

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

Chairman
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Clerk
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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 February 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite (Chairman); Mrs S Glover; Mrs S Kelly.

Apologies:- Councillors R Lord; D Howarth.

Also present:- No members of the public were present.

In attendance:- PCSO John McVeigh, Cumbria Constabulary.
District Councillor (Dalton North ward) Barry Doughty.

13/11 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

14/11 Disclosure of interests. None.

15/11 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 6th January 2011.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 6th January, 2011, were taken as read, and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Waite.

SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Glover. Carried unanimously.

16/11 Matters arising.

4/11 Councillor Mrs Glover referred to the Lindal Information Point (the telephone kiosk), with the completion of the repairs having to be deferred until the return from holiday of Councillor Lord. It was noted that additional paintings had been provided by the pupils of the school and Councillor Mrs Kelly confirmed that she had passed on her thanks to the school for their efforts.

17/11 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO McVeigh reported that there had been an attempted break-in to a house in Ulverston Road and that "suspicious activity" had been reported in the area of The Green.

The Chairman asked whether the police had been advised of alleged fly-tipping next to the road to Winfield Farm. This appeared to be scrap timber resulting from the demolition of the Anchor Inn. PCSO McVeigh had no knowledge of this issue but the Clerk reported that he had spoken to the individuals concerned who were using a small area of land, with the permission of the land-owner, for the purpose of re-cycling the wood from the demolition. It was expected to be a temporary arrangement.

Councillor Mrs Kelly reported that stray sheep were again causing a problem, with one recently appearing to the rear of her property. Councillor Mrs Glover reported that one had been seen on the village green and a further discussion ensued regarding Barrow Council's policy of removing one of the pedestrian gates in an attempt to discourage the use of the green as a "safe haven" for stray animals. However, this policy was proving to be a problem for the play-group, based in the Buccleuch Hall, who used the green whenever the weather was appropriate. Locked gates were a basic requirement and in order to cope with the missing gate, the play-group had made a temporary barrier which could be placed in the opening as and when the children were on the green. (*vide minute 21/11 – Finance – below*) PCSO McVeigh noted the concerns.

18/11. Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2010, were NOTED.

19/11 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

There were no planning applications for consideration but the Chairman drew attention to the recent decision by Barrow's Planning Committee to refuse the application for a chicken farm at Marton, despite the planning officer making a recommendation that it be approved. There was uncertainty as to what the next stage in the procedure might be, with a suggestion that, where the Committee ignored the planning officer's advice, the matter had to be re-assessed at the next meeting of the Committee and the original decision be either ratified or overturned. It was AGREED that the Clerk should clarify the situation and, if appropriate, submit further representations re-affirming the Parish Council's objections to the proposed development.

NB. Subsequent to the meeting, discussions with Barrow Council's planning department confirmed that the usual procedure in such cases was for the application to be re-considered at the next meeting of the Planning Committee. The planning officer would then ensure that the Committee's reasons for refusal were set out in appropriate planning terminology and in keeping with planning regulations whilst at the same time the original reasons for the planning officer's recommendation for approval would be repeated. The Committee would then have to decide whether to maintain its decision to refuse or whether to follow the officer's recommendation to approve.

20/11 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Barrow Council minutes, 20/10/10 – 4/01/11. NOTED.
- c) Duddon Estuary Partnership. NOTED.
- d) Local Government Boundary Commission. It was NOTED that the Commission had deferred a decision regarding the most appropriate size for the County Council.

21/11 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £1498.73
- b) The Clerk referred to previous discussions with the Pre-School Play Group who utilised the Buccleuch Hall on a daily basis and who had been concerned about their ability to use the village green in the absence of one of the small pedestrian gates. (*vide minute 17/11 above*) A temporary gate had been made by the parents of the children and they had incurred expenditure of £33.56.
- c) The Clerk requested payment of the balance of his annual honorarium for the year 2010/2011 in the sum of £275.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Kelly and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Glover that £33.56 be provided for the Play-Group and that the Clerk's remuneration of £275 be duly authorised. Carried unanimously.

22/11 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk submitted correspondence from South Lakeland District Council drawing attention to a conference in Kendal on 18th March 2011, when SLDC's forthcoming housing needs would be discussed. NOTED.
- b) Councillor Waite reported that he had attended the most recent meeting of the Joint Rural Committee when it was mentioned that applications for financial assistance had been received from the Cricket Club, the Play-Group and the Buccleuch Hall. It was understood that the latter request was in order to treat dry rot. The Committee had also touched upon the proposed Parish Charter, to govern the relationships between the County Council, Barrow Council, Askam Council, Dalton Council and Lindal and Marton Council. This was still in draft form.
- c) *From the floor*, District Councillor Doughty referred to:-
 - Rubbish collection: he was still talking to Barrow Council officers about the procedures in place for this service whenever bad weather created problems.
 - 20 mph limits: he would continue to raise with County officials the need to extend the 20 mph limit so that it went past the school.
 - "Surgery": he drew attention to the arrangements whereby he would attend the Buccleuch Hall on the last Saturday of each month, from 11.45 to 12.30, when he would be available to meet parishioners.
 - Rural Regeneration Fund: financial assistance from this Fund would be unavailable in future but requests from organisations with special financial difficulties would still be assessed with a view to assistance being provided, if at all possible, from other sources.

23/11 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The date and time of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 3rd March 2011, 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.)