

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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Clerk
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Councillors:-
Mr A Waite (462922); Mr R Lord (464034). Ms S Rainbow (462383.) Mr D Howarth (463304) Mrs S Kelly (465343)

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 1st November 2007, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite (Chairman); R Lord; Ms S Rainbow; D Howarth; Mrs S Kelly

Also present:- 5 members of the public.

In attendance:-

Councillor Mrs Kath Unwin, Barrow Borough Council.
Mr Keith Johnson, Keswick to Barrow Walk Committee.

NB. The Chairman, Councillor Waite, was not present at the start of the meeting. Bearing in mind Councillor Waite's on-going problems regarding the 7.30 pm start of the meeting, and his late working schedule on Thursday nights, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Ms rainbow that Council Howarth act as Chairman on each of these occasions until Councillor Waite arrived. Carried unanimously.

132/07 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

133/07 Disclosure of Interests.

None.

134/07 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 6th September, 2007.

The minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 6th September, 2007 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Lord
SECONDED:- Councillor Ms Rainbow

Carried unanimously.

135/07 Matters arising.

- a) 122/07 (c) Councillor Howarth reported that he had telephoned the resident in Pennington Lane regarding the speed limit on that road. It was clear that the existing speed limit was 60 mph and the County Council (Capita) had accepted that this was inappropriate. The road was fitted with street lights which meant that it qualified for the limit to be reduced to the standard urban limit of 30 mph. The resident was happy that there was a commitment to have the change implemented in the near future.
- b) 122/07 (d) The Clerk confirmed that Capita were planning to assess the junction by the Church in order to determine whether any specific traffic signs were required to assist motorists driving around the triangle. It was also pointed out that similar guidance would be useful for motorists in that area of road where Church Close and “the Ginnel” (leading to the A590, past Hempland Cottages) faced the Church. The Clerk undertook to contact Capita for their advice.
- c) 122/07 (a) The Clerk reported that WPC Harris had emailed a further response regarding HGVs, indicating that the view of the police and highways officials was that there was no case for any changes to existing HGV restrictions and the position of signs.
- d) 122/07 (e) The Clerk reported that Capita had received a quotation of £600 to tarmac the small area of land around the telegraph pole on Mount Pleasant and as a consequence there was no intention at present of carrying out this work.

Councillor Waite arrived and assumed the chair.

136/07 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

There was no officer present.

137/07 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes – if any.

There were no minutes for consideration.

138/07 Lindal Village Green.

It was NOTED that work appeared to have been completed insofar as the new railings, gates and hard-standings were concerned. Two new benches had also been supplied and fitted by the contractor to the hard-standing adjacent to the main gate.

It was AGREED that the Clerk would write to the contractor expressing the Council’s thanks for the benches.

However, *from the floor*, whilst there was general satisfaction that the scheme had been successfully brought to a conclusion, it was suggested that the railings were not as level as the original ones had been and that one of the benches was not as level as it might be. The Clerk confirmed that these matters would be referred to the supervising landscape architect.

139/07. Speed limits within Lindal.

The Clerk submitted apologies from Gary Thomas of Capita who had hoped to be present to advise the Council on speed limits (and also to participate in discussions regarding the Keswick to Barrow Walk). However, he had advised the Clerk that there were various procedures to be followed if the Council wished to recommend 20 mph limits on the roads within Lindal, including traffic surveys. It was AGREED that Mr Thomas be invited to the December meeting of the Council when a full discussion could take place regarding the desirability and practicality of introducing such limits to all or any of the roads in the village.

It was also hoped that all interested residents would then be aware of the intention to discuss the matter and make every effort to attend the meeting.

140/07 Keswick to Barrow Walk. Assessment of problems affecting Marton.

Mr Keith Johnson reported that his Committee favoured the suggestion that an adjacent field be sought on which all the extra vehicles expected to descend on Marton might be parked. The Clerk reported that the police were suggesting that to arrange for one-way traffic for the day of the Walk could cost £1,000. However, given that neither WPC Harris nor Mr Thomas was present, Mr Johnson suggested that he contact both individuals to arrange his own meeting with them in order to discuss the matter further. He would contact the Parish Council when he had anything further to discuss.

141/07 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

B16/07/1251 Listed Building Consent, demolition of outbuildings, 27, The Green, Lindal.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Council offer no objection to this proposal. Carried unanimously.

142/07 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Barrow Council minutes – 5th July to 26th September. NOTED.
- c) Local Councils Update (Newsletter) NOTED.
- d) Cumbria Highways Newsletter. NOTED.
- e) Cumbria Highways. Winter gritting programme. NOTED.
- f) Morecambe Bay Partnership. AGM and conference. NOTED.
- g) Cumbria PCT. Consultation document. NOTED.
- h) Cumbria CC. Adult Social Care. Availability of Direct Payments. The Clerk explained that the County Council wished to draw attention to the availability of cash grants to those who qualified for assistance from Social Services but who might wish to make their own arrangements for certain services. Examples given included those who may wish to pay a friend or carer to take them to a Social Club instead of attending a day centre. They may wish to have lunch provided at a local pub or café instead of having a carer cook for them. It is possible to have both care from the council and a direct payment for some of the things which might be needed. **Anyone wanting further information should contact their local Adult Social Care Office or ring 0845 124 9303.** NOTED.

143/07 Finance.

- a) Cash balances :- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £1976.15
- b) The Clerk submitted an invoice from Barrow Borough Council regarding the parish council elections held in May 2007, in the sum of £307.37. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Rainbow that such payment be approved and a cheque signed accordingly. Carried unanimously.
- c) The Clerk submitted a request from the North West Air Ambulance for a donation towards their running costs. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that £50 be given to this organisation. Carried unanimously.
- d) The Clerk reported that he had received two wreaths in connection with Remembrance Sunday, from the British Legion, their invoice amounting to £33. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that such invoice be approved and a cheque signed accordingly. Carried unanimously.
- e) Councillor Howarth reported that, in accordance with the latest requirements of the Audit Commission, and on behalf of the Council, he had assessed the way in which the Council's internal auditor, Mr John Bentley, carried out his auditing duties. He found that Mr Bentley was carrying out his duties most satisfactorily, making unannounced visits to the Clerk in order to carry out spot-checks on the Council's financial records: he checked

that VAT was regularly reclaimed in respect of all purchases: that payments made by the Clerk were in accordance with decisions made by the Council: that entries in the cash book were accurate and made in a timely manner. In Mr Howarth's opinion, the manner in which Mr Bentley carries out his duties, the scope of the internal auditing and the reporting arrangements (an annual report to the Council, for submission to the Audit Commission) is in keeping with the size of the Council's finances (income limited to the precept of £2,500, plus occasional vat refunds; expenditure averaging 20 payments per year) and he therefore recommended that such arrangements be formally endorsed by the Council. It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Rainbow and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that a) Councillor Howarth's report and recommendation be accepted and b) a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Bentley in respect of his services. Carried unanimously.

144/07 Any Other Business.

- a) Councillor Ms Rainbow referred to the forthcoming Christmas festivities and it was AGREED that Councillors Howarth and Mrs Kelly would help with arrangements at the Church.
- b) Councillor Ms Rainbow drew attention to the lack of any volunteer to go from door-to-door in Marton to offer British Legion poppies. If anyone was able to assist they should contact her.
- c) Councillor Mrs Kelly asked whether anything further was known regarding the request for the Kendal express bus service to stop in Lindal. Councillor Ms Rainbow confirmed that she would be taking this up again with the bus company in the very near future.
- d) Councillor Mrs Kelly drew attention a hole in the pavement near to the Church which was apparently the result of investigations/repairs to an electricity fault. Whilst the hole was fenced off it was AGREED that it would need to be closely monitored to see whether it was proving to be a safety hazard.
- e) Councillor Mrs Kelly referred once again to the limited number of people who had called into her hair-dressing salon in order to sign a form indicating their wish to learn more about Neighbourhood Watch schemes. It was AGREED that, as a final attempt at determining the amount of interest there might be, the Clerk design a form to be distributed with "Aspects" which residents could complete at home and then leave in Councillor Mrs Kelly's salon.
- f) Reference was made to Remembrance Sunday, 11th November, and it was AGREED that Councillor Waite would represent the Council at the Marton memorial (2.00 pm) and Councillor Howarth would attend the Lindal ceremony (10.15 am)
- g) The Clerk confirmed that the switching-on of the Christmas tree lights on Lindal village green would take place on Thursday, 29th November, at 6.00 pm. This would be followed by the Christmas Fair in the Buccleuch Hall. The Carol Service on the village green would be on Thursday, 20th December.
- h) The Clerk submitted further documentation from Cumbria County Council regarding the Minerals and Waste Disposal Policy proposals. NOTED.
- i) The Clerk reported that he had received information from Cumbria County Council suggesting that revised arrangements for highway repairs and maintenance would include regular visits, twice per year, to the parish for the purpose of routine maintenance. It was AGREED that the Clerk seek clarification as to the details and that the subject be an agenda item in December.

145/07 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 6th December 2007, 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.