

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 February 2020

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

In attendance: Three members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
122/2020	Apologies RESOLVED: No apologies were received from Councillor Airey.	
123/2020	Requests for Dispensations No requests received.	
124/2020	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.	
125/2020	Minutes of Meeting 21st January 2019 RESOLVED: subject to a minor amendment relating to amounts paid by the Council the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 th January 2020 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
126/2020	Public Participation <u>County Councillor</u> Councillor Brererton reported on a wide range of issues including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White line marking around the village and surrounding area is a long-standing issue, Councillor Brereton invited the Parish Council to invite Cumbria County Council officers, Helen Karaaslan and Victoria Upton to make a site visit. • Further consideration of speed signs at Haws Bank is needed. • There will be a drop in session at various locations including Rusland Pool to discuss highways issues in south Lakeland with a particular focus on the A590. • Councillor Brereton was pleased to hear from Councillor Carroll how well the Highways Department had responded to the recent challenging weather brought by Storm Dennis. 	MD
127/2020	<u>Working Together.</u> It was agreed that the pilot scheme of which Coniston Parish formed part seemed to have fallen into abeyance. The Parish Council did not feel that any partnership working had been achieved since the launch in August 2018. Councillor Brereton explained that the long term aim is to create a legal framework within which a Lengthsman Scheme can operate at a parish level and work closely with Cumbria County Council to provide services in a cost effective and efficient manner.	

	<p>The Council will write expressing the Parish Council's concern that the scheme has not been moved forward and that the good work being undertaken on the ground is not being reflected in the development of a formal funding or operational framework.</p>	MD
128/2020	<p>A record of the work undertaken by the Coniston Lengthsman and the impact that his has had is to be compiled. This will enable the County Council to identify savings the appointment has generated whilst having been funded by the Parish Council.</p> <p><u>PCSO D Ross</u></p> <p>PCSO Ross gave a verbal report covering the period 23rd January to 15th February 2020. There were 5 incidents of note in the Coniston area:</p> <p>4 concerns of welfare all resulting in Mountain Rescues 1 suspicious incident – no trace on police arrival 1 missing person found safe and well</p>	MD
129/2020	<p>As a crime prevention measure Cumbria Constabulary are running bicycle marking sessions in Windermere, Ambleside, and Grizedale.</p> <p><u>John Moffatt, National Trust</u></p> <p>Mr Moffatt had held a 'drop in' session to enable any issues relating to the National Trust to be addressed. This was not well attended. Issues which are still ongoing locally include the forestry work at Tarn Hows. It was noted that there were drainage issues at Park Coppice.</p>	
130/2020	<p><u>District Councillors</u></p> <p>Councillor Hall reported that she had recently attended training for private water suppliers.</p> <p>Councillor Coward informed the Council that South Lakes District Council were holding public consultations relating to climate emergency and had recently appointed a Climate Emergency Officer.</p> <p>The Parish Council agreed that this was a positive step forward and as a result all future agendas will include a standing item for Climate and Environmental Concerns.</p> <p>Both Councillors Hall and Coward noted how effective South Lakeland District Council's communication had been during Storm Dennis.</p>	
131/2020	<p><u>Coniston & Torver Community Land Trust</u></p> <p>Mr Cameron reported that both he and Councillor Hall had approached Castles and Coast Housing Association to encourage them to proceed with the development of homes on the Church Room Field. The Housing Association has expressed confidence that it will begin construction in May 2020, with the first homes being completed by March 2021 for occupation by April 2021.</p>	

<p>132/2020</p> <p>133/2020</p>	<p><u>Cllrs attending the Institute Committee meeting</u></p> <p>It has been agreed to proceed with consultation regarding future constitutional arrangements.</p> <p><u>Public Participation</u></p> <p>One member of the public expressed concern that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the streetlight maintained by the Parish Council at Devonshire Terrace was not working • the 'no road markings' sign had been in place for a very long period of time and that this is becoming a hazard to traffic • shrubs are growing and impeding the handrail near Station Road, these need to be cut back to enable safe passage. 	
<p>134/2020</p> <p>135/2020</p>	<p>Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p>The repair and maintenance of the Old Station Car Park and fencing remains ongoing.</p> <p>The state of the path running alongside the B5285 and fingerposts directing visitors remains unresolved.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>MD</p>
<p>136/2020</p> <p>137/2020</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2019/5719 - 1 Sunbeam Cottages, Haws Bank, Coniston, LA21 8AS. Application withdrawn, to be replaced by: 7/2020/5036 - 1 Sunbeam Cottages, Haws Bank, Coniston, LA21 8AS. Double storey side extension to provide ground floor storage and a first floor extension. RESOLVED: NO OBJECTIONS</p> <p>RESOLVED: Councillors noted the withdrawal of the following planning application: 7/2019/5674 – 2, The Forge, Coniston, LA21 8HL. Siting of a Shepherd's Hut on land to the rear of property for the purposes of extending existing holiday accommodation.</p>	<p>MD</p>
<p>138/2020</p>	<p>Coniston Maintenance and Highways Issues</p> <p><u>Lengthsman Report</u></p> <p>Mr Workman has been able to complete the repair of the paving stones by the Coniston Institute. It was noted that although he had done a good job, many of the stones were so badly broken that these will need to be replaced in order to effect a longer term repair.</p> <p>The painting of the Brow Steps is still awaiting better weather, Councillor Carroll noted that this task has been outstanding since late summer and should have been resolved before the weather made the task more difficult.</p> <p>Additional tasks brought to the Council's attention included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jones' Seat above Dow Hall which is in need of some maintenance, Mr Workman will be asked to inspect the bench and effect any necessary repair. 	<p>MD to inform AW</p>

139/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The brambles and other plants are impeding the use of the handrail on the Brow Steps, near Station Road, Mr Workman will be contacted to ask that these are cut back. <p><u>Other Highways issues in the Parish</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several issues including blocked gullies and potholes had been reported to Cumbria County Council. Parishioners are to be encouraged to use the Portal to report any and all issues to ensure that they will be addressed. It was noted that unlawful parking on double yellow lines at a number of points in the village were creating road safety issues. 	
140/2020	<p>Bridge Toilets</p> <p>Councillor Coward reported that an 'Awards for All' Lottery bid has been submitted. Councillor Hall indicated that a number of other grant awarding bodies would welcome an application.</p> <p>Councillor Batty had inspected Bridge Toilets, they appear to have weathered the winter without any major issues arising.</p>	
141/2020	<p>Streetlighting</p> <p>Since the last meeting a number of residents living on The Banks had raised the issue of streetlights not working and the increased potential for accidents that this represents. In the light of this the decision to upgrade all inoperative and sodium lights at a later date was reviewed.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>To address outstanding issues and make all streetlights operational as soon as reasonably practical.</p> <p>To pursue funding to enable the Parish Council to replace all remaining sodium lights and convert these to LED lights as part of a longer term project.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>HT</p>
142/2020	<p>Bluebird Memorial Meadow</p> <p>There has been good community involvement in the development of this project. The owner of the land, South Lakeland District Council, has indicated that it is happy for the project to proceed.</p> <p>Councillor Carroll is in discussions with the National Trust to identify additional areas around the village for additional wildflower planting and the creation of insect friendly environments.</p>	
143/2020	<p>Christmas Lights</p> <p>The Parish Council recognised that the Christmas Lights Committee have, for a number of years, provided a valuable and enjoyable service to the residents and businesses in the village. It was considered vital that the Committee and their work are fully protected as a sub-committee of the Parish Council. The Parish Council identified one of the key strengths of the Christmas Lights Committee is its ability to harness the enthusiasm and skills of local people within an informally constituted body. It is not the Parish Council's intention to burden the</p>	

	<p>Councillor Coward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised the issue of the consultation process surrounding the proposed changes to the Coniston Water byelaws. The Parish Council had not been formally consulted, but as the Council had been involved in the development of the Byelaws it is in full support for the adoption of the new Byelaws. • An invoice will be raised from the Parish Council to South Lakeland District Council to support the cost of the review. <p>It had been brought to the attention of councillors that it is common practice for residents along The Banks to discard garden waste on land adjacent to the old railway path, and that this has contributed to problems relating to flooding. Residents will be reminded that this is not a suitable area for the disposal of any waste. Copies of this letter is also to be sent to Ms S Spicer (Lake District National Park Authority) and to Mr P Johnson (Coppermines Lakes Cottages), for information.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>MD</p>																		
	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>145/2020 RESOLVED: To note the third quarter financial summary.</p> <p>146/2020 RESOLVED: To authorise a direct debit to pay the annual data protection fee.</p> <p><u>Receipts</u></p> <p>147/2020 RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following receipts: None.</p> <p><u>Payments</u></p> <p>148/2020 RESOLVED: Cllrs authorised payment of the following:</p> <table> <tr> <td>• Clerk's Salary (M Dearnley, 3 months @ £284.60)</td> <td>£853.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• HMRC</td> <td>£71.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Lengthsman (A Workman)</td> <td>£174.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• E-ON(Streetlights)</td> <td>£194.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• E-ON (Bridge Toilets)</td> <td>£3.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Coniston Institute (Room Hire)</td> <td>£42.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Annual Data Protection Fee</td> <td>£35.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• InReach Services (Christmas Lights)</td> <td>£900.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Low Voltage Lighting Services (Christmas Lights)</td> <td>£2290.86</td> </tr> </table>	• Clerk's Salary (M Dearnley, 3 months @ £284.60)	£853.80	• HMRC	£71.00	• Lengthsman (A Workman)	£174.50	• E-ON(Streetlights)	£194.07	• E-ON (Bridge Toilets)	£3.67	• Coniston Institute (Room Hire)	£42.00	• Annual Data Protection Fee	£35.00	• InReach Services (Christmas Lights)	£900.00	• Low Voltage Lighting Services (Christmas Lights)	£2290.86	
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149/2020	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs noted the following e-mails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Lakes Community Newsletter • SLDC Overview and Security Committee • Rural Bulletin 28.1.20, 4.2.20, 11.2.20 • Hawkshead Parish January minutes • Lakes Parish January minutes and February agenda • LDNPA path closure at Tarn Hows • Torver Parish February agenda • Coronavirus information from Cumbria County Council • CALC: Council Tax consultation from Cumbria Constabulary • NALC: Chief Executive's bulletin • Blawith and Subberthwaite Parish January minutes and February agenda • Sally Clunнан: Water Aid local group • SLDC Customer Connect update • Environment Agency: Flood Action Week 2020 																			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum, an invitation to 'A Triumph of Nature' opening event 22.2.20 • Highways: Notice of a temporary road closure on the C5026 Lakeside, Near Newby Bridge • Cumbria County Council: letter from Angela Jones re: Windermere Ferry • Hawkshead Parish February agenda • LDNPA Traffic orders for the Malcolm Wilson Rally 	
150/2020	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a special meeting of the Parish Council to discuss cleaning contracts on Monday, 9th March 2020 at 7pm in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute. • The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 16th March 2020 at 7pm in the Reading Room, Coniston Institute 	

Meeting closed at 9:22pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)