

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MURTON PARISH COUNCIL 13 May 2024

Present: Alastair Bell, Jim Hardman, Tina Longstaff, John McDarren, Willie Patterson, George Slack and three members of the public.

- 36/24 Apologies for Absence** – Cllr King.
Resolved: to accept Cllr King’s apologies.
- 37/24 Declarations of Interest** - no declarations of personal or pecuniary interests in respect of items on this Agenda were made by elected members.
- 38/24 Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Resolved: that the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 5 February 2024 be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.
- 39/24 OPEN SESSION** – No issues were raised by members of the public.
- 40/24 Appleby Horse Fair** – The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) discussed at the last meeting has been put in place. A resident is donating the use of wooden posts to display the signs along the east side of the TRO, ie along the Top Green to the fell gate. The Chairman will arrange signage for the west side of the road.
The police have the authority to move caravans on but will make a strategic decision based on the overall situation at the time with regards to managing the Fair.
The situation regarding the car park at Murton fell gate is unclear. The MOD stated they were looking at the legalities of the situation. Cllrs Hardman and Patterson will raise this at the Annual Liaison meeting with the MOD at Warcop on 21 May.
It was proposed that the gate be kept closed during this period, although parking is still allowed. Residents and Councillors volunteered to monitor this approach.
- 41/24 Parish Council Electronic Mailing List** – this mailing list has 21 members. The Clerk circulates details of PC meetings and information that would also go on parish noticeboards. Those wishing to join the mailing list should e-mail mailinglist@murton.org.uk giving their full name in the e-mail.
- 42/24 Murton Broadband Working Group** – There was nothing to be updated on. The Chairman is investigating the Fibrus offer of grants to community facilities to improve broadband.
- 43/24 WESTMORLAND & FURNESS COUNCIL**
- 43/24/1 Planning Applications** – none.
- 43/24/2 Highways** – the Clerk gave updates on previously reported faults and undertook to pursue those still outstanding:
- Murton footbridges – these bridges had been repaired.
 - Keisley bridge – this has been repaired.
 - Coupland Beck –The Clerk will remind Highways that the Give Way sign is no longer in situ.
 - Murton bus shelter – pothole has caused damage to a resident’s car

- 44/24/1 PARISH OWNED PROPERTY, VILLAGE GREENS & ENVIRONMENT** – the bi-annual checklists were distributed. The Clerk requested that photographs of each item checked were taken so that the Asset Register is up to date.
- 44/24/2 W&FC Strong & Connected Communities Fund** – the bid for funding had been successful and the PC had been awarded £2000. This is more than the funding requested for five benches. A request that a picnic table be purchased for Murton Middle Green was made. The Clerk will develop a proposal for the use of the funding.
- 45/24 CEMETERY MANAGEMENT, HEALTH, SAFETY & MAINTENANCE** – The wall repair is awaited. The grass was cut for the first time today, and there had been a very successful tidying up session by volunteers.
- 46/24 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY (Appendix 2)** - This was required by W&FC as part of the bid for funding.
Resolved: that this policy be adopted by the Council.
- 47/24 FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- 47/24/1 Budget 2024/25 & Current Financial Situation (Appendix 3)** – This report was reviewed. There had been very little financial activity in the last quarter. However the Clerk drew attention to the two interest receipts from the CBS which were much higher than in previous years. The precept and bench funding receipts meant that the total balance was much higher than the previous year's.
Resolved: that the current Financial Report and the Clerk's Claim for expenses be signed by the Chairman.
- 4/24/2 Annual Return 2023/24 – Section 2 - Accounting Statement**
Resolved: that the Accounting Statement be signed by the Chairman.
- 48/24/3 Annual Return 2023/24 – Section 1 – Governance Statement**
Resolved: that the Governance Statement be signed by the Chairman.
- 48/24/4 Certificate of Exemption for Smaller Authorities**
Resolved: that the Certificate of Exemption be signed by the Chairman.
- 48/24/5 Public Rights to view Accounts** – the accounts will be available to view by residents from Monday 3 June to Friday 12 July 2024
- 48/24/5 Vote of thanks to the Internal Auditor** – Councillors asked the Clerk to pass on their thanks to Maureen Roberts for undertaking the audit.
- 48/24/6 Signatory for the PC Bank Account** – Cllr Patterson is now the third signatory on the bank account.
- 49/24 Register of Vulnerable Households** – A member of the public offered background information regarding the source of this request from CALC. The process for developing such a register for Murton parish will be researched. Councillors agreed to work on pursuing this project.
- 50/24 Clerk's report on any actions taken under delegated powers not otherwise mentioned, and to note any particular items of correspondence** - there were no items.
- 51/24 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda** – there were no items.
- 52/24 Next Ordinary Meeting - Monday 5 August 2024**

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm



Parish Clerk