

## LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the Library, Kelsick Road, Ambleside at 7.30pm

- PRESENT: Cllr L Johnson (In the Chair), Mrs F.M. Sparrow, W. H Allen, E.S. Bradshaw, Ms M.M. Colquhoun, Mrs E. Footit, N.C. Martin, Mrs S. Ogden, M. Parsons, Mrs V Rees, Mrs A. Sowerbutts, P.A.Thompson.
- APOLOGIES: M. Dugdale, Mrs E. Wilson, J.R. Westmoreland  
County Cllr Earnshaw
- IN ATTENDANCE: None
- ALSO: M. A. Johnson, PCSO's Laura Jackson and Kayleigh Largue, 6 members of the public and the Press

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, the Chairman paid a personal tribute to the late Councillor Mrs Elizabeth Braithwaite, MBE, Freeman of Lakes.

### 147 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and the Plans Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the Library, Ambleside were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

### 148 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ Cllr Bradshaw declared an interest in Planning item 8.2 (Regent Hotel).
- ◆ Cllr Mrs Rees declared an interest in all Planning.
- ◆ There were no further declarations of interest

### 149. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM MINUTE 147.

Cllr Thompson asked that an item relating to a gritter be placed on the next Council meeting under Finance. Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts asked about the unauthorised dental signs. Cllr Bradshaw asked about replies to the University letters.

### 150 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Jackson gave a report on various items of interest that had happened since the last Meeting. She was pleased to note that crime in Ambleside was down by 33% with Burglary down by 12.5%. She was pleased to note that antisocial behaviour reports were down substantially. Grasmere crime was up due to two additional incidents and Burglary up with four additional incidents. She gave an update on a recent drugs raid that had been very successful. She also highlighted a series of thefts from Caravans at a local park where arrests had been made. She spoke on a very successful 'Up the Wall' that finishes next week. 8 girls have taken part this time. She answered questions and the Chairman thanked the Officers for their attendance.

### 151. REPORTS

- a. The Chairman reported on the recent Lake Admin Committee meeting that had agreed moderate increases in charges and would discuss a future report on the feasibility of water taxis. An improvement in the Ferry cable was to be looked at in the future.

- b. The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Forum held in Ambleside on 20<sup>th</sup> January had been circulated. Cllr Mrs Sparrow had attended and spoke on behalf of the Parish Council. There is a free Parish Paths workshop on 20<sup>th</sup> March.
- c. Cllr Mrs Sparrow reported on a recent Task Group for Youth meeting that had discussed funding ideas for the Kirkfield Play Area. She would welcome any additional ideas on possible funding.

#### 152 FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED to confirm approval the orders for payment submitted to the meeting totalling £8791.91.
- b. RESOLVED - To agree to donate £1000 to the Rural CAB in the next financial year 2010/11.
- c. To note the completion of the Chapel Stile stone built bus shelter and the donation of £2000 from the Langdale Valley Association towards construction costs.
- d. Members noted that the present Office computer was now 5 years old, had become very slow and required replacement. They confirmed the action of the Clerk in purchasing a new base unit in the sum of £331.91 plus VAT.

The Chairman ADJOURNED the Meeting to allow members of the public to speak. One member of the public spoke on the Low Wood Hotel planning application. There were no other matters raised and the Meeting was RECONVENED.

#### 153 PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

7/09/5716 Low Wood Hotel, Windermere

Erection of multi-function centre with associated permanent and overspill car parking, pedestrian and vehicle access arrangements, ground source heat pumps in lake with conversion of existing motor boat garages to re-provide for water sports centre. – **REFUSAL as the proposed access/egress from and to the A591 for the additional traffic to be created by reason of this application is inadequate. There are no proposals contained within the application to address this. At the very least, given the ownership of the land is with the hotel, a filter lane approaching from Windermere should be created with additional road safety works approaching from Ambleside being considered. In summer and high season the A591 can already become seriously overloaded and these proposals as they stand could create a gridlock situation. At present the Park has no coherent transport policy that will address this situation. Most people will travel by car, not bus/bike or boat. With an event beginning at 9am and ending at 4.30 the potential for disruption to local people could be significant. Additionally there are no proposals for the Windermere to Ambleside cycleway to be included within/through this development. Should the Development Control Committee be minded to approve this application then, at the very least, a site visit should take place with a highways engineer of Cumbria County Council invited to attend. The Council is also concerned about pedestrian safety at the crossings proposed over this busy arterial route through the lakes; the covered walkways that have no detail shown in this sensitive area of landscape views; the height and number of masts shown on the plans and the inadequate number of car parking spaces, given that it is anticipated that functions of up to 600 people may take place, with only 256 spaces and that 200 of these spaces will be on a green field site that leads directly to Lake Windermere. The Council also expressed concern about the possible noise, light pollution and the glass design. They are of the**

**opinion that, due to the noise factor and the potential for disturbance to local residents, the proposed use should exclude music and pop events. This is a tranquil area of Lakeland and should remain so. There is also a flooding risk to these proposals should the Lake rise as in the recent past. Further concern, if approval is given, relates to the green field site proposed for car parking that is exposed from Holbeck Lane. Better screening of the field adjacent to the A591 will be required with the present evergreen hedge extending right along rather than with a break as at present. Finally the Environmental Assessment does not include the landscape and visual impact of this application. This needs to be done prior to any decision being made.**

2. 7/09/5766 Regent Hotel, Waterhead, Ambleside  
Extension to front entrance **No Objections**
3. 7/10/5020 Yew Trees, Grasmere  
Extension to existing domestic dwelling – **No Objections**
4. 7/10/5031 The Sticklebarn Tavern, Great Langdale  
Change of use of staff accommodation/climbers bunkhouse to two bed and breakfast rooms with breakfast room. – **Refusal on the grounds of the loss of staff accommodation with no obvious proposals for its replacement.**

#### 154 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- A. From the Chairman  
The Chairman had no items of information.  
From the Clerk
  - 1 Windermere Town Council – Agenda 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010
  2. South Lakeland Standards Committee – 9 February
  3. SLDC Extraordinary Meeting 16 January 2010
  4. CALC Training programme 2010
- C From Members
  - a. Cllr Mrs Ogden gave an update on progress with some steps for the War memorial adjacent to St Mary's Church.
  - b. Cllr Bradshaw was most concerned about the dismissive attitude of the Board of the University of Cumbria to suggestions from NWDA regarding buy out and lease back arrangement for the Charlotte Mason site. He felt it was now time for the gloves to come off at the forthcoming Liaison meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> March with the University.
  - c. Cllr Bradshaw reported on a positive Allotments meeting and thought that the Parish Council may be requested to become involved in some way at some stage in the future.
  - d. Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts felt that the recent information on gas rebates was confusing and would welcome clarification.
  - e. Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts commented on the local pavements that were now full of grit and asked that they be cleaned.
  - f. Under the Freedom of Information legislation, Cllr Ms Colquhoun had requested and received information on the University of Cumbria Estates Strategy but, as much text had been removed, she was no wiser.
  - g. Cllr Mrs Sparrow informed Members that there were three designs for the proposed Kirkfield play area in Shinglers window.
- D. From District Cllrs – Cllr Mrs Rees had little to report other than the infrastructure damage caused by floods/snow etc There would be a pre meeting at the next LAP in Lakes School commencing at 6pm..

- E. From the County Councillor – Cllr Earnshaw had tendered his apologies due to work commitments.

155 VACANCY GRASMERE WARD.

The Clerk informed Members of the publication of the Vacancy Notice as from 11 February. Cllr Bradshaw felt that if no Election was requested, then candidates for cooption should be invited to see the Council at work and also to provide information about themselves together with any relevant skills that they might have to offer.

RECEIVED

156 UNIVERSITY OF CUMBRIA

The Clerk had circulated letters from Tim Farron MP, the Government Department for Higher Education and the Vice Chancellor of the University

RECEIVED

157. Appeals/Amendments/Withdrawn Planning Applications

7/09/5207 Neaum Crag, Loughrigg, Ambleside – provision of timber lodge to accommodate site manager and dependents.- appeal against refusal – to be dealt with by written representations.

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm