

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orton Parish Council, held in the Village Hall, Great Orton, on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillor Mr W. Little (Chairman), Parish Councillors M. Cork, E. Whitfield, E. Norman, G. Wills, W. Reed and L. Johnston.

**47/22 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor M. Howes (work commitment). They were also received from Carlisle City Councillor J. Collier (family bereavement), Cumbria County and Carlisle City Councillor T. Allison and Carlisle City Councillor A. McKerrill (attendance at other meetings).

**48/22 Minutes**

It was **Resolved** that the minutes of the council meetings held on 4th July 2022 be signed by the Chairman as a true record. (Copy enclosed).

**49/22 Public participation**

Several Great Orton residents raised concerns about the proposed wind turbine and solar farm. See minute 64/22.

**50/22 Declarations of notifiable pecuniary interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest from members, in respect of items on the agenda.

**51/22 Parish Councillors Notification of Change to Personal Interests**

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

**52/22 Request for Dispensations**

No requests for dispensation were received.

**53/22 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman made the following announcements:-

- a) Repairs to the notice boards in Baldwinholme and Little Orton are to be carried out by volunteers.
- b) A request has been made for reflectors to be fitted to the fence alongside the road junction at the south end of Great Orton. The Chairman agreed to speak to the owners.

**54/22 Reports**

**County and District Councillor Allison Report**

Councillor Allison had nothing to report.

**District Councillor Report**

Councillors McKerrill and Collier had nothing to report.

**School Report**

Mr Walker, the new Head Teacher of Great Orton School attended the meeting and circulated the latest newsletter outlining the school activities. He was pleased to report that 29 children were now enrolled and he was hoping that more children would come as other local schools are full. He stated that a lot of work had been done to improve the building but he would also investigate the drains situation.

**Village Hall Committee Report**

The Village Hall Committee representative reported that the hall continues to receive new bookings and continues to seek new ventures. Additional grant money has been sought so that further improvements can be made to the facilities.

**Watchtree Report**

The Watchtree representative reported next year's calendar was at the printers and would be out soon. Cycle sales have been going particularly well and the café continues to be extremely popular.

**55/22 Safeguarding Policy**

It was **Resolved** that the amended Safeguarding Policy would be reviewed and adopted.

**56/22 Planning**

*To note Carlisle City Council approval of the following planning application:*

- 1) Change of use of field to provide hard standing, shelter for horses and outdoor arena for turnout in winter months; to include a counselling business using horses; siting of static caravan to provide shelter for clients taking part in wellbeing days at Woodhouses Farm, Great Orton, Carlisle, CA5 6LN. Ref: 22/0427.
- 2) Erection of new section of garden wall at The Old Rectory, Great Orton, Carlisle, CA5 6NB Ref: 22/0492 and Listed Building Consent Application Ref: 22/0399.

**57/22 Financial Report**

It was **Resolved** that the Financial Report of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 would be approved and accepted. It was noted that there were no deviations from budget and that the following monies had been received:

- |                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1) HSBC (Interest) | £0.17 |
|--------------------|-------|

**58/22 Payment of Accounts**

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

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1) P. Macdonald (Salary)                       | £995.90 |
| 2) HMRC (PAYE)                                 | £248.98 |
| 3) HSBC(Bank charges)                          | £12.00  |
| 4) Carlisle City County (Play Area Inspection) | £54.50  |
| 5) St Giles' PCC                               | £500.00 |

**59/22 School wall repairs**

It was **Resolved** that a grant would be given to Great Orton School to cover half of the cost of the school wall repairs.

**60/22 Bank Account changes**

It was **Resolved** that this no action would be taken on this item and it would be deferred until the outcome of the play area refurbishment project was known.

**61/22 Clerk's salary**

It was **Resolved** that commencing September 2022, the Clerk's salary would be increased, in line with NALC guidelines.

**62/22 Orton Parish seats and Great Orton Play Area**

Reports were received regarding the play area and the council owned parish seats. It was **Resolved** that:

- a) No repairs were needed by the parish seats at the time of reporting.
- b) Councillor Reed reported that all of the play area drains, and probably some of the school drains, were blocked. Councillor Reed would be very willing to advise the Head Teacher in any investigative process.

**63/22 Great Orton Play Area equipment renewal**

It was reported that the Cumbria Waste Management Environment Fund application for £30,000 had been successful but confirmation from ENTRUST, a government body, was required before the project could commence. This is still awaited.

**64/22 Proposed Windfarm & Solar Panel development**

A discussion was held on the suggested solar panel/wind farm proposal adjacent to Orton parish. It was agreed that the height of the turbines was inappropriate and that Orton parish could be exposed to lots of noise and possibly flicker. It was stated that there could be a negative impact on electronic communications and local wildlife. It was suggested that the proposal was not environmentally friendly and that it would occupy 77 acres of prime agricultural land. It was **Resolved** that the parish council would remain in contact with the Solway Plains Action Group.

**65/22 Correspondence**

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

**66/22 Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next ordinary Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 7th November 2022, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Great Orton.

.....Signed .....Date

**CORRESPONDANCE SEPTEMBER 2022**

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