

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parton Parish Council.

Held on the 14th November 2018

**The council stood in silence in remembrance of Ward Councillor
John Bowman who died on the 17th October 2018**

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

2 Announcements and Apologies: There were apologies from Cllrs Bestford, Ryden and Troughton and from Ward Cllr J Bowman. There was one member of the public present.

3 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the October 2018 meeting were agreed.

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

5 Railway Station The chairman said that he had spoken to Warren Birch (Community Rail Cumbria) who had given his apologies but may be able to attend a later meeting.

6. Autism The chairman welcomed County Cllr Hawkins to the meeting. Cllr Hawkins explained that through the scrutiny process at the county council a decision had been taken to create the role of member champion for people with autism. He said that with a member of his family being autistic he was pleased to take up the role in Copeland. He said that there had been a sustained improvement in social awareness of autism which made it easier for families with autistic children than in the past. In terms of services there is ample evidence of excellent practice from special schools to dentists to family support groups. It was clear that from contributions of the assistant director for early learning and partnerships that there is strong leadership in place in terms of understanding autism, commitment to improving services and addressing commissioning issues in relation to transition from children's services to adult services. In terms of challenges there was concern about the size of the waiting list for diagnosis. Whilst acknowledging that this is a national problem the performance in Cumbria with 350 people waiting a diagnosis had to be improved. There were concerns about the consistency of the educational and health offer, the post diagnosis pathway and whether specialist services were ill equipped to address autism. Cllr Hawkins explained the problems people with autism share. The three main difficulties were social communication, social interaction and social imagination and he gave examples. Cllr Hawkins said that he hoped that the Copeland area would be known as autistic friendly which he believed would assist tourism and he was aware that the Beacon were looking to

see how they could extend their services. Cllr Hawkins spoke about his own family and the particular problems encountered and the mechanism adopted to overcome the problems. Councillors asked about a number of issues and made suggestions as to how the message could be communicated more widely. The chairman thanked Cllr Hawkins for his presentation.

7. Public Participation

a) Members of the Public The resident who attended spoke about landscape issues particularly around that area known as “Queenies”. His concerns related to the overgrown path and the absence of footway lighting. He reminded the meeting that he had mentioned the steps from Seven Acres to Parton Brow but this issue had not been recorded in the minutes of the October meeting. The clerk and County Cllr Barbour said they had both pursued the matter of the Queenies area and so far as the lighting was concerned it was agreed that the parish council at the December meeting would take a decision as to whether to meet the capital cost and ongoing maintenance of a new light in place of the existing light which could no longer be repaired. Dealing with the overgrown path, County Cllr Barbour said that the two principal authorities were at odds as to ownership. The clerk said he had asked the district council for an estimate as to the cost of clearing the path and provided the cost was reasonable he would request the work be carried out. The resident raised an issue concerning surface water drains on Ramsay Drive. The county councillor said the clearing of surface water drains in Parton was a matter he was discussing with officers who wished to reduce cleaning on all the roads to annually. He said that the cleaning was listed for March 2019. The resident finally raised an issue of a roaming dog in the Seven Acres area

b) Ward and County Councillors County Cllr Barbour said that in addition to the matters discussed in the last item he was in direct discussion with Highways England about the Moresby Embankment and he was satisfied that regular inspections of the land were being undertaken. He said that he would ensure that the pothole on Criffel Road was reported. He asked that councillors respond to the relief road consultation.

8. Police Report The clerk said that the October report itemised 5 matters. One referred to an abandoned car in the Square and three were minor anti-social behaviour matters. The clerk said he had received a telephone call by an officer from the Youth Offending Service about the young man who had tried to set fire to the play area bench. She said he was to receive a conditional caution and wished to apologise to the council. The clerk said he would put the letter when it was received before the council at its next meeting. The chairman said that this issue had been misreported by the Whitehaven News.

9. Traffic/Highways Matters The clerk said the chairman together with Mr Peel, Mrs Troughton and county councillor had questioned an officer from Highways England at the Howgate meeting and it became clear that the Moresby Embankment work was entwined with a new Eastern Relief road on which consultation was now taking place. The clerk said

he had written to both principal authorities and copied to the county/ward councillors about the vegetation on Parton Brow but had not yet received a response.

10. Confirmation Donation to Great North Air Ambulance. The clerk said that this issue was raised under correspondence at the last meeting. It was agreed to confirm that the provisional decision to donate £100.00

11. Donation to Old Folks Fund. Mr Quayle declared an interest and asked that the parish council donate £180 to the Old Folks Fund Christmas party.

12 Accounts and Budget The clerk referred to the half year accounts and the budget proposals paper. He said that that internal auditor had not yet signed off the accounts and he would report to the next meeting. The council considered the precept for 2019/2020 and agreed a 1% increase which raised the precept to £8240 and would allow the cost of a number of matters to be met.

10. Clerks Report

a) Tidal Outflow David Bechelli the coastal and flood officer at the district council had said that the flap was monitored monthly.

b). Silhouette The clerk said that he had attended the service at Lowca when wreaths were laid and had been advised that the silhouette was a cardboard cut out copy. He said that the 11th November 2018 service at Parton was well attended The Chairman said he believed there were in the region of 40 people present.

c) Home Group Rendering The clerk said he had contacted the officer at Home group with whom he had discussions in October 2017 and because she was on maternity leave he had been directed to another officer.

11. Correspondence

a) Royal Mail had asked that a scam mail poster be displayed

b) HSBC had written about the financial compensation scheme.

c) Hags, Sunshine Gym and Glasdon had sent product information.

d) Information about firework display insurance had been received.

e) A Cumbria walking for Health leaflet had been received.

10 Cheques to be approved for payment

101208	J and R Bennett	(Planting)	£220.00
101209	J C Shaw	(Salary)	£200.00
101210	Parton Village Hall	(Play area and Rent)	£300.00

101211	Printpoint	(Stationery)	£131.98
101212	J C Shaw	(Expenses)	£150.87
101213	GNAA	(Donation)	£100.00
101214	Parton Old Folks Fund	(Donation)	£180.00

11. Parish Councillors Matters:

a) The chairman said he had received an offer to paint the walls surrounding the war memorial

b) The chairman asked if the parish council had been advised about a proposal for a caravan park at Lowca. The clerk said not.

c) Mr Peel asked about gully cleaning and a pothole on Criffel Road.

d) Mr Barton circulated a draft action plan. The chairman thanked Mr Barton for the work he had put in but said that it was probably not suitable for a parish council.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm. The next meeting was fixed for the 12th December 2018

Chairman**Date.....**

