

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orton Parish Council, held in the Village Hall, Great Orton, on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm.**

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

**The Chairman announced that the meeting would be transcribed to text in order to facilitate attendees with hearing difficulties but members of the public could ask not to be recorded, should they so wish. The recording to be deleted after the meeting.**

**63/23 Apologies**

All Councillors were in attendance so there were no apologies.

**64/23 Minutes**

**It was Resolved that** the minutes of the council meeting held on 4th September 2023 be signed by the Chairman as a true record. (Copy enclosed).

**65/23 Public participation**

A member of the public expressed concern about poor drainage at the southern end of Great Orton.

**66/23 Declarations of notifiable pecuniary interests**

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

**67/23 Parish Councillors Notification of Change to Personal Interests**

Councillor Reed declared a change to his personal interests as he had moved house within the parish.

**68/23 Request for Dispensations**

No requests for dispensation were received.

**69/23 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- 1) The newly completed play area has been enjoyed by local children. Thanks were given to the Clerk, Mr Nigel Parker, Councillor Allison and former Carlisle City Councillor McKerrill.
- 2) Free trees have been offered to Parish Councils but sadly there are no suitable sites available at present.
- 3) The time capsule is being completed; the necessary permission to bury it is being sought.
- 4) Great Orton village hall has been unsuccessful in obtaining grant funding this time.
- 5) The commemorative plaque for the Jubilee tree will not be replaced.

**70/23 Reports**

**Cumberland Councillor Allison Report**

Councillor Allison reported that:

- (a) A licence to plant the time capsule would be required along with a plan of the proposed site. The Chairman agreed to discuss the contents of the capsule with Great Orton School staff.
- b) A lorry wheel, lying on Orton Road near Fallow Field, would be reported to the Highways Department for removal, along with a hanging tree branch at Crossbanks, Baldwinholme.
- c) A blocked drain near the church car park in Great Orton would be photographed and reported to the Highways Department.

### **School Report**

The Chairs of Governors, stated that there are now 40 children on the school roll. An Open day had been held and also bulb planting by the children. It has been agreed that a car parking area for 8 cars will be constructed in the school grounds; funds are being raised towards this project. At present staff are using the village hall car park and this will continue for the present time. The children have been enjoying the new play area.

### **Village Hall Committee Report**

The Village Hall Committee representative reported that no recent meetings had taken place but regular bookings continue to be made and investigations into the possibility of installing a hearing loop system are on-going.

### **Watchtree Report**

The Watchtree representative reported that 3 new Director/Trustees had been appointed. Sales of the 2024 calendar were going well. Two team leaders have recently left their employment so recruitment of replacement staff is now under way. Walking for Health groups remain popular and continue on a regular basis.

### **71/23 Planning**

*The following planning application was noted:*

Erection of infill agricultural shed at Orton Grange Farm, Orton Grange, Carlisle, CA5 6LA. Ref: 23/0742. *No objections.*

*Carlisle City Council approved the following application was noted:*

Change of use from agricultural land to secure pet exercise enclosure at The Ginn Ring, Orton Rigg, Great Orton, Carlisle. CA5 6LL. Ref: 23/046.

### **72/23 Financial Report**

**It was Resolved that** the Financial Report of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 be approved and accepted. It was noted that there were no deviations from budget and that the following monies had been received:

a) Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust Fund (Grant) £36,971.00

### **73/23 Payment of Accounts**

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

a) CPL (Payroll)	£19.80
b) CWM Ltd. (10% of grant funding)	£3,697.10
c) Kompan Scotland Ltd (New play area)	£45,401.34

### **74/23 Annual Budget and Precept**

**It was Resolved that** the precept for 2023/24 would remain at £8,500, to be submitted in November 2023.

### **75/23 Review of Insurances**

**It was Resolved that** the council would remain with the present insurers, Zurich, for 2024/25.

### **76/23 Clerk's salary review**

**It was Resolved that** the Clerk's salary for 2024/25 would be increased by 10%.

### **77/23 Gypsy Lonning, Little Orton, damage to barriers**

No further information was available but another estimate for the work is anticipated.

### **78/23 Road flooding at Orton Rigg**

Cumberland Council Highways Engineering staff have stated that the work will be completed by December 2023. Councillor Allison stated that he would remind the staff of this undertaking.

**79/23 Fallen tree blocking footpath in Orton Moss**

**It was Resolved that** enquiries would be made to find out who owns this part of Orton Moss and to ask them to clear the pathway.

**80/23 Live entertainment in Orton Parish**

**It was Resolved that** a suitable event could be identified next summer, in conjunction with the village hall committee, when Carlisle Brass Band could be invited to play in the parish.

**81/23 Tree safety survey**

**It was Resolved that** a quotation of £210 from Evolve Tree Surveys would be accepted and a tree risk survey carried out on the council owned trees as soon as possible.

**82/23 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. The letters at the top of the Great Orton board are starting to fall off and will be mended.
- b) The drains in the school and play area seem to be working at present but will be monitored in the coming months.

**83/23 Great Orton Play Area equipment renewal project**

It was noted that the Play Area renewal project had been completed. An opening ceremony was arranged, involving the staff and children of Great Orton school, along with the Press.

**84/23 Play area equipment maintenance schedule**

**It was Resolved that** the present inspection regime would continue, using an updated check-list as a guide.

**85/23 Laser-jet printer**

**It was Resolved that** the Clerk would investigate suitable replacement printers.

**86/23 Correspondence**

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

**87/23 Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next ordinary Parish Council meeting would be at 7.30pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in Great Orton village hall.

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

**CORRESPONDANCE November 2023**

Clerks & Councils Direct

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*NBB Outdoors*

*Trade literature*