

ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15th March 2010 in Orton Market Hall

Present Cllr K Blue (Chairman) Cllrs D Smith, M Lewis, M Coates, S Dunning
Clerk, C J Elphick
Internal Auditor, Jane Arckless
District Councillor Margaret Wilcox,

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr E Potter, County Councillor Peter Thornton, PCSO Gemma Threlkeld.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest on any item in this agenda.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15th February 2010 had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Proposed Designation of Orton as part of National Park

In the event that there was no consensus of opinion within the council as to whether or not designation of the parish as part of a National Park the following response to Natural England's consultation was agreed.

Orton Parish Council has completed the consultation process which has involved public meetings and Council debate. Evidence from these gatherings suggests that the Parish is strongly supportive of inclusion into a National Park and, although no vote has been taken as to which Park, discussions seem to indicate that the Lake District National Park is favoured. It appears that this preference is influenced more by emotional association with the Lakes rather than geographical or geological considerations.

Boundaries

The parish meetings have produced a number of proposals in relation to boundaries. These have been reinforced by meetings with Tebay Parish Council. The undesignated area centred around Tebay and Junction 38 should, in its entirety, be included in the Lake District National Park and form a 'washover area' between the Lake District National Park East extension and the Orton Fells Area. The L.D.N.P. seems to be the Park favoured by Tebay P.C.

Orton Parish Council has appreciated Natural England's consultation process and, on the whole, is supportive of the proposals. If we can provide further information please contact the Clerk, chriselphick@aol.com 015396 20605.

Orton Toilets

Confirmation has been received from Cumbria County Council that a grant of £6,000. will be available towards the upgrading of the toilets to incorporate disabled facilities.

Clerk to obtain written confirmation that the toilets are an integral part of the Market Hall premises and, as such, not liable to business rates. Verbal confirmation had already been received from EDC.

Clerk to seek alternative plans to incorporate disabled facilities without the need for rebuilding, if possible, in order to reduce costs.

Orton Manor Court has now received the balance of monies outstanding from EDC towards operational costs. It is unclear whether this balance refers to the past three years or three years to come. Clerk to ascertain.

Finance

Accounts for payment

Lynne Potter (Toilet Cleaning to 11th Mar) £210.00

C J Elphick (Admin expenses to 31/03/10) £ 94.27

The foregoing two items were approved for payment.

It was noted that audit requirements 2009-2010 had been received from External Auditor

Review of internal audit effectiveness

Financial Regulations adopted July 2007 were reviewed and found satisfactory.

Internal auditor receives regular (monthly) updates of spreadsheets and bank statements. No cash handled. Three signatures required on cheques.

Review of Risk Assessment Register

Risk assessment Register, updated April 2009, was checked and updated.

Asset register was updated. It was resolved that the computer purchased in 2000 be scrapped due to age and incompatibility with modern programmes. An alternative, supplied by Cumbria CC is available for shared use.

Planning Applications

No. 10/0152	FELL VARIAGATED SYCAMORE IN ORTON CONSERVATION AREA
Type	Tree Works
Location	Hill House, Orton
Applicant	Mrs J Arckless
Parish Council	No objections

Public Participation

It was reported that Orton with Tebay First Responder Group is seeking a contribution towards the rental cost of Pager Units. Clerk responded that this had been authorised at a meeting (April 1005) when the group was first founded but no request had ever been received.

It was **resolved** that a contribution, not exceeding £200., should be paid on receipt of a written request.

Blocked gully at West End to be reported to Highway Steward.

Complaint received re. waste skips parked on highway outside George Hotel.

Correspondence Received

CALC – County Circular March 2010

Clerks & Councils Direct

Local Council Review

Date of next meeting – Monday 19th April 2010

C J Elphick

Clerk to Orton Parish Council – 015396 20605