

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MURTON PARISH COUNCIL - 6 November 2017

Present: Barbara Govan (Chair), Anne King, Tina Longstaff, Pat Laverty (Vice Chair). Jonathan Pounder and three members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

PRE MEETING

Jonathan Pounder, Rural Estate Delivery Advisor for the North (Landmarc), Warcop Range

Jonathan's role is to prepare an integrated rural estate management plan for Warcop Range. This includes issues relating to public access to the Range and relationships with the local community, hence his presence at this meeting. Those present agreed on the importance of these two areas. The following issues were raised:

- The lack of face to face contact with the MOD
- Safeguarding access by diverting Public Rights of Way away from danger areas.
- Poor signage/interpretation panel at Murton car park.
- Military vehicles using Murton car park when they should park through the fell gate.
- No notification about dry firing and parachute flares on Murton Pike. Could someone be posted at the fell gate to make the public aware when this is taking place?
- Lack of public awareness of what dry firing means.
- Military personnel being unaware that there is public access in this area.
- Lack of adherence to the 25 mph speed limit through the villages (as on military signs).

Jonathan hopes the final draft of the plan will be available at the next Liaison meeting next May.

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MURTON PARISH COUNCIL 6 November 2017

- 62/17 Apologies for Absence** – Apologies from Cllr Taylor (holiday) and Cllr Hewitt (domestic issue) had been received and were accepted.
- 63/17 Declarations of Interest** – no declarations of pecuniary interest were made.
- 64/17 Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of 7 August 2017 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as an accurate record.
- 65/17 Open Session** - No member of the public or councillors with a prejudicial interest in an item of business took the opportunity to make a statement or ask questions of the Council.

ITEMS FOR REPORT

- 66/17 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL - Widening of Hilton Bridge** – The plans were circulated and viewed. They will be the subject of the Parish Meeting on Tuesday

Signature
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Barbara I. Govan

Date of meeting

05/09/18

14 November 2017 immediately following the Community Lunch. John Banks, Network Engineer, and Martin Elson, Structural Engineer, Highways, Cumbria County Council will be available to explain and take comments on the plans. For those unable to attend this session, the plans will be available to view at the homes of Cllr Govan (tel 51663) and Cllr Laverty (tel 52076).

67/17 Cemetery Management – No comments had been received on the proposal to raise fees for Exclusive Right of Burial which will be voted on at the next Annual PC Meeting in May 2018.

68/17 HEALTH & SAFETY

68/17/1 Cemetery – The southeast wall next to a tree had fallen down, and livestock had entered the cemetery. The owner of the field has agreed to put up a single string of barbed wire to protect the wall. The wall is fragile in several places, and is jeopardised by the growth of trees over the years. The branches at the base of this particular trunk have been trimmed and Derek Hogg will undertake repairs to the cemetery wall. Other tree bases will require trimming in the future.

68/17/2 Parish Owned Property - Cllr Taylor had inspected property in Murton and reported that the bus shelter gutter needs replacement and the seat is splintered. Cllr Govan volunteered to inspect the shelter. Cllr King had inspected property in Hilton and reported that the noticeboard required replacement or repair. The Clerk will contact Frank Price for his opinion. The bench at the top of the hill on the right through the fell gate at Hilton is not easily accessible and a proposal to move this to a more accessible location was made. The Clerk will try to ascertain whether or not this bench was donated and placed there as a specific request by the donor.

69/17 MILITARY RANGE AT WARCOP

69/17/1 Commons Deregistration – John McDarren (Hilton Commoners) reported that no date had yet been set by CCC to discuss the application made by the Secretary of State for Defence to amend the Registers of Common Land relating to Murton Fell, Hilton Fell, Burton Fell and Warcop Fell. It was understood CCC were taking legal advice on this complicated issue.

69/17/2 Damage to Hilton Bridge by Warcop Vehicle on 28.08.17 – Repairs to the bridge had not been undertaken. It was understood CCC are in discussion with the MOD regarding responsibility for the incident.

69/17/3 Communications with Warcop Camp – Those involved in reporting the damage to the bridge had experienced difficulty in making contact with the camp, even using the emergency helpline. The Clerk has requested clarification on lines of communication but has not yet received a response.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION

70/17 EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

70/17/1 Planning Application 17/0804 - Langton Field Cottages. Langton, Appleby – Proposed covered roof over existing farm yard manure store for Messrs M Bell and Son. It was noted that the PC had written in support of this application.

Signature 
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

05/02/18

70/17/2 Footway Lighting (Appendix 1 - EDC Letter - Devolution and Transfer of Assets). EDC had written to all parish councils proposing to transfer ownership of property, land and services to parish councils. Funding would be available from EDC over the next four years to ease the transition. CALC have been appointed by EDC to support the discussions and process.

With regard to Murton Parish, this would entail the transfer of ownership of those footway lights previously approved by EDC for retention at Bridge House, Murton, Lane Foot Hilton and Lowther Cottage Hilton. The lights would be replaced with LED bulbs. EDC state the estimated annual cost of maintenance and electricity would be £121.00 per light. The PC would be responsible for the total estimated cost of £363.00 pa by May 2022.

Resolved: that Murton Parish Council will take ownership and responsibility for the three footway lights mentioned above from the beginning of the next financial year.

70/17/3 Footway light on Gort Hall – the owner of Gort Hall had written to EDC asking if he could take on ownership of the current lamp and provide lighting that would benefit the community at the crossroads in Murton. It was agreed that the PC should write to EDC to support this request.

71/17 MAINTAINING THE PARISH ENVIRONMENT

71/17/1 Village Greens – Cllr King thanked John McDarren for mowing the top green at Hilton. Yellow Rattle had been sown on both Hilton and Murton top greens. She would like to purchase plant plugs for both sites.

Cllr Govan proposed that the Cemetery be included in the Village Green Management Plan and annual walk. The paths were deteriorating and needing raking and repair.

Resolved: that the Cemetery be included in the Plan and walk.

It was noted that Hilton Lane was very slippery due to the wet leaves.

Boon Days would be proposed for all sites in the spring.

71/17/2 Letter regarding the location of fence erected near Murton Bus Shelter – the PC had received a letter querying the legality of the fence erected by the resident of the Bobbin Mill, which was viewed to be fencing off Village Green. The PC reviewed the most recent plans held by the Commons Registration Service at CCC. The plans show that the land that has been fenced off is not Village Green. The Clerk will respond to the writer of the letter.

A query regarding the drainage into the beck was raised and will be investigated.

72/17 FINANCIAL REPORTS

72/17/1 Budget 2016/17 and Current Financial Situation (Appendix 2) – This report was tabled.

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

72/17/2 Annual Return for 2016/17 - The Clerk reported that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been received and publicised.

72/17/3 Budget 2018/19 (Appendix 3) – The draft budget was discussed. The aim was to maintain the parish precept at the current level of £26.46 per Band D household. The Essential Council Tax Base and Council Tax Reduction figures, required to

complete the budget, are not issued by EDC until the New Year. Items of expenditure discussed included: Cemetery, bus shelter and noticeboard repairs, plant plugs for Village Greens and Councillor training. The Clerk would redraft the budget for approval at the next PC meeting.

73/17 Correspondence for Information - the list of correspondence had been noted. The Clerk drew attention to the following items:

- 1 EDC Chairman's invitation to nominate individuals to be recognised for their contribution in volunteering in their community. Deadline for nominations 31 December.
- 2 The EALC AGM on 15 November.
- 3 An e-mail from K Jagger, Coupland Beck announcing that the residents had been successful in obtaining a grant to carry out work building an overflow culvert next to the bridge at the end of their drive. The work is due to start in December. Councillors commended Mr Jagger and his neighbours for their perseverance.
- 4 The deadline for the consultation on the Parliamentary Boundary Commission proposals to reduce the number of constituencies in Cumbria from six to five is 11 December 2017. Comments can be made here:
<https://www.bce2018.org.uk/node/6487?postcode=CA166lz>

74/17 Clerk's report on any actions taken under delegated powers not otherwise mentioned – No actions had been taken.

75/17 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda – no items were proposed.

76/17 Remembrance Sunday, 12 November - Wreath Laying – As those Councillors present were not available to undertake this, a previous Councillor would be approached.

77/17 Date of next meeting: 5 February 2018 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

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

Signature
Chair, Murton Parish Council

Barbara I. Gosay

Date of meeting

05/02/18.