

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, 6th September 2012, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

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

Apologies:- Councillor D Howarth.

Also present:- 7 members of the public.

In attendance:- PCSO Louise Perry, Cumbria Constabulary.
District Councillors B Doughty, Mrs Anne Thurlow and D Bell.

91/12 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

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92/12 Disclosure of interests.

None.

93/12 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 2nd August, 2012.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 2nd August 2012, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Lord. SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Kelly. Carried unanimously.

94/12 Matters arising from those minutes.

- a) 81/12. Councillor Lord enquired of PCSO Perry whether she had any further information regarding the door-to-door salesmen and was told that Cumbria County Council's Trading Standards department had confirmed that the organisation in question was quite legitimate and that no other complaints had been received. Any further difficulties should be referred to the Police. PCSO Perry undertook to produce an explanatory note for "Aspects".
- b) 89/12. Councillor Waite enquired as to whether anything more had been heard from the play-group. The Clerk confirmed that he had written to that organisation asking for details of what they might wish to have but was still awaiting a reply.

95/12 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Perry reported that there had been a theft of a valuable bicycle (£3,000) from outside a house in Lindal, despite the cycle being covered in a tarpaulin and being chained to other cycles.

96/12. Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

None.

97/12 Defibrillators and a First Responders Team.

The Clerk referred to recent discussions with the Chairman regarding the decision taken at the August meeting to invite representatives from the Ambulance Service and Askam First Responders to address the Council at the September meeting. It was now thought that with the amount of information available, the Council should be able to support the principle of a First Responders Team for Lindal and Marton but that the decision to proceed should be left to the community itself to decide upon. Accordingly, the Clerk had asked Mrs Gaskell and Mr Hyde to postpone their visit to the Council.

It was then AGREED that the Clerk determine when the Buccleuch Hall might be available for a public meeting, to which the general public could be invited, and that Mr Hyde, from the Ambulance Service, and Mrs Gaskell, from the Askam First responders, be invited to attend to explain what was involved in the setting up, and the running of, a First Responders Team.

The Clerk would arrange for appropriate publicity within "Aspects".

(From the floor it was suggested that the Hall could be available on Friday evenings.)

Councillor Mrs Kelly reported that she had received further donations amounting to £91.20, including a cheque for £50, together with £31.20 from the Residents' Association, being the proceeds of the recent Horticultural Show. *(NB Subsequent to the meeting, the Clerk received a further donation of £10, making the total to be handed over to the Defibrillator Fund of some £101.20.)* The overall total collected for the Fund now totals £674.57.

Councillor Mrs Kelly also reported that the Rotary Club was willing to assist in the project and it was AGREED that the Club be asked to consider (via Councillor Mrs Kelly) funding the provision of a defibrillator for Marton.

The Clerk reported that District Councillor Murphy had confirmed that custom-made boxes had been ordered in order to mount the defibrillators on exterior walls (with one promised for Lindal) but final information regarding installation was still awaited. Discussions would then be required with the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee in order to consider siting a box on those premises.

98/12 Roosecote biomass power station.

Correspondence was submitted from Centrica regarding their proposals for a replacement power station at Roose, Barrow, to be fuelled by biomass materials, which confirmed that the planning application had moved to the next stage in the procedure. It was AGREED that the information be NOTED.

99/12 South Lakeland District Council. Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

The Clerk introduced correspondence from South Lakeland District Council regarding the Government's new regulations concerning the formulation of Local Plans. These required a re-assessment of SLDC's Minerals and Waste Plan and although this Plan had previously been considered by the Parish Council, it was now possible to make further representations if this was desired. NOTED.

100/12 Joint Rural Committee. Parish priorities.

The Chairman commented on the request from the Joint Rural Committee, of which he was a member, to suggest any priorities in the form of developments within the Parish which the Council might wish to support, examples being improvements to playgrounds, highway maintenance etc. *From the floor*, District Councillor Doughty confirmed that he was currently pursuing with the Highways Department the problem of blocked drains within the Parish as part of his wider concerns about drains and flooding generally and that the Parish Council could help in emphasising the importance of this subject by making improvements in this regard one of its priorities.

Particular mention was made of the fact that many drains were not connected to the sewerage system and were merely soakaways and were easily blocked by mud being washed into them during heavy rain. (*vide minute 81/12, August 2012*). Specifically, mention was made of the road at "Broken Bridge", between Lindal and Marton, where the problem of flooding was compounded by the fact that there was no footpath by which pedestrians could avoid floodwaters.

Councillor Waite commented on the neglect of roadside verges whereby hedgerows were allowed to spill out into the roads, not only making the roads narrower, but creating further problems by diverting floodwaters away from whatever drains were in situ to take away the water and thus causing unnecessary flooding to nearby properties.

Accordingly, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Parish's priorities for the Joint Rural Committee be:-

- a) Attention to roadside verges, to enable flood waters to keep to the side of roads, thus facilitating the passage of water into the drains (as well as maximising the width of the roads).
- b) More routine cleaning-out of drains.
- c) Consideration being given to connecting soakaway drains into the public sewer system, where practical.
- d) Provision of footpaths to assist pedestrians on those stretches of road prone to flooding.

Carried unanimously. (Councillor Waite to communicate this to the Committee.)

101/12 Planning applications relating to South Lakeland District Council (sites adjacent to the Parish.)

SL/2012/0606 One wind-turbine, 61 mtrs to blade tip, field to the east of candle factory, Lindal Business Park.

The Clerk indicated that whilst the proposed wind turbine was to serve the candle-making business (Wax Lyrical) situated on the Lindal Business Park, i.e., within the Parish's area, the site of the turbine was in an adjacent field belonging to the applicant but within the area of SLDC, and Urswick Parish Council. SLDC had invited comments from Lindal and Marton Parish Council because of the proximity of the proposed development to Lindal.

Consideration of the application had been deferred from the August meeting to allow local residents the opportunity to become familiar with the details and to make representations if they so wished.

During discussions *involving the floor* references were made to concerns such as noise pollution and traffic movements during construction but the greatest emphasis was placed upon the visual impact which the turbine would have in this area of open countryside. However, it was also pointed out that wind turbines were being heavily promoted by the Government as one of the

most practical ways of generating “clean” electricity, with the positive attributes outweighing the negative aspects.

It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Parish Council decline to support the application because the turbine would be unacceptably obtrusive because of its size in this area of open countryside. There were three votes in favour with one against. The Proposal was, therefore, carried.

102/12 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) *B18/2012/0498 Section of access track to serve wind turbine. Candle factory, Lindal (see minute 101/12 above)* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Kelly and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Parish Council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.
- b) *B28/2012/0510. Variation of conditions relating to noise levels re approved consent for wind turbine at Maidenlands Farm, Marton.*
- c) *6/2012/0511. Variation of conditions relating to noise levels re approved consent for wind turbine at Scale Bank Farm, Marton.*

The Chairman decreed that because items (b) and (c) appeared to be identical, they could be considered together. During discussions it was clear that there was much uncertainty as to why the applicants were seeking the amendment to conditions attached to the planning approvals and it was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Council decline to support the applications because of a lack of sufficient supporting information. Carried unanimously.

103/12 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Cumbria County Council. Electric blanket testing. It was NOTED that there would be FREE testing of electric blankets on Monday, 17th September 2012, at the Nan Tait Centre, Abbey Road, Barrow, and the Methodist Church Hall, Ulverston, between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm. This would be by appointment only. Telephone contact number – 01539 713594. (The Clerk to arrange for information to be included in “Aspects”)
- c) Local Government Boundary Commission. Cumbria Review. It was NOTED that the Commission had completed its deliberations regarding current electoral boundaries and that there would be no changes to any local boundaries.

104/12 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account - £50. Reserve account – £3207.48.
- b) The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit Return had now been assessed by the audit firm concerned, BDO LLP, and their comments were limited to pointing out that the date and minute number had been omitted from one of the Sections of the Return when it had been forwarded to the auditors. (*vide minute 74/12 (b) June, 2012*) The Return, with its comments, now had to be accepted by the Council and it was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Glover that the Return be so accepted. Carried unanimously.
- c) The Clerk requested that the first part of his honorarium for 2012/13 (£300) be authorised for payment, together with a cheque for £60 in respect of the Auditors’ fee. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Glover that the two cheques, of £300 and £60, be duly authorised. Carried unanimously.

- d) The Clerk referred to the Localism Act, 2011 (*vide minute 84/12 August 2012*) and the requirements regarding Declaration of Interests. The Act also allows for councillors with an interest in certain matters to be given authority to participate and vote on those matters where their non-participation would have been prejudicial to the effectiveness of the Council. Accordingly, Barrow Council's Monitoring Officer had decreed that matters which could be discussed in this way were council tax and housing. NOTED.

105/12 Any Other Business.

- a) Councillor Mrs Kelly commented on a complaint from a local resident about parking difficulties on the A590.
- b) Councillor Mrs Kelly reported that the express bus service to Kendal would in future be stopping at Lindal
- c) Councillor Waite mentioned the requirement for a Christmas Tree in Marton park, as in previous years. *From the floor*, District Councillor Doughty suggested that appropriate funding might be available via the Joint Rural Committee and Councillor Waite undertook to raise the matter at the Committee's next meeting.
- d) *From the floor*, District Councillor Doughty mentioned the availability of a "surgery" in the Buccleuch Hall on the last Saturday of the month, between 11.50 am and 12.30 pm.
- e) *From the floor*, local historian Mr Roy Mason pointed out that 2013 would see the centenary of the death of Edward Wadham, a figure of some prominence during the heyday of the local iron ore mining industry but someone who hadn't had the same kind of recognition as other notables, many of whom having had streets named after them. It was suggested that Mr Mason should produce a brief history of Mr Wadham and that this could be discussed at a future meeting of the Parish Council with a view to determining whether an attempt should be made to recognize Mr Wadham's achievements.

106/12 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, 4th October 2012 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.)