

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7.00pm on Monday 20th February 2017

Present: Cllr T Coward (Chair)
Cllrs – K Batty, J R Carroll, A Hall and J Hart
Clerk – J C Carroll

In attendance: Matthew Tweed - Ranger Volunteers National Trust, PCSO E Forrester, Alastair Cameron – Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust and 1 member of the public

Minute Number		Action By
119/2017	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Swyer (holiday) & Troughton (illness).</p>	
120/2017	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
121/2017	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
122/2017	<p>Minutes of Meeting 16th January 2017 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th January 2017 are approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
123/2017	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Matthew Tweed, Ranger Volunteers, National Trust</u> Mr Tweed explained how Tarn Hows has become overgrown over time from what Mr Marshall intended it to look at. In 2001 the National Trust wanted to do something about this iconic local beauty spot and obtained both local and stakeholder feelings. Little was achieved at the time and in 2015 the National Trust revisited this project and work has now started. There has been gradual thinning of trees in specific areas and some of the larger trees removed. The first phase of work will continue to the end of April and start again in the Autumn.</p> <p><u>Police</u> PCSO Forrester gave her report. There has been a report of criminal damage with 35 conifer trees chopped down at Brandy Crag quarry. The next Police desk will be on 19th April at Coniston Library. In 19 days there have been 22 burglaries across the south part of Cumbria, 11 of these were homes and people are reminded to ensure their outbuildings are secured. An illegal off-roading awareness event took place on last week which was filmed and will be screened on the BBC Inside Out programme on 7th March.</p>	

	<p><u>Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u> Mr A Cameron explained the Housing Needs Survey was carried out at the end of November with the results put together in December and the authorities ratifying the results in January. There is a housing need of 30 homes (in the next 5 years) compared to the previous survey 3 years ago of 18 homes. Out of the 30 required homes, 10 will be taken up by the development at St Andrews and 7 by the development by Mr Hext.</p> <p>The results of this survey mean that if anyone came forward with a plot of land for developing, they could get government grants to assist with building the remaining 13 required homes.</p> <p>South Lakeland District Council also did a survey of housing need in Coniston taking the data from the Choice Based Letting register and the result was a need of 32/33 homes. In future this method may be used rather than Housing Needs Survey questionnaires.</p> <p>There was discussion about the housing need being reactive rather than proactive although it was noted Coniston is doing better than other areas in getting affordable local housing. It is important anyone interested in applying for local housing is on the Choice Based Letting register.</p> <p>The results of the survey will be in a future edition of the Parish Newsletter.</p> <p><u>County Councillor D Fletcher</u> No apologies and no report received.</p> <p><u>District Cllr A Hall</u> District Cllr Hall explained she has two commitments on Wednesday evening – the Bluebird Event meeting and a budget meeting at District.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum</u> Cllr Coward received a report about the Coniston Business Forum meeting and the group is waiting to hear on dates for when Bluebird will be returning and the Coniston leaflet is ongoing.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> Following a question from a member of the public in response to a comment during the housing discussion, it was explained that people with holiday homes in Coniston can telephone South Lakeland District Council in relation to Council Tax and instead of paying this can register as a small business, get business rate relief and therefore get exemption from payment. Even if people with holiday homes pay business rates the money is not kept locally.</p>	
124/2017	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on reviewing Coniston Emergency Plan & obtaining resilience equipment</u> Cllr Carroll explained they are still waiting for Electricity North West to clear trees.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Coward is currently updating names in the Emergency Plan.</p> <p><u>To update on the work to be carried out on the streetlight at Cat Bank</u> Cllr Troughton has been in contact with the Contractor.</p> <p><u>To update on progress of adding any additional gullies to the Coniston Parish Council map for Cumbria Highways</u> RESOLVED: The priority gullies for Coniston are on Coppermines Lane, Walna Scar road, Station Road, Sun Lonning and the road towards Yew Tree Tarn.</p> <p>It was noted that where the Walna Scar road meets Devonshire Terrace there is a large culvert under the road where the railway bridge used to be which then narrows. If this culvert gets blocked it will cause problems and Highways need to be aware.</p> <p><u>To note the letter sent to Westmorland Gazette following an article by LDNPA following their article in the paper on 3rd November 2016 re closing Monk Coniston toilets</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the letter.</p>	
125/2017	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2017/5018 - Shepherds Bridge, Shepherds Bridge Lane, Coniston - Creation of side single storey extension with balcony RESOLVED: Cllrs have no objections</p> <p>7/2016/5889 - Park Coppice, Park Gate, Coniston - The caravan club is proposing to install 3No. camping pods at the Coniston Park Coppice site, The pods are 3.3m x 8.2m and 2.9m high with a mono-pitched roof, which will site on concrete pads to provide a secure level base and ensure they are installed at level; access will be via existing site roads with a short length of paving, providing level access and car park to each individual pod RESOLVED: Cllrs have no objections although the design could be more sympathetic with the landscape & it is very utilitarian.</p>	
126/2017	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notice of Grant of Planning Permissions:- 7/2016/5793 – Coach House, Brantwood ,Coniston – Partial removal of the existing ground floor internal wall between present Coach House kitchen and wash-up areas to create a larger and more usable kitchen and service area for the newly extended and refurbished Coach House Café as per previous approval application (ref no 7/2016/5149 dated 4 May 2016)</p>	
127/2017	<p>Date of April Coniston Parish Council Meeting RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to change the date of the April Coniston Parish Council meeting from 17th to 24th due to Easter Monday.</p>	
128/2017	<p>Highways Issues No issues raised.</p>	

129/2017	<p>Coniston Parish Plan Revision</p> <p>The prize draw for the meal was drawn by a member of the public and the winner is Lorna Cooper.</p> <p>The collation of the questionnaires is now complete and the Clerk was thanked for her work on this.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The primary and secondary schools will be contacted to ask for their top priorities and to present them at the next Parish Council meeting.</p>					
130/2017	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>An update was requested on local planning enforcement cases.</p> <p>It was questioned who would lead on events to celebrate the VC plaque that will be in Coniston next year and when it would be held. It was suggested inviting the new Project Director to the next meeting to see if they could be of assistance.</p> <p>There were no applicants for the Vicar's post in Coniston and another advertisement will be placed.</p> <p>It has been noted that if people have a Funeral Plan they may not be able to choose the Funeral Director. If Coniston lost their undertaker, this would be another service gone from the village.</p> <p>There are concerns at the low numbers of retained firefighters in Coniston and the impact it is having on cover for the area.</p> <p>The LDNPA Planning Department have been looking at pedestrian access from the proposed housing development off Yewdale Road into Barratt Croft.</p> <p>An update was requested on the Walna Scar car park.</p>					
131/2017	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>To note the completion of the Declaration of Compliance for The Pensions Regulator</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the completion of the Declaration of Compliance for The Pensions Regulator.</p>					
132/2017	<p><u>Receipts</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts:-</p> <table data-bbox="276 1720 1369 1832"> <tr> <td>Coniston Sports & Social Club (fireworks)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£862.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Lakeland District Council (shop front grant scheme)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£500.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Note: the application form and grant conditions are now available from the Clerk, any business interested should have completed forms returned by 26th March.</p>	Coniston Sports & Social Club (fireworks)	£862.50	South Lakeland District Council (shop front grant scheme)	£500.00	
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133/2017	<p><u>Payments</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p>					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk's Salary £326.50 • Clerk's Overtime (Parish Plan) £214.52 • HMRC £135.26 • EON – Streetlights (January) £126.45 • Stephen Airey £60.00 • CALC (Good Councillor Course) £17.50 • Information Commissioner (Data Protection) £35.00 • EON – Bridge Toilets £2.24 • Atom Fireworks £1,035.00 • Coniston Institute £56.00 	
134/2017	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALC – Friday round up; Community Housing Fund; Paperwork for Next District Association Meeting - Thursday 9th March from 7pm at the Gilpin Bridge Inn; LDNPA Parish Forum 13 March; Friday round up; February newsletter; Notice of Election South Districtive Area; Commissioner's Property Fund; Next LAP meeting: Rural crime and rural Policing • LDNPA - energy events in South lakes; Footpaths and Bridleways in Grizedale Forest, Broughton Moor, Whinlatter Forest and Wytop Woods; Creation of bridleway 512074 / 512075, alongside B5285, Coniston Parish • SLDC - Request for Topics for Consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2017/18; The Great British Spring Clean; LIP Application unsuccessful • National Trust - Tarn Hows update • Lakes Parish Council – minutes 11 January; agenda 1 February; Plans agenda for 15 Feb • Torver Parish Council – minutes 12 January, agenda 9 February • Blawith & Subberthwaite – minutes 9th February, agenda 13th February • Malcolm Wilson Rally 11th March 2017 • United Utilities - Help make your community Winter Wise.... Brrring it on! • Rusland Horizons - Last few places still available • Dales Surveying - ESN0129 - Pre-Consultation for the Proposed Telecommunications Mast at Tarn Hows Barn 	
135/2017	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 20th March 2017 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 9pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)