

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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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, 4th October 2007, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

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

Apologies:- Councillor Mrs S Kelly.

Also present:- 7 members of the public.

In attendance:-

WPC Karen Harris, Cumbria Constabulary.
Mr Keith Johnson, Keswick to Barrow Walk Committee.

NB. The Chairman, Councillor Waite, was not present at the start of the meeting. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Ms rainbow that Council Howarth act as Chairman on a temporary basis.

119/07 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

120/07 Disclosure of Interests.

None.

121/07 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 Howarth.

Carried unanimously.

122/07 Matters arising.

The Clerk referred to various matters relating to the previous meeting, viz:-

- a) 109/07 (b) HGVs and signage. Capita had been advised of the Parish Council's request that a full day be devoted to the proposed census of HGV traffic but it appeared that, due to the absence of the officer concerned, the arrangements had not been changed from the limited census as had been originally suggested. However, this had now taken place and it had only highlighted 5 vehicles entering the village, 3 of which had business at village properties. Capita were not proposing to take any further action. *From the floor* the local owner of an HGV indicated that he was still uncertain as to how he might gain access to his property with his vehicle without contravening the ban on HGVs in the area around St Peter's Church. WPC Harris confirmed that she would discuss the matter once again with the Traffic Management Officer.
- b) 112/07 With reference to the tree on Lindal Village Green which had had a branch fall away in recent high winds, it would appear that a further branch, overhanging the road, had been caught by a passing high-sided lorry, the result being that the branch had fallen into the road. Barrow Council had subsequently agreed to a proper inspection, involving climbing the tree, and this resulted in it being felled. A replacement Horse Chestnut tree was promised in due course. **Councillor Waite joined the meeting at this point.**
- c) 117/07 (c) Insofar as the speed limit on Pennington Lane was concerned, it was reported that Capita were to consider the possibility of arranging for a 30 mph speed limit. Councillor Waite submitted a letter from the resident of Pennington Lane who had originally complained about an apparent 50 mph limit and it was AGREED that Councillor Howarth would contact the person concerned in order to clarify the situation. It was also AGREED that the subject would be an agenda item for the November meeting when the question of pursuing a 20 mph speed limit for Lindal's roads generally would be discussed. **Councillor Waite took over as Chairman at this point.**
- d) 117/07 (c) Capita would also look at the need for a directional sign at the triangle in the road by St Peter's Church: Barrow Council were to prune the bushes on the triangle and because the grass verges had already been sprayed, the expectation was that any weeds would quickly die down.
- e) 117/07 (d) The Clerk confirmed that Capita were going to look at the problem relating to grass growing around the telegraph pole on Mount Pleasant with a view to the area being covered with tarmac.

123/07 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

The Chairman suggested that item 10 on the agenda, the Keswick to Barrow Walk and problems affecting Marton, (for which Mr Keith Johnson, from the Walk Committee was present) could be combined with this item, given that the Police could be involved in any proposals relating to traffic management.

The Chairman had received one letter from a resident of Marton, confirming that whilst the safety of walkers was paramount, efforts should be made to ease the difficulties experienced by residents because of the excess traffic which the Walk creates. The Chairman invited comments *from the floor* and in the ensuing discussions attention was concentrated on the following possibilities:-

- operating a one-way system for traffic through the village, in the direction of the Walk, from, perhaps, 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.
- introducing a complete ban on parked vehicles throughout the village, using traffic cones, for the day
- finding an adjacent field which might be used for parking all unnecessary vehicles – support crews, spectators, etc.

Councillors also expressed their reservations about the Parish Council getting too heavily involved in making decisions and recommendations when there were so few residents from Marton present at the meeting. There was also the thought that the problems, which were clearly traffic-related issues, should be left to the Police and the Walk Committee to resolve.

It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Rainbow and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that

- a) WPC Harris be asked to discuss with her colleagues the practical implications of introducing either one-way working for traffic or a ban on car-parking on the day in question, together with any cost implications for the Walk Committee to assess:
- b) Mr Johnson should discuss with his Committee the various points made in the discussions, together with the suggested traffic-management ideas:
- c) the Clerk discuss the matter with Gary Thomas, from Capita, regarding associated road-closure and/or parking issues:
- d) the subject be placed on the agenda for the November meeting.

Carried unanimously.

WPC Harris went on to summarise the latest position regarding the vandalism and damage to cars which followed a party held in Lindal earlier in the year. All culprits had been identified and, whilst no court appearances were forthcoming, all had been formally warned and details kept in Police records.

WPC Harris made reference to Halloween night and Bonfire night and emphasised the importance of parents being aware of what their children might be doing on the nights in question. In particular, she warned against children being able to purchase/use flour and/or eggs which, whilst relatively trivial in themselves, could cause damage and distress for innocent householders if used maliciously over Halloween.

124/07 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes – if any.

There were no minutes for consideration.

125/07 Lindal Village Green.

It was NOTED that the installation of the new railings had been completed and that the hard-standing at the gates was nearly finished.

126/07. Annual Assessment of Risk Management Policy.

Reference was made to the Council's current Risk Management Policy. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Policy be amended as follows:-

- section 4. add "The Council will assess the arrangements for Internal Audit, usually in the Autumn, to confirm that these are satisfactory."
- Section 6. change "in the Autumn" for "in time for the February meeting".

Carried unanimously.

127/07 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

There were no plans for assessment.

128/07 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Cumbria County Council. Youth Services - newsletter. NOTED.
- c) Barrow Council. Statement of Licensing Policy. NOTED.
- d) Model Code of Conduct. Information from training day. NOTED.
- e) Highways Agency. Newsletter re roadworks. NOTED.
- f) Furness Partnership. Minutes. NOTED.
- g) Duddon Estuary Partnership. Minutes. NOTED.

129/07 Finance.

- a) Cash balances :- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £2030.22
- b) The Clerk submitted an invoice for £54.07 from the Evening Mail regarding the need to advertise that the Council had adopted a new Code of Conduct - *vide minute 115/07 (d) September 2007* – with this amount having been paid already by himself. (The Council does not have an account with the Evening Mail). It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that reimbursement to the Clerk be approved and a cheque signed accordingly. Carried unanimously.
- c) Councillor Howarth indicated that he had been unable to discuss with Mr John Bentley, the Council's Internal Auditor, the arrangements currently in hand regarding the auditing of the Council's financial records, because of his and Mr Bentley's holiday commitments. He hoped to be able to report back to the Council at the November meeting.

130/07 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk reported that he had finally heard from the Highways Agency about the A590/The Green crossroads and the suggestion that yellow cross-hatching might be helpful – *vide minute 96/07 (b) August 2007* – and he was able to confirm that “Keep Clear” was now proposed by the Agency, to be marked across the appropriate part of the junction. NOTED.
- b) The Clerk introduced a Newsletter from the Standards Board. NOTED.
- c) The Clerk submitted a booklet from DEFRA regarding climate change. NOTED.
- d) *From the floor* came a query about the erection of what appeared to be a stable in a field to the rear of the properties on the eastern side of The Green. It was AGREED that the Clerk would look into whether planning consent was required for such a development.

131/07 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 1st November 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.