

Coniston Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council
held at the Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm on Monday, 22nd May 2023**

Present: Councillors: T Coward, H Troughton, J Buller, S Atkinson, R McCracken
Clerk: M Dearnley
Members of the Public: Five

Minute Number	PART ONE	Action By
174/2023	<p>Election of a Chair</p> <p>RESOLVED: Councillor Coward was elected to serve as Chair.</p>	
175/2023	<p>Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chair</p> <p>To be completed.</p>	
176/2023	<p>Appointment of a Vice Chair</p> <p>RESOLVED: Councillor Troughton was elected to serve as Vice Chair</p>	
177/2023	<p>Apologies</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the apologies received from Councillor C Sargeant.</p> <p>Councillor Pender was unable to attend the meeting due to the recent loss of her father; the condolences of the Parish Council were extended to her at this trying time.</p>	
178/2023	<p>Requests for Dispensations.</p> <p>None.</p>	
179/2023	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</p> <p>None.</p>	
180/2023	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th April were approved as a true and accurate.</p>	
181/2023	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>There were no reports from Westmorland and Furness Council, the Lake District National Park, National Trust, Cumbria Constabulary, or the Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust. The minutes of the Coniston Institute and Ruskin Museum had been previously circulated.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum.</u> There had been three bank holidays in May and yet overall footfall was lower than expected across the whole of the Lake District. Mr Rutland extended his thanks to the Parish Council for its efforts to ensure the village had a memorable Coronation weekend for both residents and visitors.</p>	

	Mr Rutland reported that he was now the Vice Chair of the Forum and the new Chair was Amy, Bluebird Café.																					
182/2023	<p>Portfolio Holders for local subject areas</p> <p>RESOLVED: for councillors to take a lead on behalf of the Parish Council as per the table below:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Highways & Drainage</td> <td>Councillor Sargeant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing</td> <td>Councillor Troughton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Toilets and Playground</td> <td>Councillor Atkinson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Village Maintenance and Bus Shelters</td> <td>Councillor Atkinson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communications</td> <td>Councillor Buller</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tourism and Business Engagement</td> <td>Councillor Buller</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Climate Change and Environment</td> <td>Councillor McCracken</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Street Lighting</td> <td>Councillor Troughton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Safety/Emergency Planning</td> <td>Councillor Coward</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Car Parking</td> <td>All Councillors</td> </tr> </table>	Highways & Drainage	Councillor Sargeant	Housing	Councillor Troughton	Public Toilets and Playground	Councillor Atkinson	Village Maintenance and Bus Shelters	Councillor Atkinson	Communications	Councillor Buller	Tourism and Business Engagement	Councillor Buller	Climate Change and Environment	Councillor McCracken	Street Lighting	Councillor Troughton	Public Safety/Emergency Planning	Councillor Coward	Car Parking	All Councillors	
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183/2023	<p>Representatives to other bodies</p> <p>RESOLVED: for councillors to represent the Parish Council on other bodies as per the table below:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Coniston Institute and Museum Committee</td> <td>Councillor Sargeant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coniston Water Association</td> <td>Councillor Sargeant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coniston Sports and Social Club</td> <td>Councillor Coward</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Forum</td> <td>Councillor McCracken</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coniston Patient Participation Group</td> <td>Councillor Sargeant</td> </tr> </table>	Coniston Institute and Museum Committee	Councillor Sargeant	Coniston Water Association	Councillor Sargeant	Coniston Sports and Social Club	Councillor Coward	Flood Forum	Councillor McCracken	Coniston Patient Participation Group	Councillor Sargeant											
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184/2023	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Reference: 7/2023/5221 Location: Rosecroft, Lake Road, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8EW Proposal: Loft conversion with front and rear dormers and roof lights to front and rear and with windows at second floor level. French doors to the east elevation</p> <p>RESPONSE: No Objection</p>																					
185/2023	<p>Reference: 7/2023/5283 Location: High Fellside Quarry, Tilberthwaite, Coniston Proposal: Amendment to condition 1 on planning application 7/1998/5572 (Application for determination of updated planning conditions) to extend the working and processing of slate until 2042</p> <p>RESPONSE: No Objection</p>																					
186/2023	<p>NOTED: The refusal of planning permission</p> <p>Reference: 7/2023/5176 Location: Land to West of A593, Park Gate, Coniston Proposal: Erection of local occupancy dwelling and permissive footpath</p>																					

187/2023	<p>NOTED: The grant of planning permission</p> <p>Reference: 7/2022.5774 Location: Shepherds Bridge, Shepherds Bridge Lane, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8AL Proposal: Proposed extension, conversion of workshop / store to annexe and new garage store</p>	
188/2023	<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. • 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. • The Brow Steps had been inspected by the Highways Authority and found not to be immediate need of repair. The clerk to pursue to clarify what threshold the steps need to reach to require repair. 	ALL MD
189/2023	<p>Public Toilet Renovations</p> <p>NOTED: The clerk provided an update regarding the operation of the public toilets.</p>	
190/2023	<p>Climate and Environmental Focus</p> <p>NOTED: A number of issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The newly laid turf by the graveyard looks good, it is hoped that this will establish itself well enough to flower this year. • The letter before action to DEFRA had been responded to providing significant detail regarding the decision making process. The working party will continue and will seek to put pressure for future change. • The clerk is to request Appendix 4 referred to, but missing from, the DEFRA letter. • Due to safety concerns from Westmorland and Furness Council the proposal to establish a bin on the path to Boon Crag at School Beck Bridge has been abandoned. 	
191/2023	<p>King's Coronation</p> <p>The meeting agreed that despite challenging weather on the Bank Holiday Monday the planned celebrations had been a great success and thanks were extended to the very many people who had organised events. Tracy Dearnley, Chris Clarks, and Kaity Troughton were particularly commended for their contribution.</p> <p>The clerk has been asked to liaise with Julian Blatchley, SY Gondola, to rearrange the date and time of the cruise.</p>	
192/2023	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p>Councillor McCracken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is establishing a Coniston Forum to enable residents to raise and discuss 	

	<p>issues in a non-party political and non-attributable basis.</p> <p>Councillor Coward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended her congratulations to Coniston Primary School for that successful OFSTED and SIAMS inspections. <p>Councillor Troughton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that there is no youth club being operated at the Sports and Social Club. Chris Clarke is running one at the Coniston Institute. <p>Councillor Atkinson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents are concerned about incidents of low-level vandalism. They have been asked to report to the police and to get a crime number. This issue requires monitoring. 	
	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>193/2023 RESOLVED: To accept the insurance renewal quote of £1,213.17 with Hiscox Insurance Company from Gallagher's Insurance Brokers for 2022/23</p> <p>194/2023 NOTED: The following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Lakeland District Council (Precept) £11,712.27 NAYAX (income from public toilets) £2,332.34 <p>195/2023 RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jigsaw (Cleaning) £587.57 M Dearnley (Salary) £437.50 M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 M Dearnley (Reimbursement – Bouncy Castle) £244.00 T Dearnley (Reimbursement – materials for Coronation) £105.03 T Coward (Reimbursement – awards) £89.97 Taffy Thomas (Storyteller) £100.00 Thomas Graham (Nappy Bins) £102.00 Southern Electric (DD) £89.81 Southern Electric (DD) £69.92 	
	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>196/2023 To be circulated.</p>	

Minute Number	PART TWO	Action By
	<p>Confidential Business</p> <p>198/2023 RESOLVED: To exclude press and public for discussion of the contract to purchase, install and service the emergency generator.</p>	
	<p>Emergency Planning</p> <p>199/2023 NOTED: The meeting recognised the working group's recommended preferred options to purchase, installation and servicing of an emergency generator.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the working group's recommendation to purchase the generator directly from a supplier, to have it fitted by an experienced local electrician and to take out a contract for routine servicing, repair and</p>	

	<p>maintenance.</p> <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. This group will meet at Bluebird Lodge on Wednesday, 7th June 2023 at 7pm.</p>	
200/2023	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 15th April at the Coniston Institute.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)