

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parton Parish Council.  
Held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**St Bridget's C Of E Primary School 52 Main St, Parton,  
Whitehaven CA28 6NY**

**Starting at 7.00 pm**

**1. Attendance:** Chairman Cllr R. Huck, and Cllrs Mr A. Barton, Mrs K.Barton Mr. D.A. Garrett, Mrs J. Huck, Mrs S. Rogan, Mrs. J.E. Miller, Mr W. Morton, Mr S. Tumelty and Mr J Williamson

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Apologies received from: Cllr M Rogan;

Borough Councillors Mr Banks & Mrs Bowman and County Councillor Mr Barbour not present.  
9 members of the public were present

**2. Declarations of Interest** – No declaration of Interest were made

**3. Audit Report** This set out various matters of concern relating to the financial management of the Council up to the Clerk being dismissed.

3.1. Recommendations (6.1.1 – 6.1.6 of meeting report):

3.1.1 That PKF Littlejohn be passed a copy of this report and their guidance be obtained

3.1.2 That our Internal Auditor be required to attend at Council to explain these matters

3.1.3 That the former Clerk be required to provide the Internal Auditors contact details without any further delay

3.1.4 That we consider the termination of the appointment of our Internal Auditor if Council is not satisfied with the explanations provided to the issues in this report and appoint a new Internal Auditor without delay. Perhaps the auditor used by many Parish Councils in Cumbria and who is being used by Whitehaven Town Council?

3.1.5 That the Police be advised of these matters and request that they consider whether any offence may have been committed here

3.1.6 That, in due course, advice be sought as to whether a claim may be made against our former clerk to recover any losses that the Council may sustain if they arise as a result of any omission or misconduct.

Proposed by Cllr R Huck  
And seconded by Cllr J Huck

That the recommendations be approved – agreed

**4. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – The Chair read put the Motion – That, in accordance with the provisions of s1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from this meeting at this point in view of the confidential nature of the business specified in items 4 and 5, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw as the public interest at this time in maintaining the exemption in para 1 outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Proposed by Cllr R Huck  
And seconded by Cllr J Huck

That the motion be approved – agreed

#### 5. Breach of Confidentiality and Other matters

The Chair read out the contents of a report and asked members if they wish to proceed or to draw a line under the issue

Proposed Councillor S Tumelty  
Seconded Councillor J Miller  
Carried - Unanimous

That Council draws a line under the matters set out in the report

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6. There being no Members of the public the Councillors then had a general discussion on a proposed tendering exercise to award a contract for grass cutting. A formal report will be before members at the February Meeting, which may be delayed a week.

**The Chair thanked all Councillors for their attendance and the meeting was closed at 7.15 pm**

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