

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th August 2004, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal

Present:- Councillors T Weall (Chairman); R Hickey; A Waite; Mrs D Morgan

Apologies:- Councillor R Lord.

Also present:- approx. 20 members of the public

In attendance:- WPC Karen Harris from Cumbria Constabulary.

53/04 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3rd June 2004.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 3rd June 2004 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Waite.

SECONDED:- Councillor Hickey.

Carried unanimously.

54/04 Matters arising.

- a) 44/04 Councillor Hickey asked whether any further information was available regarding traffic on the A590. The Chairman suggested that this matter could be discussed with WPC Harris during the next agenda item.
- b) 47/04 Councillor Hickey enquired as to the Transport Plan and the suggestions made by the Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that his letter outlining the suggestions had been acknowledged.
- c) 51/04 (d) Councillor Hickey referred to the distribution of “green” wheelie bins for the collection of garden waste and it became apparent, from comments *from the floor* that this exercise had still not been completed. It was clear that there was confusion as to which households were eligible for such bins (those without gardens would not need them) and examples were given of properties in London Road, Ulverston Road and in Marton which were still without bins. It was AGREED that the Clerk would write to Barrow Borough Council asking for an explanation.
- d) 51/04 (b) Councillor Waite commented on the problem of dog waste and it was agreed, after discussions *with the floor* that the Clerk would write to

Barrow Borough Council to enquire as to the possibility of further warning signs being provided, together with the appropriate receptacles.

- e) 48/04 The Clerk reported that he had notified the Parks and Gardens department about the dead trees on the Green and had been told that no funds were available for replacement. However, the question of funding was being investigated as other parts of the Borough had also suffered from the same problem. *From the floor* came a suggestion that some trees which had appeared to have died were now showing some signs of growth.

55/04 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary

WPC Harris confirmed that, along with PC Dave Knott, she had responsibility for Lindal and Marton (amongst other areas). She suggested that anyone who wished to contact her or PC Knott should telephone the main Police phone number and ask for extension 4230.

Reference was made to the traffic issues relating to the A590 and previous assessments of speeds. The Clerk reported that he had verified via PC Howson that the fastest speed recorded on the day in question had been 45.79 mph with less than 1% of the total traffic found to be speeding, and the average being 37 mph. Such data did not suggest to the Police that special measures were warranted at present to reduce or otherwise control traffic passing through Lindal.

56/04 Report of School Governors.

The minutes regarding the meeting held on 26th April 2004 were NOTED.

57/04 Lindal Village Green.

The Chairman reported on the latest developments regarding the proposals for the Green. The original planning application had been forwarded to the County Highways department for their comments and as a consequence, a traffic analysis had been completed. This suggested that the average speed of traffic passing the Green was 24 mph going north on the Buccleuch Hall side and 27 mph going south, whilst on the opposite side of the Green the averages were 24.8 mph in both directions.

In addition, some vehicles on the Hall side were found to have exceeded the speed limit to around 34 mph., and consequently, Highways officials are unwilling to lend their support to the original proposals unless traffic-calming measures are implemented..

This is because the suggested northern entrance, in particular, has the potential to increase the number of pedestrians crossing the road to the Green and this would not be appropriate in view of the speeds recently identified.

During discussions *with the floor* it was clear that all concerned were doubtful as to the validity of the data with many being of the opinion that, if anything, the speeds had been under-stated. However, nothing would be gained by challenging the data because, even with the existing speeds, there was a requirement for traffic-calming anyway.

The Chairman went on to explain that if the original proposals for the Green were implemented, incorporating a gate at the northern end of the Green, the Highways department would be looking for a comprehensive traffic-calming scheme which could involve the introduction of flat-topped road-humps at the north and south ends

of the Green, on both the easterly and westerly sides, with one linking the Buccleuch Hall to the existing entrance to the Green, i.e., 5 humps in total.

However, a secondary scheme could be considered whereby the northern entrance to the Green would be eliminated from the proposals – reducing the numbers of pedestrians crossing the road - and this would mean that a reduced traffic-calming scheme would be sufficient, probably in the form of one road- hump outside the Hall, together with something similar on the easterly side of the Green to act as a deterrent to it becoming a “rat-run”.

The Chairman indicated that further meetings would be held with Barrow Borough Council officials to determine which elements of a revised scheme would meet with planning approval. Once this had been clarified, arrangements would be made for the Parish-wide consultation, which would include two alternatives regarding additional gates, the first to include all the proposed additional gates and the suggested full-scale traffic-calming, with the second being a modified version, without the northern gate and with limited traffic-calming.

The results of the consultation would then determine the format of the revised planning application and at the same time, arrangements would be made for a professionally-designed traffic-calming scheme, should this be necessary.

The question of introducing traffic-calming if none of the Green proposals were implemented was discussed and the Clerk indicated that, in any event, no funds were available this year for any such work. Funds could be available in 2005/6 and it was AGREED that, once the situation regarding the Green was clarified, further attention would be given to this subject.

58/04 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) 6/2004/585/157 Erection of pitched roof, front and rear dormers, rear porch and internal alterations, 2 Bell Hill Cottages, Marton. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Hickey that the Parish Council express no comment on this application. Carried unanimously.
- b) 6/2004/722/142 erection of house, land adjacent to 33 Marton. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Morgan that the Parish Council express no comment on this application. Carried unanimously.
- c) 2004/714 new cattle housing and midden. Farmland at Tarn Flat, Marton. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Morgan that the Parish Council express no comment on this application. Carried unanimously.
- d) 2004/773 sun lounge and adjacent shower/toilet, 7 School Terrace Lindal. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Weall and SECONDED by Councillor Hickey that the Parish Council give their full support to this application. Carried unanimously.

59/04 Correspondence.

- a) planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Barrow Borough Council minutes, 27.4.04 to 21.7.04. NOTED.
- c) Residents Association minutes. 9.6.04 and 21.7.04. NOTED.
- d) Morecambe Bay Hospitals NHS Trust. Foundation Status. NOTED.
- e) Furness Partnership minutes. NOTED.

- f) Highways Agency. Roadworks and Traffic information. NOTED.
- g) Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan. NOTED.
- h) C.C.C. "How to become a County Councillor". NOTED.
- i) Rural Community Council Newsletter. NOTED.
- j) Amey Mouchel. Green lane/A590 junction. Consultation re permanent closure. It was AGREED that there should be no comment on this proposal.
- k) C.C.C. Local Transport Plan. Progress report. NOTED.

60/04 Finance.

- a) The Clerk reported that the financial balances were as follows.
Current account:-£250.05
Reserve account:-£1584.86
- b) The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit Return had been returned because it included an arithmetical error which had been identified by the Audit Commission officer. Accordingly, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Weall and SECONDED by Councillor Hickey that the Return be amended as appropriate and that an amended Statement of Variances be produced. Carried unanimously.

61/04 Any Other Business

- a) The Clerk reported that he had received, too late for the Agenda, a planning application which required comments before the September meeting. The Chairman decreed that, due to the urgency of the matter, the application could be discussed and a recommendation made viz:- 157/2004/0835 Two-storey extension to the rear of Hall Side, The Green, Lindal. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Hickey and SECONDED by Councillor Waite that the Parish Council make no comment on this application. Carried unanimously.
- b) Councillor Mrs Morgan advised that Age Concern had started a "drop-in" service for those who required advice or assistance, in the Urswick Parish Room, on the first Monday of the month, from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. Home visits were also available. The telephone number for information is 01539 742603 or 728118.
- c) Councillor Waite reported that a member of the public had questioned the use of the phraseology "*from the floor*" in the minutes when referring to discussions involving members of the audience, when it would be more appropriate to name the person concerned. It was AGREED that there be no change to the existing arrangements.
- d) The Chairman reported that the Mayor of Barrow had sent him a petition regarding the fight to save Cumbria's only Regular Army Battalion from amalgamation under the latest round of Armed Forces reorganisation. It was available for anyone to sign after the meeting.
- e) *From the floor* members of the Residents Association drew attention to their proposed ceilidh, to be held in the Buccleuch Hall on Friday, 27 August 2004.

62/04 Date and Time of next meeting.

It was AGREED that the next meeting be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 2nd September, in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.