

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, 3rd December 2015, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:-

Councillors Mr A Waite; Mr R Lord; Mrs S Glover; Mr D Howarth; Mrs S Kelly.

Also present: There were no members of the public present.

In attendance:-

PCSO Louise Johns, Cumbria Constabulary. County Councillor Barry Doughty;
District Councillor Ann Thurlow.

113/15 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None.

114/15 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

None.

115/15 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th November, 2015.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 5th November 2015 were taken as read and APPROVED.

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

Carried unanimously.

116/15 Matters arising from those minutes.

- a) Councillor Lord raised two matters:-
1. 111/15 (a) He had been advised by a local resident that the County Council's proposal to allow the extinguishment of a small part of footpath 602022 which ran through the car-park of the candle factory was flawed because the alternative footpath was currently unsuitable as it incorporated steps which were difficult to use. The Clerk reported that he had had further communication with the County officials who confirmed that four objections had been received and that they would advise in due course what happened next.
 2. 105/15 (a) He asked for the latest position regarding the "no entry" signs: the Clerk was able to advise that – at long last - they were now in place.
- b) 107/15 Councillor Howarth asked for clarification as to the wild-flower scheme and the costs involved. The Clerk advised that Barrow Council was willing to contribute £250 on top of the £250 being made available by the Parish Council, making a maximum amount available for the scheme of £500. He also confirmed that the Headmistress of LAMPS was willing to allow the school to participate in the planting of the bulbs. He was awaiting further information regarding the time-scale etc. During discussion, it was AGREED that, whilst the task of planting might not exceed a half day, volunteers from the village should be sought to assist in this process. The Clerk would arrange to publicise this via "Aspects".
- c) 105/15 (b) Councillor Waite commented on confusion surrounding the provision of the Christmas Tree for Marton, with two trees being delivered on the same day. The Clerk reported that Councillor Howarth's contacts could not provide a tree in time for the lights to be affixed by the contractor and that this had led the contractor to offer to provide one himself at the same time as he would be delivering Lindal's tree. Unfortunately, Councillor Waite's own contacts had misunderstood the situation and had delivered their own tree, even though this hadn't been requested. This latter tree was eventually removed.

117/15 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary.

PCSO Johns reported that there had been one incident of anti-social behaviour in the Parish during November.

118/15 Annual assessment - Standing Orders; Risk Management; Internal Audit.

The Clerk suggested that there were no reasons for amending the Council's Standing Orders, nor the Risk Management Policy, and Councillor Howarth confirmed that after discussing the matter with the Council's internal auditor he was satisfied with the arrangements for managing the Council's finances. It was then PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Lord that no changes were required to the current situation. Carried unanimously.

119/15 South Lakes Safari Park. Marshalling Plan.

The Clerk reported that the meeting of Barrow's planning committee on Tuesday, 1st December considered an application from the Safari Park. This was in connection with various conditions attached to the opening of the Park's new entrance and car-park, one of which being the requirement for a Marshalling Plan.

The Plan suggested that there would be ample spaces within the car-park to deal with demand, both now and in the future, but given that, as far as it was known, such spaces were available during the period in August when severe congestion was experienced, it begged the question as to whether this was an accurate assessment.

The Plan also outlined the arrangements for directing vehicles to the overflow car-park (the original car-park) in the event that additional capacity was, in fact, required and it envisaged staff putting in place a number of signs to direct vehicles through the lanes when needed. This raised the possibility of signs being badly sited, misplaced, knocked down etc and permanent signs might be a better option. In addition, such signs must give accurate guidance for vehicles leaving the overflow car-park and wishing to re-join the A590.

The Clerk had contacted Barrow's planning department with a request that it consider:-

- the apparent discrepancy in the Safari Park's assertion that there are enough car-parking spaces, bearing in mind the August congestion.
- The appropriateness of utilising temporary directional signs, and the need for signs for the reverse journey.

From the floor District Councillor Thurlow reported that the planning committee had been advised of the problems associated with the Marshalling Plan and as a consequence had declined to confirm that the Plan was good enough to allow the condition to be classed as "discharged". The matter had been deferred to allow for further information to be made available.

From the floor County Councillor Doughty advised that he would be discussing the matter with the County Council's highways department.

120/15 Planning applications relating to the Parish.

There were no applications for consideration. .

121/15 Correspondence.

- a) Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough.
- b) Community Information and Safety. (including product recalls.)
 1. Cumbria Fire and Rescue. An appeal for Community Volunteers - preventative work; advising re smoke alarms, fire alarms, 1st aid etc (contact: 07825 011055)
 2. Cumbria F and R. Warnings re fake phone chargers and dangers of fire.
 3. Fraud. Warnings against on-line selling of electrical goods.
 4. Fraud. Warnings against fraudulent police officers.
(*All such notices are displayed on the Lindal notice board.*)

122/15 Finance.

- a) Account balances:- *Current* - £50: *Festivals* - £1001.00: *Reserve* - £3731.96.
War Memorials:- £1,000
- b) The Clerk reported that he had received a request from the Great North Air Ambulance for a donation, as in previous years. An amount of £100 had been included in this year's budget..
- c) The Clerk requested payment of his annual subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks (£48) as in previous years.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the requests in items (b) and (c) be approved. Carried unanimously.

- d) The Clerk referred to the financial summary and the suggested precept for 2016/17 which had been circulated to Councillors. The precept was recommended as £3,600 ie., the same as the current year. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Howarth and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the statement and suggested precept be approved. Carried unanimously.
- e) Reference was made to the suggestion made at the meeting held in April 2015, by County Councillor Doughty, that he might be able to provide funding towards the costs of clearing of road-side vegetation – *see minute 39/15 (d)*. The Clerk confirmed that the sum of £250 had been received in August 2015 from Cumbria County Council and it was AGREED that Councillor Doughty be thanked for this helpful contribution.
From the floor Councillor Doughty mentioned the possibility of further funding via the County Council in relation to Public Health issues, pointing out that the Government was anxious to encourage a more healthy lifestyle: for example, exercise classes, swimming sessions etc., might be considered as developments which could be assisted financially. The Clerk would prepare a suitable article for “Aspects”.
- f) The Clerk referred to previous discussions regarding the refurbishment of the War Memorials and, in particular, the involvement of the War Memorials Trust – *see minute 111/15 (b) November 2015 et al*. It now appeared that there were more conditions attached to the securing of a grant from the Trust than had been first anticipated, not the least being a refusal to countenance chemical cleaning, with steam cleaning being required. After further discussions with Barrow Borough Council (the owner/custodian of the Memorials) and noting that the Parish Council had sufficient funds to make up any shortfall, it had been agreed not to proceed with trying to secure a grant from the Trust and that the second quotation from Mossops Monumental Masons, in the sum of £2497.80 (reduced from £3457.80) should be accepted, on the following basis:-

Donation towards costs from Mr C Rawlinson.	1,000.00
Grant from Barrow Council	500.00
Refund of VAT off invoice	416.30
Balance payable by Parish Council	<u>581.50</u>
	2497.80

The above was NOTED and APPROVED.

123/15 Any Other Business.

- a) Councillor Mrs Kelly drew attention to the recent difficulties with flooding at Lowfield Bridge, on the A590, on the outskirts of Lindal, when this vital main road had been blocked on several occasions, to the detriment of both local residents getting to and from Lindal as well as main-road travellers. This seemed to be a regular occurrence and the failure of Highways England to solve the problem was of great concern. *From the floor* Councillor Doughty confirmed that he was due to meet representatives from Highways England and that he would raise this issue as a matter of some urgency. In addition it was AGREED that the Clerk would write in a similar vein.
- b) Reference was made to the road works taking place at the corner of the road to Snipe Ghyll apparently to facilitate the transportation of new wind turbines. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had not been consulted or notified.

- c) Councillor Waite referred to the continuing problem of flooding at Broken Bridge, when recent heavy rains had made the road impassable for pedestrians. It was clear that the County Council were either unable or unwilling to effect an appropriate remedy and the Parish Council was still pursuing with a local contractor the possibility of creating a mini drainage system: this appeared to be dependent on the depth of bed-rock in the area and further information was awaited.
- d) Councillor Howarth reported that the development of the new pavilion at Lindal Cricket Club was proceeding to plan and that completion was anticipated in time for the beginning of the next season.
- e) *From the floor* County Councillor Doughty announced his great pleasure in noting that one of the County Council's Excellence Awards went to a lady resident of Lindal, a Social Services employee, for her work as a carer.

124/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The Date and Time of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 7th January 2016, 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. Agendas and minutes can be supplied by email to any resident on request)