

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

Chairman
A Waite
4 Silver Street
Marton
Nr Ulverston
Cumbria LA12 0NQ
Tel 01229 462922

Clerk
J Smith
7 East View
Lindal-in-Furness
Cumbria LA12 0LG
Tel 01229 467261

Councillors:-
Mr A Waite (462922) Mr R Lord (464034) Mrs S Glover (462383) Mr D Howarth (463304) Mrs S Kelly (465343)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 6th May 2010 at 7.30 pm in St Peter's Church, Lindal.

Present:-

Councillors A Waite (Chairman); D Howarth; R Lord; Mrs S Glover; Mrs S Kelly.

Also present:- 3 members of the public.

In attendance:- PCSO Louise Perry, Cumbria Constabulary.

55/10 Election of Chairman.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that Councillor Waite be Chairman for the coming year. Carried unanimously.

56/10 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 two planning applications had been received on that day, Thursday, 6th May. The first was in connection with the conversion of a garage loft to loft-conversion etc. at 2 Queensberry Court, Lindal and the second was for the erection of a 100m long chicken shed for 16,000 chickens at Maidenlands Farm, Lindal.

The Clerk also reported that, because of the potentially contentious nature of the second application, he had arranged with Barrow Borough Council that consideration of this application could be deferred until the Parish Council's June meeting, the 21 days consultation period being extended for 10 days. Accordingly, this application will be considered at the meeting scheduled for 3rd June, 2010.

Insofar as the first application was concerned, the Chairman decreed that this could be debated, and a recommendation reached, within agenda item 13 – "Planning applications relating to the Parish" – (*vide minute 64/10, below*)

57/10 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st April 2010.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st April, 2010, were taken as read, and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth.

SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Glover. Carried unanimously.

58/10 Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

59/10 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Perry reported that there had been an attempted break-in at a garage in London Road. The culprits had not been apprehended.

She had no further comments regarding dog-fouling in Lindal and Marton and the Clerk confirmed that there had been no positive response from Barrow Council on the question of additional waste bins. It was AGREED that the Clerk discuss this again with Barrow Council and, *from the floor*, there was a suggestion that local residents might place their own warning notices in suitable positions.

60/10 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

There were no minutes for consideration.

61/10 Parish Paths Initiative.

The Clerk confirmed that meetings had taken place between members of the Council and representatives of the Residents' Association to consider what might be recommended under the County Council's Parish Paths Initiative. Mr Roy Mason had suggested that a series of circular walks be designed from the various paths within the Parish and information on each walk, including a map, be presented on an A4 sheet of paper, suitable for inclusion, on a monthly basis, in "Aspects".

It had been agreed that this be pursued, with the Clerk arranging for quotations for printing the leaflets, with sufficient supplies to be made available for distribution in local tourist outlets, as well as being placed in the BT phone kiosks – the Parish's information points.

Reference was made to the unsuitable route of the public footpath crossing Lindal Tunnel, (*vide minute 48/10, April 2010*) and the Clerk confirmed the County Council had referred the matter to Network Rail. Insofar as the problems at Lindal Cote Farm were concerned, where there appeared to be no way that walkers using this path could join the road, the Clerk had been advised to request from the County Council that a Modification Order be sought to try to rectify the situation.

62/10 Adoption of BT telephone kiosks, Lindal and Marton.

The Clerk confirmed that during a meeting with the Residents' Association, it was agreed that:-

1. The kiosks would be used as information centres and mini book-exchange.
2. Councillor Lord would install shelves, costs being reimbursed through the Council's funds.
3. Mr Roy Mason would produce a "potted history" of the Parish for inclusion within the kiosks as a point of interest for users.
4. The Clerk would arrange for signs indicating that the boxes were now information points.

5. A notice be provided for “Aspects” asking for volunteers for each kiosk to take responsibility for routine “housekeeping” duties. (*no response following publication of “Aspects”.*)
6. Lindal school be contacted to see whether they would be interested in taking an interest in one or more of the kiosks. (*no response following two email approaches.*)

The Clerk was also able to confirm that BT had finally removed the telephone equipment in the kiosks and had renewed the light bulbs. However, despite further approaches from the Clerk, there was still no official email from BT confirming that legal ownership had been passed over to the Parish Council, although this seemed to be more a symptom of BT’s lackadaisical approach rather than any suggestion of a legal problem.

63/10 Cumbria Playing Fields Association.

The Clerk reported on correspondence from the Cumbria Playing Fields Association asking that the Council be a member, the yearly fee being £15.50. This association gives small grants of £100 to £200 to organisations such as Millom ARLFC, Cartmel Valley Baseball Club and Barrow Playing Field Users Association. It was AGREED that the Clerk be asked to check with local sporting organisations such as the cricket club to see whether they had any connection with this body and that the matter be placed on the agenda for the June meeting.

64/10 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

a) *6/2010/0537 Erection of front porch, 9 School Terrace, Lindal.*

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

b) *6/2010/0629 Conversion of garage loft to loft-conversion and divide garage ground floor into stair, hall, shower area, with remainder as garage and utility area.*

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the Council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

Further discussions took place, *including the floor*, regarding the planning application for a chicken farm at Maidenlands, Marton. (*vide minute 56/10 above*) It was clear that local residents had not yet been made aware officially of these proposals, despite a Public Notice mentioning the application appearing in that evening’s edition of the Evening Mail.

65/10 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Centrica. Irish Sea wind farms exhibitions. (Wales and Liverpool) NOTED.
- c) Duddon Estuary Partnership. Paper on tidal energy. NOTED.
- d) EDF Energy. Nuclear power station developments at Heysham. NOTED.

66/10 Finance.

a) Cash balances:- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £1168.11.

b) Assessment of the Council’s policy regarding charitable donations. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Council’s current policy in this regard (*vide minute 10/06 (c) January, 2006*) be re-affirmed in that all applications for financial assistance be judged on their merits, Carried unanimously.

c) Audit Commission. Details regarding the Council’s Annual Audit Return had previously been circulated to Councillors and it was, therefore, PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that:-

- Section 1, the Statement of Accounts, be APPROVED.
- Section 2, The Annual Governance Statement, be COMPLETED and APPROVED.

- Section 4, the Internal Audit Report, be ACCEPTED.

Carried unanimously.

- d) The Clerk reported that the Council's insurance premium was due for renewal. He also referred to the two BT phone kiosks which were, to all intents and purposes, now the property of the Council. The question arose as to whether these should be insured (the Council owns no other property) although Public Liability was already catered for, this being a statutory element of the Council's insurance already. It was suggested that there was no particular reason to be concerned about vandalism or other damage and, bearing in mind that insurance would attract an annual premium of £14 for each kiosk, with an excess of £125 in respect of any claim which might be made, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that no action be taken at the present time. The proposal was carried by four votes to one.

It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Kelly and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that the insurance premium for the year 2010/2011 from Allianz be accepted in the sum of £271.19 and that a cheque be authorised for this amount. Carried unanimously.

The Clerk also referred to the need to recompense St Peter's Church for the use of the premises for that evening's meeting, the usual payment being the equivalent of what would have been paid for the use of the Buccleuch Hall - £16. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that such a cheque be authorised. Carried unanimously.

67/10 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk indicated that a local resident had drawn his attention to some significant earthworks taking place on land adjacent to the A590, part of Whinfield Farm. The land was outside the Parish and Barrow Borough Councils' boundary, being within South Lakeland District, but the Parish Council had always been notified of previous developments requiring planning permission. On this occasion, SLDC had neglected to notify the Parish Council but had apologised for this omission.

The development had, in fact, been approved by SLDC and involved the creation of a training area for prospective drivers of agricultural/construction machinery, the area to be shielded by the creation of an earth bund, this being the development clearly visible from the adjacent A590. NOTED.

- b) Councillor Lord reported that a resident had drawn his attention to a parish elsewhere in the country where the residents had been able to organise themselves to be able to forestall a number of travelling people, with caravans, from illegally occupying some local land. The question had been asked as to whether Lindal and Marton Parish Council should consider the need for contingency planning to take account of any similar occurrence. It was AGREED that no action was required.

- c) *From the floor*, it was pointed out that there were difficulties with cars being parked in inappropriate places in Marton. PCSO Perry agreed to look into the matter. Reference was also made to the need to renew white line markings in Marton, particularly at the junction leading to Askam/Dalton. The Clerk undertook to pass this on to the appropriate authorities.

- d) Councillor Mrs Kelly mentioned the growing number of potholes, particularly in places such as the lane adjacent to Hempland Cottages. The Clerk undertook to pass this on.

68 /10 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The date and time of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 3rd June, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal. (NB There would be no meeting in July.)

(All residents of the Parish are reminded that the Council meetings are open to the public and that all are welcome to attend.)