

CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on September 13th 2011 at Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room

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

In Attendance: No members of the public.

81/11 APOLOGIES

Councillors Philipson (work) and Ravetz (holiday). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reason approved.

82/11 MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on July 4th be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

83/11 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Resolved to co-opt Andy King to the vacant seat in the Culgaith Ward.

84/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Helm as a resident directly affected by the proposed speed limit in 96/11 Blencarn Speed Limit. Councillor Jago Committee member of the Culgaith Victoria Institute in 89/11 Divisional Grant Application.

85/11 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- HSBC had confirmed the new signatories to the bank account.
- CALC had confirmed that the recently published NALC revised standing orders only contain one minor amendment related to the "Variation, revocation and suspension of standing orders".
- The roads from the Black Swan to the War Memorial, from the War Memorial to Chestnut Close, and from Cross Hows to Scartop had all been resurfaced.
- A survey of Parish Council expenditure plans had been returned to EDC as part of a review of special expenses.
- A wasp's nest had been destroyed at the Skirwith Bus Shelter.
- EDC had published new guidance on reporting defective lights.
- The RoSPA play inspection reports had been received for the Culgaith Recreation Ground and the Skirwith Play Area. They had been passed on to the appropriate management groups.

86/11 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had attended the following:

- Annual Joint Meeting between the County Council Local Committee for Eden and Parish and Town Councils In Eden. One of the issues discussed was the Rural Infrastructure Fund.

87/11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillors raised a number of issues including:

- Skirwith Play Committee needed to raise funds to repair the play equipment and wanted to organise a bonfire on the village green.
- One of the tracks across the Flodder had been partially tarmacked and residents were seeking to tarmac part of the other track.

The Clerk would investigate and report back to the next Parish Council meeting.

88/11 PLANNING

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

- 11/0470 Plots 43 and 44 Otters Holt, Culgaith. Variation of application relating to amendments to plot 43 and 44. [Eden District Council had since approved this application]
- 11/0609 Cross Fell View Blencarn Detached garage in garden of dwelling

Notification had been received of a non material minor amendment

- 11/0496 2 Otters Holt, Culgaith. Non material minor amendment to planning approval 04/0857 comprising of alteration to twin garage to provide single garage with resultant space to be used as a study/store.

Resolved to make no objections to the following applications

- 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

Debate on Housing Issues

Scrutiny at Eden had invited the Parish Council to a debate on 13 October on the changes to national housing legislation and their impact to local housing policies.

89/11 FINANCE

Audited Accounts 2010/11

BDO LLP, the external auditors, had completed the audit for 2010/11 and there were no matters which caused them concern. **Resolved** to minute that the annual return had been approved and accepted by the Parish Council.

Grant Applications

An application for £3,000 had been to the Cumbria County Council Members Divisional Capital Grant on behalf Culgaith Victoria Institute to fund a Disabled Toilet. The total cost of which is £10,000. After a review of all the parish proposals, £5,000 had been allocated to the Culgaith project. It will now go to the County auditors for their approval.

Councillor Robinson had indicated that the Culgaith Recreation Ground may be able to apply for a grant from the Eden Local Area Committee via Neighbourhood Forum. The information had been passed on to the Trustees for them to pursue.

90/11 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments

£424.42	Clerk's Salary Aug/Sep
£18.64	Clerk's expenses
£6	Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room (Room Hire)
£210	Eden District Council (election expenses)
£94.80	Rentokil Pest Control (wasp's nest at Skirwith)
£158.40	Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA play inspections Skirwith and Culgaith)
£99.49	Viking Direct (Ink cartridges and paper)

Resolved to ratify the following payments made since the last meeting

£956.40	Mark Hill Grounds Maintenance (grass cutting)
£144	BDO LLP (external audit)

91/11 FINANCIAL REPORT

Resolved to accept the accounts of 31 August as a true record of the Council's finances. As of 31 August the balances at National Savings were £10,999.36 and at the Bank £952.99.

92/11 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

None were available.

93/11 COMMUNITY LED PLAN

Organisations across the parish had been contacted to gauge support for a Community Led Plan and the general response had been positive.

Lynn Harrison (school), Hugh Jago (Guardians of the Tarn), Mike Graham (Local businessman), Laura Wilson and Vera Stockdale (Skirwith Village Hall), Jill Hay (Fellrunner), Andy King (parish councillor) had all agreed to join a Steering Group. Kirkland and Blencarn Village Hall were expected to respond in the next few days.

Resolved that the Clerk should contact VAC/ACT and Eden District Council and organise a meeting with the Steering Group.

94/11 BROADBAND

Councillor Ravetz had attended the BDUK Industry day on July 8th and also made contact with the East of Eden Fellside Group. The Parish Council is now formally part of the East of Eden Fellside Group a sub group of the East Cumbria Community Broadband Forum.

The Clerk had been in contact with NextGenUs who had successfully installed a wireless node at Sleagill. The core node will provide backhaul for wireless nodes at Murton, Blencarn, Duffton, Milburn, Great Salkeld and Cliburn, and NextGenUs hope to increase speeds from 0.3Mbps to a top speed of 75Mbps, with peak time speeds of 25Mbps. NextGenUs had confirmed that a mast had been installed at a private residence in Blencarn and the service is expected to go live in September and that they would keep everyone informed.

95/11 EASEMENT AT SKIRWITH

Resolved to give consent to British Telecommunications plc to install an electronic communications apparatus consisting of 35 metres underground armoured cable along the West Verge in Skirwith Village, North West of the Gin Cottage

Resolved that the Parish Council should pass on the one off payment of £210 to the Skirwith Play Committee.

96/11 BLENCARN SPEED LIMIT

Cumbria County Council had consulted the Parish Council about the introduction of a 30 mph in Blencarn. A notice about the proposal had been displayed on the Blencarn Notice Board and Councillors contacted. A Speed Monitoring Device (A Speed and Volume Count) had been put on site to determine the mean speed of traffic passing through the village at a single designated point. This information had been requested by the police, so they would be able to make an informed decision as part of the consultation process. Although the count did take note of traffic volume, low traffic volume would not affect the decision.

The Parish Council had suggested two changes to the proposal. Firstly the 30 mph limit should start at Black Hill by the village sign for Blencarn. Secondly the limit should stop at Riggside, the initial proposal was to extend the limit to the track which goes on to the Rigg.

97/11 DIAMOND JUBILEE BEACONS 2012

The Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria had written to all Parish councils about the lighting of beacons to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4th June. **Resolved** to support Alston Moor Parish Council's request to light a beacon on Cross Fell. As Cross Fell is part of the North Pennines ANOB and also designated as a Special Area of Conservation it will require permission from Natural England.

98/11 TRAINING

CALC had published a new training programme "Developing Your Skills" September 2011 to April 2012. The Clerk had attended a course on PAYE for Local Parish Clerks. Councillors to contact the Clerk if they wanted to go on any of the courses.

99/11 CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved that the Clerk should give CALC the contact email addresses of Parish Councillors. The Clerk briefed the Council on other routine correspondence.

100/ DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11 **Resolved** that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Monday November 7th at Culgaith Victoria Institute.