

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2010

Present: Mr D.H.Banks, Mr W.H.Benn, Mr I.S.Harrington, Mr P.M.Jackson, Mr G.C.Little, Mrs C.Merrie, Mr W.F.Mounsey (in the Chair), Mr S.J Peet and Mr T.W.Metcalf..

244 Election of Chairman: Mr W.F.Mounsey was elected as Chairman of the Council and signed the declaration of acceptance of the office.

245 Appointment of Vice-Chairman: Mr D.Banks was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council.

246 Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Mr J.M.Holliday (District Councillor) and County Councillor Mrs M.Robinson.

247 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

248 Annual Report for 2009/10: The Chairman presented a summary of the events and achievements of the past year. It was agreed that the Council's Annual Report should be circulated with The Memo.

249 Financial Statement for 2009/10: The receipts and payments account for 2009/10, having been circulated, was approved and signed by the Chairman.

250 Annual Return to the External Auditor

1. Internal Audit Report: The Clerk reported that the internal auditor had completed her work and had not raised any points on the accounts. Her report, incorporated as Section 4 of the Annual Return, was noted.

2. Asset Register: The Council approved the register of the Council's property

3. Statement of Accounts: The Council approved the Statement of Accounts in Section 1 of the Return, which was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

4. Annual Governance Statement: The Council gave affirmative responses to all items in the Annual Governance Statement, which was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

251 Police Report: The Community Police Officer reported a number of incidents, including theft of farm gates and attempted break-ins at Eden Ostrich World and the Shepherd's Inn, Melmerby. She asked the public to report any suspicious vehicles. Members expressed concerns regarding children playing football in the churchyard and on the road by the bus shelter in Langwathby and setting fire to a container at the recycling centre. The officer noted these and described the arrangements for parking control round the green for the Scarecrow Festival.

252 Update Reports:

1. Pinfold: The Clerk reported that the Licence had been concluded and nominal rent paid.

2. Car Park: The Clerk reported that an application had been made to register the car park land. Members were pleased with the work undertaken by the probation teams in refurbishing the chain and post fence and asked the Clerk to write a letter of appreciation. He advised that two car park signs had been ordered and this action was confirmed.

3. Highways: The County Council was understood to be making repairs to the A686 following the severe winter weather.

4. Fishing Path: Mr Metcalfe confirmed that a number of clear glades for fishing had been created on the river bank following approval from Natural England.

5. Eden CALC: Mr Banks reported the discussion at the meeting held on 30th March.

6. Trees: Members confirmed the action taken to accept Mr Wakefield's quotation of £280 plus VAT for necessary work to the trees on Langwathby village green.

7. Fly Tipping: The original tipped material next to Langwathby bridge was understood to have been cleared but more items may have been tipped.

253 Review of Annual Parish Meeting held on 22nd April

Members agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting had been a success, with an interesting presentation on the Settle/Carlisle Line. The main item raised by a resident had been the suggestion of a litter-picking team of volunteers and it was agreed that this should be publicized via The Memo.

254 Village Hall

1. Nomination of Parish Council Representatives: Mr Banks and Mr Harrington were nominated to serve on the Village Hall Committee for the ensuing year.

2. Re-fencing the Tennis Court: Mr Peet and Mr Holliday were asked to obtain three quotes for repairing/renewing the tennis court fencing and the Clerk was requested to approach Mrs M.Robinson to see if a grant could be obtained from her County Council fund.

255 Property Inspections

1. Edenhall: Mr Benn reported on parish property in Edenhall and identified the need to clear growth round the parish noticeboard and to repair a seat, which he kindly offered to undertake. The Clerk will investigate the need to replace a dog fouling notice.

2. Inspection of Play Areas: Members appreciated the inspection undertaken by Mr Karl Stout and noted that the equipment in both villages was in good condition. Gaps between the rubber tiles on the Langwathby play area will be monitored. Advisory comments were noted but members did not feel it was practicable to fence the play areas.

256 Housing Needs Survey: Members discussed the proposed questionnaire but, in view of the amount of affordable housing that had been provided in the Parish, did not feel a survey was necessary.

257 Cemetery: Mr Banks reported a difficult situation that had arisen with regard to a motif to be placed on a headstone. This particular situation had been resolved and Members felt it was not possible to lay down hard and fast rules; each application should be considered on its own merits by the Clerk in consultation with Mr Holliday, with reference to the Parish Council in cases of difficulty.

258 Finance

1. Balances: The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£13,587.94
Penrith Building Society	£3,000.00
VAT to be recovered	£155.17

It was agreed that £8,000 be transferred from the current account to the Penrith Building Society account.

2. Accounts to be ratified: The following accounts were ratified:

Brogan Fuels, heating oil for Village Hall	£459.80 plus VAT
Chubb Fire Ltd, Village Hall fire equipment upgrade	£175.30 plus VAT
JT Atkinson, Postfix for village green fence	£117 plus VAT
D.Banks, reimbursement re paint for village maintenance	£36.85

3. Accounts to be paid: Payment of the following accounts was approved:

T.Glendingning & Co, final payment on V.Hall contract	£account awaited
R.Wager, Clerk's salary, Mar-May	£516 (includes increase from 1 st May)
R.Wager, postage & stationery	£7.61
Zurich Insurance, annual premium	£2,064.39
M.Longstaff, honorarium re cleaning	£150
Cumbria Playing Fields Asscn, annual subscription	£15.50
Village Hall Committee, use of rooms 2009/10	£53.20
E.ON, electricity for Village Hall	£199.41 plus VAT
J.T.Atkinson, chain and hooks for village green fence	£74.47 plus VAT
C.Wakefield, tree work	£280 plus VAT

Home Choice Videos, Memorial Garden maintenance	£40
AST Signs, car park notices	£43.81 plus VAT
N.Preston, painting bus shelter and goal posts	£account awaited

4. Receipts: Receipt of the following sums was noted:

Village Hall Committee contributions to expenditure	£635.10
Eden District Council, Parish precept	£11,500
Rent for Pinfold	£1
Walkers Funeral Drs re G.Porter burial fee	£150
United Utilities, wayleave	£59.57

5. Grant Requests: Grants were approved to the following causes -

- (i) The Memo Parish Newsletter: £200
- (ii) Langwathby Parochial Church Council for churchyard maintenance: £200
- (iii) Edenhall Parochial Church Council for churchyard maintenance: £200

Members noted that the First Responders Group had withdrawn their grant application and expressed appreciation of their work, regretting that the group was having to disband.

6. Grant to Village Hall Committee: The Parish Council resolved to increase its annual grant to the Village Hall Committee towards caretaking costs to £300.

257 Planning

1. Applications: Comments made on the following applications were noted as follows:-

- (i) Hope's Garage (extension and canopy) – no objection
- (ii) Appleside Farm (poultry unit) – no objection
- (iii) Bank House, Langwathby (loft conversion) – in circulation

2. Proposed Housing Development adjacent to Eden Straits: Members welcomed the outcome of the appeal hearing, which was to refuse the appeal.

258 Correspondence

1. Highway Steward: Members were concerned to note the report in the CALC circular that the County Council was considering absorbing the Highway Stewards into wider local teams. Mr Metcalfe and Mr Harrington will attend that EALC meeting on Monday, 28th June, when the county Council will provide details of the proposals.

2. Parking at Langwathby School: A letter from Mr Porter of Little Salkeld was discussed, which referred to the hazards arising from parking on the road outside the school. Members agreed that the situation was unsatisfactory but doubted whether a solution could be found unless off-road parking could be provided. Reference was made to an area formerly used for sheep dipping but ownership of the land was not known. Members also queried whether the layby outside The Meadows bungalows was reserved for residents as a sign indicated or was available for general use. The Clerk was asked to clarify the position.

3. Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Members noted that this was now in its final version and had been submitted to the Secretary of State.

258. Local Concerns

1. Verges of Eden Straits: Members were concerned about the appearance of the verges, being the main approach to the village and asked the Clerk to ascertain the cost of cutting them three or four times during the year.

2. Bungalows at The Meadows: Deteriorated brick work by the steps down from the road will be reported to Eden Housing Association.

259. Dates of Future Meetings: Future meetings of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on the following Thursdays: 15 July, 9 September, 11 November, 13 January, 10 March and 19 May (Annual Parish Meeting to be held the previous week, 12 May).

(The meeting finished at 9.20pm.)