

# **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parton Parish Council**

**Held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at**

**St Bridget's CofE Primary School**

**52 Main St, Parton, Whitehaven CA286NY**

**Starting at 7pm**

**1. Attendance:** Chairman Cllr R. Huck, and Cllrs Mr A. Barton, Mrs. K.A. Barton, Mrs J. Huck, Mr W. Morton, Mrs S. Rogan, Mr Williamson  
Councillor D. Banks (representing Copeland Borough Council)  
Councillor M. Barbour (representing Cumbria County Council)

## **2. Apologies and Announcements**

### Remembrance Announcement

The Chair thanked all involved in the Remembrance Sunday service. 57 members of the community attended the war memorial including ex service personnel. The service was blessed with the weather. There was a reading from Stacy Brewer who served in Afghanistan for 6 years reading a rendition of *In Flanders fields*. Jeremy Clarkson Cockermouth Mechanics band was also thanked for playing beautifully the Last Post. The Chair also thanked Janice Miller for organising the planters. Lee McKee was thanked for painting the war memorial and tidying it.

### Village Hall & Parton Re-United

On Sunday there would be a Prize Bingo in the Village Hal commencing at 1pm with prizes to be drawn. 38 chairs had been donated to the Village Hall by Parton Re-United (86 in total) to add to the ones acquired from the Carnegie.

### Councillor Matters Updates – Ghyll Steps

The Chair had corresponded with Alan Clements (Contracts Manager at CBC) and confirmed that the Ghyll Steps are to be sprayed, gritted and salted starting next week and (hopefully) each week throughout the winter months. It was hoped that the Borough Council will be undertaking a further survey to see what other works may be required.

### Chair's Meeting with Cumbria County Council – Speeding & Signage

The Chair and Clerk had met with area County Councillor Martin Barbour and Kevin Cosgrove (Highways network manager) to discuss highway safety concerns. The County Council agreed that 2 of the 30mph sign posts, (the top of Parton Brow & Lowca end) will be replaced as will some of the reflective posts. The County Council is also looking to get village ENTRY signs which can be fastened onto existing 30mph signs. They will say 'welcome to Parton please drive carefully'. The County agreed to liaise with the Borough Council over the sweeping of the roads at 7 acres and Criffel road and weed spraying as required.

#### Land Ownership and Health & Safety Issues

County Council will liaise with Parton Parish Council regarding land ownership on the entry roads in order to try and see if vegetation can be cut back. The Chair stated that the corner by the Lowca entrance is particularly dangerous as buses are driving into the middle of the road due to lack of visibility. County Council Officer Kevin Cosgrove agreed that this was a Health & Safety concern and would contact Copeland Borough Council. Copeland Councillor David Banks stated that Clare Taylorson (CBC's Open Spaces) had requested that an officer visit the area with a view to making it safe.

#### Village Hall Car Parking – obstructions

Vehicle parking created a problem for highway users

#### Bus Stop – Top of Brewery Brow

The Chair has expressed to CCC the need and desire for a bus shelter at the top of brewery brow due to its use and exposure to the elements.

#### Village Events – Parton Re-United

The Chair told the meeting that there was to be a Christmas Tree Light Switch on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> December including a school choir, carol singing, fairground rides, Santas grotto, The Whitehaven Male Voice Choir and festive foods and drinks.

#### Co-options (Item 7)

Motion : Councillor R Huck moved a motion that - Item 7 (Co-options) be moved to the end of the agenda. Councillor A Barton seconded the motion.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

*Note: The Chairman then stated that an EGM would be called to discuss a confidential matter and asked for all newly co-opted members tonight to pass over their contact details. The Chair expressed the need for confidentiality and a breach of which would be a breach of the Code of Conduct. The Chair thanked all interested parties regarding the co-option and wished everyone well and stated that it was a great privilege that so many people have applied to sit with us and serve the people of Parton. He welcomed prospective new Councillors to Local Government!*

#### **3. Declarations of Interest:**

No Interests were declared in relation to any item on the agenda

#### **4. Motion to exclude Press and Public:**

There were no confidential matters warranting any motion to exclude the press and public

#### **5. Approval and signing of the minutes of the extraordinary council meeting October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck to accept the minutes of the 2nd October 2019 as a true and accurate record. This was seconded by Councillor J Huck

**Motion agreed (Unanimously)**

#### **6. Approval and signing of the monthly meeting of the parish council October 9<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck to accept the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 as a true and accurate record. This was seconded by Councillor S Rogan. Councillor J Williamson wished it to be noted that he abstained as he was not in attendance for all of the meeting.

**Motion agreed (Unanimously)**

#### **8. Standing Orders Review (Report or Progress Report)**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck that this item be deferred until the December 2019 meeting when a report could be shared. In the light of recent events other matters need to be considered by the working group for inclusion in SOs. This was seconded by Councillor Williamson.

**Motion agreed (Unanimously)**

#### **9. Bank Mandate (to review situation)**

The Clerk reported issues with the bank mandate which he alleged were affecting payments being made including staff wages. The Chair clarified matters in that Regulations (*The Legislative Reform - Payments by Parish Councils, Community Councils and Charter Trustees - Order 2013*) stipulate that one signatory is sufficient and that the Clerk could have used Councillor B Morton in order to make payments. The Chair expressed that there was no need for any delay. Councillor Quale left the Council in May and Councillor Young in July such that more than sufficient time had elapsed for the Mandate to have been revised and that was the job of the Responsible Financial. The Chair indicated that the issue could come back to Council at the next EGM.

**No Motion proposed – comments noted**

#### **10. Half year accounts**

The Clerk presented a half page report from the Council's Internal Auditor on the management of the Council's accounts. It was felt that this was somewhat vague and should have been supported by a summary of the Council's current financial position. Earlier in the year Councillor J Huck requested to see the accounts including details of income & expenditure and this had not been forthcoming

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck - that this item is deferred so that full details could be provided. Seconded by Mrs K Barton

**Motion agreed**

#### **11. Cumbria Community Foundation winter warmth appeal. Donation request**

A request for a grant had been received. The Clerk was asked to circulate a report to a suitable meeting setting out the nature of the proposal and how it benefits Parton residents.

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck that this item be deferred until further information is available. Seconded by Mrs J Huck

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

## **12. Great North Air Ambulance charity. Donation request**

A request for a grant had been received in the sum of £100.

Proposed By Councillor Mr Rogan and seconded by Councillor R. Huck that the request be approved by in the sum of £150 (Local Government Act s144)

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

## **13. Production of a monthly Parish Council newsletter to inform residents of Parish Council matters**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck stated that this item be deferred as Parton Re-united had indicated that it would be willing to undertake this proposal. Councillor Williamson seconded and offered to distribute at no charge which was gratefully received.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

## **14 Home Group (to report progress)**

There had been a walk around the estate to investigate its condition and a report had been forwarded onto the CBC and CCC ward councillors. Councillor Banks was invited to distribute some maps and plans which were noted. County Councillor Martin Barbour stated that he has no interaction with Home Group. The Chair reminded Members that the Parish Council did not have any power in relation to Home Group Issues.

**Agreed that the report be noted**

## **15. To amend Financial Regulations (To agree or amend draft circulated)**

Revised Financial Regulations had been circulated as per the current NALC draft with amendments to mould the Regulations to the needs of this small Parish Council

Motion by Councillor R Huck that Council adopts the revised Regulations subject to the additional requirement that the Clerk is required to seek prior approval to expenditure and when submitting claims for expenses, to include the following

1. Details of the NALC approved expenses sum
2. itemised details with Council Minute reference number where relevant
3. Receipts
4. Any other relevant information

But that expenditure on paper up to £300 per annum will not require prior approval

This is seconded by Councillor J Huck

**Agreed**

## **16. Planning application Extension to the village hall.**

**(For comment - The plans will be available before the meeting begins)**

**Motion :** Councillor R Huck - Any representations to be sent to the Clerk before Friday 15<sup>th</sup> as

Councillors had only just seen the plans this evening.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**17. Training.**

**Motion :** Councillor R Huck – proposed to defer when a full report can come to council and when we have our new co-opted members. This was seconded by Councillor K Barton.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**18, Grass Cutting Parkers step's Broken Lamp Queenies, Flooding (Mr Williamson to report)**

Councillor Williamson gave verbal report which was noted. The Chair requested that all reports come to council so that they can be distributed to members within the 3 clear days so that Councillors could make informed choices and understand discussions.

**Motion :** Councillor J Williamson – for the clerk to seek 3 quotes and bring back to the next meeting regarding what Cllr Williamson discussed. This was seconded by Councillor A Barton.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**19. Memorial wall. Deferred from last meeting (Mr Williamson)**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck that this item be removed from this agenda. This was seconded by Councillor J Williamson.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**20. Boat on Foreshore (To report progress)**

The Chair reminded members to provide the Clerk with a report if there are issues for discussion on the agenda.

Councillor Williamson discussed a person that was willing to help with this. The Clerk stated that the Community Services manager at CBC had asked if members of the parish council could access and dismantle and CBC would dispose. The Clerk suggested that it is not sensible for members of the public to be breaking up fibreglass

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck to take no action nor to encourage members of the public to be breaking this up. This was seconded by Councillor A Barton.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**21. War Memorial progress report on funding application to War Memorial Trust**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck to defer this item until the Council has further information. This was seconded by Councillor J Huck.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**22. Play area report (progress report).**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck that reports must come to council with agenda items within 3 clear days before a meeting so that members have sufficient information and time to consider a decision and that this item be deferred. Seconded by Councillor Huck

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**23 Expression of Interest Football Field (To note progress)**

The Clerk updated councillors verbally

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck that reports must come to council with agenda items within 3 clear days before a meeting so that members have sufficient information and time to consider a decision and that this item be deferred. Seconded by Councillor Andrew Barton

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**24. Dog Fouling and Waste (Progress Report)**

Motion by Councillor R Huck to defer. This was seconded by Councillor K Barton.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**25. Long Arch Maintenance (Progress report)**

Councillor R Huck reported that the work has now been completed and cut. Seconded by Councillor ABarton

**Noted**

**26. Outflow Flap (to report progress)**

The Clerk updated council in that he is still waiting for an estimate. Realistically it will be in the next financial year (April 2020 onwards). The outflow pipe is broken.

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck to defer this item until required in the next financial year (April 2020). This was seconded by Councillor J Williamson.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**27. Social Inclusion (Standing item)**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Huck that this item be removed from agendas unless specifically requested by a member. This was seconded by Councillor J Huck.

**Motion agreed (unanimously)**

**28. Correspondence (to note)**

The Clerk had circulated no correspondence to members

**Noted**

## **29. Public Participation – Raising only items on the Agenda other than those of a confidential nature.**

### Resident Concern – Lack of Road Gritting Concerns

Councillor M Barbour who was sat in the public gallery was able to answer the questions by a member of the public regarding the gritting of the roads. He stated that there was a strategic winter plan and part of the plan unfortunately didn't include Parton which was like his own village of Moresby. Councillor Barbour stated that not every road in every village gets gritted and that it is primarily A & B roads. Bus routes depend on the road being used.

Councillor David Banks added to the concern from residents that there is a hierarchy regarding the plan but what County Council try to guarantee is one road into each community is cleared and the bus routes would be salted if there is the resources due to lack of money. Mr R Huck added to this that the areas of high priority are Brewery Brow, The Top of Parton Brow, and the Lowca Road. Dave Banks suggested the Council write to CCC to request for those roads to be gritted this winter.

### Resident Concern - Play Park

Bark levels are low in the playpark. The Clerk answered that costings would come to council for new bark. The Chair stated that the bark may just need re-distributed but it needed looked into. Councillor Banks asked if the Council could ask for free bark as a donation for certain distributors.

### Resident Concern – Parking

There was a collision outside the school due to cars being parked on the corner by the play park and asked if it would be worth the council putting road markings down. The Chair answered in that discussions were underway with the County Council officer Kevin Cosgrove regarding this on a way forward. Lines or cones. Another resident stated that it was staff parking from the school that were blocking the road. The Chair stated that it could be that the Council could contact the school to express the concern regarding staff parking.

### Resident Concern – Parking around the monument & carpark area

Issues with parking in this area and a need for traffic calming. The Chair stated that it may be worth the Council dropping a line to Network Rail to discuss a way forward and raise concerns.

## **Item 7. Councillor Vacancies (to proceed with co-option. Papers circulated).**

Members considered the applications and qualifications for co-option by applicants and votes took place in accordance with a process outlined by the Clerk and RFO Mr Chris Shaw which was by exhaustive ballot.

Candidates were invited to speak and present to Council.

**It was agreed** by Council that the following persons be co-opted to the parish Council  
Mr David Alan Garrett; Mrs Janice Miller; Miss Maisie Rogan; Mr Stephen Tumelty.

Following the announcement of the successful candidates the Chair welcomed the new Councillors to come and pass over their contact email addresses.

As stated at the beginning of the meeting the Chair stated that he was very proud and said that he was sure that he spoke on behalf of all members very privileged to have new councillors joining us around the table. He stated that this would really benefit all members and residents in the Parton Parish. He hoped to move forward positively and to make our residents proud.

The new Councillors were invited forward to shake hands and be introduced to everyone.

The Meeting closed at 8.42 pm

Chairman..... Date .....