

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held at the Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm on Monday, 15th August 2022

Present: Councillors: T Coward, H Troughton, S Atkinson, C Sargeant, R McCracken, and S Metcalf
Clerk: M Dearnley

Also Present: Eight members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
266/2022	<p>Apologies</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the apology from Councillor Buller.</p>	
267/2022	<p>Requests for Dispensations.</p> <p>None.</p>	
268/2022	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</p> <p>All Councillors as Custodian Trustees of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum.</p>	
269/2022	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th June were approved as a true and accurate record with a minor amendments to the road designation A 593.</p>	
270/2022	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>County Councillor</u> Councillor Brereton reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He encouraged Councillor Coward to meet with County Council officers to discuss lining, signing, road maintenance, parking or related enquiries, • He is continuing to support requests for road resurfacing, • Concerns regarding the proposed road closure by Electricity North West have been forwarded to Highways to enable them to discuss the continued abuse of their emergency powers, • He has environment funding available to help create access, sustainable tourism, road safety, access etc. This might be a suitable source of funding for Councillor Sargeant's work to create a safer walking route at the end of the railway footpath. • He is making efforts to re-establishing B4RN (Broadband for the Rural North) in Coniston, Torver, and Blawith and Subberthwaite • He invited Councillor Sargeant to email him with details of an unadopted path road which is potentially exacerbating problems • He encouraged the Parish Council to contact Highways to discuss the possibility of a '20s plenty' campaign. 	<p>TC, MD</p> <p>CS</p> <p>CS</p> <p>TC, MD</p>

	<p><u>District Councillors</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The South Lakeland District Council website has a wealth of information signposting those in need to advice, grants etc. This information will be replicated on our website, • Consultations are beginning in relation to the strategic direction and vision of the new Westmorland and Furness Council. <p><u>National Trust</u> John Moffatt, General Manager, South Lakes Portfolio, reported on a range of issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractions are up-and-running, but the Lake District is quieter this year, this coupled with difficulties recruiting staff has made it difficult to operate at full capacity. • There are four vacant properties in the parish in various stages of preparedness for occupation, • Steam Yacht Gondola operation seven days a week until mid-September. <p><u>Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust</u></p> <p>The housing development on Church Room Field, Yewdale Road has been awarded a design award.</p> <p><u>Lake District National Park</u></p> <p>The National Park had very busy weekends in part due to the exceptionally good weather. There had been examples of traffic congestion and poor parking. The Safer Lakes Team had extra patrols dealing with security, fly camping, parking enforcement, litter picking and fires.</p> <p><u>To receive comments and representation from members of the public in relation to any item on the agenda.</u></p> <p>Car Parking issues were raised. Monk Coniston was singled out as being a particularly problematic area where, it was suggested; more robust responses to poor and inconsiderate parking should be employed. This situation could have been exacerbated by the ongoing need for more car parking spaces, especially along the east bank of the lake.</p> <p>Noise and parking issues along Lake Road during the Lakeland 100 were raised. Differing experiences of the effectiveness of marshalling were shared with the group.</p> <p>The excessive use of loudspeakers at the Epic Swim were mentioned as an issue, this will be raised with the organisers of event by the Chair.</p> <p>Maintenance by the Lake District National Park of the banks was mentioned.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>TC</p>
	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p><u>Reference: 7/2022/5393</u> Location: Crown Hotel, Tilberthwaite Avenue, Coniston, LA21 8ED Proposal: Relocation of main entrance from car park including canopy over. Removal of secondary entrance, opening to be infilled with new window. Alterations to existing door opening to provide disabled</p>	

271/2022	<p>access. Reconfiguration of the car park to allow for external dining</p> <p>RESOLVED: No objection</p>	
272/2022	<p>NOTED: The following grants of application</p> <p><u>Reference:</u> 7/2022/5386 Location: Tilberthwaite Farm, Coniston, LA21 8DG Proposal: Infill extension on an existing building over a yard area</p> <p><u>Reference:</u> 7/2021/6009 Location: Newfield Cottage, Hawkshead Old Road, Coniston, LA21 8ET Proposal: Replace existing single storey gable extension with a two storey extension</p> <p><u>Reference:</u> 7/2022/5172 Location: The Powder Magazine, Coniston, LA231 8HX Proposal: Extensions and alterations to dwelling</p>	
273/2022	<p>NOTED: The following refusal of application</p> <p><u>Reference:</u> 7/2022/5412 Location: Yewdale Inn, 2 Yewdale Road, Coniston, LA21 8DU Proposal: Installation of moveable structure</p>	
274/2022	<p>NOTED: The following grant of licensing application by South Lakeland District Council</p> <p>Location: Hills of Lakeland, Broughton Road, Coniston Proposal: Application for a full variation of a premises licence. To sell alcohol between 6am and 11pm.</p> <p>Location: Bertie's Kitchen and Bar, Unit 3B, Lake Road, Coniston, LA21 8EW Proposal: Notice of an application for a premises licence for the sale of alcohol, and the provision of regulated entertainment; including music, live entertainment, playing of recorded sounds and late night refreshments to not later than 9pm</p>	
275/2022	<p>Coniston Maintenance, Parking and Highway Issues</p> <p>A number of highways issues were raised. The clerk will remind members of the public that they are able to report issues such as faded street signs, obscured yellow or white lines potholes, blocked gullies and similar matters on the online Cumbria County Council Highways reporting system.</p> <p>The person recently appointed as Hawkshead Parish Lengthsman has applied for the vacant post of Coniston Parish Lengthsman. The Human Resources Committee are to meet to consider his application and, if appropriate, to appoint on a six month probationary period.</p>	TC, HT, SA
276/2022	<p>Public Toilet Renovations</p> <p>The toilets are generating a reasonable return, £1,755.10 to date; this has yet to be transferred to the Parish Council's account. There continue to be problems</p>	

	with the doors. Various potential solutions have been attempted; so far, there has been no resolution to the problem of unreliable and fragile locking mechanisms.	
277/2022	Climate Focus There had been periods of extreme heat during the summer. It was suggested that the Parish Council should ask village shops not to sell disposable barbeques during exceptionally hot and dry weather due to the increased risk of fire. This is an issue to be raised with local farmers who allow their farms to be used as pop-up campsites.	
278/2022	Parish Walk A Parish Walk was conducted by Councillors Coward, Troughton and Metcalf accompanied by the clerk. Issues raised included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are areas of the village where 20mph should be a maximum speed limit e.g. Shepherd's Bridge Lane, Tilberthwaite Road as it runs through the village, Hawkshead Old Road. To be raised with Cumbria Highways. • The national speed limit on Hawkshead Road between Yewdale Bridge and Kirkby Quay was considered inappropriate, especially in relation to the area near Pier Cottage corner where speed and poor visibility make for poor road safety. To be raised with Cumbria Highways. • The desirability of creating a short path to create a safe walking route between the new houses on Yewdale Road and Little Moss. Clerk to raise with Eden Housing Association, Castle, and Coast Housing Association. • The necessity for pop up campsites to be properly assessed to ensure safe access and egress before permission is granted. The clerk to contact the National Trust. 	TC, MD TC, MD MD MD
	Coniston Parish Council response to cost of living/energy crisis Dr A Stewart joined the meeting to discuss the concerns of Christians Together in Coniston. The rising cost of living, including spectacular increases in the cost of energy could lead to members of our community not being able to afford to maintain themselves through the winter. The church had ideas e.g. the creation of warm spaces, raising the issue of keeping warm with children through the distribution of snuggle blankets, and the need for people to come together in the darkest months to sustain them spiritually through what might be a very trying time. These concerns mirrored those of the Parish Council. It was agreed to work together and include all groups and organisations in the parish to have a positive impact on those who might need some fellowship and support.	
279/2022	RESOLVED: that the Parish Council had a role to co-ordinate and support the communities response to a community need.	
280/2022	RESOLVED: to establish a group from amongst the community and open to all to discuss what is needed, how this need might be best addressed, and to take steps to ensure that projects are progressed in a timely manner to have in place before autumn and winter. Clerk to submit a bid to the Fairer South Lakeland Fund.	HT, MD MD

	Short Term Holiday Lets Policy Consultation	
281/2022	RESOLVED: for the clerk to respond on behalf of the Parish Council	MD
282/2022	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>Councillor Atkinson reported that potholes on The Garth were very poor. It was agreed that the best way for this, and similar matters, to be progressed is to encourage members of the public to use the online Cumbria County Council Highways reporting tool.</p> <p>Councillor Sargeant reported that there had been a powerful smell during the period of very hot weather that had been reported.</p> <p>He also shared a letter from A Grisedale who proposed a one-way system around Hawes Bank to reduce the traffic chaos experienced during high summer. The National Trust and Coniston Hall Farm are aware of concerns.</p> <p>Councillor Coward reported on a number of matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work on the Bathing Water Status application had been progressing with large-scale surveys being conducted throughout the summer. There will be a public consultation at 7pm on Wednesday 21st September at the Coniston Institute. • She will meet with the Yewdale Inn to request formally that they cease to play music from speakers set on the outside of the building in line with their Licenced permit. • Councillors Coward, Troughton and Atkinson are to meet as the Human Resources sub-committee for their annual meeting. • John Ruskin School is reviewing the use by Lakeland 100's continued use of the site. Councillor Coward will formulate a response on behalf of the Parish Council. • She will convene a meeting with the Fire and Rescue Service, Coniston Mountain Rescue and other organisations to begin a process of reviewing the existing Emergency Plan. 	TC TC, HT, SA TC TC
	Financial Matters	
283/2022	RESOLVED: To note the following receipts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
284/2022	RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the following accounts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr M Dearnley (Salary) £386.75 • Mr M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 • Mr M Dearnley (expenses: stamps, envelopes, etc.) £55.50 • Jigsaw (Cleaning – July) £555.49 • Coniston and Crake Valley Benefice (printing costs £100 2021, and £162.90 2022) £262.90 	
	Correspondence	
285/2022	RESOLVED: Councillors noted the following e-mails:	

286/2022	Next Meeting The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 19 th September 2022 at the Coniston Institute.	
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The meeting closed at 9:05pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

DRAFT