

**LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

**Present:** Mr D.H. Banks, Mr J.E.A.Burne, Mr J.M.Holliday (District Councillor), Mr P.M.Jackson, Mr G.C.Little, Mrs C.Merrie (in the Chair), Mr T.W.Metcalf, together with four parishioners.  
Apologies were received from Mr W.F.Mounsey and Ms S.Ripper

**688 Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**689 Declarations of Interests:** Mr D.Banks and Mr P.Jackson declared interests as members of the Village Hall Committee as representatives of the Parish Council.

**690 Police Report:** The community police officer reported a number of thefts of heating oil and quad bikes. He confirmed that speed checks will be undertaken on the A686 over the summer and also agreed to lend a portable speed indicator for use in Langwathby; Mr J.M.Holliday agreed to accommodate the device for the period of the loan. PC Bradley agreed to take further action regarding the parking of HGVs on the highway at night time and confirmed that mini-motorbikes are legally vehicles requiring tax, insurance and wearing of helmets. The arrangements for Appleby Horse Fair were discussed.

**691 Update Reports**

- 1. Highways:** A complaint regarding wear to the non-slip surface of the footbridge over the Eden had been referred to the County Council and this was to be renewed.
- 2. Meadowside Development:** An update from Eden Housing Association was requested on progress with selling the affordable homes and the points system being used to allocate them.
- 3. Cemetery:** Work not yet put in hand
- 4. Eden Straits:** A response from the County Council was awaited on the request for permission to trim foliage near "Walter's Seat".
- 5. Land Registration:** The solicitor was in correspondence with Enterprise Inns regarding ownership of the car park adjacent to the Shepherd's Inn and registration of other land was being held back until this issue was resolved.
- 6. Swings and roundabout:** Work to be put in hand shortly.
- 7. Local Government Reorganization:** CALC had decided to confirm its support for one or more unitary councils for Cumbria but had reservations about the County Council's scheme as presently proposed, especially in relation to devolvement of powers to local areas. CALC would also work with the District Councils when they produced alternative proposals for improving the existing "two tier" system.
- 8. Edenhall Bus Shelter:** Eden District Council had agreed to empty the litter bin in the shelter.

**692 Village Hall:** Members were advised that Mrs M.Truman had resigned as Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and Mr G.Hodgson was Acting Chairman until the AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> April. There was a need for some more committee members who live in Edenhall or Langwathby.

As there was no prospect of obtaining a grant to undertake the full refurbishment scheme in a single project, this was now being re-costed in a phased programme that was more realistic. Professional assistance was likely to be obtained to assist with the main grant applications but in the meantime it was hoped that a small grant could be obtained to upgrade the present kitchen.

Members welcomed the report, received the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> October 2006 and asked that the Parish Council receive regular reports on progress.

**693 Village Maintenance:** Mr Holliday agreed to arrange for the surface of the Games Park to be cleaned. The Clerk was requested to approach Mr Jack Dulson (if not, Mr Nigel Preston) to see if he was able to paint some seats.

#### 694 Finance

**1. Balances:** The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£1,743.99
Business Premium a/c	£8,747.04
VAT to be recovered	£173.02

**2. Accounts to be ratified:** The following accounts were ratified:

W.Veitch, cemetery grass cutting: honorarium	£100
petrol	£30.68
Performing Right Society re Village Hall	£50.49 plus VAT
Penrith Tool Hire Ltd, mower servicing	£47.70 plus VAT
Powergen, electricity for Village Hall	£548.88 plus VAT

**3. Accounts to be paid:** The following payments were approved:

L.Watson re Memorial Garden	£87.50
CALC annual subscription	£171
R.Wager, Clerk's salary, Dec-Feb	£400
Printer ink, stationery & postage	£44.84

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

Village Hall Committee re ABT Mechanical Services	£140.82
Village Hall Committee re Performing Right Soc.	£50.49
Village Hall Committee re Powergen	£548.88
B.L & S.Horn, headstone fee	£50
Eden DC, recycling credit Oct-Dec	£221.21

**5. Appointment of External Auditor:** Members noted that an officer of the Audit Commission will again audit the Council's accounts for 2006/7 but there will then be a competitive tendering process for the next appointment. Members further noted that the audit fees have been revised and new fees operate for a 5-year period from 2006/7

**6. Grant Requests:** Grant requests received from Childline North West and Resolve Mediation Service were declined. It was agreed that Martha Rose, Rural Outreach Project Coordinator-Eden for the Mediation Service should be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

**7. Cemetery Grant:** Eden District Council's amended grants policy was noted, namely that in future the District will only meet 75% of an annual deficit if the parish does not have sufficient balances to meet the deficit

#### 695 Planning

**1. Hyde Park Farm, Edenhall (Student/holiday accommodation):** The objection on traffic grounds and unsuitability of the location was noted.

**2. Stratheden, Langwathby:** It was agreed that the comments to the Planning Authority should seek clarification of the arrangements and guarantees for providing "affordable housing" in a private development.

**3. Scaur House, Langwathby:** A query was raised regarding the need for planning permission for a new access and members requested that advice be sought from Eden District Council.

#### 696 Correspondence

**1. CALC/Local Government Reorganisation:** The Chairman will attend the CALC meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**2. Parish Tree Warden Scheme:** It was agreed that an interest should be expressed in this scheme and it was believed there would be persons willing to be the designated “tree warden(s)”.

**3. Cumbria in Bloom:** A notice will be placed in The Memo to see if anyone would be willing to act as coordinator for future years.

Correspondence was also noted relating to the following matters: Elections; Development Control Planning Course; Quality Parish Councils; Code of Conduct; Eden Community Strategy Action Plan: Eden Scrutiny Work Plan 2007/8; Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework; Appleby Fair; Planning Document on an Accessible & Inclusive Environment; Planning Primary Education for East Penrith; St George’s Day; Open Evening for Prospective District Councillors; and Surestart Development of Extended Services.

#### 697 Local Concerns

**1. State of road at Henderson’s Lane:** As this is not a highway, it is a matter for the users.

**2. State of road at bend on A686 near the Luham:** This will be drawn to the attention of the Area Engineer.

**3. Recycling Centre:** A suggestion for use of parochial land off Salkeld Road for a new centre was noted but could not be pursued, as the land was let and not currently available.

**4. Powley’s Garth:** It was agreed that the provision of a nameplate should be raised with Eden District Council.

**5. State of Langwathby Village Green:** A letter was requested to be sent to K&B Coaches, complaining about the damage to the green in the vicinity of the Parish noticeboard and on the opposite corner.

#### 698 Retirement of Mr J.E.A.Burne

As this was the last meeting before the parish council elections on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, the Council recorded its deep appreciation of the service given by Mr Alan Burne of Bonnie Mount, Edenhall, who would be standing down after a period of more than 40 years. Mr Burne said he was co-opted to the Council in October 1966 and was elected at the following election. When he joined the Council, the pressing issues of the time were the problem of parking on the green round The Shepherd’s Inn, as the village car park had not then been provided. A 30 mph speed limit had just been introduced at Langwathby and there was felt to be a need to start cutting the grass on the village green! The de-staffing of the railway station and possible closure of the line was another hot issue at the time. The Chairman, Mrs Carol Merrie, paid credit to the outstanding service which Mr Burne had given to the people of Edenhall and Langwathby over the last 40 years. Other members echoed these sentiments and referred to the skill with which Mr Burne had chaired the Council for a period of ten years, providing strong and fair leadership.

**699 Date of next meeting:** Annual Parish Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> May. Parish Council AGM – 17<sup>th</sup> May.

(The meeting finished at 9.10pm.)