

ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on 20th February 2017 at
Market Hall, Orton at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Kyle Blue (chair); S. Dunning; Menna Lewis; M. Coates; D. Potter
County Councillor Libby Bateman
Six members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mark Mawson and John Taylor

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 16th January 2017

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting

4. Presentation by Suzy Hankin of the Lake District National Park Authority

Suzy Hankin explained that all of the rights of way in the new “extension” area of the LDNPA had been surveyed by their staff and volunteers and assessed on an “ease of use” basis. The LDNPA will take over responsibility for the routes from 01.04.2017. Generally a great deal of work will be required to bring the routes up to the standard of other routes in the National Park Area as only 35% of the paths in the “extension” area are acceptable. Priority will be given to routes where a safety hazard is evident, and next on the list for attention will be paths near settlements, or those that are well-used.

Suzy Hankin answered questions from the councillors and members of the public and was thanked by the chair for attending the meeting.

5. Planning

Applications received by Eden District Council

Applications 17/0114 and 17/0115 – extensions to agricultural buildings at Moor House, Orton for Mr. M. Mawson. No objection

Applications received by Yorkshire Dales National Park

Application E/11/1A – application for three new agricultural buildings at Midfield, Gaisgill. No objection, but the council would prefer the roofs to be of a dark colour

6. Defibrillator

The clerk reported that the defibrillator and cabinet had been delivered and Councillor Stephen Dunning report on the suitability of the existing telephone kiosk to house the equipment. At the suggestion of County Councillor Libby Bateman, the clerk will contact the Community Heartbeat Trust to find out the requirements of BT and whether it is possible to use the existing electricity supply.

7. Website

A paper prepared by Councillor John Taylor was circulated to members outlining the various options for the new website. It was agreed that the Councillors would look at various examples of Parish Council websites and decide on the preferred format so that the issue could be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the Council.

8. Finance

The following accounts were agreed for payment:

E-on	£58.65
United Utilities	182.54
L. Potter (month 11)	250.35
HMRC – (month 11)	97.60
M. Longworth (month 11)	140.00

Further it was agreed that the account received just prior to the meeting from the Orton Village Store and Post Office in the sum of £110.90 be paid and that £10 should be paid to Neville and Margaret Tunstall to thank them for allowing the Parish Council to access their electricity supply to light the community Christmas tree.

It was noted that E-on might require a further amount as a final payment before switching supply to EDF, as the switch will not take place if E-on are owed money.

It was agreed that the estimate of Quattro would be accepted for surface patching works to the play area in the sum of £1143. Councillor David Potter had inspected their work elsewhere, and it appeared to be satisfactory.

9. Correspondence

9.1 The Ash Tag project. This project is led by the YDNPA and is designed to monitor the health of ash trees following the outbreak of ash die-back disease. It was agreed that councillors and members of the public would be alert to the possibility of disease, although there are too many ash trees in the parish to monitor each one separately.

9.2 Article 4 Direction. County Councillor Libby Bateman explained the working of this Direction and that, if made, the Direction would mean that light industrial premises could only be converted to dwellings if full planning permission was obtained.

9.3. Parish Forums. The forums will be attended by the chair and/or the clerk, as appropriate.

9.4 The CALC circular on pre-election matters was noted

9.5 There was some discussion about the survey being circulated by Cumbria Action concerning activities for older people. There was not generally considered to be a lack of available activities.

9.6 County Councillor Libby Bateman updated councillors on the running of the 106 bus and the survey to be circulated shortly.

9.7 Councillors Kyle Blue and Stephen Dunning will attend the induction of the new vicar, Rev. Alun Hurd, on Monday 6th March

9.8 The request for a donation made by the Cumbria Dyslexia project was noted, and Stephen Dunning will make further enquiries as to the project and whether Orton School would support this.

9.9 The Community Visit sponsored by the Yorkshire Dales Society was discussed and posters advertising this visit will be displayed in the parish.

10. Public Participation

It was agreed that a representative of the YDNPA would be invited to attend a future meeting and make a presentation on the work of that Authority.
County Councillor Libby Bateman reported on the forthcoming rise in Council Tax of 4% and also on the money available from the Growth Programme to support large-scale local projects, such as farm diversification, bed and breakfast accommodation, and farm shops. Grants will range from £35,000 to £87,500.
Libby Bateman also mentioned that she would not be standing for re-election as a County Councillor at the forthcoming elections. The chair thanked her for her work on behalf of the parish.
Councillor Stephen Dunning reported on the recent fire at Moor House, Orton and that the fire crews were hampered in their work by the lack of water at the hydrant. Libby Bateman will make enquires of the County Fire Officer as to the situation and report back. Concerns were expressed as to a similar situation with the hydrant in the village.

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, 20th March at the Market Hall, Orton at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed
(Chairman)

Dated