

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: John Fleming

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Chairman: Cllr Ian Harrington

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Minutes of the Meeting Held on Thursday 14th November 2019
in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Unapproved.

Apologies

Cllrs J Corbishley, C Wilson and M Holliday.

Present

Cllrs: Mr. I Harrington, (in the Chair), Mr. T Anderson, Mr. D Banks (Joined meeting late), Mr. C Eland, Miss. K Little, Mrs. C Merrie, County Councillor Miss C Driver, Mr. J Fleming (Clerk) and three members from the Langwathby Playground subcommittee and Mr. P Taylor from Kompan Playground equipment.

70/19 Minutes

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 12th September 2019, as a true record

71/19 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs K Little and I Harrington, declared their positions as Langwathby Village Hall Committee representatives

72/19 Public Participation

There was none.

73/19 County Councillor Report

A vey brief report was presented with a detailed monthly County Councillor report being found on the website www.langwathby.org

74/19 District Councillor Report

In Cllr Doug Banks absence, there was no report.

75/19 Finance (Incl. Vat) -

as at 7/11/2019

75.1 To Note the Following Balances:

	£
Vat to be claimed	753.54
Village Hall to refund	921.40
Penrith Building Society	13762.00
Barclay	671.37

75.2 An Interim Set of Accounts Was Presented.

This was unanimously accepted.

Proposed by Cllr T Anderson. Seconded by Cllr C Eland.

75.3 The Following Accounts were Ratified

Clerk Fee Sept/October	476.00
Clerk Office Provision Sept/ October	30.00
Opus Energy VH	85.07
Opus Energy VH	109.47
Beacon Fire Protection	87.00
Mark Binney – Info Kiosk	905.50
Field View Electrical VH	54.00
Cleanspe VH	31.84
Carrs Billington Oil VH	296.95
Field View Electrical VH	53.02
Solwaydirect – ‘Walter Howe’ Bench	423.60
Wel Medical – Defibrillator Pads	44.28
Scottish Fuels – VH	171.52
4 Reams Paper	11.56
Penrith Building Society – Transfer from Current	1000.00

75.4 The Following Payment was Agreed

Clerks Expenses – 11/9/19 – 14/11/19.	20.35
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75.5 The Following Receipts were Noted

Village Hall Committee	84.61
Walkers Funeral Directors	200.00
Village Hall PWLB	1863.02

75.6 Precept and Budget for 2020 / 2021

The Clerk presented a detailed analysis of the 2020/2021 budget and recommended that in order to cover anticipated expenditure, the Precept should be raised by £1000 to £16800; the Council Tax implications of this increase on, a ‘Band D’ property, being approximately £3.00 in the year.

Decision:- The 2020/2021 Budget was agreed (a copy being on file) and it was unanimously agree to raise the Precept to £16800.
Proposed by Cllr D Banks and seconded by Cllr C Eland.

76/19 Langwathby Playground Subcommittee Report

76.1 Langwathby Playground Subcommittee Report - A report was received from the Chair of the Langwathby Playground Subcommittee. The Council was informed that following discussion within the group, an initial brief of the development the Subcommittee would wish, had been agreed. This brief had been forwarded to a number of Playground equipment companies requesting quotations. The Subcommittee had then chosen ‘Kompan UK Ltd’.

Detailed plans of what was proposed were tabled, including a site plan and images of equipment selected, for consideration by Councilors. The development involved the removal of all the existing equipment and replacing it with new. A representative from ‘Kompan’ then providing further details of the materials used in the construction of what was proposed and answering questions relating to the development. Included in the plans was a fence surrounding the play area.

The Subcommittee stating that an engagement with some members of the community, regarding what was proposed, had been undertaken, which had been supportive; the Council asked to be provided with details and a copy of this exercise.

The Council thanked the Subcommittee for the work that they put into the project to date, especially the consultation undertaken with young families in

the village. The Council indicated that they were supportive of improvements being made to the playground; however, before any decision could be made regarding approval of the proposed plans, they required a computerized image, from a number of angles, illustrating how the development would look when completed. Once this was provided Councilors would further consider the plans, with an extra – ordinary Council meeting being called, if necessary, to agreeing a final layout and items to be purchased. It was further stated that before final approval could be granted, because the development was so prominent and central to the village and also being positioned on a village green, the Council would undertake a full public consultation of the electorate, in Langwathby to seek their opinion on the proposed development, before final approval was granted; the Council being mindful that development of the playground, especially the erection of a fence across the village green was controversial.

The Subcommittee was also reminded that before the Council could consider placing an order for the supply and installation of any equipment, all grant money must be approved and all supporting finance raised and banked.

The Playground Subcommittee along with the representative from Kompan Ltd, then left the meeting, with the Chairman thanking them for their contribution and for the work undertaken on the project to date.

76.2 Council Discussion. Councilors then further discussed what had been proposed. Concern was expressed that it appeared that the Council had been given a ‘take it or leave it’ option, with advanced plans being put before the Council, from one selected company, without any prior consultation taking place. An opinion was expressed that the initial brief should have been agreed with the Council before quotations were sought from companies; what had been tabled that evening being the first knowledge Councilors had received of what was being proposed. It being noted that the Subcommittee were invited to give a report to the July meeting of the Council and failed attended.

That said the Parish Council agreed that some upgrading of equipment was necessary, the erection of a fence around the equipment being controversial. Whether the removal of the existing swings and roundabout was necessary was debatable. Whilst the Council was mindful of safety implications, it was aware that the RoSpa inspection reports over the years had not stipulated the need for a fence and a fence had never been around the playground since it’s installation, many decades ago. It also being noted that there was no fence around the swings at Edenhall nor around the football pitch on the other side of the road on Langwathby Green. *(The Council being informed, subsequent to the meeting, that it is not a legal requirement for a playground to be fenced, except in exceptional circumstances).* It was also noted that such an extensive development of the Langwathby playground had possible political implications regarding the playground in Edenhall, which the Council may have to address in the future.

The Clerk stated that in order to comply with procedural requirements, copies of the quotations received from all the companies approached needed to be on file.

That all said Councilors reiterated their opinion that they were supportive of some improvements to the Langwathby playground; however, there were a number of hurdles to be overcome before the project could be completed.

The Council now awaited receipt of computerized images of what the proposed development would look like before the matter could be progressed.

77/19 Planning Matters

19/0731 – Langwathby Hall Farm, Langwathby - Advertisement consent for 2no non-illuminated advertisement boards. Supported

78/19 Highways and Land Matters

- 78.1 Cemetery Gravel** – Work is ongoing.
- 78.2 Surface Water - Opposite Hopes Garage.** – The situation is continuing to be monitored.
- 78.3 Footway Light No. 13, By Recycling** – It was reported that a new Highways light would be installed, in very close proximity, as part of the Langwathby Hall development which would resolve the matter.
- 78.4 Damaged Posts at the end of the Shepherd's Inn Car Park** – Reported that the proprietor of the Shepherds Inn had undertaken a repair.
- 78.5 Culgaith Junction Opposite Town Head Farm** – Reported that the 'Cross Roads' sign had been installed and that a 'Slow' road marking was imminent.
- 78.6 Blocked Drain Sunnyside – Edenhall** – Agreed to chase the matter up with Highways.
- 78.7 School Pavement – Overhanging Trees** – Reported issue to the School.
- 78.8 'Walter Howe' Seat by Bridge** – Reported that a new seat, with a plaque had been ordered.
- 78.9 Road Culvert Damage** – Luham/Penrith Road – Reported repair had been completed.
- 78.10 Culgaith Road Drains Blocked** – Reported that a number of drains still required attention.
- 78.11 Beech/Apple Tree Pruning** – Langwathby Green – Reported that pruning of a Beech tree on the green was required in attrition to an Apple. As the contractor wished to complete the work in early November the Chairman had given authority for this work to be undertaken at a cost of £80.
- 78.12 Cycling – Eden Straights** – The road marking issue had been reported to Highways.
- 78.13 Dolphenby Crossroad Road Markings** – To be done within this financial year.
- 78.14 Edenhall Courtyard – Roadside Sunken** – Highways have reported that there are signs of depression and the road surface is miss-shapen over a fairly long length across the width of the carriageway. This would suggest foundation issues. Highways will continue to monitor the site. The location is within a 30mph restriction where vehicular speeds should be low. Full construction of the road foundation would be very costly and funding is not available within this financial year. The road will be added to the Capital programme but is not yet at condition to justify the outlay, in comparison to other schemes/roads, within the Eden area.
- 78.15 Langwathby Information Kiosk** – It was pleasing to report that the Information Kiosk was now fully operational. The total cost of the project being £990.58. The Parish Council is indebted to EDC for a Tourism grant of £500 and for the £400 generously donated by local Langwathby businesses; leaving a net cost of the project of only £90.58.

Main Sponsor - Eden Tourism - Eden District Council

Langwathby Business Sponsors: -Langwathby Stores, Shepherds Inn, Hopes Garage, Nobles Garage, Chloe's Hair and Beauty, D W Toppin Ltd and Colin Dawson Ltd

- 78.16 Winter Gritting Priority Edenhall.** – It was reported that a case had been put to CCC Highways department to upgrade the road through Edenhall to a 'Priority Route 3', in the 2020/2021 gritting review, which is currently being undertaken. This route, through Edenhall, has been included on the Alston and East Fellside mapping exercise, as an area of importance to the community for gritting.

79/19 Parish Emergency Plan – A revised and updated Emergency Plan was unanimously approved.

80/19 Correspondence

80.1 Swales Trust Fund

Mention of the Swales Trust Fund was tabled, the Trust aims to give financial support to students being educated in farming, forestry and horticultural industry,

80.2 Langwathby and Edenhall WI - 100 years Anniversary – Bulb Planting

The WI asked the Parish Council for permission to plant some Daffodils in Langwathby and Edenhall to celebrate this anniversary, with guidance being given where they should be planted. This initiative was warmly received, it being suggested that in Langwathby they be planted on the Village Green by 'Tythe Barn'.

It being subsequently suggested that, if possible, a few be planted in Edenhall near the swings, on the verge between the War Memorial and the entrance to the Hotel and a few by the sign post at the Edenhall / Dolphenby crossroads.

Councillors thanked the WI for this initiative.

80.3 Meadows - Speeding

The response from the Community Police Officer indicated that no additional was required. As the road is fairly short from the main road Junction to the bottom of the Meadows it is difficult to make up speed and it would be difficult to exceed the 30 MPH limit. It was suggested that the situation continues to be monitored with any offending vehicles being reported, with registration numbers, to the police, so that appropriate warnings could be given; video or photographic evidence also being useful.

80.4 VE DAY 75 Event on the 8TH MAY 2020 – Advanced notice was reported.

80.5 School Chaperone support – Grateful thanks had been received from, Headmistress, Sally Hay and 'The Action Group', for the support that the Parish Council had given to this campaign.

81/19 Councillor Matters

81.1 Leylandii Hedge Overhanging Pavement – Opposite Village Hall.

Action:- The Chairman agreed, in the first instance, to discuss the issue with the property owner.

81.2 Overhanging Branches – Back Lane Langwathby - It was reported that some overhanging branches required attention.

81.3 Western Edenhall Junction – Imposition of double white lines, to avert a traffic hazard, between Whins Pond entrance and the Edenhall junction. This issue was raised again with a request to put pressure on the Highways Department to take action.

82/19 Dates of Next Meeting

Venue Langwathby Village Hall - back room. commencing at 7.30pm

Thursday 16th January 2020

Meeting closed: 9.35pm

Signed _____

Date _____