

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

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

- PRESENT: Cllrs. E.S .Bradshaw (Chairman), Mrs E.M. Braithwaite, L. Johnson, N.C. Martin, G. Middleton, C.C. Morris, Mrs V. Rees, J.R. Westmoreland and Mrs E Wilson
- APOLOGIES: Cllrs R. Sutton, A. Green, Mrs M. Lockley, Mrs E.A. Garlick, W.H. Allen G.H. Brookes
- IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllrs R. Barker, D Vatcher, County Cllr B Barton
- ALSO: M. A. Johnson, PC McClennan, the Press and 4 members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, as the Chairman and Vice Chairman were both absent, nominations were invited for Chairman of the Meeting. Councillor Bradshaw was proposed and seconded. There being no further nominations, Councillor Bradshaw was elected Chairman for the Meeting. Councillor Mrs Wilson updated Members on the latest information regarding the illness of the Chairman, Cllr Rod Sutton. Members sent their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

182. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8th February 2006 with an amendment on Minute number 175(E) and the Plans Meeting on 22nd February 2006 held at St. Martin's College, Ambleside were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

183. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ Councillor Mrs Braithwaite declared an interest in Agenda Item 6(c) (Langdale School, Chapel Stile) and Councillor Johnson declared an interest in Agenda Item 6(d) (Ambleside Christmas Lights). There were no other declarations of Interest from Members.

184. POLICE REPORT

PC McClennan reported that crime figures showed a decrease year on year of 24%. Shoplifting continued to be a concern but the Shopwatch scheme was proving useful. He answered questions from Members and the Chairman thanked him for his attendance.

185. REPORTS

- a. Ambleside Chamber of Trade 20 February 06. Councillor Martin reported on the Meeting. The main discussion had been the need for recruitment of new members. Michaela Blackburn the newly appointed Town Centre Manager had attended and given members a presentation on her work and ideas for the future.
- b. Parish Plan Implementation Meeting 21st February 06. A summary of the inaugural meeting had been tabled. Councillor Bradshaw gave a resume of the Meeting and the action points and groups agreed. Hopefully the groups will

meeting prior to a meeting of the co-ordinating group to be held in the Library, Ambleside on 25th April. Councillor Mrs Rees asked if the meeting date in April could be reviewed due to the Grasmere Village Society AGM being on the same night. The Clerk would see if an alternative date could be agreed.

- c. St. Martins College Campus Community Liaison Group – Councillor Johnson reported on a meeting held on 2nd March 2006. The Principal had attended and outlined matters concerning the proposed University for Cumbria. Matters discussed included Town and Gown and the Parish Magazine. The name of Charlotte Mason is to be restored to the College on a plaque to be sited near the main door.

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting for members of the public to speak. Representatives of Ambleside Christmas Lights Committee explained changes to their way of working and the recruitment of local contractors. A member of the public asked if a loop could be provided at future meetings for people who had difficulty in hearing.

186. FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED to confirm approval the orders for payment submitted to the meeting totalling £4001.63.
- b. The Clerk had circulated information on a request for funding from Cumbria CAB that had been deferred from the previous meeting. RESOLVED to agree to contribute £1000 towards Rural CAB provided that assurance is given that the Ambleside CAB will remain open.
- c. The Clerk had circulated a letter from Mr Berry regarding the Langdale School annual Easter Egg run asking for funding in the sum of £60. RESOLVED...to agree to donate the sum of £60.
- d. The Clerk had circulated information on a request for funding from Ambleside Christmas Lights Committee for 2006. The Council had allocated the sum of £2500 in its annual budget for this item. RESOLVED to donate £2500 towards the 2006 Christmas Lights in Ambleside.
- e. The Clerk had circulated information on a request for the annual subscription to Direct Information Services in the sum of £90 plus VAT RESOLVED to continue to subscribe to DIS and pay the sum of £90 plus VAT.
- f. To consider a report circulated by the Clerk on the 2006/7 National Salary Award for Local Council Clerks and associated issues. This item was taken at the end of the Meeting after the Chairman moved the exclusion of the Public and Press
RESOLVED - That from 1st April 2006 the annual salary of the Clerk on Scale LC2 be increased to substantive point 31 and that his hours be increased to 24 to reflect the requirements of Quality Parish and the newly adopted Parish Plan. Additionally the Parish Council will pay the travel expenses of the Clerk from home and return to Kirkby Stephen for the Tutor course for Quality Clerk and the hours incurred during qualifying will be treated as part of his working week. Further, the Parish Council will pay an honorarium to the Clerk for his work on the Parish newsletter on an annual or quarterly basis, or, alternatively the Council is prepared to increase the hours of the Clerk to cover the production of the newsletter, this to be agreed at a later date. The Council commended the Clerk on his work and professionalism in the discharge of his duties.

187. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

1. 7/06/2042 Land west of A591 approx 4km north of Grasmere
Creation of a shared surfaced path as part of the National Cycle Network. – **Object to this application until the people of Grasmere, in particular Grasmere Village Society, have been fully consulted with the detailed plans as provided to the Parish Council.**
2. 7/06/5024 Skelwith Bridge Hotel, Skelwith Bridge, Ambleside
Construction of staff block – **Refuse - on the grounds of over intensive development**
3. 7/06/5086/7 The Old Stamp House Church Street Ambleside
Replacement of 2 existing dormers with roof window and fire dormer. – **Refuse – on the grounds that this is an important listed building in the Conservation area and the features of two dormers of the building should be preserved. It is also a building connected with the poet William Wordsworth and this is an important connection in the preservation of the existing building.**
4. 7/06/5095 The Boathouse, Clappersgate, Ambleside
Redevelopment of outbuildings to provide extension to dwelling with garages – **Refuse - as the plans provided do not properly show the scale of existing and proposed development and the Parish Council are unable to come to a decision without this necessary information.**
5. 7/06/5113 Primrose Cottage, Skelghyll, Windermere
Amended scheme for redevelopment of existing dwelling including demolition, rebuild and extension, construction of new detached garage, two cattle grids and enlargement of current domestic curtilage – **Refuse – as this appears to be demolition and rebuilding of the property.**

188 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- A. From the Chairman
The Chairman had nothing to report.
- B. From the Clerk
 - 1 Windermere Town Council – Agenda 8 March 06
 - 2 DIS Extra –625/6 – 6 March 2006
 3. The Clerk – March 2006
 4. SLDC – Agenda 21/28 February
 5. Clerks and Councils Direct – March 2006
 6. Councillors Events – March 2006
 7. The Clerk highlighted views of David Milliband in Clerks Direct.
 8. The Clerk had circulated an amended list of Meetings for April 2006 which, with the agreement of the Vice Chairman, cancelled the Plans Meeting on

April 19th and substituted a full Council meeting on April 26th 2006. Members concurred with this course of action.

- C From Members
There were no items from Members.
- D. From District Councillors
Councillor Barker reported on District matters and the budget. A 4.9% increase would be set for the next financial year and the Authority were already looking at the budget for the following year and discussing with Government the low Rate Support Grant given to SLDC. The Miller Field car park would be open by Easter with an extra 50 parking spaces and southbound traffic leaving the car park and not needing to enter the Ambleside one way system.
Councillor Vatcher spoke on the Miller Field car park approach.
Councillor Mrs Braithwaite commended the Clerk on his written submission to the Boundary Committee for England and spoke on possible Local Government reorganisation as a result of the Lyons review.
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- E. From the County Councillor
Councillor Barton spoke on Borrans/Galava footpath and public rights of way. He commented on the yellow signs at the approach to Ambleside and said that these would be replaced by Easter. He said it was good news on the Whinash wind farm planning application refusal by the Planning Inspector.

189. KENDAL HOSPITAL

Dr Earnshaw had attended the last Meeting of the Council and raised the possibility of the loss of medical facilities and the accident and emergency from Westmoreland Hospital at Kendal, in addition to the wards already under threat. He urged everyone to make representations about the potential life threatening journey required to Lancaster or Barrow for treatment. Councillor Martin spoke on the impact that any loss of medical facilities at Kendal might have on the First Responders when the round trip to Lancaster for an ambulance would be in excess of 80 miles and the absence of emergency ambulances while transporting patients to Lancaster or Barrow could be of critical concern. Councillor Mrs Braithwaite commented that a lot of hard work had gone in to the design, building and funding of the Kendal Hospital and she hoped that commonsense would prevail. Councillor Middleton commented on the increase in population during the summer when the amount of people in the area, potentially requiring emergency treatment, actually doubled or even trebled.

RESOLVED – That the Lakes Parish Council endorse the concerns of Dr Earnshaw and give full support to efforts to retain medical and emergency facilities at Westmoreland Hospital.

190 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2006

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting to allow an informal discussion on the forthcoming Parish Council Election.

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191 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING APPEALS/WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS

- a. 7/2005/5176 – Gillside Barn Grasmere – Appeals by Mr A Sankey against refusal of planning permission – The appeals are dismissed

The meeting closed at 9.59pm