

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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Councillors:-

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

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th April 2012, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite; R Lord; D Howarth

Apologies:- Councillors Mrs S Glover; Mrs S Kelly.

Also present:- 5 members of the public.

In attendance:-

PCSO L Perry: Cumbria Constabulary.

38/12 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

The Clerk submitted details of a planning application in respect of 22, Sunny Bank, Lindal. The Chairman confirmed that this item could be considered under item 9 of the Agenda "Planning applications relating to the Parish". (minute 45/12 (b) below)

39/12 Disclosure of interests.

Councillor Howarth declared an interest in Item 13 (c) (minute 49/12 (c) below), the request by the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee for a donation towards the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, in that he was Treasurer for the Committee.

40/12 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st March, 2012.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st March 2012, were taken as read and APPROVED

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

Carried unanimously.

41/12 Matters arising.

36/12 (c) Councillor Lord asked whether anything further had been heard regarding the decision by the Planning Inspectorate to allow the appeal by the Wild Animal Park regarding the planned expansion, particularly in respect of the conditions attached to the decision. The Clerk confirmed that nothing further had been heard and that he would not normally be advised of progress in this regard.

42/12 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Perry advised that there had been no reported crime in the Parish during the last month although there had been an instance of lead being stolen from the roof of a building at the Water Treatment Works at Poaka Beck, just outside the Parish boundary.

Councillor Howarth commented on the unrestricted parking which was available outside the Buccleuch Hall and the possibility of difficulties arising if emergency vehicles should have to attend the building. PCSO Perry confirmed that she would discuss the situation with her colleagues.

43/12. Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

The minutes of the Governors' meeting on 23rd January 2012 were NOTED.

44/12 The Mayor's charity and the provision of defibrillators.

The Chairman referred to the special meeting of parishioners which had been held in the Buccleuch Hall on Wednesday, 21st March to discuss the provision of defibrillators. (*vide minute 32/12, March 2012*). The Mayor, Councillor John Murphy, had been able to explain to the 47 residents who were there the importance of defibrillators and his willingness to provide one for Lindal/Marton, on the assumption that there was sufficient interest in the Parish. Everyone confirmed their willingness to be trained to use a defibrillator and further information is awaited regarding training sessions.

The question of fund-raising towards the Mayor's Charity (re defibrillators) was discussed and it was noted that Councillor Mrs Kelly had already placed a collection box in her hair-dressing salon and that this was currently receiving donations. It was AGREED that an appeal be published in "Aspects", inviting parishioners to contribute to the Mayor's fund and, during discussions *with the floor*, two local residents confirmed their willingness to arrange for suitable envelopes to be made available for distribution with the next edition of "Aspects".

The Clerk would provide an appropriate paragraph for insertion in "Aspects" to explain the latest developments. Consideration of further financial assistance from the Parish Council was deferred until the next meeting.

45/12 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) *B21/2012/0192 Erection of detached building – office/summerhouse with balcony, laundry and shower room. 2 Henning Cottages, Lindal.* It was noted that the proposed building would be some distance to the rear of the applicant's property, presumably on garden land. However, it was unclear as to how the building would be used: the plans indicated an "office" but there was also shown a "wet room", a space for "lockers" and a large area designated as "laundry and storage". It was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Council decline to make any formal assessment of this application because of a lack of clarity as to what the building would be used for. Carried unanimously.

- b) *B21/2012/0229. Erection or rear ground floor extension, 22 Sunny Bank, Lindal.* It was pointed out that, whilst the proposed extension appeared to be quite straightforward, the drawings suggested that the sloping roof would project over the next-door neighbour's property. Accordingly, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Council confirm that there appeared to be no grounds for refusal, provided that appropriate measures were taken to ensure that rain-water was contained (and subsequently disposed of) within the applicant's own property. Carried unanimously.

46/12 Planning applications relating to South Lakeland District Council (Pennington Parish)

- a) *SL/2012/0185 Erection of wind turbine with 24.6 m tower. Land adjacent to Carkettle Farm, Marton, for Mr S Burch, Lindal Moor Farm, Marton.* The Clerk reported that the owner of Carkettle Farm was anxious to emphasise that the application had nothing to do with him and was solely the responsibility of the owner of the field in question, (adjacent to Carkettle Farm), Mr Burch, of Lindal.

During discussions *involving the floor* it was clear that there was considerable opposition to this proposed development with suggestions that it was larger than other stand-alone turbines usually recommended for farms and that its proximity to the road (Snipe Ghyll) and the properties around Carkettle Farm would give rise to problems relating to noise; shadow flicker; interference with wild life; visual disturbance; horse-riding etc.

In addition, it was alleged that the distances quoted by the applicant's agent, from the proposed site of the turbine to the nearest properties and the road, were inaccurate and that the turbine would be nearer than suggested.

However, it was also noted that the supporting documentation (The Design and Access Statement) supplied by the applicant's agent was inaccurate at its most basic level. The site in question is a simple field, with no farm or other agricultural buildings and yet the agent claims that the application is because of a wish to "*produce electricity for the residential unit on the site and for the agricultural working of the site. The electricity produced will replace/reduce the mains electricity to the property and reduce running costs over time*" (Section 5 – Economic Benefits.)

Other references to "*the property*" and "*domestic and agricultural use*" equally suggest, erroneously, that the site has a need for electricity. (eg., Section 1 - The Applicant and Reasons for the Application).

The Council viewed with some concern the fact that the application appeared to be based on statements which were at variance with the reality of the situation and it was suggested that, far from being an attempt to provide electricity for the applicant's personal use, it was merely a commercial proposition to sell electricity to the National Grid. In the Council's view, this made it all the more reprehensible that those nearby residents who would be affected had not been consulted by the applicant or his agents.

It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that the Council express its opposition to this application because

- the basic premise was suspect, in that the site did not require electricity.
- The turbine was too large for the usual "domestic" requirements.
- The turbine would seriously interfere with the lives of local residents.

Carried unanimously.

- b) *SL/2012/0171 Three holiday lodges, Ewedale Farm, Pennington (re-submission of application 0373, September 2011, for ten lodges, refused by SLDC).* The application (0373) considered in September 2011 had produced a “no comment” response from the Parish Council, with the caveat that SLDC should pay particular attention to the potential for additional traffic difficulties at the Snipe Ghyll T-junction if the application was approved. (The Clerk reported that SLDC had refused to approve the application because ten lodges were considered to be too many for the site in question: the additional traffic issue had been discounted.) It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that the Council should express “no comment” on the current application. Carried unanimously

47/12 Planning applications relating to Cumbria County Council.

- a) *Extension of existing temporary 5-year planning consent for re-cycling of building materials, plus application for additional facilities. Tony Brown Aggregates, Diamond Yard, Whinfield, Lindal.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

48/12 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
b) Barrow Borough Council: minutes, 24/01/12 – 13/03/12. NOTED.
c) Cumbria County Council. Newsletter for Parish Councils. NOTED.
d) Friends of the Lake District. “Green Spaces” booklet. NOTED..
e) Duddon Estuary Partnership. Minutes. NOTED.

49/12 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account - £50. Reserve account – £628.30
b) The Clerk submitted a request for his petty cash to be re-imbursed (£36.56)
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 was deferred as the Council did not have a quorum at this point. (Councillor Howarth was unable to participate in the discussions as he had declared an interest - see 39/12 above)

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Clerk’s petty cash request be approved. Carried unanimously.

50/12 Any Other Business.

- a) The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting of the Joint Rural Committee where he had raised the subject of mud on local roads. (*vide minute 30/12, March 2012.*) The Highway Steward was to arrange for the roads to be swept and the matter would be discussed with the farmer concerned.
b) The Chairman further reported that the Parish Charter, setting out the relationships between parish, town, district and the County Council, was due to be published shortly.
c) *From the floor* it was pointed out that the road outside the school was in need of attention and the Clerk undertook to report this to the highway authorities.

51/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting. It was AGREED that the next meeting of the Parish Council (the Annual General Meeting) would take place on Thursday, 3rd May 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.)