

## Coniston Parish Council

### Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014

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

**In attendance:** PCSO E Forrester, County Cllr D Fletcher, Mr P Hoskings (Cumbria County Council), Age UK – Ms Park and Mrs P Kirkbride and 4 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
149/2014	<p><b>Apologies</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Coxon.</p>	
150/2014	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations</b> No requests received.</p>	
151/2014	<p><b>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</b> Cllr Carroll – matters relating to Clerk’s salary Cllr Hall – declared an interest in matters relating to planning but will take part in planning application 7/2014/5091 at Parish Council level. Cllr Kelly – matters relating to Coniston Sports &amp; Social Centre All Councillors as Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum</p>	
152/2014	<p><b>Minutes of Meeting 17 February 2014</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 February 2014 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
153/2014	<p><b>Resignation of Councillor Tarr</b> The resignation of Councillor Tarr has been received. The required notices for a Casual vacancy will be displayed. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to send letter of thanks to Cllr Tarr for his 10 years as a Cllr and all his hard work.</p>	
154/2014	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p><u>Police Report</u> PCSO Forrester reported that since our last meeting there have been 4 Mountain Rescue call outs, 3 road traffic collisions, 1 fraud, 1 anti-social behaviour, 1 burglary and 3 suspicious incidents.</p> <p><u>Mr P Hoskings, Highways Network Manager, Cumbria County Council Highways Department</u> Mr Hoskings attended following no Cllrs being able to attend the meet &amp; greet sessions recently held by the Highways Department following their restructure.</p> <p>Better Highways Teams will inspect and minor works will be done on a find &amp; fix and support for major projects falling back to the office. Any Highways problems</p>	

<p>should be directed through the main switchboard number or by e-mail to be logged.</p> <p>Last week Cumbria County Council had 2 days to respond to the government re winter damage. Claims in excess of £1million to undertake repairs.</p> <p>Cllr Carroll explained about the current problems of working with the Highways Department – mainly lack of communication from Highways Department, not knowing when the Highways Team are coming to the area and that a number of jobs are outstanding.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs to create an up-to-date list of Highways work required in the parish and prioritise it then e-mail it to Mr Hosking.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed at the quality of pothole fixing repair work. Mr Hoskings explained that with potholes it is sometimes easier to put material in and then follow it up with a further repair but it is currently not being followed up. Mr Hoskings would like to see a programme of verge maintenance.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed at contractors not cleaning gullies efficiently. Mr Hoskings explained that the gullies should be cleaned down to a couple of metres and then if it is still blocked after that then a revisit should be arranged.</p> <p>Mr Hoskings explained the Highways Department is currently filling the final vacant posts. The administrative support is now going to be permanent posts rather than temporary cover which should improve the service.</p> <p>Cllrs requested some specific problems were looked at:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The cats eyes holders have been left in at the road narrowing at the Ship Inn and road users still treat this as the centre line. Are there any plans to take them out?</li> <li>- Potholes between the Catholic Church and the railway bridge have been reported several times but no work has been carried out.</li> <li>- White lining work is required.</li> <li>- Railings at Whin Woods – it was confirmed this was not Highways issue.</li> </ul> <p><u>Age UK Coniston Day Centre – Ms Park &amp; Mrs Kirkbride</u></p> <p>The Day Centre in Coniston was opened by Social Services in 1987 and Age UK has been running it since 1997 and people come via Social Services. It is well attended with between 10 and 12 people, currently there are 8 people attending. Age UK has made the decision to withdraw funding from Day Centres. The Day Centres in Ambleside and Milnthorpe will close at the end of May due to an increase in competitors.</p> <p>In Coniston the provision has been extended to the end of August and if a community group would be willing to take over a transition period would be arranged. The Care Scheme has stated they are willing to assist but not to manage it.</p> <p>It was suggested the Day Centre could maybe be combined with other existing clubs, the Exercise Club or Cameo Club. Mrs Kirkbride to advertise the issue locally with the possibility of arranging a meeting to discuss a way forward.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
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	<p><u>Cumbria County Councillor D Fletcher</u>  County Cllr Fletcher explained the Highways Department have replied about the dropped kerbs and the locations with a suggestion of 3 that could be done in the village. A contractor needs to be suggested to the Highways Department and a private works agreement can be arranged. County Cllr Fletcher to look at his budget for the other 50% funding that is required for the dropped kerbs.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to contact a local contractor for agreement and liaise with the Highways Department.</p> <p>The invoice for the grit bin at Torver which is to come out of reallocated Broadband funding held by Coniston Parish Council should be issued by Highways within the next week after a delay of nearly 6 months.</p> <p>Cumbria County Council budgets have all gone through. The main contention was post 16 transport being withdrawn. Locally the X12 service is at risk and a meeting possibly needs to be arranged through the Local Area Partnership with a community scheme if required.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to write to Tim Farron MP over concerns about post 16 transport for rural areas.</p> <p><u>Coniston &amp; Torver Community Land Trust</u>  Mr Cameron sent a report by e-mail. Planning consent has been granted at Barratts Croft for 3 2-bedroom and 2 1-bedroom homes. More information is being placed on the Coniston &amp; Torver Community Land Trust website (<a href="http://www.conistonandtorverclt.co.uk">www.conistonandtorverclt.co.uk</a>).</p> <p><u>Local Area Partnership Conference</u>  Cllr Hall reported the conference was very well attended. A Chief Executive from Bradford way, Head of Commissioning for Health and Police all explained that due to budget cuts people will have to look into carrying out tasks themselves and requesting more volunteers.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u>  It was reported that United Utilities had responded to a blocked drain on a footpath on Town Field and the footpath is now clear of water.</p> <p>The recent report sent out from the Flood Forum shows that little has been done or likely to be done by the Environment Agency.</p> <p>There is flooding at Haws Bank but this is coming off private land and the Cumbria County Council should contact the owners of the property.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to contact County Cllr Fletcher.</p>	JCC
155/2014	<p><b>Update on On-going Issues &amp; Actions from Last Meeting</b></p> <p><u>To receive update on additional cycle stands for the village from Councillor meeting with Richard Ingham, Go Lakes Travel</u>  Mr Ingham has sent an e-mail update to the Clerk explaining that Go Lakes travel will supply 6 cycle parking stands and two planters with cycle attachment rails. However, the Parish Council would have to pay for the installation in the</p>	

<p><b>156/2014</b></p>	<p>playground.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to request Mr Ingham look at putting planters with cycle stands in the playground to save on installation costs.</p> <p><u>To update on flooding on section of footpath from houses on Old Furness Road towards the Bridge on the Old Railway line</u>  Clerk has contacted Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) and the work has been carried out.</p> <p>It was noted that parts of the wall have problems and there is rubbish in the vegetation that needs to be cleared.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to contact LDNPA about it.</p> <p>There is a plan in process to look at improving other parts of the railway line from Old Furness Road to Spoon Hall.</p>	<p>JCC</p> <p>JCC</p>
<p><b>157/2014</b></p>	<p><u>To update on the progress of new dropped kerbs after receiving funding</u>  See minute number 154/2014</p>	
<p><b>158/2014</b></p> <p><b>159/2014</b></p> <p><b>160/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>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 &amp; siting of temporary field shelter in a permanent level screened location</p> <p>Two letters received objecting to the application were noted.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs to make a site visit on 25<sup>th</sup> March with a member of staff from LDNPA Planning Department and request the Development Control Committee also make a site visit.</p> <p>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</p> <p>Letter from the applicant was noted.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs to make a site visit on 25<sup>th</sup> March with a member of staff from LDNPA Planning Department and request the Development Control Committee also make a site visit.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permissions:-</p> <p>7/2013/5632 – Gondola Jetty, Coniston Boat Landings, Lake Road, Coniston – raise jetty</p> <p>7/2012/5470 - Dixon Ground Farm, Coniston – house extension into adjacent barn</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>

<p><b>161/2014</b></p> <p><b>162/2014</b></p>	<p>7/2013/5610 – Land adjacent to Barratt Croft, Coniston – proposed housing development</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs noted the following Notice of Listed Building Consent:- 7/2012/5471 – Dixon Ground Farm, Coniston – house extension into adjacent barn</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs noted the following Certificate of Lawful Use or Development:- Mr &amp; Mrs J &amp; K Bowyer, The Farmhouse, Atkinson Ground, Coniston</p>	
<p><b>163/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Parish Plan</b> To confirm requests for additional Cumbria Way signage have been carried out by <u>Lake District National Park Authority</u></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Lake District National Park Authority are awaiting new signs and will then contact the Clerk to arrange where in the village</p>	
<p><b>164/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b> The coffee morning held on 1 March 2014 to update Parishioners following amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan following consultation was attended by approximately 25 people. To date two comment forms have been received back and it was noted several other subjects were raised at this coffee morning.</p> <p>The meeting with Mr Jackson who is carrying out a preliminary examination of the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan was positive and his full report will be ready in the next few weeks.</p>	
<p><b>165/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Bridge Toilets Refurbishment</b> Cllr Batty explained the refurbishment of the Bridge Toilets is nearly completed. Cllr Kelly to look at the painting work required.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllr Stoddart to carry on with the collecting boxes. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to research costs of signs required explaining about the automatic locking of the doors at night.</p>	<p>KB</p> <p>JS JCC</p>
<p><b>166/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Grass Cutting by Campbell Memorial &amp; The Garth</b> Clerk obtained a quote from a local contractor of £375. South Lakeland District Council are offering up to £100 for the Parish Council to carry out this work. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllr Hall to contact SLDC to see if this can be progressed.</p>	<p>AH</p>
<p><b>167/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Cumbria Way Ultra – 13-14 September 2014</b> This will take place from Ulverston to Carlisle following the Cumbria Way. There is an entry limit of 250 people and one of the checkpoints will be in Coniston. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs suggested the Coniston Sports &amp; Social Club as a checkpoint as it is on the Cumbria Way – Clerk to contact the event organisers.</p>	<p>JCC</p>
<p><b>168/2014</b></p>	<p><b>Events Planned at John Ruskin School in 2014</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs noted the events that are due to take place in 2014. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs agreed all events the Clerk is informed of should be placed on the Parish Diary and forwarded to Cllrs but not on the agenda unless there are specific issues to be raised.</p>	

169/2014	<p><b>Coniston Litter Pick 5 April 2014</b> The litter pick planned for Coniston has already been publicised in the CDC weekly newsletter. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs Hall and Stoddart to progress.</p>	AH & JS
170/2014	<p><b>Coniston Bus Shelter</b> The grant money of £5,000 has just been received. The work at the bus shelter is due to be carried out later this month.</p>	
171/2014	<p><b>Coniston Emergency Plan</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllr Carroll to look at updating the Coniston Emergency Plan in terms of contact details.</p>	
172/2014	<p><b>Communications to Councillors</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to carry on sending e-mails as is currently done.</p>	
173/2014	<p><b>Councillors' Matters</b></p> <p>The drain below Tent Lodge is still blocked despite it being reported to Highways.</p> <p>There are drainage issues at Cat Bank.</p> <p>The sale of Shepherds Bridge House has fallen through and it is now being considered whether it may be cost effective and acceptable to planners to put a modern straight bridge across.</p> <p>It was noted the good work the National Trust have carried out recently on the path from Waterhead towards Tarn Hows.</p> <p>It was noted the poor condition of the side of the road at Shepherds Bridge Lane near the primary school and this needs reporting to Highways.</p> <p>It was noted a fund was available for improving the emptying houses and this information was forwarded to the Community Land Trust.</p> <p>It was suggested inviting Mr Ratcliffe from the Lake District National Park Authority to a future meeting to explain the application and benefits of World Heritage Status.</p> <p>Cllrs are reminded to ensure their Disclosable Pecuniary Interest forms are up to date.</p> <p>Small businesses with rateable value of less than £50,000 will get £1,000 back from South Lakeland District Council.</p>	
174/2014	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p><u>To consider tenders for cleaning the Bridge Toilets and bus shelters for 2014/15</u> <b>RESOLVED:</b> A contract for a year is to be offered to Steven Airey.</p>	

175/2014	<p><u>To review signatories for the Barclays Bank accounts and confirm new signatories as necessary</u>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllr Kelly to be the new signatory on the bank accounts instead of L Tarr who has resigned.</p>	
176/2014	<p><u>Receipts</u>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs noted the following receipt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake District National Park Authority (Neighbourhood Plan expenses) £290.64</li> <li>• South Lakeland District Council (Local Area Partnership towards verge maintenance) £445.00</li> </ul>	
177/2014	<p><u>Payments</u>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllrs authorised the following payments:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EON - streetlights (by direct debit) £69.14</li> <li>• Clerk's Salary £308.00</li> <li>• Clerk's Overtime (including Neighbourhood Plan) £202.40</li> <li>• HMRC £127.60</li> <li>• EON (Bridge Toilets) £7.80</li> <li>• R J Airey £48.00</li> <li>• United Utilities £60.99</li> <li>• Cumbria Association of Local Councils £5.00</li> <li>• Bespoke Folk Café (Neighbourhood Plan event) £70.00</li> <li>• Hollands Coffee &amp; Eating House (Neighbourhood Plan event) £45.00</li> </ul>	
178/2014	<p><b>Correspondence</b>  Councillors noted the following correspondence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clerks &amp; Councils Direct March 2014</li> <li>- Letter from Coniston Christmas Lights requesting a donation</li> <li>- South Lakeland District Council agenda 25 February 2014</li> <li>- Letter from Lake District National Park Authority re Go Lakes Travel supported bus services summer 2014</li> </ul>	
179/2014	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 14 April 2014 7pm</li> </ul>	

Meeting closed at 9.50pm.