

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). Ms M Richards (588699) D Howarth (463304)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 4th May, 2006, at 7.30 pm in St Peter's Church, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite (Chairman); Ms S Rainbow; Ms M Richards; D Howarth

Apologies:- Councillor R Lord.

In attendance:- Apologies were received from Cumbria Constabulary.

Also present:- 6 members of the public.

42/06 New Parish Councillor.

The Clerk introduced Mr Dave Howarth, who had been recently elected unopposed to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs Dorothy Morgan.

43/06 Election of Chairman

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Rainbow and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that Councillor Waite be Chairman for the coming year. Carried unanimously

Disclosure of Interests.

None.

44/06 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 2nd March, 2006.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 2nd March, 2006 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Ms Rainbow

SECONDED:- Councillor A Waite.

Carried unanimously.

45/06 Matters arising.

- a) 30/06 (d) Councillor Ms Richards reported that there were still problems with the disposal of black plastic waste discarded by farmers, quoting examples of the burning of such waste and the use of old mine workings for tipping. She confirmed that the matter had been referred to the environmental health department and would follow up the matter in the near future.
- b) 37/06 (c) The Chairman asked whether anything was known about the planning application for the nursing home development, off London Road. The Clerk indicated that the Borough planning committee had refused to endorse the application.

46/06 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

There was no officer in attendance from Cumbria Constabulary. Apologies had been received.

47/06 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes – if any.

The minutes of 23rd January were NOTED.

48/06 Temporary closure of Moor Road and Tarn Flat.

Mr Gary Thomas, representing Cumbria County Highways/Capita, together with officials from United Utilities, described how the work of United Utilities, in installing the new pipe-line to Poaka Beck reservoir, would require sections of Moor Road and Tarn Flat to be closed for short periods during the coming months. The Parish Council had previously been advised of the route of the pipe-line when it considered planning applications in relation to hedge-row removal but it was explained that the route had changed. This was due to factors such as old mine workings and the realisation that there was a land-fill site at Tytup.

The closures would now be:-

- Moor Road, adjacent to the reservoir: probably for two days, at the end of May.
- Near to Tytup Hall, on the road from Primrose to the Black Dog; mid June, for two days
- Urswick Road, near to Hill Farm; end of July, two days.
- Tarn Flat, from Melton junction northerly towards Primrose for 800 metres; beginning of September, for eight weeks.

Reference was made to the impact that this last closure would have on HGV traffic from the abattoir which currently had to use this route because of the weight restriction in travelling through Lindal village and it was emphasised *from the floor* how intolerable it would be if HGVs had to revert to the village route once again. However, it was apparent that there was no realistic alternative and that United Utilities had the statutory authority to carry out the planned work in the way they were suggesting.

It was AGREED that the Parish Council accept the proposals, in the knowledge that all local residents would be advised in good time; adequate signage would be in place; and that warning signs be in place several days before the planned closures in order to advise regular users of the roads that closures were pending. In addition, the abattoir would be advised that the ability of HGVs to use the village route was strictly on the understanding that this was a temporary measure, for the duration of the road works only.

It was further AGREED that representatives from United Utilities would attend the next meeting of the Parish Council (1st June) in order to assess the programme to date, in particular, the first closure planned for 30th May.

49/06 Lindal Village Green.

The Clerk reported that he had been advised that only one tender had been received in connection with the scheme to replace the railings around the Green. The price was into six figures, several times more than the available finance, and Barrow Borough Council had decided to ask the tenderer to re-submit his tender without allowing for the dwarf wall upon which the railings were to be set in order to secure a more realistic figure.

50/06 Cumbria Association of Local Councils.

The Clerk submitted correspondence from CALC inviting the Parish Council to join the Association. It was noted that the annual fees would be £138.50 but that there was a reduction of 50% in the first year of membership i.e., £69.25. It was AGREED that, whilst the Council was favourably inclined towards the thought of joining CALC, no action be taken at the present time.

51/06 Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

The latest correspondence from DEFRA was considered and it was noted that it was now possible for parish councils to issue dog control orders, covering the banning of dogs in specified areas and requiring owners to clean up after their dogs, with the facility for councils to issue their own fixed penalty notices. The latter could also cover littering, flyposting graffiti etc. It was also noted that anyone authorised by a council to issue notices would need to attend a training course. It was AGREED that no action be taken at the present time.

52/06 Risk Assessment and Management.

Reference was made to the comment by the Audit Commission after last year's successful audit of the Council's financial situation, to the effect that the Council had not carried out a formal risk assessment. As this appeared to merely be an observation rather than an instruction, no action had been taken. However, the Return for this year has a specific requirement for "documentation relating to the arrangements in place for the management of risk, including minutes of action taken (or to be taken) to address any risks identified."

Accordingly, a Risk Assessment and Management policy document had been produced (previously circulated) and it was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Richards and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the document be approved. Carried unanimously.

53/06 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) 6/06/0544 Replace flat roof with pitched roof, 7 Church Close, Lindal. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Council offer no objections to this application. Carried unanimously.
- b) 42/06/0513 Revise dwelling at Old Chapel, Tarn Flat, Marton. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that the Council offer no objections to this application *per se* but that the Borough Council's attention be drawn to the fact that the applicant appeared to have already started the works in relation to the new entrance and that this would be before the highways authority had had chance to comment. The Parish Council, therefore, wished to register its concern about such work having been done without official approval. Carried unanimously. (The Clerk commented on the problems still being experienced in being notified of applications by the Borough Council, with details of this application being inexplicably delayed. He was in touch with the planning department to try to resolve the problems)

54/06 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Furness Greenways. NOTED.
- c) SLDC Planning approach to housing development. NOTED.
- d) Cumbria Police Authority newsletter. NOTED.
- e) Cumbria Highways newsletter. NOTED.
- f) Friends of the Lake District newsletter. NOTED.
- g) Barrow Borough Council minutes 17.1.06 to 12.4.06 NOTED

55/06 Finance.

- a) Cash balances :- Current account £331.10 Reserve account:- £63.37
- b) The Clerk requested 1) a petty cash cheque in the sum of £35.08; 2) submitted an invoice re a financial guide in the sum of £16.99 and; 3) reported that the Council's insurance was due in the sum of £235.85. He also submitted a request for sponsorship or a donation from individuals wanting to raise funds for the Penrith-based helicopter operated by the Great North Air Ambulance Service. It was AGREED that the Council decline to support this request on the grounds that their limited funds already allowed for a donation to the organisation proper. It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that items 1, 2 and 3 above be approved and that cheques be duly authorised and signed in respect of all three items. Carried unanimously.
- c) The Clerk submitted the Audit Commission's annual Audit Return for the year-ending 31st March 2006. (Copies previously circulated.) It was NOTED that Section 4 of the Return, the *Internal Audit Report*, had been completed by the internal auditor and it was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Rainbow and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that Section 1, the *Statement of Accounts* and Section 2, the *Statement of Assurance* be duly approved and signed. Carried unanimously.
- d) A discussion took place regarding the requirement for a sufficient number of signatories in respect of cheques and it was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that all councillors should be signatories with Councillors Rainbow, Richards and Howarth being added to the approved list. Carried unanimously.
- e) The Clerk also suggested that having telephone/internet banking arrangements would be useful for him and it was PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Richards and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that such arrangements be put in place. Carried unanimously.

56/06 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk reported that the Borough Council had now made arrangements for a training event for parish councillors (*vide* minute 20/06 – February 2006) to take place at 6.00 pm on Monday, 15th May 2006, in the Temperance Hall, Askam. It was AGREED that Councillors Waite and Ms Rainbow, together with the Clerk, would attend.
- b) The Clerk submitted an invitation from Capita Symonds to attend an Open day at the Town Hall, Barrow, on Tuesday, 9th May. Nobody was in a position to attend.
- c) *From the floor* came a query as to whether the Highways Agency had any plans to extend the amount of re-surfacing work currently being carried out on the A590 in Lindal to the eastern side of the puffin crossing to the part of the road to the west of the crossing. The Clerk confirmed that there appeared to be no such plans.
- d) *From the floor* it was reported that the temporary speed restriction flashing signs being provided by the contractors working on the Poaka Beck reservoir improvements would be left in place after the work had finished.

57/06 Date and Time of Next Meeting. The next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 1st June 2006, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal