

# Coniston Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held at the Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Present:** Councillors: T Coward, H Troughton, C Sargeant, S Atkinson, J Buller, and R McCracken  
Clerk: M Dearnley  
Members of the Public: R Rutland, M Ledger, D Adams

Minute Number		Action By
128/2023	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
129/2023	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations.</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
130/2023	<p><b>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
131/2023	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January were approved as a true and accurate.</p>	
132/2024	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p><u>District Councillors:</u> T Coward and H Troughton reported that the final meeting of South Lakeland District Council would be held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.</p> <p><u>National Trust:</u> Mr Moffat reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tarn Hows is always open, Hill Top is open for the season, and SY Gondola will be back on Coniston Water by the end of March.</li> <li>• There are no vacant properties in the parish</li> <li>• The tenancy at Fell Foot Farm in Little Langdale will be advertised</li> <li>• The Trust will not be operating Hoanthwaite campsite, however, it may continue under management by others.</li> <li>• Clear up from Storm Arwen is approaching completion, but phytophthora in larch and chalara in ash are still being dealt with.</li> </ul> <p><u>Coniston Institute:</u> The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated. It was noted that room hire was being increased; and that there had been seven applications to take over the tenancy at the flat.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum:</u> Mr Rutland reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The handover from the existing Chair and Secretary is being managed</li> <li>• He expressed thank to the Parish Council for support to the business community and to the Business Forum over the years.</li> <li>• Business in the village had picked up, but the continued closure of the</li> </ul>	

133/2023	<p>Crown, Hills (Spar/Post Office/Garage) has a real impact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Tourist Information Centre (TIC) operates in a way that many others are not able to do so, in fact, many parishes do not have a TIC at all. The TIC is funded entirely by charitable donations, commercial trading and through the work of volunteers. He hoped that the new unitary authority would be encouraged to review how TICs support local businesses and visitors to the area and to provide some support toward running costs. Tracy Coward will take this matter forward with Westmorland and Furness Council, involving local MP Tim Farron if necessary.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Ledger described the rationale and process undertaken behind the planning application relating to Heathwaite Farm's access road.</p>	TC
134/2023	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>Reference: 7/2022/5774  Location: Shepherd's Bridge, Coniston, LA21 8  Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and construction of 2-storey workshop/garage</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Objection</p>	
135/2023	<p>Reference: 7/2022/5614  Location: Heathwaite Farm, Coniston, LA21 8HE  Proposal: Creation of new access road</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> No Objection</p>	
136/2023	<p>Reference: 7/2022/5024  Location: Peasecroft, Mines Road, Coniston, LA21 8HW  Proposal: Timber frame shelter for horses in field (retrospective)</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> No Objection</p>	
137/2023	<p><b>Coniston Maintenance, Parking and Highway Issues</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> A number of issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number and severity of pot holes on all roads radiating from the village are making travel unnecessarily difficult, to be reported to Cumbria County Council.</li> <li>The '20s plenty' initiative was not welcomed by Cumbria County Council, however, it was agreed to explore how a more informal scheme might be developed.</li> <li>The Brow Steps are to be reported to the Lake District National Park for inspection and repair.</li> <li>Highways are to be asked to cut back self-seeded saplings along Hawkshead Road.</li> <li>Signs on Old Furness Road, and elsewhere in the parish, need to be replaced</li> <li>The bus shelter on Ruskin Avenue needs to be repainted. Councillor Atkinson volunteered to do this.</li> <li>The Lengthsman position has become vacant; this is being readvertised.</li> </ul>	
138/2023	<p><b>Public Toilet Renovations</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> The toilets were opened in time for half term, but they will be automatically open between 7am and 7pm to reduce the potential for anti-social behaviour. This will be continue to be reviewed. The facility to control the system remotely should be in the hands of the customer. Councillor Atkinson will pursue this matter to</p>	

	<p>enable the Parish Council to control access to the toilets more flexibly.</p> <p>In the event of unexpected matters arising during the summer season the clerk, and Councillors Buller, Coward and Atkinson have agreed to be emergency contacts to deal with problems as they arise.</p>	
	<p><b>Climate and Environmental Focus</b></p> <p><b>139/2023</b> <b>NOTED:</b> Councillor Coward updated the meeting regarding the application for Coniston Water to be awarded designated bathing water status. The application is being considered by the Environment Agency, the applicants are awaiting feedback and advice to guide the 'next steps'.</p> <p><b>140/2023</b> <b>NOTED:</b> Councillor Troughton will organise a Litterpick for the 18<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p><b>141/2023</b> <b>NOTED:</b> Councillor Sargeant was thanked for his enthusiasm, energy and patience ensuring the successful completion of the planting of fruit trees along Dow How.</p>	
	<p><b>Coronation Planning</b></p> <p><b>142/2023</b> The working group met on the 31<sup>st</sup> January and agreed a programme for the celebrations, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decoration businesses and homes, to be judge and awarded prizes</li> <li>• Bunting provided by the Parish Council and Women's Institute</li> <li>• Commemorative mugs/pins for schoolchildren</li> <li>• Ecumenical service at St Andrew's Church</li> <li>• Parish Picnic, fancy dress, flag making, parade and other children's activities at the Sports and Social Club</li> <li>• Mini music festival at the Sports and Social Club</li> <li>• Celebration of volunteers/contributors to the life of the community</li> <li>• Women's Institute Tea Dance at the Coniston Institute</li> </ul> <p>The next meeting of the group will be on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> to approve spending of £1,000 toward supporting the celebrations.</p>	
	<p><b>Lake District National Park Interpretation Boards</b></p> <p><b>143/2023</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillor McCracken volunteered to liaise to help develop the Interpretation Board.</p>	
	<p><b>Coniston Parish Council response to cost of living/energy crisis</b></p> <p>The meeting discussed the progress of various projects. The feedback in relation to the community lunches was very positive, it was clear from talking with those who have attended that they have had a positive impact for a large number of people over the winter. These will be closing down for the duration of the summer. It is hoped that they can restart in the autumn.</p> <p><b>144/2023</b> <b>NOTED:</b> The grant of £1,000 from South Lakeland District Council to support the Community Pantry.</p> <p><b>145/2023</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> To enable the Women's Institute to administer the grant to support the work of the Community Pantry, which they are already managing.</p>	
	<p><b>Meeting Dates 2023/24</b></p> <p><b>146/2023</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> To the following meeting dates for 2023/24.</p>	

	<p>17th April 2023  15th May 2023*  19th June 2023  17th July 2023  21st August 2023  18th September 2023  16th October 2023  20th November 2023  11th December 2023  15th January 2024  19th February 2024  18th March 2024</p>			
<b>147/2023</b>	<p><b>Commemorative Benches in Coniston</b></p> <p><b>NOTED:</b> The meeting discussed proposed renewal of a bench at the head of the lake. The design should be similar in to other benches maintained by the Parish Council.</p>			
<b>148/2023</b>	<p><b>Councillor Matters</b></p> <p>Councillor Buller:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Business Directory on the website was steadily accruing funds for the Amenities Fund.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Atkinson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>			
<b>123/2023</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To note the receipt the following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumbria Community Foundation £12,800.27</li> <li>Electricity North West £70.00</li> </ul>			
<b>124/2023</b>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr M Dearnley (Salary including backdated pay awards) £883.40</li> <li>Mr M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00</li> <li>South Lakeland District Council (Small Lottery Registration) £20.00</li> <li>Coniston Institute (Room Hire) £112.00</li> <li>Advanced Gas and Plumbing Solutions Ltd (Cold water supply) £54.00</li> <li>Identify Ltd (High visibility vests) £119.76</li> <li>Rocket Sites (annual website maintenance) £168.00</li> <li>Southern Electric (Toilets) DD £69.92</li> <li>Southern Electric (Street Lighting) DD £89.81</li> <li>Water Plus DD £380.81</li> </ul>			
<b>126/2023</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors noted the following correspondence</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="272 1778 1342 2018"> <tr> <td>CALC</td> <td> Westmorland and Furness Consultation Event  Parish Council insurance policy responses  Local Government Reorganisation Newsletter - 12 January, 20 January, 26 January, 3 February, 10 February  Cost of Living related Information  Cumbria Local Authority Climate Update - 13.01.23 </td> </tr> </table>	CALC	Westmorland and Furness Consultation Event Parish Council insurance policy responses Local Government Reorganisation Newsletter - 12 January, 20 January, 26 January, 3 February, 10 February Cost of Living related Information Cumbria Local Authority Climate Update - 13.01.23	
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		How Town & Parish Councils can support Community Resilience Minutes of South Lakeland District Association Meeting Parish Council insurance policy responses Westmorland & Furness The Next Council Conversation 08/02/2023- Meeting notes and presentation	
	Cumbria CVS	Action for Health & Mental Health Provider Forum Bulletin	
	Cumbria Resilience Group	Finding, Understanding and Using Weather Information - 9 March Event	
	South Lakeland District Council	New council consults on council tax changes News Release - Eden Project News Release - First Constitution approved for new council News Release – Net Zero	
	Torver Parish Council	January Agenda & December Draft Minutes January Draft Minutes	
	Rusland Horizons	Newsletter	
	The Rural Bulletin	17 January 2023, 24 January 2023, 31 January, 7 February, 14 February	
	Forestry England	Grizedale Forest Plan Consultation	
	Cumbria County Council	Public Health Updates News Release - Deadline reminder as hundreds share views on council tax proposals Urgent Road Closure - U5012 The Banks, Coniston	
	Lakes Parish Council	January Agenda	
	NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Care Board	Newsletter	
	ACT (Action with Communities)	ACT Update January 2023	
	Cumbria Community Foundation	Newsletter	
	Rural Funding Digest	February 2023	
	South Lakeland Area Support	South Lakeland Food Forum Meeting	
	Hawkshead Parish Council	January Minutes and Extra Ordinary Agenda February Agenda and Extra Ordinary Draft Minutes	
	Gallagher Insurers	Spring and Summer Event Guide	
	Lake District National Park	Coniston Water Association Meeting	
<b>127/2023</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>		
	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> March at the Coniston Institute.		

The meeting closed at 8:54pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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