

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th November 2007

Present: Mr D.H.Banks, Mr W.H.Benn, Mr I.S.Harrington, Mr J.M.Holliday (District Councillor), Mr P.M.Jackson, Mrs C.Merrie (in the Chair), Mr T.W.Metcalf and Mr W.F.Mounsey, together with PC M.Bradley.

Apologies were received from County Councillor Mrs I.Henderson. Members were advised that Mr G.C.Little was recovering from his operation and had hoped to attend the meeting.

43 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman, subject to noting that the gate on the station access road (minute 40/4) infringed the right of access of adjoining landowners. Members agreed that this was a matter for the landowners to take up with Network Rail.

44 Police Report: PC Bradley reported an incident of damage to a car in Coxon Lane, Langwathby. He urged property owners to check the security of sheds and outhouses during the run-up to Christmas. The arrangements for the annual remembrance ceremony were discussed and PC Bradley advised that, to stop traffic passing the war memorial, police presence should be requested.

45 Update Reports:

1. Highways: The Area Engineer had said that a 10mph speed limit on Back Lane, Langwathby, would not be possible and a 20mph limit could only be considered as part of a traffic calming scheme. He had explained the Community Travel Plan programme and anticipated that Langwathby would be included in this in 2008. The Parish Council and members of the community would be invited to suggest a prioritized list of highway improvement schemes for the local area and the Parish Council might wish to raise the issue of traffic calming in Back Lane.

The Clerk reported a letter explaining the County Council's proposal to achieve a further widening of a length of the road to Skirwith. Members welcomed this but felt that the available funds should be concentrated on widening rather than kerbing. It was also felt that the opportunity should be taken to place signs at either end of the "Drove Road" to discourage use by heavy vehicles.

2. Land registration: The Clerk gave a progress report, which indicated that an objection may have been made to the Parish Council's registration of the memorial garden. Further information was awaited from the Council's solicitors.

3. Fishing Rights: The Clerk reported that Edenhall Estates and Yorkshire Anglers had been consulted on the proposed registration of a section of the River Eden as a village green and no objections had been raised. The Anglers had, however, requested that, if the registration is successful, suitable management arrangements should be discussed with the Parish Council; this was agreed.

4. Tree Surgery: This work had been completed satisfactorily.

5. Eden CALC AGM: The Chairman reported the discussion at the meeting and that Eden District Council had accepted the proposed parish charter.

6. Sewage Overflow, Culgaith Road: United Utilities had indicated that they needed to be informed when the manhole was overflowing in heavy rain and had supplied a contact number.

46 Highways Response Teams

The Clerk explained the County Council's new arrangements for Area Highway Teams, Emergency Response Teams and Permanent Repair Teams, which were operating on a trial basis from 5th November to March 2008. It was anticipated that the Area Highway Team would spend several days in Langwathby parish from 3rd March and 26th August, carrying out minor repairs programmed in discussion with the Parish Council. It was agreed that the necessary repairs would need to be identified at the preceding Parish Council meeting.

47 **Briggle Beck Footpath**

The Chairman reported the outcome of a meeting with officers from the Parish Paths Initiative programme and Hunsonby Parish Council. The main need was to provide a mud-free path on the Winskill side of the beck but work was also needed to stabilize the ground and improve access to the bridge on the Langwathby side. The Council agreed in principle to seek a joint improvement scheme with Hunsonby Parish Council and to prepare a costed proposal for the grant application.

48 **Langwathby & Edenhall First Responders**

The Chairman agreed to clarify with the First Responders Committee the reasons for their request for a parish council representative.

49 **Quality Parish Council Application**

The Clerk gave a progress report on preparation of the Council's application. With regard to the criteria, he said that, whilst attendance at meetings was generally good, members occasionally omitted to give apologies when they were prevented from attending. It was agreed that a reminder should be included in the notice of meeting. Members also discussed the Council's arrangements for communication with electors and the usual requirement of four newsletters per annum. The Council felt this was not appropriate for Langwathby, given that there were six meetings per annum and a full account was published in the Cumberland Herald after each meeting, with selected items also appearing in The Memo parish magazine. Consequently it was agreed that three newsletters per annum in addition to the other means of communication was appropriate.

50 **Finance**

1. Balances: The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£2,074.64
Everyday Saver a/c	£8,855.29
VAT to be recovered	£420.26

2. Accounts to be ratified: Payment of the following accounts, both in accordance with estimates given, was ratified:

C.Wakefield, tree surgery	£530 plus VAT
N.Preston, grass cutting (second half of year)	£504

3. Accounts to be paid: Payment of the following accounts was approved:

Powergen re Village Hall	£785.75 plus VAT
Clerk's salary, Sep-Nov	£500
R.Wager re postage, stationery & printer ink	£23.24
L.Watson re Memorial Garden maintenance	£49

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

Interest on Business Premium account	£48
N.Greeves re Memorial Garden maintenance	£49

5. Honorarium: An honorarium for Mrs G.Veitch in appreciation of work undertaken as internal auditor in 2007 was approved in the sum of £35.

6. Grants

(i) **Fellrunner:** The grant for this year was fixed at £320.

(ii) **North West Air Ambulance:** A request for grant was declined.

7. Budget for 2008/9: The budget for 2008/9 was approved as submitted.

8. Parish Precept for 2008/9: The Parish Precept was set at £8,500 for the following year.

9. Clerk's Salary: It was agreed that the Clerk's salary should be reviewed in 12 months time but a one-off additional payment of £500 be made in the current financial year to reflect the extra work undertaken in preparing the Council's application for Quality Parish Council status.

51 Correspondence

1. Ways to Tackle Climate Change: Ms S.Ripper agreed to study the DEFRA publication and to bring any suggestions for local action to a future meeting.

2. Other Correspondence: Reports and correspondence were also noted on the following matters: CALC newsletter; Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework; road closure near West Lodge at Edenhall; Moving-On Support Scheme; and the “Deceased on Line” national search facility for burial and cremation records.

52 Village Hall

1. Progress Report: Apologies for absence were received from Mr T.Green, owing to his wife’s illness. Consequently the report was deferred.

2. Landfill Tax Grant: The Council agreed to be the third party contributor in the sum of £500 to enable the Village Hall Committee to access a grant of £5,000 from the Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust.

3. Tennis Court: A resident’s concerns regarding the continued availability of a full-size tennis court were reported. Ms Ripper agreed to check the measurements to confirm whether there was sufficient space for a tennis court to share the Games Park area without demolishing the garage store.

53. Local Concerns

The following issues were raised:

1. Fallen leaves at The Meadows bungalows: Mr Oxnard’s further letter to be referred to Eden Housing Association.

2. Day Centre Charges: Concerns regarding the level of charges for elderly people attending day centres to be referred to the County Council.

3. Highways Issues: The ongoing drainage problem opposite Langwathby School to be referred to the Area Highway Team for their visit in March; a pothole to be reported in Henderson’s Lane (if public highway); deterioration of the road surface at the Luham corner on the A686 to be reported in view of further accidents there; improvements to be sought to the layby opposite the Skirwith road junction on the A686 (ideally including a litter bin).

4. Langwathby Bus Shelter: It was agreed that this would need to be painted in the spring.

54. **Next Meeting:** Thursday 17th January 2008.

(The meeting finished at 9.30pm.)