ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

*Email –* [*bjarmi21@gmail.com*](mailto:bjarmi21@gmail.com)

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**MINUTES OF A MEETNG HELD ON MONDAY 15th MARCH AT 7.30pm VIA THE ZOOM INTERNET**

**APPLICATION**

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

County Councillor P. Dew; five 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 item on the Agenda

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of 15th February 2021**

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

**4. Public Participation**

A short presentation was made on behalf of the Trustees of the Market Hall reminding those present that a questionnaire was in circulation about the future use of the Market Hall, and inviting comment from councillors and members of the public. A three year programme of maintenance and improvement was to be put in place and grant funding was available.

A request had been received from the church about the placing of planters in the village as part of their Families Together project. This was supported and it was agreed that a donation of £200 would be made by the Council towards the cost of the wood for making the planters provided that suitable positions for them could be identified and provided that Tebay Parish Council would offer a similar level of support.

**5. Planning**

Eden District Council application 21/0116 – Coatflatt Hall, Tebay. Replacement of timber framed building with a streel framed building.

No objection, but councillors would prefer to see a dark roof to the building.

**6. Allotments**

Cllr Taylor reported that six people had expressed an interest in having an allotment, but a suitable site with adequate vehicular access had not been found. It would be preferable for the Council to purchase a suitable site, should one come on the market.

Cllr. Taylor was thanked by the chair for his work in researching the issue and canvassing residents for their views.

**7. Finance**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

L. Potter – salary for March 2021 £312.75

M. Longworth – salary for March 192.00

HMPG, PAYE for March 48.00

Cumbria Payroll Services 14.40

M. Longworth – postage stamps 7.92

M. Longworth – fee for Zoom meetings 14.39

Water Plus – penalty for late payment of account 40.00

D. Finch – security certificate for community website 50.00

**8. Asset Register and Risk Assessment**

The Asset Register and the Risk Assessment for 2021 were noted and it was agreed that the clerk would obtain an estimate for having the trees surveyed at Carsa Brow to ensure that these were safe and free from disease.

**9. Report of County Councillor**

Phil Dew reported that the Appleby Horse Fair would go ahead later in the year if the coronavirus restrictions permitted this. He spoke on the proposed local government reorganisation and agreed to give a presentation on this to the April meeting of the Parish Council. This meeting would have to take place one week early to meet the deadline for representations on the reorganisation proposals.

The council tax for the year would increase and both Eden District Council and the County Council were using funds to add to their reserves.

Mr. Dew was still hopeful that the college at Newton Rigg would be saved from closure.

Mr. Dew was aware that the issues of empty salt bins in the parish, the problem of road flooding near Kelleth and the proposed road sign for Greenholme (do not follow sat nav) were all still outstanding with the County Council highways department, although he was pressing for action to be taken.

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

The next meeting will be held one week earlier than usual on Monday 12th April at 7.30pm via the Zoom application.

M. Longworth (clerk)

Signed ……………………………………….

Dated ……………………………………….