

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
Held on March 1st 2010 at Skirwith Village Hall**

**Present:** Councillors L. Wilson (Chairman), J. Findlay, E. Froggatt, J. Hay, J. Hindson, K. Philipson,  
H. Roper, J. Slann, P. Toppin

**In Attendance:** 1 Member of the Public

The Chairman welcomed Jayne Potts from Cumbria Rural Housing Association. Apologies were received from Mrs Robinson (County Councillor).

**19/10 APOLOGIES** – None

**20/10 MINUTES**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**21/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were declared in Item 27/10 Grant Applications:

- The Fellrunner – Mrs Hay
- The VIC – Mrs Hay and Mr Slann
- Skirwith Village Hall – Mrs Wilson
- Culgaith PCC – Mrs Froggatt

**22/10 AFFORDABLE HOUSING and HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY**

Jayne Potts from Cumbria Rural Housing Association briefed the Council on the programme of housing needs surveys commissioned by Eden District Council.

Discussion centred on the approach to be adopted in the Culgaith Parish. **Resolved** that the Council should support a housing needs survey to be undertaken in mid April, with the surveys being collected by Councillors during the week of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. A report on the findings would be presented to the July meeting of the Council. **Resolved** that the Clerk should work closely with Mrs Potts on the project.

**23/10 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting**

- The Highway Steward was due in the Parish in the next two weeks and an update would be sought on the plan to repaint the two Culgaith signposts and replace the finger posts.
- Culgaith had been designated as a Local Service Centre In the Final Submission of the EDC Core Strategy Development Plan.
- EDC had replaced the missing sign about polystyrene recycling. It will provide a new sign warning against fly tipping. It confirmed that they will be arranging a Spring Clean in the next month or two.
- The Countryside Ranger Tony Burns had met with the landowners alongside Footpath 320020 which runs from Kirkland to Broats Farm. Additional waymarking signs had been put up which it is hoped would solve the problem of people getting lost walking across the fields.
- An acknowledgement had been received from The Skipton East Lancashire Rail Action Partnership for the Parish Council's support for their campaign to reopen the section of railway between Skipton and Colne.
- The signpost from the A686 directing traffic to Skirwith and Kirkland had been reported as being faulty to Cumbria Highways.
- An inspection of the War Memorial had revealed that one of the outer corner stones which anchors the chain posts had become displaced. It is hoped to sort out the problem when the weather improves.

- The Guardians of Culgaith Tarn had been notified that the Parish Council had resumed responsibility for cutting the front of the Tarn from the stones to the roadside but excluding strimming around the stones.

**24/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – none**

**25/10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A number of issues were raised by Parish Councillors:

- Water is running down the road in Blencarn where it forks to Skirwith and Howrigg
- The moles are very active on the Skirwith Play Area
- The road either side of the Culgaith level crossing, which is the responsibility of Network Rail, is in a bad state of repair.
- The Kirkland Beck is running closer to the road and may at some time in the future encroach on to it and/or undermine it.

**Resolved** that the Clerk and Councillor Hay would investigate the problems and report back to the Council.

**26/10 PLANNING**

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

- 09/1015 Site Adjacent to Gyll Brow, Culgaith. Erection of 1 two storey dwelling

**Awaiting decisions**

- 09/0881 Lake Meadows, Culgaith Erection of 9 new dwellings
- 09/1030 Post Box Cottage, Kirkland. Erection of conservatory
- 10/0034 Over Eden, Culgaith. Proposed erection of side extension

Eden District Council had verbally indicated that it favoured putting more than six houses on the Rosebank Farm site. This was to fall in line with government policy on housing density. **Resolved** that if this approach is confirmed the Council would raise objections as it was inappropriate in a village context.

- 09/0964 Rosebank Farm Culgaith Conversion and replacement of redundant farm buildings to create 6 dwellings

**Resolved** to ratify the decision, made under delegated powers by the Clerk, to make no objections to the following:

- 10/0081 Skirwith Village Hall. Refacing external walls with insulated render system, re-roofing and installation of photo Voltaic Panels. [The Village Hall had sent its thanks to the Parish Council for its support]

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

- 10/0121 Adjacent to Harolds Way, Culgaith. Outline Application for residential development

**Amendment to the Title plan for Land lying East of Dairy Cottage, Skirwith**

**Noted** that the Land Registry had amended the Title Plan, originally prepared in May 2007, to take into account the change made to the position of the perimeter wall of Dairy Cottage.

**27/10 FINANCE**

**Internal Audit Plan**

**Resolved** to approve the Internal Audit Plan for 2010/11.

**Cumbria County Council Members Divisional Capital Grant**

The Parish Council had accepted the offer of £1,714 for village hall projects from the County Council. Mrs Robinson, the County Councillor, had confirmed that the money

would be made available shortly. **Resolved** that the money should be paid to the village halls as soon as it had cleared through the Parish Council's bank account.

**Resolved** to make the following grants:

- Culgaith Victoria Institute - £255 to purchase new chairs
- The VIC Cafe - £170 to buy new crockery
- Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room - £544.50 towards the new safety matting under the swings in the Hall Play area
- Skirwith Village Hall - £744.50 towards Phase 1 of the Renovation project

#### **Parish Council Grant Applications**

**Resolved** that the following grants be made:

- Memo - £225 to support the local newsletter
- The Fellrunner - £330 to support the voluntary bus company
- Skirwith Village Hall - £250 towards the Hall Renovation Fund Phase 1
- Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room - £250 towards general upkeep of the hall
- Culgaith Victoria Institute - £300 for new tables
- All Saints Church, Culgaith - £100 towards the upkeep of the churchyard
- The VIC - £85 towards new crockery

#### **Review the Clerk's Salary for 2010/11**

**Resolved** that Parish Clerk's Salary should be increased from spine 21 (£9.941p per hour) to spine point 22 (£10.198 per hour) from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

#### **Internet Banking**

**Resolved** to apply for HSBC Online Banking so that the Clerk can monitor the Bank Accounts more regularly and provide more up to date information to the Parish Council.

#### **Parish Council Printer**

**Resolved** that the Clerk should purchase a new Parish Council printer/photocopier before the end of the financial year. The purchase price to be limited to between £50 and £100.

#### **28/10 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**Resolved** to make the following payments

£471.07	Clerk's Salary February/March
£21.96	Clerk's expenses
£6	Skirwith Village Hall (Room Hire)
£50	GC Anderson (Website)

#### **29/10 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Resolved** to accept the accounts of 19<sup>th</sup> February as a true record of the Council's Finances. The balances at National Savings were £5,731.76 and at the Bank £2,318.82. There is one outstanding invoice of £6.

The Clerk reported that the National Savings balance includes Interest of £21.06 paid in February 2010 (this compares to £260 in Feb 2009 and £360 in Feb 2008). The Investment Account is currently paying 0.20% annually. **Resolved** that the Clerk should look at alternative savings accounts and report back to the Council.

#### **30/10 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS**

Mrs Robinson (County Councillor) had sent her apologies and had sent a verbal update on the Cumbria CC Members Divisional Capital Grant and the Winter Gritting Programme.

**Eden District Council 2010/11 scrutiny work plan**

**Resolved** to ask EDC to consider the following under the 2010/11 Scrutiny Work Plan:

- Refuse Collection and Recycling
- The Contribution EDC makes to the economic regeneration of the district
- The numbers of members elected to represent the Eden District
- Penrith New Squares Site

**31/10 COMMUNITY LED PLAN (PARISH PLAN)**

The Clerk reported that ACT (Action with Communities in Cumbria) had confirmed that a revised electronic Action Plan can be developed to update the 2004-2009 Parish Plan. The local community would need to be consulted but this can be done through workshops etc, rather than printed questionnaires. **Resolved** to invite Carl Glyn from ACT to the Annual Parish Meeting to provide more information.

**32/10 WINTER GRITTING**

A letter requesting that the school bus/taxi routes were added to the winter gritting programme had been sent to the Jim Buchanan, Leader of Cumbria CC, copied to the County Councillor. He had forwarded the letter to the Portfolio Holder. Letters asking for their support had been sent to David Maclean MP and the Chief Constable. Mr Maclean had taken up the matter with the Chief Executive of Cumbria CC who had replied to say the request would be considered by the County Council's Local Committee for Eden in April. Mrs Robinson was now on the Winter Gritting Scrutiny Committee and had taken up the case. **Resolved** that the Clerk should write to the Portfolio Holder and Mrs Robinson in support of the need to grit the school runs.

**33/10 STANDING ORDERS**

**Standing Orders for Local Councils – New NALC Guidance**

**Resolved** that the Clerk should review the Council's Standing Orders in the light of the Model Standing Orders 2010 published by NALC and report back to the Council.

**34/10 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk briefed the Council on the routine correspondence.

**35/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved** that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday May 10th 2010 at Culgaith Victoria Institute. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, followed by a normal business meeting.

**Resolved** that the Annual Parish Meeting will be on April 26<sup>th</sup> at Skirwith Village Hall. Carl Glyn (ACT) plus representatives from the VIC, the village halls in Culgaith, Skirwith and Blencarn will be invited to give presentations.

**36/10 GRASSCUTTING**

**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 2010 grass cutting season. **Resolved** to award the 2010 contract to Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance.