

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). Ms S Rainbow (462383.) Mr D Howarth (463304) Mrs S Kelly (465343)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 4th September 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:-

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

Also present: - 5 members of the public.

In attendance:-

Inspector Malcolm Woodhouse and PC Karen Harris, Cumbria Constabulary.
Apologies from Councillors Mrs Kath Unwin and Mrs G Heath, Barrow Borough Council.

90/08 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

91/08 Disclosure of Interests.

The Chairman declared an interest in agenda item 11 (b), minute 99/08 (b) in that he lived in the same village as the property in question.

Councillor Ms Rainbow declared an interest in agenda 11 (a), minute 99/08 (a) in that the field shelter was already installed and was visible from her property.

92/08 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7th August, 2008.

The Clerk drew attention to an error which had occurred in the printing of page 4 of the minutes. Minute 86/08 – Correspondence – should have had an additional item (i), with the minute reading as follows:-

(h) Furness Partnership minutes. NOTED.

(i) “Rural Wheels”. Travel assistance for rural areas. It was AGREED that the Clerk prepare a paragraph on this subject for inclusion in “Aspects” and that the information be also passed to the Residents Association.

An amended page 4 had been prepared and inserted in the Minute Book and, subject to that amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 7th August, 2008 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Howarth.

SECONDED:- Councillor Mrs Kelly. Carried unanimously.

93/08 Matters arising.

77/08 The Clerk reported that he had again been in touch with BT regarding the missing door from the telephone kiosk on The Green after being told by BT that they would not now be replacing the door because of the cost. Sergeant Flett, from Cumbria Constabulary, had also been in touch, making the point that ignoring such damage did nothing to encourage local residents to look after the environment. As a result of such representations BT had agreed that they would carry out appropriate repairs.

94/08 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

Inspector Woodhouse reported that a new Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), a Louise Perry, had been appointed to serve in the Dalton North, Lindal, Marton and Askam area and that she should be taking up her duties in November.

Reference was made to continuing complaints about speeding vehicles, the latest problem area being reported as London Road. Inspector Woodhouse promised to raise the matter with the Traffic Management Officer, Roger Mallett, to see whether a mobile speed-warning device could be provided in that area for a short period.

9508 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes – if any.

There were no minutes for submission.

96/08 Lindal Village Green.

The Clerk commented on the recent incident whereby about a dozen sheep suddenly appeared on Lindal green. It transpired that these had been found to be wandering loose and had been placed onto the green for safe-keeping. The sheep were subsequently moved by the farmer who owned them.

There was no further information regarding the provision of kerbs on the western side of the green other than the matter appeared to be held up within the County Council's highways department at Carlisle. Barrow Borough Council officials were still trying to expedite matters. The switching-on of the green's Christmas Tree lights would take place on Thursday, 27th November, coinciding with the Christmas Fair in the Buccleuch Hall.

97/08 Prospective Wind Farm, Standish Cote.

Further to minute 81/08 (August) it was confirmed that the Chairman had written to Infinergy to express the Council's concern at the misleading information contained within Infinergy's newsletter. The letter also drew attention to Infinergy's failure to include Lindal, as promised, as a venue for the proposed exhibition on the windfarm. A reply had been received suggesting that the idea that the developers should also look at the existing wind farm at Harlock Hill had come out of preliminary meetings which Infinergy had had with "each of the affected Parish Councils". Infinergy declined to name the residents or councillors involved on the grounds of "confidentiality". They also went on to say that would like to include Lindal's Buccleuch Hall in the "second phase" of their exhibition plans when they hoped to be able to erect information boards and provide a supply of literature.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should write back to Infinergy to make the point that, as they had never met the Parish Council, it was again inaccurate to claim that their proposals sprang from initial discussions with “each of the affected Parish Councils”. In addition, Infinergy would be asked what was meant by “second phase”.

The Clerk also confirmed that he had still not received an answer from Barrow Borough Council regarding his request that specific arrangements be made, incorporating the relevant Parish Councils, to discuss the probable access routes for the wind farm equipment.

98/08 Cumbria PCT; the future of mental health services in Cumbria.

The Clerk summarised the consultation document from the Cumbria Primary Care Trust on the future of mental health services in Cumbria which had been circulated to all councillors for their assessment. As had been reported at the last meeting, the PCT’s proposals included

- the cessation of the use of beds in Lancaster for psychiatric intensive care with patients from the Barrow and Furness area having to be treated in Carlisle.
- Reduction of the beds at Dane Garth (Furness General Hospital) from 28 to 20 for patients with acute functional mental illness.
- The closure of the 20 beds at Gill Rise (Ulverston Hospital) and the creation of a 15-bed unit at Dane Garth for patients with severe organic mental illness.
- The replacement of 10 NHS beds in Barrow for patients requiring recovery and rehabilitation with domestic-style voluntary sector provision.

It was AGREED that the Parish Council lacked the necessary expertise to enable it to comment in detail on the proposals but the Council noted the widespread opposition there seemed to be from local organisations and individuals who had knowledge and experience in such matters. Accordingly, it was AGREED that the Clerk write to the Trust to express the Council’s reservations on the proposals and to urge that due notice be taken of any arguments and counter-proposals which might be forthcoming from those with such knowledge and experience.

99/08 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) *08/08/0945 Erection of field shelter, with hedge screening, with amended site. (resubmission of 0313)* it was pointed out that this application had been considered at the August meeting *vide minute 85/08 (b)* when the Council decided to express “no comment” on the application whilst noting with approval the provision of hedge-screening. The current application was identical except that the site of the shelter, together with its hedge-screening, was some 20 metres nearer to the houses on The Green. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the council express “no comment” on the amended application. Carried unanimously.
- b) *6/08/1001 Erection of sun lounge and rear kitchen extension, 24, Fair View, Marton.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that the Council express “no comment” on this application. Carried unanimously.

100/08 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Cumbria County Council. Replacement Care Homes; a summary of responses to the consultation document. NOTED.
- c) Cumbria Youth Support Services. Newsletter. NOTED.
- d) Cumbria Highways. Newsletter. NOTED.

101/08 Finance.

- a) Cash balances :- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £2861.99
- b) Clerk's salary. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the first part of the Clerk's annual salary for 2008/09, in the sum of £300, be approved for payment and a cheque duly signed. Carried unanimously.
- c) The Clerk introduced the Annual Financial Return which had come back from the Audit Commission's external auditors. The Return had been audited with no queries and the Council was now required to confirm its acceptance of the Return with its audit conclusions. Accordingly, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Return be so accepted. Carried Unanimously.
- d) The Clerk requested payment of the auditors' fee (£58.75, including vat) and it was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Howarth that an appropriate cheque be signed. Carried unanimously.

102/08 Any Other Business.

None

103/08 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting would be on Thursday, 2nd October 2008, 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.)