

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7.00pm on Monday 19th September 2016

Present: Cllr J Carroll (Chair)
Cllrs – K Batty, H Troughton and M Swyer
Clerk – J C Carroll

In attendance: Mr R Bowyer & Mr J Lampton of Carter Jonas, Mr P Blackburn Headteacher John Ruskin School, PCSO Forrester, County Cllr D Fletcher and 8 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
301/2016	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Coward, Hall and Hart.</p>	
302/2016	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
303/2016	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum. Cllr Carroll in respect of the Clerk's salary.</p>	
304/2016	<p>Minutes of Meetings 18th July, 15th August and 5th September 2016 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meetings held on 18th July, 15th August and 5th September 2016 are approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>It was noted that in future apologies should be sent by e-mail at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting or in an emergency by text prior to the start of the meeting.</p>	
305/2016	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Mr P Blackburn, Head teacher John Ruskin School</u> Mr Blackburn thanked the Parish Council for inviting him. A year ago John Ruskin School was in the top 100 of schools for improving progress for students from Key Stage 2 to GCSE results. Student numbers have stabilised with 142 currently. The traditions of the fell race and school picnic continue and there are other opportunities with an annual French trip and a ski trip. Governors are currently consulting about becoming a Federation with primary schools but this is all in draft and nothing is finalised. The school is heavily dependent on buses bringing in students with approx. 2/3 of students travelling by bus.</p> <p>There is an open coffee morning next Friday morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care and everyone is welcome to attend.</p>	

The school continues to encourage students to come to John Ruskin with getting the positive vibes of the school out and how there is a family feel along with academic pushing to get good GCSE results.

There is unlikely to be a 6th form at John Ruskin due to financial issues and the limited offering of courses that could be given. Mr Blackburn explained how liberating it was to talk to students about their various options at aged 16.

Mr Blackburn stated that John Ruskin is an important part of Coniston and does have a long term future. Finances are tight but as long as the student numbers remain level or increase it should be sustainable.

Mr R Bowyer of Carter Jonas re Fishing Rights on Coniston Water

Cllr Carroll explained the background to this. Carter Jonas advertised about 3-4 months the fishing rights on part of Coniston water. It was understood that the Environment Agency had the fishing rights on Coniston water until about 18 months ago when they gave them up in an asset review. However, Carter Jonas who act on behalf of Rydal Estates, the landowner, were not aware of the Environment Agency having the fishing rights on Coniston water.

Carter Jonas explained that there are also fisheries to rent on Rydal Water and River Rothay along with Coniston water. The objectives is to regularise the fishing rights and reaffirm Rydal Estates interest in Coniston water with establishing more fishery management. The marketing campaign will close at the end of September. Ideally they would like a local group / organisation to take on the fishing rights that had the right attitude towards managing fishery and conservation.

The line of the fishing rights at the southern end of the lake ties in with the Civic Parish Council boundary and this would be due to earlier sales of the land / bed of the lake.

It was noted the fishing lease does not affect other lake users.

Carter Jonas would take Environment Agency advice about any recommendations for the fishery and this would be written into the lease.

It was noted the weed growth at the north end of the lake has got worse this year.

Police

PCSO Forrester explained that her reporting has changed now. There is one crime to note since the last meeting, theft of outboard motor from a boat on Coniston Water.

Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust

A report was sent by Mr A Cameron. The change of governance will take until the end of the year. The Housing Needs Survey will still go ahead and Cllrs have offered to assist with distributing the surveys. The St Andrews scheme is due to start in October.

	<p><u>County Councillor D Fletcher</u> County Cllr Fletcher noted that the Parish Council had had recent visits from the Highways Department with Peter Hosking and Dave Sankey & Dave Huck. It was noted that the Highways Department is still stretched after the flooding issues in the county in December 2015. A new system of gully cleansing has started with a unit being purchased for each area to enable the team to be more responsive.</p> <p>County Cllr Fletcher explained the Windermere ferry is continuing with its cashless systems and has more staff and improved ticket machines.</p> <p>Cllrs asked County Cllr Fletcher to look into how to reduce the speed of vehicles driving down The Garth and also to reduce the instances where non-residents use this road. He will investigate additional signage and a “20’s plenty” scheme.</p> <p><u>District Cllr A Hall</u> Apologies were given.</p> <p><u>National Trust</u> Mr J Moffat, General Manager South Lakes Property sent a report by e-mail – Tarn Hows is open and quite busy, there are no empty properties in the Parish and Hoathwaite Farmhouse will be on the market very shortly.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> Comments from the public were taken at the time of discussion on the fishing rights, flood issues and the car park planning application.</p>	
306/2016	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on reviewing Coniston Emergency Plan & obtaining resilience equipment</u> The shed for the resilience equipment is on hold until the trees at the site by the Mountain Rescue base have been removed by Electricity North West.</p> <p><u>To update on problems with the streetlights at Days Bank and Brow Steps and agree the work to be carried out</u> Three quotes were received and Cllrs discussed them. RESOLVED: It was agreed to instruct Dave Ferrier to carry out the required work as soon as possible.</p> <p><u>To report on the meeting about the route of the Keswick to Barrow in Coniston Parish</u> The meetings with the Keswick to Barrow Committee have been very positive and resulted in a change of route for 2017 provided required work is carried out by the National Trust and Lake District National Park Authority. There is a long term goal of improving the footpath from Oxen Fell beside the A593 to Yew Tree Tarn for the Keswick to Barrow walk in future years. Cllr Swyer was thanked for the work she did in mapping the routes.</p> <p><u>To report on the site visit to The Banks by Cumbria Highways on the state of the roads in the area</u></p>	

	<p>The site visit with 2 members of the Highways Department (including our Area Steward, Dave Sankey) Cllr Carroll and Cllr Swyer, was very positive and productive. Many problem areas at The Banks were looked at with some immediate work scheduled and some longer term work suggested. Other areas looked at were Lake Road, Beck Yeat and drainage problems on Yewdale Road. RESOLVED: Cllr Carroll and the Clerk to follow up and report back at future meetings.</p> <p>There was a discussion about having a lengthsman for Coniston. It was estimated the one for Colton costs approx. £3,600.00 per year which would have to be added to the precept and it is unclear if more work would be required in the Coniston area. It was noted to ensure that any contractor had the correct Health & Safety requirements and public liability of at least £5million. RESOLVED: Cllr Swyer will look into the possibility of a lengthsman for Coniston.</p> <p>During the Highways visit, Yewdale Road was also visited. The soakaways are in fact road drains and the pipes are blocked which causes flooding during heavy rainfall. It was suggested all landlords on Yewdale Road should ensure all the pipes are clear.</p> <p><u>To give feedback on the planning training provided by Lake District National Park Authority</u> Cllrs found the planning training very helpful and it was suggested having a refresher after an election. RESOLVED: Clerk to invite a LDNPA Policy Planner to a meeting to discuss the revision of the Local Plan.</p>	
<p>307/2016</p> <p>308/2016</p> <p>309/2016</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2016/5576 - Greenburn Beck, Little Langdale - Hydro scheme consisting of a small stone powerhouse, buried pipeline and intake within Greenburn beck RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.</p> <p>7/2016/5577 - Little Arrow Moor, Walna Scar Road, Coniston - Alterations to existing disused quarry to provide a 58 bay pay and display public car park RESOLVED: Cllrs object to the application as the proposed car park numbers are inadequate / too low and the subsequent highways issues this is likely to cause on the Walna Scar road with vehicles parking wherever possible.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permission:- 7/2016/5152 – St Andrews Dicoesan Youth Centre, Coniston – change of use of youth centre to form four local affordable needs dwellings including partial demolition and six new build local affordable dwellings within the grounds</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted a letter from Architect for planning application 7/2016/5152 – St Andrews Dicoesan Youth Centre, Coniston in relation to access to the site</p>	

310/2016	RESOLVED: Cllrs noted a letter from Lake District National Park Authority re planning application 7/2016/5413 – Townson Ground, Coniston – non-material amendment to planning application 7/2009/5763 change roof structure	
311/2016	ROSPA Playground Report RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the report.	
312/2016	Highways Issues The Clerk has received concerns about the state of the road and footpath at Beck Yeat and this has been reported to Highways. It was visited on the recent site visit with remedial work being planned. The damaged streetlight / post at Ruskin Avenue has been reported to Highways.	
313/2016	Coniston Parish Plan Revision There was a low attendance at the coffee morning on Saturday 17 th September. The Clerk will type up the comments and discussion will take place at the next meeting on the next steps.	
314/2016	Gravel Removal from Church Beck Mr Emmett explained the issues arising from the flood on 20th August – the water levels down Church Beck were high with banks broken, people putting out protection to prevent houses flooding, some gardens did flood and the Bluebird Café & Boating Centre had protection out. He went into the Coppermines Valley and saw the water from Levers Water bringing material downstream from a spoil heap and going through the spoil heap. There are concerns that large amounts of material could be washed downstream. Mr Emmett is in contact with the Environment Agency to persuade them to remove gravel from the bridge on Lake Road as there are concerns it could be destroyed in future storms. He has a meeting with the Environment Agency Catchment Director for the Kent & Leven catchment on Thursday about the issues in Coniston.	
315/2016	South Distinctive Area Tour RESOLVED: Cllrs Coward, Hall and Carroll will attend the South Distinctive Area Tour organised by LDNPA.	
316/2016	Conserving Coniston and Crake - draft audience development plan RESOLVED: Cllrs support the plan.	
317/2016	Councillor Matters It was noted that dogs are fouling in the playground and an increase number of dogs are seen running around in the park. A new street sign is needed at Beck Yeat along with Thurston Bank. Cllr Troughton has been trying to arrange a litter pick for this Saturday with the	

	<p>National Trust but will postpone it for 2 weeks to give people more notice.</p> <p>It was noted the wall at the top of the Brow Steps is falling in. Highways have confirmed that if it is retaining banking then it would be the responsibility of Cumbria County Council and if not it would be landowners responsibility.</p> <p>The Art Auction made around £2,500 for X12 with some paintings still for sale by not reaching reserve.</p> <p>Congratulations were given to Joe Edmondson who ran his first race in his England Shirt after being selected for the Fell Running Team and came 5th.</p> <p>The telephone box outside the Black Bull is on the list to be removed later this year.</p>	
	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>318/2016 <u>To confirm increase of 1% in Clerk's salary and backdated to April 2016</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the increase of 1% in the Clerk's salary backdated to April 2016.</p> <p>319/2016 <u>To confirm payment of the Clerk's hours providing admin support to the Bluebird Project Group by Coniston Parish Council</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved payment of the Clerk's hours for admin support to the Bluebird Project Group.</p> <p>320/2016 <u>To note the requirements of The Pension Regulator and the staging date of 1 January 2017</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the staging date of 1 January 2017 and the requirement for the Declaration of Compliance to be completed after this date.</p> <p>321/2016 <u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge Toilets Collecting boxes £174.93 • Bridge Toilets Collecting boxes £210.30 • Bridge Toilets Collecting boxes £120.16 <p>322/2016 <u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk's Salary (including overtime) £369.60 • HMRC £92.40 • EON – Bridge Toilets (by direct debit) £13.77 • Stephen Airey £407.50 • United Utilities (Bridge Toilets) £194.60 • Playdale Playgrounds £864.97 • Lake District National Park Authority £1.00 • Playsafety Limited £100.80 	
323/2016	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:-</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALC – Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey; Nominations for CALC Executive Committee; Booking opens for Green Build Festival events; Launched! Defra's Food Tourism Grant Scheme; NALC Revised LTN 59 Re Planning Applications and Decisions; Report from reps for District Association meeting - this Thursday, 8th September • LDNPA –Proposed Path Closures - Grizedale Stages and Malcolm Wilson Rallies; Short questionnaire; Submission of The Cumbria Minerals & Waste Local Plan • SLDC – Weekly Licensing List; Standards Committee; Allowances for Parish Councils for 2016/17 • CCC – South Lakeland Flood Factsheet - August 2016; Windermere Ferry; South Lakeland Flood Factsheet September 2016 • Hawkshead Parish Council – agenda 13 September 2016 • Lakes Parish Council – minutes 3 August, agenda 7 September • Torver Parish Council – minutes 2 June, agenda 8 September • Blawith & Subberthwaite – minutes 11 July, agenda 5 September • Environment Agency – Forestry meeting and Community Resilience Network Group Meeting - Stoneybeck 28th September 2016 • Rusland Horizons – Rusland Horizons August Newsletter • Sportive Lakes - Ladies of the Lake Women Only Cycle Rides - Sunday September 11th • Cumbria CVS - Adapted Cycling Steering Group • Historic England - Coniston War Memorial: Invitation to comment on Consultation Report • Westmorland Red Squirrels – Rusland Red’s Project • Shanks Cumbria - Ambleside Household Waste Recycling Centre • Cumbria Way Ultra trail race – 17/18 September <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following correspondence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Farron MP Advice Surgeries Autumn 2016 • Clerk & Councils Direct Magazine September 2016 • Lakeland Trails Festival 1 October 2016 	
324/2016	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 17th October 2016 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 10.05pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)