

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute on Monday 14th April 2014

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

In attendance: S Ratcliffe – Director of Planning & Partnerships Lake District National Park Authority, County Cllr D Fletcher and 7 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
180/2014	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Kelly.</p>	
181/2014	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
182/2014	<p>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) and events Cllr Hall – declared an interest in matters relating to planning and will take no part in planning discussions except in relation to application 7/2014/5091 All Councillors as Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum</p>	
183/2014	<p>Minutes of Meeting 17 March 2014 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 March 2014 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
184/2014	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Police Report</u> PCSO Forrester sent a report by e-mail. Two crimes and 10 non-crime matters have been reported since the last meeting. If any off-roading problems are seen details can be reported on 101 with vehicle registration numbers if possible. People are encouraged to register on Cumbria Community Messaging, follow @ulvandlakescops on Twitter or Cumbria Constabulary on Facebook for up-to-date crime alerts and information. Ruskin’s Quest in running in Coniston throughout the Easter holidays. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact PCSO Forrester to check if she has completed the training in relation to dog fouling in an attempt to reduce the problem on local footpaths.</p> <p><u>Mr S MacFarlane – Planning application 7/2014/5091 – Land to west of Howe Farm</u> Mr MacFarlane requested talking to the Parish Council to explain the aspects of the planning application that the Parish Council had objected to and find out what Cllrs feel is acceptable. The Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA)</p>	JCC

Planning Department have advised re-siting the field shelter and an amended plan has been sent through.

Mr MacFarlane explained the horses will be kept in the field for 6 months of the year and a course is being undertaken on management of land and horses. The winter has been exceptionally wet, the drainage is being worked upon and the beck has been cleared out. There is a local agreement for looking after the horses and keeping sheep in the field. No septic tank will be installed without planning permission. Mr MacFarlane explained they were unaware of the 28 day rule until the LDNPA informed them. They confirmed they not be converting the building (Dog Kennels) into a house due to their current circumstances.

RESOLVED: Mr MacFarlane will e-mail in his comments and Cllrs will make a decision then if they would like to amend their current decision on the planning application of objection before 6 May 2014.

Mr S Ratcliffe – Director of Sustainable Development, Lake District National Park Authority – Word Heritage Status

Mr Ratcliffe, Director of Sustainable Development, Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) explained about the World Heritage Status bid. A submission for World Heritage Status has to go to the Government by May 2015, the Government submit the bid to UNESCO in August 2015 and UNESCO will consider the bid in 2017.

There are a number of criteria to be classed as a World Heritage site, the Lake District is being considered under cultural. There are 3 elements – landscape – relation to man and shaped by man, inspiration of man on art and culture, birth of conversation ideal & environmental ideal. Mr Ratcliffe went on to explain how these relate to Coniston in terms of herdwick sheep and traditions used, Coppermines, Monk Coniston, Tarn Hows and Ruskin.

There would be no additional planning legislation if the Lake District became a World Heritage site.

World Heritage status could bring economic benefits mainly in the tourism industry and have significant influences for international markets.

Coniston will be part of one of 3 corridors of particular interest to international audiences. There is work to be done on how to move the potential increase in visitors around the area. Any suggestions could be included in the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan.

There is a World Heritage steering group in the Lake District and CALC is one of those members who Cllrs can contact with their views on it. Mr Ratcliffe is willing to talk to any groups about the World Heritage bid. There are 13 valleys in the area and management plans will be done for each of these. Currently Ullswater is being piloted and Grasmere / Rydal will be next.

Cumbria County Councillor D Fletcher

County Cllr Fletcher explained that Cumbria County Council are looking for a

	<p>community solution for the X12 bus service that runs from Coniston to Ulverston following funding cuts. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact affected Parish Councils that have this service and arrange a meeting with an operator looking at running this service and Cumbria Count Council.</p> <p>It was confirmed the Clerk is awaiting a private works agreement in relation to the dropped kerbs in the village from the Highways department.</p> <p><u>Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u> Mr A Cameron circulated a report prior to the meeting.</p> <p><u>Cllr attending Coniston Water Association meeting on 2 April</u> Cllr Carroll attended the Coniston Water Association meeting. The Chill swim event is taking place in September with an increase in numbers. LDNPA are putting together a leaflet on open water swimming.</p> <p><u>Cllr attending Local Area Partnership meeting on 9 April</u> Cllr Carroll & Clerk attended the Local Area Partnership meeting. The funding cuts to bus services was discussed and an update on superfast high speed broadband was given.</p> <p>Cllr Carroll stated he would be unable to attend the next meeting on 23 July in Colton Parish.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> No comments received.</p>	
<p>185/2014</p> <p>186/2014</p> <p>187/2014</p> <p>188/2014</p> <p>189/2014</p>	<p>Update on On-going Issues & Actions from Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To receive report from Councillors organising the litter pick held on 5 April</u> Cllr Hall carried out a litter pick at the head of lake.</p> <p><u>To update on outstanding Highways matters in the Parish</u> Clerk explained Highways have carried out all Highways matters reported. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Highways re blocked drain at Tent Lodge which is still an issue</p> <p><u>To update on the progress of new dropped kerbs after receiving funding</u> See minute number 184/2014.</p> <p><u>To update on planters with cycle stands in the playground</u> Cllrs had previously agreed to put the cycle stand planters in the playground. These are currently at the Coniston Boating Centre awaiting instalment. Cllr Stoddart agreed to look after the planters. RESOLVED: Cllr Batty to look at installing the planters.</p> <p><u>To update on the rubbish near the footpath from Old Furness Road towards the old railway bridge</u> The rubbish is still there. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Dave Pickup, South Distinctive Area Park</p>	<p>JCC</p>

	Management Ranger, Lake District National Park Authority.	
190/2014	<u>To update on grass cutting at the Campbell Memorial & The Garth</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed South Lakeland District Council to carry on cutting the grass.	
191/2014	<u>To receive report on updating the Coniston Emergency Plan</u> Cllr Carroll reported he has had a meeting with Mr Davis, Emergency Planner, South Lakeland District Council and has received new and updated information.	
	Planning Applications	
192/2014	7/2014/5091 - Land to west of Howe Farm, Days Bank, Coniston - Change of use of land from agricultural to a mixed use of agriculture and keeping of horses, use of stone barn as a tack room without change to external appearance & siting of temporary field shelter in a permanent level screened location RESOLVED: Following a recent site visit Cllrs objected to the application. There were concerns about the use of the land and unsuitability for mixed use, the Dog Kennels buildings becoming a more permanent residential building, the temporary field shelter location and becoming permanent and the planning application is not retrospective. Cllrs requested the application go to the Development Control Committee and a site visit is undertaken.	
193/2014	7/2014/5113 – Dixon Ground Barn, Dixon Ground Farm, Coniston – retrospective change of use to mixed use for storage, workshop and agriculture with associated internal alterations RESOLVED: Following a recent site visit Cllrs have no objections.	
194/2014	7/2014/5140 – Waterhead Hotel, Coniston - install 2 biomass boilers in existing detached stone built building RESOLVED: - Cllrs support the application.	
195/2014	Parish Plan RESOLVED: Deferred for next meeting.	
196/2014	Neighbourhood Plan Mr A Cameron is working through the comments from Mr Julian Jackson who carried out a preliminary inspection of the document. A meeting had recently been held with the Coniston Business Forum to address their concerns about the plan. It was noted the document currently does not take into account the World Heritage Status bid. A meeting is planned on Tuesday 22 April to review the amendments Mr Cameron has made.	
197/2014	Bridge Toilets Refurbishment Cllr Batty explained the work has been completed except some painting.	
198/2014	Internal Control and Appointment of Internal Auditor RESOLVED: All internal controls are satisfactory. RESOLVED: Cllr Stoddart to talk to the previous internal auditor.	
199/2014	Parish Walk	

	RESOLVED: Deferred until the next meeting.	
200/2014	Co-wheels Car Club in Coniston Cllrs noted the information and suggested it be included in the Parish Newsletter.	
201/2014	Path through woods towards Tarn Hows Cllrs noted the concerns about the improvements to the path and suggested they be forwarded to Dave Pickup, South Distinctive Area Park Management Ranger, Lake District National Park Authority.	
202/2014	Coniston Bus Shelter Cllr Coxon explained the work has been completed, there are finishing touches to be done and the Business Forum will be providing a planter in the area.	
203/2014	Casual Vacancy for Councillor South Lakeland District Council has confirmed no election has been requested and co-option can take place. RESOLVED: Clerk to advertise the vacancy.	
204/2014	Coniston Parish Council Annual Report 2013/14 RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the annual report 2013/14	
205/2014	Local Lettings Policy & Local Connection Policy Review 2014 RESOLVED: Deferred until the next meeting.	
206/2014	Councillors' Matters Cllr Coxon explained the recent event at John Ruskin School had caused problems and events need to ensure a contingency is in place. ACTION: Cllr Carroll to contact John Ruskin School to request better car park management. Cllr Hall reported the visit of people from Italy had gone very well. Cllr Hall and a member of LDNPA have been invited to go to Italy. Cllr Hall explained the benefits of a Credit Union. A Sustainable Travel Advisor has been in contact requesting a brief discussion about visitor travel relations issues affecting the area. It was noted that a member of the business is already arranging a meeting and will report back to the Parish Council. The current contractors are unable to collect the grass cuttings from the playground. A Cllr suggested they contact Lake District National Park Authority. A complaint has been received to the Parish Council about the car park on Ruskin Avenue. A resident of Ruskin Avenue has contacted the Parish Council to enquire about funding towards resurfacing part of the road. Cllrs suggested another contractor they could contact.	

	Financial Matters	
207/2014	<u>To approve the Parish Council accounts for 2013/14</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the accounts.	
208/2014	<u>To authorise the Chair to sign the Accounting Statement and Annual Governance Statement (sections 1 and 2) in the Annual Audit from BDO</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised the Chair to sign the Accounting Statement and Annual Governance Statement (sections 1 and 2) in the Annual Audit from BDO	
209/2014	<u>To confirm money held:-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Area Partnership (Torver grit bin) £400.00 • Local Area Partnership (broadband events) £378.50 • Local Area Partnership £82.36 • Repairs to Bridge Toilets £1,366.00 • Local Area Partnership (verge maintenance) £445.00 	
210/2014	<u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake District National Park Authority £5,000.00 (grant for bus stops improvements) 	
211/2014	<u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised the following payments:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk's Salary £317.24 • HMRC £79.31 • EON (Bridge Toilets) £13.79 • R J Airey £98.00 • S E Airey £75.00 • Hygiene Cleaning Supplies £98.33 • Cumbria Association of Local Councils (subscription) £207.00 	
212/2014	Correspondence Councillors noted the following correspondence:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information from Forestry Commission on Phytophthora Ramorum - Request from South Lakeland District Council on suggestions for Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme - South Lakeland District Council agenda of meeting on 27 March 2014 - South Lakeland District Council agenda of Standards Committee 15 April 2014 	
213/2014	Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 19 May 2014 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.