

# Coniston Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council Held on Zoom at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

**Present:** Councillor T Coward (Chair)  
Councillors – A Hall, H Troughton, J Carroll, A Thompson  
Clerk – M Dearnley

**In attendance:** One member of the public. Also in attendance were District Councillor I Wharton, County Councillor Matt Brereton.

Minute Number		Action By
245/2020	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor J Airey and Councillor K Batty.</p> <p>Councillor Batty gave notice of his intention to stand down as parish councillor with immediate effect.</p>	MD
246/2020	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations</b></p> <p>No requests received.</p>	
247/2020	<p><b>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</b></p> <p>All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
248/2020	<p><b>Minutes of Meetings held 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
249/2020	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p><u>County Councillor</u></p> <p>Councillor Brereton gave a report covering a wide range of topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Government Reorganisation. Cumbria County Council had voted to pursue an option for unitary status based on the existing county council boundaries.</li> <li>Covid-19 infection rates in most of Cumbria are low, but lessons have been learnt from the Lockdown and these will inform co-ordinated actions during the next six months. Dr Colin Cox is confident that Track and Trace along with additional hospital provision and public vigilance and co-operation will prove adequate to local need.</li> <li>Since the beginning of term, there had been a general improvement in relation to behaviour around the Lake District and in particular relation to road use. This will continue to be kept under close review.</li> </ul>	

- The increased use of laybys by campervans is an ongoing issue, but not to which there is a clear solution.
- Road lining and signage will be prioritised after resurfacing works are completed. Councillor Carroll observed that parking on single yellow lines outside the village need to be enforced, however, Councillor Brereton explained that traffic enforcement officers do not have the authority to take action, and the police do not have the capacity.
- Councillor Brereton offered to support the parish if they were to pursue creative alternatives to maximise parking schemes for residents and workers.

District Councillors

Councillor Coward informed the meeting that the South Lakeland District Council website has recently established a locality tool that will provide key data for any given postcode.

Grant applications for 'green' schemes is approaching a closing date. Councillor Coward will submit a bid in an attempt to secure funding for the conversion of the council's sodium streetlights to more environmentally friendly LED lighting.

TC

Councillor Wharton indicated that the opening of the road to the east of the lake has been successful so far, but the situation will be monitored closely. The Coniston Water Bylaws are having a second consultation.

Joint working arrangements between the Lake District National Park Authority, Cumbria County Council, South Lakeland District Council, Forestry England, Cumbria Constabulary and the National Trust are working well and good practice developed since the beginning of the Lockdown will be continued for the foreseeable future.

Cumbria Constabulary

PCSO D Ross reported that for the period 17<sup>th</sup> August to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 there were 24 incidents of particular note in the Coniston area. These are as follows:

- 2 crimes of criminal damage resulting in 2 arrests
- 2 crimes of theft of property
- 1 crime of harassment recorded
- 3 incidents of highway disruption – all cleared safely
- 9 concerns for welfare resulting in mountain rescues
- 2 crimes of assault with known suspect
- 2 suspicious incidents
- 1 incident of anti-social behaviour
- 2 road traffic collisions (1 damage only, 1 slight injury)

The constabulary reminded the parish council that wild camping was a civil trespass matter to be addressed by the landowner and as such should be reported to them and not to the police.

The police now had the power to disperse group of more than 6 people gathered without reasonable excuse.

The Ulverston Community Team are setting up a Farmwatch scheme and asked

	<p>that anyone interested in taking part should contact the PCSO. This initiative will be promoted on the parish council's social media.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum</u></p> <p>Mr Rutland had confirmed that no one from the Business Forum was available to attend the council meeting. It was unfortunate as this is the second meeting the Forum were not able to attend. As the impact of Covid-19 continues to have a profound impact on all aspects of society, the needs of the business community need to be properly identified and supported. The Business Forum will remain a standing item on the agenda.</p> <p><u>National Trust</u></p> <p>Mr Moffat submitted a reports which indicated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The initial consultation on a restructuring of the National Trust in the Lake District had ended, the results are now being analysed to inform future change.</li> <li>• Lumber work in response to ash and larch disease notifications has recommenced</li> <li>• Steam Yacht Gondola will operate until the end of half term.</li> </ul> <p><u>Lake District National Park Authority</u></p> <p>Mr Hill was not able to attend the meeting, but did report that the Authority is working on a plan to cope with the possibility of a second Lockdown.</p> <p><u>Councillors attending the Institute Committee meeting</u></p> <p>The museum is proceeding well, although footfall is reduced from last year's levels this was to be expected. The Vintage Fair organiser are pleased with the number of visitors this summer. The cancellation of all meetings and other room hire has had a financial impact. Bluebird remains an ongoing issue, but slow progress is being made.</p>	HT
<p><b>250/2020</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>7/2020/5505 Hills Garage, Coniston, LA21 8EN Replace single container with two containers, timber boarded screen fence and screen planting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors had no objection to the application</p>	MD
<p><b>251/2020</b></p>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following grants of Planning Permission</p> <p>7/2020/5334 The Blue Bird Cafe, Coniston, LA21 8AN Replace canvas parasols with fixed glass canopy over existing terrace seating area</p> <p>7/2020/5444 10 Beck Yeat, Coniston, LA21 8HT Demolish rear conservatory and build single storey front and rear extensions</p>	
<p><b>252/2020</b></p>	<p><b>Coniston Maintenance and Highways Issues</b></p> <p>The council noted the following highways and maintenance issues in the parish:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Carroll has reported a number of blocked gullies and potholes to Cumbria County Council. The parish council will promote the use of the portal to enable residents to report these issues themselves.</li> <li>• The hedge alongside the B5285 was in need of cutting as a matter of safety for both pedestrians and drivers. In lieu of the National Trust cutting their hedge, the parish council has commissioned a Mr R Ingham to clear the path.</li> <li>• The insurance claim relating to the memorial bench at the top of Lake Road has been resolved. Designs will be presented at the next meeting.</li> <li>• The footpath alongside the B5285 had been raised as an issue with the Lake District National Park before both Lockdown and more recently. The Authority has assured the parish council that the problems with the path would be addressed after other projects with more pressing health and safety implications have been dealt with.</li> </ul>	HT
253/2020	<p>It was noted that Mr Workman has had a busy month working on road drainage on Walna Scar Road and in Tilberthwaite as well as restoring commemorative benches.</p> <p>The council were reminded that Mr Workman's contract operates for the period March to September. He has completed outstanding work, but does not anticipate working in the parish until the Spring. He has offered to be of assistance if there are any urgent issues that arise during the Winter.</p> <p>The clerk was instructed to write letter of thanks on behalf of the parish council for the work that Mr Workman does and the difference he has on the life of the village.</p>	MD
254/2020	<p>The following tasks were identified to be addressed at the earliest opportunity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing the gully by the trough on Station Road</li> <li>• Clear the verges which are encroaching on gullies in Far End</li> <li>• Simon Hill to be contacted to ask that the National Park Authority undertake to cut back the overhanging vegetation between Old Furness Road and the railway bridge.</li> </ul>	MD AW AW SH
255/2020	<p><b>Bridge Toilets and Playground on Lake Road</b></p> <p>Councillor Coward reported that quotes are being sought from builders and will be presented at a future meeting to enable the toilet block renovation to move forward.</p> <p>A hand sanitiser at the playground is in need of replacement after sustaining minor damage. The meeting was pleased to note that the playground was being heavily used since it had been allowed to reopen.</p>	TC
256/2020	<p><b>Climate Focus</b></p> <p>Councillor Coward reported that wildflower turf and seeds had been laid at the Campbell Memorial Green, and that the next stage would be the planting of bulbs and the erection of an information sign to let people know what is being attempted and how it was funded.</p> <p>Councillor Carroll outlined a proposed scheme on the land below the station, this would benefit from an assessment by an organisation such as Cumbria Wildlife to identify what might realistically be achieved and what impact this would have on local wildlife. Councillor Coward to action.</p>	TC



<p><b>261/2020</b></p> <p><b>262/2020</b></p>	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To note receipt of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EON £1,326.48</li> <li>• South Lakeland District Council £10,000.00</li> <li>• Jaqueline Appleton (memorial bench) £100.00</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M Dearnley £284.60</li> <li>• Clerk's expenses (Flowers) £20.00</li> <li>• M Dearnley (Home Working April – Sept) £120.00</li> <li>• HMRC £71.00</li> <li>• Coniston Co-operative Society £39.84</li> <li>• Tracy Coward (detail below) £604.57 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wildflower Turf £482.40</li> <li>○ Wildflower Seeds £54.50</li> <li>○ Screwfix (Wildflower area) £22.67</li> <li>○ Crocus Mix £45.00</li> </ul> </li> <li>• AMB IT Solutions £85.00</li> <li>• Thomas Graham £546.10</li> <li>• South Lakes Drain Jetting Limited £183.60</li> <li>• Lake District National Park £1.00</li> <li>• A Workman £224.00</li> </ul>	
<p><b>263/2020</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following e-mails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumbria Arts and Culture Network Newsletter, 13.8.20, 3.9.20</li> <li>• CALC: Nomination of CALC Executive 13.8.20</li> <li>• DEFRA: Respect the outdoors campaign 13.8.20</li> <li>• Ron Rutland: Apology 14.8.20</li> <li>• PSE Newsletter 14.8.20</li> <li>• CALC: Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria 14.8.20</li> <li>• Cumbria in Bloom Newsletter 14.8.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – play area open in Grasmere 14.8.20</li> <li>• Cumbria Constabulary Coronavirus update 14.8.20, 21.8.20, 28.8.20,</li> <li>• United Utilities Reservoir Safety Campaign 14.8.20</li> <li>• CALC: Update from Cumbria CC Library Portfolio Holder 17.8.20</li> <li>• CALC: Local Plans 17.8.20</li> <li>• PSE Newsletter 17.8.20, 20.8.20, 21.8.20, 24.8.20, 25.8.20, 26.8.20, 28.8.20, 1.9.20, 4.9.20, 8.9.20, 14.9.20, 16.9.20</li> <li>• Rural Bulletin 18.8.20, 25.8.20, 2.9.20, 8.9.20, 15.9.20</li> <li>• Great British September Clean 19.8.20</li> <li>• Hawkshead Parish Council minutes 19.8.20</li> <li>• Torver Parish Council minutes 19.8.20</li> <li>• Torver Schoolroom update 19.8.20</li> <li>• Parish Newsletter – invitation to contribute 21.8.20</li> <li>• LDNPA: How they are managing Covid-19 21.8.20</li> <li>• Cumbria CC Press Release – Covid-19 update 21.8.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – Great British Clean Up 21.8.20</li> <li>• CALC Executive Committee 2020 nominations 21.8.20</li> <li>• CALC Cumbria Emergency Support Helpline closing 21.8.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – Business Support Grant deadline 21.8.20</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ron Rutland: Theft of Banner 24.8.20</li> <li>• Action for Health and Mental Health Provider Bulletin 24.8.20, 28.8.20</li> <li>• Hawkshead Parish Council agenda</li> <li>• Cumbria CVS Volunteering Sessions 26.8.20</li> <li>• NALC Briefing on salary award 26.8.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – Local Plan Consultation 26.8.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – Key role to drive cultural investment 28.8.20</li> <li>• Hawkshead Grammar School Federation – Grants 28.8.20</li> <li>• PSE Weekend roundup 30.8.20</li> <li>• Rural Funding Digest 3.9.20</li> <li>• South Lakeland Area Support – Cumbria Community Resiliency Network 3.9.20</li> <li>• Cumbria CC – County Cabinet vote for County-wide Unitary Status 3.9.20</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Watch Cannabis Factory 7.9.20</li> <li>• NALC Planning White Paper Summary, links and responses 9.9.20</li> <li>• NACO Newsletter – Remembrance Sunday 2020 10.9.20</li> <li>• Rusland Horizons 10.9.20</li> <li>• SLDC Newsletter – Green Business Start Up Programme 10.9.20</li> <li>• SLDC Newsletter – Allergy safety 10.9.20</li> <li>• Information Commissioner Update 11.9.20</li> <li>• Torver Parish Council minutes 12.9.20</li> <li>• Bay Health and Care Partners (NHS) Coronavirus update 14.9.20</li> <li>• CALC AGM invitation 14.9.20</li> <li>• CALC Newsletter 15.9.20</li> <li>• Blawith and Subberthwaite Parish Council – Job Advert 15.9.20</li> <li>• Torver Parish Council – Arnold Lancaster Westmorland Show Award 15.9.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – Ulverston Park 16.9.20</li> <li>• SLDC Press Release – 20mph speed limit in town centres 16.9.20</li> <li>• NHS Morecambe Bay Press Release 16.9.20</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G Irwin regarding the pop up camp site on Lands Field</li> <li>• C Hickson regarding the promotion of superfast broadband in rural areas</li> </ul>	
265/2020	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 7.00pm on Zoom.</p>	

Meeting closed at 8:34pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)