

## OUSBY PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk: John Fleming**

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**Chairman: Cllr Chris Jones**

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Minutes of the Meeting Held on Wednesday 22nd August 2018  
in Ousby Community Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

**Unapproved**

### Apologies

#### Present

Cllrs C. Jones (Chairman), A Ivinson (Vice Chairman), D Bardsley, S Castle – Clarke, T Dixon, G Fletcher, D Kidd and N Longworth, County Councilor C Driver and District Councilor R Orchard.

12 members of the public.

The chairman welcomed John Fleming to the meeting and thanked him for agreeing to take the minutes.

#### **C/160/8/18 Minutes**

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 as a true record. 7 in favour with one abstention.  
Proposed by Cllr S Castle – Clarke  
Seconded by Cllr D Bardsley

#### **C/161/8/18 Declarations of Interest**

Agenda Item 16 'CALC' – Cllr S Castle Clarke

#### **C/162/8/18 Public Participation**

A number of Parishioners present raised the following points: -

- **Melmerby Lighting Questionnaire: -**

With 66% of those questioned in the recent survey saying 'No' to retaining the 9 'Agreed' Footway Lights in Melmerby and only 28% say yes to retaining the lights, why has the Parish Council not respected the wishes of parishioners in Melmerby and informed EDC accordingly.

Why had there been a lack of progress on this issue, with further clarification on costs not being forthcoming, it being apparent that the Council was no further forward than it was earlier in the year on the issue.

- **Data Protection**

With reference to complaints raise with EDC, why had no GDPR training been arranged for Councillors, as had been recommended by the EDC Monitoring Officer

One parishioner complained that she had still not received an apology from the Parish Council over her name being mentioned and used in a draft management plan for Melmerby Village Green, dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017, without her permission or prior knowledge.

- **Parish Council 'Transparency' Obligations**

One parishioner queried whether the Parish Council had a responsibility to make public the complaints that had been made against it and the responses from the EDC Monitoring officer, under the rules relating of 'Transparency' governing Parish Councils.

Councillors noted the points raised.

**C163/8/18 Authority for the Chairman to operate the Parish Council Website, deal with Correspondence and other Communications for the Council in the Absence of a Clerk**

John Fleming, (currently Parish Clerk to Langwathby and Culgaith Parish Councils), through the Chair, interrupted the meeting and stated that he would be prepared to take on the duties of a Locum Clerk for the remainder of the financial year, should it be the wish of the Council, on the following terms: -

- The minutes taken would be minimal and simply record decisions made. He would not tolerate any unnecessary questioning of minutes, unless a decision reported was inaccurate. Draft minutes being agreed with the Chairman prior to publication.
- He would require the Parish Council to fully adopt on – banking, for the payment of bills.
- All Parish business would have to go through the Clerk and he would only manage the affairs of the Council through the Chairman.
- Financial terms being, to be paid a fee based on 20 hrs. per month, to be paid £15 per month to cover telephone/internet costs, mileage at 45 pence per mile, in addition to other miscellaneous costs being covered.
- If he were to take on the duties he would do it his way and there would be changes.

This offer was unanimously accepted by the Council on the above terms and the Chairman thanked John Fleming for kindly agreeing to undertake this responsibility.

**C/164/8/18 District Councilor Report**

Cllr R Orchard reported that August had been a quiet month within EDC. There had been on – going discussions with the Monitoring Officer over the implications of the decision to split Ousby Parish Council into two, to try and achieve a smooth transition to the new situation. Discussions had also taken place with the deputy CEO on the question of greater involvement and support to villages outside of Appleby, that are affected by the Appleby Horse Fair.

**C/165/8/18 County Councilor Report**

A report was received from Cllr Claire Driver.

**C/166/18 Community Governance Review**

In preparation of the splitting the Council in 2019, it was agreed to take steps to separate Council costs and assets with a view to preparing two budgets for the 2019/ 2020 financial year and for two separate Precepts to be set.

**C/167/18 EDC – Devolution and Transfer of Assets – Footway Lighting.****Proposal**

In order to resolve the matter over whether the 9 'Agreed' Footway Lights in Melmerby be taken over by the Parish Council or not, a proposal was made by Cllr G Fletcher and seconder by Cllr N Longworth that a further ballot be held in Melmerby to determine the wishes of Parishioners. This being based on a simple yes or no question on the ballot paper

**Amendment.**

An amendment was tabled, proposed by Cllr A Ivinson and seconded by Cllr S Castle – Clarke that the Council make a decision that evening, based on the previous survey result and the feeling expressed by members of the public present.

The amendment was voted on with 4 in favour and 4 against, the Chairman then exercised his casting vote, voting against the amendment. The amendment duly fell.

The original Proposal was then voted on and was unanimously carried

**Action: -**

It was agreed that the Clerk would conduct a secret ballot independently of Ousby Parish Councillors with a simple 'Yes' to sign an agreement to adopt the 9 'Agreed' Foot Way lights from EDC, or 'No' not to sign the agreement.

There being one vote per property in the Melmerby Ward. Properties being identified from the electoral role, supplied by Eden District Council.

The Clerk would provided details of the short and long-term cost implication of this decision along with other information to facilitate a decision.

The Council being bound by the result.

**C/168/18 Finance****C/168.1 The Following Invoices were agreed to be paid: -**

	£
Playsafety	159.00
N and J Preston	413.35
Heartbeat Trust	12600
Vision I T	112.43

**C/168.2 Internet Banking Access**

Agreed to withdraw the former Clerks access to the internet bank account and to add the newly appointed Locum Clerk.

**C/168.3 On – line Payment of Bills**

Agreed for the Clerk to set up internet banking, with the facility to pay payments on - line.

Proposed Cllr S Castle–Clarke. Seconded Cllr A Ivinson and unanimously agreed.

- C/169/18 Highway Matters**  
Reported that the drains in Ousby village needed cleaning and jetting.  
**Action:** - To report to Highways.
- C/170/18 Planning Applications**
- |         |   |            |
|---------|---|------------|
| 18/0421 | Nutwood Melmerby – 2 Caravans and a Wooden Barn           | To Object  |
| 18/0665 | Field north Helm Bar Melmerby – 5 Houses next to Helm Bar | To Support |
| 18/0638 | Opp. Ivy House, Ousby – Amendment to Window Colour        | To Support |
- C/171/18 Report of Community Police Officer.**  
This was tabled and noted.
- C/172/18 NALC Request for Evidence on The Rural Economy.**  
This was tabled and noted.
- C/173/18 Revised CALC Charging Policy.**  
The new fees calculation was to based on the size of the electorate rather than a fixed fee. This would result in a reduction in the fee charged to Ousby Parish Council.  
**Action:-** Agreed to accept the new arrangement. (7 Councilors agreed to accept with one abstention).
- C/174/18 Correspondence Regarding Melmerby Village Green**  
A letter had been received from a Melmerby resident expressing concern that a fence had been constructed on Melmerby Village Green. The Clerk advised the meeting that as Melmerby Village Green is owned by Mrs. Rowley of Glassonby Lodge, Glassonby, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 1DT, its management is her responsibility. Further Mrs. Rowley, last year, renewed her agreement with the Melmerby Village Green Conservation Group, to maintain and manage the Green on her behalf and in conjunction with her. As a consequence, Ousby Parish Council has no jurisdiction or responsibility for this area of land what so ever.  
**Action:-** To respond by explaining that Ousby Parish Council is not in a position to assist and that her concerns be redirected to Mrs. Rowley at Glassonby Lodge.
- C/175/18 RoSPA Playsafety Ltd Playground Inspection Reports**  
It was reported that the playground reports for both the Melmerby and Ousby playgrounds had only identified actions that were deemed of 'Low Risk'.  
**Decision:-** No action was required.
- C/176/18 Date and Venue of Next Meeting**  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September in Melmerby Village Hall at 7.30pm
- Meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_