**ORTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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

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**MINUTES of a Meeting held on Monday 21st January 2019 at The Market Hall, Orton at 7.30pm**

**Present** – Councillors K. Blue (chairman); Menna Lewis; S. Dunning; D. Potter; M. Mawson; M. Coates; J. Taylor

District Councillor Adrian Todd

County Councillor P. Dew

Seven members of the public and the clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

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

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of 19th November 2018**

The Minutes were signed as a true record of that meeting.

**4. Public Participation**

4.1 Residents of Kelleth thanked the Parish Council for providing a new bench to replace the previous one.

4.2 Concerns were expressed about dog fouling and it was agreed that the clerk would contact Eden District Council to find out whether the dog warden had any leaflets which could be displayed on the parish notice boards informing the public about the health hazards associated with dog fouling. District Councillor Adrian Todd explained the role of the dog warden and how the law relating to dogs could be enforced.

4.3 A member of the public offered to help with snow clearance in the event of bad weather and was thanked by the chair for this offer of assistance.

4.4 There was a report of sewage on the highway to Shap and District Councillor Adrian Todd agreed to report this to EDC Environmental Services.

4.5 Concerns were expressed about the lack of salt at the roadsides and County Councillor Phil Dew agreed to report this to the Highways Authority. The public are no longer permitted to collect salt/grit from the County Council depot.

4.6 The Orton defibrillator light was again not working and Councillor Menna Lewis was arranging to have this inspected by an electrician. She also informed the meeting that she was arranging training for members of the public and Councillor John Taylor agreed to publicise this on the Community website.

**5. Progress Reports**

5.1 The provision of the new bench at Kelleth was noted.

5.2 It was agreed to obtain quotes for the installation of wi-fi to Market Hall and the chair wold enquire whether the grant monies obtained from the Lake District National Park Authority (£250.00) could be used for this purpose.

The chair also reported that a large scale plan of Orton had been purchased which would assist when considering planning matters. Plans for the outlying settlements would also be purchased.

5.3 The purchase of the play area was proceeding and solicitors had been appointed to carry out the conveyancing work.

5.4 A report on the condition of the trees at Carsa Brow had been received from Steven Hodgson and this was read out by the chairman. It was agreed that the necessary work should be put in hand and the estimate of £1795 plus VAT be accepted. The trees would be inspected every two years.

**6. Correspondence**

6.1 An email from the Police and Crime Commissioner had been circulated to Councillors and was read out to the meeting. It was noted that an increase in the general rates was proposed to fund the recruitment of 20 new police officers. It was agreed that there was an improved police presence in the area, and this was welcomed. County Councillor Phil Dew expressed concerns about the level of police pensions and the early retirement age of the officers.

6.2 Councillor Steven Dunning handed the clerk a letter from Orton School asking for a donation to be made towards residential visits for students. It was agreed that a donation of £500.00 would be made.

**7. Finance**

The Cash Book for November and December was circulated for consideration.

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

The Heartbeat Trust – provision of pole mounted defibrillator at Raisbeck £96.00

Eden District Council – footway lights 502.41

Orton Market Hall – hire of hall 36.00

L. Potter – salary for January 2019 250.15

M. Longworth – salary for January 2019 192.00

HMPG – PAYE for January 2019 110.60

Cumbria Payroll Services 14.40

M. Longworth – stamps 6.96

Rocket Sites Ltd – domain hosting and security for website 2018/19 114.00

K. Blue – map of Orton and Licence to copy same (UK Map Centre) 189.82

Cllr M.Coates asked whether the Parish Council would make a donation to facilitate the game of Boccia which was taking place in the Market Hall on a fortnightly basis. It was agreed that a donation of £150 would be considered at the February meeting.

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

District Councillor Adrian Todd updated the meeting on the progress of the Penrith Masterplan and also litter clearance along the verges of the A685. He also mentioned that bids for funding had been made to the EDC Signature Fund for the Astroturf at Kirkby Stephen School and for lighting the pitch and also for upgrading the tennis court at Tebay. The outcome of these bids would be known shortly.

County Councillor Phil Dew updated the meeting on the arrangements for the Horse Fair and the management of the same. He also reported on the limited intake to the Kirkby Stephen School, but said this should not affect Orton. He outlined the new health initiatives to be put in place to facilitate patients leaving hospital and receiving appropriate care at home. He also mentioned the Living Well project and mental health initiatives.

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

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18th February 2019 at The Market Hall, Orton at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed as a true record of the Meeting

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Dated ……………………………………………….