

CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on September 6th 2010 at the Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room

Present: Councillors J. Hay (Vice Chairman), J. Findlay, M. Helm, J. Hindson, K. Philipson, H. Roper, C. Richardson, P. Toppin

In Attendance: 1 member of the public.

Apologies from Mrs Mary Robinson (County Councillor)

81/10 APOLOGIES

Councillors Wilson (work) and Slann (holiday). **Resolved** that the apologies be noted and the reasons approved.

82/10 MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on July 5th be signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record.

83/10 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

Resolved to co-opt Caroline Richardson and Marjorie Helm for the Kirkland and Blencarn ward.

84/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hay as Trustee of the VIC Community Café in Item 95/10 Cumbria CC Member's Divisional Capital Grant.

85/10 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT on matters since the previous meeting

- Hospice at Home had been notified that the Parish Council was unable to give them a grant at this time.
- Grasscutting. The contractor had agreed to cut the additional grass outside the Eden Valley Development in Skirwith at no extra cost this year.
- The Countryside Ranger had reported that the bridge over Crowdundle Beck, between Wythwaite and Milburn on footpath 320032 which had been washed away in September 2008, had now been replaced.
- A survey had been completed for CALC on the effectiveness of Parish Charters.
- The potholes in the road either side of the Culgaith level crossing had been repaired. It was reported that the road from Millrigg up to the level crossing will be closed for up to 2 weeks from September 22nd.
- The Local Community Constable had reported that there was no money to repair the Speed Indicator Devices and that local councils may wish to join together to purchase their own equipment.
- A response had been made to the County Council about the proposed changes to the road signs by Culgaith School to improve signage and draw drivers attention to the 30 mph area.

86/10 VICE CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillors had attended the following meetings:

- Eden Liaison Forum

In the Chairman's absence the Clerk reported that CALC were seeking nominations for the CALC Executive. **Resolved** to propose Councillor Hay.

87/10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A number of issues were raised

- There were still problems with the grass cutting at Kirkland as the contractor did not appear to be doing all that was required according to the contract.
- The Chairman of Culgaith Victoria Institute reported that a rota system for cleaning up Culgaith Recycling Centre had been very successful. The site had been given a mark of 9/10, an increase from 6/10, for its cleanliness.
- Residents were concerned about speeding on the road between Blencarn and Milburn. There are currently no speeding restrictions in Blencarn. It had been suggested that introducing a 30 mph might help the situation.

The Clerk would investigate the issues raised and report back to the next meeting.

88/10 PLANNING

Eden District Council had approved the following applications:

- 10/0425 Site adj Ghyll Brow, Culgaith 1 dwelling
- 10/0521 Millrigg Culgaith. Listed Building consent for double glazed windows fitted into existing window openings
- 10/0543 The Old Tile Works, Peafoot, Culgaith. Change of use to include service and repairs to tractors plus sales.

Notification of an Appeal

- 09/0650 Land at Home Farm, Skirwith, Erection of detached house. Eden Valley Developments appealed against the decision by EDC to refuse this application. The Parish Council had agreed at its meeting on 2nd November 2009 Minute Ref 94/09 that it would support the application if it went to appeal and accordingly a letter had been sent to the Planning Inspectorate. The Appeal had been dismissed.

Resolved to ratify the decisions taken by the Clerk under delegated powers to make no objections to the following

- 10/0659 Otters Holt. Amendments to application 08/0072 to change the house types to plots no 27, 28, 29
- 10/0591 Rosebank Farm, Culgaith. Change of use and alterations to existing barns to form 3 dwellings and erection of single holiday let dwelling in place of existing scheme. (Later amended by the deletion of the single holiday let and its replacement by a double garage block)

Eden District Council Housing Supplementary Planning Document

The above document had been prepared as part of the Council's Local Development Framework. It provided additional guidance relating to affordable housing, including the delivery of affordable housing in rural areas, as well as identifying standards for residential design. Consultation period runs from 9 August to 24 September 2010.

89/10 FINANCE

- BDO LLP, the external auditors, had completed the audit for 2009/10 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.
- **Resolved** that the Clerk/RFO should conduct a Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit for approval by the Parish Council.

90/10 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved to make the following payments

£475.91	Clerk's Salary August/September
£6.61	Clerk's expenses
£6	Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room (Room Hire)

Resolved to ratify the following payment

£141 BDO LLP (external auditors)

91/10 FINANCIAL REPORT

Resolved to accept the accounts of 25 August as a true record of the Council's finances. The balances at National Savings were £10,481.76 and at the Bank £690.17.

92/10 COUNTY, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE REPORTS

PC Taylor had sent her apologies and a report on recent incidents which included thefts of trail and quad bikes, and the theft of livestock. Hare coursing was still a problem and there had been some damage at Culgaith Recreation Ground.

93/10 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Church Commissioners had been approached by email in mid July to see if they would be interested in reconsidering the option to build houses on the land next to Loaning Head Farm. There had been no response to date. **Resolved** that the Clerk should write to the Church Commissioners again.

Resolved that Councillor Wilson should attend the Churches, Housing and Rural Communities Conference at Penrith Methodist Church on October 13th.

94/10 COMMUNITY LED PLANS

Culgaith Community Led Plan

The Clerk reported on research into Community Led Plans and the ACT models. Four main issues had emerged:

- The most recent community plans were based on clusters of parishes rather than individual parishes;
- The common themes were environment, business/economy/tourism, transport, community, young people, and housing;
- The two most recent Plans had taken up 20 months from formation of the steering group to a draft community plan;
- It was unclear how the Eden Valley's participation in the government's Big Society pilot projects and the expected cuts in public services would affect parishes such as Culgaith.

Resolved to review the situation in 2011 after the parish council elections.

Big Society Conference

Resolved that Councillor Wilson should attend the CALC Big Society Conference at Newton Rigg on October 9th.

95/10 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS DIVISIONAL CAPITAL GRANT

Resolved to support the following applications for Councillor Robinson's Divisional Capital Grant for 2010/11.

- VIC Community Café - £250 towards the cost of the purchase and installation of an instantaneous boiling water dispenser.
- Culgaith Victoria Institute - £175 towards a carpet for the first floor room.
- Culgaith Recreation Ground - £175 towards updating the facilities in the pavilion.
- Skirwith Village Hall - £700 towards Phase 2a of the hall refurbishment which involves installing a Ground Source Heat Pump & PV panels on the roof.

- Guardians of Culgaith Tarn - £100 towards a metal wrap around tree seat for the Tarn

96/10 RURAL BROADBAND

Resolved to support the local MP, Rory Stewart's, campaign to improve rural broadband by providing a brief overview of the current service in our area.

97/10 TRAINING OF COUNCILLORS AND THE CLERK

Resolved that Councillors Helm, Richardson and Toppin should attend the CALC courses on Essentials for Local Councillors.

98/10 THE FUTURE OF REFUSE AND RECYCLING IN EDEN

Resolved that the Clerk should respond to Eden District Council's questionnaire on the future of refuse and recycling in Eden.

97/10 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk briefed the meeting on the routine correspondence

98/10 DATE of MAY 2011 MEETING

Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Council and the ordinary meeting in May 2011 be re-scheduled to May 16th, after the English Local Government elections on May 5th 2011.

99/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Monday November 1st at Skirwith Village Hall.