

MELMERBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Chairman: Cllr Chris Jones.

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Minutes of the Meeting Held on Tuesday 28th January 2020
in Melmerby Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Unapproved

1/20 Apologies

County Councillor Claire Driver and District Councillor Rob Orchard

2/20 Present

Cllrs: Chris Jones (Chairman), Marjorie Jones (Vice Chair), David Bardsley, Ruth Beaumont, Gary Fletcher and John Fleming (Parish Clerk). and three members of the public

3/20 Minutes

The Chairman was unanimously authorized to sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 26th November 2019 as a true record.
Proposed by Cllr D Bardsley. Seconded by Cllr Marjorie Jones.

4/20 Declarations of Interest

There were none

5/20 Public Participation

There was none

6/20 Planning Applications

Planning Appeal 19/0101 – Nutwood, Melmerby - Reported that it could take as long as 22 weeks from the Appeal closing date of the 23rd December 2019, for a decision to be made by the Appeals Inspectorate.

7/20 District Councillors Report -

There was none

8/20 County Councillors Report.

There was no report presented to the meeting; however, a monthly report is available on the Parish Council website. www.melmerby.org.uk

9/20 Finance (Incl. Vat)

9.1 The Following Balances Were Reported as at:

16/1/2020

£

Barclays Current Account	430.59
Barclays Investment Account	6950.00
Vat due	199.01

9.2 The Following Accounts were Ratified.

Clerks Salary Nov/Dec 2019 @ £224.68	449.36
Office Provision Nov /Dec 2019 @ £15	30.00
Fellrunner subsidy balance payment	0.80

9.3 The Following Account was Approved For Payment

Clerks Expense 26/11/19 – 28/1/20	46.65
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The above payment was unanimously approved.
Proposed by Cllr M Jones and seconder by Cllr D Bardsley

9.4 To Report the Following Receipts

Donations towards new Council Laptop Computer	50.00
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9.5 To Report the Following Transfer

From Investment to Current Account	400.00
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9.6 Presentation of Interim Account for Approval

The interim set of accounts were unanimously approved.
Proposed by Cllr G Fletcher
Seconded by Cllr R Beaumont,

10/20 Highways and Land Matters

10.1 Vehicle Speeding Through the Village – The traffic survey report from July is still awaited.

Action: - To request a copy of the report from Highways.

10.2 Junction White Lining – Reported in hand with contractors.

10.3 Litter Bins – Reported that a new bin had been installed, alongside the grit bin, past the Village Hall and that the bin by Townhead had been relocated nearby, away from the layby.

10.4 Bridge Terrace Road Surfacing / Pothole – Reported that the severe pothole had been repaired, however the promised resurfacing of the area was still awaited.

Action: - To enquire from Highways when this resurfacing work could be expected to be completed.

10.5 Bus Shelter Refurbishment – Reported that the work was in hand.

10.6 Concrete and Wooden Bench Refurbishment – Reported that the work had been completed.

Action: - A letter of thanks be sent to Mr. D Ivinson for the generous donation of timber.

10.7 Defibrillator Kiosk Adoption – Reported that the Kiosk had been formally adopted by the Parish Council from the Community Heartbeat Trust and added to the insurance schedule.

10.8 Defibrillator Road Signage – Reported that these had been installed.

10.9 Potholes on the Top Road – Reported that the work had been completed.

11/20 Melmerby Emergency Plan – This was adopted.

12/20 Antisocial Behaviour and Traffic Speeding Issues.

A few incidents of antisocial behaviour, by youths in the village, were reported, along with incidents of vehicle speeding.

The meeting was reminded that the above reported occurrences were outside the control and remit of a Parish Council and were the responsibility of the police.

Action: - Agreed to invite the Community Police Office to the May Annual Parish Meeting, where these issues could be discussed, and community advice taken to try and counter the problem. This agenda item to be well publicised in advance.

13/20 Councillor Matters

13.1 Community Police Monthly Report. – It was noted that the Parish Council had not received a report since September 2019.

Action: - To take the matter up with the Community Police Officer.

13.2 Website Update – It was drawn to the attention of the meeting that reference was still being made to the **newly constituted** Parish Council and whether this now appropriate and needed to be revised.

Action: - Agreed to edit the site, once the Parish Council had been operating for a full year, next May.

13.3 Website Prominence – It was reported that the website did not appear immediately, when searched for, on sites such as 'Google'. The meeting was informed that this situation would improve with time and that the site would start to come up more speedily and prominently with use.

13.4 Planning Application 18/0052 – *In respect of retrospective application for change of use from domestic and plant equipment store to erection and testing of wooden yurts.*

It was drawn to the attention of the meeting that a parishioner had questioned whether the conditions of the application approval were being met.

Action: - Agreed for the Parish Council look into the Parishioners concerns.

13.5 Improving Business Activity within the village. – A business proprietor in Melmerby had asked what steps the Parish Council were taking to improve footfall in the village, which would have the knock-on effect of increasing business activity.

Councillors made the point that this was not within the remit of a Parish Council; the success of any business was determined by that business's, 'Business plan', the suitability and imagination of which was, obviously being the responsibility of the proprietor.

A comment subsequent to the meeting.

(That said, it was important to a Parish Council that businesses within the Parish were successful and to that end would encourage a business to join the Eden Tourism Network, which would alert them to forthcoming events, which they could then capitalise on. Through this Network a business could also seek advice on fine tuning their business plan to make it as effective as possible.

Contact: - Sally Hemsley (Joint Tourism Manager) EDC, Tel. 01768 212167. Usual working days, Thursday and Friday. Charlie Thornton (Tourism Development Officer). Tel. 01768212167 Usual working day Monday.)

<http://www.visiteden.co.uk/tradesection/business-support-and-engagement/eden-tourism-network>

13.6 Speeding Vehicles – Concern was raised, once again, over vehicle speeding within the village. See 10.1.

Action: - The issue would be raised with the Community Police Officer; this matter not being within the remit of the Parish Council.

13.7 Ellsygill Entrance Rutting – Concern was expressed that vehicles parking on this triangle entrance was leading to ruts in the grass which could present a hazard to pedestrians.

14/20 Correspondence

To consider correspondence received since the last meeting and take the necessary action.

14.1 Buckingham Palace Buck Garden Party 27th May 2020
No nomination was forthcoming.

14.2 CALC Developing Your Skills Programme – January to July 2020
This programme had been circulated to Councilors.

14.3 Citizens Advice Recruitment - Reported that the CAB were looking for recruits. Contact: - 03300 563037 www.ca-ce.org.uk

14.4 B4RN – Broadband for the Rural North.
It was drawn to the attention of the meeting that a commercial company 'B4RN' was interested in offering a 'Cabinet to house', fibre-optic broad band facility to the village of Melmerby.

B4RN is a community owned cooperative whose aim is to provide world class broadband (1gigabit) to rural and remote communities, through a process of engagement with local communities, generally on a Parish basis, to build together a fibre optic network for an area. (see www.B4RN.org.uk)

They currently have an ongoing project in the Allen Valleys, encompassing Whitfield, Catton, Allendale town and Allenheads. As part of their project they now have the ability, on a newly installed fibre optic cable, capacity to allow them to provide breakout points on a line from Penrith to Whitfield (by Haydon Bridge).

Initially the company would require permission to locate a green, fibre-optic connection cabinet, centrally within the village, the meeting was informed that they are currently in correspondence with the proprietor of the Melmerby Village Green over this request.

15/20 Date and Venue of Future Meetings

Tuesday 24th March 2020

Tuesday 5th May 2020

Tuesday 28th July 2020

Tuesday 29th September 2020

Tuesday 24th November 2020

All Meeting to be held in Melmerby Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm
Meeting closed: 8.50pm

Signed _____

Date _____