

ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17th November 2014 in the Market Hall at 7.30pm

Present Cllr K Blue (Chairman) Cllrs M Lewis, E Potter, P Knowles and Mary Jenkin
Clerk, C J Elphick
District Councilor, Adrian Todd
County Councilor, Libby Bateman
Four members of the public

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs S Dunning and M Coates

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any item on this agenda.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 20th October 2014 had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Children's Play Area

It was reported that one mature lime tree had been removed from the play area due to its poor condition.

Repairs and renovations to two major play items had been put in hand and were expected to be carried out within the next few days. These include replacement of several old, faded panels which will enhance the play experience.

The Wetpour surfacing is to be power washed to remove moss etc.

The Springer item and Waste bin are in need of replacement according to the Annual Inspection Report. Grant aid is being sought to assist with the cost.

The Council's Child Protection Policy had been upgraded and Andrew Cotton, who has been carrying out weekly inspections of the play area, has agreed to be the Responsible Officer (RO) for the implementation of this policy.

106 Bus Route

Libby Bateman outlined the steps being taken to restore a bus service between Penrith and Kendal following Cumbria County Council's withdrawal of its subsidy for the route. No solution has yet been reached but discussions with bus operators and users continue.

Finance

Setting the Precept for 2015-2016 was deferred until the January 2015 meeting

Annual review of staff costs deferred until the January 2015 meeting

Accounts paid prior to meeting

Playdale Playgrounds Ltd (repairs deposit)	£1,446.74
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Accounts for payment

C J Elphick (Month 8)	£ 336.00
HMRC (Month 8)	£ 84.00
Lynne Potter (68)	£ 210.00
C J Elphick (Month 9)	£ 336.00
HMRC (Month 9)	£ 84.00
Lynne Potter (69)	£ 210.00
Enterprise Managed Services Ltd (grasscutting)	£1,311.60
C J Elphick (expenses)	£ 219.90
Steven Hodgson (Playground Tree)	£ 600.00

Steven Hodgson (Power Washing)	£ 210.00
Gary Sedgwick (Toilet repairs)	£ 88.08
Playdale Playgrounds Repairs balance)	£1,542.75

Planning

No. 14/0770	Conversion of existing barn to form office, kitchen, guest bedroom and shower.
Type	Full Application
Location	Rayne Farm, Gaisgill, CA10 3UD
Applicant	Mr D Penrose
Parish Council	No objections
No. 14/0964	Erection of a single storey entrance porch and store.
Type	Full Application
Location	Scar Side House, Orton, CA10 3SE
Applicant	Mr & Mrs D Pickersgill
Parish Council	No objections

Meet the Councillors

Report from the meeting of Eden District Council's Executive held in ORTON MARKET HALL, Tuesday 4th November 2014 at 6.00pm
 Approximately twenty local residents had attended the meeting. Main topics discussed were: Allocation of local building sites within the proposed EDC Local Plan, Neighbourhood Development Plans, Street Lighting and the Parish Precept level.

Eden District Council leader Gordon Nicolson pointed out that the way many parishes were choosing to take control of planning issues locally was to develop their own Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Government's Localism Act.

"You can't use neighbourhood planning to stop development but you can use it to put your stamp on the nature and scale of the development"

Orton Parish Council chairman Kyle Blue told the meeting that the parish had considered the question of neighbourhood planning but "drawn back".

"It is in some ways easier to have an expert, rather than having peers looking at an application by a neighbour or a colleague. The planning process almost becomes too intimate, and could be an easy way to fall out," he said.

He said that if the views expressed at the meeting were those of the majority of the community, the way to progress these local ambitions was through a Neighbourhood Plan.

Questions were asked about the timescale for achieving a Neighbourhood Plan, and whether one could be put in place in time to influence the contents of the Eden Local Plan. Mr. Nicolson said that a timescale of six to eight months would be realistic, with the completion date of the local plan an unknown at this stage.

It was pointed out at the meeting that, unless the Eden local plan is adopted, a national planning policy framework would be applied which could see far more radical development than that set out in the document.

Communication with Parish Residents

Some members of the public had complained that they had not received notification of EDC's consultation on the draft Local Plan. This had been received by the PC after the date of the July meeting. It was immediately circulated to councillors but, there being no meeting in August, discussion had been held over to the September meeting, still leaving time for comment. (See minutes 15/09/2014).

In order to address the matter of distributing information to residents it was suggested that a list of those wishing to receive communications by e-mail could be

established, subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act. Details of categories to be forwarded are to be discussed.

Public Participation

In view of the apparent interest from those present, the Chairman proposed a public meeting to explore the local demand and practicalities of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Orton. The date of 26th January 2015 was suggested.

Correspondence & Publications Received

CALC Circular – November 2014
CALC Annual Report 2014
CALC AGM 2014 – Saturday 15th November, Wigton
Clerks & Councils Direct
Consultation on the proposed closure of Ravenstonedale Endowed School
Parish Elections May 7th 2015 – Potential costs.

The foregoing publications were noted and circulated as appropriate.

Date of next meeting Monday 19th January 2015

Signed

Chairman. **Date** 19th January 2015