

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 March 2017

Present: Cllr T Coward (Chair)
Cllrs –J R Carroll, A Hall, J Hart, M Swyer and H Troughton
Clerk – J C Carroll

In attendance: 2 pupils from John Ruskin School, 2 pupils from Coniston Primary School, Bill Sharrod (Coniston TIC) and 2 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
136/2017	Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Batty.	
137/2017	Requests for Dispensations No requests received.	
138/2017	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.	
139/2017	Minutes of Meeting 20th February 2017 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 th February 2017 are approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
140/2017	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Coniston Primary School and John Ruskin School Councils on their priorities for Coniston</u></p> <p>Cllr Coward explained Parish Councils are the link between the village and local government. Coniston Parish Council is currently revising the Parish Plan and would like the input of everyone in the village, including under 18's.</p> <p>The representatives from Coniston Primary and John Ruskin School were welcomed and thanked for coming.</p> <p>Points raised by the pupils were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being too old for the playground and no other alternatives • Suggestion of a skate park / ramp in the playground • Summer activities provided by Camp Cumbria in Coniston last year were for primary school children • The Cricket Club does take children from 12 years old but it is not year around. • No weekly clubs in Coniston • Transport by local buses is quite expensive. • Some pupils at Primary School go to the Mechanics Club run at the Institute 	

- Some pupils attend football clubs outside the area
- Facebook is used for social media
- Crusaders is available with different groups for different ages
- Pupils enjoy living in Coniston as there is no trouble, they feel safe going out and enjoy walking / fishing in the area
- There are lots of clubs on offer at the Primary School after school.
- At John Ruskin School there is the Duke of Edinburgh available and the outdoor swimming pool for part of the year.

Cllrs responded:-

- There is a local fishing club (Coniston & Torver District Angling Association) with fishing available at Yew Tree Tarn
- It was suggested contacting the local fire brigade to enhance the weekly firefighter course offered by John Ruskin School to encourage young people who missed this opportunity to learn and consider becoming a retained firefighters.
- The Sailing Club will be having an open day soon with taster sessions available.
- Information will be put on Coniston Parish Council Facebook page.

Bill Sharrod – Coniston Tourist Information Centre

Mr Sharrod explained the background to the Coniston TIC. It was originally owned and run by the Lake District National Park Authority but when it was decided it was costing too much money it was going to close. Local businesses stepped in and formed a not for profit company. The current directors are Mr Sharrod, Mr R Rutland and Mr H Kilgour. The TIC is currently manned by local volunteers.

Coniston TIC has its own website which has recently been updated and covers information on the immediate area including a What's on section. They receive no subsidies and derive income from selling goods, charging for advertising boards and money from Coniston 14. It is aimed to have a small surplus each year for improvements and a contingency.

More volunteers are always required and people are not tied to a day. The TIC is open in winter 4 hours a day 10-2 and Friday & Saturday until 4. In the summer most days it is open 9.30 - 4.30.

Coniston Institute – Project Director

The new Project Director sent his apologies and another meeting will try to be arranged.

Police

PCSO Forrester sent her apologies and a report by e-mail. There has been a theft from 3 boats at Coniston Boating Centre on 25th February – there are no suspects and no CCTV. There was criminal damage to a gate on farm land between Coniston & Torver, no suspects and no CCTV. The next Police Desk will be held at The Library on Wednesday 19th April from 10 – 12.

County Councillor – Dave Fletcher

	<p>No apologies and no report received. Cllrs noted they would appreciate a report if no attendance.</p> <p><u>District Councillor – Anne Hall</u> District Cllr Hall explained she went to a meeting in the last week of January about the District Council being given £2.36million for housing in rural areas. It is to be used particularly in communities suffering from a large number of second homes and could be used to bring abandoned homes back into use for affordable housing or to build on land.</p> <p><u>Cllrs attending the Bluebird Event Group meeting on 22nd February</u> Cllrs Coward and Carroll attended the meeting. It is frustrating that there is no date for the Bluebird Proving Trial. The requirements of the Lake District National Park Authority to approve the Proving Trial are being worked on which include the impact on the local area and accommodating visitors at that time.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> It was noted how good it was to see children at the Parish Council meeting this evening. The Coniston Sports & Social Centre could be used for youth football, tennis, rounders etc but it would be up to parents / volunteers to organise this.</p> <p>There were questions about the Shop Front Grant scheme where Coniston Parish Council has received £500.00 for this project. All applications need to be received by the Clerk by 26th March and will be discussed at the April meeting.</p>	
<p>141/2017</p>	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on reviewing Coniston Emergency Plan & obtaining resilience equipment</u> Cllr Coward has updated all the telephone numbers in the Emergency Plan and will be meeting with Steve Emmett to develop a telephone tree.</p> <p>Electricity North West has still not done the work to cut the trees down to enable the shed for resilience equipment to be progressed.</p> <p><u>To update on the work to be carried out on the streetlight at Cat Bank</u> Cllr Troughton explained she has met with the Contractor who will be carrying out this work.</p>	
<p>142/2017</p> <p>143/2017</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>No planning applications received.</p> <p><u>To update on the Walna Scar car park planning application</u> An e-mail has been received from Mr McGowan, Head of Development Management and the agent for the applicant is now making an application for a Lawful Development Certificate.</p> <p><u>Planning applications</u></p>	

	<p>Cllrs expressed their concerns that the views of the Parish Council are not being listened to by LDNPA and feel the Neighbourhood Plan has not been of benefit.</p> <p>Cllr Hall explained that she attended the Development Control Committee and spoke about the planning application for Fairsnape. She stated all the highways issues known by local knowledge and none of the LDNPA members questioned the access. She has subsequently written to Steve Ratcliffe, Mike McKinley and Peter Allen about her concerns the Parish Council views are not being considered.</p> <p>Cllrs supported Cllr Hall and requested the Clerk to invite these people to a future Parish Council meeting. Cllrs also discussed how highways comments were made on planning applications and the Clerk was asked to investigate.</p>	
144/2017	<p>Coniston Parish Plan Revision Following the questionnaire and the school children attending the meeting this evening it was decided no further consultation was required. RESOLVED: Cllrs to have a meeting on Tuesday 4th April at 6pm in the Yewdale to review the questionnaire results and other input for the Parish Plan and to draw up an Action Plan.</p>	
145/2017	<p>Caravan at Disused Quarry on B5285 There is a caravan in a disused quarry with a person living there. There have been no complaints received by the Parish Council although people have been asking why the caravan is there. It is on Cumbria County Council land. RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed Cumbria County Council can decide whether or not to carry out action as it is their land.</p>	
146/2017	<p>Councillor Matters The foliage along Bank Terrace needs cutting back and this has already been reported to LDNPA.</p> <p>There are potholes on A593 from the Doctors Surgery to Haws Bank</p> <p>There is a hole in the wall on the boundary of a property at Little Moss Close and Shepherds Bridge Lane. This will be South Lakes Housing responsibility. It was suggested for the next Parish Walk Cllrs should include Little Moss Close.</p> <p>Non-residents are parking at Little Moss Close and Collingwood Close.</p> <p>There is a rotten tree in Little Moss Close and this will be South Lakes Housing responsibility.</p> <p>Cllr Troughton explained she had arranged a Great British Clean litter pick in the village. There were few village volunteers but no posters were displayed. The Brownies and their parents did cover a lot of the village and 25 bags of rubbish with the main thing being dog poo bags. Cllrs requested a letter of thanks be sent to the Brownies. If dog poo bins were installed in Coniston it is regarded as contaminated waste and the Parish Council would have the expense of emptying them.</p>	

	<p>Both schools are working with the Coniston Copper Project and it is proving to be a good community project.</p> <p>A tree at the Bowling Green was taken down as the roots were coming up and the tree was rotten.</p> <p>John Ruskin School have been e-mailed for a list of the events to be held on their premises this year.</p> <p>There was a cycle accident recently at Low Colwith and it was suggested that some 'Beware Cyclists' signs would be beneficial.</p> <p>Dave Huck has retired from the Highways Department and it has been noted that he will be missed.</p> <p>There are concerns over the size of the sign on Tilberthwaite Avenue for the St Andrews development. There are also concerns about how branches have been removed from Yew trees at the site.</p> <p>It was suggested getting an honesty box at the playground for donations.</p>											
<p>147/2017</p> <p>148/2017</p> <p>149/2017</p> <p>150/2017</p>	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>To confirm the continuation of paying by direct debit to EON for electricity for the Bridge Toilets and street lighting</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to continue paying by direct debit for electricity for the Bridge Toilets and street lighting.</p> <p><u>To consider Lengthsman tender documents</u> <i>Draft Agreement between Coniston Parish Council & Highways Department</i> RESOLVED: Clerk to send this to the Highways Department</p> <p><i>Draft Agreement between Coniston Parish Council & Lengthsman</i> There are concerns that the Lengthsman will need be an approved Contractor by Cumbria County Council and this will be investigated.</p> <p><i>Draft List of Work Required to be Carried Out by Lengthsman</i> Cllrs to contact the Clerk if there is any additional work required.</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts:-</p> <table data-bbox="280 1675 1305 1794"> <tr> <td>Lake District National Park Authority (towards Coniston Parish Plan)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coniston Christmas Lights</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,246.50</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p> <table data-bbox="280 1899 1305 2018"> <tr> <td>• Clerk's Salary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£326.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• HMRC</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£81.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• EON – Streetlights</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£114.22</td> </tr> </table>	Lake District National Park Authority (towards Coniston Parish Plan)	£250.00	Coniston Christmas Lights	£2,246.50	• Clerk's Salary	£326.50	• HMRC	£81.60	• EON – Streetlights	£114.22	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Airey £65.00 • Spen-Worth Services – Christmas lights £900.00 • Low Voltage Lights Services – Christmas lights £1,615.80 • EON – Bridge Toilets £7.62 	
151/2017	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALC – Rainfall Gauge Data; LDNPA Parish Forum Venue 13th March; Cumbria in Bloom competitions 2017; Friday round up / Full day course on Common Land & Village Greens; District Association Meeting on Thursday 9th March, from 7pm; LDNPA Election Parish Member for the South DA; New boundaries for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in North Lancashire and Cumbria are confirmed for 2017; Verge maintenance parish guidelines; Resolution 3 (2) - NALC Policy Cttee. Session [7/2], Tks.; CALC Circular March 2017; LDNP Parish Forum 13th March 2017 • SLDC - South Lakeland District Council Agenda for Meeting on 22 February 2017; Community Led Housing Fund Event • LAP - Invitation to a Joint LAP meeting on rural crime and Policing: Wednesday 10th May, 6.30pm; LAP Highways working group update and Glossary of terms • Cumbria County Council - Community Resilience Support • Lakes Parish Council – minutes 1st February agenda 1st March; plans agenda 15th March • Torver Parish Council – minutes 9th February agenda 2nd March • Blawith & Subberthwaite – minutes 13th February, agenda 13th March • Open Adventure - temporary road closure for the Coast to Coast in a Day cycle sportive • Cumbria Action - 8th March 4.30 - 6.30 Community Flood Groups meeting – Rheged • Cumbria CVS - British Red Cross Motability Aids Volunteer Open Day - Kendal and Barrow. • Coniston Sailing Club Building Opening Event • Fred Whitton Challenge - Closure of Hardknott/Wrynose Pass (Sunday 7 May) <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following correspondence received since the last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerks & Councils Direct magazine – March • Letter from Coniston Institute re users of Coniston Institute 	
152/2017	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 24th April 2017 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)