

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orton Parish Council, held virtually on Zoom during the coronavirus pandemic, on Monday 1st March 2021 at 8.00pm.

Present: Councillor Mr W. Little (Chairman), Parish Councillors M. Cork, G. Wills, L. Johnston, E. Norman, W. Reed, M. Howes & Carlisle City Councillor A. McKerrell and Cumbria County Councillor T. Allison.

101/20 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor E. Whitfield (internet unavailable) and Carlisle City Councillor J. Collier (family illness).

102/20 Minutes

It was **Resolved** that the minutes of the council meetings held on 4th January 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a true record. (Copy enclosed).

103/20 Public participation

Two items were brought before the council:

- a) A refrigerator had been dumped on the Orton Road; this was to be reported to Carlisle City Council.
- b) Fly tipping had taken place on the Sceughmire to Great Orton Road but had been picked up by a local resident.

104/20 Declarations of notifiable pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of notifiable pecuniary interests.

105/20 Parish Councillors Notification of Change to Personal Interests

There were no changes to personal interests declared by the Councillors.

106/20 Request for Dispensations

No requests for dispensation were received.

107/20 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that:

- a) A signpost warning of the 'S' bend at Crossbanks, Baldwinholme had broken off. Councillor Allison was to be informed.
- b) Flooding in Baldwinholme had been reported to Councillor Allison.

108/20 Reports

County and District Councillor Report

Councillor Allison reported that:

- a) He was compiling a report on the flooding in Baldwinholme.
- b) Cumbria County Council has a budget shortfall for gully cleaning and pothole repairs. The money for this work comes from central government and has been reduced. If any gullies are blocked, they can be reported individually but, at present, there is no flooding.
- c) The Little Orton to Sceughmire road had been closed because of flooding. Councillor Allison is to enquire whether this closure is permanent or temporary.

District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

School Report

No report was received but the school remains closed.

At the moment, heavy vehicles are using the main Great Orton road; Councillor Howes expressed his concern about the safety of school children and the need for the walking school bus. The Chairman agreed to raise this with the Head Teacher.

Village Hall Committee Report

A report was received and circulated to Councillors.

Watchtree Report

It was reported that the site remains open for exercising only, with strict social distancing in place. The café and overflow car park remain closed. A number of staff are on furlough but it is hoped that easing of the lockdown in the next few months will allow more activities to take place.

109/20 Planning

The following planning application was noted:

Variation of condition 2 (approved documents) of previously approved permission 19/0302 (erection of 7 no. detached dwellings) to change plot 2 from a bungalow to a dormer bungalow; land to the south east of Smiddy Croft, Great Orton. Ref: 20/0786.
No objections.

110/20 Financial Report

It was **Resolved** that the Financial Report of 30th November 2020 be approved. There were no deviations from budget. It was noted that the following monies had been received:

a) Cumbria County Council (Grant)	£600.00
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111/20 Payment of Accounts

It was **Resolved** that the following accounts would be authorised for payment:

a) P. Macdonald (Salary)	£952.64
b) HMRC (PAYE)	£238.16
c) CALC (WL training)	£20.00

112/20 Clerk's salary review in line with NALC recommendations

It was **Resolved** that the Clerk's salary for 2020/21 would increase by 31p per hour, an annual increase of £64.48.

113/20 Dog fouling in Great Orton

It was confirmed that the Carlisle City Council Dog Wardens had visited the village and spoken to residents; Great Orton residents had been requested on social media to be vigilant and local people had posted 'No fouling' notices.

114/20 Poor state of repair of gullies, drains and pavements in Great Orton.

It was noted that Cumbria County Council had not yet responded to the recent Parish Council letter detailing all of the problematic road-drains, flooded areas and walkways in the parish.

It was also noted that Electricity NW had filled in the hole in the pavement in Great Orton but it was unclear whether the patency of the drain had been maintained. It was **Resolved** that an email be sent to Electricity North West requesting details of the repairs they carried out.

115/20 Orton Parish seats and Great Orton Play Area

It was **Resolved** that the need for topsoil and re-seeding the uneven parts of the playing field, the drainage of the play area and the need to point the wall between the

school and the play area would be discussed and agreed at the next Parish Council meeting. It was noted that Mr A. Rickerby would like to help with any work to level the play area.

It was noted that several screws and bolts on the play area equipment had been tightened. Play equipment will continue to be monitored for safety problems. No repairs or remedial actions were identified as needed by the parish seats

116/20 Speeding traffic at The Pow

Councillor Allison stated that the speeding check had been deferred until after the pandemic. In the interim, Cumbria County Council Highways Department would be asked to monitor the traffic flow on this road.

117/20 Date of the Meeting in May 2021

It was **Resolved** that the next meeting would be held on Zoom on 3rd May 2021.

118/20 Zoom subscription

It was **Resolved** that the subscription to Zoom should not be continued.

119/20 Correspondence

Items of correspondence received since the last meeting were noted. (Schedule attached).

120/20 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Annual meeting and the next ordinary Parish Council meeting would be held on Zoom at 7.30pm on Monday 3rd May 2021.

.....Signed Date

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