

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Coniston Parish Council held in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7.00pm on Monday 17th July 2017

Present: Cllr J R Carroll (Chair)
Cllrs –A Hall, M Swyer and K Batty
Clerk – J C Carroll

In attendance: Mr D McGowan, Head of Development Management – Lake District National Park Authority, County Cllr M Brereton and 3 members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
224/2017	<p>Apologies RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Coward, Troughton and Hart.</p>	
225/2017	<p>Requests for Dispensations No requests received.</p>	
226/2017	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum. Cllr Hall declared an interest in planning application 7/2017/5224 Cllr Batty declared an interest in planning application 7/2017/5421</p>	
227/2017	<p>Minutes of Meeting 19th June 2017 RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th June 2017 are approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
228/2017	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Mr D McGowan, Head of Development Management, Lake District National Park Authority</u> The Chair explained that Cllrs were concerned they are not being listened to by Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) planning department and are questioning why Coniston did a Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the application at Fairsnape (7/2016/5788) and Cllrs concerns about highways issues especially as a previous application in 2011 in the area, at Slantriggs had been turned down on the grounds of poor access.</p> <p>Mr McGowan explained that there is a legal framework for making planning decisions. The starting point is the development plan which is the LDNPA Core Strategy including Neighbourhood Plans. As part of the review of the Core Strategy there is a housing document coming out shortly for consultation. In the last financial year there were 20 planning applications in Coniston Parish and the views of the Coniston Parish Council differed from LDNPA on a quarter of them.</p>	

The LDNPA is interested in the views of Parish Councils. Where the opinion of the Parish Council differs from the LDNPA the Parish Council should receive a copy of the report explaining the decision. Currently Coniston Parish Council is not receiving these.

The LDNPA have to deal with the planning application as it is in front of them and whether or not it is acceptable. People are encouraged to have pre planning advice and are also advised to attend local Parish Council meetings at an early start. Cllrs stated they would like the opportunity to be consulted by LDNPA at the pre planning advice stage.

Mr McGowan confirmed that there is a document that explains why Coniston has been placed in the South Distinctive Area and he will send a link.

The LDNPA has previously tried to get a change in the law for people to apply for planning permission when changing a house from a permanent residence into a holiday / second home. These were unsuccessful and Cllrs suggested this be revisited following the Lake District gaining World Heritage Status.

Cllrs explained that there are issues on Coniston where the local occupancy issues are not being adhered to in the spirit in which they are intended. There are also now issues with local people getting mortgages due to the current occupancy restrictions.

Cllrs thanked Mr McGowan for attending.

Police

PCSO Forrester gave her apologies and sent a report by e-mail. No crimes have been reported. There was one incident of note, a fail to stop / report an accident on 8th July on Walna Scar car park.

County Councillor – Matt Brereton

County Cllr Brereton apologised for not attending last month, he had an issue getting here due to highways problems. He is keen to receive contact from people about issues in the area and he will take them forward. He will have access to a discretionary fund but is unsure of the amount.

Cllrs explained the current highway issues in the parish including getting a lengthsman agreement, saplings on the road verges, speeding at The Garth and pedestrians on the road between the Ship Inn and Adams Bridge. The Clerk will e-mail County Cllr Brereton details for him to take forward with the highways department.

District Councillor – Anne Hall

SLDC is doing consultation on dog orders and a car park survey. There is a full council next week.

Cllr attending the Coniston Sports & Social Centre AGM

Cllr Coward attended.

	<p><u>Public Participation</u> It was reported that Dow How has been cut in the middle of summer and the flowers cut. It should be strimmed out in the Autumn and just the edges by the path strimmed during the summer.</p> <p>The drains and downspouts along Yewdale Road belonging to the shops are almost all blocked. Highways have done investigations which show that it is not a council issue but business owner's responsibility. It was requested the Parish Council write to the business owners.</p> <p>The vegetation on the cliff face on Old Furness Road is only cut every 5 years and ivy is now coming over the road at Devonshire Terrace. The vegetation below the workshops at Station Road is preventing people from walking on the pavements.</p> <p>There is no notice given of roadworks in the area either in the local paper or at the affected road.</p>	
229/2017	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p><u>To update on reviewing Coniston Emergency Plan & obtaining resilience equipment</u> Cllr Carroll explained the shed is now in the process of being erected and will be filled with resilience equipment.</p> <p><u>To update on the work to be carried out on the streetlight at Cat Bank</u> No update with Cllr Troughton.</p> <p><u>To update on the donation box and signage at the playground</u> The donation box is in place with a temporary sign and the Clerk will arrange for new permanent signs.</p> <p><u>To update on the SLDC Environmental Health investigation into the St Andrew's Church bells / chimes</u> Cllr Hall gave an update from the Church. It was proposed at the Church PCC meeting that a timing device costing £1300 plus VAT be installed which will prevent an abatement notice being issued.</p>	
230/2017	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2017/5421 - Heathwaite, Land south west of the reservoir, Coniston - The proposed works involve the installation of: 1 x 12m High replica telegraph pole; 2 x Antennas (within GRP shroud); 1 x Transmission Dishes (600mm) ; 1 x Satellite Dish (1200mm) ; 2 x Equipment Cabinet (1 x Blenheim & 1 x Link AC); Associated ancillary equipment RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.</p> <p>7/2017/5224 - Recreation Ground, Yewdale Road, Coniston - Erection of replacement cricket pavilion RESOLVED: Cllrs support the application.</p>	

231/2017	<p>Site visit for 7/2017/5227 - Hollin Bank Farm, Coniston - Conversion of redundant two storey barn into a residential property for use either as a holiday let to supplement the farm income or for a home for a local resident</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs objected to the application. They would like the barn tied with the farm, as a farm worker's dwelling or local occupancy house and not a holiday let.</p>	
232/2017	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following application for a lawful development certificate 7/2017/5404 - Electricity sub station High Dixon Ground, Coniston, LA21 8HQ - Construction of 15m monopole with associated antennas housed on concrete base</p>	
233/2017	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following Notices of Grant of Planning Permission:-</p> <p>7/2016/5685 – Land off Yewdale Road, Coniston – Development of 6 local occupancy dwellings (resubmission of 7/2015/5125)</p> <p>7/2016/5661 - Land off Yewdale Road, Coniston – 7 affordable units</p> <p>7/2016/5577 – Little Arrow Moor, Walna Scar Road, Coniston Alterations to existing disused quarry to provide a 58 bay pay & display public car park</p>	
234/2017	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the letter dated 16th May 2017 re application 7/2017/5217 – Old Telephone Exchange, Yewdale Road, Coniston – confirmation of compliance with condition no 4 of planning approval ref 7/2016/5165 relating to surface water drainage details, carriageway edge, entrance and splay details</p>	
235/2017	<p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the Certificate of Lawful Use or Development in relation to land for the parking of cars by people visiting the locality at Little Arrow Moor, Walna Scar Road, Coniston</p>	
236/2017	<p>Parish Walk</p> <p>A Parish Walk was held on 29th June covering Collingwood Close and Little Moss. Chair read the notes from the walk where various issues were noted including loose footpath slabs, potholes, verges on Shepherds Bridge Lane needing clearing to enable better vision for pedestrians & vehicles and street name signs needed replacing. The Clerk has reported these issues.</p>	
237/2017	<p>Coniston Parish Plan Revision</p> <p><u>To report on the event held on 12th July to publicise the completed Coniston Parish Plan</u></p> <p>There was a reasonable turnout and 3 businesses attended. The Clerk will collate the forms completed at the meeting.</p> <p><u>To update on progress of the Parish Diary</u></p> <p>The Clerk is awaiting the website designer doing additional work on the Parish Diary to enable it to be printed out.</p>	
238/2017	<p>Highways Issues</p>	

	<p><u>To update on the Lengthsman Agreement with Cumbria County Council</u> The Clerk has received no update from Highways.</p> <p><u>To update on reducing speeding at Haws Bank and The Garth</u> No update, the Clerk is informing County Cllr Brereton of the issue.</p> <p><u>To note concerns from a landowner that people are not sticking to the footpaths in the local area, particularly when there are animals in the field or exercising dogs</u> The land of concern is where the Cumbria Way path goes through past the Dog Kennel into Guards Wood. RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the concerns and will inform Coniston Sports & Social Centre and place an article in Parish Newsletter.</p> <p><u>To note the poor condition of the unclassified council road / green lane from Tilberthwaite Farm to Little Langdale</u> A lot of the damage is drainage issues along with vehicles, bikes, walkers using the route. There is a hierarchy of trails which is not always adhered to. Cumbria County Council is responsible for maintaining this route.</p> <p><u>To update on the issue of poor vision for drivers due to saplings growing at the roadside on the main A593, particularly at the junction to Tilberthwaite</u> Clerk has reported this to CCC Highways and is awaiting a Lengthsman Agreement to resolve the issue.</p> <p><u>To note the response from Highways about residents only parking at Collingwood Close</u> Cllrs noted the e-mail from Highways where it was stated that Collingwood Close is an adopted highway it would be necessary to complete a traffic regulation order for parking restrictions. The majority of properties have off-street parking available so it is not considered appropriate to put residents parking in place.</p> <p><u>To update on other Highways issues in the Parish</u> The Clerk explained the street name sign for Lake Road had been reported as needing replacing by SLDC. After a few months of no action the new sign was found half way down Lake Road over the bridge by the workshops. This has now been reported back to SLDC.</p>	
239/2017	<p>Bluebird Event Group Meeting <u>To confirm to the Bluebird Event Group & LDNPA that Coniston Parish Council supports both the return of Bluebird and having an event / festival during the proving trial</u> Deferred for the next meeting.</p> <p><u>To report on the Bluebird Event meeting held on 28th June</u> Nothing of note to report.</p>	
240/2017	<p>Coniston War Memorial: Notification of Designation Decision <u>To confirm Coniston War Memorial has been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest</u></p>	

	RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the War Memorial has now been listed at Grade 2.																							
241/2017	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>The owner of a section of land which is very overgrown between Thurston Bank and Bank Terrace has been discovered. Contact will be attempted with the owner requesting the vegetation is cut back.</p> <p>It is to be noted that Coniston Parish Council is in favour of receiving the VC plaque next year.</p> <p>Grizedale Arts has got funding for the next 4 years.</p> <p>Cllr Carroll thanked everyone who attended his recent surprise 50th birthday party.</p> <p>Cllr Hart has resigned as Cllr with immediate effect.</p> <p>Thanks were given to John Stoddart who continues to empty the Bridge Toilets collecting boxes.</p>																							
242/2017	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts:-</p> <table> <tr> <td>Bridge Toilets</td> <td>£118.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bridge Toilets</td> <td>£148.77</td> </tr> </table>	Bridge Toilets	£118.08	Bridge Toilets	£148.77																			
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244/2017	<p>Correspondence RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALC – CALC June Circular; Friday round up; Rural Survey; Common Land course 17th July 2017; Writing Successfully for the Media with David Helliwell of Helliwell Media, 26th July, Newton Rigg, Penrith - Cumbria Chamber of Commerce • SLDC - SLDC car parks survey • Cumbria County Council - Grants applications for the CLHF Scheme • Blawith & Subberthwaite – 12th June; 10th July 																							

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torver Parish Council – minutes 1st June; agenda 6th July • Cumbria CVS - South Lakes Community News e-bulletin 26/06/17 • Cumbria Action - Household Emergency Planning • National Trust - Developments at Tarn Hows • Coniston Coppermines Project - Mining heritage day • South Cumbria Rivers Trust and Coniston & Crake Catchment Partnership awarded National Lottery support • The Mighty Corinthian Vintage Cycling Event - July 15th 2017 <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following correspondence received since the last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine July 2017 • ACTion with Communities in Cumbria Household Emergency Planning • Tim Farron MP Advice Surgeries Summer 2017 	
245/2017	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 21st August 2017 7pm 	

Meeting closed at 10.10pm.

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)