

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2010

Present: Mr D.H.Banks (in the Chair), 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 and Mr S.J Peet, together with Mrs M.Robinson (County Councillor).

Apologies were received from Mr W.F.Mounsey, who was unwell. Members were very sorry to hear of this and requested the Clerk to send greetings on their behalf, wishing Mr Mounsey a speedy recovery.

222 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2009 were approved and signed by the chairman.

223 Police Report: The Community Police Officer said the police were still keen to have information from anyone who noticed a black 4x4 vehicle near Stratheden on the evening of the recent robbery. There had been many accidents in the wintry weather.

224 Update Reports:

1. Highways: There was much discussion about the gritting programme during the long spell of cold weather and Mrs Robinson explained the steps she had taken to get assistance for the rural areas. She was also pressing for a contingency plan for the future, which could include barriers on the Alston Road and an agreement with Parishes on the location of grit heaps. The Clerk reported that the Highways Department had supplied two heaps of salt/grit mixture for general use on side roads and paths in the Parish, one located at Ostrich World and one by the roadside in Edenhall. It was agreed that an additional grit bin was needed near Hope's Garage and a replacement should be sought for the damaged bin in Edenhall (to be relocated to avoid future damage)..

Mr Peet confirmed that he had spoken to the householder at the corner of Coxon Lane and Back Lane, Langwathby; who had agreed to cut back overhanging bushes.

The Clerk said the overflowing drain in Culgaith Road had been found to be a highway drain and understood action was being taken to clear it.

2. Car Park: The Clerk reported that Enterprise Inns had not responded to the request to overhaul the posts and chains round the car park. Members agreed to make enquiries to see if the work could be undertaken by community service..

225 Finance

1. Balances: The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£6,778.35
Deposit a/c	£2,307.10
VAT to be recovered	£494.70

2. Accounts to be ratified: Payment of the following account was ratified:

Brogan Fuels, heating oil for Village Hall £449.80 plus VAT

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

T.Glendingning&Co, final payment on Village Hall contract	Account awaited
Penrith Tool Hire, mower servicing for cemetery	£68.50 plus VAT
Hope's Garage, petrol for cemetery mower	£21
R.Wager, Clerk's salary, Sep-Nov	£500
R.Wager, postage & stationery	£12.58
R.Wager, internet security subscription	£22.97
G.Anderson, website maintenance	Account awaited
Performing Right Society re Village Hall	Account awaited
PWLB, loan repayment due 15 th March	£3,726.04

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

Richardsons Funeral Drs re Mrs A.Lowthion	£150
Mrs N.Greeves re Memorial Garden maintenance	£60
Deposit a/c interest to 7 Dec	£0.19

Village Hall Committee re Brogans	£449.80
re Scottish Fuels	£85.02 and £61.77
re E.ON	£184.74
re Field View Electrical	£86.99

5. Grants: A grant request was considered from Eden Citizen's Advice Bureau but deferred pending receipt of further information on the Bureau's financial position.

6. Grass cutting: Quotations were considered for grass cutting in 2010. The second lowest tender submitted by Mr N.Preston was accepted. Members felt that the small difference from the lowest quote did not justify a change to the current contractor, who had served the Council very well for the last nine years.

(Mrs C.Merrie declared a prejudicial interest in the following item and withdrew from the meeting while it was considered)

7. Penrith Building Society Account: The Council resolved to open a gross account with Penrith Building Society, the signatories to be any two of D.Banks, M.Holliday and C.Merrie. Members agreed to transfer the sum of £5,000 into the account.

226 Planning: Decisions made by the Planning Authority on the following applications were noted as follows:-

- (i) The grant of planning permission for a helicopter landing pad etc at Underlyne, Langwathby (09/0757)
- (ii) The refusal of planning permission for housing development on land adjacent to Eden Straits (09/0809)
- (iii) The grant of planning permission for a double garage at Bank House, Langwathby (09/0910)

227 Correspondence

1. Consultation on National Policy Statements on Energy Infrastructure: Members agreed to make a response to urge the rapid development of energy from wave power.

2. Passenger Transport Timetables: Members regretted the County Council's decision to cease producing bus and train timetables for display at bus stops. Mrs C.Merrie agreed to investigate whether it was practical to print and laminate copies from the Traveline website that could be displayed in the timetable cases.

3. Pentalk: A letter was considered from Pentalk that proposed offering computer training services in the area. Members felt this would duplicate the training provided by the CDC at Langwathby School, to the detriment of that facility, and the Clerk was asked to respond in the negative to the proposal.

4. Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill: The Council agreed to support the Bill, which would provide an ongoing facility for local authorities to propose measures to Central Government that would sustain local services in rural areas. The Clerk was requested to seek the support of the Member of Parliament for the Bill.

Other correspondence was considered relating to the Eden recycling contract; the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework; a "Safe as Houses" handyman service; minor amendments to planning applications; and items in the CALC newsletter.

228. Local Concerns:

1. Luham Corner: Mr I.Harrington reported that a chevron sign was missing at this location.

2. Parking at Salkeld Road/Back Lane Junction: Members expressed concern about a possible hazard caused by vehicles parked on Salkeld Road near this junction.

Both concerns will be reported to the relevant authorities.

229. Future Meetings

1. Next Meeting: Thursday, 11th March, in the Village Hall (Back Room) at 7.30pm.

2. Annual Parish Meeting: This was moved to Thursday, 22nd April, to avoid conflicting with the possible date of a general election.

3. Parish Council AGM: Thursday, 13th May.

4. Provisional dates for 2010/11: These were agreed as follows - 15 July, 9 September, 11 November, 13 January, 10 March, 19 May (AGM) (Annual Parish Meeting to be held the previous week – 12 May)

(The meeting finished at 8.30pm.)