ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

*Email –* *bjarmi21@gmail.com*

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF 21st SEPTEMBER 2020 HELD REMOTELY VIA THE “ZOOM”**

**APPLICATION OVER THE INTERNET AT 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs K. Blue (chair); S. Dunning; M. Lewis; D. Potter; J. Taylor; M. Coates. County Councillor P. Dew; 5 members of the public and the clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from District Councillor A. Todd

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in any of the items on the Agenda.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of 20th July 2020**

The Minutes of the above meeting would be signed as a true record of that meeting

**4. Public Participation**

The Councillors were thanked for the provision of the new bench at Kelleth. Cllr. K. Blue remarked on the appearance of markings on the highway and the clerk was instructed to find out whether these were made by BT and whether they were the proposed site of new poles for cabling. Cllr. Blue would make an application to the Woodland Trust for new tree guards to be placed at appropriate locations. Cllr. Blue would also progress the installation of new street lights. Cllr. J. Taylor raised the issue of the possible provision of allotments and it was agreed that that should be looked into with a notice in The Link inviting expressions of interest.

**5. Projects in hand/future projects**

5.1 It was agreed that benches for the school would be paid for and Cllr. S. Dunning mentioned that the head teacher had been very grateful for the benches and that the extra seating had facilitated social distancing during the current pandemic.

5.2 The issue of the possible provision of electric charging points for vehicles was considered to encourage the use of electric vehicles, especially for the convenience of visitors to the village. However, further investigations were required as the charging points would require 3-phase power and it was unclear whether this was available in the village.

5.3 County Councillor Phil Dew agreed to make enquires of County Highways as to the provision of a sign before the entrance to Greenholme warning drivers of HGVs that the road would not be suitable for heavy traffic. Such a sign had been promised in the past and a further incident resulting in the road being completely blocked overnight had occurred recently.

**6. Planning White Paper**

Cllr. K. Blue outlined the provisions of the latest planning white paper and the possible impact on the village. It would appear that central government would obtain greater control over development. County Councillor P. Dew agreed that the pressure was on for new housing to be built, especially in the south of England.

**7. Finances**

The following accounts were approved for payment retrospectively:

L. Potter – salary for August £312.75

M. Longworth – salary for August 192.00

Cumbria Payroll Services for August 14.40

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L. Potter – salary for September 312.75

M. Longworth – salary for September 192.00

Cumbia Payroll Services 14.40

Rowan Building Ltd. - work to public toilets 836.40

M. Longworth – fee for Zoom meeting and postage 15.15

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

County Councillor P. Dew spoke on the proposal for a unitary authority for Cumbria and that this could mean devolving more power to parish councils. He said that, notwithstanding the current covid-19 pandemic, all the schools had opened as had the household waste recycling centre. He reported on the current situation with regard to the local 506 and 106 bus services

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

The next meeting would take place on Monday 19th October 2020 at 7.30pm, either via Zoom or at The Market Hall, Orton.

M. Longworth (clerk)

Signed as a true record of the above meeting

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Date …………………………………………………………