

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, 9th January 2014, at 7.45pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal. NB New start-time until further notice.

(This meeting was in place of the meeting scheduled for 2nd January 2014)

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

Apologies:- Councillor Mrs S Kelly

Also present:- 3 members of the public were present.

In attendance:-

Borough/County Councillor B Doughty and Borough Councillor Mrs A Thurlow.
PCSO J McVeigh, Cumbria Constabulary.

1/14 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

2/14 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

None.

3/14 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th December, 2013.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th December 2013, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Lord, SECONDED:- Councillor Howarth.
Carried unanimously.

4/14 Matters arising from those minutes.

There were no matters arising.

5/14 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO McVeigh reported that there had been an attempted burglary at a shed on Mount Pleasant, Lindal. He also referred to “cold calling” which had been reported in the area, pointing out that this, in itself, was not illegal but that residents could report any examples to the police or the County Council’s trading standards department if they had any particular concerns.

Councillor Mrs Glover commented on the discovery of empty cans and bottles in the Church grounds on a few Sunday mornings: this was noted by PCSO McVeigh.

6/14 Lindal village green. Creation of wild flower areas.

The Clerk introduced Mrs Katy Millard, a member of staff from Barrow Town Hall, who had attended in order to advise the Parish Council as to what would be practical regarding the suggestion that parts of the village green might be allowed to develop into wild flower areas. Mrs Millard explained that the soil in the green was very fertile which required a particular approach regarding treatment and the kind of flowers to be introduced.

The southern end had the most trees and the richest soil and the ideal development would incorporate a wild-flower bulb mix, the most appropriate being bluebells. However, the estimated numbers required came to 125,000, the cost being some £24,000 (sic).

The recommendation for the northern end was for a cornfield mixture, the estimated cost being £440. (None of the quoted costs included matters such as spraying and other preparatory work).

After a lengthy discussion, whilst no firm conclusion was reached, it was suggested that a more limited approach might be more suitable and that this might simply be a two-metre-wide strip of cornfield-mixture flowers around the perimeter of the northern end. This might cost around £200 in total and Mrs Millard indicated that Barrow Council might be able to fund half of this, the Parish Council funding the balance.

It was agreed that the matter could be deferred until the lighter nights (April; May?) when a future Agenda item could be the assessment of the areas in question by the Council during one of its meetings. Mrs Millard expressed her willingness to attend such meeting to advise as appropriate.

7/14 Parish Lengthman.

From the floor, Councillor Doughty confirmed that, as a County Councillor, he would be able to provide a one-off amount of £250 as a contribution towards the costs of utilising Dalton’s “handyman/lengthman” for the purpose of helping in routine matters such as keeping Lindal and Marton’s roadside drains and verges clear from debris. (*vide minute 121/13 (a), December 2013*). However, it was apparent that this would be inappropriate unless the County Highways department ensured that all highway verges were tidied up and cut back to an acceptable standard to begin with.

Councillor Doughty confirmed that such preparatory work would be done and it was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that the Parish Council accept Councillor Doughty’s offer. Carried unanimously.

From the floor, Councillor Doughty took the opportunity to confirm that arrangements were in hand for a speed-detector device to be purchased for use by the three councils of Askam, Dalton and Lindal. (*vide minute 121/13(b) December 2013*). Lindal and Marton Parish Council would be invoiced £150, as agreed, and discussions would then take place regarding a time-table for the use of the detector.

8/14 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

a) *B28/2013/0799 Works to trees subject to Tree Preservation Order, The Old Vicarage, Lindal.*

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

b) *B13/2013/0818 Rear extension, The Railway Inn, Lindal.*

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

9/14 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Action With Communities in Cumbria. Newsletter. NOTED.
- c) Community Information and Safety. Product re-calls.
 - 1 County Council Financial support re heating bills and crime-reduction initiatives.
 - 2 Electric showers re-call – Gainsborough and Aqualisa showers.

NB Full details regarding these topics can be found on the Lindal Notice Board.

NNB *From the floor*, it was suggested that the information regarding the support re heating bills should be displayed in doctors’ surgeries. The Clerk would pass over the appropriate information to the person concerned.

10/14 Finance.

- a) Account balances:- *Current* - £50: *Festivals* - £1000.19: *Reserve* - £1858.33.
- b) The Clerk requested re-imburement of his petty cash in the sum of £61.29 (including printer inks and gift vouchers re maintenance of the Lindal Kiosk).
- c) The Chairman submitted an invoice for £50 from the Marton residents in respect of the Christmas tree purchased for Marton Park.
- d) Councillor Mrs Glover submitted an invoice for £144 in respect of maintenance to the church organ at St Peter’s Church, with the Clerk confirming that an amount of £118.91 remained as unspent from the total of £939 allocated as support for the Church. (*vide minute 22/13 March 2013*)

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that items (b) and (c) be approved in full and that an amount of £118.91 be approved in respect of item (d), with the balance of this item, £25.09, placed on the agenda for consideration at the February meeting.

Carried unanimously.

- e) Precept/budget setting, 2014/2015. Reference was made to the income and expenditure summary which had been forwarded to all councillors setting out the Council’s

financial position as at 31st December 2013 and the projected requirements for the financial year April 2014 to March 2015. The details were discussed and accepted, and Councillor Waite PROPOSED that the precept for 2014/15 be £3,500, as this year. There was no seconder.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the precept for 2014/15 be £3,600. The proposal was carried, with three votes in favour with one against (Councillor Waite).

11/14 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk reported that an Assistant Emergency Planning Officer from Cumbria County Council wished to address the Parish Council on the subject of Harlock and Poaka Beck reservoirs, suggesting that the February meeting would be appropriate. This was agreed.
- b) The Chairman referred to the very sad death of Mr Patrick Grace of Marton who for some time had looked after the Information Kiosk in Marton, ensuring that the collection of books and magazines was kept neat and tidy. On behalf of the Council the Chairman expressed his deep condolences towards Mr Grace's family.

12/14 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The DATE and TIME of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 6th February 2014, at 7.45 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

(NB The March meeting would be held on the second Thursday of the month, Thursday, 13th March 2014.)

NB The Council meetings will start at 7.45 pm for the foreseeable future during the period that the Hall is being used for other activities up to 7.30 pm.

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