

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parton Parish Council. Held on 10th April 2019

1. Attendance: Chairman Cllr K Young, Cllrs Barton, Morton, Peel, Rogan, V Young, County Cllr Barbour and the clerk

2 Announcements and Apologies: There were apologies from Cllrs Troughton, Ryden, Quayle and Bestford, and from Ward Cllr Bowman. The chairman said that Mr Quayle had indicated that he was not standing for election in the upcoming parish election. He said that Benny had first been elected in 2001 and was the chairman from 2007 to 2011. It was agreed that a suitable present should be purchased through contributions from councillors. The chairman said that he had invited an officer from the district council to attend and he proposed to call the officer after Item 4 Declaration of Interests. 6 members of the public were present

3 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the March meeting were agreed subject to the following amendments Section 5 after "a serving parish councillor" add "The chairman asked Councillor Barton to stand down" and after "being critical of the parish council" add "The chairman said in relation to the original Facebook post. He is a racist and homophobic and I will not stand by and let him on this council" Amendment to Section 11 delete Young insert Quayle.

3a Chairman to move that item 15 be taken in the absence of the press or public pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 schedule 12 a as amended. The chairman said that this item concerned the clerk's remuneration and was a matter to which the said act applied. This was agreed.

4. Declaration of Interests. It was agreed that declaration of interests would be made if issues on the agenda arose

4a Presentation by Clifford Walker Copeland district council. Clifford Walker introduced himself as the newly appointed Community Services manager. He said he takes responsibility for fly tipping, dog fouling, street cleaning, refuse and recycling and he had 5 enforcement officers in his team one of which dealt solely with town centre parking and the other 4 covered the whole of Copeland from Distington to Millom. He said he had spent time in Parton in recent days and the issues mirrored problems in upwards of 30 other villages in Copeland Those were fly tipping and dog fouling. He said local knowledge was always helpful and whilst his team could from time to time concentrate on policing an area if residents reported problems particularly with dog fouling there was a much better chance that the offending dog owners could be caught. Mr Walker was asked about the problem of rubbish being left in private gardens. He said that he worked with the social landlords but he considered that they could take a firmer stance in some instances. He was asked about problems where his vehicles found difficulty accessing the fly tipping, He accepted an example put to him. Mr Walker said he was pleased that litter picking was undertaken by groups in the village and he would join any estate walkabouts arranged by the social landlord. He was asked about dogs being kept on leads and said that was the law on a public highway but at present did not apply to the foreshore and beach in Parton. Finally, he said that there was a drive to close down and

remove the smaller recycling bins and he was afraid he would be writing to the parish council shortly to consult on the issue. The chairman thanked Mr Walker for attending the meeting and the advice he had given and the questions that he had answered.

5. Public Participation

a) Members of the Public A member of the public spoke about the width of the path at Queenies The county councillor said that he was still making enquiries as to ownership. The resident raised the dangerous state of the steps from Seven Acres to Parton Brow He said a footpath sign had been damaged at the top of Parton Brow. He complained about overhanging brambles on Parton Brow The county councillor said it had been reported. He mentioned the question of clearing the surface water drains. The county councillor said that the schedule appeared to be running late but they are on the list. The resident asked whether a small playground could be installed on land behind Seven Acres. It was noted that the land was in the ownership of Home Housing and they should be approached. Another resident asked about issues he had mentioned at an earlier meeting. The clerk said in relation to the welcome signs those at Moresby Parks had cost the parish council approximately £8000 Double yellow lines in the Square would have to be paid for by the parish council but would be unenforceable. The highways authority would not repaint one road marking but would do so as part of a larger scheme. The chairman said that he had been assured by a resident that he would repaint the walls surrounding the war memorial when time allowed The clerk said in relation to work on the war memorial the specialist would charge at least £200 as that was the cost when another name was added to the memorial some two years ago. He said to confirm what was said at the last meeting efforts had been made by the parish council to acquire a road traffic order to restrict traffic on Main Street Foundry road to a permanent 20 mph. The highways authority had refused the request but the police could be asked to site a speed indicator device for a period as they had done in the past.

b) Ward and County Councillors The county councillor said he understood that all the issues he would mention would be covered in item 8a

6. Police Report The report from the police showed that 11 incidents had been logged and of note were the report of a road traffic collision on Parton long mile, two males acting suspiciously on Bank Yard Road, damage to a shed at the school and broken window on Criffel Road. There were no matters to report back to the police.

7. Traffic and Highways The clerk said he would report all matters in item 8a

7a Donation request. The clerk said he had spoken to Mr Quayle who had made the request at the last meeting and he was seeking £150 to go towards the Old Folks Fund summer trip. Mr Barton said he would contribute £35 from a raffle at the recent pop up pub event. The parish council agreed a donation of £115

8 Clerk's Report

a) Howgate meeting. The clerk said Mr Peel and Mrs Bestford attended on behalf of the parish council and the main speaker was an officer from Highways England. He said the note of the meeting would be posted on the parish website but he would outline some issues as below:

- a) Moresby Embankment The actual embankment was being monitored with a full topographical study and wall markings. The work on a feasibility design was planned for September 2019 and a detailed design thereafter
- b) A595 Parton Long Mile A feasibility study was to commence shortly to look at options to improve the drainage on the A595. There were plans for resurfacing
- c) Parton Brow pedestrian Island HE would respond to consultation issues raised and were planning a feasibility design and subject to land acquisition a detailed design thereafter
- d) Pelican Garage Area there were plans for a revised road layout
- e) Whitehaven Relief Road H E were looking for a mention in the autumn statement after which further planning would go ahead
- f) Roundabouts Resurfacing work was about to be undertaken at Howgate Toll Barr and Dobie's garage

The clerk said that Gareth Douglas-Brown attended and introduced himself as the new West Cumbria officer for Action with Communities in Cumbria and mention was made of the Fairfield Wind Farm fund where grant applications were being sought by Cumbria Community Foundation

b) Litter wardens. The clerk said Copeland borough council had obtained a quote for 12 jackets marked Parton Parish Council for £79.20 to which Copeland would add an administration fee. It was agreed to order the jackets

c) Community Consultation ACT presentation. The clerk said that he had attended the event with Mrs Bestford and they had both found it very interesting It was aimed at communities who were considering whether to embark on a community plan.

9 Standing Orders The clerk said it had been sometime since the parish council had updated their standing orders and he brought before the council amended orders to take into account recent legislation He said all the amendments were in the mandatory section of the National Association of Local Councils model standing orders They were agreed but subject to any comments from Mr Barton within 7 days because he had not been provided with a copy

10 Garages The clerk said that some tenants had yet to pay the annual rent. It was agreed that a second should be sent

11 Christmas Tree The chairman said that Mr Barton had asked that this item be placed on the agenda. Mr Barton declared a non-pecuniary interest as a committee member of a community group named Parton Reunited who were pursuing this project. He said the aim was to plant a tree in the Square which would be decorated with Christmas lights and a switching on ceremony would be arranged with activities in the village hall to follow. It was said that the ground in the Square was not suitable as the subsoil was of a limited depth but Mr Barton said that he understood that was not the case The Chairman thanked Mr Barton for the information he had provided and said that should the community group seek a donation from the parish council then a motion in a suitable form setting out the actual amount that was sought should be made.

12. Correspondence

- a) Zurich Insurance had written about parish council requirements
- b) The borough council had written about the local elections
- c) Information had been provided about Merchant Navy Day

13 Cheques to be approved for payment

101231	J C Shaw	(Salary March)	£200.00
101232	Copeland B C	(Play Ground Repairs)	£129.46
101233	CALC	(Annual Subscription)	£194.99
101234	J C Shaw	(Expenses)	£27.43
101236	Copeland Old Folks Fund	(Donation)	£115.00

14. Parish Councillors Matters:

- a) Mr Barton questioned the nomination procedure for parish elections adopted by the council.
- b) Mrs Young said that the bus shelter at Criffel Road had been damaged.

15 Clerks remuneration. The clerk said that he had not received a pay rise in two years and when he had made enquiries of clerks with a similar work load, he found that his pay was falling behind. It was agreed that a pay increase was appropriate in line with local government pay rates.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

The next meeting was fixed for the 10th May 2019

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ChairmanDate.....

