

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: June Watson
Telephone: 017683 52851/07834 884022
E-mail: jlw.watson@btinternet.com

Correspondence:
The Nurse's House, 50 Scattergate Green
APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND CA16 6SP

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

7 November 2016

Present: Barbara Govan (Chair), Debbie Hewitt, Tina Longstaff, Anne King, Pat Laverty (Vice Chair), Alan Taylor. EDC Cllr Willy Patterson, CCC Cllr Martin Stephenson, PCSO Karen Dakin, Appleby Police and four members of the public was welcomed to the meeting.

- 59/16 **Apologies for Absence** – no apologies for absence had been received.
- 60/16 **Declarations of Interest** – no declarations of pecuniary interest were made.
- 61/16 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of 1 August 2016 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as an accurate record.
- 62/16 **Open Session** – Since the previous meeting, members of the public present had raised issues regarding footway lighting in Murton. This item was already included on the agenda.
- 63/16 **EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL**
63/16/1 **Planning Applications**
16/072 – Proposed general purpose agricultural building for winter sheep housing at Harbour Flatt, Keisley CA16 6NF for Elliot Brothers. To note that the PC responded in support of this application which has since been granted.
16/0579 – Full application for single storey front elevation at Green Tree, Hilton for Mr E Smales. To note that his application has been granted.
16/0202 – Full application to extend existing 2 bed cottage into a 3 bed cottage with kitchen/diner plus garage at Honeysuckle Cottage, Hilton for Mr David Kipling. To note that this application has been granted with pre-commencement and ongoing conditions relating to: the provision of an appropriate drainage scheme; the use of external materials to harmonise with the surroundings; the use of appropriate windows to protect the privacy of neighbouring properties; and a recommendation that the existing porch be replaced with a more appropriate structure.
- 63/16/2 **Footway Lighting** – An extensive discussion took place regarding the background to the situation which led to this topic being raised by residents and Councillors.
Following health & safety concerns EDC undertook a review of footway lighting in 2012. Criteria were developed regarding the advisability of retaining footway lighting throughout the District. Murton received a list of the 18 lights maintained by EDC in the parish. None of the lights met any of the criteria for being retained by EDC but the parish was asked to make recommendations on which lights it would prefer to retain. This was the topic of the Annual Parish

Signature
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Barbara Govan

Date of meeting 6/2/17

Meeting on 4 March 2013 where the proposal to keep one light in Murton and two in Hilton (at the two school bus stops and Lane Foot, Hilton) was agreed. Following the PC meeting in August 2016 a request for a further two lights in Murton (outside Helm View and Cragg House) was forwarded to EDC. Members of the public and Councillors expressed concerns about security following a spate of burglaries in recent months, leading to feelings of vulnerability in older residents particularly. Concerns about safety of older residents and schoolchildren walking in the dark were also expressed. According to the Highways Act, neither CCC nor EDC have a duty to provide either street or footway lighting, but both District and Parish Councils have the powers to provide lighting. Costs of a new light, pole and connection could be between £1,500-2,000 depending on the location.

Cllr Patterson said that EDC were producing a further document on the footway lighting policy. Proposals that the current lighting be reviewed and suggestions regarding the location and type of lights, eg LED, and a possible survey were made.

The Chair summarised by thanking those who had come to the meeting to discuss this topic. The PC was very aware of the safety of the village's ageing population, and that lights are both an aid to safety and a visible aid to security. The PC would consider this issue. Any suggestions would have to be fully costed and would have to be funded by increasing the Parish Precept considerably. This may not be acceptable to those residents in the parish who do not live in Murton village and who would not therefore benefit.

64/16 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL

64/16/1 Highways – Cattle Grids at Brackenber – Cllr Stephenson reported that the replacement of the cattle grids at Brackenber is now scheduled for end of November/early December

64/16/2 Hilton Bridge – The brief for the design of the proposed bridge widening at Hilton had been sent out to tender. The contract will be awarded with final design to be approved by the end of March 2017. Funding has been set aside for the work to be undertaken in summer 2017.

64/16/3 Murton Grit Box – The Clerk had written to CCC to request that the box be moved away from the bus shelter, where it is causing damage, before it was filled for the winter had been made. The update from CCC was that the move and refill was on the list of tasks to be undertaken in the current programme of refilling of grit boxes.

Cllr Stephenson asked the PC if there was a designated site for supplementary grit in the parish which can be delivered when snow has been forecast.

65/16 Health & Safety - the H&S lists for checking the Cemetery and parish assets were handed out to Councillors with a request for them to be returned to the Clerk by the end of November.

66/16 Maintaining the Parish Environment – Cllr King reported that no residents turned up for the annual walks around the Village Greens in Hilton and Murton this summer. However work, supported by North Pennines AONB, has included

Signature 
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

06/02/17

the mowing and planting of flowers at Hilton and also the planting of a small amount of yellow rattle at Murton Top Green. Thanks were expressed to those volunteers who had cut and tidied up the green at Hilton.

67/16 FINANCIAL REPORTS

67/16/1 Budget 2016/17 and Current Financial Situation – This report was tabled.

Resolved: that the current Financial Report and list of Clerk's Expenses be signed by the Chair.

67/16/2 Draft Budget and Precept for 2017/18 – the Clerk presented the budget and explained the proposed expenditure. It was noted that the fund for the maintenance of the Defibrillator would be ring-fenced but may not be utilised in 2017/18. A comment that the Cemetery footpaths may soon require maintenance was noted.

Resolved: that the draft budget be accepted. This would be confirmed at the next meeting when the relevant parish data had been released by EDC.

67/16/3 Annual Return 2015/16 – the Clerk reported that the external audit had been passed as satisfactory. The auditor raised the minor issue concerning a £2 discrepancy which had been sanctioned by the PC at the meeting on 9 May 2016.

Resolved: that the Annual Return Certificate be approved and accepted by the Parish Council.

67/16/4 Cumberland Building Society – Notification of a reduction in interest rates had been received following the recent Bank of England base rate reduction. The annual letter regarding the end date (21 August) for the One Year Term Account had also been received. The Chair and Clerk had discussed this and it was allowed to extend for a further year automatically.

68/16 CEMETERY MANAGEMENT

68/16/1 Tree Management – following the resolution at the previous meeting R Schug had been asked to cut back the trees in the cemetery. His opinion would be sought on the advisability of further work to be done in the spring.

68/16/2 Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial – a request had been received for refund of the fee for Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial from two people who had reserved grave spaces in 2000 but have since moved from the parish.

Resolved: that, if requested, the fee for Exclusive Right of Burial can be refunded and the reservation cancelled. This would be added to the Cemetery Management document.

69/16 Correspondence for Information – the circulated list was noted. The Clerk drew attention to the following items:

- EDC had offered sandbags to those communities with Flood Action Plans in place. The residents at Coupland Beck had been badly affected by the December 2016 flooding. A wider discussion about Emergency Planning took place. Cllr Stephenson advised contacting ACT for information about Emergency Planning and possible financial support. The Clerk undertook to take this action.

- A letter had been received from RD Hyslop, owner of Ghyll House, Murton requesting that the PC consent to the pruning of a sycamore tree on village green. The Chair and Vice Chair visited the site and agreed that the tree's height could cause significant damage if it blew over in stormy weather. Consent to undertake professional tree surgery was given.

70/16 Clerk's report on any actions taken under delegated powers not otherwise mentioned – No actions had been taken.

71/16 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

The following items were proposed:

- A query regarding the erection of a fence at the Bobbin Mill and village greens.
- Emergency Planning.

72/16 Date of next meeting: Monday 6 February 2017 at 7.30 pm – Murton Institute

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

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

Signature 
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

06/02/17