ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair – Mr. Kyle Blue, Town Head House, Orton

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

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MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21st JANUARY 2022 AT THE MARKET HALL, ORTON AT 7.30pm

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

County Councillor P. Dew

11 members of the public and 2 officers from The Westmorland Dales Landscape Project

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from K. Blue and M Coates

**2. Declarations of Interest**

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

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

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the above meeting

**4. Public Participation**

Cllr. D. Potter confirmed that he had logged the issue of defective bridges with County Highways, who would be attending to repairs. It was noted that work needed to be done to tree guards at Carsa Brow, which were out of repair. Cllr S Dunning confirmed that Kyle Blue was dealing with the preparations for the Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations.

**5. Bus Shelter**

Concern was expressed by several members of the public about the proposed works to enhance the bus shelter. It was agreed that the existing art work should be preserved in memory of Pat Brass and that the Interpretation Boards (to be provided by the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership) could be installed outside the bus shelter. It was reported that the book swap had raised a considerable amount for charity, and the organisers were thanked for their work on this. It was agreed that the books should remain, but that an external door might be useful, to protect them from the weather. A further meeting of interested parties would take place in the Market Hall on 21st February, prior to the Parish Council meeting, at 6.30pm.

**6. Play Area**

The annual inspection report was noted and Cllr D. Potter confirmed that some necessary repairs were in hand.

**7. Finance**

It was agreed that the bus shelter structure should be insured for £10,000.

The cash book for November and December had been circulated for information.

It was agreed to make the usual payments of £20 towards the cost of electricity for the light near the school and £10 each towards the running costs of the two defibrillators.

Retrospective approval was given for the payment of the December water bill for the public conveniences.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

L. Potter - salary for January 2022 £315.75

M. Longworth – salary for January 2022 248.00

HMPG – PAYE for January 62.00

Cumbria Payroll Services 14.40

The Play Inspection Company 83.40

**8. Correspondence**

The clerk outlined details of the Local Heritage Listing Campaign and it was agreed not to take part in this initiative, which could prove to be controversial.

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

County Councillor Phil Dew mentioned various funding schemes available for local initiatives. He also spoke about a possible increase in domestic rates and the progress of Local Government Reorganisation. A meeting was to be held on 24th January to discuss arrangements for the Appleby Horse Fair, due to commence on 9th June. He updated the meeting on the progress of the proposed dualling of the A66 and mentioned that a Kirkby Stephen by-pass was not likely to be built in the foreseeable future.

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

The next meeting will take place on Monday 21st February 2022 at 7.30 and will be held in the Market Hall, Orton. There will be an informal meeting open to all on that day in The Market Hall at 6.30 to discuss the upgrade of the bus shelter.

M. Longworth (clerk)

Signed as a true record

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Date ………………………….