

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held at the Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm on Monday, 17th April 2023

Present: Councillors: Heather Troughton, Chas Sargeant, James Buller
Clerk: Michael Dearnley
Members of the Public: Ron Rutland (Coniston Business Forum) and Councillor
Suzanne Pender (Westmorland and Furness Council)

Minute Number		Action By
151/2023	<p>Apologies</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the apologies received from Councillors R McCracken, S Atkinson and T Coward.</p>	
152/2023	<p>Requests for Dispensations.</p> <p>None.</p>	
153/2023	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</p> <p>None.</p>	
154/2023	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th March were approved as a true and accurate.</p>	
155/2023	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Westmorland and Furness Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Pender introduced herself the meeting. She lives locally at High Arnside Farm, works at Sellafeld and has been the Parish Clerk of Skelwith Parish Council for a number of years. She has an understanding of the area and its needs, but would like to make herself more accessible to those who need her. In addition to email, one of the ways she intends to reach out to people is to hold face-to-face surgeries in a number of locations in her ward with the intention that people can talk over what concerns them in a relaxed setting. Her Coniston surgeries will be held at Herdwick's Café on the last Friday of every month.</p> <p><u>National Trust</u></p> <p>John Moffat reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SY Gondola was back on the water • Tarn Hows is open, but now with an ice cream, drinks and snacks van in operation • No update on the future of Hoanthwaite campsite • Timber is being actively removed from woodland areas and Boon Crag. 	

	<p><u>Coniston Business Forum</u></p> <p>Mr Rutland reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses were reporting good, but not exceptional, trading. • That there will be a meeting of the Business Forum on Tuesday, 18th April 2023. Items on the agenda include car parking, Bluebird, and the positive marketing of the village. • Mr Rutland reminded the Parish Council of the commitment included in the Neighbourhood Plan to review parking in the parish, a review that he believes to be overdue. 	
<p>156/2023</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Reference: 7/2023/5176 Location: Land to West of A593, Park Gate, Coniston Proposal: Erection of local occupancy dwelling and permissive footpath RESPONSE: Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2022/5774 Proposal: Proposed extension, conversion of workshop/store to annexe and new garage store Location: Shepherds Bridge, Shepherds Bridge Lane, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8AL RESPONSE: Objection</p>	
<p>158/2023</p>	<p>Coniston Maintenance, Parking and Highway Issues</p> <p>NOTED: A number of issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number and severity of pot holes on all roads radiating from the village are making travel unnecessarily difficult, residents are to be encouraged to report these to Cumbria County Council. • United Utilities have been made aware of the leak at Yewdale Bridge. • The bench on Little Moss that had fallen in to disrepair has been removed and the site made good. • A review of benches for which the parish are responsible will be conducted during the summer. • All councillors are asked to contribute to a central list of tasks for the Lengthsman to undertake. This list will be maintained by the Clerk. It might be appropriate to ask residents for suggested repair and maintenance, those tasks that fall outside of the Lengthsman agreement could be reported to the Unitary Authority. • One matter was highlighted at the meeting. This is the need to cut back branches at the bottom of the road leading up to the Banks. This will be a priority for the Lengthsman. • The path between the car park and Monk Coniston jetty is being eroded by the action of the lake. This was reported to the National Trust who are aware of the matter and who will be working to protect the path in the near future. • Similarly, the jetty is in need of repair due to storm damage over the winter, this is also being addressed. • The Unitary Authority has not yet installed a bin along the path to the Head of the Lake. The Clerk to pursue the matter. • The condition of the Brow Steps was reported to the National Park Authority, however, they do not fall within their property ownership. The matter will be referred to Highways. 	<p>ALL</p>

159/2023	<p>Public Toilet Renovations</p> <p>NOTED: The clerk provided an update regarding the operation of the public toilets. The warranty on the equipment fitted to control access will be ending soon. The working group will meet to decide the best course of action.</p>	TC, JB, SA, MD
160/2023	<p>Climate and Environmental Focus</p> <p>NOTED: A number of issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of litter at the Head of the Lake, which has built up over the past few years due to the lake collecting and depositing detritus, is in need of being addressed. This has been discussed with the National Trust who are going to ensure that it is addressed by their team of volunteers. • Simon Dimmer at the Lake District National Park is involved in discussing future plans for the Crown Gardens. Mr Dimmer will keep us informed as to how the Parish Council can help to ensure that the gardens continue to contribute to the centre of the village. • The wildflower area outside the graveyard will be completed on the 15th May, hopefully the turf will establish itself quickly and enable flowering this year. 	
161/2023	<p>Coronation Planning</p> <p>NOTED: A report had been circulated along with the agenda. The meeting approved the progress being made and the collaborative work being undertaken with many sectors of the community.</p>	
162/2023	<p>Consultations</p> <p>Proposal: Consultation on the creation of new native woodland Location: Heathwaite Farm, Coniston, LA21 8HE RESPONSE: Support</p>	
163/2023	<p>Proposal: Consultation on the Countryside Stewardship Scheme Location: Greenburn Commons, Little Langdale, Coniston RESPONSE: Support</p>	
164/2023	<p>Proposal: Base station installation upgrade Location: Cornerstone 12484404, Norweb Mast-High Man, Norweb Mast, Grizedale Forest, Coniston, LA21 8AJ NGR: E: 332777, N: 496487 RESPONSE: Support</p>	
165/2023	<p>Coniston Parish Council response to cost of living/energy crisis</p> <p>The clerk provided a brief update on the work being undertaken locally to address unmet need in the community.</p>	
166/2023	<p>Emergency Planning</p> <p>RESOLVED: For a working group made of up all councillors to meet to consider the tenders submitted in relation to the purchase, installation and maintenance of a generator at Coniston Sports and Social Centre. This group will make a recommendation to bring to the next meeting.</p>	ALL
167/2023	<p>RESOLVED: To establish a working group to discuss practical matter relating to the installation, operation and finance of the emergency generator with the Trustees of Coniston Sports and Social Centre.</p>	ALL

168/2023	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>Councillor Sargeant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be attending the next meeting of the medical practice patients' group. <p>Councillor Troughton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised the issue of young people misbehaving. 	
169/2023 170/2023	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>NOTED: The submission of the 2022/23 VAT refund.</p> <p>NOTED: The financial accounts for 2022/23 to be submitted to the Internal Auditor</p> <p>RESOLVED: To note the receipt the following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barclays Bank Interest £36.89 • Coniston Amenities Fund (Donation to Playground) £2,000.00 <p>RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr M Dearnley (Salary) £437.50 • Mr M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 • Mr M Dearnley (Reimbursement – Coronation Banner) £54.92 • Mr M Dearnley (Reimbursement – Coronation Mugs) £1560.00 • Coniston Institute (Room Hire, January to March) £48.00 • CALC (Annual Subscription) £240.99 • Jigsaw (Cleaning March) £225.36 • Jigsaw (Cleaning January – reissue) £135.22 • DM Payroll Services Ltd £120.00 • Southern Electric (Public Conveniences) DD £78.04 • Information Commissioner DD £35.00 	
171/2023	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>To be circulated with next agenda.</p>	
172/2023	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 15th April at the Coniston Institute. Councillors are reminded that this will follow the Coniston Amenities Fund meeting at 6:30pm.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

..... Date Chair Initials