

Coniston Parish Council

Record of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held on Zoom at 6.00pm on Monday, 18th May 2020

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

Record Number		Action By
	<p>Apologies</p> <p>No apologies were received from Cllr Airey, or Cllr Batty.</p>	
	<p>Requests for Dispensations</p> <p>No requests received.</p>	
	<p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>All councillors as custodian trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2020 will be considered at the next full meeting.</p>	
	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>7/2020/5264 – The Wyn, Coniston, LA21 8HJ RESOLVED: Objection</p> <p>7/2020/5286 – 4 Holly How Close, Yewdale Road, Coniston, LA21 8BZ RESOLVED: Support</p>	
	<p>Coniston Maintenance and Highways Issues</p> <p>A list of outstanding tasks for Mr Workman, Coniston Lengthsman, was discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret Jones' bench on Dow How – cleaning/refurbishing. • Tarmac over the postholes left after Sally Rowe bench removed at the top of Lake Road. • GW Usher bench at Park Gate above Dow Crag House – cleaning/refurbishing • GW Usher bench, Hawkshead Road opposite Kirkby Quay - cleaning/refurbishing. <p>These tasks may now be undertaken as travel for non-essential tasks is now permitted; however, social distancing must still be adhered to.</p> <p>Other tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strimming of the grass verge at Dow How in September to promote wildflowers. Only clearing the path to stop vegetation encroaching. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update regarding the repair of Yewdale Bridge, to be circulated via Facebook to share with the village the difficulties Cumbria County Council have experienced in attempting to resolve this issue. Benches at the Head of the Lake remain an outstanding problem. They need to be repaired, but the location of the benches exposes them to erosion by the lake's water. The National Trust are happy to have these benches repaired, but want to undertake the repairs themselves as they are on National Trust land. To be kept under review. <p>RESOLVED: To contact Mr Workman with the tasks identified at the meeting to ask him to schedule these.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To instruct the clerk to prepare an update regarding Yewdale Bridge for circulation on Facebook.</p>	
	<p>Bridge Toilets and Playground</p> <p>Although there is increasing pressure to open the public toilets the parish council is working with the Lake District National Park and National Trust to co-ordinate opening, however, it is keen to ensure that they are ready to open at short notice.</p> <p>The parish council will prepare a risk assessment and share this with David Coxon, Lakesloos.</p> <p>Although the toilets are due for a full refurbishment, they need to be spruced up for the summer. Crisp Décor will be contacted and asked to paint the doors and window-frames.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To instruct Crisp Decor to paint and decorate the toilet block</p> <p>RESOLVED: To instruct the clerk to prepare a risk assessment to be circulated to the parish councillors and cleaning contractor in preparation for the toilet to reopen.</p>	
	<p>Climate Focus</p> <p>Grass cutting at Dow How will be postponed until September to promote wildflowers.</p> <p>Ash Tree Dieback below the Station has been reported to the Lake District National Park, they are to conduct a site visit to determine a course of action.</p>	
	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>RESOLVED: To appoint Fiona Ebbs as Internal Auditor for 2019/20 accounts.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The council authorised the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M Dearnley (April and May) £569.20 HMRC (April and May) £142.00 	

	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p><u>Councillor Hall</u></p> <p>David Wilkinson, Castle and Coast Housing Association are preparing to undertake preliminary work on the housing at Far End.</p> <p>Councillor Hall will check the Amenities Fund account to ensure it was deposited. It was suggested that £1,000 be put in a Business Regeneration Fund to help businesses get ready for visitors and that the balance of £4,000 would be allocated to the community using the mechanism used for Lakeland 100 grant. This was agreed in principle, but the allocation is to be discussed at an Amenities Fund meeting.</p> <p><u>Councillor Troughton</u></p> <p>A water leak on the old railway line has been reported.</p> <p>Food vouchers are still needed as there is unmet need in the village. This is something that may increase over time with a rise in infection rates, or a slow recovery of the local economy. However, distribution of vouchers remains a problem. Peter Blackburn, Headteacher at John Ruskin will help to identify people who may benefit from food vouchers.</p> <p><u>Councillor Carroll</u></p> <p>It is important that the website is updated, especially in relation to planning matters upon which people might want to comment. The clerk is to contact Summit Computers to address any access issues and post hard copies of the notification on the notice boards. Councillor Troughton will highlight planning issues on social media.</p> <p><u>Councillor Coward</u></p> <p>Congratulations to Councillor Carroll for his very positive message posted on Facebook regarding the impact of fell walking during the lockdown on Mountain Rescue, in the space of around a week this has achieved 1.6 million views.</p> <p>The whole council agreed that Coniston and its residents had been well served by Cumbria Constabulary throughout the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>RESOLVED: Councillors noted the following e-mails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Next meeting is to be at 6pm Monday, 6th June 2020.</p>	

The meeting closed at 6:59pm