

# MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF MURTON PARISH COUNCIL 11 March 2019

**Present:** Alastair Bell, Barbara Govan (Chairman), Anne King, Pat Laverty (Vice Chairman), Tina Longstaff (part), Alan Taylor. Ten members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

**18/19 Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Hewitt had unforeseen family commitments.

**19/19 Chairman's Annual Report** – Cllr Govan gave an account of the following topics dealt with by the Parish Council during the preceding year:

- Transparency & Communications – the Murton website and new noticeboards are used to publicise the work of the PC. Improved broadband speeds in many parts of the parish has helped communications in the parish and thanks are given to Jules Price for publicising community activities.
- General Data Protection Regulations – Councillors have worked with the Clerk to ensure that the PC is compliant with new legislation.
- CCC Highways – working with Highways to ensure grit boxes are filled, gullies and drains are cleared and repaired, and potholes filled is a never-ending task. The PC has a good working relationship with the Highways Engineer, but it should be noted that faults can be reported by any member of the public via the CCC Highways website.
- Hilton Bridge – the original design for the widening of the bridge to dual track proved too expensive and the most recent design is for a wider single track. Hopefully an update on the detail of timing and diversion arrangements will be available at the next PC meeting in May.
- Cemetery Walls – this is the principal parish asset and the main cost. The causes of damage to the cemetery walls were reviewed and a decision to remove six leylandii from the east side was taken. Thanks are given to Messrs Schug who allowed their field to be used during the removal, and the Hoggs have since repaired the damaged walls. A longer term view of possible rebuilding the walls is under discussion.
- Village Environment – Cllr King has responsibility for overseeing Village Greens which involves pollinator planting at Murton and Hilton Top Greens. Volunteer help is invaluable with all efforts to keep the parish tidy and a Community Cleanup day in May will be publicised soon.
- Deregistration of Commons – this has been an item at almost every meeting. I was privileged to be able to represent residents at the Public Inquiry in September. The outcome was a compromise, but the PC continues to work with the MOD and will be attending the annual liaison meeting in May.
- Thank you for support – Cllr Govan thanked residents for the continued support for Councillors in their responsibility for considering the villages, the people who live in them and their welfare.

Signature   
Chairman, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

13.05.19

- 20/19**      **Open Session** – comments about items in the Chairman’s Report were made, but no new topics raised. Highways faults were noted and will be reported.
- 21/19**      **Parish Priorities** – The Rural Issues of Eden Community Development Team, Cumbria County Council had asked for each parish to outline three priorities for their parish. The three priorities discussed were:
- **Garden Recycling Waste** – Two skips are provided by EDC, one in Hilton, one in Murton. The skips are filled immediately but only replaced monthly. Residents of smaller communities, eg Brackenber, Langton have no service.  
**Priority 1:** The provision of garden waste recycling bins to each household would be welcomed, or an increase in the size, number and frequency of skips.
  - **Gritting** – None of the roads in the parish are a gritting priority. In recent years there have been accidents on the road between Appleby and Hilton due to ice. There are no grit boxes on this stretch of road despite parts of the road being in shade throughout the day in winter and therefore hazardous all day. The PC has been informed that new grit boxes have to be funded by the PC.  
**Priority 2:** The roads from Appleby to Hilton, Murton and on to Dufton (which is gritted) to be included on the Highways gritting schedule, and the provision of grit boxes, free of charge, on hazardous areas.
  - **Roadside Verge Maintenance** – There are several bushes and young trees growing on verges on the road between Appleby and Hilton. These narrow the road in parts and are causing hazards on some bends.  
**Priority 3:** When the CCC undertake verge and hedge maintenance, that the hazardous growth is also removed.
- 22/19**      **Local Elections – Thursday 2 May** - the Clerk outlined the timetable for those wishing to be nominated for a place on the PC. There are seven seats on the PC and an election will be held if more than seven nominations are submitted to EDC by 4 pm on Wednesday 3 May. More information about becoming a Councillor is on the EDC website. The Clerk can provide the information needed for the nomination forms.
- 23/19**      **Fellside House, Hilton** – The Chair introduced this item to be noted. Occasionally issues are raised which cannot wait until the next quarterly PC meeting. The PC had been made aware that the new owners of Fellside House were attempting to deal with the longstanding problem of their septic tank seeping over the lane. The recommendation is for a new sewage treatment plant to meet updated regulations. The PC was asked for permission to investigate this problem and install the new system which would involve work on and restoration of Village Green. Permission from the MOD was also being sought.  
**Resolved:** that the PC allows this work to be undertaken.
- 24/19**      **Date of next Meetings:**  
Annual Council Meeting – Monday 13 May – 7.00 pm  
Ordinary Meeting – Monday 13 May – 7.30 pm (following Annual Council Meeting)

**The meeting closed at 8.25 pm**

A large print version of these minutes is available on request from the parish clerk. All documents relating to this meeting are available here: [www.murton.org.uk](http://www.murton.org.uk)

Signature   
Chairman, Murton Parish Council

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