

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

Chairman
A Waite
4 Silver Street
Marton
Nr Ulverston
Cumbria LA12 0NQ
Tel 01229 462922

Clerk
J Smith
7 East View
Lindal-in-Furness
Cumbria LA12 0LG
Tel 01229 467261

Councillors:-

Mr A Waite (462922) Mr R Lord (464034) Mrs S Glover (462383) Mr D Howarth (463304) Mrs S Kelly (465343)

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Thursday, 3rd May 2012, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite; R Lord; Mrs S Glover; D Howarth; Mrs S Kelly.

Also present:- 5 members of the public.

52/12 Election of Chairman.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that Councillor Waite be Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Carried unanimously.

53/12 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

54/12 Disclosure of interests.

Councillor Howarth declared an interest in Item12 (c) in that he was Treasurer for the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee. (*vide minute 62/12 (c)below*)

55/12 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th April, 2012.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th April 2012, were taken as read and APPROVED

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth. SECONDED:- Councillor Lord.

Carried unanimously.

56/12 Matters arising.

- a) 42/12 Councillor Howarth referred to the email from PCSO Perry (forwarded by the Clerk) in which she asked for confirmation that the Council still wanted some attention to be given to the parking arrangements outside the Buccleuch Hall. It was AGREED that the Clerk would confirm that this was the case.

- b) 44/12 Councillor Howarth asked why the latest edition of “Aspects” didn’t include a collection envelope for donations to the defibrillator fund as agreed at the last meeting. *From the floor* it was pointed out that “Aspects” had previously agreed that envelopes should be circulated on this occasion for another charitable cause: it was intended to include the defibrillator envelopes in the next edition.
- c) 50/12 (a) Councillor Lord asked whether anything further was known about the need to keep local roads as clear as possible from mud, and the suggestion that this would be raised with the farmer concerned by both the secretary of the Joint Rural Committee and also PCSO Perry. The Chairman reported that he had also received an anonymous letter on this and other related subjects. It was then AGREED that the Clerk would contact the aforementioned secretary and PCSO Perry to check on the latest position and that no action be taken at this stage regarding the anonymous letter.

57/12 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

Apologies were received regarding the non-attendance of any representative from Cumbria Constabulary.

58/12. Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

There were no minutes for consideration.

59/12 The Mayor’s charity and the provision of defibrillators.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Murphy had still not been able to deliver the promised defibrillator to Councillor Mrs Kelly which was planned to be kept in her hairdressing salon until such time as arrangements could be made to house it in an appropriate container on the outside of a suitable building within Lindal.

However it was confirmed that the training of volunteers was planned for three separate Wednesday evenings in June, the 13th, 20th and 27th, the training to be provided by Liz Gaskell, from Askam, and her colleagues from First Responders. Volunteers would only have to attend one of the meetings, for about 45 minutes, with more details available at the next meeting of the Parish Council and also in the May edition of “Aspects”. The Clerk would contact all those who signed-up as volunteers, by phone, in order to clarify those who would attend each session.

Further reference was made to the fund-raising arrangements and Councillor Mrs Kelly confirmed that her collection jar in her salon had already produced the sum of £78.55, together with a cheque for £100 from the proprietors of Chandlers café at the local candle factory. The Clerk undertook to write to Chandlers thanking them for their generosity. Individual donation envelopes would be circulated throughout the Parish in the next issue of “Aspects”. (see minute 56/12 (b), above)

60/12 Planning applications relating to South Lakeland District Council (Pennington Parish)

SL/2012/0255. Erection of wind turbine (20 m tower) on land near Sea View, Pennington.

NB Councillor Howarth took no part in the discussion, declaring an interest, in that he had only just realised that the applicant was someone with whom he had business links.

A widespread discussion took place *involving the floor* where reference was made to a variety of problems associated with this application. It was a commonly held view that applicants generally were more influenced by the financial gains which would accrue from the erection of a wind turbine rather than any desire to reduce the nation’s carbon footprint and that, whilst this was

not unreasonable in itself, it should not be at the expense of the local landscape and the well-being of immediate neighbours.

This particular application would result in a turbine with a height-to-blade-tip of some 27 metres, a size which, whilst being considerably smaller than turbines in the large commercial wind-farms, was markedly bigger than the smaller turbines to be found on some other local sites. It would, therefore, be quite prominent in very largely unspoilt, rural landscape.

Added to that should be the consideration that the countryside generally would suffer from what is being seen as a proliferation of wind-turbines as landowners across the country seek to lessen their financial burdens by developing their own mini power stations, with the prospect of any large, windswept field having such alien machines erected.

It was also suggested that this application would have a specific visual impact on the residents at Carkettle, some few hundred metres to the west of the site. In addition, there were concerns about the usual problems associated with such turbines, of shadow-flicker, noise and potential harm to wild-life.

A particular suggestion was made that there should be a minimum of 1,000 metres between any wind-turbine and the nearest habitable building.

It was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Council decline to support the application on the grounds as set out above.

Carried unanimously. (excluding Councillor Howarth)

61/12 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Spinal Injuries Association. Fund-raising suggestions. NOTED.
- c) Cumbria Playing Fields Association. NOTED.
- d) Cumbria County Council. Parish council's newsletter. NOTED.

62/12 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account - £50. Reserve account – £591.74
- b) The Clerk submitted a request for his petty cash to be re-imbursed (£25.32)
- c) A letter was submitted from the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee regarding a donation towards the cost of a “Jacobs Join” garden party to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, similar to Prince William's marriage celebrations in 2011. The matter had been deferred from the last meeting as the Council did not have a quorum at that point. (Councillor Howarth had been unable to participate in the discussions as he had declared an interest)
- d) The Clerk reported that he had received a renewal quotation from the Council's current insurers (Aon) in the sum of £292.94. However, he had previously been made aware of an alternative quotation from Zurich Insurance for £221.54 (*vide minute 23/12 February 2012*). After discussions with Aon, an amended quotation of £216.79 had been received, (for the same level of cover).
- e) The Clerk submitted the Annual Audit Return which required approval and certification by the Council.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Glover that:-

- the Clerk's petty cash request be approved (£25.32): an amount of £200 be approved for the garden party: the amended quotation from Aon be accepted (£216.79) and that cheques be authorised accordingly. .

- The Annual Audit Return be approved and certified.

Carried unanimously. NB. Councillor Howarth took no part in discussing item (c) above.
(*vide minute 54/12 above*)

63/12 Any Other Business.

a) Councillor Waite reported that he had been informally approached by the Lindal Play Group asking whether any financial assistance might be available from the Parish Council. It was AGREED that a formal request should be submitted before this could be given any further consideration.

b) Councillor Lord enquired as to whether the Lindal kiosk was being attended-to regularly. The Clerk confirmed that this appeared to be so.

c) Councillor Lord commented on a suggestion that the enquiry desk at Ulverston Police Station might be closing in the near future and that Cumbria Constabulary would be making questionnaires available for the public to express their views.

d) An invitation was submitted from District Councillor Barry Doughty, mayor-elect for Dalton, for the Chairman, or other nominee, to attend the Ann Hood Music Awards, to be held in Chequers Hotel, on Friday 13th July 2012 , at 7.30 pm, the cost of a ticket (inclusive of a meal) being £15.

64/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Thursday 7th June 2012, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

(All residents of the Parish are reminded that the Council meetings are open to the public and that all are welcome to attend.)