

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Library, Coniston on Monday 18th November 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: Sergeant Nolan, J Moffat and 3 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
185/2013	Apologies RESOLVED: No apologies received.	
186/2013	Requests for Dispensations No requests received.	
187/2013	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 Cllr Kelly – matters relating to Coniston Sports & Social Centre All Councillors as Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum	
188/2013	Minutes of Meeting 21 October 2013 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 October 2013 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
189/2013	Public Participation <u>Police Report</u> Sergeant Nolan reported there have been four crimes in the area since the last meeting and five non-crime matters dealt with by the police. PCSO Forrester is holding a Bicycle Marking and Crime Prevention Surgery on 25 th January 2014 at Coniston Institute from 10-12. If anyone sees any suspicious incidents in relation to sheep and livestock thefts please report them to 101. <u>Mr J Moffat, National Trust General Manager South Lakes</u> Mr Moffat gave an update on National Trust matters over the last 3-4 months. It has been a good summer with the better weather this year. There have been less visitors to indoor properties which is consistent with the weather and the Gondola has not had as good a year. Wray Castle will be open into the winter and then closing after Christmas. During September and October some weeks have been good but others not and there is no pattern although the weather has not been as good. Half term was not as busy as expected but this could be due to the weather.	

The National Trust has bought into the Hawkshead gritting scheme and the road to Tarn Hows will be cleared as far as the car park. There are no major projects currently planned although approximately 5,000 trees will be planted in the area. There are currently several vacant posts based at Boon Crag which will be advertised shortly.

It was noted the water that runs across the road on the one way system from Tarn Hows is causing problems on the road. This is Highways responsibility.

Mr Moffat will look into gates being locked on the lakeshore path past Coniston Hall as this is frequently used as a cycleway.

Mr Moffat will confirm if the railings by the Lime Kiln outside Coniston that require replacing are National Trust or Highways responsibility.

Councillors requested the hedge by the footpath at the junction to the east side of the lake be cut down further. Mr Moffat explained the hedge has already been cut back a lot. It was suggested extending the cut back of the hedge to further up the path to assist vision and this will be reviewed in 6 months time.

Mr Moffat will confirm if the footpath in the field over Shepherds Bridge is National Trust or Lake District National Park Authority responsibility as there are many tree roots causing problems.

Cllr attending meeting with Dave Robinson, Lake District National Park Authority in relation to improving signage for footpaths & cycleways and cycle parking in Coniston

Cllr Stoddart had a meeting and is currently awaiting a written report.

Mr A Cameron, Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust

Mr Cameron gave an update on housing issues.

The website for the group will be expanding and include reference documents, Housing Needs Survey results and details of projects.

The group have put in an expression of interest for St Andrews Youth Centre with a view to meeting housing needs and / or an additional community facility.

There is an ongoing decline in tourism in the area and the group are looking to develop business office units. They are currently putting plans together and will see if there is any demand to go ahead.

Some background information on the planning application for the housing development at Barratt Croft was given. It originally got planning consent in 2006 for 7 dwellings on the site. The current plans are for 5 houses on the site and Home Group will be running the project. Concerns were expressed by Councillors on the lack of maintenance to existing Home Group properties in Coniston and would appreciate some guarantees outstanding work will be completed.

Public Participation

No issues raised.

	Update on On-going Issues & Actions from Last Meeting	
190/2013	<u>Obtaining Grit</u> Cumbria County Cllr Fletcher has reported that no grit can be released to individuals from stores.	
191/2013	<u>Update on superfast Broadband project and Broadband Champion</u> Toni Whirity has agreed to be the Broadband Champion for Coniston.	
192/2013	<u>Update on progress of remedial work to play equipment at the playground and situation with tree</u> Playdale need to be contacted about the work required on the spinner. The tree will be removed. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Playdale about the spinner	JCC
193/2013	<u>Update on request to re-do white lines on edge of Brow Steps and other outstanding Highways work</u> The Clerk has made several Highways requests and chased for information. The Area Stewards are now commencing work on outstanding issues.	
194/2013	<u>New Grit Bins</u> These are to be re-sited.	DC
	Planning Applications	
195/2013	7/2013/5610 – Land adjacent to Barratt Croft, Coniston – proposed housing development RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application and would like the path from John Hext House through the new development to be permanent.	
196/2013	7/2013/5642 –Coniston – The Coach House, Yewdale Road, Coniston – single storey side elevation conservatory RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.	
197/2013	Parish Plan The work at Adams Bridge to Ship Inn is due to be done shortly. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Highways for an update. It was noted there are road marks that are fading. RESOLVED: A list to be created and forwarded to Highways. It was questioned why the loading only bay outside the Co-op was not timed. This is due to lorries turning up at different times and requiring use of the bay.	
198/2013	Neighbourhood Plan Currently there have been 18 online responses and 18 paper copies of the survey in relation to the consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan. RESOLVED: It was agreed many people responded to the Parish Plan which was used to create the Neighbourhood Plan and given this there may not be many more responses. A reminder is to be put in the CDC Newsletter with a closing date of 30 th November and the Clerk will collate responses to be discussed at the January	

	Parish Council meeting. Additionally, the Clerk to check with Lake District National Park Authority this will satisfy the independent examiner.	
199/2013	Drop Kerb Funding Clerk awaiting a response from Highways.	
200/2013	Centenary of start of World War I RESOLVED: It was agreed to build on work the Ruskin Museum are currently doing and review next year with possibly having a film night.	
201/2013	Bridge Toilets Refurbishment Mr Coxon, Lake District National Park Authority Operations Manager explained the Authority will start charging in their toilets over the next two years. This will include the toilets on Ruskin Avenue and will cause the Bridge Toilets to be used more if they remain free. Cllr Carroll stated that the Bridge Toilets have always been free and disagreed with charging at them. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed not to charge at the Bridge Toilets but to review this as necessary. RESOLVED: Quotes are to be obtained for new equipment required in the toilets, installing low energy lighting and a door that automatically closes at night.	
202/2012	Councillors' Matters Highways matters reported were: - blocked drains at Ten Lodge and outside bus shelter at Haws Bank, the hollow in the road at Haws Bank and the road surface from Tiplog to Skelwith Bridge. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Highways The New Homes Bonus money towards the lease for the Cricket Ground will be claimed directly by the Coniston Institute if possible. Cllr Hall attended the CALC AGM and the funeral of the late Ian Constantinesco. Cllr Hall reported she had a meeting with Home Housing about outstanding issues. The overgrown vegetation below Old Furness Road will be cleared. Home Housing is investigating if they are the owners of the wall below Old Furness Road by Brow Steps and if they are will arrange for the required work to be carried out. Reminder the Lancashire Day Supper is on 29 th November. It was noted the Coniston Parish Council minutes cannot always be read clearly in the noticeboard. The sign for Tilberthwaite Avenue requires repair work. There are three streetlights out in the village. An update on the Coniston Business Forum was given and there is a committee	

	and some meetings have been held.	
203/2013	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>Proposed Precept for 2014/15</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs deferred this until the January meeting.</p>	
204/2013	<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 • Clerk's Overtime (Neighbourhood Plan) £176.00 • HMRC £111.00 • EON (Bridge Toilets) £6.72 • R J Airey £??? • Lake District National Park Authority (Bridge Toilets – PHS Services) £13.45 • Lake District National Park Authority (sign post – Old Man Walna Scar on Station Road) £60.36 • Coniston Institute (Parish Council meetings & Neighbourhood Plan coffee morning) £60.00 • Coniston Institute (Coniston & Torver Housing Group) £15.00 • United Utilities £401.96 	
205/2013	<p>Correspondence Councillors noted the following correspondence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clerks & Councils Direct magazine November 2013 - Letter from Post Office confirming move to new premises - Letter from NHS England re possible closure of surgery in Coniston - Letter from South Lakeland District Council – publicity for the Annual Electoral Registration Canvass - CALC Notice of Annual General Meeting 2013 - Letter re caring for Local War Memorials - Letter of thanks for grant from Friends Of Coniston Medical Practice - Go Cumbria Bus Timetable and Travel Guide - Letter from South Lakeland District Council – non-voting co-opted parish council representatives vacancy on the council's standards committee 	
206/2013	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 16 December 2013 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 9.45pm.