

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Chairman: Cllr Ian Harrington

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Minutes of the Meeting Held on Thursday 18th November 2021
in the Back Room, Langwathby Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

83/21 Apologies

Cllrs M Holliday

Unapproved

84/21 Present

Cllrs I Harrington, C Merrie, K Little, D Banks, C Wilson, C Eland, J Corbishley, T Anderson. County Councillor Claire Driver and J Fleming (Parish Clerk)

85/21 Minutes

The Chairman was authorized to sign the minutes of the 16th September 2021 meeting, as a true record

Proposed by Cllr D Banks. Seconded by Cllr K Little

86/21 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs K Little and I Harrington, declared their positions on the Langwathby Village Hall Committee

Cllrs I Harrington, T Anderson, D Banks and C Eland declared their position on the Langwathby Village Hall Renovation Committee.

87/21 Public Participation

There was none.

88/21 County Councillor Report

County Councillor C Driver delivered a brief report mentioning the crisis that exists in 'Social Care', a £7 million Emergency Measure had been established to fund Social Care, to support Covid in the Cumbrian Community. It was also reported that there was a 'COMF' grant which was available to fund any event that brings the community together, following Covid. Full details are available on the monthly County Councillor report which can be found on the website, www.langwathby.org

89/21 District Councillor Report

District Councillor, D Banks reported that our new Unitary Authority was to be called 'Westmorland and Furness'. The other Authority being called 'Cumberland'. The former having 65 Councillors and the latter 35

A 'COP26 Community Fund' was available to be applied for from Eden District Council, in respect of grant support for Community Environmental projects.

A 'Devolution of Assets' questionnaire had been circulated to Parish and Town Councils, with a very short, 14 days, turn round.

Funds were still available within the 'Green Homes' Grant. The take up on this scheme had been disappointing; details being available on the Eden District Council website.

90/21 Finance**90.1 The Following Balances were noted, as at : - 11/11/2021**

	£
Penrith Building Society	19116.93
Barclays	1760.48
Sundry Debtor – Village Hall	0.00
Sundry Debtor - VAT	<u>336.36</u>
Total Cash	<u>21203.77</u>

90.2 Presentation of Interim Accounts as at 11/11/2021

These were unanimously adopted.

Proposer Cllr I Harrington

Seconder Cllr D Banks.

90.3 The Following Accounts were Ratified since 9th September 2021

Clerk Fee Sept/October	489.66
Clerk Office Provision Sept/ October	30.00
Opus Energy VH	72.30
Opus Energy VH	56.88
Opus Energy VH	27.75
Beacon Fire Protection VH	131.52
Nigel Preston – Bridge Strimming – Tour Britain Erection of VH Carpark Sign	90.00
External Audit	240.00
PWLB Loan repayment	3726.04
Langwathby Village Green – Bulbs under trees	50.96
Langwathby Village Green – 3 X Silver Birch Trees	350.00
Edenhall Bench Refurbishment	60.00
Printer Toner – Cartridge People	61.96
Miller Clear – Architects – VH	600.00

90.4 Agreed the following payment.

Clerks Expenses 16th September – 18th November 2021 35.80

90.5 To authorize items 90.3 and 90.4

Proposer Cllr C Wilson

Seconder Cllr C Merrie

90.6 The Following Receipts were Noted:

Village Hall Reimbursement	1038.58
Village Hall Reimbursement – PWLB	1863.02
Cemetery – Plot booking	50.00

90.7 Transfer PBS to Barclays Current A/c 2500.00

90.8 Clerks Monthly Office Provision Financial Review

The Clerk left the room.

Following a discussion, it was agreed to lift this to £25 per month.

The Clerk rejoined the meeting and thanked Councillors.

90.9 Budget and Precept for 2022/2023

90.9.1 A 2022/2023 Budget was presented to the meeting, following discussion it was agreed to leave the Precept, as last year at £16800. This decision will result in the Council facing a potential deficit of £500 at the end of the financial year, should all budgeted expenditure be spent. It was agreed to consider an increase in the 2023/2024 Precept if deemed necessary, next year. A copy of the 2022/2023 budget is on file.

90.9.2 The Village Hall PWLB Loan.

A query was raised as to why the Parish Council was financing 75% (£5589) of the annual cost of this loan, when the Village Hall had total assets in excess of £47,000. This appeared very generous when compared with the Parish Council having a predicted, (31st March 2022), reserve of approximately £4000 and with a predicted budgeted trading deficit of £500, in the next financial year. This loan has approximately 3 years to run.

Action:- The point was noted.

91/21 Planning Matters

21/0813 – Edenburg, Langwathby - Erection of single storey rear extension, dormer window and carport. Supported

21/0879 - Change of use of building and adjoining land to agricultural engineering workshop and offices (including ancillary sale of parts and machinery). – Building and land at Langwathby Hall. Detailed Comments made.

21/0916 – Hogget House. Edenhall. Penrith - The erection of a car port and the formation of a new vehicular access and track Supported

21/0924 – Robinsfield, Edenhall. Penrith - Erection of stable and storage building for domestic use. No Comment

92/21 Highways and Land Matters

92.1 Langwathby Hall Farm –Engineering Business. Enforcement Notice.

Now subject to a planning application.

92.2 Drainage Issue ‘Lane End’ Edenhall.

Issue still being monitored.

92.3 Edenhall War Memorial

It was reported that the surrounding wall had been repaired, the railings on the top of the wall replaced and new gravel laid; previously the memorial stone had been cleaned.

The Chairman thanked all involved for a tremendous team effort.

92.4 Langwathby War Memorial

Reported that an initial start had been made to clean the stone, it taking a while for the approved cleaning material to take effect.

A hairline crack in the stone was reported, it was agreed for this to be investigated.

92.5 Edenhall Roadside Drainage Issues.

Reported that carriageway flooding was still occurring at Winsfield.

Action: - To report, again, to Highways.

92.6 Edenhall Bench Renovated and Re -located by Playground

An Edenhall parishioner had very ably and kindly renovated the bench, formally located by the War Memoria, and installed it by the Edenhall swings. The Council had covered the material costs and had express grateful thanks for the work done.

92.7 Slow Flowing Culvert – Langwathby to Culgaith Road

Following a site visit by Highways, a number of months ago, where it was agreed to insert a camera to establish if and where a possible blockage existed, no report back had been received.

Action: - To follow up the situation with Highways.

92.8 Top of Cemetery Bush Pruning.

Action: - Agreed to ask Nigel Preston, liaising with Cllr Doug Banks, to prune back the bushes at the top of the cemetery.

92.9 Langwathby Village Green – Tree Planting by New Seat.

It was reported that the, previously agreed, three Silver Birch trees, had now been planted by the new ‘Pandemic Recognition’ seat on the green. Grateful thanks was expressed to those Councillors who undertook the planting.

92.10 Wild Flower and Bulb Planting

Wild flower seeds and bulbs had been planted beneath the clumps of trees on Langwathby Village Green. A donation of bulbs had been gratefully received from the Melmerby Village Green Management Committee. Again grateful thanks were expressed to those Councillors who undertook the planting.

92.11 Langwathby Village Green Curbing - Opposite War Memorial.

This work is in hand with Highways.

92.12 Edenhall FTTP Project

It was reported that following a letter being sent to Dr. Neil Hudson MP, requesting the assistance from his office in breaking the impasse regarding the Edenhall FTTP project, a response had been received which was very supportive and helpful.

Cllr Claire Driver agreed to discuss the financial problems surrounding this project with 'Connect Cumbria'.

92.13 Ongoing drainage Issue on the Corner by Town Head farm.

This ongoing problem had been raised with Highways again.

96.14 Langwathby Back Lane.

It was reported that the drains along the back lane, including the one taking water from Coxen Lane, had been cleaned and jetted on the 6th October.

92.15 Planting Beech Tree – Langwathby Village Green.

This planting will take place shortly.

92.16 Parking Outside Beaconside Terrace, Edenhall.

This issue had been taken up with those involved.

92.17 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons - 2 June 2022

This project is in hand.

92.18 Cherry Tree Langwathby School Entrance.

This diseased tree had been reported to Highways, on whose land it is growing. A decision had been made, by Highways, that its condition was such that it would have to be felled and the pavement repaired.

93/21 Langwathby Village Hall Renovation Project - Report

93.1 Reported that of the 4 Architects approached to provide an initial brief, indicating their interest in becoming involved with the project, only one had responded, namely Miller Clear, with offices in Keswick and Kendal.

93.2 The Miller Clear submission had been met with a very mixed reaction by the Committee.

93.3 Agreed to invite two more Architects to express an interest in becoming involved and to submit an initial brief

93.4 A 'Suggested Building Requirement' document had been circulated to the meeting, for future consideration.

93.5 A Cash Flow Strategy for the project was discussed. It was acknowledged that before applying for Grant Funding, detailed architect plans, supported by drawings, would be needed, from which prospective builders could provide quotes, these then accompanying subsequent grant applications. It was agreed that the £19,000 'Roof Fund', ring fenced, within the Village Hall Management Committee's accounts, could finance these architect fees, in advance of grant funding being sought and acquired to cover building expenditure.

93.6 The question of opening a separate bank account for the project was raised. Following discussion, it was decided that this would be better undertaken by the Parish Council, instead of the Langwathby Village Hall Management Committee. This proposal was to be put to Councillors at the next Parish Council meeting for consideration.

93.7 Visit Other Village Halls For Ideas.

Agreed to arrange visits to Hunsonby, Melmerby, Threlked, Stinton and Newbiggin.

94/21 Opening of a Separate ‘Village Hall Renovation Project’ Bank Account by the Parish Council.

This proposal was discussed in depth by Councillors. The Clerk reported that he had sought the advice from the Parish Council’s External Auditor on the matter. They had indicated that they felt it was unnecessary to create a separate account as this unnecessarily complicated audit; even though very large financial sums were involved. Instead, they advised that all transaction for the project went through the Parish Council account with the grant income and all expenditure, for the project, being separately itemized, in the income and expenditure analysis. The point being made that the Local Authority audit trail was as meticulous for a £5 transaction as a £500,000 transaction.

Action: - It was unanimously agreed that all financial transactions for the Village Hall Renovation Project shall go through the Parish Council bank account, in the normal way. The project income and expenditure being separated out by analysis.

In order to safeguard the solvency of the Parish Council, it was stipulated that all building and architects’ quotes accepted, be contractually binding, with there being a 10% contingency built into the financial planning.

95/21 Emergency Plan

The Emergency Plan was updated.

96/21 Councillor Matters

An opportunity for Councillors to raise issues on behalf of residents.

Note: no decisions can be made on these matters but they may be placed on a future agenda of the Council.

96.1 Reported that the soak away drain on verge by Millriggs, Salkeld Road, CA10 1ND continuously blocks.

Action: - To report to Highways, along with the suggestion that the drain be piped to soak away in a nearby field.

96.2 Edenhall Pavement. Reported that new tarmac had been laid on the pavement between the Edenhall War Memorial and the Edenhall Hotel.

Action: - To thank the Highways team for a good job done.

96.3 Langwathby Information Kiosk. It was reported that Margery Hudson wish to relinquish her involvement in looking after the kiosk.

Action: - Cllr K Little kindly agreed to take on this task. A letter of thanks be sent to Margery Hudson for all her good work in the past.

97/21 Correspondence, Notices and Publications

The following had been received since the last meeting.

97.1 31 Emails forwarded to Councillors since the last meeting. On file for a year

97.2 Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria had communicated regarding – ‘Plant a Tree For Jubilee’

97.3 Parking Storey Bank/Back Lane Junction – Parishioner concern had been raised regarding the dangerous and inconsiderate parking that was taking place by the Storey Bank junction with the Back Lane and along the Back Lane. The nature of the parking could easily impede the passing of emergency vehicles.

Action: - To draw attention to the issue in the Memo.

98/21 Dates of Forthcoming Meeting

Venue Langwathby Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm
Thursday 20th January 2022, 24th March 2022

Signed _____

Date _____