

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Library, Coniston on Monday 16th September 2013

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

In attendance: PCSO Forrester, A Cameron & H Dodd (Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust), M Gatty (Hill's Garage), M Postle and 3 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
127/2013	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Coxon.</p>	
128/2013	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
129/2013	<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 & 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 All Councillors as Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum</p>	
130/2013	<p>Minutes of Meeting 19 August 2013 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 August 2013 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
131/2013	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Hills Garage & Proposed Move of Coniston Post Office</u> Mr Gatty, Director of Hills Garage explained he understood the proposed move of the post office in Coniston had been discussed at the last Parish Council meeting and some concerns were raised and he would like to address any concerns.</p> <p>Mr Gatty confirmed the decision has not yet been made the Post Office will be moving to Hills Garage and there are legalities to go through as well. The access to the shop currently complies with disabled access and there are no plans to alter this. The counter in the shop would change with a separate one in the middle solely for Post Office transactions with a designated till. The suggestions of a designated car park space for the Post Office and traffic management on the forecourt would be investigated. Cllrs stated they are grateful to be keeping a Post Office in Coniston, welcomed the additional opening hours and thanked Mr Gatty for attending.</p> <p><u>Police</u> PCSO Forrester explained there is a new Community Sergeant, Bill Nolan who</p>	

<p>was currently attending the Coniston 14 meeting but would be attending the October meeting.</p> <p>There have been 8 crimes reported in Coniston since the last meeting and several non crime incidents. However, there are no particular concerns. 5 of the thefts were canoe or boat related. PCSO Forrester is considering setting up a Bar Watch in Coniston, more information available from her.</p> <p><u>Mike Postle – Superfast Broadband in Coniston</u> Mr Postle has taken on the hub co-ordinators role and co-ordinates the Parish Broadband Champions.</p> <p>Currently in Cumbria broadband speeds are about 5 megabits per second and superfast broadband would increase this to 24 megabits per second. In comparison London has 1000 megabits per second (1GB). The aim of 24 megabits per second is the maximum that the copper wires of telephone wires can carry. Copper wires can be replaced by fibre optics where light carries the signal and they are cheaper than the copper wires and can carry more data.</p> <p>Connecting Cumbria is a project to being superfast broadband to 93% of premises in Cumbria by the end of 2015.</p> <p>In Coniston 75% of premises will be automatically coupled to superfast broadband and 25% will not. Currently there are no maps to confirm which areas are affected. To assist the 25% to get connected to superfast broadband a Community Build Scheme – Registration of Interest form needs to be completed. Further investigation will be carried out and discussed with the community. The exchange in Coniston is due to be fibre enabled in 2014.</p> <p>Individuals are encouraged to register their interest at BT Open Reach or Connecting Cumbria. Community awareness needs to be raised.</p> <p>Further information is available at www.connectingcumbria.org.uk</p> <p>RESOLVED: the Community Build Scheme – Registration of Interest form is to be completed. RESOLVED: Cllr Kelly to contact a person who may take on the role of Broadband Champion for Coniston</p> <p><u>Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u> Alastair Cameron gave a brief update on the work of the Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust (CLT).</p> <p>The Housing Survey carried out in April shows 23 households / individuals were in need of housing. The affordable housing scheme project at Barratts Croft has been handed back to Home Housing. The CLT have also been heavily involved in the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan and are looking at bringing empty homes back into the permanent local occupancy.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> No issues raised.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
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132/2013	<p>Future of Doctor's Surgery in Coniston The public meeting on 31 August was well attended with over 300 people. Individuals are encouraged to write expressing their concerns and all the addresses are available on the Parish Council website (www.coniston.info).</p>	
<p>133/2013</p> <p>134/2013</p> <p>135/2013</p> <p>136/2013</p> <p>137/2013</p>	<p>Update on On-going Issues & Actions from Last Meeting</p> <p><u>Additional Signage on Path to Waterhead with regards to dog muck</u> Cllr Tarr to work on this.</p> <p><u>Progress on Proposed Extension to the Railway Line from Torver to Coniston</u> No update from Cllr Coxon.</p> <p><u>Damage to wall at Devonshire Terrace</u> This has been reported to Lake District National Park Authority and a response is awaited.</p> <p><u>Confirm Verge Maintenance Funding & Priority Areas</u> It was confirmed £500 was available. Priority areas are Brow Steps, Shepherds Bridge Lane from the crossroads at Far End towards the Primary School and Oak Howe to Doctors Corner. This provides 3 days work and means there will be remaining funds if other priorities emerge. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact contractor. RESOLVED: Cllr Carroll to contact Home Housing about brambles and buddleias on Old Furness Road.</p> <p><u>Proposals for Christmas Lights</u> Heather Troughton explained some LED string lights have been ordered for this year and next year the committee will be fundraising to have them down Tilberthwaite Avenue as well.</p> <p>Cllrs gave their thanks to the committee and stated they fully support their work.</p>	<p>LT</p> <p>JCC JRC</p>
<p>138/2013</p> <p>139/2013</p> <p>140/2013</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2013/5471 – Lowfield, Bowmanstead, Coniston – proposed level access bathroom RESOLVED: Cllrs have no objections to the building but request an archaeological survey is carried out first as it is on the site of a 14th century mill.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed it was easier to view the plans electronically on the screen than passing papers around.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to carry on viewing the planning applications electronically. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Lake District National Park Authority for clarification on downloading files.</p>	
141/2013	<p>Parish Plan Better Signage for Footpaths</p>	

	<p>Cllr Stoddart is meeting with Dave Robinson, Access & Recreation Developer, Lake District National Park Authority towards the end of September to discuss signage and cycle parking.</p> <p>Cllrs suggested improved signage in the village for the Cumbria Way, Dow How footpath only sign and signage for the old railway line from the village. Cycle parking on Yewdale Road before the shops and at the playground were proposed.</p> <p><u>Improving the Road from Adams Bridge to Ship Inn</u> The road markings should be done in the next few weeks.</p> <p><u>Village Diary & Website</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the new website. RESOLVED: Toni Whirity to update the Parish Diary on the website. RESOLVED: the website is to be paid for from the Amenities Fund of Coniston Parish Council as it will benefit the whole village.</p>	ALL
142/2013	<p>Neighbourhood Plan RESOLVED: To commence formal consultation of the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>The document can be viewed on the Parish Council website (www.coniston.info) and there is a link to the survey. Postcards will be delivered to households in Coniston with details and paper copies are available from the Clerk.</p> <p>A coffee morning will be held on Saturday 28th September from 10am to 12pm to answer any questions Parishioners have. Other events are being planned and will be publicised.</p>	
143/2013	<p>New Homes Bonus RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed the funding should go towards the lease for the Cricket, Tennis and Bowling Clubs.</p>	
144/2013	<p>Parish Directory RESOLVED: To await updating this until the Business Forum is up and running as they may wish to be involved.</p>	
145/2013	<p>RoSPA report It was noted the bearings on the spinner and the old beams need to be looked at. RESOLVED: Cllr Tarr to investigate.</p>	LT
146/2013	<p>Consultation on Housing Provision Supplementary Planning Document RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed the Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust to reply on behalf of the Parish Council</p>	
147/2013	<p>Annual Return RESOLVED: Cllrs approved and accepted the Annual Return.</p>	
148/2012	<p>Councillors' Matters It was noted there are some grit bins in Coniston with broken lids.</p>	

	<p>ACTION: Cllr Kelly to inform the Clerk of the location of the grit bins requiring repair.</p> <p>There is a lot of overgrown vegetation at Yew Tree Tarn and it is not as clear to see from the road. ACTION: Clerk to contact National Trust.</p> <p>It was suggested the Parish Council could take on finding a contractor for the grass area in front of The Garth houses on Tilberthwaite Avenue provided South Lakeland District Council give funding. ACTION: To be put on the next agenda.</p> <p>It was questioned if a tree in the playground requires removing. ACTION: Cllr Tarr to investigate.</p> <p>Reminder South Lakeland District Council Cabinet are meeting in the Reading Room at 10am on Wednesday and people are welcome to come along.</p> <p>The white edging on Brow Steps needs re-painting. ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways.</p> <p>Cllr Carroll requested Cllrs to consider any funding priorities as the precept for 2014/15 will be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted the railings outside David Watts are still to be painted.</p> <p>Reminder the first meeting of Coniston Business Forum is to take place on Tuesday 24th September at 7pm.</p> <p>A meeting about Shepherds Bridge and its future will take place on 3 October and all interested parties have been invited to attend.</p> <p>It was noted the Land Train has had its licence from Lake District National Park Authority reviewed and the Parish Council will be consulted on the renewal in December.</p>	<p>AK</p> <p>JCC</p> <p>JCC</p> <p>LT</p> <p>JCC</p>
<p>149/2013</p>	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenities Fund (playground) £314.62 	
<p>150/2013</p>	<p><u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised the following payments:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EON - streetlights (by direct debit) £75.11 • Clerk's Salary £308.00 • HMRC £77.00 • EON (Bridge Toilets) £8.07 • R J Airey £306.00 • Hygiene Cleaning Supplies £45.94 • TFH Gazebos (Broadband funds) £114.00 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingham Garden Services £175.00 • BDO LLP £240.00 	
151/2013	<p>Correspondence Councillors noted the following correspondence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Empty Homes Grants information from South Lakeland District Council - Letter from Post Office about incorrect consultation end date - Letter from Tim Farron MP re GP Surgery - Clerks & Councils Direct September 2013 	
152/2013	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 21 October 2013 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 10.05pm.