

**Minutes of Ousby Annual Parish Meeting held in Ousby Community Centre on  
May 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 commencing at 7pm.**

Present: Chairman of Ousby Parish Council (Cllr N Longworth)  
District Councillor Rob Orchard  
27 members of the public attended

1. District Councillor Rob Orchard was asked to take notes and agreed.
2. The meeting was chaired by the Chairman of Ousby Parish Council. The Chairman opened the meeting and there were no apologies for absence.
3. The Chairman read the minutes of the meeting held on 10/5/2017. The minutes were approved for signing as a correct record.
4. The Chairman invited public discussion.

A. Developments following refusal of the Nutwood Planning Application, Melmerby:  
A lot of concerns were raised concerning a new application and a possible appeal. Applicant was not present at this point. General view of meeting was that proposed development was inappropriate in the intended location, particularly lack of vehicle access and proposal that visitors should park within the village.

B. Actions of current council, particularly Melmerby Ward Councillors:  
There was a long discussion on these issues. Much of it was hostile towards the actions of the Melmerby Ward Councillors, which has led to the Monitoring Officer (EDC) issuing notices on Melmerby Ward Councillors concerning breaches of the official Code of Conduct which is binding on Parish Councillors. There were calls for Melmerby ward councillors to communicate better with villagers and to be open and transparent as is required by law.

C. EDC Governance Review:  
There were several comments (for and against) about the EDC Governance Review and the proposal to split the parish council into two separate councils.

D. Footway lighting transfer:  
There was considerable criticism of Melmerby Ward Councillors over the issue of the proposed adoption of responsibility for footway lighting in Melmerby, particularly with regard to unknown costs and the fact that the majority of Melmerby residents were not in favour of adoption of the lights.

E. AONB Fellfoot Forward project:  
There was criticism of the proposals being put forward by the Melmerby Ward parish councillors concerning the AONB Fellfoot Forward project, especially the reference to creating a car park and public toilets in the village of Melmerby. There were deep concerns about likely costs and whether these proposals were in the best interest of the village. Consensus view expressed was that they are not.

*At this point the Chairman tried to curtail discussions but was overruled by those present and discussion continued on the footway lighting transfer and AONB project.*

F. Use of the Row in Ousby by wide vehicles

Concerns have been expressed over the continuing problem of wide vehicles using the Row, Ousby (which is not suitable for delivery wagons and HGVs), despite width restrictions. The Highways department has recently erected signage at both ends of the Row clearly indicating that HGVs are banned from the road.

The Chairman eventually brought discussions to an end and the meeting closed at 20.13 hrs.

RO June 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

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