

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

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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, 5th June, 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite (Chairman); Ms S Rainbow; Mrs S Kelly.

Apologies. Councillors Lord and Howarth.

Also present:- 9 members of the public.

In attendance:-

Sergeant Stuart Flett, Cumbria Constabulary
Councillor Mrs Kath Unwin, Barrow Borough Council.

61/08 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None

62/08 Disclosure of Interests.

Councillor Ms Rainbow declared an interest in item 10 (a), minute no 69/08 (a), in that she lived within the conservation area.

Councillor Mrs Kelly made a similar declaration.

63/08 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 1st May, 2008.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 1st May, 2008 were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED:- Councillor Mrs Kelly.

SECONDED:- Councillor Waite. Carried unanimously.

64/08 Matters arising.

- a) 54/08 The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted Capita regarding the concerns expressed by LAMPS' School Governors about road markings and a 20 mph speed limit. He had received a reply suggesting that an order for road markings was due to

be placed shortly and that an assessment of the need for a 20 mph speed limit would be carried out during this financial year. If such a reduced speed limit was found to be justified it would be considered for inclusion in the 2009/10 financial year.

- b) 55/08 The Clerk reported that Capita would consider the installation of a dropped kerb, to assist wheelchair users, on the eastern footway of The Green close to October House. Subject to funds being available, the work could be completed within the next 2-3 months.
- c) 59/08 (b) Councillor Mrs Kelly asked whether anything had been heard regarding the missing door to the telephone kiosk at the Green. The Clerk undertook to make further enquiries.
- d) 59/08 (c) Councillor Mrs Kelly asked whether any more was known about the development at Whitriggs. The Clerk reported that the Enforcement Officer at Barrow Borough Council was still assessing with his colleagues the various planning implications of this development.

65/08 Attendance of Officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

Sergeant Flett reported on the Council's concerns about vehicles travelling above the 40 mph maximum, on the A590 as it passed through Lindal. A survey had been carried out which suggested an average speed of some 35 mph. As a consequence, no action was contemplated. However, it was pointed out that, given that it was an average, there must be occasions when vehicles were exceeding this speed (as well as going slower) reinforcing the allegations that traffic was regularly exceeding the 40 mph limit.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should write to the Highways Agency, in the first instance, to enquire as to the availability of flashing-light speed warning signs to be used as a reminder to traffic of the need to respect the speed limit.

Sergeant Flett drew attention to an apparent nationwide problem involving "hate crime", whereby individuals could be subject to harassment or other difficulties, merely because of differences such as being a member of a minority group. It was felt that these matters were being under-reported and Cumbria Constabulary wished to emphasise their availability and willingness to assist whenever such problems occurred.

Sergeant Flett reminded the meeting that the police could always be contacted via their web site www.cumbria.police.uk with the non-emergency telephone number being 0845 3300 247.

66/08 Report of School Governors. Submission of minutes – if any.

There were no minutes for consideration.

67/08 Lindal Village Green.

There was nothing further to report regarding the installation of kerbs around the Green.

The Chairman commented on suggestions that persons had been seen with horses on the Green, with this being considered to be inappropriate in an area set aside for children to play, mothers to take toddlers etc. Barrow Borough Council had already introduced a Dog Control Order for the Green and the Clerk confirmed that he had already contacted the Council to ask whether the current signs banning dogs could be amended to include horses.

68/08 Prospective Wind Farm, Standish Cote.

The Chairman and Clerk reported that they had been advised of a Liaison Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 14th May 2008, and that they had both attended. However, the meeting had had to be abandoned due to a failure of those present to agree as to what had been agreed at the first meeting held on 16th April, (No representatives from Lindal and Marton had been

present at that first meeting), particularly regarding the way in which representatives of the residents living in the immediate vicinity of the development would be selected.

It was left to those few residents present at the meeting – 14th May – to decide amongst themselves who should represent them for the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, 18th June, 2008. Infinergy also confirmed that they would contact all residents who lived within the immediate neighbourhood of the site informing them of developments and the Clerk confirmed that he had received a list of persons to whom Infinergy had written, on the basis that these were now considered to be “immediate neighbours”.

There were some 25 addresses in the list and it was accepted that there appeared to be no need for the Parish Council to suggest any amendments. During further discussions *with the floor* it was apparent that there was some disquiet amongst all concerned about the format of the Liaison Committee, there being doubt over whether there was an appropriate constitution and what the aims and objectives of the Committee were meant to be, particularly in the light of the inefficient and muddled workings of the first two meetings of the Committee.

The Clerk pointed out that membership seemed to be limited to elected members i.e. councillors, plus the representatives of the residents. As a consequence, if he attended, it could only be as an observer. It was accepted that the Parish Council should, at present, continue to participate, with two places allocated and, given that these did not have to be named councillors, it was AGREED that members would liaise amongst themselves before each meeting (the next being on Wednesday, 18th June) to decide who these should be.

A final comment came *from the floor* when it was pointed out that the Scoping Report produced by Infinergy appeared to be inaccurate in that it reported an absence of otters on the site of the proposed wind farm, when the reality was such that there were, in fact, otters in the immediate vicinity of the site. It was noted that, if proven, such a presence could have serious implications for the development.

69/08 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

- a) 6/08/564 *Notice of Intention to fell one Sycamore tree, Stone Walls, The Green, Lindal.(within a conservation area)* Reference was made to minute 101/07 (August 2007) and minute 56/08 (May 2008) when the Parish Council, in deliberating upon a planning application for the property in question, emphasised its reluctance to see the tree removed as part of any development. However, the current application included a report commissioned by the applicant from a Tree Surgeon which suggested that the tree was potentially dangerous and should be removed. It was also pointed out that the recommendation to go before Barrow Borough Council’s planning committee, from the planning department, was to have a Tree Preservation Order placed upon the tree. It was PROPOSED therefore, by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that, unless there were proven dangers necessitating the removal of the tree, the Parish Council support the recommendation regarding a Tree Preservation Order. Carried unanimously.
- b) 6/08/607 *Replacement of field shelter with stable block (retrospective). Field at Tarn Flat, Marton.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Council express no comment on this application. Carried unanimously.
- c) 6/08/602 *Barn conversion to holiday accommodation, Stewnor Bank, Marton.* It was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Kelly and SECONDED by Councillor Ms Rainbow that the Council express no comment on this application. Carried unanimously.

70/08 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications outwith the Parish. NOTED.
- b) Barrow Borough Council. Minutes for 22nd April, 2008. NOTED.
- c) Cumbria Highways. Amended programme for Area Highways Teams. It was NOTED that visits to Lindal and Marton were now scheduled to commence on Friday, 4th July 2008, Monday 29th September 2008, and Monday 22nd December 2008.
- d) Barrow Borough Council Standards Committee representation. It was NOTED that two parish councillors were required to serve on the Borough's Standards Committee. It was NOTED that the members present had no wish to be considered for the Standards Committee and it was AGREED that the Clerk would discuss the matter with Councillors Lord and Howarth on their return from holiday.
- e) Duddon Estuary Partnership. Meeting for 16th July 2008. NOTED.

71/08 Finance.

- a) Cash balances :- Current account £50 Reserve account:- £2889.53

72/08 Any Other Business.

- a) The Clerk reported that Dalton Council had invited the Chairman to attend their Civic Sunday parade on Sunday, 22nd June 2008. The Chairman confirmed that he would be unable to attend and the Clerk would convey his apologies.
- b) The Clerk referred to a child-safety DVD which had been produced by Barrow and District Safety Action Group and which was to be launched on Thursday, 26th June 2008. NOTED.
- c) Councillor Mrs Kelly drew attention to parking problems on The Green, opposite her hair dressing salon, whereby vehicles were being parked across the entrance to the back street to the rear of Ulverston Road. The Clerk undertook to discuss this with Capita.
- d) Councillor Ms Rainbow referred to the Village Gala, scheduled for Saturday, 5th July 2008. Councillor Mrs Kelly agreed to arrange children's face-painting.

73/08 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

It was AGREED that, in accordance with minute 24/08 (b), (February 2008), the next meeting would be on **Thursday, 7th August, 2008**. There will be no meeting in July unless urgent business necessitates a decision to the contrary.

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