

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th December 2007 in the Library, Kelsick Road, Ambleside at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs. L. Johnson (Chairman), A. Green, W. H Allen, E.S. Bradshaw, Mrs E.M. Braithwaite, N.C. Martin, Mrs S. Ogden, Mrs V. Rees, Mrs A. Sowerbutts, Mrs F.M. Sparrow, P.A. Thompson, and D Welch

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Ms M.M. Colquhoun, J. Smith, Mrs E. Wilson, J.R. Westmoreland and the Police

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr B Barton and the Parish Project Officer, Gordon Chivers

ALSO: M. A. Johnson 1 member of the public, and the Press

101 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th November 2007 and the Plans Meeting on 28th November 2007 held in the Library, Ambleside were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

102. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ Councillor Mrs Rees declared a personal and prejudicial interest in all Planning Applications.
- ◆ There were no other declarations of interest on items contained within the Agenda.

103 POLICE REPORT

The Police had submitted their apologies, however PC Buxton reported through the Clerk on a quiet and relatively trouble free November. There had been a marked reduction in incidents of antisocial behaviour. The Clerk reported damage to one of the bus shelters adjacent to the King Street car park. This has been reported as criminal damage. Cllr Mrs Braithwaite was pleased to note the smooth changeover of PCSO's at Grasmere.

RECEIVED

104. REPORTS

- a. Parish Plan Action Group 3 December. The notes from the meeting had been circulated to Members and Cllr Bradshaw highlighted relevant issues. He was pleased to report a successful top up bid of £3000 towards community transport information. He introduced Gordon Chivers who spoke to a report that had been previously circulated. Members agreed to accept recommendations contained within the report relating to Community Transport and Recycling but to defer a decision on Communications listed later in the Agenda under Finance.
- b. Ambleside Chamber of Trade December – Cllr Martin reported on both the November and December meetings. An extraordinary AGM was being called in January to consider the future of the Chamber. The December meeting had been a social occasion.
- c. CALC South Lakeland 29th November – The Chairman and Vice Chairman reported on this meeting. It had been a well attended meeting with a presentation on Rural Greens. SLDC had reported on the Corporate Plan. A discussion had taken place on other items including the Lengthsman scheme. Lakes Parish reported on their Handyman initiative.

- d. Rothay Valley Sustainable Environment Report – the Clerk had circulated the report and financial statement. Cllr Welch reported on future work proposed and congratulated all who had helped in work undertaken in the past year.
- e. Ambleside Christmas Lights– Switch on 24th November - Cllr Mrs Sparrow reported on a successful switch-on, emails of congratulations and also reported that the date for 2008 will be November 22nd.
- f. Litter and associated issues in Ambleside 16 November – The Chairman reported on a meeting with Graham Anderson of SLDC that had culminated with a walk about in the village. Mr Anderson had reported back at the last Plans Meeting. He will come again in the spring of 2008 to give a follow up report.
- g. CALC twice yearly meeting for National Park Parish Councils 19th November – this had been held in the Ambleside Parish Centre but had not been well attended. Lakes Parish had 5 Members in attendance. Reports had been given by CALC representatives and an address with questions by Richard Leafe LDNPA CEO.

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting for members of the public to speak. One member of the public congratulated the Council on the work of the Parish Handyman. One member of the public complained about the smell from the sewage works and also the recent firework display in Rothay Park.

The Chairman then reconvened the Meeting

- h. SLDC Lake Administration Committee 30th November – this had been a very short meeting with only one item of business, the increase in fees for use of the Lake from April 2008.
- i. Cumbria in Bloom 26th November – the Chairman reported on the AGM held at Holehird.
- j. Neighbourhood Forum Langdale 27th November – The Chairman reported that this had been a poorly attended meeting by residents despite a very good turn out of Councillors, Officials etc.
- k. Litter and associated issues Grasmere 11th December – Cllr Mrs Braithwaite reported on a meeting with Officers of SLDC that had culminated with a tour of the village. Various issues had been raised that will be addressed by SLDC and Cumbria County Council via the Clerk. Investigations will take place to try to get a litter bin by the new bus shelter in the layby near the Waterside Hotel Grasmere..

105 FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED to confirm approval the orders for payment submitted to the meeting totalling £2504.02
- b. RESOLVED to agree to contribute the sum of £2500 towards the SLDT Town Centre Manager post in this financial year, however to inform SLDT that the Council can make no guarantee of an increase in this sum for the financial year 2008/9 as requested.
- c. Parish Newsletter – A discussion took place on this item contained within the report of the Parish Project Officer. He asked Members for a steer on how to proceed. Members considered whether to agree in principle that the work of the Project Officer in relation to this item should be accepted and that he should continue to investigate with SLDT the production of a publication similar to the Windermere Hub or that the Council continue with the existing Parish Newsletter. RESOLVED to continue with the existing Parish Newsletter and that the work of the Project Officer on this element of the Parish Plan should cease. Cllr Bradshaw asked that his vote against this resolution be recorded

THE CHAIRMAN MOVED THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

- d. RESOLVED to appoint Mrs Margaret Lees as the Internal Auditor of the Council.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN RECONVENED THE MEETING

- e. RESOLVED to agree the Estimate from C Nelson in the sum of £425 for the removal of existing broken items and repair of the handrail at Peggy Hill.

106 PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

- 7/07/5556 Badger Wheel, Clappersgate Ambleside
Two storey extension and alterations – **Refuse on the grounds of over intensive development of the site. The proposed development is too large for the present site and will be very visible from the river and the main road.**
- 7/07/5564 Butter Crag, Grasmere
Renovations and extensions to dwelling including addition of a first floor – **Refuse on the grounds of it being a prominent over intrusive development in the landscape and the valley.**
- 7/07/5596 1 Riverside, Stock Lane, Grasmere
Widen the upper platform to external staircase to create a 'deck' seating area – **No Objections**
- 7/07/5611 3 Thrang Brow, Chapel Stile, Langdale
Conversion of garage into separate dwelling – **Refuse as it is in contravention of Policy H20.**
- 7/07/5619 Arnsbarrow Tarn, Neaum Crag, Loughrigg, Ambleside
Variation of condition to allow occupation of chalet/caravan during period 21 December in any one year to 4 January in the following year.- **No Objections**
- 7/07/5636 Hayes Garden World, Lake Road, Ambleside
Redevelopment of the existing plant sale area to create a new 'World for Plants' incorporating a new circular customer route, weather protection for plants and improved sales area for garden décor and cold water aquatics; redevelopment of the existing northern glasshouse (Building A) using the same footprint. Minor extensions to the existing covered retail areas to link to the new plant sales area. Creation of a balcony at first floor level for the café; removal of the camping sales area and establishment of a landscaped car park; new 'woodland' planting to the western edge of the site – **Refuse on the grounds of over commercialisation of the site. This is also an obtrusive development when viewed from the local fells. This development will be the beginning of urbanisation of Ambleside and will cause extra pollution to the environment by additional traffic generation that will cause congestion at peak times. The Council are also concerned that there is no additional provision for extra toilets in the plan as the present facilities are inadequate. The Council would wish the Development Control Committee to visit the site prior to the application being considered.**
- 7/07/5640 Oaks Field, Ambleside

- New domestic dwelling (bungalow) – **No Objection provided a local occupancy clause is made a condition of approval.**
- 7/07/5653 Garden Cottage, Old Lake Road, Ambleside
Demolition of small porch canopy and extension to front of cottage –
No Objections
- 7/07/5649 Grasmere Lodge Apartments, Huntingstile Lodge, Grasmere
Sub-division of 2 dwellings to form 4 self-catering holiday apartments
– **Refusal on the grounds that this is an overdevelopment of a restricted site. There are presently two dwellings with only private water supply not owned by the occupants and the properties are also not connected to mains sewage. The increase to four apartments will exacerbate any problems with water and sewage and there is restricted availability for parking of cars.**
- 7/07/5657 21 Thrang Brow, Chapel Stile, Langdale
Demolition of existing porch and balcony and rebuilding to a slightly larger footprint.- **No Objections**
- 7/07/5664 Overmere, Grasmere
proposed part enclosure of entrance staircase and erection of garage
– **No Objections**

107 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- A. From the Chairman
The Chairman attended the Christmas Lights switch-on at Ambleside. He also attended the Licensing of the Chaplain to the University, Paul Woodcock by the Bishop of Carlisle, at Ambleside Parish Church
- B. From the Clerk
- 1 Windermere Town Council – Agenda 10th December 2007
 2. SLDC Council Agenda - 6th December 2007
 3. Cumbria CVS News Nov/Dec 2007
 4. Cumbria County Council – Annual Report 2006/7
- C From Members
- a. Cllr Welch updated Members with progress on the Children’s Centre.
 - b. Cllr Welch updated Members on Cumbria Tourism AGM.
 - c. Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts enquired about a Christmas function for Councillors.
 - d. Cllr Thompson asked for the appearance of 7 trees in Rothay Park to be placed on the next Agenda.
- D. From District Councillors.
Cllr Rees said that the recent Funding Review had been disappointing and that the concessionary fare scheme to be extended was a drain on the Authority.
- E. From the County Councillor
Councillor Barton spoke on the spending review when the County had received a 9% increase that was not as little as expected, however savings would still have to be made. He stressed that no one should do anything about the digital switch over until contacted by Digital UK.

108 TRANSFORMING PASSENGER TRANSPORT.

The Clerk had circulated a letter from the County Council for information.
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109 FELS – FRIENDS OF EDEN LAKELAND AND LUNESDALE SCENERY

The Clerk has circulated a letter for information.
RECEIVED.

110 CUMBRIA HIGHWAYS – TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE A591

The Clerk had circulated information on this night-time closure from January 7th 2008 for a period of 8 weeks.

RECEIVED.

111. UPGRADE OF O2 ANTENNA INSTALLATION AT ROTHAY HOLME, AMBLESIDE

The Clerk had circulated a letter from the Company wishing to do the upgrade.

RESOLVED – To comment at the Planning stage.

112 NOTIFICATION OF APPEALS/WITHDRAWN AND AMENDED APPLICATIONS

1. 7/2007/5087 – Former Gas Works Site, Blue Hill Road, Ambleside - Construction of 10 live/work units and 6 affordable dwellings together with access, car parking and landscaping – The appeal is allowed and planning permission granted.
2. 7/2007/5530 – Greenstones, Pye Lane, Grasmere – formation of additional vehicular entrance – the application is withdrawn

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm