

Lindal and Marton Parish Council

Chairman
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Councillors:- Mr A Waite (462922) Mrs S Glover (462383) Mrs S Kelly (465343) Mrs C Stringer (464781) Mr N Fleming (466040)

Clerk
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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 1st August 2024 at 7.30 pm. in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

Present:- Councillors A Waite; Mrs S Glover; Mrs S Kelly; Mrs C Stringer; N Fleming.

Apologies:- n/a.

Also present: One member of the public was present.

In attendance W&F Councillor Dan Edwards.

Apologies none.

67/24 Urgent business. Items normally needing to be publicised but received too late for the agenda. (Section 100B (4) (b) Local Government Act 1972)

None

68/24 Disclosure of interests. Requests for dispensations.

None.

69/24 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th July 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 4th July, 2024, were taken as read and APPROVED.

PROPOSED: - Councillor Mrs Stringer: SECONDED: - Councillor Fleming. Carried unanimously.

70/24 Matters arising from those minutes.

a) The Clerk commented as follows:-

- 65/24 (b) Regarding irresponsible parking and the suggestion that some vehicles might be untaxed, W&F Council had confirmed that such matters could be investigated if complainants contacted that Council with appropriate details via the website, searching under "Abandoned Vehicles".
- 65/24 (c) The school, LAMPS, had indicated its willingness to be associated with the Parish Council on the subject of a SID. Matters would be progressed once the school recommenced in September.
- 60/24 (b). W&F Council had reported that its investigations into flooding issues involving Snipe Ghyll had experienced difficulties in determining the ownership of land. The Clerk had supplied what little information he had.

71/24 Attendance of officer from Cumbria Constabulary

No officer was in attendance. No information had been received.

72/24 Public Space Protection Orders, PSPOs, renewal of existing Orders

W&F Council had inherited details of areas of land which had been given protection from anti-social behaviour, vandalism etc by the use of a Public Space Protection Order, a PSPO, introduced by previous councils and which now had to be renewed under the auspices of the new Council. Such PSPOs make it easier for Local Authorities to take appropriate action where necessary.

Insofar as Lindal and Marton was concerned it would appear that two areas had been so designated, the play areas in Lindal and Marton. Lindal village green was not so designated but seemingly was protected by appropriate by-laws. It was NOTED that Councillor Fleming had completed W&F's on-line survey on the matter, in his capacity as a local resident, and had outlined the need for Lindal village green to be formally covered by a PCSO.

Insofar as the new Orders were concerned, it was AGREED that the existing Orders should be renewed but with the formal addition of Lindal village green. No other areas were felt to be in need of such protection. However, given that Councillor Fleming had already confirmed the need for this addition it was felt that no other action needed to be taken at this time. Councillor Fleming was thanked for his action.

73/24 Westmorland and Furness Council, W&F, production of Local Plan.

W&F Council had announced the beginning of a process to put together its Local Plan, which would replace Local Plans produced by previous Councils such as Barrow Borough Council. The Plan will cover the next 20 years and will encompass matters

such as housing developments, climate change, flood risk, travel arrangements, employment needs etc and W&F is inviting any interested party to submit comments or suggestions as to how the Plan should be developed.

From the Parish Council's point of view, the principal area of interest would appear to be the "Call for Sites", whereby *"land or sites that are available for housing, employment and mixed-use"* can be nominated for consideration by W&F for inclusion in the Plan. The newly-elected Labour government has similarly announced its wish to see a major expansion of the provision of houses, putting additional pressure on the likes of W&F to speed up this process.

NB. If any nominated land was, in fact, approved as suitable for housing, it would still require the land-owner to submit a planning application in the usual manner, if he so wished.

It was also noted that in Barrow Borough Council's Development plan, 2016 - 2031, the development cordon for Lindal, within which housing development was permitted in principle, was tightly drawn around existing properties, leaving little, if any, space for future development, the only exception being land to the east of London Road. Such land is currently being developed with a mini estate of 35 houses.

In the case of Marton, it was classed as "open countryside", leaving little room for manoeuvre insofar as house building was concerned.

During discussion, due consideration was given to the existing Barrow Borough Council Plan and the implication that new houses in Lindal and Marton would be considered the exception rather than the norm. Such policy was, no doubt, intended to reinforce the concept of the two settlements being rural havens surrounded by farmland and in need of protection from urban sprawl.

Reference was also made to the area's mining history and the fact that, underground, there are a considerable number of tunnels, mine shafts etc which, whilst apparently stable at the moment, could create problems if subject to extensive building works.

Notwithstanding such geological considerations, members took the view that, as far as Lindal and Marton was concerned, there might be a few pockets of land which could accommodate additional houses. However, the small and intimate nature of the Parish, coupled with the reluctance of members to alienate neighbours, was sufficient to create some misgivings regarding the requirement for the Parish Council to make appropriate recommendations.

Conversely, if residents were made fully aware of the Plan, with emphasis placed on W&F Council's wish to see local people become fully engaged with the process, making their own recommendations, then this might be a more appropriate way of moving forward.

Accordingly, it was PROPOSED by Councillor Waite and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Kelly that the Council itself should refrain from making suggestions of what, if any, land might be suitable for housing and that it should be left to individual residents to make their own recommendations. In this regard, Full publicity can be provided in the next edition of "Aspects", with the Clerk available to give assistance, if required. Carried unanimously.

Planning applications relating to the Parish

None.

73/24 Correspondence.

Planning applications relating to the whole of the Borough. The Clerk confirmed that the latest on-line list from Barrow Borough Council had been received and forwarded to Councillors. NOTED.

74 /24 Finance

- a) Account balances: - *Current* - £50: *Festivals* - £168.22- *Reserve* - £11363.68
- b) Payments recently made, for formal authorisation.
None.

75/24 Any Other Business.

a) *From the floor* a resident reported that considerable amount of ^{Soul}builders' rubble had been dumped on the public footpath which commences near to The Old Chapel in Marton. The Clerk undertook to pursue the matter.

In addition, the resident referred to electric cycles being used through Marton village at reckless speeds. It was suggested that he could report future occurrences to the Police, via 101, in order that they might build up a picture of potential anti-social behaviour.

b) Councillor Mrs Kelly commented on the problems caused by overhanging bushes on certain footpaths, citing the A590 near Bank Terrace as one example. The Clerk would look into it.

c) Councillor Mrs Stringer referred to the publishing of the parish magazine, "Aspects". The costs for ten editions (one year) were £1132, funded by the Parish Council's subsidy and adverts within the magazine.

76/24 Date and Time of next meeting

The date and time of the next meeting was AGREED as Thursday 5th September 2024, at 7.30 pm in the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal.

(Council meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Agendas and minutes can be supplied by email to any resident on request and similarly, they can be seen, along with other documents, on the community website, www.lindal-in-furness.co.uk)