

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7.00pm on Monday 15th February 2016

Present: Cllr H Troughton (Chair)
Cllrs – K Batty, T Coward and A Metcalfe,
Clerk – J C Carroll

In attendance: 4 members of the public and Dr C Hall, South Cumbria Rivers Trust

Minute Number		Action By
125/2016	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hall (illness), Cllr Kelly (work commitments) and Cllr Stoddart (illness).</p>	
126/2016	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
127/2016	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items Cllr Coward – declared an interest in matters relating to planning application 7/2016/5068 and will take no part in that planning discussion. All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
128/2016	<p>Minutes of Meeting 18 January 2016 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2016 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
129/2016	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Dr Charlotte Hall, Project Development Officer, South Cumbria Rivers Trust</u> Dr Charlotte Hall explained she is employed by South Cumbria Rivers Trust (SCRT) following a successful Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid from Coniston & Crake Catchment Partnership (a subsidiary organisation of SCRT). She is spending a year establishing a plan and budget to improve water quality, habitat and biodiversity through conservation activities and community engagement. Then the HLF will be applied to for the funding to carry out the identified projects. The outcome is to have a better more sustainable landscape with an educated engaged community. 20 potential sites in the area have been identified and further work will be carried out to narrow down project sites. Dr Hall explained that the project is not specifically looking at flooding but some of the work carried out under the project may be of benefit.</p> <p>Dr Hall distributed handouts with further information about the possible community and conversation activities.</p>	

	<p><u>Police</u> PCSO Forrester sent a report by e-mail. There have been no crimes reported since last month and 5 non-crime matters dealt with by the police – 2 road traffic collisions, concern for welfare, off-road biking and drink driving charge. PCSO Forrester has been involved in a multi-agency operation tackling illegal off-road motor biking following concerns raised by the community.</p> <p><u>Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u> Mr A Cameron sent a report by e-mail. The Neighbourhood Plan passed the referendum and there is further work to be done including which will involve both the Parish Council and the Community Land Trust (CLT). The change in structure of the CLT board of directors is now complete.</p> <p><u>County Councillor D Fletcher</u> No report and no apologies received.</p> <p><u>District Councillor A Hall</u> Apologies received.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> No issues raised in relation to items on the agenda.</p>	
130/2016	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on progress of contacting the Highway Steward</u> Cllr Troughton reported she has still not had any contact from the Highway Steward. RESOLVED: Clerk to contract County Councillor for assistance.</p> <p><u>To update on Queen’s 90th birthday celebrations</u> Cllr Troughton has registered Coniston for ‘Clean for Queen’ over the weekend of 4th – 6th March. Brownies and Rainbows will be attending and equipment is being provided from South Lakeland District Council. If people are interested in attending they can meet at the Institute on 5th March at 10.30 or contact Cllr Troughton. RESOLVED: Clerk to advertise this local event and request assistance from Lake District National Park Authority and National Trust in cleaning up their areas over this weekend.</p> <p>Rydal Estates have given permission to have the Beacon on Mouldry Bank on 21st April provided the site is tidied up after the event. There is no further information on timings.</p> <p>A Royal Tea Party is planned at the Institute on 11th June 2016 to raise funds for Coniston Christmas Lights.</p> <p><u>To update on advertising the Parish Council elections on 5th May</u> An article will be placed in the March Parish Newsletter and will be advertised on social media, the CDC e-mail newsletter and noticeboards to ensure people are</p>	

	<p>aware of the forthcoming elections and encourage people to apply.</p> <p><u>To update on relocation of postbox on Yewdale Road</u> The Clerk has received a letter from the Post Office stating that a number of sites have been forwarded onto the planning department for permission to site the new box. The letter stated that regarding the potential unused doorway of the Coniston Co-operative that as the building was not owned by the Co-operative then if the owners of the building change they may request for the removal of the postbox. RESOLVED: Cllrs stated that the owners of the building would be the shareholders of the Co-operative, largely villagers, who would prefer the postbox at the Co-operative. Clerk to inform the Post Office.</p> <p><u>To update on reviewing Coniston Emergency Plan</u> Jeff Carroll has stated he does not have time to update and review the Coniston Emergency Plan. RESOLVED: Cllr Coward has offered to assist in updating the Plan.</p> <p><u>To review information on the Audit Procurement Changes and agree to opt in to the Sector Led Body process and having an auditor procured for the Council</u> The Clerk has received further information from the Cumbria Association of Local Councils about the Audit Procurement Changes. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to opt-in to the scheme of the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited.</p> <p><u>To update on bringing the Bridge Toilets up to the required standards and improving the signage for donations</u> Cllr Batty has received quotes for reinstating sinks and hand-dryers at the Bridge Toilets. RESOLVED: Cllr Batty to arrange for this work to be carried out prior to the opening of the Bridge Toilets on 19th March.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed better and larger signs were needed inside the toilets with the aim of increasing donations. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Grizedale Arts for assistance with signage.</p>	
<p>131/2016</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2016/5027 - 3 Far End Cottages, Coniston - Replace rotten downstairs living room windows and wooden frames, like for like RESOLVED: Cllrs supported the application.</p> <p>7/2016/5068 - Beckthwaite, Lake Road, Coniston - Erection of single storey side extension to replace existing entrance hall with new hall and study RESOLVED: Cllrs supported the application.</p>	

132/2016	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grants of Planning Permission:-</p> <p>7/2015/5689 – Shepherds Villa Guest House, Tilberthwaite Avenue, Coniston – change of use from self-catering holiday let to Bed & Breakfast with owners living on site. 7 letting bedrooms and 3 private bedrooms.</p> <p>7/2015/5662 – Post Office, 6 Yewdale Road, Coniston – proposed reinstatement of the existing door to form a separate entrance to the apartment over 6 Yewdale Road, Coniston</p>	
133/2016	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The results of the referendum on 28th January were 168 votes ‘Yes’, 43 votes ‘No’ with a turnout of 30.8%. It now means the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) Planning Department will formally adopt the Neighbourhood Plan. When a decision is made on a planning application in Coniston Parish the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan policies will have to be followed by the LDNPA.</p>	
134/2016	<p>Bluebird Project</p> <p>A core group of people has been identified by Cllr Hall to form a working party to commence work on planning the event of Bluebird coming to Coniston for a proving trial. It was suggested having legal advice as and when necessary for the event/s.</p>	
135/2016	<p>Highways Issues in the Parish</p> <p>No additional issues to report.</p>	
136/2016	<p>Local Area Partnership Meeting</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllr Troughton to attend the meeting on 24th February at Hawkshead.</p>	
137/2016	<p>Revision of Coniston Parish Council Policies</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed no amendments were required.</p>	
138/2016	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>It was noted the footpath along the old railway has been in poor condition lately due to building work being carried out in the area.</p> <p>Concerns have been expressed about if local occupancy conditions are being adhered to in the Parish.</p> <p>Coniston Christmas lights asked Cllr Troughton to retract her statement from December minutes but these minutes have already been signed off</p> <p>The streetlights at Dow How and by the Methodist Church have not been working for over 2 months now.</p>	
	<p>Financial Matters</p>	

139/2016	<p><u>To consider the quotes for the grass cutting at the Playground and Dow How and agree a contractor</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to appoint Coniston Ground Care as the contractor on a three year deal and a contract is to be drawn up.</p>	
140/2016	<p><u>To consider the quotes for cleaning the Bridge Toilets and the bus shelters</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed appoint Stephen Airey for one year with the bus shelters only being cleaned weekly in the winter months.</p>	
141/2016	<p><u>To consider request from John Ruskin School for help towards the new main entrance</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs declined the request.</p>	
142/2016	<p><u>To consider quotes for a new arboricultural report for an oak tree at the playground in Lake Road</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to appoint BHA Trees to provide a report.</p>	
143/2016	<p><u>To confirm the continuation of paying by direct debit to EON for electricity for the Bridge Toilets and street lighting</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to continue paying by direct debit to EON for electricity for the Bridge Toilets and street lighting.</p>	
144/2016	<p><u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coniston Christmas Lights £677.10 	
145/2016	<p><u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk's Salary £323.45 • HMRC £80.80 • EON – Bridge Toilets (by direct debit) £7.90 • EON – Streetlights (January) £108.89 • EON – Streetlights (February) £108.89 • Data Protection Renewal £35.00 • Print Digital £36.00 • Stephen Airey £60.00 	
146/2016	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLDC – REQUEST FOR SUGGESTIONS FOR POTENTIAL SLDC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK (IN 2016-2017) • CALC – 11 Feb Neighbourhood Planning Event • LDNPA - Proposed temporary closures of paths in Grizedale Forest; January news from the See More programme • LAP - High Furness LAP meeting Wednesday 24 February • CCC - Connecting Cumbria - Broadband events; Connecting Cumbria Newsletter • Hawkshead Parish Council – agenda 19 January 2016, minutes 19th January 2016 • Lakes Parish Council – minutes 20 January, agenda 3 February • Torver Parish Council – minutes 14 January, agenda 4 February • Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council – minutes 14 January, agenda 8 February 	

	<p>To note the following correspondence has been received since the last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of thanks from Great North Air Ambulance for donation • Malcolm Wilson Rally – 21st March 2016 • Tim Farron MP – Spring Surgeries 	
147/2016	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 21st March 2016 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)