

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Bluebird Wing, Ruskin Museum, Coniston at 7.00pm on Monday 17th December 2018

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

In attendance: 14 members of the public, County Cllr M Brereton & Debbie Shearer of
Cumberland Building Society

Minute Number		Action By
323/2018	Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Batty, Hall & Troughton.	
324/2018	Requests for Dispensations No requests received.	
325/2018	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.	
326/2018	Minutes of Meeting 19th November 2018 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 th November 2018 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
327/2018	Public Participation <u>PCSO D Ross</u> PCSO Ross sent her apologies with a report. During the period 16th November to 17th December 2018 there were 9 calls for service in the Coniston area. These break down as follows: 2 Highway disruptions both fallen trees 3 RTC's damage only 2 Suspicious incidents – Fake £20 notes passed to shops 1 Report of illegal off-roading by motorcycles – warning letters sent to offending vehicles. 1 Suspicious vehicle – Camper parked behind the Crown Inn. Vehicle checked and nothing suspicious. Vehicle now moved. There have been several fake £20 notes being passed to shops and businesses in the South Lakes area, including Coniston. Please be vigilant with all the notes you receive and if in doubt do not take them. Police Desks in 2019 Coniston Library 10-12 • Friday 18th January	

- Friday 15th March
- Friday 17th May
- Friday 12th July
- Friday 13th September
- Friday 8th November

Coniston Community Development Centre – Toni Whirity re grant application

Toni Whirity explained that the Community Development Centre was originally set up as a Learning Direct Centre before they went bust. The governors at the school decided to keep it going and now computer courses are offered along with dance classes. A weekly e-mail is set out with what's going on in the area to over 400 e-mail addresses. Toni has applied for a grant from the Parish Council towards a new laptop.

Toni also writes the column for Coniston in the Westmorland Gazette and would like more information from the village for this and the weekly CDC newsletter. The deadline for the Westmorland Gazette is 4pm on Friday for the following Thursday edition.

It was noted there used to be a Parish Directory which was collated by the Clerk in 2011. It was hoped that the Coniston Business Forum would take on updating this but to date has not been done. There is currently a Parish Diary which is updated by Cllr Swyer at www.coniston.info.

Cumberland Building Society – Debbie Shearer, Head of Branch Sales

Cllr Coward explained that now Barclays Bank has closed Cumberland Building Society were approached to see if it could be viable to have a branch in Coniston.

Debbie Shearer is Head of the Branch Network and had a serious look at whether or not it was viable to open a branch in Coniston. Unfortunately, it is not financially viable. The closest branch is Ambleside which is open 6 days a week, has full banking facilities including for businesses, has personal current accounts (with access via the branch or online). Change (coinage) for businesses is available for businesses that have accounts through the Cumberland. There is a call centre open 7 days a week which is Carlisle based. If there is demand in the village then Debbie would arrange for surgery to assist people with the online facilities including use of the Cumberland App. If anyone has any questions or queries Debbie is willing to assist. A summary of this will be included in a future Parish Newsletter.

Mobile banking and an ATM in Coniston have been considered by the Cumberland Building Society but neither are viable. There are no facility at the moment to enable Cumberland Building Society customers to withdraw cash at Post Offices, but this is under review.

County Cllr Brereton

County Cllr Brereton explained that in the Highways Department Victoria Upton is going on maternity leave in April. There is currently no timeframe for the delivery of existing requests e.g. re-doing the lines on the road between the Adams Bridge

	<p>and Ship Inn and getting Lengthsman Agreements prepared.</p> <p>Community organisations can bring success, e.g. a 20mph in Broughton-in-Furness and the bypass at Grizebeck.</p> <p>The X112 is continuing to run and is doing an extra route. The County Council does not have funding for the actual bus service but could provide funding towards marketing or a community consultation survey.</p> <p>There is water running down at Bowmanstead from the new track way created for access to the Methodist Church which in cold weather causes ice to form on the A593.</p> <p><u>District Cllr</u> District Cllr Coward explained that the proposals for the Grange Lido are generating a lot of interest. There has been a Community Governance review with some changes to boundaries and number of Councillors but it does not affect Coniston. She attended some resilience planning and gave feedback on how she was informed every few hours during the last incident about the increased flood risk and where sandbags were.</p> <p><u>Cllrs attending the Institute Committee meeting</u> Cllr Coward explained there is another meeting on Wednesday where the relationship with Grizedale Arts is being looked and how it will move forward.</p> <p><u>National Trust</u> John Moffat sent an email update:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work continues at Big Wood on the felling due to disease. The felling work is planned to be complete by Christmas but the extraction will continue into the New Year. - Works on the unclassified road from Tilberthwaite to Little Langdale are complete but the route remains closed at present to allow them to bed in properly. There will be monitoring and evaluating next year with a report going to the LDNPA committee in October. - No properties currently vacant in the parish and not aware of any coming up. - In addition to applying for solar panels at Boon Crag the National Trust are looking to trial their first electrical vehicle next year. - The Greenburn hydro project is now all connected and will be run for testing with a view to doing some open days early in 2019. <p><u>Public Participation</u> It was reported that the drains on the Banks need to be emptied by CCC Highways.</p> <p>If there is a problem with the drains on the LDNPA car park on Ruskin Avenue it can be reported to the Clerk.</p> <p>Member of the public are reminded that they can report Highways issues directly:- https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads-transport/highways-pavements/reporting-problem-on-highway/WDM/default.asp or telephone 0300 303 2992</p>	
328/2018	Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting	

	<p><u>To update on repairs required to the street lights on Days Bank</u> Cllr Carroll reported the lights have been fixed.</p> <p><u>To receive quote on repairing existing benches in Coniston</u> Cllr Coward reported that the work has started albeit slow.</p> <p><u>To receive a draft policy for benches in Coniston</u> Cllr Coward explained that the Council are looking at all the benches in the village with a view to ensuring they are all kept in good condition. Discussion on the draft policy was deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>To receive draft guidelines for events held in Coniston</u> No update.</p> <p><u>To update on the Coniston Christmas Tree</u> Cllr Coward reported the Christmas Tree is up and lit in the St Andrews churchyard. Thanks are to be sent to the National Trust for the tree and also thanks to Cllr Thompson Cllr Batty and Dave Brackwell for their assistance on the day.</p> <p><u>To update on the recruitment of a new Parish Clerk</u> There have been no enquiries or applications for the position.</p>	
<p>329/2018</p> <p>330/2018</p> <p>331/2018</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2018/5570 - Coniston Institute, 15, Yewdale Road, Coniston - Extend existing toilet block to create additional female toilets RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.</p> <p>7/2018/5721 - Land to West of A593, opposite Coniston - Residential Development of Local Occupancy Housing including part Affordable Housing Members of the public made several comments on this planning application with concerns about parking both on the A593 and coming off the field, road traffic collisions, gully grates being blocked and a flood risk. Concerns were made about the Housing Needs Survey being only a snapshot of the situation at the time. More family homes are needed and encouragement for rotation to promote a sustainable community. RESOLVED: Cllrs object to the application. There is no defined need for the houses and it is not clear how many bedrooms the houses would have, 3 bedrooms would be essential. There are concerns about parking, highway safety and flood risk. The proposed houses would be better to be in line with The Banks so it appears to be a lower level of the existing houses and all faced in stone to match the existing.</p> <p>7/2018/5737 - National Trust, Forestry Co Ordinator, Boon Crag, Coniston - Installation of solar photovoltaic panels of roof of building RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.</p>	

<p>332/2018</p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permission:-</p> <p>7/2018/5088 - Three Shire Stone, Wrynose Pass Summit - Removal of Three Shire Stone and replace with new stone</p> <p>7/2018/5376 – Roseberry Cottage, Lake Road, Coniston - Construction of single garage</p> <p>7/2018/5636 – Fairsnape, Coniston - Extensions to dwelling, access improvement (Re-application of consent 7/2016/5788)</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Listed Building Consents:-</p> <p>7/2018/5552 - Tilberthwaite Farm, Coniston - Formation of 2 no. flue penetrations and installation of secondary glazing to the farmhouse</p> <p>7/2018/5089 - Three Shire Stone, Wrynose Pass Summit - Removal of Three Shire Stone and replace with new stone</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the letter from LDNPA - 7/2018/5546 - Gatesgarth, Coniston - Approval of details reserved by condition nos 3 (colours of doors and windows), 4 (roofing materials) and 5 (stonework) on approval ref 7/2017/5566</p>	
<p>333/2018</p>	<p>Highways</p> <p><u>To review the work required to tidy up highways in Coniston and agree who can carry out tasks in the absence of a Lengthsman Agreement</u></p> <p>Cllrs have arranged for a contractor to paint the Victorian village signs. It was suggested the footpath from Station Road past the Methodist Chapel needs weeding. Work has been completed on removing saplings from Glen Mary towards the village.</p> <p>Archie Workman, a Lengthsman, who works for other Parish Councils has suggested we employ him as our Parish Lengthsman. Cllrs agreed this in principle but the Clerk is to obtain further details before a commitment is made.</p> <p>Cllr Swyer reported that she has been in contact with Home Housing about an area of ground below Old Furness Road and they will do some work in May.</p> <p>When the work was carried out on the cliff face at Old Furness Road the foliage on Devonshire Terrace was not cut back. However, it was reported there are plans to spray this.</p> <p><u>To update on grants applied for towards new flower planters</u></p> <p>The Clerk has obtained Grants, £1,400.00 from Cumbria County Council and £500.00 from LDNPA. Cllr Coward will contact a local contractor to make the planters.</p>	

	<p><u>To update on other Highways issues in the Parish</u> Cllr Carroll stated he has reported some blocked gullies, potholes and other highways issues directly and there are still some gullies requiring emptying.</p> <p>The public should be aware that they can report issues directly. If trees are blocking the road this can reported to Cumbria Police non-emergency number on 101 or by e-mail: 101Emails@cumbria.police.uk.</p>	
334/2018	<p>Coniston Parish Council Meeting Dates 2019 RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed the date of the meetings for 2019, the third Monday of every month.</p>	
335/2018	<p>Coniston in Bloom In the past the village had a successful Coniston in Bloom and next year is the bicentenary of Ruskin and the Bluebird Festival. Councillors would like to support and encourage what is currently being done in the village.</p>	
336/2018	<p>Consultation on National Parks & AONB Cllrs had a brief discussion on this focusing on the infrastructure which has to be financed by Cumbria County Council which is a larger area than the LDNPA covers and the World Heritage Status did not consider the infrastructure or local communities. Maintaining dry stone walls should be a priority. RESOLVED: Cllr Swyer will complete the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.</p>	
337/2018	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>Vicky Slowe of the Ruskin Museum and the new Curator – Mary Ann Lancaster should be invited to the January Parish Council meeting as it is the Ruskin bicentenary in February.</p> <p>Cllr Swyer informed the Council that in her role with the Coniston Sailing Club she has been contacted about the Club being used for emergency evacuation if required during the Bluebird Festival.</p>	
338/2018	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>To consider the budget for 2019/20</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the budget for 2019/20 with no increase in the precept.</p>	
339/2018	<p><u>To agree to proceed with a website secure certificate</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs approved paying £87.00</p>	
340/2018	<p><u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumbria County Council (planters) £1,400.00 • Bridge Toilets £144.86 	

341/2018	<p><u>Payments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk’s Salary £336.42 • Clerk’s Overtime (Bluebird) £76.63 • Clerk’s Expenses £64.64 • HMRC £103.20 • EON – street lighting £152.11 • EON – Bridge Toilets £10.29 • Tracy Coward (Lights for Christmas Tree) £273.97 • A K Workman (restoring Victorian signs) £259.00 • Coniston Ground Care £868.80 • Andrew Ransome (verge maintenance) £760.00 • Coniston Mountain Rescue Base £45.00 • Janice Johnston (verge maintenance) £140.00 • Stephen Airey £60.00 	
342/2018	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:- To note the following e-mails received since the last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALC – Final Paperwork for Next District Association Meeting on Thursday 29th November, from 7pm at the Gilpin Bridge Inn; November edition CALC Newsletter; Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership request for contacts for local flood groups; Partnership Press November 2018; Cumbria Coastal Strategy Public Engagement – CALC; vas policy; Update to NALC's Model Standing Orders; Julian Glover review of National Parks and AONB • Cumbria CVS - Friends Against Scams – FREE Advice Session; South Lakeland Community Newsletter; Cumbria CVS - Opportunities • CCC - Urgent Road Closure - A593 Coniston • SLDC – Annual Review of South Lakeland District Council Constitution 2019 • LDNPA - Rights of Way Closures, south of Tarn Hows; Theft from boats on the Lake; Appointment of Lake Warden • Torver Parish Council – TPC minutes for November; December agenda • Hawkshead Parish Council – agenda 20th November; minutes 20th November • Lakes Parish Council – Minutes 7th November, Plans Minutes 21st November; Agenda 5th December • Coniston 14 – 30th March 2019 <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs notes the following correspondence received:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from EON – changing deemed prices • Letter from Barclays – Millom branch closing 21st March 2019 	
343/2018	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 21st January 2018 7pm at the Reading Room, Coniston Institute 	

Meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)