

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th February 2006 at St. Martin's College (Ambleside Campus) at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs. A. Green (Chairman), W.H. Allen, Mrs E.M. Braithwaite, E.S. Bradshaw, G.H. Brookes, N.C. Martin, G. Middleton, Mrs V. Rees, J.R. Westmoreland and Mrs E Wilson

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Mrs M. Lockley, Mrs E.A. Garlick, C.C. Morris, L. Johnson R. Sutton and District Cllr R. Barker

IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllr D Vatcher, County Cllr B Barton

ALSO: M. A. Johnson, PC Buxton, the Press and 7 members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting the Vice Chairman told Members that the Chairman was presently in hospital having undergone a serious operation. It would be some time before he would be able to resume his duties. The Council sent their best wishes to Councillor Sutton and wished him a speedy recovery.

169. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11th January 2006 and the Plans Meeting on 25th January 2006 at St. Martin's College, Ambleside were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

170. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ Councillor Mrs Braithwaite declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6(e) (Coronation Seat, Chapel Stile) and Councillor Mrs Rees declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 6(b) (Grasmere Village Hall). There were no other declarations of Interest from Members.

171. POLICE REPORT

PC Buxton reported that crime figures included 13 in Ambleside. These were drugs, criminal damage, vehicles, shoplifting, burglary and attempted burglary, assault and drink related offences. In the case of the burglary offences it appeared the weakest links were being targeted and that no alarms had been fitted to the premises. The crime figures despite this remained low in relation to the previous year when 20 offences had been reported. In the latest crime figures available to December 2005, a decrease of 21% was shown for Ambleside. The Chairman thanked him for his attendance.

172. REPORTS

- a. Ambleside Chamber of Trade 18 Jan 06. There was no report as Cllr Martin had been unable to attend this meeting.
- b. Skelwith Bridge Design Open Day. Cllr Martin noted that a planning application containing all of the information needed was to be discussed later in the Meeting.
- c. Speed Dating – Parish Plan 2nd February 06. Councillors Bradshaw and Green reported on this meeting which had been very productive and interesting.

- d. Lake District Visioning Meeting 18th and 30th January. Councillors Bradshaw and Mrs Braithwaite reported on these meetings which had included the need for a common understanding and also the need for change balancing the environment with social and economic constraints evident within the Lake District National Park. Local Parish Councils play a crucial part in the process. Workshops then took place and various issues were highlighted as a result of these workshops.
- e. Neighbourhood Forum. Councillor Green reported on the latest meeting of the Neighbourhood Forum held in Ambleside.

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting for members of the public to speak. Representatives of Grasmere Village Hall spoke on the work being undertaken on the Hall and the need for grant finance to achieve the completion of such work.

173. FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED to confirm approval the orders for payment submitted to the meeting totalling £1040.97.
- b. The Clerk had circulated information on a request for funding from Grasmere Village Hall.(Councillor Mrs Rees left the Meeting at this point and took no part in the debate or subsequent resolution) RESOLVED to agree to contribute £2000 towards the work on Grasmere Village Hall.
- c. The Clerk had circulated a letter from Rural CAB Cumbria requesting an increase in grant for the financial year 2006/7. RESOLVED....to defer this item and request further information on the balance sheet shown and the salaried positions of rural CAB.
- d. RESOLVED to pay £50 for a contribution to a four module course to be undertaken by the Clerk for a Certificate in Local Council Administration, an essential item in the process of obtaining a Quality Council qualification.
- e. RESOLVED to contribute the sum of £545 to repair the Coronation Seat at Chapel Stile and to pay £150 towards the provision of bulbs and shrubs. The accounts to be sent direct to the Parish Council from the suppliers.
- f. On the recommendation of the Internal Auditor the Parish Council considered their future Investment policy for the funds presently held in the National Savings Investment Account. RESOLVED – That the funds remain invested with the National Savings Investment Account,

174. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

RESOLVED to make the following recommendations on the under-mentioned plans:-

- 1. 7/05/5655 The Old School, Troutbeck Windermere
Change of use to form 2 affordable housing for local occupancy. – **No Objections**
- 2. 7/06/5029/30 Little Barn, St Martins College, Ambleside
Elevation of existing external levels to improve access for the disabled and listed building consent – **No Objections**
- 3. 7/06/5020 Highcroft, Under Loughrigg Lane, Ambleside
Extensions and alterations – **No Objections**

4. 7/06/5021 Bridge Cottage, Church Bridge, Grasmere
Dormer Window alterations – **No Objections**
5. 7/06/5036 Lowfield, Old Lake Road, Ambleside
Proposed change of use of garage and store to residential unit
No Objections provided that a local occupancy clause is a condition of this application
6. 7/06/5033 Brathay Fell Cottage, Clappersgate, Ambleside
Replacement detached garage (revised siting) – **No Objections**
7. 7/06/5028 Parts of Bridge How and Force How Coppices, Skelwith Bridge
Creation of new public footpath and bridge over River Brathay for cyclists and walkers – **No Objections**

175 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- A. From the Chairman
The Chairman had nothing to report.
- B. From the Clerk
 - 1 Windermere Town Council – Agenda 8 February 06
 - 2 DIS Extra –623 – 6 February 2006
 3. The Clerk – January 2006
 4. SLDC – Minutes September - December 2005
 5. Northwest Network – News Update Windermere Town Council – Agenda 11 January 06
 6. The Clerk highlighted information in DIS Extra 623
 7. The Clerk highlighted the Newsletter and information contained therein regarding the Parish Council elections 2006.
 8. The Clerk had circulated a letter from the County Engineer on the Road Safety matters at Rydal raised at the last meeting.
- C From Members
Councillor Bradshaw congratulated the Clerk on the editorial content of the Newsletter now being circulated within the Parish.
Councillor Bradshaw informed Members of a piece of land in Mclver Lane Ambleside which might be suitable for affordable housing and asked that this item be placed on the next Agenda for consideration.
- D. From District Councillors
Councillor Mrs Braithwaite reported on District matters and the budget. It was possible that a 4.9% increase would be set for the next financial year. She highlighted a document called the Parish Council Toolkit and commended it to the Clerk.
Councillor Vatcher concurred with Mrs Braithwaite.
- E. From the County Councillor
Councillor Barton spoke Grasmere road and that no funding was available for it.
RECEIVED

176. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Councillor Bradshaw reported on a Meeting held in Kendal which had been the most exciting meeting he had ever attended. A newspaper had been circulated by the Clerk informing Members of the ideas behind this campaign.

RESOLVED – That the Lakes Parish Council endorse the Draft Members Bill on Sustainable Communities and resolve to fully support the matters contained therein.

177 RED BANK, GRASMERE

The Clerk reported on correspondence received regarding this dangerous bank. Members also considered a letter from the residents of Skory Cottage, Grasmere requesting a one way system.

RESOLVED That the Lakes Parish Council support the local community and ask that both the width restriction and speed limit on Red Bank together with the proposed one way system near Skory Cottage be subject to consideration in depth by the County Council.

178 PARISH PLAN

The Clerk had circulated information on a meeting to be held on 21st February 2006 in the Beehive starting at 7pm.

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179. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS - SLDC

The Clerk had circulated information and the Meeting was asked to consider if further evidence could be submitted in support of the status quo for District boundaries within Lakes Parish.

RESOLVED – That Lakes Parish Council send a very strong and clear message to the Boundary Committee for England that they wish the integrity of Lakes Parish District Council boundaries to be preserved. They do not wish the five Wards of the Parish to be dissected with parts of it being split away and placed with other District Wards. The Lakes Parish is also a County Council division in its own right. Community links were devised many years ago because of geographic and waterway features. The Lakes Parish is a large rural area, sparsely populated and any review of South Lakeland District cannot equate Lakes Parish to areas such as Kendal or Ulverston. This rural sparsity means that communities home towards a major town or village. In Lakes Parish the major village is Ambleside. The Lakes Parish Council reiterate their original submission to the Boundary Committee for England and ask that this further resolution be also taken in to consideration.

180 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Rydal Hall, Rydal Ambleside – A proposal has been received to fell 4 trees and pollard 1. These trees are within the Rydal Conservation Area and the Park Authority have a limited time to decide whether these trees should be subject to a TPO. Comments are invited from Lakes Parish Council.

The Tree Advisor had no objections to this work

RESOLVED – To agree to the work proposed.

181 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING APPEALS/WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS

- a. 7/2005/5305 – The Wordsworth Hotel, Grasmere – appeal against refusal of an extension to existing hotel – Appeal is allowed and planning permission granted.
- b. Enforcement notice appeal – Mr M Stott – The Old Wesleyan Chapel Rydal Road, Ambleside – to be dealt with by written representations.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm