

ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 18th October 2010 in Orton Market Hall at 7.30pm

Present Cllrs. S Dunning (Chairman), M Coates, E Potter and P Knowles
Clerk, C J Elphick
1 member of the public (Mary Jenkin)

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Kyle Blue and Menna Lewis, County Councillor, Peter Thornton, District Councillor Margaret Wilcox and PCSO Gemma Threlkeld.

Declarations of Interest

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

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 20th September 2010 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Vacancy for Councillor

A notice advertising the vacancy for a councillor due to the resignation of Wyn Parker had been posted on 30th September 2010 and the EDC Elections Officer notified. If, by 19th October, no demand has been made for an election then the Parish Council may co-opt a replacement member.

Orton Playground

It had been noted that there was a loose shackle on the junior swing. Cllr Knowles reported that he had inspected the problem and replaced the faulty shackles.

Finance

Accounts for payment

C J Elphick (Toilet Lights)	£ 30.37
P J N Knowles (Swing shackles)	£ 8.89
Lynne Potter (Toilets)	£ 210.00
BDO LLP (Audit)	£ 158.63
Scottish Hydro Electric (Toilets)	£ 17.70

Resolved that the foregoing five items be approved for payment.

Completion of Audit 2009-10

An unqualified opinion had been received from the external auditor. This means that all statutory requirements have been satisfactorily completed for the year 2009-2010.

Orton Toilets

It was noted that two more light fittings are faulty and require replacement. Clerk to organise.

The existing consumer unit requires replacement to comply with current regulations. This will be included in the plans for upgrading the toilets.

The clerk presented a revised plan for the upgrade of facilities. This was accompanied by a full specification from which a builder could quote a price for the work.

The plan provided for the external entrance doors to be repositioned away from the highway and a simplified roof line from the original design by EDC. The revised plan met with the approval of councillors.

It was resolved that tenders should be invited for the work. It would then be known whether the project could be achieved within the existing budget.

Consultation on the Future of Recycling in Eden

The Clerk had drafted a response to the questionnaire based on discussion at the September meeting. It was resolved that the draft response be confirmed.

Christmas Trees & Lights 2010

The existing festoons were reported to be in acceptable condition. The Clerk is to make enquiries about the possibility of changing to LED lamps. Number and type of replacement lamps to be confirmed following examination.

Planning Applications

No. 10/0884	Fell Sycamore
Type	Tree Works (CA)
Location	Orton Post Office
Applicant	Mr N Coward
Parish Council	No objections

No. 10/0824	Proposed porch to dwelling
Type	Full Application
Location	Bretherdale Hall
Applicant	Mr JPS & Mrs K Anderson
Parish Council	No objections

Green Spaces

Publications on Green Space Management had been received from FoLD.

Neighbourhood Watch Signs

PCSO reported that replacements are in hand

Proposed Ravenstonedale – Newbiggin-on-Lune Cycleway

Ravenstonedale Parish Council is campaigning to get a 600m cycleway alongside the A685 between the two villages. This is a most dangerous section on this high speed road and, as well as connecting the two settlements within the parish, would complete a scenic cycle route from Orton to Pendragon Castle in Mallerstang. The scheme has had considerable publicity through the “Big Society” movement and has the support of Rory Stewart MP. It was agreed to write a letter of support for the scheme to Ravenstonedale PC.

Big Society Meeting – 9th October 2010

The Clerk had attended a Big Society meeting, hosted by Rory Stewart MP at Kirkby Stephen. The Eden Valley is one of four Vanguard areas in the country – and the only rural one. Civil Servants from Whitehall were present to see how they might ease the way for rural projects by cutting red tape. However, the Big Society does not come with any additional funding.

Highways

Cllr Dunning expressed concern that the revised layout of the school entrance has created hazards from reversing vehicles. Clerk to ask advice and possibly a site meeting from the area highways engineer.

Consultation on Eden District Council’s Draft Corporate Plan 2011-2014

No comments were made on the Draft Corporate Plan.

Review of Electoral Arrangements for Cumbria

It was considered that, although some wards could benefit from being combined, to reduce the representation in Upper Eden would result in one County Councillor having too great a physical area to cover with too many individual parishes to be able to properly represent the electorate.

Public Participation

It was commented that nobody appeared to be taking action to prevent grass growing on footways in the village. Enquiries to be made as to whether this is within the remit of the Highways Stewards.

Correspondence Received

CALC – Circular October 2010

Chairman's invitation to carol service on 3rd December by EDC Chairman

CCC – Local News & Views

Date of next meeting – Monday 15th November 2010

Signed _____ Chairman

Date 15th November 2010