

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 Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 2nd May 2013, at 7.30 pm in St Peter's Church, Lindal.

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

Also present:- 4 members of the public were present.

In attendance:- PCSO Louise Perry, Cumbria Constabulary.

36/13 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.

37/13 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

38/13 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

Councillor Howarth declared an interest in Agenda item 9 (minute 43/13, "planning applications relating to adjacent authorities") in that he had a business relationship with the applicant.

39/13 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th April, 2013.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th April 2013, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth. SECONDED:- Councillor Lord. Carried unanimously.

40/13 Matters arising from those minutes.

- a) 30/13. Councillor Lord asked whether there were any developments regarding the problem of HGVs and the weight restriction by the Church. The Clerk confirmed that Cumbria Highways intended to extend the restricted area of road so that it went from the small traffic island between the Church and the village green to the entrance to the abattoir. In addition, it was hoped that the "ginnel" to the side of Hempland Cottages would be made one-way, with traffic being barred from entering from the A590.

- b) 34/13. Councillor Lord asked whether any decision had been reached by Barrow Council regarding the Harlock Hill wind farm. The Clerk confirmed that he was unaware of any developments.

41/13 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Perry reported that there had been one or two incidents reported to the Police in April, such as sheep loose on the highway and a vehicle causing an obstruction. She was asked whether there had been any progress regarding the broken window, reported in April, where the house owner had offered a reward: there had been no progress.

From the floor, the question of speeding through Marton was raised yet again; PCSO Perry said that this would be reported to her colleagues.

42/13 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

B28/2013/0244. Dalton Wild Animal Park. Amendments to road junction of U6097 (Melton Brow) with the A590, together with amendments to road at Melton Terrace and new Park entrance.

The Clerk explained that following the refusal by Barrow Borough Council to approve the Park's expansion plans the matter had gone to Appeal and that this had been upheld by the Planning Inspector. The development could proceed provided that various conditions were met.

Accordingly, the applicant was now submitting details of proposed amendments to the roads affected by the new entrance. Traffic would be directed to the Park via the remnants of the old main road which went past Melton Terrace (the U6097) and which comes off the A590 half-way up the hill towards the roundabout. This would require a central reservation being marked on the road for traffic coming from the direction of Lindal wishing to turn right into the junction, with appropriate widening of the opening.

There would also be some minimal road-widening at the top of Melton Brow, where the proposed new entrance would be situated, together with appropriate parking spaces marked out for the residents of Melton Terrace.

Documents submitted included a Road Safety Audit, with recommendations which included:-

- a) an increase to the proposed size of the central reservation on the A590, for vehicles wanting to turn right into Melton Terrace
- b) the creation of a central island on the A590 leading down from the roundabout towards the turning into Melton Terrace.

Both recommendations had been turned down by the developer. (The Clerk confirmed that the Highways Agency was still in discussions with the developer over such matters.)

However, the original plans also envisaged that, when the new car-park (by the new entrance) was full, traffic would be directed along the U6097, via the Black Dog pub, to the old car-park. The current application made no reference to this proposal, nor to the consequential increase in traffic and to the potential for congestion and traffic-jams on that very narrow lane.

After detailed discussions it was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Waite and **SECONDED** by Councillor Lord that the Council declare its unwillingness to support the application in its present form for the following reasons.

- In the absence of any information to the contrary, it appeared that the Road Safety Audit recommendations regarding additional car spaces in the proposed right-turning lane on the A590 and also the need for a traffic island in the carriageway leading down from the roundabout to the turning into Melton Terrace, were not to be implemented. The Council considered that both suggestions were critical for the safety of both vehicle users and pedestrians. (It was noted that there was already a traffic island in place on the A590 as it left

the roundabout, to enable pedestrians to cross, and that this could be extended, in part or in whole.)

- It was also considered that vehicles waiting to come out of Melton Terrace at its junction with the A590 would have major problems in trying to turn right onto the A590 towards Dalton once the new entrance to the Park, and the additional traffic, was fully established. No specific reference to this particular problem appeared to have been made.
- Assuming that the original proposals to use the existing car park as an overflow car park would still be implemented, it would be unacceptable to contemplate using the U6097 without radical improvements such as road-widening or passing-places, together with appropriate signage.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

43/13 Planning applications relating to adjacent authorities.

SL/2013/0213. Sea View, Pennington. Erection of single wind turbine, 21 metres to blade tip.

Reference was made to a previous application (*vide minute 60/12 May 2012*), at the same site and by the same applicant, for a bigger turbine, of 27 metres to blade tip, which had been refused by SLDC and which was subject to an appeal. (*vide minute 32/13 (b), April 2013*)

NB Councillor Howarth took no part in the proceedings.

After discussions *including the floor* it was PROPOSED by Councillor Lord and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Council decline to support the application, notwithstanding the fact that turbine was to be a smaller model, on the same grounds as put forward by the Council in May 2012, viz:-

- Such applications were invariably for financial gain rather than any desire to improve the nation's carbon footprint.
- Despite being smaller than turbines to be found on the large commercial wind-farms, the proposed model was still larger than other, smaller, models to be found on other farms.
- The continual expansion of wind-turbines would have a detrimental effect on the countryside generally.
- There would be a specific visual impact on the adjacent houses on Carkettle Lane, together with problems associated with shadow-flicker, noise and disturbance to wild-life.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

44/13 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. NOTED.
- b) Community information-
 - 1 "Doorstep" crime and cold-calling.
 - 2 Hoover fridge-freezers. Dangers of fire.
(Further information can be gained from the Clerk.)

45/13 Finance.

- a) Cash balances:- Current account - £50. Reserve account – £1054.66.
- b) The Clerk requested that the rent which would normally have been paid to the Buccleuch Hall for the Council meeting (£18) be paid to St Peter's Church instead.
- c) The Clerk referred to the Council's insurance, with the renewal being quoted at £201.21.
- d) The Annual Audit Return was submitted by the Clerk for assessment and authorisation.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that:-

- Cheques be authorised in respect of rent for the use of St Peter's Church (£18) and the renewal of the Council's insurance (£201.21)
- The Annual Audit Return be duly authorised and confirmed by the Chairman.

Carried unanimously

46/13 Any Other Business.

a) The Clerk reported that officials from the Highways Agency were trying to develop a routine of meeting local Parish Councils where a trunk road passed through a parish and consequently were offering to meet Lindal and Marton PC. It was AGREED that such meetings would be helpful and that the Clerk should await confirmation as to the availability of the Buccleuch Hall during afternoons, at which time arrangements could be made for a meeting, which would be open to any interested parishioner.

b) Councillor Lord drew attention to the recent death of Mrs Jennifer Pardoe, emphasising her importance to the community through her connections with the Church and, in particular, her responsibility for producing the parish magazine "Aspects of Lindal and Marton". It was AGREED that the Parish Council extend its sincerest condolences to Mr Brian Pardoe and family for their very sad loss.

c) Councillor Mrs Kelly reported that a local resident had commented on the poor condition of many of the pavements in the vicinity of the village green. The Clerk undertook to investigate.

d) Councillor Howarth reported that planning permission had now been received for the defibrillator box to be affixed to the side of the Buccleuch Hall.

e) The Chairman commented on Barrow's forthcoming Civic Sunday, to be held on 23rd June 2013.

f) A discussion took place regarding the future production of "Aspects" and the Council's appreciation was conveyed to Mrs Chris Stringer who had volunteered to continue in place of Mrs Pardoe. Reference was made to the format of the magazine and it was AGREED that it should continue to take advertisements and that Mrs Stringer give consideration to how these might be subject to a modest charge.

The Parish Council noted with great sadness the fatal road accident which had occurred on the previous evening and which had resulted in the death of local schoolgirl Bethany Crook. The Council wished to convey to Bethany's family its sincere condolences at this most distressing time.

47/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The DATE and TIME of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday, 6th June 2013, 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.)