

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MURTON PARISH COUNCIL (Virtual Meeting) 2 November 2020

Present: Alastair Bell, Jack Caldwell, Barbara Govan (Chairman), Debbie Hewitt, Anne King and John McDarren. CCC Cllr Andy Connell, EDC Cllr William Patterson and one member of the public were also present.

59/20 Apologies for Absence – Cllr Longstaff sent apologies as she had no internet connection.

60/20 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

61/20 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meetings held on 7 September 2020 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as an accurate record.

62/20 Open Session – A member of the public asked for clarification regarding an item in the previous meeting's minutes.

63/20 EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL – there were no items to report.

64/20 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL – Highways

64/20/1 Update on Reported Faults:

Northbound slip road from A66 – this request to improve signage has been forwarded to Highways England.

Kirkber Hill – potholes are still there although the CCC Faults reporting system states these potholes have been dealt with. Cllr Connell will pursue this.

Hilton – potholes have been filled.

Post and rail fence near Low Field – this has been inspected and will be replaced if budget allows.

64/20/2 New Faults to be Reported:

Hilton – road to Castle Street – this is in poor repair. Cllr Connell will check if this is CCC responsibility.

Brackenber Cattle Grid – this is full of weeds and flood water.

Road at new build near Linden House, Hilton – 6-8 ft of the edge has broken up.

65/20 Data Protection – following attending a webinar the Clerk has reviewed the Council's compliance with GDPR. Areas to be pursued are:

Councillors to sign and the GDPR Checklist regarding data protection issues.

The Clerk will continue to develop the parish council's Data Mapping system.

66/20 Hilton Drainage System – Cllr McDarren has maintained contact with United Utilities regarding the investigation into the village drainage system but there was nothing new to report.

Signature 
Chairman, Murton Parish Council

Date of meeting

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- 67/20 Local Government Reorganisation** – The Clerk has summarised and circulated the comments made by Councillors on the position paper issued by CALC. It was agreed to add a final comment stating that, with the current Coronavirus pandemic, that this was not a good time to propose such a major reorganisation.
- 68/20 Planning for the Future Consultation** – Comments on the White Paper have been forwarded to Cllr Patterson as requested.
- 69/20 CEMETERY MANAGEMENT, HEALTH, SAFETY & MAINTENANCE**
- 69/20/1 Health & Safety** – It was agreed the new gravel paths were looking good. The seat at the top of the cemetery requires sanding and painting. This will be done next summer.
- 69/20/2 Walls** – Cllr Bell had consulted on the proposal to rebuild the cemetery walls. Suggestions that the project involve students were acceptable but not feasible in the current Coronavirus pandemic and uncertainty regarding the future of Newton Rigg. The £4,325 grant available from the Rural Payments Agency would cover 50% of the costs which would have to be paid for and then reclaimed. The Parish Council’s budget would not cover this.
- It was agreed that this proposal would not be taken forward at this time. The walls will be monitored and the proposal reviewed as and when repairs are needed.
- 69/20/3 Interment of Ashes** – Following a request to inter ashes in or near an existing grave the Clerk asked for guidance regarding a policy for these types of request. It was agreed to consider the requests on a case by case basis. A protocol would be included in the Cemetery Management document which is reviewed annually in May.
- 70/20 PARISH OWNED PROPERTY, VILLAGE GREENS & ENVIRONMENT**
- 70/20/1 Parish Owned Property** – after inspections the following faults were noted:
The bench at the fell gate to Murton Pike needs repair. The phone box housing the defibrillator at Hilton needs repainting.
The signs on Warcop Range were currently being replaced by the military and CCC. A notice at Murton car park appeared to have been placed there by the Parish Council and is illegible. The Chairman will inspect the sign.
- 70/20/2 Noticeboard and Bench Replacements** – The noticeboard at Coupland Beck had been replaced. The old one is due for removal. The timber had been ordered for the bench replacement near Hilton noticeboard.
- 70/20/3 Village Greens & Environment** – Cllr King reported on the annual Village Green Walk which now includes checks on all trees on parish property. Parts of Murton Top Green need trimming. Murton Middle Green looked tidy. Hilton Top Green had been cut short and 200g yellow rattle planted. The Village Green Management Plan will be updated to include the tree inspection. Voles had been reported in Coupland Beck.
- 71/20 FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- 71/20/1 Budget 2020/21 and Current Financial Situation** (Appendix 1). This report was reviewed. **Resolved:** that the current Financial Report and list of Clerk’s Expenses be signed by the Chairman.
- 71/20/2 Budget & Precept 2021/22** (Appendix 2). The proposed budget was presented. Items discussed included:
Footway Lighting – the Clerk will investigate the cost of the annual footway lighting recharge following the installation of now that LED lights.
The Clerk had raised the issue of the continual increase in hours required to complete the job. The Chairman noted that there was no regular review of the Clerk’s pay, terms or conditions. It was agreed that Councillors will meet on 9 December to discuss this item.

Signature *Barbara I. Goode*
Chairman, Murton Parish Council

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There was general agreement of the scope of the draft budget. The Clerk would produce a further scenario.

There will be an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday 11 January to confirm the budget.

- 72/20 Remembrance Sunday – 8 November** – Arrangements for the annual wreath-laying were not yet known as this will fall during the 4 week Coronavirus lockdown due to begin this week.
- 73/20 Correspondence for Information** (Appendix 3) - The Clerk drew Councillors' attention to the following item:
Eden Rivers Trust – Eden Rivers Catchment Plan – this report (book) will be circulated to Councillors.
- 74/20 Clerk's report on any actions taken under delegated powers not otherwise mentioned** – there were no actions taken.
- 75/20 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda** – there were none.
- 76/20 Date of next meetings:**
Extraordinary Meeting – Monday 11 January 2021
Ordinary Meeting – Monday 1 February 2021

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm

Signature

Barbara Gowen

Chairman, Murton Parish Council

Date of Meeting

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