

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 held on Thursday, 5th March 2015, at 7.45 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:-Councillors Mr A Waite; Mr R Lord; Mrs S Glover; Mr D Howarth.

Apologies; Councillor Mrs S Kelly.

Also present: 4 members of the public were present.

In attendance:-

PCSO S Thomas, Cumbria Constabulary.

District Councillor Ann Thurlow; County/District Councillor Barry Doughty.

Three members of "Power Without Pylons" – PWP.

21/15 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

22/15 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

None

23/15 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th February, 2015.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th February 2015 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth: SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Glover.

Carried unanimously.

24/15 Matters arising from those minutes.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

25/15 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Thomas reported that there had been one incident of burglary at Marton, tools being taken from an insecure shed. In addition, there had been a theft reported (involving a member of staff) at the candle factory.

From the floor damage to one of the railings around Lindal village green was reported (possibly vandalism) and the Clerk undertook to report it to the Parks department.

26/15 National Grid: further consideration of proposals regarding new pylons to be built in connection with proposed new nuclear power station at Sellafield

The Chairman confirmed that it had been agreed at the last meeting that the Council would look again at its decision taken in October 2014 regarding the National Grid's proposals for a new electricity pylon network, planned to go through the Parish. This was in connection with the proposed new nuclear power station at Sellafield, with the Council's decision being to accept in principle the Grid's suggestion that the new pylons would roughly follow the line of the existing network, whilst reserving final judgement until the Grid's firm proposals were forthcoming. (*see minute 94/14, October 2014*).

This further consideration would allow a local resident(s), together with representatives from the organisation Power Without Pylons, PWP, to highlight the drawbacks associated with the Grid's proposals and to emphasise that there was a more appropriate alternative. In PWP's view, the size of the proposed pylons would be much bigger, and more visually intrusive than the Council might have realised, and it would be better to lay the cables on the sea bed, down the coast-line from Sellafield, ie., the "off-shore" alternative.

During the discussion which followed, involving PWP, Councillors and *the floor*, several issues were covered, including the health effects of the increased voltage to be carried by the pylons; the increased size of the pylons; the impact on the landscape; the effect on tourism; the cost of the off-shore route.

The Clerk pointed out that the Council would assess all the factors laid before it before coming to any decision but it would also need to take into account the lack of any meaningful opposition to the National Grid's proposals by parishioners, both at this meeting and also the one in October 2014, despite the considerable publicity on both occasions (public meetings, Press information etc in October: full-page article in the current issue of "Aspects".)

After further discussion it was then :-

1 PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that there be no change to the decision taken by the Council in October 2014.

2 PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Glover and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Council support the stance being taken by PWP in that the National Grid should be advised that, after further consideration, the Parish Council favoured the off-shore route as a means of transmitting electricity from the proposed new development at Sellafield.

There being two votes each for both proposals, the Chairman used his casting vote in favour of the first proposal, which was duly carried.

26/15 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

B13/2015/0033 new house, land at Pit Lane, Lindal. Outline application.

It was noted that this application was for a house in a small piece of woodland on Pit Lane, opposite Sunny Bank and Parkside Close. It was suggested that the application lacked sufficient detail to enable an informed judgement to be made as to the appropriateness of the proposal.

It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that the Council express no comment on this application. There were three votes in favour and one against (Councillor Lord). The proposal was carried.

27/15 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Community Information and Safety. (including product re-calls etc.)
No items to report on this occasion.
(All such notices are displayed on the Lindal notice board.)

28/15 Finance.

- a) Account balances:- *Current* - £50; *Festivals* - £1000.72; *Reserve* - £2151.86.
- b) Petty cash. The Clerk submitted a request for his petty cash to be reimbursed, in the sum of £20.00, together with the balance of his annual remuneration, £300, and the honorary auditor's fee of £37. In addition, the annual rent of £216 was due for the Council's use of the Buccleuch Hall.
It was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Glover that all such amounts (£20; £300; £37; £216) be duly approved. Carried unanimously.

29/15 Any Other Business.

- a) Councillor Waite referred to the Mayor of Barrow's annual concert involving Barrow's male voice choir, on 1st April. NOTED.
- b) Councillor Howarth referred to previous requests by the candle factory, Wax Lyrical, to be allowed to sponsor the raised flower beds on the A590 at each end of Lindal village. The Clerk undertook to pursue the matter.
- c) Councillor Waite reported that, after many years of neglect, attention was now being given by the Highways Department to the cutting-back of overgrowing soil and vegetation on roadsides in village areas. NOTED.
- d) *From the floor* it was suggested that the pelican crossing on the A590, in Lindal, was still giving cause for concern regarding the timing of the lights. Such lights were due to be upgraded in the near future but the Clerk undertook to pass the matter on.
- e) Reference was made to the defibrillator attached to the wall of the Buccleuch Hall and the outstanding matter of insurance, with Councillor Howarth confirming that he would pursue this with the Hall's insurance company.

20/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The DATE and TIME of the next meeting, was AGREED as **Thursday, 9th April 2015**, at 7.45 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal. (the first Thursday clashed with Good Friday.)

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

