

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 of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 4th February 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

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

Apologies:- Councillor A Waite (Chairman); Councillor D Howarth.

Also present:- 5 members of the public.

In attendance:- PCSO Louise Perry, Cumbria Constabulary.

In the Chair:- Councillor R Lord.

15/10 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

The Clerk reported that he had received a last-minute request from the local residents responsible for the publication of "Aspects" for a donation towards their running costs. The Chairman confirmed that, as a decision was required fairly quickly, the matter could be discussed under item 12 of the Agenda – "Finance" – and a decision reached.

16/10 Disclosure of Interests.

None.

17/10 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7th January 2010.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7th January, 2010, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Mrs Kelly

SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Glover. Carried unanimously.

18/10 Matters arising.

a) 7/10 The Clerk reported that he had received two letters regarding the unsatisfactory situation regarding the gritting of local roads during icy weather, one being from the Chairman of the School Governors and the other from a local resident.

He also confirmed that, following the last meeting, he had had discussions with the Area Engineer for Cumbria Highways, Kevin McGeough, and had advised him of the outstanding concerns of both the Parish Council and the school regarding road-safety requirements. Mr McGeough had indicated his willingness to attend a Parish Council meeting when such concerns could be discussed in detail and he apologised for being unable to attend that evening's meeting. However, he expected to be available for the following meeting, on 4th March, and it was AGREED that further consideration of both the road-safety issues and the gritting of roads be deferred until then.

b) 6/10 Councillor Lord enquired as to the latest position regarding the proposed Local Joint Committee. The Clerk reported that there was no further information.

19/10 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Perry reported that there would be a special meeting ("Safer, Stronger Communities") immediately before the next meeting of Dalton Town Council, on 1st March, when police officers would be on hand if members of the public wanted to raise anything with them. Residents of Lindal and Marton could attend if they so wished but it was emphasised that police officers were usually in attendance at the Lindal and Marton Parish Council meetings, on a monthly basis, when local residents could raise matters of concern.

PCSO Perry referred to the forthcoming Keswick to Barrow Walk, scheduled for May, and the fact that the police had had concerns regarding traffic issues during last year's event, suggesting that the Parish Council might want to meet them to discuss the matter in respect of this year's Walk. However, it was pointed out that nobody had approached the Council with any such concerns, from either local residents or the Walk Committee, and it was AGREED that the matter be left for the police and the Committee to resolve themselves unless and until any approaches were made to the Council for their assistance.

PCSO Perry also advised that a further bicycle-marking session was planned for Wednesday, 17th February, between 1.00 pm and 3.00 pm, on the forecourt of the Buccleuch Hall, when anybody wishing to have their bicycle security-marked – free of charge - was invited to attend.

20/10 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

The minutes of Monday, 30th November 2009 were NOTED.

21/10 Parish Paths Initiative.

The Clerk referred to an announcement from Cumbria County Council regarding the availability of funding towards the maintenance and upkeep of paths within individual parishes: it was asking for information as to what was involved, both in terms of the maintenance needed, as well as whether equipment and materials were required in cases where local volunteers might be willing to do any work themselves, the intention being to provide modest funding to assist in this work.

It was AGREED that the Residents Association should be contacted, together with any other local residents who might be interested, with a view to this matter being discussed in detail before the start of the next meeting of the Parish Council on 4th March 2010.

22/10 Adoption of BT telephone kiosks, Lindal and Marton.

The Clerk reported that he had been in touch again with BT regarding the adoption of the telephone kiosks and had been assured that the signed agreement had been received. However, there was some delay in processing such agreements because of the high numbers involved and consequently there was nothing further to report. It was AGREED that the discussions as to how the kiosks could be used and what might be done in the form of routine maintenance etc, be further deferred until the situation was clarified.

23/10 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

None.

24/1 0 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Barrow Borough Council minutes, 27/7/09 – 19/01/10. NOTED.
- c) Friends of the Lake District. Newsletter. NOTED.
- d) Cumbria County Council. Flood remedial work, further update. NOTED.
- e) Spinal Injuries Association. Fund-raising activities. It was AGREED that an article be prepared for “Aspects” in order to publicise this organisation, similar to last year. Councillor Mrs Kelly also undertook to place the leaflet in her hairdressing salon.

Reference was made to difficulties currently being experienced with the system of circulating correspondence and it was AGREED that, in future, the folder containing the correspondence be passed from the Clerk to RL – SK – DH – SG – AW and then back to the Clerk.

25/10 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £1937.04.
- b) The Clerk submitted:-
 - 1) a request that the balance of the honoraria for the current year, for himself and the internal auditor (£275 and £35, respectively), be duly authorised.
 - 2) a request from the Great North Air Ambulance for a donation towards their running costs. (A sum of £50 had been provisionally allocated in the budget.)
 - 3) a request for a donation towards the running costs in respect of “Aspects” – *vide minute 15/10, above.* (a sum of £200 had been provisionally allocated in the budget)It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that
 - 1) the honoraria due to the Clerk and the internal auditor be approved;
 - 2) a sum of £75 be donated towards the Great North Air Ambulance.
 - 3) A sum of £250 be donated towards the running costs of “Aspects”.

Carried unanimously.

Councillor Lord suggested that it might be appropriate for the general principles surrounding the making of donations to charitable bodies to be reassessed, bearing in mind that it was over four years since the matter was last discussed. It was AGREED that the matter be placed on the agenda for the first meeting when all members of the Council were expected to be present.

26/10 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk introduced correspondence from the NSPCC regarding the availability of their help-line. Councillor Mrs Kelly suggested that this could be placed in her hairdressing salon.

- b) Councillor Mrs Kelly reported that the grit-bin on Railway Terrace was badly damaged and needed replacement.
- c) Councillor Mrs Kelly introduced a letter from a local resident pointing out that there were problems with Lindal village green, including the fact that gates had been locked, preventing access. It was AGREED that the Clerk should respond, advising the writer that the village green was the property of Barrow Borough Council and that council officials had locked the gates in an attempt to prevent sheep from being placed on the green. The Borough Council's policy, supported by the Parish Council, was to ban the grazing of animals in order to create full and open access to members of the community. It was hoped that the sheep problem had been solved and that normal arrangements regarding the gates would be resumed in the immediate future.

27/10 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The date and time of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 4th March, 2010, 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.)