

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held at the Reading Room of the Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm on Monday, 15th January 2024

Present: Councillors: T Coward, H Troughton, J Buller, D Adams, and R McCracken
Clerk: M Dearnley
Members of the Public: One person in attendance

Minute Number	PART ONE	Action By
101/2024	<p>Apologies</p> <p>NOTED: None received.</p>	
102/2024	<p>Requests for Dispensations.</p> <p>None.</p>	
103/2024	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</p> <p>None.</p>	
104/2024	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting of 11th December 2023 were approved.</p>	
105/2024	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>None.</p>	
106/2024	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Westmorland and Furness Council: Councillor Pender reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stretches of Hawkshead Road will be re-surfaced. • Road markings 'Slow' on Shepherd's Bridge Lane have not yet been painted. • She is supporting the village's 20mph zone application • The future of Ulverston Library is undecided • She is engaged in casework and regular surgeries • Cumbria Waste sold to private company in the Netherlands for a nominal fee. This is to be queried further. <p><u>Lake District National Park:</u> No report.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum.</u> No report.</p> <p><u>National Trust:</u> No report.</p> <p><u>Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust:</u> No review</p>	

<p>107/2024</p> <p>108/2024</p> <p>109/2024</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Reference: 7/2023/5784 Location: Wetherlam, Haws Bank, Bowmanstead, Coniston, LA21 8AP Proposal: Rear extension at roof level to create sitting room. Work will include roof-lights to main elevation, raising of ridge line in the area of the extension, internal alterations to provide new access to first floor.</p> <p>RESOLVED: No objection</p> <p>NOTED: The following refusal of planning permission</p> <p>Reference: 7/2023/5678 Location: Land adjacent to Brim Fell, Coniston, LA21 8EL Proposal: Two detached three bedroom flood resilient local needs dwelling-houses</p> <p>NOTED: The following notices off enforcement by the Planning Authority</p> <p>E/2020/0140_North - Land to the north of The Boat House, Bank Ground Farm, Coniston</p> <p>E/2020/0140_South - Land to the south of The Boat House, Bank Ground Farm, Coniston</p>	<p>MD</p>
<p>110/2024</p>	<p>Coniston Maintenance, Parking and Highway Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information regarding the need for Westmorland and Furness (W&F) Council to recognise their responsibility for the Brow Steps is to be forwarded on to Alan Harty for his information. There are more potholes than it would be possible to list. All those who have identified them are asked to report them using the online portal. The application for a scheme to introduce a 20mph speed limit on certain roads in the village is being prepared for submission to W&F Council. W&F Council have scheduled the resurfacing of sections of the road to Hawkshead. 	<p>MD</p> <p>ALL MD</p>
<p>111/2024</p>	<p>Public Toilets</p> <p>Due to the seasonal closure of the Parish Council Toilets and the closure of the Lake District National Park's Ruskin Avenue Toilets due to repeated vandalism there were no public toilets in the village over December and January. There was a call from local businesses and residents to open the toilets, however, the Parish Council's toilets are not constructed to be robust enough for all year around opening and the cost of doing so would be prohibitive. The Parish Council's toilets will open in mid-March in time for the Coniston 14 race.</p>	
<p>112/2024</p>	<p>Climate and Environmental Focus</p> <p>The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has requested additional information to support the application for Coniston Water to secure Bathing Water status.</p>	

113/2024	<p>Lake Road Playground</p> <p>The most recent safety inspection report is being reviewed and acted upon to ensure that the equipment is appropriately maintained, however, equipment such as the spinner are proving to be uneconomic to repair and it is to be removed.</p> <p>Mr Coates erected a temporary fence following storms in early December. Although not ideal, it is likely that this will remain in place until the new wall is established in the spring.</p> <p>The clerk is seeking quotes for the design and installation of new playground equipment.</p>	<p>MD/TC</p> <p>MD</p>
114/2024	<p>Climate and Nature Partnership</p> <p>The clerk has been seeking quotes for the work agreed by the Partnership. The single largest quote is for the dry stone wall to replace the fence running alongside Lake Road.</p> <p>Local craftsmen will be approached to identify whether a wishing well can be constructed in an attempt to encourage visitors to contribute to the cost of maintaining a playground.</p> <p>A second meeting off the Partnership will be held before the next Parish Council meeting to firm up plans.</p>	<p>MD</p>
115/2024	<p>Coniston Tourist Information Office</p> <p>The prospect of the closure of the Tourist Information Office (TIC) was MD discussed. The Parish Council believes that the TIC plays a vital role in the parish and will be contacting the Lake District National Park to convey this and to express the hope that it is able to maintain it in some form this season.</p>	
116/2024	<p>Emergency Planning</p> <p>A problem installing the emergency generator has been encountered. The contractor, Speddings Electrical, will liaise with the Sports and Social Club and Hampshire Generators to identify a 'work around' to the problem to make it operational.</p> <p>An additional grant of £1,900 has been secured from the fund established by Electricity North West and administered by the Cumbria Foundation.</p>	
117/2024	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p><u>Councillor Adams</u> mentioned that certain grit bins are not full. Residents will be reminded to report this to the Highways Authority via the portal.</p> <p><u>Councillor McCracken</u> reported that the streetlamp on Broughton Road by the Sacred Heart is dark. This is a particularly sensitive location for the safety of drivers and pedestrians. To be reported to Optech Lighting.</p> <p><u>Councillor Troughton</u> reported the streetlamp at the bottom of the Brow Steps is dark. This will also be reported to Optech Lighting.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>MD</p>

<p>118/2024</p> <p>119/2024</p>	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>NOTED: The following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAYAX (Income from public toilets) £44.09 • Interest £142.02 <p>RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Dearnley (December Salary) £472.50 • T Coates (December Invoice) £243.00 • T Coates (January Invoice) £262.05 • M Dearnley (January Salary) £472.50 • M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 • M Dearnley (Reimbursement: Christmas gifts) £32.50 • S Clarke (Head of Lake Bench) £800.00 • S Clarke (Head of Lake Bench) £160.00 • Coniston Institute (Room Hire) £171.00 • LT Locksmith and Security £168.00 • DD Southern Electric £82.61 	
<p>120/2024</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>No breakdown of correspondence had been circulated</p>	
<p>121/2024</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 19th February 2024 in the Reading Room of the Coniston Institute.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8:53pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)