

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

1 February 2016

Present: Steve Atkinson, Barbara Govan (Chair), Debbie Hewitt, Anne King, Pat Laverty (Vice Chair), Alan Taylor. Five members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

- 01/16 Apologies for Absence** – apologies were received from Cllr Tina Longstaff (family commitment).
- 02/16 Declarations of Interest** – All Councillors signed the Dispensation Request in respect of a pecuniary interest in setting the 2016/17 precept.
- 03/16 Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2015 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as an accurate record.
- 04/16 Open Session** – Four residents represented the residents of Coupland Beck whose properties had been flooded during Storm Desmond in December 2015. They had written asking for the PC's support in their request for the capacity of the culvert at Coupland Beck to be increased. Cllr Stephenson (CCC) had made a site visit and reported his findings to the Highways Team. The Environment Agency had also been contacted. Those present were advised to also contact Amey Mouchel as the contractors managing the A66, under which the beck runs.
It was agreed that the Clerk would write to CCC Highways reiterating the problems of flooding in the parish, including the area at Coupland Beck.
- 05/16 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL**
- 05/16/1 Application to correct non-registration or mistaken registration – VG7/D1 Murton Village Green.** It was noted that the application by Mr & Mrs Cawson, Bridge House, Murton to deregister the area designated as VG within their property boundary had been successful and that the legal map record had been updated.
- 05/16/2 Highways** – several areas in need of attention were reported, details of which will be reported to Highways by the Clerk:
Hilton – Cross Keys to cattle grid access to Range – damage to road.
Appleby to Hilton road at Ash Bank – subsidence at the 'bumpy corner'.
Hilton Beck – great concern was expressed about the state of the erosion of the river bank and the walls. The wall has collapsed into the beck and a nearby tree has been nearly washed away by the recent floods.
Road between Murton and Hilton – the lack of regular culvert clearing has led to repeated flooding.
- 05/16/3 Footpaths** - Cllrs Atkinson and King had inspected several stiles and reported defects to Tony Burns.
- 06/16 HEALTH & SAFETY**
- 06/16/1 Cemetery** – Cllr Govan had checked the Cemetery. It will need tidying following the winter weather. A wall required repair. Cllr Laverty will speak to the Hoggs regarding repair.

- 06/16/2 Parish Owned Property** – Cllr Atkinson undertook to check Hilton properties, Cllr Taylor Murton, and Cllr Govan the Cemetery and Brackenber.
- 07/16 Defibrillators** - Brian Moncaster had reported the following to the Chair:
Hilton – the phone box has been decommissioned and will be converted to take the defibrillator by Green Urban Technology, Penrith.
Murton – The First Responders have obtained funding for a defibrillator for Murton from funding donated by the British Heart Foundation. Mr & Mrs Cawson, Bridge House, Murton have agreed to allow the cabinet to be fixed to their property. EDC have agreed to the connection to the street lighting electricity supply and their contractor will undertake the necessary work. There will be a charge for the work and the electricity used, currently not known.
Defibrillator Training/CPR familiarisation will follow the installations.
It was also reported that a defibrillator will be installed at Café 66 shortly.
- 08/16 Rural Broadband** – Cllr King reported that the proposed discussion with Rory Stewart MP had yet to take place. There was therefore nothing new to report on the pursuit of superfast broadband for the parish.
- 09/16 FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- 09/16/1 Budget 2015/16 and Current Financial Situation** – Cllr Laverty had undertaken the pre-meeting audit of the current financial situation.
Resolved: that the current Financial Report and list of Clerk’s Expenses be signed by the Chair.
- 09/16/2 Budget 2016/17** – the Clerk and Chair explained the planned budget and precept calculation. A new line in the budget, running costs for the defibrillators, had been introduced. David Kipling’s had been the only response to the tender for mowing the Cemetery. His tender for 5 cuts @ £120 per cut for 3 years was accepted. The precept would be raised by 24p from £26.18 to £26.42 (for Band D household).
Resolved: that the 2016/17 budget and precept be approved by the PC.
- 09/16/3 Financial Risk Assessment** – the Clerk confirmed that this had been reviewed by the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk and updated accordingly.
Resolved: that the Risk Assessment be approved.
- 09/16/4 External Audit** – NALC is keeping parishes updated with regards to changes in audit arrangements. The current system will continue for the 2015/16 audit but will change for 2016/17. The Smaller Authorities’ Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA) is being set up to make audit arrangements for smaller authorities. Any parish wishing to make their own arrangements should opt out of this by 31.03.16. At a recent CALC Clerks’ Forum it was generally agreed that using the SAAA system would be appropriate for most parishes. It will be necessary to publish an Annual Return in accordance with the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities, and complete an Annual Exemption Form to be returned to the SAAA to indicate there will be no requirement for a limited assurance audit review for the financial year in question.
Resolved: that Murton Parish Council would not be opting out of the SAAA arrangements.
- 10/16 EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL**
- 10/16/1 Planning Applications**
15/0964 – Proposed roofing over existing livestock area, Langton Field, Langton Field Cottages, Appleby CA16 6JG for Messrs M Bell & A Bell. It was noted that the PC had

Signature
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Barbara L. Govan

Date of meeting

9/8/16

responded in support of this application. It had been approved by EDC, with a condition regarding maintenance of the Public Right of Way.

16/0002 – Proposed first floor extension over existing domestic garage, Green Tree, Hilton, Appleby CA16 6LU for Mr & Mrs E Smales. This was discussed and the recommendation was that the application would not be supported by the Parish Council with regard to the following material considerations:

- that the height and proximity of the extension would create unreasonable overshadowing of a neighbouring property;
- that the height of the extension would have an oppressive impact on a neighbouring property.

Resolved: that the Council does not support this planning application (2 abstentions).

16/0058 – Outline planning application for a two storey dwelling with on-site parking, land to the south of Leagarth, Hilton, Appleby CA16 6LU for Dr & Mrs J Sibson. This was discussed and the recommendation was that the application be supported by the Parish Council. In particular the development was considered, by residents, to be infill between another property (The Cross Keys) and other village residences; the application includes a studio which will enable the continuation of a small business in the village; the materials to be used indicate that these will be in character with the rest of the village.

Resolved: that the Council supports this planning application.

10/16/2 Garden Waste Skips – EDC will shortly be reviewing the scheme that was in place in 2015. Cllr Laverty will contact Tina Mason, EDC for an update. The Clerk will write to CCC, which manages recycling credits, regarding the continuing uncertainty with regards to the current arrangements.

11/16 MAINTAINING THE PARISH ENVIRONMENT

11/16/1 Village Greens – the plan to mow the VG in Hilton in preparation for wildflower planting was stalled until the weather improves. It was reported that the Fellsiders Group would be having a talk on pollinators which would complement the project. It was also noted that, due to ill health, Alan Ormrod would be unlikely to be able to continue mowing the top green in Murton. His voluntary service to the community in this regard over many years had been much appreciated.

11/16/2 Lane Head, Hilton – it was noted that this lane was much in use and had not been tidied since the last Open Gardens event. It was proposed that volunteers be recruited to clean up the lane which had become slippery with debris and consult residents regarding trimming the overhanging bushes.

11/16/3 Cemetery – volunteers will be sought to help tidy the Cemetery, remove fallen branches, spray weed-killer etc.

12/16 Cemetery – Developing Guidelines for Cemetery Management – the Clerk tabled a document which included the most recent documents in the PC files regarding fees and regulations. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Asby and Warcop parishes and review the EDC website to draw together more comprehensive guidelines for Murton Cemetery use. This had been prompted by questions from an undertaker and a stonemason regarding the types of cremation containers, memorials and inscriptions allowed by Murton Cemetery. An issue regarding the width of grave plots being dug had also been raised. Cllr Laverty undertook to discuss this with the Sextant. The subject, including a review of the fees, will be discussed at the next meeting.

Signature 
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

9/5/16

- 13/16 Annual Parish Meeting (provisional date Monday 7 March)** – a lengthy discussion took place in order to find a topic which would be of interest and relevance to residents. The Clerk was asked to invite a representative from CCC Highways to talk about Maintaining Access in the Parish: flooding, gritting and road maintenance.
- 14/16 Correspondence for Information** – the circulated list was noted and various items brought to the attention of the Councillors. It was noted that Cllr Laverty had attempted to contact Warcop regarding possible assistance with a beacon for the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations. The Institute Committee were also interested in supporting this event. The Clean for the Queen, ie litter pick up on 4/5/6 March was also noted. It was hoped that both could be mentioned in the next edition of The Villager.
- 15/16 Clerk's report on any actions taken under delegated powers not otherwise mentioned**
The Clerk had no actions to report.
- 16/16 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda** – none received.
- 17/16 Date of next meeting: Monday 9 May at 7.30 pm – Murton Institute Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting**

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THESE MINUTES IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM THE PARISH CLERK

AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE MINUTES IS AVAILABLE HERE:

www.murton.org.uk

Signature 
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

9/2/16.