

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orton Parish Council, held in the Village Hall, Great Orton, on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillor Mr W. Little (Chairman), Parish Councillors G. Wills, W. Reed, L. Johnston, M. Howes, M. Cork, N. Orchard and Cumberland Councillor T. Allison.

88/23 Apologies

Councillor E. Norman was unable to attend (work commitments), his apologies were accepted.

89/23 Minutes

It was Resolved that the minutes of the council meeting held on 6th November 2023 be signed by the Chairman as a true record. (Copy enclosed).

90/23 Public participation

A member of the public expressed concern that the church wall, adjacent to the field, is in such a poor state and needs to be rebuilt. A request was made that the Parish Council write to the Parochial Church Council about this issue.

91/23 Declarations of notifiable pecuniary interests

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

92/23 Parish Councillors Notification of Change to Personal Interests

To request that Councillors notify any changes to their personal interests.

93/23 Request for Dispensations

No requests for dispensation were received.

94/23 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- 1) Mr Nigel Perry had submitted his invoice for the parish council portion of the time capsule costs.
- 2) A fallen tree has blocked the footpath in Orton Woods; the landowner will be contacted.
- 3) A 'Live Transcribe' App has been uploaded onto the Clerk's telephone to assist Parish Councillors who have a hearing deficit.

95/23 Reports

Cumberland Councillor Allison Report

Councillor Allison reported that:

- (a) The road surface at Woodhouses corner has been upgraded but the pond has not been filled. This means that water does not drain away and could freeze. Councillor Allison stated that he planned to make another site visit along with the Highways mentor.
- b) A drain from the vicinity of the Wellington Inn appears to be blocked again; Councillor Allison is to request the camera to investigate further.
- c) A pothole at the Four Road Ends has appeared; Councillor Allison stated that he will photograph and reported to the Highways Department.

School Report

The Chairs of Governors, stated that there are now 41 children on the school roll. The nursery is operating and hopes to be able to take babies. A very colourful and full Newsletter was distributed.

Village Hall Committee Report

The Village Hall Committee representative reported that regular bookings continue to be made. There are no plans at present for the facilities. Unfortunately, two Committee members have resigned in recent times and new members are being sought.

Watchtree Report

The Watchtree representative reported that the new café Manager seems to be settling in well. The site continues to be very popular, but some events have proved to be too attractive and necessitated closure of the gates. A new toilet block is needed along with extended parking and new buildings but grant funding is difficult to source because the site lease is now relatively short.

96/23 Planning

The following planning applications were noted:

- 1) Proposed roof over existing manure store at The Bow, Little Orton, Carlisle, CA5 6EW. Ref: 23/0838. *No objections.*
- 2) Removal of condition 5 (Culverted watercourse) of previously approved application 19/0517 (Erection of dwellings) on land adjacent to Fair Lea, Moorhouse, Carlisle, CA5 6EL. Ref: 23/0855. *No objections.*
- 3) Variation of condition 9 (Carriageway & footways) of previously approved application 19/0517 (Erection of dwellings) to require the carriageways and footways to be constructed to the Cumbria Development Design Guide 2017 standards in lieu of them being to an adoptable standard on land adjacent to Fair Lea, Moorhouse, Carlisle, CA5 6EL. Ref: 23/0837. *No objections.*

Carlisle City Council approval of the following application was noted:

Erection of infill agricultural shed & diversion of access track at Orton Grange Farm, Orton Grange, Carlisle, CA5 6LA. Ref: 23/0742.

97/23 Financial Report

It was Resolved that the Financial Report of 30st November 2023 be approved and accepted.

It was noted that there were no deviations from budget but **it was Resolved that** Electricity North West would be asked to increase the wayleave payments as they have remained constant since 2017. The following payment had been received:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| a) North West Electricity (Wayleave) | £18.23 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|

98/23 Payment of Accounts

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

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| a) Josh Ledbury (Tree survey) | £210.00 |
| b) Cluaran Landscapes Ltd. (Grass cutting) | £1,518.00 |
| c) Rocket Sites (Web hosting) | £138.00 |
| d) Nigel Perry | £161.60 |
| e) HSBC UK (Bank charges) | £8.00 |
| f) HSBC UK (Bank charges) | £12.00 |

99/23 Bank changes

It was Resolved that further enquiries would be made at the bank to discover whether Orton Parish Council was eligible to convert a bank account to a Client's Deposit Account.

It was Resolved that the Clerk would make enquiries among CALC staff and members regarding the process of changing the bank to the Unity Trust Bank.

100/23 Cumberland Council taxation proposals

It was Resolved that a letter would be sent to Cumberland Council stating disapproval of the proposed 4.99% increase in council tax. Also emphasising the importance of maintaining libraries, especially in rural areas, and suggesting that second home owners should be paying additional council tax.

101/23 Time capsule progress

It was reported that photographs, articles and a council agenda had been assembled ready to be put into the time capsule. The required licence has been obtained and the burial site identified so the burial should be able to proceed in the near future.

102/23 Additional items to enhance Great Orton Play Area

It was Resolved that no additional items would be added to the play area at this time as the additional funds in the council accounts would be required to cover the costs of necessary, extensive drainage work to be carried out on the site. **It was Resolved that** estimates would be sought from at least 3 contractors.

103/23 Gypsy Lonning, Little Orton, damage to barriers

It was Resolved that an estimated cost of £270 would be accepted and the contractor asked to complete the work.

104/23 Road flooding at Orton Rigg

It was Resolved that Councillor Allison would continue to pursue this matter as a matter of urgency with staff in the Department of Highways. See also minute **95/23a**, page 491.

105/23 Tree safety survey

It was Resolved that estimates would be sought from at least 3 contractors to carry out the work recommended in the tree safety survey report.

106/23 Orton Parish street furniture & Great Orton Play Area

Following the receipt of reports, it was noted that:

- a) None of the parish seats or notice boards appeared to need repairs, at the time of inspection.
- b) The drains in the school and play area are to be monitored in the coming months.

107/23 Rota of play area & seat inspections 2024

It was Resolved that the rota for Parish Councillor inspections of seats and noticeboards would be as follows:

January 2024 W. Little	February 2024 M. Howes	March 2024 G.Wills
April 2024 N. Oliver	May 2024 L. Johnston	June 2024 W. Little
July 2024 W.Reed	August 2024 G. Wills	September 2024 W. Little
October 2024 M.Howes	November 2024 L. Johnston	December 2024 M. Cork

108/22 Dates of 2024/25 Parish Council Meetings

It was Resolved that the dates for Parish Council Meetings in 2024/25 would be as follows:

4 th March 2024,	13 th May 2024,	1 st July 2024,
2 nd September 2024,	4 th November 2024,	6 th January 2025.

109/23 Laser jet printer

It was Resolved that the Clerk would purchase a suitable replacement printer.

110/23 Correspondence

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

111/23 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Open meeting and next ordinary Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm and 8pm respectively on Monday 4th March 2024 in Great Orton Village Hall.

.....SignedDate

CORRESPONDANCE January 2024

Clerks & Councils Direct
HSBC UK
HSBC UK
HSBC UK

*Glasdon
Harker Garden Buildings*

November 2023 issue 150
Change parish accounts
Protection from fraud
Changes to terms & conditions

*Trade literature
Trade literature*