

Coniston Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Coniston Parish Council held at the Reading Room of the Coniston Institute, Coniston at 7pm, Monday, 20th May 2024

Present: Councillors: T Coward, J Buller, R McCracken
 Clerk: M Dearnley
 Members of the Public: Lian Dixon, Libby Lea, Heather Troughton, Councillor
 Suzanne Pender, and Phil Johnston

Minute Number		Action By
204/2024	<p>Election of a Chair</p> <p>RESOLVED: Councillor Coward was elected to serve as Chair.</p>	
205/2024	<p>Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chair</p> <p>Received.</p>	
206/2024	<p>Election of a Vice Chair</p> <p>RESOLVED: Councillor Buller was elected to serve as Vice Chair.</p>	
207/2024	<p>Apologies</p> <p>RESOLVED: None received.</p>	
208/2024	<p>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items</p> <p>None.</p>	
209/2024	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None</p>	
210/2024	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting of 15th April 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	
211/2024	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Councillor Coward took the opportunity to thank Heather Troughton for her ten years service as parish councillor, her commitment to the work of the parish council and her contribution to the wider life of the whole community.</p> <p>Heather responded that she had found her years as parish councillor both enjoyable and satisfying, having been able to see through a number of major initiatives.</p>	

<p>212/2024</p> <p>213/2024</p> <p>214/2024</p> <p>215/2024</p>	<p>Co-option of new councillors and related matters</p> <p>RESOLVED: To confirm Lian Dixon as a parish councillor until the next scheduled elections.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To confirm Libby Lea as a parish councillor until the next scheduled elections.</p> <p>RESOLVED: the Declarations of Office of all councillors were signed and returned to the Proper Officer.</p> <p>NOTED: Parish Councillors were asked to complete and return their Register of Interest forms within the statutory timeframe.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>216/2024</p> <p>217/2024</p>	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Westmorland and Furness Council: Councillor Pender had provided an update on a wide range of casework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a meeting to discuss Bathing Water Status with the Environment Agency on Friday, 24th May in the Reading Room. All councillors are invited. • Ulverston Library. There will be a Members' Briefing, further information be circulated to councillors. • Highways -areas of concern include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How they approve road repairs by various utilities to minimise traffic disruption • Road resurfacing on Hawkshead Road at Hollin Bank/Monk Coniston is being undertaken. • M6 upgrade will have some disruption, more information to follow • Windermere Ferry is to reopen on Friday, 24th May. • Bowness to Ash Landing will retain its passenger ferry. • Issue of too many public events and the need for a cumulative risk assessment following the road traffic disruption at Skelwith and Great Langdale caused, in part, by the approval of 77 events in the Lake District on one day. <p>Lake District National Park: Simon Hill reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new jetty at the Boating Centre is progressing well • There had been unlawful and reckless parking along Lake Road during recent good weather that had attracted large visitors to the village. • The temporary car park, which is allowed to open for 28 days per year, will be opening soon to alleviate some of the car parking difficulties. • The pilot scheme to provide waste bins at Monk Coniston car park throughout the month of May has been delayed. Cumbria Waste have been engaged to provide professional services. <p><u>Coniston Business Forum:</u> No report</p> <p><u>Coniston and Torver Community Land Trust:</u> No report.</p> <p>Comments and representations from members of the public</p> <p>None</p>	

228/2024	NOTED: The meeting heard the background and timetable for the consultation on the proposed 20mph zone in the village centre.	
229/2024	Church Beck Bridge Public Toilets NOTED: There is an ongoing issue with the Gents locking mechanism, which has not been working since the toilets reopened in March. Despite assurances that Healthmatic have committed to making a repair free of charge this will remain a matter under review until the outstanding issues have been addressed.	
230/2024	Climate, Nature and Community NOTED: An update was provided on Coniston Water's Designated Bathing Water Status. The award of designation has already attracted capital investment by United Utilities in its water treatment facilities.	MD
231/2024	NOTED: The clerk reported on positive discussions held by with Scott McLaughlin, Westmorland and Furness Council regarding the audit and review of streetlamp provision and maintenance.	
232/2024	NOTED: The clerk reported on the progress that has been made in relation to the Household Support Grant and the proposed application for this year's grant.	
233/2024	NOTED: A range of issues including the wildflower areas. The clerk to ask churchwardens whether it would be possible to erect a temporary fence around the wildflowers outside the graveyard in order to provide them with additional protection.	
234/2024	Lake Road Playground and the Climate and Nature Partnership The clerk reported on progress toward the interconnected schemes to develop the playground area and to develop the site to support the diversification of natural habitats.	
235/2024	Emergency Planning NOTED: At a recent meeting, the Parish Council committed to recruiting volunteers who would be able to support the Resilience Hub in times of need. Councillor Coward to advertise on Facebook.	TC
236/2024	Destination Coniston NOTED: The clerk and Cllr Pender reported on the progress made in relation to the development of a vision for Coniston.	
237/2024	NOTED: Core elements in developing a marketing strategy for Coniston include: tear off maps, village maps/signage to direct visitors, enhanced signage, a range off walks for all abilities to link visitors to attractions that may be outside the village e.g. Brantwood.	
238/2024	Councillor Matters Councillor Lea: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hedge opposite The Crown is causing an obstruction to the 	

	<p>pavement. Clerk to contact Housing Association.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hedge belonging to a property on Collingwood Close is also impeding the pavement. <p>Councillor Troughton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mares Tail, an invasive plant, is infesting properties on Collingwood Close. The Clerk to contact Highways and Westmorland and Furness Council to identify a course of action. 	<p>MD</p> <p>MD</p> <p>MD</p>
	Financial Matters	
239/2024	RESOLVED: To approve the insurance renewal quote of £ £1,321.49 with Hiscox Insurance Company from Gallagher's Insurance Brokers for 2023/24.	
240/2024	NOTED: The following receipts:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westmorland & Furness Council (Precept) £23,736.00 Westmorland & Furness Council (Supplementary Grant) £807.53 Westmorland & Furness Council (Climate and Nature Partnership additional grant) £3,000.00 NAYAX (income from public toilets) £70.25 HMRC (VAT refund) £3,617.26 	
241/2024	RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the following accounts:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T Coates (May Invoice) £748.74 M Dearnley (May Salary) £558.80 M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 M Dearnley (Reimbursement) £126.40 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Pantry £77.95 Stationery £4.75 Stamps £28.40 Gift for Cllr Atkinson £15.30 M Dearnley (Reimbursement: Greeting Cards) £20.00 DM Payroll Services £120.00 Southern Electric (DD) £92.76 Southern Electric (DD) £85.56 Water Plus (DD) £113.73 	
242/2024	RESOLVED: to authorise an additional meeting on 3 rd June 2024 to focus on finance matters.	
243/2024	Correspondence	
	No breakdown of correspondence had been circulated	
244/2024	Next Meeting	
	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 6:30pm on Monday, 3 rd June 2024 in the Reading Room of the Coniston Institute.	

The meeting closed at 9:17pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)