

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, 18th March 2024

Present: Councillors: T Coward, H Troughton, J Buller, D Adams, S Atkinson, and R McCracken
Clerk: M Dearnley
Members of the Public: One member of the public

Minute Number	PART ONE	Action By
152/2024	Apologies None.	
153/2024	Requests for Dispensations. None.	
154/2024	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items None.	
155/2024	Minutes RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting of 19 th February 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record.	
156/2024	Matters Arising It was agreed that minutes relating to Licensing applications would give more context and explanatory detail to the Parish Council's resolutions, as this paperwork, unlike that relating to planning applications, is not readily accessible.	
157/2024	Public Participation Westmorland and Furness Council: Councillor Pender had provided an update on a wide range of casework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road resurfacing at Hollin Bank/Monk Coniston was suspended due to heavy rain; this is to be rescheduled. Electricity North West have been using 'urgent' road closure mechanisms for non-urgent scheduled work. This has proven difficult for road users and pedestrians alike. Councillor Pender will make representations to the Highways Authority to protest this practice. The stretch of road leading to Atkinson Ground is very poor. This will be relayed to the Highways Authority. Windermere Ferry's winter maintenance programme in April and May is likely to cause disruption. The future development of the X112 bus service is being considered. 	SP SP SP, JB, MD, & others

<p>158/2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Destination Coniston' plan is being developed between Councillor Pender, Coniston Business Forum, Cumbria Tourism and Coniston Parish Council. <p><u>Lake District National Park:</u></p> <p>Simon Hill (LDNPA) indicated that the National Park had contributed to the cost of celebrating Bluebird K7s successful return to the village, and that it is actively supporting the multi-agency bid to secure funding for marketing and the development of the visitor economy. Monk Coniston public conveniences will be open as soon as the new water supply is connected.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum.</u> Amy Dixon provided a brief overview of recent developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been a successful effort made to secure funding to help the parish celebrate the return of Bluebird K7. Donations had been made by the LDNPA, the Coniston 14, and the Westmorland and Furness Unitary Authority. Bunting, banners, children's 'goody' bags etc. were funded to help celebrate the boat's return. This all contributed to the village looking festive for the return. • A large crowd had gathered and their patience was repaid by the sight of Bluebird K7 being brought into the village in procession. • There was widespread media coverage of the event. • The next meeting of the Coniston Business Forum will be on the 17th April 2024. <p><u>National Trust:</u></p> <p>Simon Hill (NT) intends to attend the April meeting and is hopeful that there can be community engagement with many of the projects being undertaken by the National Trust.</p> <p><u>Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust:</u> No report.</p> <p><u>Coniston Institute</u></p> <p>The Clerk to write a letter to the Trustees of the Institute congratulating them on the successful conclusion to their campaign to regain control of Bluebird K7.</p> <p><u>Comments and representations from members of the public</u></p> <p>None.</p>	<p>MD</p>
<p>159/2024</p> <p>160/2024</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5068 Location: Thurston House, Coniston, LA21 8EE Proposal: Removal of a redundant steel fire escape staircase to rear of building and reinstating former window in first floor door opening. RESOLVED: No objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5100 Location: Beck Foot, Haws Bank, Coniston, LA21 8AR Proposal: Replacement domestic garage RESOLVED: Objection</p>	

161/2024	Reference: 7/2024/5112 Location: Long Crag House, Coniston, LA21 8HQ Proposal: Proposed alterations and refurbishment of existing property including addition of air source heat pump RESOLVED: No objection	
162/2024	<u>To note the following grant of planning permission:</u> Reference: 7/2023/5563 Location: Bluebird Cafe, Lake Road, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8AN Proposal: Erection of two single storey extensions and extension of terrace including 2 additional canopy roofs	
163/2024	<u>To note the invitation to comment on Planning Enforcement Appeals:</u> Enforcement number: E/2020/0140 North Area A Enforcement Notice Appeal by: Secretary of The Rawdon-Smith Trust Site: Land to the north of The Boat House, Bank Ground Farm, Coniston RESOLVED: No comment	
164/2024	Enforcement number: E/2020/0140 North Area A Enforcement Notice Appeal by: Mr J Batty & Mr K Batty Site: Land to the north of The Boat House, Bank Ground Farm, Coniston RESOLVED: No comment	
165/2024	Enforcement number: E/2020/0140 South Area A Enforcement Notice Appeal by: Secretary of The Rawdon-Smith Trust Site: Land to the south of The Boat House, Bank Ground Farm, Coniston RESOLVED: No comment	
166/2024	Enforcement number: E/2020/0140 South Area A Enforcement notice appeal by: Mr J Batty & Mr K Batty Site: Land to the south of The Boat House, Bank Ground Farm, Coniston RESOLVED: No comment	
167/2024	Coniston Maintenance, Parking and Highway Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update was provided in relation to the Brow Steps. • The provision of an early service to Ambleside that would enable young people to access education, employment and training outside the immediate area was welcomed. Councillor Buller and others, including Tim Farron MP, had successfully lobbied Stagecoach. • Despite many potholes having been repaired, some are still to be addressed; those on Hawkshead Road were of particular note. 	
168/2024	Public Toilets Tod Coates, Lengthsman, was commended for the work he invested to ensure that the public toilets would be open and looking their best for the return of Bluebird K7.	

169/2024	<p>Climate, Nature and Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of the wildflower area was discussed. The areas are to be scarified and re-seeded • Community Pantry was discussed and options to provide a flexible yet supportive and sensitive service identified. • Bathing Water Status. DEFRA's formal consultation on three sites on Coniston Water has closed. 	
170/2024	<p>Lake Road Playground</p> <p>Two companies that design and install playground equipment have been consulted upon and a third company is to be met soon. These companies have been providing ideas and prospective costs that will contribute to forming the basis of a development plan. The quotes are already being useful in applying for external funding.</p>	MD
171/2024	<p>Climate and Nature Partnership</p> <p>Following receipt of quotes from local wallers the Parish Council and the Climate and Nature Partnership instructed the clerk to engage the services of Steve Allen to construct the dry stone wall/linear habitat at the park.</p> <p>The planting scheme is being designed by Coniston WI; they are being supported by Cumbria Wildlife. A 'bug hotel' and wildlife friendly planting is to be commissioned by the Coniston WI.</p> <p>Other elements off the redevelopment of the site which fall outside the Partnership are progressing, these include a metal gate is being designed and fabricated by Stephen Stalker.</p> <p>Gillian Holmes and Sam Plum, Westmorland and Furness Council, will be visiting the village on the 12th April to discuss the impact of grants made to support the Community Pantry and the Climate and Nature Fund.</p>	MD TC, MD
172/2024	<p>Emergency Planning</p> <p>There will be a meeting to discuss resilience on Thursday, 21st March. Coniston Mountain Rescue, Cumbria Fire and Rescue, Coniston Sports and Social Club and Coniston Parish Council are to meet to discuss progress toward the creation of an Emergency Hub at the Sports and Social Club.</p> <p>An additional £2,000 has been secured from the Cumbria Foundation (ENW Storm Arwen Fund) to provide additional items to support preparedness in Coniston. The clerk will liaise with the group to help direct the eventual spend. A key element is the production of a leaflet alerting people what to do in the event of an emergency – where to go for support, what kind of support can they access, how to contact an emergency response, what they can do to minimise the problems before they arise etc. This should be written, designed, printed and delivered before the onset of poor weather at the end of Autumn 2024.</p>	
173/2024	<p>Councillor Matters</p> <p><u>Councillor McCracken</u> mentioned the Pub Quiz to be held at The Ship in support of the Twinning Association.</p>	

<p>174/2024</p> <p>175/2024</p>	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>To note the following receipts: None</p> <p>To authorise payment of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Coates (March Invoice) £1,176.38 • M Dearnley (March Salary) £558.80 • M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 • M Dearnley (Reimbursement: Community Pantry & Postage) £141.41 • Coniston Sports and Social Centre £23.00 • Optech (streetlamp repairs) £754.80 • Boston Seeds (wildflower seeds) £41.99 • Westmorland & Furness Council (Lotteries Fee) £20.00 • Information Commissioner (DD) £40.00 • Tracy Dearnley (Reimbursement: Union Jack Hand Flags) £31.81 • Coniston Cricket Club (Cricket Sponsorship) £100.00 • Mark Callum (repair to Campbell Memorial) £50.00 • Coniston Business Forum (Bluebird K7 celebrations) £1,000.00 	
<p>176/2024</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>No breakdown of correspondence had been circulated</p>	
<p>177/2024</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 15th April 2024 in the Reading Room of the Coniston Institute.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8:36pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)