

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute at 7.00pm on Monday 15th September 2014

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

In attendance: 15 members of the public, J Moffat - General Manager South Lakes National Trust & PCSO E Forrester

Minute Number		Action By
300/2014	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Cllr Coxon as pre-arranged (see minute number 241/2014) and apologies received and accepted for Cllr Batty (holiday) and Cllr Sharp (work commitments)</p>	
301/2014	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
302/2014	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items Cllr Carroll – matters relating to Clerk’s salary Cllr Hall – declared an interest in matters relating to planning and will take no part in planning discussions All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
303/2014	<p>Minutes of Meetings 18 August 2014 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 August 2014 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
304/2014	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Mr J Moffat – General Manager South Lakes Property, National Trust</u> Mr Moffat explained that it has been a good summer especially with the nice weather and there have been generally few problems as a result. The National Trust houses in the area are in a good position with just a couple of voids, one being Hoathwaite Farm House. Over the summer Tarn Hows has been busy and work has been carried out improving the access routes to it. Mr Moffat attended an event held by Coniston & Crake Catchment Partnership on the lake to discuss the problems and potential solutions in relation to the lake. Over the next six months the National Trust will be continuing to turn around letting properties as necessary, working at Tarn Hows to improve signage, paths & access and overall access around the parish.</p> <p>Councillors discussed a few issues in the parish with Mr Moffat. There are concerns about the steepness of the cycle path to Tarn Hows and the exit for cycles coming downhill onto the road of the one way system. A request was made for improved signage through Yewdale Wood to encourage pedestrians and</p>	

cyclists off the road and onto the bridleway. The bridge at the bottom of Hoathwaite across the beck has had wood sawn off. The cattle grid at Haws Bank requires repair as two sections are worn through. It was questioned if there are any plans for remedial work on the dam at Yew Tree Tarn and Mr Moffat confirmed over the next 18 months there are no plans. The problem of the state of the railings at Whins Wood was discussed and Mr Moffat suggested a fence could be erected in place of the railings which is a cheaper option. The gateway next to the Dog Kennel towards Guards Wood needs improving. It has been noted the hedge at the head of the lake has turned brown and there are concerns about vision at the junction. It was suggested Mr Moffat works with the Highways Department and obtain their advice about the junction.

Police

PCSO Forrester explained there have been 7 crimes in Coniston and 14 non-crime matters since the last meeting. The crimes included thefts, assault with injury, burglary, drunk & disorderly and driving over the prescribed limit. PCSO Forrester encouraged people to ensure their equipment in sheds was locked away and serial numbers noted down.

Cllr Hall explained problems occur with traffic on the road at Blawith and PCSO Forrester stated this would be dealt with by the Ulverston team.

Cumbria County Councillor D Fletcher

County Cllr Fletcher sent an e-mail explaining that there is no obligation for him to attend the Parish Council meetings. He will be attending the meeting next week arranged with a few Councillors and Cumbria County Council (Area Support Officer & County Cllr) to discuss issues in the area.

Cllr Carroll explained that Cumbria County Council cut the funding for post 16 year old transport for the area, however, all 16-18 year old have to continue in further education. Cumbria County Council has confirmed the funding X12 will be withdrawn from 18 October 2014. This leaves Coniston with concerns about how to get children to Further Education and the social & educational isolation that could result.

Cllr Hall gave a background to the work that has already been carried out to keep the X12 service and meetings that have already taken place. It was noted Go Lakes Travel funding was unavailable for this service due to their criteria.

Cllrs encouraged people who are concerned about the future of the X12 to put it in writing to the Chief Executive at Cumbria County Council copying in County Cllr Dave Fletcher and Tim Farron MP as well as signing petitions both online and hand written ones.

South Lakeland District Councillor A Hall

Cllr Hall will be attending an Overview & Scrutiny meeting where she will be raising the problem of funding cuts to the Doctors Surgery.

Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust

Mr Cameron from the Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust sent in a report by e-mail. The Barratt Croft scheme is progressing with the completion date still

	<p>anticipated to be the end of February 2015. The Diocese have put out a tender for developers for the St Andrews scheme. The Local Needs homes project at Torver has been approved by the Lake District National Park Authority. A report on the loss of village homes is produced quarterly and due at the end of September, a copy will be sent to Councillors.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> No comments.</p>	
<p>305/2014</p>	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on the progress of new dropped kerbs by Barclays Bank and on Old Furness Road by Cumbria County Council</u> The dropped kerbs by Barclays bank and outside the Yewdale Hotel have been completed. Cumbria County Council has received a complaint about the proposed one on Old Furness Road so work has ceased until the matter is resolved.</p> <p><u>To receive update on progress of work required at Shepherds Bridge</u> All parties have agreed to put the money in to get the necessary repairs done and the Lake District National Park Authority will organise the work.</p> <p><u>To receive background information on the wayleave charged by the Lake District National Park Authority for a streetlamp on Old Furness Road</u> The Clerk received a letter and map about this wayleave and it is in respect of the streetlamp on Station Road above the horse trough.</p> <p><u>To receive information from Cllr Carroll and the Clerk on applying for Vodafone 3G coverage in the area.</u> Cllr Carroll has contacted Vodafone for further information about this and how far they will cover but no details have been received.</p> <p><u>To receive confirmation if any further work is required at the playground following the recent ROSPA report</u> Cllr Sharp was not in attendance to give information.</p>	
<p>306/2014</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2014/5491 – Eastview, Coniston – replace dilapidated stone outbuilding with new in similar traditional style RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed they have no objections.</p> <p>7/2014/5522 – Underwood, Little Arrow, Coniston – conversion of residential garage to with extension – including first floor extension to form local dwelling <i>The applicants left the room whilst Councillors made their decision.</i> RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application. <i>The applicants re-joined the meeting.</i></p> <p>7/2014/5549 – Spoon Hall, Haws Bank, Coniston – erect semi-detached houses, relocate static holiday caravans and provide associated parking areas. Install air source heat pumps. <i>The applicants left the room whilst Councillors made their decision.</i></p>	

<p>307/2014</p> <p>308/2014</p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application. <i>The applicants re-joined the meeting.</i></p> <p>7/2014/5547 – Thurston Outdoor Activities Centre, Coniston – installation of photovoltaic ‘slate effect’ tiles to camping barn building. Installation of photovoltaic panels to enclosed section of main building roof RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.</p> <p>7/2014/5582 – Coniston Boating Centre, Lake Road, Coniston – change the use of the existing car park to mixed use 50% cars and 50% boats between 1 November and 31 March RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application but it is to be noted the application should be retrospective as this has happened for many years.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the letter from Lake District National Park Authority stating the details required by Condition number 7(i) of planning permission 7/2013/5610 are acceptable (7/2014/5265 land adjacent to Barratt Croft, Coniston confirmation of compliance with condition no 7(i) of planning approval 7/2013/5610 relating to drainage</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to cease receiving paper versions of planning applications and have all planning applications and information received electronically. Clerk to contact Lake District National Park Authority to progress.</p>	
<p>309/2014</p>	<p><i>Cllr Carroll stepped down as chair to enable Cllr Kelly to take the Chair for the remainder of the meeting</i></p> <p>Parish Plan</p> <p><u>Coach Parking</u> Cumbria Highways confirmed they would not allow coach parking at Far End Saw Mill due to access and security issues.</p> <p><u>Litter</u> Clerk is still to look into the cost of new bins</p> <p><u>White lining on Bridge near Barclays Bank</u> Cumbria Highways stated they could not find any record of the hatching on the bridge by Barclays Bank. This will be discussed further at the meeting with Cumbria County Council on 22nd September.</p> <p><u>Street Lights</u> The state of repair of the streetlights on Old Furness Road is to be shown to Cumbria County Council at the meeting on 22nd September.</p> <p><u>Benches</u> Coniston Women’s Institute will be looking at their benches in the playground and reporting back in due course. It was noted Ushers have commenced work on their benches.</p>	<p>JCC</p>

310/2014	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Mr Cameron has done a questionnaire for the second formal consultation which now needs to go on Survey Monkey. However, the Clerk is unable to do this until early October due to other commitments.</p>	
311/2014	<p>Haws Bank Bus Shelter Refurbishment The Clerk reported no quotes were received for the work to be carried out at Haws Bank bus shelter. RESOLVED: Clerk to contact potential contractors directly to obtain quotes.</p>	
312/2014	<p>Coniston Emergency Plan RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the amendments. RESOLVED: Cllr Carroll to distribute the amended version as necessary</p>	
313/2014	<p>Arranging a Meeting for People Interested in Self Build in the Parish It was noted that currently the Lake District National Park Authority Planning Department are undergoing restructure and cannot commit to a meeting until Spring next year. It was suggested having a pre meeting before Christmas to gauge local interest.</p>	
314/2014	<p>Local Area Partnership RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed the top three highways priorities to take forward to the next Local Area Partnership meeting are improving drainage, cutting saplings / clearing verges and clearing wall gaps. A member of the public has agreed to assist in clearing verges in the parish. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed a funding bid of £250 should be put in to the Local Area Partnership for money towards researching outdoor gym equipment for adults in the village.</p>	JCC
315/2014	<p>Councillor Matters Friends of the Lake District are holding a mass-volunteering Fell Care Day in Coniston on 15th October. Further details will be publicised shortly. One of the litter bins in the village needs a new inner and Cllr Stoddart will obtain a quote for consideration at the next meeting. It was noted the trees are overgrown around the streetlamp opposite the garage. The toilets by the Tourist Information Centre have two broken windows. Concern was expressed at the deterioration of Gould Cottage on the main road through Coniston. Coniston Primary School is looking for a governor. The agenda for the meeting with Cumbria County Council and some Councillors on 22nd September was reviewed.</p>	

	<p>There was a brief discussion on the current state and future of the Institute. It was noted Grizedale Arts have commissioned a feasibility study.</p> <p>New members are required to conduct an appraisal for the Clerk.</p> <p>It was noted signs are being left up around the village after events are over.</p>	
316/2014	<p>Financial Matters <u>To approve and accept the Annual Return from BDO and note the issues arising report</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved and accepted the Annual Return from BDO. RESOLVED: The issues arising were noted and no further action is required. RESOLVED: Cllrs congratulated and thanked the Clerk for her hard work.</p>	
317/2014	<p><u>To agree how to spend the funding allocated towards verge maintenance (£445.00)</u> RESOLVED: Clerk to ask local contractors to carry out work on Coppermines Lane and the Banks.</p>	
318/2014	<p><u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs confirmed receipt of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake District National Park Authority / Go Lakes Travel £2,500.00 (money towards refurbishment of Haws Bank bus shelter) • Bridge Toilets collecting boxes £42.04 <p><u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk's Salary £317.15 • HMRC £79.40 • EON (Streetlights) – direct debit £62.77 • Stephen Airey £300.00 • Hygiene Cleaning Supplies £31.39 • United Utilities (Bridge Toilets) £230.68 • BDO (audit) £240.00 • EON (Bridge Toilets) – direct debit £9.74 • Coniston Ground Care (grass cutting at playground) £576.00 • ROSPA (playground inspection) £96.00 	
319/2014	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following correspondence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clerks & Councils Direct September 2014 	
320/2014	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 29 September 2014 7pm • Monday 20 October 2014 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 10.15pm.