

CULGAITH PARISH COUNCIL

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Fell View
Blencarn, Penrith
Cumbria, CA10 1TX

Minute of the Meeting Held on Monday 13th January 2025 in Skirwith Village Hall. commencing at 7.30pm

Unapproved.

1/25 Present

Cllrs Caroline Richardson (Chair), Pauline Toppin (Vice Chair), Sue Smith, David Witney, Andrew Clay, Ken Philipson, Nick Mason. WAF Cllr Mary Robinson and John Fleming (Parish Clerk).

2/25 Apologies

WAF Cllr, Michael Hanley and Cllr Ian Stowers.

3/25 Minutes

The Chair was unanimously authorized to sign the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4th November 2024, as a true record.
Proposed by Cllr D Witney and Seconded by Cllr. N Mason.

4/25 Declaration of Interests

There were none.

5/25 Public Participation

There was none

6/25 Westmorland and Furness Council Report

A brief report was presented to the meeting from Cllr Mary Robinson making reference to the following: -

- 6.1 The review of the Footway and Highways lighting policy being undertaken by WAFC.
- 6.2 The Governments Devolution proposals which may lead to the election of a Mayor for Cumbria. Such a move could lead to more finance coming to the region.
- 6.3 The May elections 2025.
- 6.4 WAFC grants available for children and young people in the WAFC area.

7/25 Finance (Incl.Vat)

7.1 To note the following balances as at:-	17/12/2024
	£
HSBC Account	1797.01
Penrith Building Society	19691.30
NSI Account	24.21
Vat to be claimed	<u>165.78</u>
Total Cash	<u>21,678.30</u>

7.2 Presentation of Interim Accounts – 4th November 2024 to 13th January 2025

These accounts were unanimously approved.

Proposer Cllr A Clay
Secunder Cllr S Smith.

- 7.3 The Following Accounts were Ratified**
- | | | |
|-------|---|-----------------|
| 7.3.1 | J Fleming Salary November 2024 | As per contract |
| 7.3.2 | J Fleming Office Provision November 2024 | 20.00 |
| 7.3.3 | HSBC – Charges – 15/11/24 | 5.80 |
| 7.3.4 | HSBC – Charges – 15/12/24 | 5.00 |
| 7.3.5 | Angela Hartland – Clerical assistance | 28.00 |
| 7.3.6 | Cartridge People – Black Toner | 101.29 |
| 7.3.7 | Cartridge People - Full Set Toner ‘ | 159.60 |
| 7.3.8 | D Tec – Penrith On-site labour – Printer fault. | 54.00 |
| 7.3.9 | Mark Binney – Site Tidy Up – Otters Holt | 300.00 |
- 7.4 To Approve the Following Account for Payment**
- | | |
|---|-------|
| J Fleming Expenses, 4 th November 2024 – 13 th January 2025 | 17.35 |
|---|-------|
- 7.5 To Approve 7.3 and 7.4**
 These were unanimously approved
 Proposer Cllr S Smith
 Secunder Cllr C Richardson.
- 7.6 To Report a Transfer**
- | | |
|--|---------|
| Transfer from Penrith Building Society to current account. | 1500.00 |
|--|---------|
- 7.7 To Report the Following Receipt**
- | | |
|---|---------|
| J W Houses Ltd/Willan Living –
Otters Holt Community Land Maintenance Fee. | 2000.00 |
|---|---------|
- 7.8 Precept Figure for 2025/2026.**
 It was reported that some expense figures for 2025/2026 had been updated since the Budget was presented to the November meeting. Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to leave the Precept figure at £15000.
 Proposer Cllr N Mason
 Secunder Cllr D Witney
- This revised Budge was also unanimously accepted.
 Proposer Cllr D Witney
 Secunder Cllr C Richardson
- 7.9 Grass Cutting Contract – 2025/2026**
 The meeting was reminded that the Parish Council’s contractor was on a 3-year contract, terminating at the end of 2026, for the cutting of Culgaith, Skirwith, Kirkland and Blencarn village greens.
- However, a quote of £600 per year had been received, from our contractor, for the additional cutting of grass and tending the shrubbery borders, on the, newly acquired, Community Land at Otters Holt.
 This was unanimously accepted. A copy being on file.
 Proposer Cllr S Smith
 Secunder Cllr N Mason.

8/25 Planning

To Report.

2024/2002/FPA Croft View, Kirkland Rd, Skirwith - Solar panels + heat pump to rear
Croft View, Kirkland Rd , Skirwith - Solar panels + heat pump to rear.

Supported with Comment

2024/1658/FPA 2024/1658/FPA Mallard House Culgaith. Retrospective extension to existing garage/store. Supported

22/0362 – Land Northeast of Culgaith Primary School, Culgaith. - Erection of 5 dwellings including associated operations. The meeting was informed that this long standing and controversial application was being put before the Planning Committee on Wednesday 15TH January. Cllr S Smith would be present to inform the Committee of Culgaith Parish Councils strong objection.

9/25 Willan Living – Community Land Gifted to the Parish Council at Otters Holt.

Reported that the conveyance, regarding the transfer of ownership of this ground, had been completed on the 15th November 2024

10/25 Otters Holt - Community Land Management Plans

10.1 Following an Informal Consultation with some residents at Otters Holt it had been suggested that the provision of a Defibrillator, bench and notice board would be appreciated by those living on the estate.

10.2 Defibrillator – Reported that a grant application for a fully funded Defibrillator and Cabinet (approximate value £2120) had been submitted to the British Heart Foundation.; a decision was awaited. It was also reported that permission had been sought , but awaited, from Electricity North West to locate the Defibrillator Cabinet on the Electricity sub-station wall. The owner of a property, adjacent to the sub-station, had, public spiritly, agreed for the Cabinet to be wired into his property (quoted cost £300 + Vat) with the Parish Council covering this cost and also the annual electricity costs. (approx. £13)

10.3 Bench – The meeting was presented with a quote of £380 net for the provision of a black, recycled plastic, two-seater bench, with fixings. A parishioner had, kindly agreed to install it, at cost. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with this purchase. Cllr Ian Stowers would confirm the exact location.

10.4 Notice Board – As requested at the previous meeting, a quote had been sought from a local joiner to make a bespoke notice board. Regarding this suggestion, the opinion of the local joiner was that after taking into account labour and material costs, quality hard wood timber being very expensive, it may be a more cost effective decision to purchase a board from a professional company.

Quotes had, subsequently, been sought from a reputable and competitive company Signscape and Signconex.

Display Dimensions

890W x 624H Single Door	£856	+ £25 delivery (approx)
2 x 624W X 890 H Double Door	£1254	+ £145 delivery (approx)
2 x 670W X 931 H Double Door	£1369	+ £145 delivery (approx)

Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to purchase the 2 x 670W X 931H Double Door, Board,.at a total cost, including delivery, of approximately £1514.

It was agreed that the ideal location would be in front of the electricity sub-station wall.

11/25 'Fibrus' FFTP Overhead Installation – Culgaith.

11.1 Markus Campbell-Savours MP – Was contacted, as requested, outlining all the concerns and issues raised, regarding this issue, as recorded in the 4th November minutes; a copy being sent to 'Fibrus'

11.2 'Fibrus' Response' A response was received from 'Fibrus' immediately, as reported below:-

Stating that they were investigating why their contractor had submitted an application to install 17 poles in Culgaith. This was because, as it currently stands, 'Fibrus' are not contracted to deliver a full fibre broadband network in Culgaith. It being assumed, that this is because another supplier has indicated that it intends to deliver full fibre in the Culgaith area, namely 'Voneus'.

'Fibrus' suggested that as 'Voneus' has already delivered full fibre to only parts of the Parish and has recently written to other residents to withdraw its interest in extending the network to other villages, CPC may wish to forward a copy of this correspondence to Markus Campbell-Savours MP and ask him to share it with BDUK (Building Digital UK) to let them know that the previous commercial interest in your area has now fallen away.

As part of the **Hyperfast GB Project**, 'Fibrus', via its contractor, 'Viberoptix', is surveying all 60,000 properties in the '**Project Gigabit Programme**' in order to provide a view of delivery and implementation cost, should those properties be brought into the **Hyperfast GB Project**. This work helps 'Fibrus' to respond, in a timely manner, to any requests to add more properties to the **Hyperfast GB** contract.

It is suspected that 'Viberoptix' has issued the pole application as part of this survey work. For example, if 'Fibrus' were to build in the village, either to connect properties in the village or to get their network through the village, to properties beyond, then the final design of that network would depend on responses received to the statutory 28 day consultation, 'Fibrus' submits to Highways for infrastructure on public land. To that end, the application forms part of the survey process. **There is currently no sign-off for these poles to be stood.**

It is strongly recommended Culgaith Parish Council make a response to the Highways consultation to raise its concerns, as has been done, to your MP. That response will be considered by the 'Fibrus' planning team when developing the final design, should 'Fibrus' be contracted to deliver to properties in Culgaith in the future.

For more information regarding the **Hyperfast GB Project** log onto

<https://hyperfastgb.com/>

11.3 Markus Campbell-Savours MP responded by forwarding to the Parish Council a copy of the response that had received by the Parish Council, from 'Fibrus'

12/25 Kings Portrait – Culgaith C of E School - It was reported that the school had greatly appreciated the gift of the portrait, it was now proudly hung in the main hall, being a focal point to raise awareness of the Monarchy.

13/25 Highways and Land Matters

13.1 Pedestrian Hazard - Black Swan Junction, Culgaith.

This issue had been raised with Highways and they were assessing what, effective, action could be done to improve safety, a possibility being to improve road markings. It being recognized that this was a 'tricky' corner with no spare space to make road improvements. A response is now awaited.

On contacting the Police, they had responded by saying that the public could assist by reporting any dangerous incidents to them on Tel No. 101, giving details of date, time, registration number and a photograph of the incident. They would then follow up the matter.

13.2 Skirwith – Church St. Roadside Concrete Post and Rail Fence Repair.

Reported, as previously, that this in hand with Highways and will be actioned when funding is available.

13.3 Drainage issue - The Pea to A6412 Junction

Still in hand with Highways.

13.4 Flooding Skirwith – Between Blencarn Junction and Skirwith

Reported to Highways.

13.5 Broken Manhole Cover – Skirwith/Langwathby Verge. - Repaired.

13.6 Mill Cottage, Blencarn – Drains requiring jetting. - Reported to Highways.

13.7 Damaged 'Give Way' Sign – Blencarn to Skirwith Junction.

Reported that a request had been made to Highways to repair the sign and also to re-paint the road marking.

14/25 Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications.

The following item of correspondence was received since the last meeting.

14.1 Forwarded E Mails to Councillors – 29 since the 4th November meeting. Kept on file for 12 months.

14.1 Sat Nav Mapping Clarification

Reported that a response had been made to a Parishioner's correspondence, clarifying the level of detail shown on a Sat – Nav programme. The cheaper programmes showing little detail and not indicating carriageway weight limits with the very expensive programmes including a wealth of data, including weight limits.

14.2 Culgaith Recycling Site

Reported that a response had been made to a Parishioner's correspondence, regarding the tidiness of the Culgaith Recycling site. It being clarified that this area was not the responsibility of the Parish Council, but that of Culgaith Village Hall Committee, to whom correspondence should be directed.

14.3 WAFC Lighting Policy

It was reported that WAFC were undertaking a major review of the Authorities Footway and Highways lighting policy. A report being expected later in the year.

14.4 Community Led Planning Initiative – ACT

It was reported that ‘ACTion for Communities in Cumbria’ could offer help and advice to Parish Councils wishing to formulate a ‘Community Plan’

Further details being available from:-

ACTion with Communities in Cumbria,

www.cumbriaaction.org.uk | info@cumbriaaction.org.uk 3957858

15/25 Councillor Matters.

An opportunity for Councilors to raise issues on behalf of residents.

15.1 Damaged ‘Give Way’ Sign – Blencarn to Skirwith Junction.

A Councillor raised concerns that this issue had still not been resolved.

Action:- To chase Highways on the matter.

15.2 Tarn Public Liability Insurance.

Reported that ‘The Guardians of the Tarn’ Committee has sought clarification regarding the Public Liability Insurance cover for the Tarn. It was reported that the Tarn, being owned by the Parish Council, was covered under the Parish Council’s policy.

16/25 Dates and Venues of 2025 Meetings.

All on Mondays at 7.30pm.,

3rd March Blencarn Village Hall

12th May Culgaith, Victoria Institute, (Annual Parish Meeting/AGM/May meeting)

7th July Skirwith Village Hall,

1st September Blencarn Village Hall.

3rd November Culgaith, Victoria Institute,

The Chair thanked Councillors for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.05.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____