

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting Held on Thursday 23rd November 2017
in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present

Cllrs: Mr. D Banks (In the Chair), Mr. I Harrington, , Miss. K Little, Mr. W F Mounsey, Mr. M Holliday, Mr. J Fleming (Clerk), one members of the public and County Councillor Claire Driver.

Mr. P Tibbetts joined the meeting in time for item 824 - correspondence.

Apologies for absence

Cllrs:-Mrs. C Merrie, Mr. C Wilson, Miss K Metcalfe, Mr. T Wentworth Waites, Mr Craig Eland.

818 Minutes

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 28th September 2017, as a true record.

819 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Miss. K Little and Mr. I Harrington, declared their positions as Langwathby Village Hall Committee representatives.

820 Public Participation

820.1 County Council Report – Cllr Claire Driver presented a brief report, mentioning the work of the ‘Health and Welfare Committee’.

820.1.1 Cumbria’s support for the ‘Pass Plus’ scheme for young drivers. The cost of training in Cumbria currently averages around £160 and Cumbria will contribute £100 in the form of a voucher towards the cost; subject to the following condition:

1. Must be a Cumbrian resident, register within 12 months of passing their test and be aged between 17 to 24 inc, at the time.

2. You must use an instructor that is on the approved list.

820.1.2 Good Neighbour’ Scheme in offering Dementia friendly, support and training.

820.1.3 Planned future Road works was reported – further details are available on request.

820.2 District Council Report – Cllr Doug Banks briefly reported on:

820.2.1 Integrated Care in the Community’ scheme

820.;2.2 The ‘Community Government Review’ of local Councils. It was agreed that there was no reason to make any changes to the Langwathby Parish in this respect.

821 Finance (Incl. Vat)**821.1 The Following Balances were Noted:**

Vat to be claimed (Claim made)	£1585.33
Village Hall to refund	£ 12.78
Penrith Building Society	£4648.18
Barclays	£1613.01

821.2 The Following Accounts were Ratified

Clerk Broadband/Tel Sept/October	£ 30.00
Clerk Fee Sept/October	£440.00
Opus Energy VH	£ 69.36
Opus Energy VH	£ 88.10
Opus Energy VH	£103.16
Joe Thwaites. Memorial Garden	£ 40.00
Team Energy New Boiler VH	£5100.00
PWLB* VH Loan	£3726.04
BDO* *External Audit	£ 240.00

**PWLB - Public Works Loan Board*

***BDO or Binder Dijker Otte is an international network of public accounting, tax, consulting and business advisory firms which perform professional services under the name of BDO.*

821.3 The Following Payments were Agreed

Clerks Expenses	£41.55
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821.4 The Following Receipts were Noted:

Village Hall Committee	£4557.81
Cemetery Fees	£ 200.00
NALC Transparency Fund – Laptop	£ 550.00
EDC Recycling Income	£ 459.62
PBS Transfer	£1000.00

821.5 An Interim Set of Accounts – Unanimously Accepted**821.6 Transparency Fund Grants – Laptop Purchase.**

Reported, see above, that a NALC grant had been received to finance a new Laptop computer. Agreed to purchase along with an updated Microsoft Office programme, providing all was covered by grant

822 Planning Matters

There were none

823 Highways and Land Matters

823.1 Robin Hood Lane Footpath Stile – Steps / Handrail being installed.

823.2 Path by School Entrance - Root Damage –Highways had scheduled a repair during December 2017

823.3 School Keep Clear Markings.– Following a site meeting with Highways, it was confirmed that it was not possible to add any further safety lining.

823.4 Walby Garth Entrance – Road Surface. –Highways had scheduled

the work to be completed by April 2018.

- 823.5 Cemetery Railings Painting** - In hand
- 823.6 Langwathby Village Hall External Insulated Wall Coating** - Cumbria Fire Inspection Officer Consulted– Confirmed safe.
- 823.7 Langwathby Village Hall** – Possible vehicle access to rear via the Trisvelhus by Esh, Langwathby Hall, development – Arranging a site visit to clarify detail.
- 823.8 Grass Cutting 2018 – 2020** - Agreed to seek tenders, for grass cutting in the Parish, for a three year period for consideration at the March 2018 meeting. The Clerk to seek clarification regarding the cutting of grass at the Langwathby and Edenhall Sports Field
- 823.9 Tennis Court – Langwathby.** – A notice had been erected requesting that football be played on the village green and that the court be only used for tennis.
- 823.10 Edenhall Light No 4** - Outside Lilac Cottage Church Lane, the light had been disconnected due to poor condition, being a 'Non Accepted' light it will not be replaced by EDC.
- 823.11 Langwathby Light No 18** – Rear of School House, light had been disconnected due to poor condition, being an 'Accepted' light it will be added to the EDC Outstanding Works Programme and be replaced with a hinged, column light.
- 823.12 Dangerous Culgaith Junction** – Action:- Cllr Claire Driver agreed to take up the issue with Cumbria County Council Road Safety Partnership and the police.
- 823.13 'Openreach' Work Langwathby Village Green** – A request had been received from 'Openreach' to remove their cables from two electricity poles and place them in a 30m underground duct between 'Crossfell View Barn' and 'Cross Fell View' on the village green.
Action:- Agreed to give permission and to negotiate a Wayleave fee.

'824 Correspondence, Notices and Publications

'824.1 Langwathby and Edenhall Community Flags

Correspondence, along with sample designs, had been received from Mr. Philip Tibbetts, Langwathby; the 'Community Vexillologist of the Flag Institute' and an advisor to the Parliamentary Flags and Heraldry Committee, offering to assist in registering flags for the villages of Langwathby and Edenhall. Mr Tibbetts joined the meeting and gave a presentation outlining the benefits to the community of having their own flag.

Action:- Decided to consider the proposal with the issue being added to the January 18th 2018 agenda.

824.2 EDC Carol Service – Monday 11th December, St Andrews Church, Penrith, 6.30pm. Chairman, Mary Robinson extended a warm welcome to all members of the Parish to attend.

824.3 Revised Parliamentary Boundary Changes – Detail were received regarding the proposed new boundary to the 'Penrith and Solway constituency. The consultation period on these proposed changes ending on the 11th December 2017. **Action:-** LPC had no comment to make.

824.4 Fellrunner Village Bus Donation – Correspondence had been received requesting a donation, based on Langwathby Parish use, of £444.90. It was reported that a donation of £300, for 2017, had been made to this organisation in May 2017.

Action:- To consider a 2018 donation at the May 2018 meeting.

825 Devolution and Transfer of Assets from EDC to Parish Councils.

825.1 Following the September 28th meeting it was reported that EDC had agree to offer 'Maintenance' and 'Group Electricity Supply' contracts with the financial terms being clarified as stated below, providing a sufficient number of Parish Councils agreed to sign up to these arrangements.

825.2 'Maintenance' and 'Group Electricity Supply' Contract Terms

It was agreed to sign a 'Maintenance' and 'Group Electricity Supply' contract with EDC on the basis of £46.32 for Maintenance and £74.64 Group Electricity Supply, giving a total of £120.96 per 'Accepted' light; EDC invoicing the Parish Council a figure of £3024 (£120.96 X 25) on the date of 'Takeover and annually thereafter. In addition EDC will charge a 1.5% fee of £45.36 to cover the administration and management of the above two contracts; the above prices being fixed until 31 March 2022.

The cost of this arrangement being covered in full by EDC in the 2018/19 financial year, with this grant being phased out over a 4 year period, as detailed in the 28th September minute.

825.3 New Tender 2022

It being understood that EDC will tender for and negotiate new 'Maintenance' and 'Group Electricity Supply' contracts, on behalf of Parish Councils, to take effect from 1st April 2022. It being at the discretion of Langwathby Parish Council whether it commits itself to this new contract or whether it decides to make alternative arrangements.

825.4 6 Yearly Electricity Test and Condition Survey

It was understood that EDC is negotiating, with a contractor, to offer a 6 Yearly Electricity Test and Condition Survey, facility for Parish Councils, being administered by EDC, in exchange, again, for a 1.5% management fee. Subject to agreement on the exact terms, the Council agreed to sign up to such a contract.

825.5 Day to Day Working Arrangements of a Maintenance Contract.

It was understood that the day to day working arrangements being that, in the event of a light failing, the Parish Council would contact EDC in the first instance, with EDC then notifying the contractor and giving authorization for the work to proceed. EDC would pay the contractor centrally, on behalf of all participating Parish Councils; the same applying for the Group Electricity Supply and 6 yearly Electricity Test and Condition Survey contracts.

825.6 Terms of Take over.

The Council confirmed that a condition of taking over the 'Accepted' Footway Lights in the Parish was that they had all been converted to **LED bulbs on hinged columns.**

This point being strictly 'Not negotiable'.

826 Precept and Budget for 2018/2019

826.1 General Budget. The Clerk presented a detailed analysis of the 2017/18 budget and recommended that there was no need to raise the Precept to cover the expected Councils general expenses in the 2018/2019 financial year; however consideration needed to be given to the financial implications of taking over the responsibility of Footway Lighting.

826.2 Devolved Footway Lighting Provision. The cost implication for taking over the responsibility of Footway Lighting in the Parish would be approximately £3200 per annum (21.3% increase), this being phased in over a four year period. Following discussion it was agreed that it would be prudent to phase in the expected increase in the Councils budget over the next four years. Doing so would protect Parishioners from a substantial jump in their Council Tax in four years' time and also be a safeguard to protect the

Councils budget should the Government decide, at some point in the future, to cap Parish Councils Precepts.

This implication for the 2018/19 budget would be to add an extra £800 to the Precept.

Decision:- To lift the Precept in 2018/19 by £800 (5.33%) to cover the part cost of taking over the Footway Lighting. There being no need to make a general lift in the Precept to cover existing expenditure.

Band D Property Implication - The implications of this increase, of £800, on a Band D property, in the Parish being approximately £2.40 per property in the year.

827 Councillor Matters

827.1 Langwathby Bridge Potholes – It was reported that potholes were appearing on Langwathby bridge. **Action:-** To notify Highways Department.

827.2 Langwathby Bridge 50th anniversary – The meeting was reminded that March 2018 was the 50th Anniversary of the original bridge being washed away. It noted that organisations within the Parish were planning anniversary celebrations. These would be discussed at the January 18th 2018, meeting.

827.3 Langwathby Bridge Replacement. – It was agreed to open discussions with Cumbria County Highways Department over the possible replacement of the temporary structure.

It was galling to note that the Pooley Bridge temporary bridge was being replaced within a couple of years, following it being washed away; however it was noted that this replacement was being financed by designated 'Storm Desmond', bridge funding.

827.4 – Roadside Verge Edenhall Crossroads. – Concern was raised over the damage done to the roadside verge by the Langwathby and Edenhall Sports Field as a result of the security barriers, erected by United Utilities, around their facility, opposite.

Action:- To take the matter up with United Utilities.

'828 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Langwathby Village Hall - back room

Thursday January 18th 2018, commencing at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15 pm