

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 7th January 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite (in the chair); R Lord; Mrs S Glover; D Howarth; Mrs S Kelly.

Also present: - 10 members of the public.

In attendance:- PC Karen Harris, Cumbria Constabulary.
Angela Knowles, Rural Projects Officer, Cumbria County Council.

1/10 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

2/10 Disclosure of Interests.

Councillor Lord declared an interest in agenda item 13 (c) (minute no 12/10) in that his wife was a member of St Peter's parochial church council. Councillor Mrs Glover declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the same item in that she was a member of the parochial church council.

3/10 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3rd December, 2009.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3rd December 2009, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth.

SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Glover. Carried unanimously.

4/10 Matters arising.

None

5/10 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PC Karen Harris referred to the recent burglaries in Lindal but had nothing to add to her previous reports.

PC Harris then went on to explain the Police Pledge, a declaration from Cumbria Constabulary as to their commitment to give the best possible service to the residents of Cumbria.

Reference was also made to the most recent crime statistics, these indicating that the Parish was a Low Crime area. Full details can be obtained via the police web-site – www.cumbria.police.org

PC Harris drew attention to a free security-marking session for bicycles, to be held in Askam and Dalton on Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th January, respectively. This had been publicised through local schools and it was also hoped to repeat the exercise during the February half-term period.

She also spoke about recent difficulties involving stray sheep causing problems in the district, including the unauthorised placing of such sheep onto Lindal village green. This problem had been exacerbated by the theft of the chains and padlocks which Barrow Council officials had used to secure the gates to the green in an attempt to prevent the green from being used in this way.

From the floor a local resident expressed her satisfaction at the way in which a recent problem raised with the police via the telephone had been handled.

6/10 Rural Joint Committee.

Angela Knowles, from Cumbria County Council, apologised for the inability of Phil Huck, Barrow Borough Council, to attend the meeting when it had been hoped that they would have been able to give a joint presentation on the subject of the proposed Rural Joint Committee.

However, she explained that such a committee was being suggested as a useful development in terms of improving communications between the County Council, Barrow Borough Council, Dalton with Newton Town Council, and Askam and Ireleth and Lindal and Marton Parish Councils.

Membership was seen as being :-

- Barrow - 2 councillors, plus officers
- Cumbria CC - 2 councillors plus officers
- Dalton - 2 councillors
- Askam - 1 councillor
- Lindal - 1 councillor

Meetings would be around 4 per year and would start around May, 2010

It was AGREED that, whilst the Council was favourably disposed towards the idea, it would await further, and more detailed information before making a decision as to whether it should participate.

7/10 Attendance of Officer from Capita to discuss speed limits etc.

The Clerk reported that Gary Thomas (Capita) was unable to attend the meeting because of difficulties with his parent body – Cumbria Highways - over funding arrangements for such out-of-hours meetings.

He also submitted recent proposals from Capita / Cumbria Highways regarding the topics which were to have been the subject of this meeting i.e., traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the school.

From the floor it was confirmed by representatives of the school that they had also been advised of these proposals, which were limited to the replacement of road signs warning of the presence of the school and the play area opposite Mount Pleasant. The proposals also

confirmed previous advice from Gary Thomas in that there appeared to be no justification for reducing the speed limit to 20 mph.

The school representatives indicated that they were investigating the possibility of utilising a “lollipop” lady/man to supervise children coming to and from school at appropriate times of the day. It was also suggested that “rumble strips” on the road outside the school might be a useful addition to any road safety measures.

It was AGREED by Council members and the school’s representatives that the Area Engineer for Cumbria Highways be advised of :-

- their disappointment that the presence of a Highways official at the meeting was not thought to be necessary
- their dissatisfaction at the limited measures being proposed in the form of replacement signs
- the suggestion that “rumble strips” might be advantageous (also for the Buccleuch Hall)
- the need for further discussions regarding the most appropriate way forward and that a face-to-face meeting is still requested.

8/10 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes, if any.

There were no minutes for consideration..

9/10 Adoption of BT telephone kiosks, Lindal and Marton.

The Clerk reported that he was still waiting to hear from BT regarding the adoption of the telephone kiosks. He had sent off the signed agreement on 25th November 2009 and a reminder email on 29th December 2009.

After discussions involving the Chairman and Secretary of the Residents Association, *from the floor*, it was AGREED that the matter be deferred until the next meeting and that, in the meantime, an item be prepared for inclusion in “Aspects” asking for suggestions from the community as to how the kiosks might be used as and when they have been taken over by the Council. Anybody with ideas would be encouraged to attend the next meeting of the Council.

10/10 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

a) 09/2145 off-road parking area, garden ground, 41 Moor Road, Marton. (retrospective)

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

b) 09/21565 insertion of 2 ground floor escape windows, The Old Chapel, Marton

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

c) 09/1126 and 1127, re London Road / Lindal Business Park.

It was explained by the Clerk that these applications concerned the lifting of the conditions relating to the planning permission for additional facilities at the Lindal Business Park, granted in 1998. Such conditions required the creation of a “relief road”, running behind the allotments on London Road, in order to shelter London Road residents from the impact of the additional traffic to the new facilities.

The applications had been considered in August 2009 when the Council had declared its opposition to the proposals on the grounds that, without the relief road, residents’ lives would be disrupted to an unacceptable level.

There had been a delay in Barrow Borough Council officials submitting the applications to the Planning Committee but it was understood that this would now occur on 19th January 2010.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Clerk write once more to the Borough Council to repeat its opposition to these applications and to remind the Planning Committee that the reasons put forward in 1998 (by the planning department) for requiring a relief road – “in the interests of residential amenity and public safety” were as valid today as they were 12 years ago. Carried unanimously

11/10 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Duddon Estuary Partnership. Proposed nuclear power station, Kirksanton, Position paper. NOTED.
- c) Cumbria County Council. Minerals and Waste sites. NOTED.
- d) Cumbria C.C. Flood recovery work. Latest position. NOTED.
- e) Cumbria C.C. Highway Stewards’ programme. NOTED.
- f) Highways Agency. Road Works programme. NOTED.

12/10 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £2174.36.
- b) The Clerk submitted 1) a petty cash request in the sum of £18.25 and 2) a request from St Peter’s Church for financial assistance regarding the purchase of new bibles. 20 were required at a total cost £219.40. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that both these amounts be approved and cheques signed accordingly. Carried unanimously. NB Councillor Mrs Glover took no part in this discussion,
- c) Report on Internal Audit arrangements. (*vide minute 143/09 (d) December 09*) . Councillor Howarth reported that he had now been able to make contact with Mr John Bentley, the internal auditor, and was able to declare that the internal audit arrangements, whereby Mr Bentley supervised the way in which the Clerk conducted the Council’s financial affairs, were totally satisfactory. NOTED.

13/10 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk reported that he had received notification from Cumbria County Council that it was proposing to make available a special salt / grit mix to all parishes for use by local residents. It was AGREED that the County Council be asked to deposit some of the material by the War Memorial in Lindal and some by the side of the New Inn in Marton.
- b) *From the floor* it was mentioned that the Cumbria Amenity Trust was hoping to arrange for an exhibition, in the Spring, and within the Buccleuch Hall, when the work of the Trust in relation to Cumbria’s industrial heritage would be publicised.

14/10 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The date and time of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 4th February, 2010, 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.)