

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th September 2007 in the Library, Kelsick Road, Ambleside at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs. L. Johnson (Chairman), A. Green, W. H Allen,
Ms M.M. Colquhoun, N.C. Martin, J. Smith Mrs A. Sowerbutts,
Mrs V. Rees, Mrs F.M. Sparrow, D Welch

APOLOGIES: Cllrs, E.S. Bradshaw, Mrs E.M. Braithwaite, Mrs E. Wilson
J.R. Westmoreland, County Cllr B Barton and the Press

IN ATTENDANCE: PC David Buxton and one PCSO

ALSO: M. A. Johnson and 4 members of the public

Members formally agreed to accept the apologies of Councillor Mrs Braithwaite to excuse her attendance until her health improved and she is in a position to attend Meetings.

62 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th August 2007 and the Plans Meeting on 5th September 2007 held in the Library, Ambleside were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ Councillor Smith declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4, Police Report. There were no declarations of interest on items contained within the Agenda.

64 POLICE REPORT

PC Buxton gave a comprehensive report on incidents within Lakes Parish over the past two months. He also highlighted the problems of Police establishment locally. It had been a very busy summer that had been challenging for the local policing team. Crime was up 6%, mainly with thefts from unattended motor vehicles in rural car parks. This had been addressed with extra patrols and a high visibility poster campaign to make motorists aware of the problems of leaving valuables in unattended cars. Two off licences had been attacked and there had been two firearms incidents. A body had been found in the woods near Sawrey that had made extra demands on the local Police. A Respect campaign had been mounted to address youth disorder during the evenings. There had been 330 incidents in July and August. He also reported on cameras that had appeared in the vicinity of Old Lake Road that appeared to be for a traffic survey for a planning appeal. PC Buxton answered questions from Members and the Chairman thanked both Officers for their attendance and they left the Meeting to resume their duties.

RECEIVED

65. REPORTS

- a. Parish Plan Action Group 10th September. The notes from the meeting would be circulated to Members when received.
- b. Ambleside Chamber of Trade 17th September – Cllr Martin gave a report on this meeting. He continued to be concerned about falling membership. Paul Holdsworth had given an outline of the Masterplan for Ambleside that had been very interesting. The Chairman congratulated the Chamber on the recently published Guide.
- c. CALC South Lakekland Committee AGM 6 September – The Chairman and Cllr Green reported on this meeting. The first session had been well attended with a

joint presentation by SLDC and Cumbria County Council on joint working as instructed to implement the conclusions of the Local Government white paper. The second part of the meeting was a business meeting of CALC (South Lakeland)

- d. Waste Minimisation and Recycling meeting 4 September – Seminar for Parish Councillors – poorly attended with only 8 from Parish Councils (including the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Lakes Parish) and at least 20 officials plus District Councillors.
- e. Cumbria in Bloom presentation 3 September – The Chairman and Clerk also Councillors attending reported on this event. The Parish had done quite well with Rydal and Chapel Stile receiving awards together with other areas such as Rydal community garden and Ambleside guesthouses.
- f. Neighbourhood Forum – Troutbeck – The Chairman reported on this meeting that included a presentation on the future of Westmoreland Hospital and its services.
- g. Windermere World Record Swim – the Chairman had attended on behalf of Lakes PC but it had been a low key event.
- h. The Chairman had attended a SLDC recycling road show on 30th August.
- i. Cllr Welch reported on a meeting of the Lakes Childrens Centre Steering Group that had included a timescale for tendering for the provision of the service. There would be a promotional day on 27th September in the Library, Ambleside.

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting for members of the public to speak. One member of the public spoke on a planning matter to be debated later in the Meeting. Mertz Radio gave an audio presentation on the coming week and its events. The Chairman then reconvened the Meeting.

66 FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED to confirm approval the orders for payment submitted to the meeting totalling £7348.44.
- b. RESOLVED to agree to the appointment of the Parish Plan Action Group Project Officer as determined from the Interviews held on 14th September. The successful candidate is Mr Gordon Chivers.
- c. The Clerk gave an oral report on the commencement of the 2008/9 budgetary process and invited Members to put forward capital schemes or those with financial requirement to be considered by Council in Draft at the October Meeting and to be finalised at the November Meeting.

67 PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

1. 7/07/5448 Cooksons Garth, Clappersgate, Ambleside
Replace timber garage with slate roofed masonry garage. – **No Objections other than concern regarding the proximity of the new garage to the main road that may give rise to a highway safety consideration.**
2. 7/07/5474 Rothay Garden Hotel, Broadgate, Grasmere
Minor alterations to new north wing extension, windows dormer and chimney stack omitted, stone to render east elevation and fire access stairs to far end. – **No Objections**
3. 7/07/5481 Dove Cottage, Grasmere

Alteration and extension of shop, alteration to toilet block, construction of pedestrian access from shop forecourt to Dove Cottage. – **No Objections**

4. 7/07/5482 Neaum Crag Camping and Caravan Site, Foul Step Lane, Loughrigg, Ambleside
Erection of single dwelling to provide accommodation for site manager. – **Approval on the grounds that this is the second application for this development and the Parish Council did not object to the first application. They consider that this will be an improvement on that first application. A permanent building, as designed with advice from the Lake District Planners, can only improve the present unsightly derelict toilet block. The application is generally on the same footprint as the disused toilet block and is not overlooked from outside of the site. Lakes Parish Council consider that there is a need for a Manager on this large site permanently, and that if planning permission is given, then a condition of that permission should be that the building is occupied in perpetuity by whoever is the Manager of the site, and the building can only be used for that purpose. If the Authority is minded to refuse this application then Lakes Parish Council would request that the Development Control Committee visit the site prior to making a final decision.** (Cllr Ms Colquhoun opposed this recommendation and Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts abstained.)
5. 7/07/5501 Potter Crag, 71 Neaum Crag, Loughrigg Ambleside
Variation of condition 2 of planning permission to allow for occupation of chalet/caravan during period 21 December in any one year to 4 January in the following year. – **No Objections**

68 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- A. From the Chairman
The Chairman had reported at length earlier in the Agenda and had nothing further to add other than to inform Members that the Lakes Parish in Bloom presentations would take place on October 14th at the Wordsworth Hotel Grasmere.
- B. From the Clerk
- 1 Windermere Town Council – Agenda 24TH September 2007
 - 2 Community Minibus – Volunteering Opportunities
 3. Lakes Line User Group – Meeting 12 September 2007
 4. Cumbria CVS – September Newsletter
 5. Local Council's Update – September 2007
 6. Cumbria Police Authority – Annual Report 2007
 7. Cumbrian Wildlife – Newsletter September 2007
 8. Cumbria Playing Fields Assn – Annual Report 2006/7
 - 9 The Clerk also reported on the recent planning application for the Royal Oak that had now been invalidated with the planning clock stopped.
- C From Members
- a. Cllr Green was concerned about the closure of the small hospitals with the emphasis on larger regional centres.

- D. From District Councillors.
Cllr Mrs Rees highlighted the campaign relating to the local Dentist practice and the circulation of postcards to the Parish. 544 had been returned with only 3 not supporting the retention of the dentist in Ambleside. She felt that due to the lack of communication with the local community on this issue the PCT might be prepared to look at it again.
- E. From the County Councillor
Councillor Barton had submitted his apologies.

69 LANGDALES AND AMBLESIDE VACANCIES

The Clerk informed Members that no request for an election in Ambleside had been received and that the Electoral Registration Officer had indicated that the vacancy should be filled by co-option at the earliest opportunity. The Langdales vacancy had been advertised in the recent Parish Newsletter. Four letters expressing interest in co-option had been received.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN MOVED THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

A discussion took place on the contents of the letters received from those interested in co-option.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN RECONVENED THE PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED - It was Moved and Seconded that Mrs Sheila Ogden be co-opted to the Council to represent Langdales Ward. It was Moved and Seconded that Philip Thompson be co-opted to represent Ambleside Ward. There being no further nominations, a vote was taken and both were co-opted to Lakes Parish Council to represent the Wards as indicated in the substantive Motions.

70 STOCKGHYLL PARK

Cllr Ms Colquhoun reported on the deplorable state of the Park and Woods with all seats broken and a general state of disrepair. It is highlighted in the Masterplan proposals as high priority. SLDC who are responsible have indicated that they did not wish to attend a Parish Council Meeting but sought support with the Charity Commission for the building of two houses to generate monies to improve the area.

RESOLVED That the Clerk write a strong letter to SLDC requesting a meeting to discuss the future of the woods and park.

71 STREETS IN THE PARISH

Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts raised the disgraceful state of various streets within Ambleside and included weeds, cans, bottles, holes in the pavements, the lack of flowers and the frequently littered school playground. She also commented on the rollercoaster road that is Church Street.

RESOLVED Cllr Mrs Rees volunteered to pass this information on to SLDC to press for something to be done. It is an issue proper to the District Council. The Clerk will raise the question of Church Street with the County Council. The Clerk will also contact the owners of the rear of the old Post Office to ask that they secure the premises during the evening to prevent the gathering of local youth. This item will be placed on the next full Council Agenda for further discussion.

72 LANE OFF ST MARYS LAND/MARKET PLACE

The Chairman highlighted a problem with this lane where passage was sometimes prevented due to inconsiderate parking of cars. This was a longstanding problem but he asked the Council to try to get something done about it.

RESOLVED – That the Clerk arrange to bring all interested parties together for a meeting on site to try to resolve the matter.

73 PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Clerk reported that there is a possibility that CALC and the County Council will accept the Public Liability element of the insurance. It is to be discussed by Windermere Town Council on 24th September and a report will follow to the Plans Meeting of the Council on 3rd October.

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74 TREE MATTERS

- a. T/07/0050 1 Gale How Park, Ambleside – Crown reduce or fell one Beech
- b. T/07/0051 Bridge Cottage, Stock Lane Grasmere – Crown, raise and thin 3 Trees
- c. T/07/0052 Rydal Hall Teashop – Prune 3 Ash, 1 Sycamore. Fell or prune 1 Lime – the LDNPA Tree Advisor advises no problems with a and b however the Lime in c is not a Lime and further discussions are to take place on this application.

RESOLVED Members had no objections to applications a and b.

75. NOTIFICATION OF APPEALS/WITHDRAWN AND AMENDED APPLICATIONS

- a. 7/07/5392 – Ghyllbank, North Road, Ambleside – this application has been withdrawn

76. PLANNING DECISIONS

To receive information on recent Planning Decisions taken by the LDNPA

APPROVALS

- 7/07/5017 The Wyke, Pulwoods Ambleside – Demolition of existing Lakeside residence and reconstruction to provide 4 bed holiday dwelling
- 7/07/5151 Brathay How, Clappersgate, Ambleside – extension and alterations to hallway
- 7/07/5213 Oak Bank Hotel, Broadgate, Grasmere – existing rear conservatory (retrospective).
- 7/07/5239 Busk House, Blue Hill Road, Ambleside – kitchen extension.
- 7/07/5296 Low Ibbotsholme Cottage Troutbeck Bridge – extension and internal alterations.
- 7/07/5304 Holmlea Guest House Church Street, Ambleside – new kitchen and owners bedroom.
- 7/07/5328 Kilngarth, Clappersgate Ambleside – create private layby/parking area.
- 7/07/5325 Reekies of Grasmere – first floor alterations to office/staff area
- 7/07/5336 Elterwater Bridge to Rob Rash Wood – surface upgrade to bridle way.
- 7/07/5340 Tog 24 Ambleside – Install two air conditioning units
- 7/07/5347/48 University of Cumbria – Entrance signs (A30)(A41)
- 7/07/5359/60 Forest Side Cottage, Grasmere – erection of boundary wall (retrospective)
- 7/07/5362 Boltons Tarn Neaum Crage Loughrigg, Ambleside – extend occupation 21 Dec to 4 Jan
- 7/07/5372 Ambleside Salutation Hotel – Telecommunications antennas and base station
- 7/07/5388 Ecclerigg, Windermere – renewal of two timber jetties like for like
- 7/07/5399 Ambleside Waste Water Treatment Plant – to construct 7 kiosks
- 7/07/5406 Gale Mews, Low Gale, Ambleside – demolition of garage and rebuild with first floor ensuite bedroom.

REFUSALS

- 7/07/5350 University of Cumbria – St Martins College – two entrance signs A1 and A2
- 7/07/5394 1 St Michael's Nook, Grasmere – cut in to banking at side to create patio

The Meeting closed at 9.55pm