

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, 2nd October 2014, at 7.45 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

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

Also present: No members of the public were present.

In attendance:- PCSO Johns (nee Perry) Cumbria Constabulary.

89/14 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

90/14 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

None

91/14 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th September, 2014.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th September 2014, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Mrs Kelly, SECONDED:- Councillor Lord.
Carried unanimously.

92/14 Matters arising from those minutes.

- a) 82/14 (a) The Clerk reported that he had been in discussions with a Mr Roberts, a local painter, regarding the need to re-paint the telephone kiosk in Lindal (the Information Point). Mr Roberts' view was that the kiosk needed to be completely stripped-down, with window glasses being removed etc., and all parts of the kiosk thoroughly cleaned and rubbed-down before primer, undercoat and gloss paint was applied. He estimated that this would take a week to complete and the cost would be in the region of £700. The need for such a comprehensive refurbishment was questioned but it was AGREED that, bearing in mind that the kiosk should be water-tight following the work

done by Councillor Lord and taking into account Mr Roberts' current work-load, the matter should be deferred until the spring when the situation would be reviewed.

- b) 82/14 (b) Councillor Lord enquired as to the situation regarding the mowing of Lindal village green and the need to attend to the broken gate to the playground. The Clerk confirmed that the green was now mown on an "as and when" basis, when the grass reached 80 mm high. The gate had been found to be the responsibility of the education department and appropriate repairs/replacement was in the hands of the school, LAMPS. Councillor Lord suggested that the height of the grass was at present much higher than 80 mm and the Clerk undertook to pursue the matter.
- c) 87/14 (d) Councillor Lord asked whether anything further was known about the drainage problems at Broken Bridge. The Chairman confirmed that it was still hoped to be able to improve drainage in that area before the winter's heavy rains set in.
- d) 82/14 (c) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Highways department about outstanding matters but that the reply he had received was somewhat inconclusive. He was awaiting further discussions with Councillor Doughty in order to clarify the situation.

93/14 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Johns indicated that there had been no reported criminal activity in the Parish during September, with only two instances of anti-social behaviour needing attention. The information produced by the Speed Indicator Device – SID – was discussed and it was agreed that because this was to be considered at a meeting with the Police (with Askam and Dalton councils) on Monday, 13th October, further consideration should be deferred until the November meeting.

It was pointed out that SID was meant to be used on the A590 in Lindal during week-commencing 13th October but because major road works were scheduled for five weeks starting on that date it was agreed that this be postponed.

With reference to such works the Clerk confirmed that these were to stabilise the carriageway in the area adjacent to Anchor Gardens following subsidence problems which had been first discovered some two years ago.

94/14 Barrow Borough Local Plan – consultation.

The Clerk submitted the draft version of Barrow's Local plan which will "reflect the needs and priorities of local communities" for the 15-year period 2016 – 2031. The Parish Council was invited to consider the proposals and make any comments it thought fit particularly in relation to the allocation of land for housing or commercial development.

NB Barrow Council would be holding a public drop-in session in the Buccleuch Hall on Tuesday, 21st October (4pm to 7pm), to give further explanations and details.

The Plan suggested that there was only one site in Lindal/Marton which might be usefully designated as available for housing development, this being situated to the east of London Road in Lindal. However, it was AGREED that further consideration of the matter be deferred until the November meeting in order that local residents be given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the proposals at the aforementioned meeting on 21st October.

95/14 National Grid developments – consultation.

Reference was made to the plans being put forward by the National Grid for a major upgrade of the electricity distribution network in Cumbria as a consequence of the decision to build a new nuclear power station near Sellafield (to be called Moorside). The electricity output would be some 20 times greater than the original power station and would thus require greater grid capacity. Meetings were being held in various parts of Cumbria to explain the proposals, including one held in the Buccleuch Hall on 24th September.

The National Grid's preferred option was to replace the existing line of pylons and cables running down the coast from Sellafield with a more robust facility to carry the increase in electrical strength but only as far as the Barrow area. Instead of then following the coast around Morecambe Bay along the route of the current pylons, the new route would utilise a tunnel to be constructed under the Bay, to join the national network inland from Morecambe. The coastal route would be feasible – and some £650m cheaper – but was considered to be unsupportable for environmental reasons.

Whilst the precise route of the proposed new network was not known other than it would follow roughly the existing pylons towards Barrow, it was accepted that such development was necessary and that, in general terms, it was better for it to be in those areas where pylons and the cable network already existed. As and when precise details were available, a more considered assessment could then take place.

However, the Council expressed some surprise and concern at the proposed option of creating a tunnel under Morecambe Bay in order for the cables to be joined to the main north/south distribution network. The current arrangement involving pylons and cables going around Morecambe Bay had been in place for many years and the Council found it difficult to accept that replacing them with the new network would have so many “environmental challenges” as to justify expenditure of the additional £650 million associated with the under-sea route.

It was AGREED that the Council's response to this consultation should confirm its provisional acceptance of the route going through Lindal and Marton parish but emphasise its disquiet over National Grid's proposal to continue the cabling under Morecambe Bay instead of following the existing route around the Bay, the additional cost of £650m being difficult to justify.

96/14 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

There were no planning applications for consideration.

97/14 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Refusal of planning permission for the replacement of outbuildings by new facilities, Sunny Brae, Snipe Ghyll, Marton. It was NOTED that an appeal had been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate regarding this decision.
- c) Cumbria Community Foundation. The activities of this charitable organisation were NOTED and, in particular, the availability of the Winter Warmth Fund for those experiencing difficulties in maintaining adequate levels of heating in their houses.

Local residents in need of financial assistance because of heating problems should contact the Clerk for further advice. (Leaflets also available in Kurly's hairdressing salon)

- d) Community Information and Safety. (including product re-calls etc.)
- 1 Warning re bogus phone calls about the Telephone Preference Service. NOTED.
 - 2 Warning re Neosporosis, a disease affecting cattle and which is spread via dog faeces. All dog owners are asked to clean up after their dogs even in open countryside. NOTED.

(All such notices are displayed on the Lindal notice board.)

98/14 Finance.

- a) Account balances:- *Current* - £50: *Festivals* - £1000.49: *Reserve* - £3386.55.
- b) The Clerk submitted a request from the Great North Air Ambulance for a donation towards running costs.
It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Kelly and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that an amount of £100 be approved for this organisation
Carried unanimously.
- c) The Clerk submitted a request for his petty cash to be re-imbursed in the sum of £50.37. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that this be approved. Carried unanimously.

99/14 Any Other Business.

The Chairman reported that at the last meeting of the Rural Joint Committee reference had been made to the Wild Animal Park and the outstanding developments incorporating a new entrance to the Park from the A590 with questions being asked as to whether this would still be going ahead.

However, Barrow Council officers had confirmed that there had been no further proposals and that whilst the existing approved scheme could proceed, there were still outstanding conditions which had to be met before the new developments could be used.

100/14 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The DATE and TIME of the next meeting, was AGREED as Thursday, 6th November 2014, at 7.45 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

NB The Council meetings will start at 7.45 pm for the foreseeable future during the period that the Hall is being used for other activities up to 7.30 pm.

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