

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Plans Meeting held on 29th June 2011 in the Library, Kelsick Road, Ambleside at 7pm

PRESENT: Cllr E.S. Bradshaw (In the Chair), Mrs F.M. Sparrow, Ms M.M. Colquhoun, Mrs E Footit, J.R. Holmes, L. Johnson, N.C. Martin, Mrs S Ogden, M.Parsons, P. Simpson, Mrs A. Sowerbutts, P.A. Thompson, and Mrs L Waterhouse.

APOLOGIES: Mrs Mrs J. Birkett, Mrs V Rees, P. Truelove and County Cllr Earnshaw

ALSO: M. A. Johnson, J Renouf, 51 members of the public and the Press

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- ◆ The Clerk declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Notice of Motion and any subsequent decisions resulting thereon.
- ◆ There were no other declarations of interest.

2. NOTICE OF MOTION

Moved by Cllr Ms Colquhoun and seconded by Cllr Mrs Sowerbutts:-

THAT AS A MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST, this Parish Council rescinds its decision taken on 8th June 2011 relating to Planning Application 7/2011/5274, Fisherbeck Park, Ambleside, to enable Objectors to speak to them before a decision is taken, and very much regrets the unfortunate situation that has arisen.

THAT THIS COUNCIL write to the Lake District Park Authority asking them to revise their procedures to make certain that all Plans are received in good time and are advertised on site for local people to make their views known on them when they are before the Parish Council for decision.

RESOLVED – to RESCIND the decision taken on 8th June 2011 relating to the planning application for Fisherbeck Park, Ambleside. To write to LDNPA expressing the concerns outlined in the Notice of Motion.

The Chairman ADJOURNED the Meeting to allow members of the public to speak. He said he would allow 45 minutes and would allow speakers both for and against the proposal to make representations. In this time 8 objectors were heard, 3 speaking on behalf of the Fisherbeck Action Group and 7 people spoke in favour of the application. The 8 objectors raised various reasons for refusal, including the additional traffic impact, the impact on wildlife, the possibility of contamination from animal/disease from the 1920's/30's, loss of light, flooding, the scale of the development and the loss of valuable landscape. This list need not be exhaustive as most of the objections stated are set out in letters of objection received by the Parish Council and presumably sent to the Park Authority for their consideration. The 7 people who spoke in favour raised the issues of the desperate need for social housing for families with affordable rent in Ambleside; one young person spoke on the need to rebalance the ageing population with younger families who presently can not afford to buy or rent at current market prices; one person highlighted the high incidence of holiday/second homes within Ambleside and stated that three of the four homes directly affected by the proposed development do not appear on the latest Register of Electors for the Parish; one lady, born in Ambleside, with her parents living on Fisherbeck, stated that her and others with young families have had to move out to Kendal and then travel in to work in Ambleside due to their inability to buy or rent affordable homes in the village, and that this is also having a marked effect on the

school numbers and the community as a whole; one person highlighted the lack of progress by the Parish Council Task Group and other groups to provide affordable rented homes in Ambleside despite years of seeking suitable sites; one person stated that there were 130 people on the housing list for Ambleside and of them 36 were in desperate need of a home.

The Chairman then **RECONVENED** the Meeting.

A full debate then took place taking into account all the representations made by the public. At the conclusion of this debate it was **MOVED** by Cllr Ms Colquhoun that the application be **REFUSED** on the grounds of loss of outstanding landscape value; this was **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Footit.

An **AMENDMENT** was **MOVED** by Cllr Johnson that the application be **APPROVED** on the grounds that it is necessary to ensure future economic viability of the community but with a request that the design of the buildings be more in keeping with the current housing design of Fisherbeck Park; This was **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Sparrow.

The **AMENDMENT** was taken first, as in accordance with Standing Orders, and the voting was 8 Votes for the Amendment with 3 Votes against. There was 1 abstention.

Councillors voting for the amendment being Johnson, Mrs Sparrow, Parsons, Holmes, Martin, Mrs Waterhouse, Simpson and Thompson. Councillors voting against being Ms Colquhoun, Mrs Sowerbutts and Mrs Footit. Cllr Mrs Ogden abstained.

The original **MOTION** then fell and the **AMENDMENT** became the substantive **MOTION of the Council**.

RESOLVED TO AGREE to APPROVE the development **7/2011/5274** for the reasons stated above.

3 TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO NOMINATE A REPRESENTATIVE FOR ELECTION TO THE CCC SOUTH LAKELAND LOCAL COMMITTEE.

The Clerk had circulated information on this item.

RECEIVED.

4. LINKS BETWEEN THE LAKES' SCHOOL COUNCIL AND LAKES PARISH

The Clerk had circulated a letter received from Lakes School. It was felt that perhaps a joint approach with Windermere Town Council might be a way of involving young people in local government affairs.

RECEIVED

5. WATERHEAD

Cllr Thompson reported in detail on the problems with planting and in general on the need for infrastructure improvements he had identified at Waterhead. He spoke on an incident relating to sewage/foul water entering the Lake and the need for clearance of rubbish from the beach more than the present 4 times a year. He also raised the issue of A Boards within the Parish generally.

RESOLVED That the Clerk write to LDNPA regarding the proliferation of A Boards within the Parish and that the District Councillors present take onboard the concerns relating to the foreshore and Waterhead through the appropriate Officer and report back to this Council.

RECEIVED.

6 PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. 1. 7/10/5649 Low Wood Hotel, Windermere

Erection of Convention Centre (multi-function centre) with associated permanent and overspill car parking, pedestrian vehicular access arrangements, ground source heat pump in Lake with conversion of existing motor boat garages to provide for water sports centre (resubmission) – additional information and amended plans have been received and can

be viewed on-line at www.lakedistrict.gov.uk and also at Murley Moss or the Information Centre, Glebe Road, Bowness.

– Refusal on the grounds that the traffic impact assessment has not been accepted by the developer and the Council continue to be concerned about pedestrian safety and the impact of the increased traffic on A591, the main arterial route through the Lakes. Additionally, if, as stated by the developer, most delegates are to travel to the Convention Centre by boat, the Council would question the need for the proposed very large car park on this Greenfield site. The Council also feel that if the Committee are minded to approve this application then a further site visit should take place specifically to deal with the outstanding issues raised.

2. 7/11/5200 Ambleside Park Hotel, Borrans Road, Ambleside
To lay a raised patio with a footprint of approx 66 sq m surrounded by a wall, over the existing lawn, to the south west elevation of the hotel. **–No Objections**
3. 7/11/5283 Amboseli Lodge, Rothay Road Ambleside
Proposed conservatory to rear – **No Objections**
4. 7/11/5299 Brockhole National Park Centre, Ecclerigg, Windermere
Construction of high ropes course. – **Approval on the grounds that this will be an interesting addition to the visitor experience.**

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

Approvals

- 7/11/5002 Waterside Hotel Grasmere – Part demolition, alteration and extension with car parking and landscaping (amended plans)
- 7/11/5085 Willowbank, Seathwaite Lane, Ambleside - extension.
- 7/11/5093 Sycamore House, King Street, Ambleside – replacement windows
- 7/11/5100 Land off Rydal Road – Construction of Thirlmere compound.
- 7/11/5103 Ambleside Fish and Chips Waterhead – change of use to A5 retrospective
- 7/11/5113 1A Cheapside, Ambleside – change of use to form part flat.
- 7/11/5116 Flat 9, Oakland, Millans Park, Ambleside – window alteration.
- 7/11/5117 Langthwaite, Grasmere – detached garage.
- 7/11/5155 The Old House, Smithy Brow, Ambleside – rear outbuilding
- 7/11/5123 Certificate of Lawful use – His and Hers, St Marys Lane Ambleside – demolition to improve access and parking.

Refusals

- 7/11/5143 Lyndale Guest House, Lake Road, Ambleside - Conservatory

The Meeting closed at 8.59pm