

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, 3rd January 2013, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

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

Also present:- 1 member of the public was present.

In attendance:- Barrow Borough Councillors Barry Doughty, Anne Thurlow and Denis Bell.
Sgt McIntosh, Cumbria Constabulary.

1/13 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

2/13 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

Councillor Mrs Glover referred to Agenda item 11 (d) whereby financial assistance to St Peter's Church would be discussed. She declared an interest as a member of the Parochial Church Council and requested a dispensation from the need to refrain from participating in the discussions, the reason being that she would be able to give the Council full information regarding the Church's finances. The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Glover would be able to participate, on the grounds that her contribution would be necessary to enable the Council to be suitably informed.

3/13 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st November, 2012. (There was no meeting on 6th December because of a lack of a quorum.)

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

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth. SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Glover. Carried unanimously.

4/13 Matters arising from those minutes.

- a) 129/12 Councillor Howarth reported that after speaking to the Internal Auditor, Mr J Bentley, he was satisfied that the Council was fulfilling its financial obligations in an appropriate manner.
- b) 110/12 (a) Councillor Mrs Kelly asked whether there had been any progress in resolving the problem of flooding at Broken Bridge. Councillor Waite replied that, whilst some local residents might have been willing to try to find a solution to the flooding, the usual problem of

“public liability” was an inhibiting factor. *From the floor*, Borough Councillor Doughty emphasised that Highways Officials were doing their best to combat the problem generally which, by common consent, was the result of unprecedented levels of rainfall. He suggested that there was a list of the most troublesome problems and that the Highways Department be contacted to see whether the list included any within the Parish. The Clerk undertook to follow this up.

5/13 Attendance of officers from Cumbria Constabulary.

Sergeant McIntosh confirmed that there had only been one reported incident in December , involving an attempted break-in to a garage at the side of a house on The Green.

6/13 Lindal Information Point (ex-BT phone box) maintenance.

The Clerk reported that the defective light in the box had been replaced by a local resident who had declined to claim for the cost of the materials. However, should the Council wish to recognize his efforts he would be happy to see a small donation – say, £25 – made to the Buccleuch Hall. It was AGREED that this would be appropriate and that such donation be in connection with the annual senior citizens’ Christmas Party.

A brief discussion took place regarding the current physical condition of this box which was allowing wind and rain to penetrate, (despite previous repairs by Councillor Lord). (*vide minute 133/12, November 2012*). The shelves and the contents had been found to be very damp and more or less impossible to use but it was AGREED that detailed consideration should still be deferred until better weather allowed appropriate repairs to be carried out and that a reasonable amount be included in next year’s budget to pay for any work.

5/13 Defibrillators and associated matters.

The Clerk reported that a further £5 had been received via a Defibrillator Fund collection envelope and this had been forwarded to Councillor Murphy. The total raised in the Parish was now£699.57

He also advised that the custom-made boxes were now available and that Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service would be installing them throughout the area. Discussions had not yet been concluded regarding the siting of the one for Lindal.

The Fire Service had also taken on responsibility for promoting “Heart Start”, an initiative sponsored by organisations such as the British Heart Foundation, and which was designed to teach the general public the basic rudiments of CPR – Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation. This was slightly more detailed than the training offered to defibrillator users but was not to be compared to the concept of First Responders which was more wide-reaching and involved members being available for any emergency, not just a possible heart-attack.

It was AGREED that further consideration of this be deferred until such time as the siting of box containing the Lindal defibrillator had finally been determined.

6/13 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) B21/2012/0721 Two-storey extension, School House, Pit Lane, Lindal. The Clerk reported that this application had already been approved by the Borough Planning Department and that no action was required. (NB no meeting of the Parish Council in December)
- b) B18/2012/0751. Kitchen/dining extension, 9 Low Farm Close, Lindal.
It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Glover that the Council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

7/13 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough.
- b) Duddon Estuary Partnership.
- c) Cumbria County Council:-
 - 1. Fire and Rescue Service: requirement for “Retained” firefighters. The Clerk would arrange for this topic be publicised in “Aspects”.
 - 2. Local newsletter.
 - 3. Draft County budget proposals, 2013/14. This information to be circulated to members and to be included on the February agenda.
 - 4. Bus timetable, Cumbria.
- d) ACT Community newsletter.
- e) Community Safety – gas cookers and smoke alarms. This information to be publicised in “Aspects”.
- f) Variation of planning consent, Tony Brown Aggregates, Lindal. NOTED.

8/13 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account - £50. Reserve account – £2198.
- b) The Clerk requested payment of his annual subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks in the sum of £48, together with a petty cash cheque for £54.10 (NB included Marton Christmas Tree). Reference was also made to the approval of a payment of £25 to the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee in accordance with minute 6/13 above.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Glover and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that payments to the Clerk (£48 and £54.10) and the Buccleuch Hall (£25) be formally approved. Carried unanimously.

From the floor, Borough Councillor Doughty reported that Barrow Borough Council had agreed to provide Dalton, Askam and Lindal councils with a one-off amount of capital out of the Borough’s “festivals” money and that the amount allocated to Lindal and Marton was to be £1000. It was expected that the money could be used to help with special celebrations and events within each parish, in the way that such events were routinely promoted within Barrow itself. There were no plans for this to be repeated and it would be left to each council to determine how best to use the money. It was AGREED that further consideration of this matter be left until such time as the money was received.

- c) The Clerk referred to the summary of the Council’s financial situation, together with proposals for the budget for 2013/2014, which had previously been distributed to all councillors. After all known commitments had been met, it was anticipated that there would be a surplus to carry forward on 1st April into 2013/2014 of about £450.

However, the known commitments included £350 provisionally allocated for St Peter’s Church, together with an amount of of £239 carried forward as unspent from last year, making a sum of £589 as being possibly available for the Church before 31st March 2013. It was AGREED that further consideration of the way in which the Council might help St Peter’s Church be deferred until the next meeting at which time Councillor Mrs Glover might have more information about the Church’s most pressing needs.

The proposed budget regarding estimated expenditure in 2013/14 amounted to £3560, to include some refurbishment to the Lindal Kiosk, together with two replacement aluminium notice-boards (one outside the Hall: one in Marton). The recommended precept was £3500 which would equate to around 25p per week, per household, as compared to around 22p for the current year. NB the amount paid by Dalton's households during the current year is 56p and by Askam's, 46p.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the precept for the year 2013/2014 be £3500. Carried unanimously.

9/13 Any Other Business.

- a) Councillor Howarth suggested that some maintenance items reported to the county highways official in recent months were still outstanding. The Clerk undertook to pursue these issues.
- b) Councillor Howarth asked whether any further progress had been made regarding the suggestion that the centenary of the death of Edward Wadham be commemorated. The Clerk reported that the matter was still under consideration by Barrow Borough Council.
- c) Councillor Waite reported that he had been advised by Barrow Council (a "neighbour notification") of additional material regarding the planning application for 5 wind turbines at Harlock Hill. The original application regarding this development had already been considered by the Parish Council and it was unclear why the Council had not been consulted on this occasion. The Clerk undertook to make enquiries.
- d) Councillor Waite tabled an invitation to attend the Mayoral Ball on 12th April, 2013. Councillor Mrs Kelly would consider attending.
- e) *From the floor*, Borough Councillor Doughty drew attention to the appointment of a Police Commissioner for Cumbria, indicating that 15% of the police budget would normally allocated to non-operational matters, such as community safety, victim support etc. The Commissioner was open to suggestions in this regard and can be contacted via the web-site.

10/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 7th February, 2013 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.)