

# Coniston Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7.00pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**Present:** Councillor T Coward (Chair)  
Councillors: K Batty, J R Carroll, A Hall, H Troughton, and J Airey  
Clerk: M Dearnley

**In attendance:** 6 members of the public

Minute Number		Action
321/2019	<b>Apologies</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillor A Thompson	
322/2019	<b>Requests for Dispensations</b> No requests received.	
323/2019	<b>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</b> All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.	
324/2019	<b>Minutes of Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2019 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
325/2019	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p><u>K2B</u> The walk is a major event. It involves 2,000 people walking from Coniston to Barrow in addition to the 1,500 who are walking from Keswick to Barrow, via Coniston. As a result of its success the organisation is able to donate approximately £380,000 to local charities each year.</p> <p>It is a well established event, but each year the organisers are looking to make incremental improvements. The organisers have already made changes with the intention of improving marshalling and traffic management on the main road as it passes out of the village where the road is markedly narrower. It was noted by councillors that the area where there was even greater need for improvement was at Haws Bank near The Ship and Sacred Heart. This area has the potential for even more traffic flow as it main access for Coniston Hall Camp Site.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Mr Jones, Mr McIntosh and Mr Fleming, the organisers of the K2B Walk, for attending. She noted that good communication between local communities and event organisers reduces disruption; helps to identify and addresses potential problems; and improves the experience for all concerned. The event is a welcome addition to the village calendar.</p> <p><u>Police Service</u> PCSO D Ross submitted a written report for the period 21<sup>st</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019. During this period there were 5 calls for service in the Coniston area. These break down as follows:</p>	

3 Mountain Rescues

1 arrest for assault following a domestic incident involving holiday-makers  
1 crime of commercial burglary, investigations ongoing.

Following a spate of rural thefts, the police service would like to remind people of the need to take reasonable precautions against theft, to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity.

National Trust

Mr John Moffatt reported that tree felling around Tarn Hows was starting on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, but that this is an issue the council have been previously briefed on. He will be attending the council meeting in January to outline the National Trust's plans to celebrate its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

County Councillor – Matt Brereton

Cllr Brereton reported on a range of issues:

- The Traffic Team had been urged to progress the pedestrian protection scheme at The Ship, Bowmanstead and the installation of SSID.
- Lining and signage work which has been previously reported is to be progressed.
- There is urgent work required at the foot of the Walna Scar Road where the resurfaced road requires road marking.
- In pursuance of a Traffic Regulation Order, a survey is to be conducted in Coniston and Torver parishes. This will be conducted separately from the scheme being progressed in Broughton to make consultation process more meaningful.
- Following a recent review on Unsealed Roads by the Lake District National Park Authority a campaign is being organised which seeks to approach the County Council to intervene and make an alternative determination. This campaign expresses a number of concerns in relation to the displacement of off-road activities to other roads around the parish.
- The X112 group continues to attract support and generate additional funding to support the service e.g. organising excursions to Ulverston's Dickensian Festival.
- A drop-in event will be organised for people to discuss the A590, its impact on local communities, and the potential for change.
- Cllr Brereton has identified a potential cycle/Bridal/Walking trail from Foxfield to Coniston. This route utilises existing rights of way and historic routes through High Furness. The Lake District National Park Authority is supportive, but the scheme is to be led by parishes and local communities which would be impacted by the trail.

Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust

Alastair Cameron sent an update by e-mail. There is little to add to the previous report in relation to the affordable housing project at Church House Field.

Cllrs attending the Institute Committee meeting

Councillor Hall has been appointed Chair and Councillor Carroll Vice Chair. The curator position has recently become vacant due to a retirement. There is ongoing work relating to a new constitution.

Public Participation

Representations were made in relation to Planning Application 7/2019/5695.

<p><b>326/2019</b></p> <p><b>327/2019</b></p> <p><b>328/2019</b></p>	<p><b>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</b></p> <p>The clerk updated the meeting of advice received in relation to leylandii trees. This advice will be forwarded to the Lawn Tennis Club for information.</p> <p>The feasibility of developing a Coniston Village Map is deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Coward is to contact the owner of trees obscuring road signs on the lane leading to the Sun Inn.</p>	
<p><b>329/2019</b></p> <p><b>330/2019</b></p> <p><b>331/2019</b></p> <p><b>332/2019</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><u>7/2019/5674</u> - 2 and 6 The Forge, Coniston, LA21 8HL – siting of shepherds huts.</p> <p>The council had some concerns relating to potential traffic issues which might arise as a result of the development and potential vulnerability of the development to flooding.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> No objection</p> <p><u>7/2019/5695</u> - Hanson Ground, Coniston, LA21 8AE – replacement verandah.</p> <p>The Council believes that the proposed verandah is significantly larger than the existing structure and that it encroaches upon the neighbouring property.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Objection</p> <p>The Councillors noted the following Notice of Grant of Planning Permission:</p> <p><u>7/2019/5611</u> – Coniston Park Coppice Caravan and Motorhome Club Site, Park Gate, Coniston, LA21 8LA – installation of two camping pods as temporary structures.</p> <p><u>7/2019/5531</u> – Waterhead Hotel, Coniston, LA21 8AJ – replacement signage.</p>	
<p><b>333/2019</b></p>	<p><b>Highways and Coniston Lengthsman</b></p> <p>The clerk reported that poor weather had stopped Mr Workman undertaking work in the village this month.</p> <p>In an effort to more clearly identify where problems have been identified photographs will be taken and emailed to Mr Workman to help him locate the problem, alternatively the use of the App ‘Three Words’ will be explored. To ensure that the impact of the Lengthsman initiative can be more readily demonstrated Mr Workman will be asked to take ‘before and after’ photographs and submit this with his monthly invoice.</p> <p>Tasks which are to be addressed include: painting the brow steps, the repair of broken flags by the Institute, and an area near the Youth Hostel at Holly Howe where road drains appear to be blocked.</p>	
<p><b>334/2019</b></p>	<p><b>Financial Regulations</b></p> <p>The clerk reported progress in relation to the review of the Council's banking arrangements.</p>	

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors agreed to delay any decision until such time that the Cumberland Building Society has completed its review of not-for-profit accounts.</p> <p>The clerk will circulate a copy of the revised financial regulations at a later date for review and adoption at a future meeting.</p>	
335/2019	<p><b>Bridge Toilets</b></p> <p>The toilets are closed for the winter. Councillor Coward updated progress on the proposed development and led a general discussion covering procurement guidelines, sources of grant funding and a possible timeline for planning and building work.</p>	
336/2019	<p><b>Campbell Memorial Green Space</b></p> <p>Councillor Coward reported that a grant of £1,465 had been secured from the Lake District Foundation to support the development of a wildflower area in the village. This scheme is progressing, the Cumbria Wildlife Trust has been contacted, and John Ruskin School has planned to conduct a quadrant survey of plant species.</p> <p>Councillor Carroll suggested that the parish council should explore possible ways of celebrating Donald Campbell's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in March 2021. He will explore the possibility of commissioning a statue to celebrate the anniversary.</p>	
337/2019	<p><b>VE Day Commemoration and Celebration</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillor Hall will establish a working party and begin planning for Coniston's commemoration of VE Day in May 2020.</p>	
338/2019	<p><b>Precept Grant</b></p> <p>The Council discussed applications.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> the following would receive grant funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coniston CofE Primary School Home Association, £200</li> <li>• John Ruskin School Swimming Pool, £200</li> <li>• John Ruskin School Defibrillator Project, £250</li> <li>• Great North Air Ambulance, £100</li> <li>• Coniston Parish Magazine, £100</li> <li>• Izzy Dodd, Judo competitor, £50</li> </ul>	
339/2019	<p><b>Standing Orders</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> The Chair, Councillor Troughton and Councillor Hall will establish an HR Sub Committee. A review of Standing Orders will be undertaken by this group in due course.</p>	
340/2019	<p><b>Councillor Matters</b></p> <p><u>Councillor Troughton</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coniston Christmas Lights Switch On at Herdwick's on the 29<sup>th</sup> November,</li> <li>• Lights are being erected along Yewdale Road</li> <li>• New lights have been ordered, but the delivery date is uncertain,</li> <li>• Sheep have been dying in the field to the rear of Holly How Youth Hostel as a result of their eating rhododendron. Councillor Coward will approach Mr Glen Duclos, Hostel Manager, when he returns from holiday.</li> </ul>	

	<p><u>Councillor Coward</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Christmas tree donated by the National Trust is to be delivered on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and erected by Councillor Thompson</li> <li>• Mr Blackburn, Headteacher at John Ruskin High School, is supportive of the school playing an active role in supporting local people to access the Barrow Foodbank. This will be led by Mrs Fitzsimmons, Headteacher at Coniston CofE Primary School.</li> </ul> <p><u>Councillor Hall</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Dixon has repaired two benches to be erected in the village.</li> <li>• Izzy Dodd has been representing England Judo, the parish council determined to make a grant of £50 to help toward expenses and to send Izzy a letter of congratulation.</li> </ul> <p><u>Councillor Carroll</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian Raven has recently stood down after 33 years of service to the Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service in Coniston. A letter of appreciation is to be send.</li> <li>• Willy Watson has been undertaking fundraising for fire fighters in The Gambia, this year he has been able to send a fully equipped Fire Engine and related equipment. A letter of appreciation to be sent.</li> </ul>	
341/2019	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p>Councillors discussed budget priorities for 2020/21.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> To incorporate an increase in the budget to reflect increased operating costs</p>	
342/2019	<p><u>Receipts</u>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridge Toilets - donations £143.91</li> </ul>	
343/2019	<p><u>Payments</u>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors authorised payment of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerk's Salary £320.75</li> <li>• Clerk's Expenses (projector coupler) £17.98</li> <li>• HMRC £80.00</li> <li>• EON – street lighting £194.07</li> <li>• CALC – training £80.00</li> <li>• Water Plus (Bridge Toilets) £217.83</li> <li>• Coniston Ground Care £868.80</li> </ul>	
344/2019	<p><b>Correspondence</b>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following e-mails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust: update from Alastair Campbell</li> <li>• Rural Services Network 22.10.19, 29.10.19, 5.11.19</li> <li>• Torver Parish Council: consultation on the removal of the public telephone box in Torver.</li> <li>• South Cumbria Rivers Trust: Summer/Autumn Newsletter</li> <li>• Hawkshead Parish Council: October minutes</li> <li>• Keswick Parish Council: Letter of No Confidence in the leadership at Lake District National Park</li> <li>• Environment Agency Flood Alert for 25/26.10.19</li> <li>• Cumbria Action for Health and Mental Health Provider Forum: bulletin 25.10.19, 5.11.19</li> </ul>	

<p><b>345/2019</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CALC Training courses</li> <li>• VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Celebrations</li> <li>• Walna Scar Shepherds' Meet</li> <li>• South Lakeland Community News</li> <li>• CACL: Cumbria Kindness Day</li> <li>• CALC: Annual Report 2019 and AGM paperwork</li> <li>• CALC: Cumbria Action for health event</li> <li>• CALC: North West Coastal Access update</li> <li>• Torver Parish Council: agenda (7.11.19) and minutes (3.10.19)</li> <li>• National Trust: John Moffatt's update regarding the impact of remedial logging Tarn Hows</li> <li>• Blawith and Sabberthwaite Parish Council: Agenda (11.11.19) and minutes</li> <li>• Cumbria County Council: Highways: Road closure at Water Yeat</li> <li>• Cumbria County Council: Weight restriction on Shop Bridge, Broughton Mills</li> <li>• Rural Funding Digest</li> <li>• Rusland Horizons: newsletter</li> <li>• CALC: ACT in Cumbria Gazette - Autumn/Winter</li> <li>• Rural Services Network – Election Special</li> <li>• Hawkshead Parish Council: Agenda 19.11.19</li> <li>• Lakes Parish Council: agenda 20.11.19, minutes 2.10.19</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following correspondence received by post:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerks and Councils Direct: November 2019</li> </ul>	
<p><b>346/2019</b></p>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b> Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 7:00pm at the Reading Room, Coniston Institute</p>	

Meeting closed at 9:14pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)