

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Held on November 2nd 2009 at Culgaith Victoria Institute**

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

In Attendance: County Councillor Mrs Robinson and 1 Member of the Public

87/09 Co-option of new councillor for Culgaith ward. The vacancy had been advertised but no one had come forward. Councillor Hay offered to approach one or two people in Culgaith.

88/09 APOLOGIES
None.

89/09 MINUTES
Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on September 7th be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

90/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None.

91/09 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- Alan Kitchen had been asked to repair the Culgaith Notice Board which had been further damaged by children playing football against it.
- The Highway Steward had been authorised by Cumbria Highways to repaint two signposts in Culgaith and replace the finger posts.
- Representation had been made to Cumbria Highways who had planned to close both Station Rd and the road at the top of the Pea for road repairs during the same week of October 26th. The Station Rd closure had been delayed by one week.
- The Skirwith to Langwathby Road will be closed for 3 weeks from November 9th for road resurfacing and drainage from Beck Mill to the Lodge.
- The VIC community cafe had been advertised in the Memo as being open to the wider community in Skirwith, Blencarn and Kirkland as well as Culgaith.
- The issue of the footpath sign at the end of the farm road to Moorside and Staingills still needed to be resolved as it is pointing to a dead end with no public right of way.

92/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
Parish Councillors had attended the following meeting:

- CIEP Cumbria – How Parish Councils can win friends and influence people.
- EALC AGM

Issues which emerged from these meetings were the need to work more closely with other parishes on specific projects. This type of locality working would give the Councils a greater influence at both District and County level.

93/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None

94/09 PLANNING
Eden District Council had approved the following applications:

- 09/0446 Land Adjacent to Ivy House, Culgaith. Demolition of existing building and erection of dwelling with storage and garaging in detached outbuilding.

- 09/0691 Pea Top House. Conversion and extension of garage to form dwelling and new access for Pea Top House.

Decisions Ratified at the meeting

Resolved to ratify the following planning decision made under delegated powers by the Clerk. No objections had been to the following application which had since been approved by Eden District Council.

- 09/0711 Bernefells Culgaith. Erection of single storey extension and new bay window.

Resolved to ratify the following planning decision made under delegated powers by the Clerk. No objections had been to the following application which had since been refused by Eden District Council on the grounds that “The proposed development would result in the provision of a dwelling in an unsustainable location contrary to the aims of Policies L5 of the Regional Spatial strategy, saved policy H19 of the Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan, and CS1, CS7 and CS10 of the Eden Core Strategy (Submission Document).” **Resolved** to support this application if it went to appeal or was resubmitted.

- 09/0650 Home Farm, Skirwith Erection of detached house. (Outlying permission)

Resolved to ratify the following planning decision made under delegated powers by the Clerk. No objections had been to the following application and a decision was still awaited from Eden District Council.

- 09/0666 13 Otters Holt, Culgaith. Erection of conservatory

Resolved to ratify the following planning decision made under delegated powers by the Clerk. The Parish Council objected to the following on the grounds of impact on the environment and neighbouring properties, design and fabric of the building, and access. A decision was still awaited from Eden District Council.

- 09/0726 Oaklands, Skirwith. Retrospective planning application for retention of ancillary domestic garage serving Oaklands

Planning Applications considered at the meeting

Resolved to make no objections to the following applications.

- 09/0855 Pea Top Farm, Culgaith. Revised scheme for self contained flat
- 09/0881 Lake Meadows, Culgaith Erection of 9 new dwellings

Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework

Consultation on the draft site allocations policies and proposals map closed on October 15th. There were no sites in the parish.

Eden District Council Core Strategy Development Plan Document

The Core Strategy had been under examination since April 2009. The issue of affordable housing will be examined on 18 December and in the meantime EDC had proposed changes to Policies CS7 Principles for Housing and CS10 Affordable Housing. Consultation period ends December 4th.

Culgaith Parish as a Local Service Centre

Councillor Robinson offered to find out if Culgaith was now a Local Service Centre under the Core Strategy Development Plan.

95/09 GRASSCUTTING

Grass cutting contract for 2010

The Clerk briefed the meeting on the current grass cutting contract. **Resolved** that the 2010 the contract would include cutting:

- the Flodder, the Culgaith War Memorial area, and the area defined by the Blencarn map 10 times over the season.
- the area defined by the Kirkland map 6 times over the season.

Councillor Roper agreed to review the map and instructions for the Skirwith area and a final decision will be made at the January meeting.

Resolved that the contractors should be asked to include in the quote

- an indication if the quote includes VAT
- costs for additional cuts which could be authorised as and when required

Resolved that in the tender letter the contractors should be encouraged to seek clarification from the Clerk about the areas to be cut.

Guardians of Culgaith Tarn

The Guardians of Culgaith Tarn had asked if the Parish Council would resume responsibility for maintaining the front of the Tarn. **Resolved** that the Clerk should write seeking clarification before a decision was made. Further information was needed on the following:

- what is the problem with the mower purchased to cut the frontage of the Tarn to which the Parish Council had contributed £500
- what is the Guardians current financial situation and what future calls are there are on this money
- support was being sought for “the foreseeable future” and an indication of what this meant as a time scale would be helpful.

96/09 FINANCE

- **Resolved** to retain the precept for 2010/2011 at £8000
- **Resolved** to accept the proposed budget for 2010/2011
- Noted the assessment of the Clerk’s workload for 2010/2011

Grants from Cumbria CC Local Committee for Eden

Councillor Robinson reported that the applications from Culgaith Parish Council towards enhancing village halls had been approved and were awaiting final confirmation from the Audit Department. The funds would be paid directly to the Parish Council. **Resolved** that the funds should be distributed to the local community organisations as soon as the money was cleared through the Parish Council’s bank account.

The original application was for £1,205 but more may be made available. **Resolved** that the allocation of any additional funds would be made at the next meeting.

97/09 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments

£484.79	Clerk’s Salary October/November (includes £13.92 back pay + adjustment for 20p overpayment July/August)
£7.99	Clerk’s expenses
£10	Culgaith Victoria Institute (Room Hire)
£85.07	Viking Direct (Stationery)
£724.50	Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance (Grass cutting)

Resolved to ratify the following payments made since the last meeting

Playsafety Ltd - £151.80 (£79.35 for Culgaith Recreation Ground Inspection and £72.45 for Skirwith Play Inspection)
CALC £10 (Councillor Hay to attend CALC AGM)

Clerk's salary

The new national salary scales for Clerks had now been agreed with effect from 1 April 2009. The Clerk's salary will increase from £9.843 to £9.941 per hour.

98/09 FINANCIAL REPORT

Resolved to accept the accounts of 25 October as a true record of the Council's finances. As of 2nd November the balances at National Savings were £8,310.70 and at the Bank £1,647.35 reflecting the transfer of £1,500 from the National Savings Account to the Bank Account on 27 October. One invoice for £10 had been paid but not cleared.

99/09 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS

County Report

Councillor Mary Robinson reported on the Grants from Cumbria CC Local Committee for Eden [see 96/09]. The funding was likely to be made available in 2010/11 and the Parish Council was asked to look at the projects it wanted to take forward next year. She noted that the request to add the Skirwith Culgaith road to the winter gritting programme, highlighted in the School Travel Plan, had been rejected and she undertook to follow this up.

District Report

There was none.

Police Report

PC Taylor has sent her apologies and a report. The incidents of note over the past 2 months were a theft of tools from buildings between Langwathby and Culgaith, complaints of children causing a nuisance in area of Whinfall View Culgaith, wagon batteries stolen from the Peafoot reclamation yard, and a man selling plants in Blencarn believed to have been stolen in Penrith.

100/09 SKIRWITH CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

The Annual RoSPA reports on the play equipment at Skirwith and Culgaith had been received. The Parish Council had received clarification from RoSPA on a number of issues raised in the Skirwith report and these had been sent to the Children's Committee and Parish Councillors representing Skirwith.

The Skirwith Children's Committee had confirmed that the plans to install a baby swing have been put on hold until they had more support and funds.

101/09 CORRESPONDENCE

An invitation had been received to attend Code of Conduct training. **Resolved** that the Chairman and Clerk should attend. The Clerk briefed the Council on other routine correspondence.

102/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next council meeting will be held on Monday January 11th 2010 at the Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room.