

# Coniston Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held at Coniston Primary School, Coniston at 7pm on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Present:** Councillor T Coward (Chair)  
Councillors – S Atkinson, J Buller, C Sargeant  
Clerk – M Dearnley

**Also Present:** Mr Spencer Metcalf

Mr Archie Workman was presented with a gift on his retirement as Coniston Parish Lengthsman. This gift reflected the respect and appreciation felt toward him and his work to maintain, protect and enhance the parish environment over the years.

Minute Number		Action By
376/2021	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Troughton.</p> <p>Councillor Airey's resignation was received and accepted, the Chair thanked him for his contribution during his period in office.</p>	
377/2021	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
378/2021	<p><b>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</b></p> <p>The Parish Council is Custodian Trustee of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
379/2021	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	
380/2021	<p><b>Co-option</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> to co-opt and welcome Mr Spencer Metcalf to the Coniston Parish Council.</p>	
381/2021	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p><u>County Councillor</u></p> <p>Councillor Brereton submitted a report to the meeting:</p>	

- Officers at Cumbria County Council have agreed to repeated requests to address road lining and signing issues.
- Pleas have been made to Cumbria County Council to allow the Friends of the X112 to use Bus Service Operators Grant to offset reduced passenger numbers and community fundraising in order to secure the service for the future.
- The University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust Bay Health Trust has assured patients that they will provide support to sustain services following the sad death of Dr Simon Fisher.
- A response to the recent powercuts is being formulated. As the community of Coniston rallied particularly well during the emergency input from Coniston would be particularly welcome.
- Streetlighting and safe walking routes have recently been highlighted, there is an opportunity for S306 money to be used to help fund this, this is a matter which can be raised at the meeting with Cumbria County Council in January.

#### District Councillors

Councillor Coward reported that work toward creating a new unitary authority was moving forward, however, it was too early to identify how the transition will impact on the quality and cost of local services.

#### Lake District National Park

Mr Simon Hill asked that the National Park are notified where trees felled by Storm Arwen are still blocking roads or paths. Christmas Trees had been sold by the National Park from the Boating Centre, but at the point of the year any remaining trees will be donated free of charge to local people who would like one.

#### Coniston Business Forum

Mr Rutland indicated that there were no new issues to report and wished the Parish Council a happy Christmas.

#### Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust

It is envisaged that the new houses on Yewdale Road will have tenants allocated early in the 2022, however, work is still required to address the issue of their electricity supply.

#### Councillors attending the Institute Committee meeting

Councillor Sargeant had circulated minutes from the Institute's last meeting. He confirmed that although there will be work reconstructing the structure of the Trust and transferring assets that the Parish Council will remain as Custodian Trustees. He invited councillors to attend a future meeting.

#### Participation from members of the public

There was none.

	<b>Planning Applications</b>	
<b>382/2021</b>	There were no planning applications to consider.	
<b>383/2021</b>	<p><b>NOTED:</b> To note the following Appeal against Refusal of Planning Permission:</p> <p><u>Reference: 7/2021/569</u>  Location: Lands Field, Yewdale Road, Coniston  Proposal: Change of use to seasonal car park and associated works  Response by 29<sup>th</sup> December 2021</p> <p>The Parish Council will only make a submission if its objection to the original planning application was not to being submitted as evidence.</p>	
<b>384/2021</b>	<p><b>NOTED:</b> Councillors noted the following Notice of Grants of Planning Permission:</p> <p><u>Reference: 7/2021/5649</u>  Location: Heathwaite Farm, Coniston, LA21 8HE  Proposal: To install a glamping pod and connect to services including water, electricity and sewage.</p>	
<b>385/2021</b>	<p><b>NOTED:</b> Councillors noted the issue of the following Enforcement Notice:</p> <p><u>Reference: E/2021/0059</u>  Location: Black Bull, Coniston, LA21 8DU  Issue: The erection of a timber canopy without planning permission</p>	
<b>386/2021</b>	<p><b>Coniston Maintenance, Parking and Highways</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> The Parish Council noted the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake Road, the potholes are excessive in size, depth and extent. Mr Hill will be asked whether he has been given any reassurance by the Highways Authority as to whether they are planning remedial action.</li> <li>• The National Park Authority had undertaken to repair the paths between Monk Coniston and the village. This maintenance had been long anticipated, but was greatly appreciated.</li> <li>• There will be a meeting of the staffing sub-committee comprising Councillors Troughton, Coward and Atkinson, to review the role of Lengthsman before the next meeting.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Public Toilet Renovations</b>	
<b>387/2021</b>	<b>NOTED:</b> Progress in relation to finding a contractor willing to undertake the renovation is progressing slowly. Further information should be available by the next meeting.	
	<b>Coniston Parish Council Website/Parish Council Logo</b>	
<b>388/2021</b>	<b>RESOLVED:</b> The new logo had been collated using a number of designs provided by children from Coniston Primary School. This has been adopted by the Parish Council for all future use.	

389/2021	<p><b>Safer Lakes</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> There were no significant issues to report. This item will not appear on future agendas as a standing item.</p>	
390/2021	<p><b>Climate Focus</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> There were no significant issues to report.</p>	
391/2021	<p><b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee</b></p> <p>NOTED: There was no significant progress to report.</p>	
392/2021	<p><b>Future Meeting Dates</b></p> <p>RESOLVED: The schedule of meeting dates for 2022 was agreed. These dates will be posted on the new website.</p>	
393/2021	<p><b>Lake Road</b></p> <p>The Parish Council agreed that there needs to be a redevelopment plan in place to ensure that the playground can be renewed and made fit for future generations. This will require a considerable investment. Councillor Atkinson is to lead the fundraising effort.</p>	
394/2021	<p><b>Emergency Planning</b></p> <p>Councillor Coward summarised the situation as it developed during the duration of Storm Arwen and its aftermath, from Friday 26<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November. The period began with a widespread power-cut across most of Cumbria and North Lancashire caused by the extensive loss of trees and the felling of utility poles and severing of power cables. There was property damage and many road closures. There was loss of life, however, none locally. The response of the parish was exemplary, literally as its response is being held up as a model across the County and nationally. There were many individuals and organisations who deserve thanks, of particular note were the Coniston Fire Service, Coniston Mountain Rescue, and Coniston Sports and Social Club. However, these organisations were the tip of the iceberg and many individuals and businesses stepped up to help and to provide assistance to those who were in need.</p> <p>The emergency has raised issues, for example how to respond to events when there is no telephone signal in addition to their being now power. There had already been debriefing meetings and the Coniston Community Resilience Group is to be resurrected.</p> <p>Suggestions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Mountain Rescue Base and the Sports and Social Club should have generators</li> <li>• an additional Resilience Store should be established in the heart of the village, possibly at the Sports and Social Club</li> </ul>	MD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>households should have a basic store of equipment that would enable them to respond to future need more easily.</li> </ul> <p>These ideas, and many others, will be unpacked at future meetings and incorporated into a more robust emergency plan.</p>	
<b>395/2021</b>	<p><b>Councillor Vacancy</b></p> <p>Despite the co-option of Councillor Metcalf there remains a vacancy due to the resignation of Councillor Airey. The vacancy will be advertised in the Benefice magazine and on local Facebook Groups.</p>	
<b>396/2021</b>	<p><b>Councillor Matters</b></p> <p><u>Councillor Sargeant</u> Informed that Parish Council that Jean and Leigh Edwards were leading on the proposal to establish a Community Orchard in Coniston.</p> <p>There will be a meeting of St Andrew's PCC on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February where the matter of whether to allow a part of the graveyard to be used will be discussed.</p> <p><u>Councillor Coward</u> Expressed the thoughts of the Parish Council when she described the loss of Dr Simon Fisher. His death is a great loss, which has been deeply felt across the parish, and the sympathies of the Parish Council on behalf of the whole community have been extended to Dr Frey and the practice staff.</p>	
<b>397/2021</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> The financial summary April 2021 to the end of November 2021.</p>	
<b>398/2021</b>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To make adjustments to the proposed budget and precept and to bring to the next meeting.</p>	
<b>399/2021</b>	<p><b>NOTED:</b> To note the receipt the following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Donation toward bench renovation (K Dutton) £100.00</li> <li>Donation toward bench renovation (T Rowe) £180.00</li> </ul>	
<b>400/2021</b>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr M Dearnley (Salary) £380.10</li> <li>Mr M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00</li> <li>AMB IT Solutions £65.00</li> <li>Jigsaw (November Cleaning) £60.10</li> <li>Coniston Fudge Gift and Gallery £28.74</li> <li>Coniston Ground Care £114.00</li> <li>EON (Direct Debit) £58.84</li> <li>Water Plus (Direct Debit) £515.66</li> </ul>	

401/2021	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following e-mails:	
	Lake District National Park Authority	Temporary closure of paths for motor rallies Storm Arwen - temporary closures – Tarn Hows
	South Lakeland District Council	Super Saturday as new pump track and play area open Wildflower meadow boosts biodiversity in coastal town Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria - new website Council offers help to carbon-saving communities New app goes live to help safeguard local heritage Power supply emergency response Road closure update - 3.30pm 29.11.21 Storm Arwen: Food vans and support – 29.12.21 Public Information leaflet - Storm Arwen Cumbria County Council: COVID-19: Cumbrian cases fall again as Omicron measures introduced Latest news release from Electricity North West for your information News release from OFGEN for information Storm Arwen update 5.12.21 Cumbria County Council: Storm Arwen - Major incident multi-agency update 6.12.21 SLDC Council Agenda for Meeting on 14.12.21 Let's Keep Talking - Suicide prevention Christmas campaign
	Cumbria County Council	Local Government Reorganisation Briefing for CALC Members New COVID-19 cases drop, as over 40s reminded to book booster jab Cumbria County Council: Storm Arwen: Multi-agency update, 30.11.21 1:30pm Cumbria County Council: Storm Arwen: Teams begin door-to-door welfare operation Storm Arwen: Major incident multi-agency update, 3.12.21 First rise in new Covid-19 cases for six weeks
	Cumbria Constabulary	Cumbria Police: Multi-agency response to Storm Arwen ongoing Quad Bike theft
	Hawkshead Parish Council	Minutes Agenda
	Torver Parish Council	Torver Carol Service and Supper Minutes and Agenda
	Lakes Parish Council	Agenda
Cumbria Association of Local Councils	CALC district meeting: agenda and minutes Lord Lieutenant's letter regarding Queen's Jubilee Civility and Respect Newsletter Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)	

		Newsletter – 25.11.21 Zero Carbon Cumbria Newsletter and Green Investment Plan launch invite LGR Update on Parish Council Elections CALC Newsletter November-December 2021 Local Government Reorganisation Briefing for CALC Members 1.12.21 CCRG: Storm Arwen Recovery Information Cumbria Community Resilience Group Update LGR Latest News 13.12.21	
	Rural Services Network	Bulletin: 16.11.21, 23.11.21, 30.11.21, 6.12.21, 14.12.21 RSN Rural Funding Digest - December 2021 Edition	
	South Lakeland Area Support	Coronavirus Vaccinations and Future of Community-based health care in South Lakeland Colin Cox Facebook Live - Tuesday 7pm	
	John Ruskin School	Merry Christmas from John Ruskin School	
	Action for Health & Mental Health	Forum Bulletin 4.11.21, 3.12.21	
	Information Commissioner	Latest news from ICO	
	ACT	Fuel Poverty Awareness Day Winter 2021 ACT Gazette enclosed ACT Gazette Reader Survey	
	Rusland Horizons	December Newsletter	
<b>402/2021</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>		
	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the Coniston Institute.		

The meeting closed at 8:57pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

..... Date ..... Chair Initials