

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, 20th January 2025

Present: Councillors: T Coward, J Buller, L Dixon, D Adams, R McCracken, and J Butcher
Clerk: M Dearnley
Others: UA Cllr S Pender, Carol Barr (ACT) and three members of the public

Minute Number		Action By
101/2025	Apologies AGREED: To accept the apology submitted by Councillor Lea.	
102/2025	Requests for Dispensations. RESOLVED: To accept Cllr Dixon's request for dispensation in relation to Item 7.1 (7 Collingwood Close)	
103/2025	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items None.	
104/2025	Minutes AGREED: The minutes of the meeting held on 9 th December were accepted as a true and accurate record after adjusting to clarify Cllr McCracken's comments at the previous meeting.	
105/2025	Matters Arising None.	
106/2025	Public Participation Cllr Pender reported via Microsoft Teams. She highlighted a number of issues being dealt with by Westmorland and Furness Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Devolution Priority Programme and how this might improve or otherwise impact on strategic planning for Westmorland and Furness and Cumberland Councils,• The recent meeting with Electricity North West and other stakeholders to discuss future developments and emergency planning,• The X112 bus service• The 20mph consultation is being presented to Members in January 2025.• The Lake District National Park work with stakeholders to develop a visitor management plan for Little Langdale and Stang End. Cllr Butcher will represent Coniston Parish Council• Water quality issues will be discussed in more detail at the meeting hosted by the Environment Agency on Thursday, 23rd January.	

107/2025	<p><u>Lake District National Park:</u> No report.</p> <p><u>National Trust:</u> No report.</p> <p><u>Coniston Business Forum:</u> It was reported that the Chair of the Business Forum stated that the Forum is committed to the improvement of water quality in Coniston Water, however, she was disappointed that the impact on local businesses has failed to feature in the planning undertaken by the Bathing Water Status group. She looks forward to working as part of a broad coalition to take this and other matters forward.</p> <p>Comments or Representations from members of the public in relation to any item on the agenda.</p> <p>Members of the public discussed several of the planning applications presented before the meeting.</p>	
108/2025	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5503 Location: Low Bank Ground Outdoor Centre, Coniston, LA21 8AA Proposal: Provision of new external standby generator within fenced compound area RESOLVED: No Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5632 Location: Low Bank Ground Adventure Centre, Coniston, LA21 8AA Proposal: New Jetty RESOLVED: No Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5678 Location: The Coniston Inn, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8AJ Proposal: Proposed patio extension RESOLVED: No Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5409 Location: The Coniston Inn, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8AJ Proposal: Replacement jetty for passenger vessel service on Coniston Water RESPOND: No Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5605 Location: 7, Collingwood Close, Coniston, LA21 8DZ Proposal: To create a level access from the sunroom with a raised patio/decking, a new 1.1m balustrade will be provided at the edge and to raise the height of the fence to approximately 2m above the new patio/decked area RESOLVED: No Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5703 Location: Esk Villa, Tilberthwaite Avenue, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8ED Proposal: Change of Use of part ground floor from cafe to ancillary residential accommodation plus ancillary works.</p>	

	<p>RESOLVED: Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5705 Location: Barn House, Silverbank, Coniston, LA21 8HW Proposal: Proposed pentise roof canopy RESOLVED: No Objection</p> <p>Reference: 7/2025/5003 Location: Bluebird Cafe, Lake Road, Coniston, LA21 8AN Proposal: Approval of details reserved by condition no. 4 (renewable and low carbon energy sources) on planning permission 7/2023/5563 (Erection of two single storey extensions and extension of terrace including two additional canopy roofs) RESOLVED: Non required – not for public consultation.</p>	
109/2025	<p>NOTED: The following notices of grants of planning permission:</p> <p>Reference: 7/2024/5528 Location: 4 Beck Yeat, Coniston, LA21 8HT Proposal: Extensions and alterations to an existing dwelling</p>	
110/2025	<p>NOTED: The withdrawal of an application for planning permission:</p> <p>Reference: 7/2023/5482 Location: Low Bank Activity Centre, Coniston, LA21 8AA Proposal: Amendment to design for jetty, condition 2 (plans) on planning permission 7/2023/5109 for replacement jetty</p>	
111/2025	<p>Lake Road Playground and the Climate and Nature Partnership</p> <p>Future work at the Playground is scheduled for the early spring when raised beds and bug hotel will be installed.</p> <p>The Clerk and Vice President of the Women's Institute met with an officer of Cumbria Wildlife to explore opportunities for funding to support opportunities for the development of areas in the village to enhance habitats by planting pollinators.</p>	
112/2025	<p>Church Beck Bridge Public Toilets</p> <p>The roof had been repaired. The toilets will remain closed until mid-March.</p>	
113/2025	<p>Highways, Parking, Maintenance, and Lengthsman Issues</p> <p>A range of issues relating to highways were reported, these include flooding around Hilltop, overhanging branches and blocked drains.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To support the proposed adjustment to the Right of Way at Heathwaite Farm.</p>	
114/2025	<p>Climate, Nature and Community</p> <p>The Environment Agency has convened a meeting to discuss the way forward in relation to testing and the need to investigate and improve water quality.</p>	

115/2025	Coniston Neighbourhood Plan Carole Barr, Planning, and Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT), addressed the meeting in relation to Neighbourhood Planning. Those Members who are taking a lead on Neighbourhood Planning will make contact with Carole when the Parish Council is closer to beginning the processes. The Lake District National Park has offered to speak with the Parish Council in relation to the review of their Local Plan and how the review of the Neighbourhood Plan will complement this.	
116/2024	Parish Benches The Clerk had contacted the Raven family regarding the benches donated by their family. They are happy for the Parish Council to undertake any necessary repairs. The Lengthsman has provided costings for the essential repairs to the most damaged benches. The Clerk will liaise with him to commission repairs. One bench is being repaired at the expense of a member of the public who has commissioned Rob Jones to undertake the repair.	
117/2025	Emergency Planning The Chair has prepared the draft Emergency Plan, this and the second draft of the Emergency Preparedness Leaflet will be tabled for the next meeting of the Emergency Planning Group. It is expected that there will be a print run before the next meeting in preparation for distribution around the parish.	
118/2024	Councillor Matters Councillor Coward mentioned that she had been approached by a resident in Torver who would like to raise the issue of a planning application at the Priestly Centre, Torver.	
119/2025	Financial Matters NOTED: The following receipts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Westmorland and Furness Household Support Fund £1,000.00 ▪ NAYAX (Public Toilets) £52.64 ▪ Bank Interest £237.24 	
120/2025	RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the following accounts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ M Dearnley (Clerk) £558.80 ▪ M Dearnley (Home Working Allowance) £20.00 ▪ BW General Building (Toilet Block roof repair) £216.00 ▪ Coniston Parochial Church Council (Wreath) £25.00 ▪ WJ Carpenter (Cumbria Laser Art – playground signs) £80.00 ▪ Teknik Computers (spare laptop – repair and recovery) £112.50 ▪ SSE Energy (Streetlighting – Direct Debit) £82.81 	
121/2025	RESOLVED: To set the budget and precept at a rate that would maintain the average Council Tax demand at the same rate as 2024/25.	

122/2025	RESOLVED: To donate £100 toward the Cumbria Community Foundation’s Cumbria Winter Warmth Appeal.				
123/2025	Consultations, Campaigns and Surveys None.				
124/2025	HR Sub-Committee RESOLVED: To accept the nationally negotiated pay agreement backdated to 1 st April 2024 RESOLVED: To award the Clerk a pay increase of two spinal points with effect from 20 th January 2025.				
124/2025	Dates of Parish Council Meetings 2025 RESOLVED: The following meeting dates were agreed: 17 th February, 17 th March, 21 st April, 19 th May, 16 th June, 21 st July, 18 th August, 15 th September, 20 th October, 17 th November, and 15 th December.				
126/2025	Correspondence <table><tr><td>Westmorland and Furness Council</td><td>NEWS RELEASE: Enjoy FREE festive parking across Westmorland and Furness NEWS RELEASE: Participation up for popular parkrun after new path opens. NEWS RELEASE: Cumbria Economic Summit success NEWS RELEASE: Further investigation work on damaged footway NEWS RELEASE: Clearance work under way at Marina Village site Storm Darragh - Advice for communities NEWS RELEASE: Businesses beat the Christmas rush with better broadband. Bus Service Improvement Plan - outcome of Tender process NEWS RELEASE: New Energy-efficient LED lighting installed at Westmorland Shopping Centre Multi-Storey Car Park NEWS RELEASE: twenty council-funded bus services to hit the road next year. NEWS RELEASE: Public drop-in to support Kirkby Lonsdale community. NEWS RELEASE: Veterans gather at town hall for festive thank you. News release: Help us design the best future for Penrith Castle Park NEWS RELEASE: Barrow cemetery awarded listed status. Winter Climate and Nature newsletter is here! Merry Christmas from our Chairman at Westmorland and Furness Council News release: Councils launch new Adult Learning courses.</td></tr></table>		Westmorland and Furness Council	NEWS RELEASE: Enjoy FREE festive parking across Westmorland and Furness NEWS RELEASE: Participation up for popular parkrun after new path opens. NEWS RELEASE: Cumbria Economic Summit success NEWS RELEASE: Further investigation work on damaged footway NEWS RELEASE: Clearance work under way at Marina Village site Storm Darragh - Advice for communities NEWS RELEASE: Businesses beat the Christmas rush with better broadband. Bus Service Improvement Plan - outcome of Tender process NEWS RELEASE: New Energy-efficient LED lighting installed at Westmorland Shopping Centre Multi-Storey Car Park NEWS RELEASE: twenty council-funded bus services to hit the road next year. NEWS RELEASE: Public drop-in to support Kirkby Lonsdale community. NEWS RELEASE: Veterans gather at town hall for festive thank you. News release: Help us design the best future for Penrith Castle Park NEWS RELEASE: Barrow cemetery awarded listed status. Winter Climate and Nature newsletter is here! Merry Christmas from our Chairman at Westmorland and Furness Council News release: Councils launch new Adult Learning courses.	
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		<p>NEWS RELEASE: Westmorland and Furness Council protects frontline services and seeks views on funding the future.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Funding recommendation to support Barrow town centre rejuvenation.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Westmorland and Furness Council's opening hours for the festive period</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Historic Market Hall closes for revitalisation work.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Council's new cycling path on track to open in Spring 2025</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Dock Museum prepares for essential maintenance.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Hundreds of young people and their families supported by education travel grants</p> <p>Amber weather warning advice</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Hopes are high that housing renewal project will be catalyst for long-lasting change.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Community grant unlocks residents' passion for Pickleball.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Council expand support for people to quit smoking.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Kirkby Lonsdale meeting to focus on recovery.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Councils agree to join Government's Devolution journey.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Council issues advice for staying well as cold weather continues.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Council launches surveys to help shape future of library services.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Last few days to have your say – Deadline reminder as hundreds share views on Council Tax proposals.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Temporary library service to open in Barrow.</p> <p>Temporary Road Closure: C5006 Coniston – 29th January 2025</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Cabinet set to make decision on Marina Village remediation contract.</p> <p>NEWS RELEASE: Council seeks input on potential Circular Economy Hub</p>	
	Lake District National Park	<p>Cancellation of Grizedale Stages Rally 7 December 2024 due to severe weather.</p> <p>Changes to the Housing Supplementary Planning Document</p>	
	CALC (Cumbria Assoc. Local Councils)	<p>RECORDING: Westmorland & Furness Council's Branch Event - Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure – How can your Council get involved!</p> <p>A595 Grizebeck Improvement Scheme - HGV Restriction</p> <p>Christmas 2024</p> <p>Training January - July 2025</p> <p>CALC News: September and October</p>	

	Cumbria Constabulary	November 2024 - Lakes and Lakes Rural November 2024: Ulverston, Low Furness, High Furness & Grange Fraud Prevention Newsletter - December 2024 Tips to stay safe this festive season. Cumbria Police Rural Crime Team - 2024 Roundup December 2024 - Ulverston, Low Furness, High Furness & Grange December 2024 - Lakes and Lakes Rural Fraud Prevention Newsletter - January 2025
	The Flood Hub	Various
	The Rural Bulletin	3 rd December 10 th December, 17 th December, 7 th January, 14 th January
	Rural Funding Digest	December Bulletin, January Bulletin
	Mr J Matthews	Notification of cycling event - Glorious Gravel - 28/06/25
	Mr M Braithwaite	Dow How
	Mr R Harris, Friends of the X112	Bus Service Update, December 2024
	Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Cumbria Local Nature Partnership News
	Hawkshead Parish Council	Draft Minutes (19.11.24), Agenda 17.12.24 Draft Minutes (17.12.24), Agenda 21.1.24
	Environment Agency	Love Windermere Partnership Information Evening - 9 December
	Lakes Parish Council	Full Council Agenda 18 th December
	South Lakes Area Support	Trading Standards - 12 scams of Christmas Police Fire Crime Commissioner Property Fund
	Cumbria Community Foundation	December Newsletter
	Coniston Mountain Rescue Team	Letter of thanks for the donation approved at the December meeting.
	Cllr Suzanne Pender	Electricity resilience in Coniston and Hawkshead Notice of Windermere Ferry Maintenance
	Torver Parish Council	Agenda 9 th January, Draft Minutes 9 th January Temporary Road Closure: A593 Hollow West, Torver – 23 rd January
	Tilberthwaite Partnership Management Group	On-line Meeting 4 th December
127/2025	Next Meeting The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday, 17 th February 2025 in the Reading Room of the Coniston Institute.	

The meeting closed at 9:10pm

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Date

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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