

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

Chairman
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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)

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th January 2006, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite (Chairman); R Lord; Ms S Rainbow; Ms M Richards

Apologies:- Mrs D Morgan.

In attendance:- WPC K Harris, Cumbria Constabulary.

Also present:- 8 members of the public.

1/06 Disclosure of Interests.

None.

2/06 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st December, 2005.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st December, 2005, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor R Lord

SECONDED:- Councillor A Waite.

Carried unanimously.

3/06 Matters arising

- a) 138/05 The Clerk confirmed that he had been advised that further documents would be forthcoming from the Borough Council regarding the revisions to the district planning process. These would give more information. NOTED.
- b) 135/05 Councillor Lord suggested that it would be more appropriate to wait until all foliage was in full leaf, in the spring, in order to determine the size of the problem of road signs being obscured.

4/06 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

The Chairman pointed out that the licensee of the New Inn at Marton had reported that his car was being vandalised, in early December, and that he was aware that the

culprits were still in the vicinity. He was concerned that, on ringing “999” he was told that it was not an emergency and that he should have phoned for the police on the non-emergency number of the police station. WPC Harris suggested that, on the face of it, this was the wrong response and indicated that she would look into the circumstances.

WPC Harris also reported that there was now one number for the whole of the Cumbria Police area, to be used in non-emergencies i.e. 0845 3300247

She also referred to the cessation of funding for the quarterly police newsletter and it was suggested that any appropriate information could appear in “Aspects” and on the village web site.

5/06 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes – if any.

There were no minutes for consideration.

6/06 Lindal Village Green.

There was nothing to report.

7/06 Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy

Councillor Richards commented on what appeared to be a significant imbalance in the resources allocated to the upkeep and development of public rights-of-way within Cumbria but outside the Lake District National Park, as opposed to those which were within the Park. Councillor Lord confirmed that he would like to suggest an additional right-of-way in the form of a footpath running parallel to the A590, along the ridge to the easterly side, between Newby Bridge and the top of Lindale Hill. It was AGREED that a) Councillor Richards should advise the Clerk of the issues which she felt should be highlighted in the Council’s response to the County Council, including the apparent imbalance in funding arrangements and b) Councillor Lord should complete the appropriate form regarding his proposed new footpath.

8/06 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) 6/2005/1875 – 1876 – 1878 – 1879. *Removal and re-instatement of 6-metre lengths of hedgerow, various areas within the Parish to facilitate re-laying of water main to Poaka Beck, Marton. United Utilities.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that the Council offer no objection to these applications. Carried unanimously.
- b) 6/2005/1906. *Listed Building Consent. Replacement of windows and bedroom conversion to bathroom, 23, The Green, Lindal.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that the Council offer no objection to this application. Carried unanimously.
- c) 6/2005/1909. *Retrospective application. Creation of decking area and raising of boundary wall, Railway Inn, Lindal.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Richards and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Council offer no objection to this application. Carried unanimously.

9/06 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Royal Navy presentation. Forum 28, 1st February 2006. NOTED.
- c) Cumbria Highways newsletter. NOTED.
- d) Cumbria Furniture Services – re-cycling project. It was AGREED that this document be included in the circulation folder and appear in “Aspects” and the village web-site.
- e) Highways Agency. Traffic information. NOTED.
- f) Friends of the Lake District. Overhead Wires newsletter. It was AGREED that this document be placed in the circulation folder.

10/06 Finance.

- a) Cash balances :- Current account:- £167.94. Reserve account:- £1001.59.
- b) The Clerk requested payment of his annual subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks, as in previous years, in the sum of £45. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Richards that this be approved. Carried unanimously.
- c) Reference was made to a paper previously circulated on the subject of charitable donations by the Council. These were governed by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 which authorised any expenditure which would benefit the local community or which was to charitable bodies generally. Some concern had been expressed over the concept of giving donations to bodies which did not appear to be of any benefit to the inhabitants of the Parish but it was pointed out that whilst many donations to date had been specifically for the Parish (e.g., the Christmas Party) others had been to bodies which, although they might have a much wider remit, had the potential to help local people, depending upon circumstances. (e.g., Childline; WRVS; helicopter ambulances; NSPCC.)
It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Ms Richards and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Council’s existing policy remain unchanged in that all applications for financial assistance be judged on their merits. Carried unanimously.
- d) The Clerk referred to an item deferred from the last meeting, a request from the Great North Air Ambulance (based in North Cumbria) for financial assistance, given that this service, along with North West Air Ambulance (based in Lancashire), was already benefiting Cumbrians. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that a sum of £50 be donated to this organisation. Carried unanimously.

11/06 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk reported that he had received a booklet from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister regarding Standards of Conduct in Local Government. It was AGREED that this be circulated for councillors to peruse at their leisure.
- b) The Clerk tabled the latest minutes from the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.
- c) The Chairman referred to the widening of the T-junction at the bottom of Snipe Ghyll. It was pointed out that this was a temporary measure to facilitate the movement of a crane to the site of the wind-farm.

- d) The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs Morgan had decided to resign from her position as Councillor. The Clerk undertook to write to Mrs Morgan expressing the Council's thanks for the service given during the time she had served as a Councillor. The Clerk also outlined the procedure for filling the vacancy whereby notices would be placed in the Council's notice boards indicating that a total of ten electors must notify the Returning Officer at Barrow Town Hall if they desire an election to take place. If this should occur, the Returning Officer would advertise the fact that nominations were then invited from prospective councillors and, should there be more than one candidate for the vacancy, an election would be held. Should only one candidate put themselves forward he/she would be elected without a formal election i.e., unopposed. If ten electors do not request an election, the Council has the power to co-opt whoever it thinks fit to fill the vacancy.
- e) *From the floor*, came a reference to the recent cessation of morning deliveries of the national newspapers from the shop in Askam. This was apparently due to a combination of factors such as, a decline in the number of customers and difficulties in securing delivery personnel. The general decline in village services and amenities was discussed.

121/06 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 2nd February, 2006, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.