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 ORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 15th FEBRUARY 2021**

**AT 7.30pm VIA THE INTERNET ZOOM APPLICATION**

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

County Councillor P. Dew; District Councillor A.Todd

8 members of the public and the clerk.

*Prior to the commencement of the meeting Mr. Steve Wilson, the chair of the Morland Allotment Committee, spoke on the setting up of allotments in Morland and answered questions about the running of the allotments. He was thanked by the chair for a useful and informative talk.*

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item on the Agenda. The chair, councillor K. Blue, briefly outlined his role as a Trustee of the Friends of the Dales and explained under when, in a few extremely limited circumstances, there could be a conflict of interest occurring when considering planning applications to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of 18th January 2021**

The Minutes were agreed to be a true record of the above meeting.

**4. Public Participation**

County Councillor Phil Dew reported that the issues with the salt bins and the flooding at Kelleth were being attended to by the County Council. He was also progressing the problem with lack of full salt bins near Moor House. Councillor Mawson reported that during the bad weather there had been no salt in any of the salt bins in Orton.

Councillor S. Dunning reported that the Farmer’s Market might return to Orton in March, should the current covid-19 legal restrictions allow this. The clerk was instructed to contact the organisers to say that the Parish Council would welcome them back as soon as possible.

**5. Planning**

5.1 Lake District National Park Authority application 7/2020/3157 – a stable at dick Barn, Bretherdale.

No objection

5.2 Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority application E/11/49 GPDO to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed portal frame agricultural storage building at Park Lane, Orton.

Concerns were expressed by councillors that the building seemed large in proportion to the land holding and not entirely appropriate for an agricultural use. The clerk was instructed to write to the planning authority and to express the view that a full planning application should be sought.

**6. Allotments**

Councillor J. Taylor reported that three people were still interested in the project, but it was generally agreed that an ideal site could not be found. Cllr Taylor would write an article for The Link magazine inviting further interested parties to come forward and asking readers if they could suggest a suitable site. It was agreed that vehicular access to the site was important. Cllr Taylor was thanked by the chair for his work in progressing the project.

**7. Orton Bus Shelter**

Cllr K. Blue reported that the ownership of the bus shelter was not known, but that it was sited on Manor Park land. The Parish Council was not in a position to grant permission for the suggested use by All Saints church of the bus shelter as a community library, but it was unanimously agreed that the idea was sound and it was hoped that the church would go ahead with the project.

**8. Grass Cutting**

The clerk reported on the result of the tendering for grass cutting for 2021 and it was agreed to proceed with the lowest tender. The lowest tender was received from Amey, who had cut the grass in previous years.

**9. Finance**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

L. Potter – salary for February £312.75

M. Longworth – salary for February 192.00

HMPG – PAYE for February 48.00

Cumbria Payroll Services 14.40

M. Longworth – fee for Zoom meeting 14.39

Waterplus – water and waste water for public conveniences 148.30

J. Lade and Vennings Slaters – contributions towards the cost of maintaining

 the defibrillators 20.00

Information Commissioner – data protection registration fee 40.00

CBS Electrical – repairs to light at public toilets 106.32

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

District Councillor A. Todd reported on work undertaken with Cllr D. Potter to look at the footway lighting.

County Councillor P. Dew mentioned the sad death of Kirkby Stephen Town Council chair, Joan Johnstone. Her work for the community had been outstanding and the clerk was instructed to write a letter of condolence. He said that the District and County Councils would be seeking to raise the council tax for the forthcoming year. It was doubted whether the May elections would go ahead. The closing of the college at Newton Rigg was greatly regretted.

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

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 15th March 2021 at 7.30 pm via the internet Zoom application.

M. Longworth (clerk)

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

Dated …………………………………………