ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

*Chair – Mr. K. Blue, Town Head House, Orton*

*Clerk – Mrs. M. Longworth, Yew Tree Farm, Greenholme*

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 20th JANUARY 2020 AT ORTON MARKET HALL, ORTON**

**AT 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllrs K. Blue (chair); M. Lewis; D. Potter; M. Coates; M. Mawson; J. Taylor; S. Dunning.

District Councillor A. Todd, County Councillor P.Dew, 10 members of the public and the clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr M. Mawson declared a personal interest in item 6 on the agenda (Birkbeck Common) and Cllr S. Dunning declared a personal interest in items 4 and 9.1 on the agenda (Farmers Market); and they took no part in the decision making in respect of these two items.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of 18th November 2019**

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the above meeting.

**4. Public Participation**

4.1 Farmers’ Market

A representative of All Saints Church attended and spoke on the importance of the continuance of the Farmers Market to the church. The church benefited financially from the Market as the refreshments provided by the church had proved to be a valuable source of funds. The coffee mornings would continue should the Market cease, but would not be so profitable.

It was agreed by all that the Market did benefit the village in that it was a community event, but it was also acknowledged that the presence of the Market did not benefit other businesses in the village.

The chair outlined a possible source of funding for the Market from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and that a grant might be available.

4.2 Damage to a verge

It was agreed that the clerk would write a letter asking for damage to a verge to be remedied in due course.

4.3 Council tax

A resident expressed concern that the Council Tax was going up and County Councillor P.Dew and District Councillor A. Todd explained the reason for the likely increase.

**5. Planning**

5.1 Eden District Council application 19/0916 – Extension to the Butchery at Tebay Services.

No objection.

5.2 YDNPA application E/11/1C – variation of condition 2 of application E/11/1B (fenestration to south elevation) at Midfield, Gaisgill.

No objection.

**6. Birkbeck Common**

Members had considered the scrub planting proposal prepared by South Lakes Ecology on behalf of the Commoners. Cllr D. Potter explained the extent of the planting and itemised the species to be used. A member of the public expressed concern that the historic nature of the common could be compromised, and that this would impact on future generations.

Members noted the environmental advantages of the planting scheme and had no objection to it, provided that the planting was properly protected and managed for the future.

**7. Grass Cutting**

A response to the Invitation to Tender had been received from Amey and the figure was in line with that for 2019. There was one other response, but this was considerably more expensive.

Resolved: The tender from Amey would be accepted and the work would be monitored during the summer.

**8. Finance**

The cash book for the period October to December 2019 was circulated for information and the following accounts were approved for payment:

L. Potter – salary for January 2020 £312.75

M. Longworth – salary for January 2020 192.00

HMPG – PAYE for January 2020 48.00

Cumbria Payroll Services 14.40

Orton Market Hall – hire of the hall 60.00

M. Longworth – printer ink and stamps 31.48

Mrs. M .Robinson – electricity for footway light 25.00

C.B.S. Electrical – to fit lights to public toilets 318.96

CALC – planning training event 45.00

EDC – supply of electricity to and maintenance of footway lights 478.87

Water Plus Ltd. – supply of water to public toilets 162.20

**9. Correspondence**

Items of correspondence were noted and it was agreed that a letter would be written supporting the YDNPA initiative to become a Dark Sky Reserve.

Cllrs agreed to thank the Head of Orton School for the invitation to attend on 26th February to learn more about the work of the school. Six or seven councillors would attend.

**10. Reports of District and County Councillors.**

District Councillor Adrian Todd updated the meeting on the EDC refuse/waste contract currently being negotiated and mentioned that he was meeting with the new Member of Parliament for the area and would be raising the issue of local public transport.

County Councillor Phil Dew spoke on the recent budget setting meetings at District and County level. He also mentioned the issue of young people and mental health; work being done to prepare for the next Appleby Horse Fair; climate change; the building of new children’s homes; a new transport to schools initiative and that health and social workers were benefiting from working more closely together.

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

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 17th February 2020 at The Market Hall, Orton at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

M. Longworth (clerk)

Signed as a true record ………………………………………….

Dated ………………………………………….