

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute on Monday 17th February 2014

Present: Cllr J R Carroll (Chair)
Cllrs – K Batty, D Coxon, A Hall, A Kelly, J Stoddart and L Tarr
Mrs J C Carroll - Clerk

In attendance: Inspector K Spedding, PCSO L Jackson, A Cameron, and 10 members of the public

| Minute Number | | Action By |
|---------------|---|-----------|
| 124/2014 | Apologies None received. | |
| 125/2014 | Requests for Dispensations No requests received. | |
| 126/2014 | Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items Cllr Carroll – matters relating to Clerk’s salary Cllr Coxon – matters relating to Lake District National Park Authority (including car park management & Coniston Boating Centre), events and the Land Train Cllr Hall – declared an interest in matters relating to planning and will take no part in planning discussions and also discussion on Land Train as a member of Coniston Boating Centre Management Committee Cllr Kelly – matters relating to Coniston Sports & Social Centre All Councillors as Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum | |
| 127/2014 | Minutes of Meeting 13 January 2014 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 January 2014 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair. | |
| 128/2014 | Coniston Flyer Cllr Carroll explained he had recently spoken to Mr M Curry, Head of Property Services, Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) about the Coniston Flyer. The owners of the Coniston Flyer had recently contacted Mr Curry to confirm they would not be requesting a renewal of the licence by the LDNPA for 2014. It was noted several letters had been received in relation to this subject from the Coniston Business Forum, Coniston Attractions Group and local businesses, both for and against. Inspector Spedding stated he had recently visited people in the village regarding the complaints about the Coniston Flyer but no final decision had been made by the Police about renewal of the required VSO. Cllr Coxon stated the LDNPA would be looking to create a link between the village and the lake. | |

| | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| <p>129/2014</p> | <p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Police Report</u> PCSO Jackson reported there have been two crimes (both burglaries) dealt with by the police since the last meeting. Police are advising people to ensure outhouses, sheds and garages are secure and to ensure valuables are hidden away.</p> <p>Ruskin's Quest is a treasure hunt taking part in Coniston during February half term.</p> <p>There has been a recent increase in chainsaws being stolen and if anyone has any information to contact 101. If any suspicious vehicles are noted Police requested if the vehicle registration number can be noted prior to ringing 101.</p> <p><u>Mr A Cameron, Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u> Mr Cameron confirmed planning consent has been obtained for the new development at Barratt Croft with conditions and this will provide five homes for local families.</p> <p>An architect is currently working on plans for the St Andrews Centre although it will depend on the price the Diocese require for the building as to who the owners will be.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum</u> Cllr Coxon explained there have been a few meetings of the Coniston Business Forum recently and the last one was very positive. People have offered to take on specific tasks including flowers around the village, website, events, Coniston leaflet (promoting the village as a whole) and longer visits for coaches. A constitution has been adopted which gives the forum access to previous funding from a former business group and a new bank account will be opened. It will be inclusive of all businesses, not just tourism related ones.</p> <p>Cllr Hall stated that after the twinning and trade show in Italy last year there are now 50 delegates coming to Coniston in April from Italy and this is something the business forum could be involved in.</p> <p>If anyone would like more information on the Coniston Business Forum their contact e-mail address is cbf@live.co.uk.</p> <p><u>Broadband Champions meeting</u> Cllr Hall attended the recent Broadband Champions meeting and Coniston is in a better position to get fibre optics and about 70% of people should be expected to be eligible. A list of businesses in the area, particularly non tourism related is required to identify any areas which will not receive fibre optics and then funding can be applied for.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Clerk to produce a list of businesses from the Parish Directory and list from the Coniston Business Forum which is to be forwarded to Cumbria County Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Clerk to forward information on the importance of registering with BT Openreach and Connecting Cumbria to the Coniston Business Forum to be circulated around businesses.</p> | <p>JCC</p> <p>JCC</p> |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------|

| | | |
|----------|--|-----|
| | <p><u>Local Area Partnership meeting</u> Cllr Hall attended the recent Local Area Partnership (LAP) meeting where Emergency Plans were discussed. It was agreed the remaining funds from the LAP would be split between the Parishes towards verge maintenance costs.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> It was questioned where the nearest charging points are for electric vehicles and Cllr Coxon explained any business can apply for a free one.</p> <p>It was confirmed the trees in Church Beck have been reported to the Flood Forum who are in dialogue with the Environment Agency.</p> | |
| | <p>Update on On-going Issues & Actions from Last Meeting</p> | |
| 130/2014 | <p><u>To confirm if a report has been received from Dave Robinson, Lake District National Park Authority in relation to improving signage for footpaths & cycleways and cycle parking in Coniston</u> RESOLVED: Cllr Stoddart to meet with Richard Ingham, Go Lakes Travel to progress cycle stands in early March.</p> | JS |
| 131/2014 | <p><u>To update on progress of the remedial work required to the play equipment at the playground</u> Cllr Tarr will complete the required work shortly. RESOLVED: Cllrs confirmed they had no objections to a Photographs of Playdale management being taken in the playground as a promotion regarding companies who are exporting goods.</p> | LT |
| 132/2014 | <p><u>To update on the progress of new dropped kerbs after receiving funding</u> Highways Department have confirmed they will make a site visit before the end of February. South Lakeland District Council have confirmed they will hold the funding until 2014/15 as we are currently unable to progress the project without the assistance of the Highways Department.</p> | |
| | <p>Planning Applications</p> | |
| 133/2014 | <p>7/2014/5064 - Lakeland House, Tilberthwaite Avenue, Coniston – partial demolition of single storey café to create an external seating area accessed through new sliding, folding doors RESOLVED: Cllrs supported the application.</p> | |
| 134/2014 | <p>Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permissions:-</p> <p>7/2013/5441 – The Coppermines, The Powder Magazine, Coniston – replacement of unsafe existing storage building with new storage building (approve with conditions) RESOLVED: Clerk to enquire with the planning department why this application was not sent to the Development Control Committee for a decision to be made when Cllrs had objected to the application.</p> <p>7/2013/5642 – The Coach House, Yewdale Road, Coniston – single side elevation conservatory</p> | JCC |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----|
| | 7/2013/5555 – 2,3 and 4 The Forge, Coniston – alterations and extensions | |
| 135/2014 | <p>Parish Plan <u>Better signage for footpaths</u> RESOLVED: The Clerk is to chase Lake District National Park Authority for assistance in providing additional signs required for the Cumbria Way in the village.</p> <p><u>Improving the road from Adams Bridge to Ship Inn</u> The work has been completed, however, it was noted the cats eyes remain on the road.</p> <p><u>Parish Newsletter Online</u> A review of the Parish Newsletter is being undertaken.</p> | JCC |
| 136/2014 | <p>Neighbourhood Plan A meeting was held on 5 February following the collation of the responses from the formal consultation. Slight amendments have been made to the draft document. An event will be held at the Reading Room, Coniston Institute on 1 March from 11am – 2pm to enable people to view the amendments to the aspirations and policies. Five local cafes have each been asked to provide either soup or snacks for 20 people; this will be paid for from the Neighbourhood Plan fund.</p> <p>Mr Cameron will liaise with the person conducting the pre-assessment before the document goes to an Independent Examiner to introduce himself and another one or two members of the Neighbourhood Plan team.</p> | |
| 137/2014 | <p>Bridge Toilets Refurbishment This will be commenced shortly.</p> | KB |
| 138/2014 | <p>Lakeland 100 The event organiser has contacted the Clerk about the event on 25-27 July. The Clerk has suggested how they can publicise the event locally and to contact the Coniston Business Forum about accommodation for the event participants.</p> <p>There was a short discussion on events in the village, size of them, the impact and parking problems.</p> | |
| 139/2014 | <p>Date of April Coniston Parish Council Meeting The Clerk noticed the date of the April meeting coincides with Easter Monday. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed for the meeting to be on 14th April instead of 21st.</p> | |
| 140/2014 | <p>Doctors Surgery Future A meeting was recently held by the Doctors Surgery committee and progress to date is slow and disappointing. Tim Farron MP is awaiting a response to a ministerial question and has requested an adjournment debate. Meetings with Senior NHS England staff have been promised but not yet been achieved. There needs to be a national shift politically to ensure equality of service for rural practice.</p> | |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| | <p>Cllrs agreed there were two separate issues in relation to the future of the Doctors Surgery, one is the premises and the second is the funding for the GPs.</p> | |
| 141/2014 | <p>Coniston Copper Project This project has been running since 2009 and looks to develop a programme of conservation works and activities at Coniston Copper Mines and Penny Rigg Copper Mill which would be funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. RESOLVED: Cllrs support the proposals and would like to be kept updated.</p> <p>It was also suggested Cllrs could have site visits.</p> | |
| 142/2014 | <p>Councillors' Matters</p> <p>Cllr Coxon reported South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) had offered £100 to cut the grass by the Campbell Memorial and the grass area in front of the The Garth houses on Tilberthwaite Avenue. ACTION: Clerk to contact SLDC to enquire if additional money would be available and obtain a quote for the work.</p> <p>It was queried if all the units on Lake Road have the required planning permission as retail premises.</p> <p>The poor drainage and flooding on the path between Old Furness Road and the start of the old railway line before the Bridge needs reporting to Lake District National Park Authority.</p> <p>A village litter pick was suggested with local schools on 4th April and the village the morning of 5th April. The Lake District National Park Authority will provide litter pickers and collect the rubbish.</p> <p>South Lakeland District Council need to be contacted about dog muck on Tilberthwaite Avenue and additional signs are required around the village at head height.</p> <p>It was queried if the Rawdon Smith Trust would be interested in doing a presentation to Cllrs.</p> <p>It was queried if Coniston should look into obtaining Dark Sky status.</p> <p>The Turner Prize winning Exhibition is on display at the Ruskin Museum until 9th March.</p> <p>Shepherds Bridge is in need of repair and it was confirmed quotes have been obtained from local builders to carry out the necessary repair work.</p> <p>It was queried about the charge made by Coniston Institute for the rental of the room required for the old folks annual dinner but it was noted the Coniston Institute needs the income and the event is grant supported by the Rawdon Smith Trust.</p> | |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| | Financial Matters | |
| 143/2014 | <u>To consider the position of cleaner for the Bridge Toilets for 2014/15</u> RESOLVED: To tender for the position of a cleaner. | |
| 144/2014 | <u>To note the three year contract with EON for Electricity pricing at the Bridge Toilets.</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the 3 year contract which was done to provide good value for money and known costs. | |
| 145/2014 | <u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VAT Refund £270.22 | |
| 146/2014 | <u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised the following payments:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EON - streetlights (by direct debit) £75.11 • Clerk's Salary £308.00 • Clerk's Overtime £202.40 • Clerk's Expenses £142.64 • HMRC £127.60 • EON (Bridge Toilets) £7.80 • R J Airey £56.00 • Coniston Institute (room hire) £45.00 • Society of Local Council Clerks £88.45 • Coniston Ground Care £211.20 • Information Commissioner (Data Protection) £35.00 | |
| 147/2014 | Correspondence Councillors noted the following correspondence:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letter from South Lakeland District Council re Locally Important Projects Funding Programme 2013/14 - Letter of thanks from Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum re grant | |
| 148/2014 | Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 17 March 2014 7pm | |

Meeting closed at 9.43pm.