

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute at 7.00pm on Monday 13th July 2015

Present: Cllr A Kelly (Chair)
Cllrs –K Batty, T Coward, A Hall, A Metcalfe and J Stoddart
Clerk - J C Carroll

In attendance: 2 members of the public, County Cllr D Fletcher, Mrs M Bailey – Headteacher,
John Ruskin School

Minute Number		Action By
270/2015	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Troughton.</p>	
271/2015	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
272/2015	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items 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 Club All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
273/2015	<p>Minutes of Meetings 15 June 2015 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 June 2015 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
274/2015	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Police</u> PCSO Forrester sent her apologies and a report by e-mail. There have been 6 crimes reported in Coniston since the last Parish Council meeting including thefts, attempted thefts and common assault. There have been 14 non-crime matters dealt with by the police including highway disruption, road traffic collisions, mountain rescues and an off-roading offence. Reminder to ensure any valuables are not left in vehicles whilst out walking and if any suspicious activity is seen to report it to 101.</p> <p><u>Mrs M Bailey, Headteacher – John Ruskin School</u> Mrs Bailey thanked Councillors for the letter of appreciation she received earlier in the year.</p> <p>John Ruskin School had its third Ofsted inspection in 4 years even though it has never been in a category as a failing school and it was recently judged ‘Good’ in all categories. Mrs Bailey is retiring this summer and Mr Peter Blackburn, currently in Northumbria will be taking over in September.</p>	

There are changes on the education front with GCSEs being of a similar style to 'O' levels with an exam at the end of the course rather than controlled assessments throughout the years. The grading system is changing from A-G to 1-9 and the bar is being raised as well with greater emphasis on literacy and numeracy. Some GCSEs will cease to exist including the current Expressive Arts and Environmental & Land Based Science ones.

John Ruskin School has just lost its biggest year group of 41 students and there are 24 joining in September. There will be 138 on the role in September but could be more as there have been enquiries and the good Ofsted report gives credibility. Funding does remain an issue.

The Expressive Arts teacher is retiring this summer (Gill Sharp) and she also did a lot of work on the swimming pool but a staff team is willing to take over the running of the swimming pool.

John Ruskin School is part of the South Lakes Federation which aims to give the best possible deal for all students in the various schools. Mrs Bailey is leaving John Ruskin to be the Executive Officer of the South Lakes Federation.

Councillors thanked Mrs Bailey for coming to the meeting and for her long service to the school and village.

Miss R Hindle, Headteacher – Coniston Primary School

Miss Hindle sent her apologies and a report by e-mail.

The school is continuing to grow in numbers with 59 now on the roll and new pupils due to start in September. This means an increase in the budget and enables more teaching assistants to be employed. The Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) was carried out recently and the school was judged 'good'. Mrs Blundell, the cook is retiring at the end of the summer term after 16 years at the school. The school continues to work closely with the community and benefits from the support of people in the area with many fundraising events held over the year. There have been school visits throughout the year to support the curriculum with the latest being a whole school visit to Muncaster Castle.

Community Land Trust

No report received.

County Councillor D Fletcher

County Cllr Fletcher reported that resurfacing work will take place from Waterhead over Hawkshead Hill the evening of 20th July provided the weather is suitable.

The drainage problems at Haws Bank will have further investigations with a camera used to try to find the cause of the problem.

	<p>There was discussion about how the ‘Slow’ signs in Coniston are fading but Torver has new red markings with ‘Slow’ signs on the road. County Cllr explained that community engagement has to be carried out first in relation to the red markings as they are seen as rumble strips that create noise. If Cllrs find a stretch of road to try this County Cllr Fletcher will look at funding.</p> <p>The budgets will soon be being prepared and a cut of £55 million to 2018/19 will be needed. There is now emphasis on looking at doing things differently, for example digital strategies, partnership working.</p> <p>Cllr Hall explained the X12 bus service has noted Highways problems of potholes near The Ship Inn and made an additional report that at Cat Bank there is a deep pothole causing flooding.</p> <p><u>District Councillor A Hall</u> District Cllr Hall explained she had recently attended a seminar on Kendal & Ulverston leisure centres and the changes happening which include lots of outreach services to Primary Schools in rural locations during the school holidays.</p> <p>District Cllr Hall has been in contact with South Lakes Housing and South Lakeland District Council about the piece of land at Little Moss and it being used for additional parking.</p> <p><u>Councillor attending the Frieda Scott Trust Roundtable Event</u> Cllr Hall attended this event and there had been talks from Young Farmers and local Scout leaders. The new chairman of the Frieda Scott Trust is having meetings in communities to pick up issues in the area.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> No comments.</p>	
275/2015	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To receive update on plans for a village litter pick</u> Cllr Coward explained that John Ruskin School has done a litter pick in the village RESOLVED: Cllrs Kelly and Coward will organise a litter pick in September and include the primary school.</p> <p><u>To receive report following Councillors Parish Walk at Haws Bank</u> On the Parish Walk it was noted that the new bus shelter at Haws Bank looks good along with the planter from John Ruskin School. There are many verges around Haws Bank that need cutting back and some potholes to be reported. The Highways department need to be contacted about a site visit for the flooding issue at Haws Bank. It was suggested inviting the Lake District National Park Authority to a future meeting to discuss the issue of pedestrians having to walk on the road at Parkgate and if anything could be done.</p> <p>Update – Clerk has received a response from Highways Department about the verges and these are due to be cut between 1 July and 15 August. They can no longer afford the full width cutting which was intended to address the issue of</p>	AK & TC

	<p>saplings. They would not object if Coniston Parish Council funded the removal of saplings provided the works were carried out in a manner ensuring the safety of both the travelling public and contractor undertaking the work which may need appropriate traffic management.</p> <p><u>To note the response following further queries from the LDNPA Planning Department to Planning Application 7/2015/5249 - Yewdale Hotel, 2, Yewdale Road, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8DU - Erection of illuminated and non illuminated signs to the exterior of the building</u> RESOLVED: Following queries from the LDNPA Planning Department Cllrs discussed this planning application again at the Parish Walk on 30th June and changed their decision from “objection” to “no objection”.</p> <p><u>To update on progress for a new street sign / name plate at Church Field Close</u> Clerk has contacted Eden Housing Association who have ordered a new sign.</p> <p><u>To update on progress for additional ‘Residents Parking Only’ signs at The Garth and Old Furness Road</u> Clerk has contacted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Housing who are looking into funding for additional signs for Old Furness Road. • South Lakes Housing who are considering the need for additional signs at The Garth. • South Lakeland District Council who have ordered new name plates for Lake Road and Tilberthwaite Avenue which will be fitted when they arrive. <p><u>To update on progress of making contact with Highways Steward</u> RESOLVED: Cllr Kelly will make contact.</p> <p><u>To update on issue of streetlights not being repaired permanently at Brow Steps / Vale View and Parish Councillors subsequently delaying payment of Cumbria County Council invoice</u> Clerk has a contact at Cumbria County Council whose Supervisor is looking into the cost of replacement of the streetlight at Brow Steps / Vale View. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed payment of the invoice to Cumbria County Council could now be made.</p> <p><u>To update on repairs to the damaged wall at Bridge Toilets</u> RESOLVED: The work has been completed and an invoice is awaited.</p> <p><u>To confirm if Councillors would like to invite a speaker to attend a future Parish Council meeting to give information on the World Heritage Status bid for the Lake District National Park</u> RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Lake District National Park Authority to arrange for a speaker one evening in early September.</p>	<p>AK</p> <p>JC</p>
<p>276/2015</p>	<p>Planning Applications 7/2015/5327 - Hollin Brow, Coniston - Demolition and reconstruction of Hollin Brow RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed they support the application provided that local slate</p>	

	i.e. Cumbrian is used.	
277/2015	7/2015/5371 - Brantwood, East side of lake, Coniston - Install a galvanised metal structure within the entrance to the Ice House RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed they have no objections.	
278/2015	RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permission:- 7/2015/5206 – 15 Beck Yeat, Coniston – Proposed conservatory to front elevation 7/2015/5172 – Thurston Outdoor Centre, Coniston – installation of a micro hydro system on Knipe Wood Beck 7/2015/5216 – Shelt Ghyll, Haws Bank, Coniston – new store in garden 7/2013/5142 – High Bank Ground Farm, Coniston – Erect new timber jetty, adjacent existing boathouse 7/2014/5783 – Lawson Park, Coniston – Extension to hostel living room and food store	
279/2015	RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notice of Express Consent Subject to Conditions:- 7/2015/5050 – Pier Cottage, Coniston – hanging sign	
280/2015	Parish Plan Cllrs Coward, Hall, Kelly and Troughton attended the event on Sunday 5 th July from 2-4pm where 12-14 people turned up and listed some issues of concern to them in the village. ACTION: Cllr Hall will type up the notes from the event and circulate This will be discussed further at the next meeting in August.	AH
281/2015	Neighbourhood Plan The Neighbourhood Plan is continuing to undergo Independent Examination. The Examiner has had further queries which have recently been replied to.	
282/2015	Coniston Sports & Social Club – Fireworks Display Coniston Sports & Social Club has recently become deregistered for VAT but the company supplying the fireworks has become VAT registered which means an additional cost of £300.00. Cllrs explained Coniston Parish Council cannot act as a body for reclaiming VAT. The first instalment is due in August. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to take on the running of the annual fireworks display as a sub-committee once the insurance has been confirmed.	
283/2015	Prioritising Highways Issues in the Parish Clerk had e-mailed around a table of all the outstanding Highways issues.	

284/2015	<p>Money from District Councillor A Hall Cllrs suggested splitting the money with £250.00 towards removal of saplings in the area (main road from Coniston to Tilberthwaite Road end & to Pier Cottage, by John Hext House) and £150.00 towards the X12 bus service. Cllr Hall to check the criteria. Clerk to check if local contractors are able to remove saplings from the main road.</p>	AH JC
285/2015	<p>Bluebird Project A letter has been received from Malcom Pittwood about the Bluebird Project. RESOLVED: Clerk to scan letter and send it to Cllrs. RESOLVED: Clerk to invite Mr Pittwood to a future meeting to discuss the proposals further.</p>	JC JC
286/2015	<p>Coach Friendly Status for Coniston RESOLVED: Cllr Coward will be the lead person from the Council to assist the Business Forum with this venture.</p>	TC
287/2015	<p>Letter from Clarke Telecom re Proposed Upgrade to Telecommunication Radio Base Station Installation at Land on Grizedale Forest Park RESOLVED: Cllrs support the proposed upgrade and requested the Clerk check that companies on the east side of the lake are aware of it.</p>	JC
288/2015	<p>Councillor Matters Cllr Hall explained the X12 bus service will have its 20,000th passenger on the service this week although a new government directive to cut the fuel subsidy could make it vulnerable.</p> <p>Cllr Hall is attending the AGM of Cumbria Rural Housing Trust about the possible sale of housing association houses.</p> <p>The Westmorland Gazette local reporter is now Barbara Hill.</p> <p>Cllr Hall raised the issue of Home Housing taking a long time to carry out repairs at a recent planning meeting at Lake District National Park Authority where they had put in an application for more new houses in South Lakes.</p> <p>Cllr Hall suggested it should be highlighted the amount of the precept that is spent on streetlights and the public toilets at the Bridge to see of Parishioners are content with this spending. It was suggested having a larger sign at the Bridge Toilets stating how much it costs to run the toilets.</p> <p>Cllr Stoddart recently went to the recycling area at Lake Road but all the bins were full and this was reported to South Lakeland District Council. Additionally, with the change of dustbin rounds to include cardboard and plastic there are concerns as to what the future of the recycling area will be.</p> <p>There will be speed restrictions near Yew Tree Farm whilst work is carried out on the slopes adjacent to the roads.</p>	
	Financial Matters	

289/2015	<u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs acknowledged receipt of the following:- Bridge Toilets Collecting Boxes £39.94	
290/2015	<u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EON - streetlights (by direct debit) £105.38 • Clerk's Salary £323.45 • HMRC £80.80 • Cumbria Association of Local Councils (Cllr Troughton) £29.50 • Stephen Airey £277.00 • EON – Bridge Toilets (by direct debit) £9.16 	
291/2015	Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following correspondence:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLDC – Revised Statement of Licensing Policy; Blea Brows; SLDC / CALC Parish Charter 2015/16; - LAPs – Information for LAPs; High Furness LAP minutes 2 June - LDNPA – increase in car parking charges from July 2015; Minutes of Oxenholme to Grasmere Travel Plan meeting; Lake District National Park Partnership; - CALC - Data Protection and Freedom of Information Training on 31 July; - Grizedale Forest – Grizedale Operations - RoSPA - Notification of Play Area Inspection - Tim Farron MP – Advice Surgeries Summer 2015 - South Cumbria Rivers Trust – septic tank meeting - Ruskin Museum – Bluebird K7 - Hawkshead Parish Council – Minutes 15 June 2015 - Lakes Parish Council – agenda 1 July and minutes 3 June 2015 - Blawith & Subberthwaite – agenda 13th July and minutes 15th July 2015 - Cumbria CVS South Lakes Volunteer Vacancies <p>To note the following correspondence has been received since the last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from LDNPA – Rusland Horizons Landscape Partnership Scheme – thanking for contribution • Clerks & Councils Direct 	
292/2015	Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 17th August 2015 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)