

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held on November 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 at Culgaith Victoria Institute**

**Present:** Councillors J. Hay (Chairman), M. Helm, P. Jago, A. King, K. Phillipson, J. Ravetz, C. Richardson, P. Toppin, J. Slann, L. Wilson.

**In Attendance:** Mrs Mary Robinson (County Councillor) and no members of the public.

**101/11 APOLOGIES**

None

**102/11 MINUTES**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on September 13<sup>th</sup> be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**103/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Wilson in 109/11 Payment to Skirwith Childrens Committee.

**104/11 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting**

- Parish Councillors' contact details had been sent to CALC.
- Information on the past history of bonfires on Skirwith Village Green had been sent to the Skirwith Childrens Committee plus a link to a government website which gave information on the issues to be considered when organising a public bonfire. The Committee had decided not to go ahead with a bonfire for 2011.
- The Alston Moor Clerk had been in touch with Natural England about putting a beacon on Cross Fell to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Discussions were continuing on the type of beacon to be lit and its exact location.
- Cumbria CC had published a proposal on 22 October to introduce a 30 mph speed limit in Blencarn. The closing date for objections was 12 November.
- Cumbria Highways were proposing to reintroduce regular scheduled quarterly visits to parishes by the Better Highways Teams and a programme of visits will be published shortly.
- The Skirwith Langwathby Road will be closed from 21 November for 2 weeks to carry out repairs on a retaining wall.
- Cumbria Highways had inspected the dry stone wall at the beck near the Skirwith bridge which was bowing where rapidly flowing water was undermining the ground beneath the wall. It had agreed to undertake work to rectify the problem.

**105/11 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Parish Councillors had attended the following:

- ACT/VAC Annual General Meeting
- Community Transport Seminar
- EALC AGM

**106/11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Councillors raised a number of issues which the Clerk will investigate and report back to the next meeting.

- Both the Blencarn and Kirkland Notice Boards needed repairing.
- The stream at Kirkland had changed course towards the road.
- There was a problem with the drains on the Skirwith to Kirkland Road about ¼ mile out of Skirwith.
- Concern was expressed about the new proposed parliamentary constituencies in Cumbria, the consultation period ends on December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Ousby Parish Council were considering employing a private contractor to winter grit the roads and were keen for other Parish Councils to join with them.

## 107/11 PLANNING

### **EDC had approved the following applications:**

- 11/0609 Cross Fell View Blencarn Detached garage in garden of dwelling
- 11/0475 Maple House, Culgaith. Repositioning of garage.
- 11/0754 River Bend, Peafoot, Culgaith. Erection of two storey extension (room in the roof space)
- 11/0781 Blencarn Hall Blencarn. Ground and first floor rear extension

### **Recent Planning Applications**

- 11/0780 Cornmill Blencarn. Single storey extension and associated landscaping works. The Parish Council had raised concerns about the size and position of the proposed fence and is awaiting further clarification from EDC.
- 11/0516 Leural View, Culgaith New Bungalow. The Parish Council had raised concerns with regard to the effect on neighbouring properties and the effect on the drainage system.

### **Planning Appeal**

An appeal had been made to the Planning Directorate against the decision by Eden District Council to refuse the following application.

- 10/1030 Retrospective Planning Application for a residential caravan in Newtown Woods, adjacent to Abbey Farm Skirwith

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

- 11/0828 Highfield Blencarn. Change of use of existing garage to dining room and replacement of garage door with window
- 11/0831 Lathover, Kirkland Rd, Skirwith Installation of 18 solar panels onto south facing roof slope

**Resolved** to make no objections to the following application with the proviso that the workshop is not used as a commercial enterprise

- 11/0894 Land at the Paddock, Culgaith. Proposed workshop building for private use

**Resolved** to object to the following application on the grounds that the development was outside the envelope of the village and would result in the provision of a dwelling in an unsustainable location without any proven need.

- 11/0945 Blackhill Lodge Stud, Blencarn New dwelling in association with existing egg packing station

### **Planning consultation by email**

**Resolved** to object most strongly to EDC's proposal to consult on planning applications by email as it was important to see hard copies of applications particularly for large and/or complex proposals.

## 108/11 FINANCE

- **Resolved** to retain the precept for 2012/2013 at £8000.
- **Resolved** to accept the proposed budget for 2012/2013.
- Noted the assessment of the Clerk's workload for 2012/2013.

## 109/11 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

**Resolved** to make the following payments

£424.42	Clerk's Salary Oct/Nov
£19.89	Clerk's expenses
£10	Culgaith Victoria Institute (Room Hire)
£210	Skirwith Childrens Committee
£6	Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room (Room hire)
£956.40	Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance (grass cutting)

**Resolved** to ratify the following payment made since the last meeting  
£10 CALC (attendance by Councillor Hay at the CALC AGM)

**110/11 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Resolved** to accept the accounts of 31 October as a true record of the Council's finances. As of 31 October the balances at National Savings were £9,199.36 and at the Bank £1,938.04. There are two unrepresented cheques of £16 and an overpayment of £19.20 to Playsafety Ltd which was currently being recovered.

**Resolved** to accept the half yearly bank reconciliation.

£210 has been received from BT as a one off way leave payment for providing access to part of the Skirwith Village Green.

**111/11 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Mrs Robinson reported that the Members Divisional Grants application for Culgaith Victoria Institute's disable toilet was progressing through the system. Neighbourhood Forum had received a grant application from Culgaith Recreation Ground for new play equipment and it was hoped that funding could be found from resources within the County Council.

**112/11 COMMUNITY LED PLAN**

Councillor King reported on the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Steering Group.

**113/11 BROADBAND**

Councillor Ravetz reported on the latest developments on the campaign to connect Cumbria through superfast broadband.

**114/11 THE FLODDER**

The Clerk reported on the background. There were two tracks across the Flodder in Culgaith which is a registered village green owned by the Parish Council. During the summer part of one of the tracks had been tarmacked without the Parish Council's permission. A request had been received to tarmac part of the second track.

**Resolved** that the Clerk should write to the households by the Flodder to remind them that tarmacking the tracks was illegal as it was an offence to injure village greens. Whilst no action would be taken on this occasion the Parish Council would have to act if the offence occurred again.

**115/11 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk briefed the Council on routine correspondence

**116/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved** that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> 2012 at Skirwith Village Hall. [Subsequently the meeting was moved to Culgaith Victoria Institute as Skirwith Village Hall is undergoing work in early January]