

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th August 2007 in the Library, Kelsick Road, Ambleside at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs. L. Johnson (Chairman), E.S. Bradshaw, A. Green, N.C. Martin, Mrs A. Sowerbutts, Mrs F.M. Sparrow, D Welch, and J.R. Westmoreland

APOLOGIES: Cllrs, W. H Allen, Mrs E.M. Braithwaite, Ms M.M. Colquhoun, Mrs V. Rees, Mrs E. Wilson and J. Smith

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr B Barton District Cllr Vatcher and one PCSO

ALSO: M. A. Johnson, 5 members of the public and the Press

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, the Chairman gave an update on the health of Cllr Mrs Braithwaite and read a card of thanks received from her.

48 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4th July 2007 and the Plans Meeting on 18th July 2007 held in the Library, Ambleside were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ There were no declarations of interest on items contained within the Agenda.

50 POLICE REPORT

The PCSO deputising for PC Buxton, who was away on holiday, reported on the 190 incidents dealt with by the Lakes Policing Team in July but was pleased to report that this was down from the 265 incidents in June. She gave a breakdown of the incidents and also reported on the 20 crimes that had been recorded. She reported on the recent Police surgery in the Library. She answered questions from Members and the Chairman thanked her for the report.

RECEIVED

51. REPORTS

- a. Parish Plan Action Group 23rd July. The notes from the meeting would be circulated to Members not present on 23rd July. Cllr Bradshaw reported briefly on items of interest.
- b. Visit to Mertz Barn, Langdale. The Chairman reported on an interesting visit to the Cylinders estate. He had been accompanied by the Clerk who had also been impressed with the Kurt Schwitters project. Lunch had been provided but had consisted of a sandwich and cup of tea/coffee so no financial declaration was required. The Chairman felt that this would be a worthy project if it remained 'low key' and educational, in keeping with this sensitive site.
- c. Ambleside and Waterhead Master Plan – Subsequent to the Official Launch on 20th July, Members had met at Waterhead prior to this Meeting and the Town Centre Manager had explained on site the proposals contained within the Master Plan. Members felt that this had been worthwhile and interesting. The Steering Group would meet on 28th August and funding had already been agreed for a feasibility study.
- d. The Chairman reported attendance on 15th July at the Rydal Hall Garden Party to celebrate the opening of the refurbished gardens. On Sunday 22nd July he had

attended the opening of the Trevor Woodburn Bridge at Skelwith. He had also attended the Wordsworth Trust for the Dante exhibition.

- e. St Martins College Ambleside Campus Liaison Group. The Chairman had also attended a meeting of this group that was the last meeting prior to the inception of the new University on August 1st. Funding for re-development of the site was to be slower than expected due to the grant being half of what had been hoped for.
- f. Code of Conduct Training 10th July. The Chairman had attended together with other Councillors.
- g. SLDC Lake Windermere Administration Committee 13th July and Project Board on 27th July. The Chairman reported on these meetings.
- h. Police Station Meeting 18th July. In company with the Clerk, the Chairman had met with Inspector Griffiths and PC Buxton to explore possible alternative accommodation for the Parish Office. A further meeting would be held in due course.
- i. Cumbria in Bloom 19th/20th/25th July/6th August. The Chairman reported on judging throughout the area and in Ambleside on 20th July. He had attended an Executive Committee meeting in Penrith on 6th August.
- j. Rydal Village Society Meeting. Cllr Mrs Sparrow reported on a recent meeting and traffic measures discussed and proposed.
- k. Rural CAB. Cllr Bradshaw reported on a recent meeting where he had been most impressed with the organisation. He laid the Annual Report for 2005/6 on the table for Members information.

The Chairman then adjourned the Meeting for members of the public to speak. One member of the public highlighted a course in the Library starting on October 30th for 5 weeks each Tuesday morning from 10 to 12 noon on exploring local history with Dr Rob Davey. One member of the public spoke on Neaum Crag and requested members visit the site. One member of the public spoke on the Royal Oak and the obstruction of the public footway and also commented on the proposed cycle way through Borrans Park identified in the Master Plan. She was strongly against any such development. One member of the public raised the work going on with a new path on Loughrigg Fell.

The Chairman then reconvened the Meeting.

52 FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED to confirm approval the orders for payment submitted to the meeting totalling £1359.11.
- b. RESOLVED to agree a quotation in the sum of £275 for the fitting of 3 stainless steel caps to wooden bollards to complete the Market Cross improvement scheme.
- c. RESOLVED to accept the report of the Clerk on the closure of the 2006/7 Audit and to congratulate him on a third consecutive year where no matters of concern had been brought to the attention of the Council.
- d. RESOLVED to agree to the appointment of a Parish Plan Action Group Project Officer as laid down in the report given to Members.

53 PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

- 1. 7/07/5274 Lakeshore House, Ecclerigg, Windermere
Replacement boathouse and dayroom. – **No Objections**

2. 7/07/5372 Ambleside Salutation Hotel, Lake Road, Ambleside
Telecommunications base station comprising 3 face mounted antennas mounted on 2 chimneys with associated radio equipment and ancillary equipment - **Refuse on the grounds that this is an important building in the Conservation area and should be protected against overdevelopment of any kind. There are already two antenna mounted on the chimneys and this would create a proliferation of aerials and create a precedent for this type of development.**

- 3 7/07/5392 Ghyllbank, North Road, Ambleside
4 in number 3 bed houses (resubmission) – **Refuse on the grounds of an over-intensive development of this site. It is already a difficult access across footpaths and would create danger to pedestrians and the safe route to school using the footways. It is difficult to envisage how this site is to be developed without creating major problems for local users of the road and footpath. It is also contrary to the local affordable housing need and Policy H20. Any development in this area should also have an environmental assessment prior to any consideration being given to planning permission.**

4. 7/07/5406 Gale Mews, Low Gale, Ambleside
Demolition of garage and rebuild with first floor ensuite bedroom. – **Refuse on the grounds of possible unneighbourly development.**

5. 7/07/5416/17 Royal Oak Inn, Market Place, Ambleside
(5417)Alterations to external seating area to include 3 jumbrellas and new built in slate bench (5416) Alterations to external seating area including addition of 3 jumbrellas. – **Refuse on highway safety grounds and the need to maintain the public footway. The present tables encroach on to the verge/footway and continue to be a major highway problem with blockage of free passage for pedestrians and with customers spilling on to the road at busy times. The tables are a serious intrusion in to the conservation area. The Police should be asked for their comments on highway safety grounds. No planning permission currently exists for the tables presently in situ and the footway is perceived locally as being in existence for many years.**

6. 7/07/5419 Stony Tarn, Neaum Crag, Skelwith Bridge, Ambleside
Variation of condition 2 of NW1822 for the occupation of the caravan during the period 21st December in any year to 4 January the following year. – **Approval on the grounds that a precedent has already been set and for the avoidance of doubt**

54 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- A. From the Chairman
The Chairman had reported at length earlier in the Agenda and had nothing further to add.

- B. From the Clerk
 - 1 Windermere Town Council – Agenda 1st August 2007
 - 2 Local Transport Plan 2006 – 2011 – July update
 - 3. Frieda Scott Trust – August Newsletter
 - 4. Cumbria Community Foundations – Media Release – windfall for County youngsters
 - 5. Lakes Line User Group – Meeting Minutes 25th June 2007

The Clerk also reminded Members of the need to return their Declarations of Financial Interest as soon as possible. He also informed them that the current Newsletter was at the printers and would be distributed throughout the Parish on September 4th. He also informed Members that the new bus shelter on Kelsick Road was to be replaced by the installing company free of charge as it was not up to scratch. It had already been subject to a road traffic accident by a car that had reversed in to it.

- C From Members
 - a. The Clerk was asked to agenda the Cook and Lakin development on the old bus station on the grounds of health and safety however Cllr Vatcher offered to deal with this in his capacity as District Councillor.
 - b. Cllr Mrs Sparrow commended Mr Cunningham on his public spirited repair of a wall and planting flowers and the Clerk was asked to send a letter of appreciation.
- D. From District Councillors.
Cllr Vatcher spoke on the campaign to keep a Dentist in Ambleside when the present incumbent retired next year. Members felt that they would like this on the next Agenda for discussion.
- E. From the County Councillor
Councillor Barton reported on the reorganisation of the amenity site in Ambleside and its longer hours. He also spoke on the Stony Lane pathway.

55 AMBLESIDE BY-ELECTION

The Clerk clarified the rules relating to candidate eligibility for by-elections. Members discussed the issue of Poll Cards at any future by-election. He also reported the resignation of Mrs Anne Parker from the Council and the need to advertise a Vacancy. THE CHAIRMAN THEN MOVED THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS
The Clerk read a letter received from the Standards Board for England
THE CHAIRMAN THEN RECONVENED THE PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING
RESOLVED - That should a by-election be called for the present Vacancy then Poll cards should be issued to the electors of Ambleside. This policy could then be compared with the previous election and reviewed on the success or otherwise of the Poll cards in attracting electors to vote. That the letter from the Standards Board for England be received.

56 KELSICK FOUNDATION – TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO THE BODY OF TRUSTEES

The Clerk had circulated a letter from the Clerk to the Foundation for Members information.

RESOLVED That Mrs Fuller should be re-nominated to the vacant post.

57 NOTICE OF MOTION

This matter had been deferred from a previous meeting

RESOLVED That the Clerk write a letter to the LDNPA asking for them to consider the views of the Council contained within the Notice of Motion which had been submitted to

them for consideration rather than as a Notice of Motion that was not allowed by their rules.

58 NEAUM CRAG LTD

The Clerk had circulated a letter from a Director of Neaum Crag and one of their Directors had spoken when the meeting had been adjourned to allow the public to speak.

RESOLVED – To agree to visit the site, the Clerk to arrange a convenient date with Neaum Crag.

59 TREE MATTERS

- a. T/07/0044 Walton Mount, Fair View Road, Ambleside – Crown Copper Beech – the views of the LDNPA Tree Advisor have been sought on this application but not received to date.

RESOLVED Members had no objections to this application.

60. NOTIFICATION OF APPEALS/WITHDRAWN AND AMENDED APPLICATIONS

- a. 7/06/5087 – Appeal by Ambleside Ltd in respect of an application for 10 live/work units and 6 affordable dwellings at Former gas works site, Blue Hill Road, Ambleside – to be determined by public inquiry, date and time to be notified. The Chairman to represent Council.
- b. 7/06/5650 – Appeal by Neaum Crag Ltd in respect of an application for change of use of land from disused toilet block to land used for stationing of a managers caravan and installation of rising bar barrier. – to be determined by public inquiry date and time to be notified. The Chairman to represent Council.
- c. 7/07/5257 – Langdale Lodge, Bridge Lane Troutbeck – part demolition reconstruction and extension – this application has been withdrawn.

61. PLANNING DECISIONS

To receive information on recent Planning Decisions taken by the LDNPA
APPROVALS

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| 7/07/5106 | Certificate of Lawful Use – M Rushton, Bridge House Hotel, Stock Lane, Grasmere – one caravan that does not constitute development and does not require a planning application. |
| 7/07/5217 | Natwest, Cheapside, Ambleside – remove 2 existing deteriorating timber framed windows and replace with new timber framed window split in to 3 sections |
| 7/07/5229 | Red Lion Hotel, Grasmere – alteration of two entrances to windows and one window to entrance together with internal alterations. |
| 7/07/5231 | St Andrews, Ecclerigg – Extension to Offices. |
| 7/07/5235 | Fisherbeck Hotel, Old Lake Road, Ambleside – alterations and extensions. |
| 7/07/5247 | 2 Rydal View, Ambleside – erection of two dormer windows |
| 7/07/5265 | Lakes Lodge, Lake Road, Ambleside – external alterations to windows doors rooflights and external stairs. |

REFUSALS

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| 7/07/5103 | Lake View Guest House, Lake View Drive, Grasmere – Conversion of existing barn to provide 5 bedroom annexe to guesthouse |
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The Meeting closed at 9.35pm