

CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL

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Fell View
Blencarn, Penrith
Cumbria, CA10 1TX

Minute of the 'Virtual' Meeting Held on Monday 6th July 2020 commencing at 7.30pm

Unapproved.

39/20 Present

Cllrs: Caroline Richardson (Chair), Laura Wilson, Sue Smith, John Watson, Andrew Clay, David Witney, County Cllr Claire Driver and John Fleming (Parish Clerk)

40/20 Apologies

Cllrs Pauline Toppin (Vice Chair) attempted to join the meeting but failed to obtain a 'Zoom' audio and visual link.

Cllr Ken Philipson and District Cllr Rob Orchard,

41/20 Minutes

The Chair was unanimously authorized to sign the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2nd March 2020, as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr S Smith. Seconded by Cllr D Witney

42/20 Declaration of Interests

Agenda Item 11

Cllr C Richardson – Blencarn and Kirkland Village Hall

Cllr D Witney - Culgaith Church

Cllr L Wilson – Skirwith Village Hall

43/20 Public Participation

There was none.

44/20 District and County Council Reports.

44.1 District Councillors Report

The C19 Lock Down restrictions have made running EDC very difficult but I believe they have done a good job. Despite having the Town Hall and Mansion House virtually shut down they have managed to continue to operate most of the services they offer residents as before. This is despite having the bulk of staff operating from home. Thankfully modern digital technology has helped. The Council has also had to deal with managing many of the Government's schemes for protecting businesses, especially small businesses, jobs, charity organisations etc. and all of this has of course been additional workload to the normal running of the Council. EDC has set up a system whereby meetings can be held virtually. I cannot say it has been 100% successful. It works reasonably well where numbers are small (less than 10) but larger meetings are much more difficult. Full Council Meetings which typically involve 40 people are very slow and tiring. I am hoping that as we come out of lock-down we will soon be back to having the normal social interaction, face-to-face discussions and debate of Council meetings.

I would like to commend all those who have helped their neighbours especially those like me who have been Shielding making sure we are OK and able to access food, medicines and help. Fantastic community spirit but only what I would have expected from this special area.

I would also like to remind constituents and Parish Councillors that although I am also locked-down I am still here to help if you have problems you wish to raise.

I look forward to when we can all meet up again and until then please stay safe and try to keep sane.

I am glad to report that the nonsensical closure of the centre of Penrith has in the main been reversed. This was a CCC plan it was not even discussed with Eden Councillors. The first we knew about it was when the signs went up. It resulted in major protests in Penrith and fortunately CCC reacted quickly.

Rob Orchard.

June 30th 2020

44.2 County Council Report – A report was presented to the meeting; this being summarised in the monthly report available on: - (control/click) <https://youtu.be/EQ7uP2AfaOk>

45/20 Finance (Incl.Vat)

45.1 To note the following balances as at:-	31/3/2020	22/6/2020
	£	£
HSBC Account	1431.14	1825.96
Penrith Building Society	13981.07	24981.07
NSI Account	23.83	23.83
Vat to be claimed	<u>45.06</u>	<u>47.46</u>
Total Cash	<u>15481.10</u>	<u>26,878.32</u>

45.2 Presentation of the 31th March 2020 Audited Year End Accounts

These accounts were unanimously approved.

Proposed by Cllr C Richardson

Seconded by Cllr A Clay.

45.3 Presentation of Interim Accounts from 31st March 2020 – 22nd June 2020

These accounts were unanimously approved.

Proposed by Cllr C Richardson

Seconded by Cllr A Clay.

45.4 The Following Accounts were Ratified.

45.4.1 J Fleming Fee March/April/May 2020. As per contract	
45.4.2 J Fleming Tel/ Broadband March/April/May 2020	45.00
45.4.3 Cartridge People – Toner	24.90
45.4.4 D Tec, Penrith – To resolve E Mail fault	23.40
45.4.5 CALC – Training – Cllr A Clay	80.00
45.4.6 Hunsonby Swimming Pool – Donation	100.00
45.4.7 D Tec, Penrith – Replaced Toner Drums	102.50
45.4.8 Playground Inspection Co.- Inspections X 2	167.88
45.4.9 Memo – Donation 2020/2021	120.00
45.4.10 Norris Fisher Annual Insurance	444.34
45.4.11 Mark Binney – Grass Cutting	522.90
45.4.12 Angela Hartland – Yr End PAYE	13.00
45.4.14 Mark Binney – Grass Cutting	568.55

45.5 The Following Accounts Were Approved for Payment

45.5.1 J Fleming Expenses – 2 nd March – 11 th May 2020	12.60
J Fleming Expenses – 11 th May – 6 th July 2020	3.60
CALC – Annual Subscription. (CALC - £155.65/NALC £52.85)	208.50

The accounts in 45.4 and 45.5 above, were unanimously approved.

Proposed by Cllr S Smith, Seconded by Cllr D Witney

- 45.6 To Report The Following Receipts**
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 45.6.1 Precept | 12000.00 |
| 45.6.3 EDC Footway Lighting Grant | 1521.00 |
| 45.6.4 VAT Refund | 851.29 |
- 45.7 To Report the Following Transfers**
- | | |
|---|----------|
| Current Account to Penrith Building Society | 13000.00 |
| Penrith Building Society to Current Account | 2000.00 |
- 45.8 Online Banking Authorisation 2020/2021**
This was unanimously approved.
Proposed by Cllr A Clay.
Seconded by Cllr J Watson.
- 45.9 Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020**
This was unanimously approved.
Proposed by Cllr A Clay.
Seconded by Cllr J Watson.
- 45.10 Revised 2020 Asset Register**
This was unanimously approved.
Proposed by Cllr D Witney.
Seconded by Cllr C Richardson.

46/20 Planning Applications

To Report

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 20/0161 – 3 Crossfell View. Culgaith – 2 storey side extension | Supported |
| 20/0187 – Cross Fell View, Blencarn –
Addition of conservatory to side elevation | Supported |
| 20/0323 – 1 Kirkhill - Erection of first floor side extension for additional living accommodation. Revised scheme of previous approval 19/0887. | Supported |
| 20/0163 – Barn at Whitehall. Blencarn – Proposed erection of two buttresses to barn to stabilise the wall. | Supported |

47/20 Highways and Land Matters

- 47.1 Foot of 'The Pea' – Drainage Issue –** Work completed
- 47.2 Safety Tree Pruning –Skirwith** Work to be done when circumstances permit
- 47.3 Safety Lime Tree Pruning – Kirkland -** In negotiation with Electricity NW.
- 47.4 Potholes reported -** Outside Skirwith Village Hall, Church Street, Westerly road out of Blencarn, Bottom of Blencarn Green by the Kirkland junction sign, Surface also needs attention outside Blencarn Village Hall. Work completed
Agreed that the Highways Dept be thanked for completing all the above.
- 47.5 Chestnut Close** entrance – Road subsidence. – Highways agreed to rectify.
- 47.6 Kirkland Boundary Stones** – Renovation required
Action: - Agreed to obtain quotes for repair and reinstalled.
- 47.7 Skirwith Beech Tree** – Lower Canopy obstructing sign.
Action: - Agreed to arrange for the tree to be pruned. Quote of £30 agreed.
- 47.8 Pea Foot Development** – It was reported that a road name 'Settle Close' had been agreed between the developer and the Parish Council, this name being accepted by Eden District Council. The properties being numbered 1 – 5.

48/20 Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications.

The following items of correspondence were received since the last meeting.

48.1 Covi Communications – 19 - Since the 2nd March Meeting 84 Covid – 19 E Mails, on this subject, have been forward to Councillors.

48.2 Hunsonby Pool Grant of £100 – Grateful thanks received.

48.3 Use of Public Rights of Way under Covid – 19 Lockdown Regulations.

Correspondence had been received from a Parishioner in this respect. A copy was forwarded to Councillors for information and the current situation regarding the public use of Public Rights of Way, during 'Lockdown', was clarified.

It is to be noted that the Parish Council has no jurisdiction or responsibility on this matter. The policing of the Government's Covid – 19, Lockdown regulations, lies with the Police.

48.4 EDC - Eden Residents Covid – 19 Financial Support Fund Application.

It was reported that Eden District Council had awarded £1500 to the Parish Council under this scheme. Strong reservations had been raised over the legality of a Parish Council making an award to a private individual in 'financial need'. Whilst the intentions of the scheme were very well intended there were concerns over: -

a) How 'financial need' could be assessed without means testing.

b) Implications regarding the yearend financial audit.

A request had been lodged with the NALC solicitors to clarify whether a Parish Council was legally empowered to manage such a grant scheme. A decision is awaited.

49/20 Councillor Matters An opportunity for Councillors to raise issues on behalf of residents.

49.1 Kirkland Car Park – by Kirkland Hall. It was reported that long grass around the edge of this car park was impeding parking. The situation had been aggravated by a lack of use during the Pandemic Lockdown. It was confirmed that this area was at the far end of and part of Kirkland Village Green.

Action: - Agreed to ask that this area be mowed every other time that the Kirkland Green was cut. The task to be added to the grass cutting contract.

(Note -The initial cost of the first cut was subsequently £12.75)

49.2 Co-option of Two Councillors.

Councillors were asked to seek applications from Parishioners in the Culgaith and Skirwith Wards.

50/20 Grant Applications – The following were unanimously agreed, proposed by Cllr C Richardson and seconded by Cllr S Smith

50.1	Kirkland and Blencarn Recreation Room	250.00
50.2	Victoria Institute Culgaith	250.00
50.3	Skirwith Village Hall	250.00
50.4	St John the Evangelist Church, Skirwith £200.00 for the upkeep of the churchyard, with an additional £50 to cover churchyard tree pruning.	250.00
50.5	St Lawrence Church, Kirkland £200.00, for the upkeep of the churchyard, with an additional £50 to cover pruning the Jubilee tree	250.00
50.6	All Saints Church, Culgaith, for the churchyard upkeep. The PCC being invited to apply for further grant support, for consideration by the Council, for an itemized task, should it be required.	200.00
50.7	Fellrunner	235.00

51/20 Annual Parish Meeting Arrangements – To Report

Following government advice on the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and under new legislation*which came into force on 4 April 2020 Culgaith Parish Council **cancelled the Annual Parish Meeting** scheduled for 11th May 2020 **and the Annal General Meeting of the Council** scheduled for 11May 2020.

Under Regulation 4 of the new regulations, appointments continue. Therefore, the **current 2019/20 Council structure will remain** until an annual meeting of the Council is held (possibly next year).

52/20 Dates and Venues of Future Meetings

Monday 7th September in Blencarn Village Hall, if Covid – 19 regulations permit or if not, a virtual meeting will be arranged using ‘Zoom’.

Monday 2nd November 2020 – Culgaith

Monday 4th January 2021– Skirwith

Monday 1st March 2021 – Blencarn

Monday 10th May 2021– Culgaith

(Annual Parish Meeting/AGM/May meeting

This meeting will be followed by the AGM and May Council Meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm with the Chair thanking Councillors for their ‘virtual’ attendance.

Signed by Chairman _____

Date _____