

LANGWATHBY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th March 2009

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, Mrs C.Merrie, Mr T.W.Metcalf, Mr W.F.Mounsey (in the Chair) together with PC A.Taylor and two parishioners.

Apologies were received from County Councillor Mrs I.Henderson.

157 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

158 Co-option of Member: The Council decided to co-opt Mr Simon Peet of Kegstones, Langwathby, to serve as a member of the Council until the elections in 2011.

159 Police Report: Members considered the response received from the Police to points raised on the policing pledge and were pleased that an additional community police officer had been appointed to cover the area. PC Alison Taylor was welcomed to the meeting. She referred to ongoing concerns regarding theft of oil and quad bikes and traffic offences; it was intended to continue radar checks to deal with speeding problems.

160 Update Reports

1. Land Registration: Signing of the car park licence was still awaited

2. Briggie Beck Footpath: Capita's proposals for restoring drainage of the path adjacent to Briggie Beck and repairing the bridge were noted.

3. Recycling Centre: Provision of the new compound was understood to be imminent.

4. Cemetery: Mr Preston had completed the pruning of the bushes. The proposed area for the burial of ashes was discussed and the Clerk and Mr Holliday were asked to bring proposals for the management of this area to a future meeting.

5. Tennis Court: It was agreed that the Chairman, Mr Little and the Clerk would meet on site with Mr John Dulson to consider what could be done to improve the tennis court area. Mr Holliday agreed to investigate means of moss removal.

6. Walter's Seat: Mr Little confirmed that the bench repair was nearing completion

7. Balmer Memorial Seat: Mr Holliday reported that a location for the seat had been agreed and a concrete base was to be provided.

8. Water Leakage at Village Hall: The Clerk reported that it had not been possible to persuade United Utilities to investigate the leak, which they regarded as the responsibility of the Village Hall. Mr Holliday offered to seek advice from Mr David Bateman.

9. Memorial Garden: Members noted the arrangement made with Mr J.Thwaites to maintain the garden and that this would be reviewed after two months.

10. Highways: The Clerk reported the Area Engineer's proposal to put forward a footway from Edenhall sports ground to the bridge as the Community Travel Plan scheme for 2009. The Culgaith Road junction would be investigated as part of the road safety and principal road maintenance programme. Members welcomed these proposals. Members noted that signs for cyclists had been erected at the river bridge and a letter was read from Eden Cycle Campaign. The revised programme for visits by the Highway Steward was considered.

11. Ullswater College MAD Day: Mrs Merrie had met Mr Tuer to discuss possible clearing up projects in Langwathby.

12. Station Access: The Clerk reported the response from Northern Rail, indicating that concerns regarding ice had been referred to the Station Manager.

13. Eden Housing Association: A letter from the Chief Executive about the Association's policy for responding to enquiries was noted.

161 Property Inspections: Reports were received of inspections carried out by councillors in Langwathby north and central areas. It was noted that the cemetery path needed cutting back. Similar encroachment of the footway on Salkeld Road will be reported to the Highway Steward. Mr Little agreed to improve the area in front of the seat opposite Hunter's Garage. Mrs Merrie gave a reminder of the need to fill a hole in the village green and suggested some additional kerbing would be desirable. The Clerk was requested to include a further notice in The Memo regarding the prohibition of horses on the greens.

162 Finance

1. Balances: The following balances were noted:

Current a/c	£4,630.83
Everyday Saver a/c	£2,188.55
VAT to be recovered	£97.18

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

R.F.Angus Ltd, drain clearance at Village Hall	£95 plus VAT
Plansafe, CDM Coordinator re V.Hall, final account	£111 plus VAT
Brogan Fuels, heating oil for V.Hall	£359.80 plus VAT, £305.92 plus VAT
NALC, return of Quality PC portfolio	£5.65 plus VAT
New Metal Systems Ltd, part re-roofing at V.Hall	£4,770 plus VAT
N.Preston, work at cemetery	£90
M&E Partnership, balance of architect's fee re V.Hall	£2,500 plus VAT
Performing Right Society Ltd re V.Hall licence	£41.85 plus VAT
E.ON, electricity for V.Hall	£594.95 plus VAT
Glasdon Manufacturing Ltd, Balmer memorial seat	£407.73 plus VAT
Cater-Kwik Ltd, filters for V.Hall water boiler	£60.95 plus VAT

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

Public Works Loan Board, first instalment	£3,726.04
R.Wager, salary, Dec-Feb	£500
R.Wager, postage & stationery	£12.25
Glendinning & Co re V.Hall, final payment less retention	£account awaited
CALC subscription	£187

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

Village Hall Committee re refurbishment scheme	£4,000
Village Hall Committee re E.ON	£594.95
Village Hall Committee re RF Angus	£95
Village Hall Committee re Brogan Fuels	£359.80
Village Hall Committee re Performing Rts Soc	£41.85
HM Revenue & Customs, VAT refund	£6,826.08
“ “ “ “	£11,125.37
“ “ “ “	£3,220.60

The Clerk advised that a further £2,561 was due from the Village Hall Committee for payments made to date on the Village Hall refurbishment.

5. Grass Cutting Contract 2009: Mr N.Preston's tender was accepted.

6. Grant request: A request for grant received from MENCAP was declined

163 Annual Risk Assessment: The schedule of potential risks and control measures was examined and the following decisions were made:

Adequacy of reserves – To be reviewed in the next budget review.

Grants – To review the new arrangements for awarding grants after they have been tested this year.

Fidelity insurance – To increase the level of cover to £15,000 in accordance with external audit guidelines.

Asset Register – To review the asset register at the next meeting.

Trees – To arrange a further professional inspection of trees on parish land next winter.

164 Annual Review of Internal Audit Arrangements: Members approved a report on the Council's arrangements for internal audit and the audit plan.

165 Planning: Comments made on the following planning applications were noted:

- (a) Langwathby Hall (extension to livestock building) – no objection
- (b) Sports Field, Edenhall (extension to car park) – no objection
- (c) Edenhall Grange (extensions) – no objection
- (d) Langwathby School (new entrance) – no objection
- (e) Opposite St Cuthbert's Place, Edenhall (removal of tree) – no objection
- (f) Strawberry Farm, Edenhall (extension) – no objection
- (g) Riverdale, Edenhall (extension)– no objection

The Clerk advised that a further application for a new dwelling at Bank House, Langwathby, was in circulation for Members' comments.

166 Correspondence

1. CALC: The Chairman will attend the Eden CALC meeting on 8 April.

2. Cumbria Landscape Survey: Mrs Merrie will consider a response to the online survey of landscape issues.

3. Community Awards: Nominations were agreed for awards by Penrith Rotary Club and Eden Local Heroes Awards.

4. Scarecrow Festival: A request from the organizers for permission to have Sharlands Amusements on Langwathby village green was approved.

Correspondence was also noted relating to Eden Core Strategy; Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework; WI sound and lighting equipment in the village hall, the digital TV changeover and Cumbria Calor Village of the Year.

167 Local Concerns

1. Street Lighting: Problems were discussed with regard to the replacement of defunct lights on telegraph poles in Langwathby; flickering lights at Low Farm; and various lamps out in Edenhall. Mr Holliday offered to make enquiries of the District Council.

2. Roads and Footpaths: The need to sweep roads and pavements in parts of Langwathby to be referred to the District Council. There was also a need to re-do some white lining.

3. Fishing: Members discussed the overgrown state of the river bank but noted the restrictions on removing vegetation. It was agreed that a meeting should be sought with the appropriate authorities to see what clearance work could be undertaken

168 Annual Parish Meeting: The programme for the evening was discussed and, in addition to the Chairman's Report, a speaker will be invited from Cumbria North Air Ambulance and someone knowledgeable about the history and management of village greens.

169 Future Meetings

1. 7 May (Annual Parish Meeting) at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

2. 14 May (Parish Council AGM) at 7.30pm in the Village Hall (Back Room).

(The meeting finished at 9.20pm.)

Following the meeting the Langwathby councillors considered nominations for Langwathby Citizen of the Year.