

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm on Monday 19th August 2019

Present: Cllr T Coward (Chair)
Cllrs – K Batty, J R Carroll, A Hall, A Thompson & H Troughton
Clerk – J C Carroll & M Dearnley

In attendance: 14 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
250/2019	Apologies RESOLVED: No apologies.	
251/2019	Requests for Dispensations No requests received.	
252/2019	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.	
253/2019	Minutes of Meeting 8th July 2019 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 th July 2019 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
254/2019	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>District Cllrs</u> District Cllr Hall reported that people are concerned about the upgrade of the swimming pool and the tennis provision at Ulverston. A discussion is required on what provision is required.</p> <p>SLDC are promoting local businesses that will top up water bottles for free to reduce the number of plastic bottles in use.</p> <p><u>Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u> The Annual Returns have been submitted for the Community Land Trust.</p> <p>A second planning application has been submitted for High Gateside Field for outline planning consent. The measured housing need carried out by a team at the Housing Authority continues to rise with the figure of 42 homes having increased further.</p> <p>The Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust was set up in 2003 due to the number of homes being lost in the area to second / holiday homes. The group looks at housing provision for local people and assists in people obtaining planning permission and looking for sites for new developments.</p>	

	<p><u>National Trust</u> There is Phytopthraera at Tarn Hows again so every last bit of larch in the woods around the tarn will be felled. The visual impact is going to be higher than last year. Numerous trees are infected all of which need a 100 metre radius circle felled around them. During this time there will be inconvenience, times where paths will need to be closed and timber coming out on the roads.</p> <p>There are currently no empty properties in the Parish. The Gondola is having a good season.</p> <p><u>Cllrs attending Coniston Institute Committee Meeting</u> The new Curator is currently on sick leave. The Director who has been in post for 26 years is retiring in September so there will be in changes. In addition there will be a reorganisation for charitable status and a rewriting of the constitution.</p> <p>The recent Copper in the Veins project has been going very well with positive feedback.</p> <p>There is no update on when Bluebird K7 will return to the Museum although communication is ongoing.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u> Comments were taken during discussion of planning application 7/2019/5463.</p>	
255/2019	<p>Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on the noise complaint in connection with early morning collections by Cumbria Waste</u> Cllr Coward reported this is ongoing issue and the complaint is now official with the Environmental Health investigating it.</p> <p><u>To update on the action points following the Parish Walk on 14th June</u> Cllr Coward is working on the action points for the playground. The ROSPA inspection carried out earlier this month highlighted one piece of equipment not up to standard and it is out of action. The Clerk is in contact with Playdale regarding necessary action.</p> <p><u>To update on the closure of Machells Coppice car park</u> There is no update form the Forestry Commision on the closure of Machells Coppice car park. The closure is potentially only temporary due to disruptive behaviour of some visitors.</p> <p><u>To update on the SLDC tree planting scheme</u> Cllr Coward has been in contact with SLDC to suggest the perimeter of the playground for the tree planting scheme. An assessment will be carried and the results reported back.</p>	

	<p><u>To update on the refurbishment of benches around the village</u> Cllr Hall reported she has shown a family who paid for the renovation of the benches outside the church the results. The benches at Dow How are also being looked at.</p>	
<p>256/2019</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2019/5322 - Thwaite Farm Cottage, Coniston - Demolish existing two storey gable extension and replace with two storey gable extension and demolish rear single storey extension and replace with larger single storey extension RESOLVED: Cllrs have no objections provided the sewage system is up to the increase.</p> <p>7/2019/5463 - Land to West of A593, opposite Coniston Medical Practice, Coniston - Residential development of 16 affordable houses</p> <p>A representative from South Lakes Housing and the Architect for the proposed development attended the meeting to answer questions.</p> <p>The public raised concerns about excess run off of water from the field into the basements of Campbell House. The Cumbria County Council and United Utilities have responded about excess water for the proposed development. The steep bank of the site would involve a substantial removal of material. There are concerns about losing the existing parking outside the doctors' surgery. The Banks are seen are iconic locally and any new development in that area should be in keeping.</p> <p>The outline plan is for illustrative purposes only more work needs to be done on demand before the final mix of houses is agreed on. There is currently a higher than average level of help for this development in terms of grants which cannot be guaranteed for a different site. The development could be a mix of affordable, shared ownership and rent to buy properties.</p> <p>The Parish Council reminded the public that the comment they can give is either object, no objections or support and ultimately it is not their decision but the LDNPA.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs voted with 2 having no objections and 4 objecting. The reasons for objecting are:- it is a larger scheme than specified in the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan; it is out of character in that area of the village; the location is on a steep bank; the flood risk; access and a potential threat to the doctors' surgery due to a loss of parking.</p>	
<p>257/2019</p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permission</p> <p>7/2019/5270 - Village Hall & Museum, 13-15 The Ruskin Museum, Yewdale Road, Coniston - To resurface of the access route by the Institute and Ruskin Museum with new landscaping, new disabled car parking space, installation of</p>	

	<p>metal archway and new solid space with re-siting of the community bread oven</p> <p>7/2019/5193 - Haws Bank Cottage, Haws Bank, Bowmanstead, Coniston - Renovation of Cottage and alterations to provide porch to front elevation and glazed stair enclosure to the rear</p> <p>7/2019/5354 - Red Dell Beck, Coppermines Valley, Coniston - Construction of a wooden footbridge across Red Dell Beck, supported on concrete pads on stone abutments</p>	
258/2019	<p>Highways</p> <p><u>To update on the work carried out by the Coniston Lengthsman</u> The railings on Yewdale Bridge have been repainted although they have not been straightened.</p> <p>A local resident had reported overgrown vegetation on a footpath at Little Arrow. Remedial action will be requested from National Trust. The footpath on the way from Coniston to Waterhead is in a similar condition.</p> <p><u>To update on the response from supermarkets regarding deliveries on The Banks</u> The Clerk reported no response has been received which is disappointing.</p> <p><u>To update on other Highways issues in the Parish</u> Shepherds Bridge was recently damaged by a coach.</p> <p>The sign for Little Moss is not clear for delivery drivers and needs to be relocated.</p> <p>There is confusion at Ruskin Avenue car park as to which is the entrance and exit.</p> <p>A local contractor is still to do work on the saplings on the road towards Hawkshead.</p>	
259/2019	<p>Events held in Coniston</p> <p>The location of the Rat Race event was a success and the traffic management for Lake Road.</p> <p>There was feedback from local residents for the Lakeland 100 event that there were parking issues on the Sunday on Lake Road.</p> <p>The recent Epic Chill Swim event was reported to have poor traffic management with no marshals and taking up most of the footpath by the lake.</p>	
260/2019	<p>Parish Councillor Vacancy</p> <p>No applications have been received.</p>	
261/2019	<p>Playground</p> <p>The local contractor quoted £80.00 excluding VAT to remove lower branches from a tree in the playground. To replace the pathways in the playground would be approx. £1,500.00 excluding VAT.</p>	

	RESOLVED: Cllrs approved the quotes.					
262/2019	<p>Coniston Bye-laws <u>To update on progress of the proposed amendments to the Coniston Bye-laws</u> The proposed amendments to the Coniston Bye-laws are now out for consultation and will include Records Week and other speed records.</p> <p><u>To confirm approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Lake District National Park Authority and Coniston Parish Council for a contribution towards to bye-law amendments</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed that Cllr Coward would sign this Memorandum on behalf of the Parish Council to agree to pay £2,500 towards the amendments. From this £1,000 will be contributed from South Lakeland District Council, £300.00 by a local business, £600.00 from Coniston Business Forum and £600.00 by Coniston Parish Council.</p>					
263/2019	<p>Coniston Parish Council Clerk RESOLVED: Cllrs appointed Michael Dearnley as the new Coniston Parish Council Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer. RESOLVED: Michael Dearnley signed the Contract of Employment.</p>					
264/2019	<p>Bridge Toilets It was reported last year the net cost to the Parish Council of the Bridge Toilets was £1500.00. The toilets now need some capital expenditure and Cllr Coward has spoken to SLDC who would like to support the project.</p> <p>Cllr Hall reported that she has collected £525.00 so far this month.</p>					
265/2019	<p>Councillor Matters The X112 is now officially a charity.</p> <p>The Lakeland 100 donate leftover food to the Food Bank at the Co-op in Coniston. It was suggested inviting the organisers of the Foodbank to a future meeting to discuss how they provide for local rural families unable to get to one of their locations.</p> <p>There are grants available for people who have to attend a hospital out of the area.</p>					
266/2019	<p>Financial Matters To consider a grant application for X112 bus service (amount requested £650.00) RESOLVED: Cllrs approved a grant of £500.00.</p>					
267/2019	<p>To note the first quarterly financial summary RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the first quarterly financial summary</p>					
268/2019	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts:-</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>VAT Refund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£754.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bridge Toilets collecting boxes</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£580.29</td> </tr> </table>	VAT Refund	£754.95	Bridge Toilets collecting boxes	£580.29	
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269/2019	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk’s Salary £336.42 • HMRC £84.00 • Archie Workman (June) £144.00 • Thomas Graham £222.11 • Coniston Ground Care (tree work in playground) £96.00 • EON (Bridge Toilets - July) £11.79 • Ken Batty (Bridge Toilets repair to gutter down pipe) £200.00 • EON (streetlights - July) £187.80 • Lake District National Park Authority (wayleave) £1.00 • EON (streetlights – August) £194.07 • Coniston Institute (room hire) £42.00 • EON (Bridge Toilets – July) £12.43 • Sam Clarke (repairs to seats) £780.00 	
270/2019	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALC – Content of Training Programme for September 2019; NALC Legal Update; Better Internet Access in Cumbria; Elections to CALC Executive Committee; July Edition of the CALC newsletter; Paperwork for Next District Association Meeting - on Thursday 19th September from 7pm at the Gilpin Bridge Inn; Joint OPCC and Cumbria Constabulary Survey; Developing your skills Training Programme September to December 2019; Local Council Award Scheme Panel Member; CALC Vacancy • Cumbria CVS - First Steps to Grant Funding – Kendal; First Steps to Grant Funding - 26 July 2019, Kendal; South Lakeland Community News 30.07.19; Next County Volunteering Network Meeting : Recruiting and Retaining Trustees, Leap Frog Research Project and Power to Change!; The Copeland Governance academy courses • SLDC – SLDC weekly tips; SLDC Agenda for Meeting on 23 July 2019; SLDC weekly tip; Letter from the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist on behalf of the Independent Remuneration Panel; SLDC weekly tip • LDNPA – Submission of Local Plan • CCC - Working Together Service - Trail Agreements; Working Together Statement; Community grant to medical appointment out of Cumbria • Torver Parish Council – June minutes; agenda 4th July; agenda 11th July; July minutes • Lakes Parish Council – Minutes 3rd July, Plans minutes 24th July, Agenda 7th August • Hawkshead Parish Council – 18th June; agenda 16th July; minutes 16th July • Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council – minutes 10th June, agenda 8th July • South Cumbria Rivers Trust - END OF SPRING • Pure Outdoors Events - Cumbria Way Ultra Saturday/Sunday 14th/15th September 2019 • Coniston Institute - Copper Bombing Workshops 	
271/2019	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 16th September 2019 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)