

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th November 2010

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

Apologies were received from County Councillor Mrs M.Robinson.

285 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September were approved and signed by the Chairman.

286 Police Report: The Clerk read the Community Police Officer's report in her absence, which referred to incidents of children throwing objects at the windows of elderly people. Notices had been displayed asking parents to remind children that this is not good behaviour.

287 Update Reports:

1. Footpath to the Sports Field: The scheme is being delayed by the need to acquire a strip of land to provide a footway of the requisite width. Mr Benn agreed to discuss this with the landowner.

2. Parish Fishing: A few more witness statements are needed before responding to the issues raised by the County Council.

3. Eden Association of Local Councils: Mrs Merrie attended the AGM and reported the outcome.

4. Big Society Conference: Mr Banks gave a report on the conference.

5. Street Lights: The District Council is unable to fund replacement of the failed lamp at High Farm, Langwathby until the next financial year.

6. Potholes in Edenhall: Many pothole repairs had been outstanding for several weeks.

7. Speeding in Back Lane, Langwathby: No response had yet been received to the suggestion of a 20mph speed limit.

8. Back Lane Manhole Covers: The sunken carriageway had been reported but not yet repaired.

9. Land at The Meadows: The District Council had undertaken improvements to this area, which was welcomed.

10 Broadband Champions: Mr Banks reported the discussion at a meeting of local Broadband Champions convened by the MP. Local communities are being encouraged to use self-help to lay fibre optic cables for a better service. The aim is to achieve a minimum speed of 2MB per second. However, Langwathby already has a service at that level.

288 Housing Needs Survey: Jayne Potts of Cumbria Housing Trust presented the results of the Housing Needs Survey and congratulated the Council on the high level of response. She said the survey had identified 14 households in need of affordable housing over the next 5 years. There were also several adult children living "at home" who would like their own accommodation and elderly people who wished to downsize into single-storey accommodation. Members expressed concern that any additional affordable housing should be restricted to people with a clear local connection and should be small-scale.

289 Waste Water Treatment Works: Members examined the plans for pipelines from the Winskill and Skirwith areas to Langwathby treatment works and noted that these would be displayed in the Village Hall from 19th November.

290 Tennis Court: Members welcomed the intimation that a grant would be forthcoming from the local County Councillor's fund. Subject to this, it was agreed that the re-fencing work should proceed in the new year.

291 PACT – Local Food Production: Members did not feel the idea of a communal oven would be a practical proposition.

292 Electoral Review of Cumbria County Council: The Council was concerned that any reduction in the number of county councillors would make it very difficult for those serving rural constituencies to do so effectively.

293 Appointment of Parish Clerk: Members approved the advertisement for the post and the job and person descriptions.

294 Finance

1. Balances: The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£4,587.74
Penrith Building Society	£8,000.00
VAT to be recovered	£171.04

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

Home Choice Videos re Memorial Garden, Aug-Sep	£40
Home Choice Videos re Memorial Garden, Oct	£20
Brogan Fuels, oil for Village Hall	£451.50 plus VAT
Scottish Fuels, servicing Hall boiler	£124.84 plus VAT

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

T.Glending & Co, final payment on V.Hall contract	£account awaited
R.Wager, Clerk's salary, Sept to November	£550
N.Preston, grass cutting, final account	£630
N.Preston, repair to bus shelter downpipe	£account awaited
Royal British Legion, wreath for Edenhall War Memorial	£account awaited
E.ON, electricity for Village Hall	£177.65 plus VAT

4. Honoraria: The following honoraria payments to recognize service given to the Council were approved:

W.Veitch, honorarium re cemetery grass cutting	£150
G.Veitch, honorarium re internal audit	£35

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

Village Hall Committee contribution to loan repayment	£3,726.00
Village Hall Committee contributions to expenditure	£784.19
N.Greeves re memorial garden	£145

6. Grass Cutting Contract

Members agreed to seek tenders for grass cutting for a two-year period, to include four cuts per annum of the verge of Eden Straits.

7. Budget and Parish Precept for 2011/12

The Council approved the budget for the next financial year and resolved that the Parish Precept remain at £11,500.

295 Planning Applications: Comments made on the following applications were noted as follows:-

- (i) Scour Bank, Langwathby (extension) – no objection
- (ii) Scour Bank, Langwathby (oil tank) – no objection
- (iii) TPO, Laburnum House, Langwathby (lopping of branches overhanging 2 Old Powleys) – no objection

296 Correspondence

1. Cumbria Association of Local Councils: Members shared CALC's concerns about the Government's proposals to allow communities to approve development of their area by referendum with a 75% majority (avoiding the normal planning process). CALC believes developments should derive from a community plan produced after consultation and only proceed with parish council approval. CALC has written to all local MPs in these terms and Members decided to write to the MP also in support.

2. The Council also considered correspondence relating to Eden District Council Draft Corporate Plan 2011-2014; Cumbria County Council's newsletter for parish councils; "Better Highways"; winter gritting; West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste (MRWS) Partnership and broadband.

297 Local Concerns

- 1. Salt Boxes:** The box near Home Farm, Edenhall, needs a lid and that at the other end of the village has not yet been replaced.
- 2. Surface Water on A686:** A Member expressed concern about the amount of water running down from Roundthorn onto the A686 in very wet weather.
- 3. Drain in Culgaith Road:** This is still overflowing in wet weather.
- 4. Wall by Bridge:** Ideally this would be rebuilt in stone.

298 **Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday, 13th January 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

(The meeting finished at 9.00pm.)