted that the Blencarn sign still had a white signage on a white background on one side of the sign.
- Cumbria Highways had confirmed that the B6412 through Culgaith is to be repaired and treated with micro-asphalt. The entrance to Chestnut Close will be repaired.
- A letter supporting the proposals for fencing on Skirwith and Blencarn Commons had been sent to the Friends of the Lake District. Notices about the application had been posted on the Skirwith, Blencarn and Kirkland Notice Boards.
- Signatories. The National Savings had confirmed the new signatories to the account. Confirmation is still awaited from HSBC.
- Councillors Jago, Ravetz and Toppin had attended the CALC Essentials for Councillors Training Course.

69/11 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Councillors had attended the following:

- Big Society – Rural Action Conference

70/11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

71/11 PLANNING

Eden District Council had approved the following application:

- 11/0260 Lingfield Bungalow, Culgaith. Erection of dwelling house and garage (revised application of 10/0425)

- 11/0334 Smithy House, Blencarn Replacement of existing porch and additional window in the South West (Gable) elevation

Eden District Council had approved the following amended application:

- 11/0222 Blackhill Lodge Stud, Blencarn. Variation of condition 2 on planning 98/0627 retention of mobile home for a further 3 years. In the light of concerns raised, and objections registered with EDC by the Parish Council, the Applicant had amended the proposal. With the Parish Council's agreement EDC had approved the application for a retention of a mobile home for a further 12 months only, whilst a more acceptable permanent solution is sought for the site.

72/11 FINANCE

- **Resolved** to accept the Review the system of internal control.
- **Noted** that the Annual Return for 2010/11 had been submitted to the external auditors BDO LLP on May 24th ahead of the 17th June deadline.
- **Resolved** to accept the revised Review of Land and Assets.

Cumbria County Council Members Divisional Capital Grant for 2011/12

The Clerk reported that three applications had been received for the Divisional Capital Grant for 2011/12.

- Culgaith Victoria Institute was seeking £3,000 towards a Disabled Toilet total cost £10,000.
- Skirwith Village Hall was seeking £4,000 for Phase 2b – Installation of heat distribution system so GSHP can be operational, lowering of ceiling in supper room to save heat loss, replacement of lighting with low energy & make lighting suitable for a variety of hall uses, renew rings mains & do essential repairs to the floor & wainscot. Total cost is £23,430.20.
- Culgaith Recreation Ground was seeking funds to improve their play equipment. Total cost for a birds nest swing and frame, double twister spinner and frog springy bouncer is £3976.80.

Resolved to support the application from Culgaith Victoria Institute as a disabled toilet was considered the priority.

Resolved to record its appreciation of all the work done by the Skirwith Village Hall Committee to upgrade the village hall and its facilities.

73/11 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments

£424.42	Clerk's Salary June/July
£51.54	Clerk's expenses (includes £42 for production of annual report)
£6	Skirwith Village Hall (Room Hire)
£60	CALC (Training)
£79.76	GC Anderson (website hosting)

The expected grass cutting invoice from Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance had not been received. **Resolved** to authorise the Clerk to organise payment when the invoice was received.

74/11 FINANCIAL REPORT

Resolved to accept the accounts of 24th June as a true record of the Council's finances. As of 24th June the balances at National Savings were £11,299.36 and at the Bank £2,381.11. There is one unrepresented cheque for £6.

75/11 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Noted that the Cumbria Policy Authority would no longer be continuing with the Quarterly Police Community Liaison Forums.

76/11 CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL – REVIEW OF NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

Resolved to continue with the present number of 10 councillors on Culgaith Parish Council. Currently there are 9 councillors and one vacancy in the Culgaith ward. The situation to be reviewed annually at the Annual Parish Meeting. A decision about whether to recommend a reduction would be made before the next parish elections in 2015. With only 6 elected councillors the Parish Council is not currently eligible to apply for Quality Parish Status.

77/11 COMMUNITY LED PLAN

Resolved that the Clerk should contact the community organisations with a view to gaining interest in developing a Community Led Plan.

78/11 BROADBAND

The Clerk reported that Culgaith Parish Council had signed up to the East of Eden Fellside Broadband Group, part of the East Cumbria Community Broadband Forum of Broadband Cumbria. **Resolved** that Councillor Ravetz should attend the next meeting of the Group.

79/11 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk briefed the Council on other routine correspondence.

80/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday September 13th at the Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Rooms.