

**CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held Monday March 2nd 2015 at Kirkland & Blencarn Recreation Room**

Present: Councillors Jill Hay (Chair) - JH, Pauline Toppin - PT, Marjorie H777elm - MH, Ken Phillipson - KP, Joe Ravetz - JR, Laura Wilson - LW, David Witney – DW, Kathryn Binney (Clerk) – KB.

Also In Attendance: Sue Castle-Clarke and John Fleming.

14/15 APOLOGIES

Cllr Pam Jago and Cllr John Slann. Apologies accepted.

15/15 Declarations of interest

None heard.

16/15 Minutes

To authorise the Chair to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2015 as a true record.

17/15 Progress Reports

To receive for information and/or determine action, as appropriate, on the items in the following reports;

Parish Clerk's report

To be covered within agenda items.

Chairs report

Electricity North West wish to remove the trees in front of the tarn. These have been cut back previously as they are under the wires. There is a possibility of a donation towards new trees that could be more suitably placed and therefore would not require harsh pruning. This will be decided in the future, however the Parish Council were agreed in support of this.

The criteria for the footpath lighting has changed since the last audit took place. A further assessment is to take place. Cllr JH agreed to find suitable dates and arrange a meeting.

18/15 Public Participation / Open session (15 mins allowed)

Resident John Fleming spoke out in regards to the Oil Syndicate (Agenda item 26/15). It was noted that the Cllr John Slann who raised the issue was not present. It was in respect of the change to the existing service. John Fleming was in support of the existing Syndicate and any plans to change would be detrimental to the primary aim to share the bulk discount savings within the community.

Cllr JH advised that this was a commercial point and therefore not a matter for the Parish Council to comment on.

Ousby Resident, Sue Castle-Clarke came and introduced herself. Sue advised she was keen to work together on Parish issues that cross borders and perhaps seek cost sharing opportunities. She will be standing in the EDC elections as an Independent candidate and will speak out for the fellside on issues such as transport, youth engagement and waste management.

19/15 County and District Councillors reports

Mary Robinson had passed her apologies due to annual leave.

20/15 The Eden District Council Scrutiny Work Plan Consultation

Eden Councils Scrutiny Priorities were considered over the next 12 months. This was in a different format to the previous consultation. All were in agreement in principal.

21/15 Planning

There were no new applications for consideration. It was noted that the decision against the

following applications had not been passed at the time of the meeting.
14/1016 4 Park View, Culgaith
15/0010 St Johns Cottage, Skirwith
15/0053 Ivy Cottage Culgaith

In relation to the letter from Smithgore asking for comments in support of the potential development site at Loaning Head. The Councillors would like to agree to meet with the planners to discuss this further. A meeting will be facilitated on 12th March 2015.

22/15 Finance

The PC current account is £1346.88

Monthly SO's – Clerks wages £164.95 and HMRC £41.20 new mandate required and £147.80 cheque to clear balance.

M Hill cheque not submitted yet (£997.80)

Cheque also required for the hire of Hall £10, Clerks expenses £32.40 (see separate break down).

It is anticipated we will receive an invoice for £430 for the Skirwith tree works.

As of 31 December the balances at National Savings were £11092.17. A transfer request to the PC current account of £1500 is suggested.

23/15 Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications

To note items of correspondence received since the last meeting.

	Date	Name (Items of note or requiring action in bold)	Action / Comment
1	01/05/2015	HMRC	End of year advice
2	05/02/2015	EDC	Planning Services Charter
3	05/02/2015	Affordable housing guide	For awareness
4	05/02/2015	EDC	Planning approval - Skirwith tree works
5	06/02/2015	HMRC - ref number	Seek clarification
6	12/02/2015	EDC	Electoral Registration - posters
7	13/02/2015	Elections	Add to agenda - Timetable, nominations
8	16/02/2015	Garden Waste Skip	Provisional contract

24/15 Culgaith Parish Grass Cutting

Cllr JH advised that she had received 5 tender applications. These were discussed in private due to commercial sensitivities. It was decided to award the tender to Mark Binney, Landscaping and Stoneworks.

It was also noted that the tree works in Skirwith would take place, mid to late March.

25/15 Local Council Award Scheme

The new Local Council Award Scheme (which replaces the Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme) has been designed to celebrate the successes of the very best parish councils, and to provide a framework to support all parish councils to improve and develop to meet their full potential.

It was decided to consider this post elections as to whether this is a potential aspiration for Culgaith Parish Council.

26/15 Ousby Oil Syndicate – Cllr John Slann.

As noted in 18/15, Cllr JH advised that this was a commercial point and therefore not a matter for the Parish Council to comment on.

27/15 Parish Elections 2015

Clerk KB advised she had attended a clerks briefing held by EDC for the elections on 7th May 2015.

The yellow nomination papers were delivered to the councillors.

Nominations closed 9 April 2015 at 4pm.

A timetable of Key Statutory Events was circulated.

28/15 Councillor Matters

Thanks were passed to Cllr Joe Ravetz, who advised he would not be standing in the May elections. Cllr JR did wish to highlight the inconsistencies around the planning procedures and the need to ensure realistic affordable housing is acknowledged.

Cllr DW advised there was a reoccurring problem with people parking on the bend around the Memorial corner. Frequently five cars are being parked in a row meaning traffic are forced into the path of oncoming traffic with no way of knowing what is coming around the bend ahead. It was decided that the first approach should be to speak with the car owners if possible and request they make alternative parking arrangements.

Cllr PJ spoke out in support of the purchase of a defibrillator for Culgaith. It was stated that the Parish Council could decide to contribute but a format written request for such should be submitted.

Cllr KP noted that there is some problems in Skirwith caused by parking on both sides of the single track road leading out to Kirkland.

Also that there was a problem with a pipe running out at the road by Flosh. Cllr JH advised she would take up the action to report this.

Cllr MH commented about the flooding at Broats Farm and that it was badly flooding in 2013/14. The stonewalls provide no drainage. Cllr JH will action this with highways and suggest linking into the main drains.

Cllr CR stated that there is a increasing problem with dog fowling throughout Blencarn. Action taken to seek out signage and leaflets highlighting the risk to children.

Cllr LW enquired about the pot holes. It was heard that these had been reported and that and update on the repair progress would be sought.

29/15 Date of next meeting

To note that the next Parish Council meeting is on:

Monday April 20th 2015 Annual Parish Meeting, Culgaith Victoria Institute