

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th November 2004 at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors R Hickey; R Lord; A Waite; Mrs D Morgan.

Apologies:- Councillor T Weall.

Also present:- Approx 20 members of the public.

In attendance:- PC Dave Mogford from Cumbria Constabulary.

In the absence of Councillor Weall, Chairman, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that Councillor Hickey take the Chair for the evening. Carried unanimously.

87/04 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7th October 2004.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7th October 2004 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Lord.

SECONDED:- Councillor Waite.

Carried unanimously.

88/04 Matters arising.

a) 82/04 (a) Councillor Lord referred to Barrow Borough Council's Planning Committee which had met on Tuesday, 2nd November 2004, to consider, *inter alia*, the application to change the use of those premises currently forming The Railway public house into a private house. The Committee had apparently approved the application without discussion and had seemingly ignored the Parish Council's recommendation that such approval be declined. *From the floor* it was suggested that the notification to adjacent premises had not been as comprehensive as might have been anticipated and that more objections to the application had been submitted than appeared in the planning officer's report.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that a letter be sent to the Chief Executive of the Borough Council expressing the Parish Council's concern over an apparent ignoring of its views on this application, with no "feed-back" as to why they should be discounted. In addition, clarification should be

sought as to the number of other objections received and what would constitute sufficient evidence of objection to the proposals to warrant the ignoring of Policy C11, covering such applications. Carried unanimously.

b) 85/04 (h) The Clerk reported that he spoken to the State Veterinary Service about the proposed re-activation of the knacker-yard at Marton. This facility was due to be licensed shortly to enable it to deal with dead animals from local farms and there would be no slaughtering or cutting-up of carcasses. It would merely be a collecting site to enable large vehicles to take complete loads to rendering plants in other parts of the country. The premises would be monitored by the environmental health department and by the veterinary service.

c) 85/04 (d) Councillor Hickey asked whether it was possible to provide lighting on the Green for the Christmas carol singers. The Clerk confirmed that the request for this facility had been refused on health and safety grounds.

(d) 85/04 (g) Councillor Lord enquired as to the position regarding HGVs passing through the village. The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the proprietor of the abattoir to remind him of the weight limits covering the adjacent stretch of road. It was AGREED that the Clerk write to the Highways Authority and the County Council to request attention to the positioning of the appropriate signs and to draw attention to foliage covering some of them.

89/04 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PC Mogford re-iterated the message from PC Karen Harris relating to a recent spate of rural thefts with quad bikes and farming and gardening equipment being the target. Emphasis was placed on the police being notified as soon as possible of any suspicious activity. *From the floor* reference was made to vehicles exceeding the speed limit on the A590 as it passed through Lindal. It was AGREED that the Clerk would enquire as to the use of the inter-active speed signs used in the past on the A590.

90/04 Report of School Governors.

There was nothing to report.

91/04 Lindal Village Green.

The Clerk reported on a recent meeting at the Town Hall involving himself, the Director of Regeneration (Steve Warbrick), the Chairman of the Residents Association (David Barr) and the landscape architect (Des Metcalfe).

The latest drawings of the amended scheme were assessed at the meeting, and these incorporated the latest requirements of planners and road-safety experts. The only fundamental difference from the details already announced by the Parish Council was in relation to the traffic-calming measures. Initially it had been thought that if the proposals for developing the Green did not include a gate at the northern end, a reduced amount of traffic-calming would be required as compared to what would be needed if the gate was included. However, the County highways officials had now

decided that such requirements would remain the same, no matter how much, or how little, development took place.

The questionnaire had also been discussed and it was anticipated that one would be available for each name on the electoral register, being sent to households before the 29th November, with a return deadline of 10th December. It was hoped that a ballot box could also be provided within the Buccleuch Hall, where plans and drawings would be on display. (These details still to be confirmed.)

Barrow's Executive Committee would assess the results at their January meeting and decided what should happen, if anything. NOTED.

92/04 Cumbria County Council. Bus Services.

The Clerk reported that the County Council were conducting a review of bus services across the county, in particular because they subsidised a number of routes. It was highly unlikely that funds could be found to introduce fundamental changes but comments were invited regarding any minor changes to timings and connections in order to make the services flow more smoothly. No suggestions were forthcoming regarding timings but, *from the floor*, it was suggested that a request be made for the Express service between Barrow and Kendal to stop at Lindal as a matter of course. It was AGREED that the Clerk would write on these lines.

93/04 Fire Service; rationalisation of control centres.

The Clerk confirmed that he had received the Executive Summary of the report commissioned by the Government into the feasibility of creating 9 Regional control centres for the fire service instead of the 49 which exist at present. A request had been received from representatives of the Cumbria control staff for support from the Parish Council for a campaign against closure on the grounds that such a course of action would be detrimental to fire cover for the county. The Summary had also been assessed by councillors and it was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Morgan that the Council decline to support the request on the grounds that insufficient evidence had been presented to warrant opposition to the Government's case. There were 2 votes for the proposal, 1 against and 1 abstention. The proposal was therefore carried.

94/04 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Planning aid service. NOTED.
- c) Barrow Borough Council. Minutes 27.7.04 to 7.10.04. NOTED.

95/04 Finance.

- a) The Clerk reported that the balances were as follows:-
 - current account:- £458.39
 - reserve account:- £1088.46
- b) A request was submitted from the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee for financial assistance in connection with the annual senior citizens' Christmas party. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Morgan that £200 be authorised for this purpose. Carried unanimously.

c) The Clerk submitted an invoice, in the sum of £58.75, from the Audit Commission in respect of the annual audit for 03/04.

d) The Clerk requested payment of £19.01 in respect of petty cash. He also submitted an invoice from the British Legion regarding the wreaths for the Remembrance Sunday services, in the sum of £30.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Hickey and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that items (c) and (d) be authorised and cheques be signed for all the approved items. Carried unanimously.

96/04 Any Other Business

a) Reference was made to the Remembrance Day services on Sunday, 14th November, with the Marton service scheduled for 2.30 pm and that in Lindal at 9.30 am.

b) The Clerk referred to a notification about a training day for councillors on the work of the Standards Boards and Committees to be held in the Town Hall on Friday, 10th December 2004.

c) *From the floor*, it was reported that a Christmas tree could be provided by a member of the public for installation at Marton. The Clerk would look into the detailed requirements.

d) *From the floor*, came a query about the suggested “millennium seat” which had been proposed for the front of the Buccleuch Hall. It was confirmed that the Buccleuch Hall Management Committee still had funds available for this project but final decisions would not be taken until the proposed developments involving the Village Green had been clarified.

e) *From the floor*, it was reported that residents in Ulverston Road had been contacted by the Dog Warden regarding dog-fouling in that area. It was suggested that appropriate signs on lamp-posts would be helpful and the Clerk undertook to investigate.

f) The Clerk referred to the Christmas Tree which would be provided by the Borough Council for the Green. It was anticipated that this would be erected in good time for the official “switch on” to coincide with the annual Christmas Fair, at 6.00 pm, in the Buccleuch Hall, on Thursday, 25th November 2004.

97/04 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting would be at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 2nd December 2004, in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.