

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th September 2008

Present: Mr D.H.Banks, Mr W.H.Benn, Mr I.S.Harrington, Mr J.M.Holliday (District Councillor), Mr P.M.Jackson, Mr G.C.Little, Mr W.F.Mounsey (in the Chair) and Mr T.W.Metcalf.
Apologies were received from Mrs C.Merrie, Ms S.E.Ripper, County Councillor Mrs I.Henderson and PC R.Harrison.

117 Minutes: The minutes of the meetings held on 17th July and 13th August 2008 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

118 Police Report: The Community Police Officer was not present but sent a brief report of theft of diesel from Carrs Billington and of a vehicle from Bonnie Mount, Edenhall.

119 Update Reports

- 1. Highways:** Members discussed the recent repairs to Langwathby river bridge. The Highways Department had confirmed that rumours circulating about further bridge closures were groundless and the pedestrian bridge would be resurfaced later in the year without the need to close it. Following an initial meeting in May to produce a community travel plan, it was agreed that a follow up public meeting should be held on 9th October at 7.30pm at Langwathby Methodist Church.
- 2. Land Registration:** Signing of the car park licence was now proceeding
- 3. Briggie Beck Footpath:** The Clerk understood that the County Council had inspected the badly drained area but had yet to discuss possible solutions with the Environment Agency.
- 4. Langwathby Sewage Works:** A letter was read from United Utilities, confirming that they would take steps to improve the access road. No guarantees could yet be given that the track would be tarmaced but they were endeavouring to identify funding to tarmac at least part of it.
- 5. Recycling Centre:** The District Council had accepted the Parish Council's comments on the draft plan and would be preparing a revised version for comment. It would be several months before the new compound could be provided.
- 6. Cumbria in Bloom:** The need for a coordinator to be publicized in the October Memo.
- 7. Memorial Seat:** The preferred location of the seat offered in memory of Mr and Mrs Balmer was by the noticeboard in Langwathby.
- 8. Tennis Court:** Metcalfe's had agreed to reinstate the sunken area where the drain had been repaired.

120 Highway Stewards

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported on a meeting held the previous evening to introduce the new highway steward to the parishes he would be serving. A person was needed to act as the contact, through whom any highway problems would be relayed to the steward. It was agreed that Mrs Merrie should be asked to do this, with back up from the Clerk.

121 Village Hall

- 1. Refurbishment Scheme:** Work had commenced on 3rd September and was due to be completed by 28th October. The Clerk reported that it had been necessary to take out Works in Progress insurance to cover the contract and also to appoint a "CDM Coordinator" under the Construction, Design and Management Regulations 2007. The works would be fenced for safety reasons and it would be necessary to close the tennis court for a while at some point. A number of issues arising from an initial site meeting with the architect and contractor were also discussed and the various matters were resolved as follows:
 - (i) Payment of an additional premium to cover Works in Progress insurance be paid to Zurich Insurance Ltd.
 - (ii) Plansafe Solutions Ltd be appointed CDM Coordinator for the project and the Clerk be authorized to sign the F10 notification to the Health & Safety Executive.

- (iii) Payments to the contractor to be paid in accordance with the architect's certificates.
- (iv) A "tea bar" be constructed in the rear room of the Hall, if this is required by the WI and is approved by the Village Hall Committee, subject to the cost being met by a grant from the WI.
- (v) Mr D.Banks be requested to clarify the need for steelwork support for the roof and, if appropriate, Bingham Yates & Partners be appointed as structural engineers to advise.

2. Eden District Scrutiny Review: The Clerk reported that the District Council had accepted the Parish Council's suggestion that the funding of village hall maintenance and refurbishment should be the subject of a scrutiny review, in view of the current difficult situation regarding grants. The review would commence at the end of the year.

122 Display of Notices for Community Events

Members noted the response received from Eden District Council regarding the action taken by Eden Community Wardens in relation to the display of signs advertising community fund-raising events. The response indicated that the wardens would be concentrating on dealing with litter and dog fouling in future.

123 Matters Arising from Risk Assessment

1. Review of records: A meeting was arranged for 23rd October at 7.30pm at Townhead Farm.

2. Financial Regulations: The revised Regulations were agreed as circulated.

3. Property Inspections: Inspections of properties and equipment undertaken by councillors in Edenhall and part of Langwathby were reported and measures agreed as follows:

- (i) Mr W.Benn to arrange painting of a seat and the chains round the war memorial at Edenhall, a new gate for the pinfold, clearing vegetation from the parish noticeboard and tidying the bus shelter.
- (ii) The Clerk to report a depression in Langwathby village green to United Utilities and, subject to checking there is sufficient room, to seek approval from the County Council to place "Walter's seat" on the opposite side of Eden Straits.
- (iii) Mr C.Little to arrange for the riverside picnic table in Langwathby to be secured and, if practicable, for the adjacent cherry tree to be pruned.
- (iv) Mt T.Metcalf to arrange for the verge of Eden Straits to be cut and tidied up.
- (v) Mrs C.Merrie to be requested to refer the blocked drains in Back Lane and weed growth on footpaths to the highway steward.

The remaining areas of Langwathby to be inspected for the next meeting.

124 Tree Planting

An offer of an oak sapling from the WI was welcomed and Members felt it could best be planted at the Edenhall Sports Ground, if the trustees were agreeable.

125 Edenhall Parish Pump

Members agreed that a scheme should be prepared for restoration of the pump. Mr W.Benn agreed to do this and report back.

126 Finance

1. Balances: The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£3,827.81
Everyday Saver a/c	£8,855.29
VAT to be recovered	£5.62

2. Accounts to be ratified: Payment of the following account was ratified:

Village Hall Committee re E.ON	£112.36 plus VAT
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3. Accounts to be paid: Payment of the following accounts was approved:

Zurich Insurance Ltd, works in progress insurance	£387.70
BDO Stoy Hayward LLP, external audit fee	£165 plus VAT

R.Wager, Clerk's salary, June to August	£500
Printer ink, postage and stationery	£34.33
4. Receipts: Receipt of the following sums was noted:	
Eden District Council recycling credit, Apr-Jun	£308.34
Village Hall Committee, contribution re electricity	£112.36
“ “ , contribution re insurance	£295
“ “ , contribution re drain repair	£567.65
HM Customs & Excise, VAT return	£1,187.97

5. External Audit: External audit of the Council's Annual Return had been completed and there were no issues arising, the Clerk to display the statutory notice for at least 14 days.

127 Planning

1. Powley's Farm, Langwathby (agricultural dwelling, revised application)

2. Garth Cottage, Langwathby (barn conversion)

Members noted that no objection had been raised to these applications.

3. Woodhead, Edenhall (agricultural dwelling): The Council noted that permission had been granted for this development.

128 Correspondence

1. Dog Control Orders/Community Wardens: Mrs C.Merrie to be invited to represent the Council at a presentation by Eden Environmental Health Team on 17th September, in Penrith Town Hall, followed by the Eden CALC AGM.

2. Audit Seminars: The Clerk to attend a presentation by the new external auditors on the audit process, to take place on 30th September at Keswick at 10.30am.

Correspondence was also noted regarding the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Forum; radioactive waste; Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership's Annual Review for 2007/8; the County Council's Residential Care Homes Consultation; the Moving on Support Scheme; a notice to be displayed in the Parish on the procedure for making a complaint about a councillor; and the CALC circulars for July to September.

129 Local Concerns

1. Closure of Langwathby Bridge: Concerns had been expressed by local businesses about the inadequate consultation regarding closure of the bridge for repair works.

2. Accidents in vicinity of Methodist Chapel: Two recent accidents were reported, when vehicles had left the A686, one striking the Chapel and the other damaging a hedge.

3. Use of Village Green: Members noted that Langwathby village green had been used for an event that involved taking horses onto the green without the permission of the Parish Council and contrary to the ban on horses. A letter will be sent to the organizers.

4. Cemetery: Members agreed that the bushes at the top of the cemetery needed cutting back and Mr Preston will be asked to do this.

5. Bushes overhanging footway adjacent to Langwathby School: The Clerk was asked to write to the school, requesting that the hedge be cut back.

6. Highway drain at The Luham: Members noted that the drain had been improved and will monitor its effectiveness.

130 Next Meeting: Thursday 6th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

(The meeting finished at 9.20pm.)