

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Library, Coniston on Monday 20^h May 2013

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

In attendance: PCSO D Wilcock, Mr A Cameron (Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust), Mr P Haggin (Planning Team Leader, Lake District National Park Authority), Mr B Murray (Compliance Officer, Lake District National Park Authority), 3 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
10/2013	<p>Chairman RESOLVED: Cllrs unanimously agreed Cllr Carroll to be Chair for 2013/14 and the Chairman’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.</p>	
11/2013	<p>Vice Chairman RESOLVED: Cllrs unanimously agreed Cllr Stoddart to be Vice Chair for 2013/14.</p>	
12/2013	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received from Mr D Adams.</p>	
13/2013	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
14/2013	<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). Cllr Hall – declared an interest in matters relating to planning and will take no part in planning discussions All Councillors as Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum</p>	
15/2013	<p>Minutes of Meeting 15 April 2013 Cllr Coxon raised a query about the Cllrs agreement to strim Dow How every year not being in the minutes. (<i>Post meeting note</i> – this was recorded at minute number 287/2012) RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 April 2013 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
16/2013	<p>Portfolio holders for local subject areas RESOLVED: Cllrs were appointed as portfolio holders for the following local subject areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground – Cllr Tarr • Bus Shelters – Cllr Kelly • Street Lighting – Cllr Kelly • Parish Council website – Cllr Tarr 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways – Cllr Carroll • Housing – Cllr Hall • Environment – Cllr Coxon • Village Maintenance – Cllr Stoddart • Bridge Toilets – Cllr Batty <p>It was noted the Parish Council intend to refurbish the Bridge Toilets later this year subject to available funding.</p>	
17/2013	<p>Representatives to other bodies RESOLVED: Cllrs were appointed as representatives to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Plan – all Cllrs • Coniston Water Association – Cllr Coxon • Local Area Partnership (LAP)- any Cllr available to attend subject to date of meeting • Coniston Christmas Lights Committee – no Cllr to be appointed • Institute & Museum Committee – all Cllrs on rota basis • Coniston & Crake Partnership – Cllr Carroll • Flood Forum – Cllr Coxon • Coniston Sports & Social Club – Cllr Carroll / Kelly to alternate some meetings • Crake Website – Cllr Tarr 	
18/2013	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Mr P Haggin, Planning Team Leader and Mr B Murray, Compliance Officer – both of Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA)</u> Mr Haggin and Mr Murray explained Coniston Parish Council is very active in terms of planning and they are pleased to be working with us. The Planning Department deal with 300 enforcement cases per year and have a staff level of 2.5 people to do with the cases so have to prioritise.</p> <p>Mr Murray explained the planning enforcement process and the Planning Department’s role.</p> <p>Today 93% of planning applications are approved with 7% refused compared with approximately 10 years ago of 65% approved and 35% refused. This is because more assistance is given prior to the submitting of planning applications.</p> <p>The process of planning applications being approved by planning officers under delegated powers was discussed and explained. Approximately 86% of planning applications are approved under delegated powers and a delegated report is signed by 2 planning officers. The 14% of applications that go to committee to be discussed are because their time is valuable and they only deal with controversial issues.</p> <p>Cllrs confirmed they would be willing to join a pilot with 2 or 3 other Parish Councils to assist in improving communications with the Planning Department.</p>	

Police

PCSO Wilcock explained since 16th April there have been 17 incidents and 1 crime. 4 tickets were issued to parked cars that were causing obstruction at the Fred Whitton event. There have been scam letters received by residents in the area, one was sent from China and relates to potential inheritance money and the second suggests you have won money and requires your bank details. If anyone receives these letters they can be passed to the PCSO or Trading Standards.

There was discussion about the parking problems following the recent Fred Whitton event where the planned field for parking cars was unable to be used following heavy rainfall and some cars were parked inappropriately throughout the village. It was suggested hard standing could be purchased to put on the fields to allow cars to park. The Police have a lack of staff for events but it was suggested the Police could charge event organisers for providing Police cover. It was noted the cones that were requested from Oak Howe, Yewdale Road to the junction with Shepherds Bridge Lane were not in place on the day of the Fred Whitton event. The Fred Whitton event organiser is aware of the problems and is looking for solutions and is willing to attend a future meeting.

Concern was expressed about the number of activities being provided at Coniston Boating Centre and the increase in traffic on Lake Road.

Cllrs agreed events are good and bring people to the village but the parking situation needs to be resolved.

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to discuss parking solutions further at the next meeting.

Housing Needs Survey

The Housing Needs Survey for Coniston has been completed with the data having been ratified once and will be ratified again. The results will be published after this. The survey shows 30 affordable homes are required, 26 one bed roomed houses and 4 two bed roomed houses. Four households are interested in self-build or renovation.

The return rate of the survey was 38%. As 45% of houses in Coniston are second homes or holiday lets this gives a return rate of 60 from permanent homes.

Research is currently being carried out to find assistance with deposits to enable people to purchase houses on the market with local occupancy clauses. It was noted local salaries mean that even with assistance partial ownership may not be possible due to the payments and / or deposit required.

Coniston Development Centre

Report received and noted.

Coniston Parochial Church Council

Report received and noted.

Coniston Institute & Museum

	<p>Report received and noted.</p> <p><u>Coniston Crusaders</u> <i>Post meeting note</i> – report received and circulated.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> No comments received from members of the public.</p>	
	<p>Update on On-going Issues & Actions from Last Meeting</p>	
19/2013	<p><u>Verge Maintenance</u> RESOLVED: Cllr Coxon will arrange for the wall above the path by Brow Steps to be sprayed.</p>	DC
20/2013	<p><u>Parish Council website & village diary</u> RESOLVED: To give the company developing the website until the next meeting to complete it.</p>	LT
21/2013	<p><u>New Noticeboard</u> This is currently being made by a local contractor</p>	
22/2013	<p><u>Positioning of new Grit Bins</u> It was noted this is to be done and to be removed from the agenda until November.</p>	
22/2013	<p><u>Remedial Work at Playground Entrance</u> It was noted the stone work has been completed and the gates are currently being worked on.</p>	
23/2013	<p><u>Problem of Water on the road at Old Furness Road / Station Road and the Banks</u> It was noted a letter has been received from the land owner.</p>	
24/2013	<p><u>Possible Landscaping at Dow How and Associated Costs</u> Deferred until the next meeting.</p>	
25/2013	<p><u>Shop Front Improvement Scheme</u> Two of the businesses have completed the work and two are in progress. RESOLVED: To pay the grant money due to the two businesses who have completed the work and pay the other two businesses on completion of their work.</p>	
26/2013	<p><u>Additional Signage on Path to Waterhead with regards to dog muck</u> Deferred until the next meeting.</p>	
27/2013	<p><u>Funding for Dropped Kerbs</u> It was noted the Clerk is looking into funding for these.</p>	
28/2013	<p><u>Litter pick week commencing 4 June 2013</u> It was noted both the Primary and Secondary Schools are interested in helping. RESOLVED: Cllr Stoddart to contact both schools and co-ordinate the litter pick. Cllr Coxon offered to pick up and dispose of the rubbish.</p>	JS
29/2013	<p><u>Parish Walk on 1 May 2013</u> The notes of the Parish Walk have been distributed to Cllrs and will be discussed</p>	

	at the next meeting.	
30/2013	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2013/5142 High Bank Ground Farm, Coniston – erect new timber jetty adjacent existing boathouse RESOLVED: Following a site visit Cllrs objected to the application due to the size and proximity to the neighbouring jetty.</p>	
31/2013	<p>7/2013/5187 – Waterhead Hotel, Hawkshead Old Road, Coniston – new open sided, glazed roof canopy to entrance, replacement doors/windows to existing restaurant. New external terrace to restaurant RESOLVED: Cllrs objected due to upvc windows instead of wood and preformed paving instead of local riven flags.</p>	
32/2013	<p>7/2013/5240 – Waterhead Hotel, Hawkshead Old Road, Coniston – three fascia signs and one projecting sign RESOLVED: Cllrs supported the application</p>	
33/2013	<p>7/2013/5212 – 21 Collingwood Close, Coniston – refurbishment and alterations including increase in roof height of residential dwelling RESOLVED: Cllrs objected due to the visual impact caused by the scale being out of proportion to nearby properties.</p>	
34/2013	<p><u>Planning permission for balcony at Netherbeck, Haws Bank</u> Cllr Coxon confirmed he will be submitting a retrospective planning application for this.</p>	
35/2013	<p>Parish Plan <u>Better signage for footpaths</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to pay costs of approximately £80.00 to the LDNPA towards restoring the old finger post sign on Station Road.</p> <p><u>Improving the Road from Adams Bridge to Ship Inn</u> Deferred until the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Potholes and general state of local roads</u> Deferred until the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Landscaping at Dow How</u> See minute number 24/2013.</p> <p><u>Village Diary & Website</u> See minute number 20/2013.</p>	
36/2013	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Deferred until the next meeting.</p>	
37/2012	<p>Councillors' Matters</p> <p>Cllr Kelly explained there was a problem at Church Fields Close with parking</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coniston Institute (Room Hire - Housing Group) £15.00 • Came & Company £920.02 • South Lakes Tree Surgeons £300.00 • Cumbria County Council (lighting maintenance) £753.53 • Cumbria Playing Fields Association £45.00 • CALC Annual Subscription £202.00 • EON (Bridge Toilets) £7.16 • R J Airey £384.00 • United Utilities (Bridge Toilets) £80.56 • Coniston Mountain Rescue Team £30.00 <p style="text-align: center;">(Donation towards room usage for Neighbourhood plan meetings)</p>	
45/2013	<p>Correspondence Councillors noted the following correspondence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - South Lakeland District Council Notice of County Council Elections 2 May 2013 - Letter of thanks from Coniston & District International Twinning Association - Lake District National Park Authority re weekly list of planning decisions - Letter re car park at Ruskin Avenue - Clerks & Council Magazine May 2013 - Thank you card from Coniston Art Society - Letter from Suggest in Salford re operating PAYE 	
46/2013	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 17th June 2013 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 10.10pm.