**ORTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th September 2017 at**

**Orton Market Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present**: Cllr Kyle Blue (chair); Cllrs S. Dunning; Menna Lewis; M. Coates; M. Mawson and J. Taylor

District Councillor A. Todd

County Councillor Phil Dew

S. Hutchinson and S. Bagshaw of CALC

Clerk and three members of the public

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr David Potter

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr S Dunning declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4. On the Agenda – planning application relating to Raisgill Hall Farm and he took no part in the debate or decision relating to this item

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of 17th July 2017**

The Minutes were signed as a true record of this meeting

**4. Planning Application**

Planning Application 16/0791 – Raisgill Hall Farm, Orton. Discharge of conditions 3, 4 and 5.

No objection.

It was noted that the parish council has no objection to chimneys being built on new properties in the countryside as these are a traditional feature.

**5. Devolution of Services**

Sonia Hutchinson and Samantha Bagshaw of CALC gave a presentation about the transfer of streets lights and lighting from EDC to the parish council and explained that the role of CALC was as a facilitator only.

Six lights only are “approved” by EDC in the parish, and those affixed to buildings are generally not “approved”. The “approved” lights could be taken over from next April with 100% funding for the first year, and then funding on a decreasing scale over four years. The precept may have to be increased to reflect this expenditure. The lights to be taken over would be converted to LED lights which would be cheaper to maintain.

District Councillor Adrian Todd replied to questions about the possible siting of new lights and the costs of installing new lighting columns. All lights would have to be inspected every six years. Sonia mentioned that there would be a full inspection this year. New lights may require planning consent and the Chair would make enquiries about this. The connection to the electricity supply would cost in the region of £900 per light, but the running costs would not be prohibitive.

It was confirmed that EDC would pay to remove the “not approved” lights and for the disconnection charges.

If not taken over thelights would simply be removed by EDC

**RESOLVED: To take over the responsibility for the “approved” lights from** **2018**.

Sonia Hutchinson and Samantha Bagshaw were thanked for their attendance.

**6. Website**

Cllr John Taylor reported on the current position and it was agreed to defer any decision about the future of the Community Website to the October meeting. An article about the Community Website had appeared in the September issue of The Link, but no response had been received to date.

**7. Finance**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

CALC Common Land Course 75.00

Orton Market Hall Hire of Hall June & July2017 20.00

Community Heartbeat

Trust Defibrillator Awareness 105.00

BDO External Audit 204.00

Lynne Potter Salary month 6 250.35

M. Longworth Salary month 6 140.00

M.Longworth Stamps 7.28

The cash book to 31st August was circulated for information and it was noted that the external audit had been completed satisfactorily. The salaries and expenditure for August was approved retrospectively including a United Utilities bill of £134.42 and the EDF electricity bill of £155.12

Cllr Kyle Blue left the meeting a 8.30pm and Cllr S. Dunning took the chair for the remainder of the meeting

**8. River work at Greenholme**

Cllr John Taylor explained that Lowther Estates had granted consent for some thinning of invasive willow to be carried out and outlined the terms of the Agreement for access to be given to the river bank.

RESOLVED: That the work be undertaken on the terms set out in the Licence Agreement.

**9. Water Supply/Water Pressure**

The adequacy of supply and pressure in the event of fire is still an issue causing concern. It was agreed that the clerk would write to United Utilities about this and seek to obtain confirmation that the issue has been addressed by them and that they are satisfied that demand can be met in the event of a fire in the parish. County Councillor Phil Dew is also looking into the matter and the issue will be addressed again at the next Parish Council

**10. Public Participation**

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from a concerned resident about flooding in Orton due to the obstruction of the Western Beck. District Councillor Adrian Todd explained that the Environment Agency would not allow work to be done in the water course until March. The relevant landowners could then be contacted and their consent obtained for volunteers to access the stream to carry out any necessary work.

It was also mentioned that there was a problem with the main sewer in the village at Front Street backing up causing an unpleasant smell. The clerk was asked to write to United Utilities about this and to report back to the next meeting.

A question was asked about the old school at Greenholme and the situation with regard to the school bell. Cllr Dunning responded and said that the bell was still at the property (in the porch) and that the restoration/renovation work had been carried out in accordance with the approved plans.

County Councillor Phil Dew reported that a new bus service was proposed to run to Kendal one day a week and it was hoped that this would not take business from the existing 106 service.

A letter from Jackie Huck was read out, thanking the Parish Council for their work in replacing the bridge at Reveley House (now called Huck’s Bridge)

**11. Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 16th October 2017 at Orton Market Hall at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.25

Margaret Longworth

Clerk

Signed as a true record of the meeting

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Dated ……………………………………………..