



WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Representing the interests of the communities of Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge

Minutes of the Meeting

29th July 2015 at 7.00pm, The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p>Present: Cllrs Mr L Hallatsch (in the Chair), Mr W F Smith, Mr A Legge, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Mr P Jewell, Miss K Atkinson, Mr J Saunders, Mrs G Nicholson, Mrs J Borer Also: Julie Wright (Town Clerk) and 2 members of the public. The meeting opened at 7.00pm.</p>
77.	<p>Apologies and absence: Apologies: Councillors Mr A Winrow, Mrs S Lilley, Mr I Telford, Mr M Stafford, District Cllrs Ben Berry, Dyan Jones, D Williams.</p>
78.	<p>Minutes: It was resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 15th July 2015 be signed as a true and accurate record.</p>
79.	<p>Declarations of Interest: NONE</p>
80.	<p>Requests for Dispensations: NONE</p>
81.	<p>Public Input: NONE</p>
82.	<p>Mayor & Member Announcements: <u>Cllr John Saunders:</u> With Cllr Bill Smith, met consultants from SLDC about Town Centre WiFi in Windermere & Bowness. The consultants are speaking to various parishes to establish if it would be of benefit to the locality and work through some of the practicalities of installation. The WiFi would be operated by a 3rd party, free of charge, provided there was a worthwhile business case, with a contract of exclusivity of up to 2 years. The Town and District Council would need to provide Street furniture to mount equipment on (street lighting etc). Very small equipment. Free to install and to use. The third party makes profit out of advertising. There is a good business case for this area given tourism numbers. Councillors agreed that this is a good project to pursue further. The Clerk will send a letter from the Town Council to support the idea and why - a few bullet points. There should be further information in September. There is potential financial advantage to SLDC on assets owned by them, so it is important to pursue how the Town Council could take a proportion of the financial advantage. The following bullet points were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General support from the Town Council.• Town Council prepared to discuss use some of its infrastructure.• Some very tangible benefits to Windermere & Bowness, given the size of the tourist economy.• It is a good project in terms of civic pride.• Local business advantage if local advertising is part of the deal.

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	<p>Points were made by Councillors about the ownership of information and advertising and there was a brief discussion of these issues.</p> <p><u>Cllr Lisa Greasley:</u> A meeting was held today with the consultant appointed by SLDC to review the current Grounds Maintenance contract and future possibilities. The meeting was also attended by Cllr Saunders and the Clerk. Various issues were discussed which the consultant will take back to SLDC but there was nothing discussed which has not already been aired, particularly the issues around the frequency of grass and border cutting and the poor communications between SLDC and localities. The review is being conducted in the context of very significant budget cuts in grounds maintenance (£125k by Year 3 on a £700k budget). The contract is up for renewal in 2 years. The consultant will send a copy of the report to the Town Council.</p> <p><u>Cllr Adrian Legge:</u> Reported back on discussions with LDNPA about Phase 2 of the Carriage Drive project on Orrest Head, as agreed at the last Town Council meeting. It is quite clear that it is not possible to complete Phase 2 at the same time as Phase 1, due to budgets and the way in which funding is structured, as well as the need to obtain specific planning permission for phase 2. The LDNPA still plan to proceed with phase 1 this Autumn.</p> <p><u>Cllr Jenny Borer:</u> Reported back on reading of Lakes Line User Group information. Lots of positives at the moment. The electrification of the line is still going ahead. There will be survey details in the next bulletin. Cllr Borer will keep us informed. Also, Cllr Borer wanted to point out how well managed the work had been at the bottom end of Birthwaite Rd, changing the direction of surface water drainage. It was agreed that the Clerk should send a letter of appreciation to the County Council, passing on thanks to the contractors.</p> <p><u>Cllr Leith Hallatsch:</u> Had arrived at the Lakes School Triathlon to represent the Council but the event had to be cancelled, due to the bad weather.</p> <p><u>Cllr K Atkinson:</u> Attended the performance at the bandstand on Saturday. Unfortunately, the weather was very poor and the performance affected.</p> <p><u>Cllr Bill Smith:</u> Reported on changes being made to Windermere meals, which is delivered by the Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust. The meals are now being produced by Windermere School and the quality is excellent. The main problem now is with obtaining enough volunteers to deliver meals.</p> <p><u>Cllr S Lilley:</u> Provided a written report, updating Councillors on Windermere in Bloom and the Connectivity project. Councillors requested a fuller report on Windermere in Bloom from Cllr Lilley at the next meeting.</p>
83.	<p>District & County Councillors' reports: None in attendance.</p>
84.	<p>Report from the 20mph Advisory Group: The written report was presented, which identifies some potential areas in Windermere & Bowness where it may be appropriate to eventually introduce 20MPH zones. Zones are probably preferable to individual roads, due to the needs and cost of signage at entry points. At present, these are very general recommendations that have not yet been consulted on or discussed with the authorities. Feedback was sought from Council as to whether or not to move on further and do more work.</p>

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	<p>Councillors were very supportive of findings so far and requested the group to continue the work into the next phase, which will be to speak to residents, businesses and other groups affected, including Cumbria Highways.</p>
85.	<p>Clerk's Report: The Clerk's report was accepted as written. The clerk added the following information verbally: Walking with the Wounded - a group will be coming through Windermere on 15th September and have asked if it is possible to be received by the Mayor at the War Memorial. The Mayor has agreed to do this and it was also agreed that the Clerk will contact other local organisations to obtain support and ensure the event is advertised in the local press. Cumbria CVS - South Lakeland Community News. CALC - Good Councillor Training at 6 - 8pm at Penrith Library on September 15th. CALC Executive Committee - Minutes from the meeting on 27th June 2015. ACT: Invite to the AGM to be held on 11th September 2015. SLDC - reminder about the 2015 canvass to register voters - Clerk has arranged for this to be advertised locally. SLDC - a reminder that all Councillors must ensure their declarations of interest are up to date. SLDC - a scoping document for a consultancy project to look at the local economy in Windermere & Bowness (associated with the possible Futures Board). Canada - a wheelchair donated to Columbia in the name of the Mayor of Windermere & Bowness by a Canadian couple who love the Lake District.</p>
86.	<p>Finance: The Clerk presented the findings of the External Auditors, BDO. The Council's Accounts have been returned without amendment and no issues are arising. The audited accounts were duly authorised.</p>
87.	<p>Councillors Issues: The following decisions were made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Cllr Grania Nicholson was nominated as a trustee of Goodly Dale Cottage Homes, replacing Cllr Sandra Lilley.It was agreed not to nominate a Council representative or to attend the future CLLAP meetings.The application for co-option of Sue Bloy to the Council was approved.
88.	<p>Motion from Cllr Peter Jewell: Hedgehog Conservation: "I would like Windermere Town Council to consider taking local action to assist with hedgehog conservation - an important milestone in the relationship between human beings and the world we share. This could be small measures on land owned by the Council (eg Elleray Woods) or working with larger organisations like the National Park, to encourage better knowledge and advertising as to what actions will work well and help preserve the hedgehog. Also to organise and facilitate two-way communication with other Town Councils</p>

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	<p>and Parish Councils.”</p> <p>Councillor Jewell introduced his motion, which drew attention to the very significant decline in hedgehog numbers over the last few decades, from 40m to approx 800k. The key to preserving hedgehogs is to preserve their eco system and food supplies. Hedgehogs thrive in urban areas, especially around allotments and gardens. Cllr Jewell called upon the Town Council to take action locally, where possible, but also to use the local network of town and parish councils to exchange and provide information and education. The motion was seconded by Cllr Jenny Borer.</p> <p>There was a full discussion amongst Councillors, which highlighted the need to extend support for all wildlife in our area, not just the hedgehog. Many Councillors felt that wildlife conservation should be encouraged in Elleray Woods. There were concerns that, the way in which the motion is currently written, sounds more like the personal opinion of a town councillor than the views of the wider range of residents in the area. The following amended motion was proposed:</p> <p>“The Town Council supports wildlife conservation and will take action on land and property owned by the Town Council. The Town Council will support and liaise with other organizations that are taking similar action in our area.”</p> <p>7 councillors voted in favour of the amendment, with 1 abstention and 1 against. A vote was then taken on this amendment as the substantive motion. There was a unanimous vote in favour.</p> <p>The Town Council therefore supported Cllr Jewell to approach local organisations and Councillors on the subject of wildlife conservation.</p> <p>It was also agreed that this subject would be added to a future Elleray Woods agenda.</p>
89.	<p>Planning Applications:</p> <p>The following recommendations were made:</p> <p>7/2015/5300: Bowfell, Langrigge Drive, Windermere: Extension & Alterations: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>7/2015/5330: 8 Brantfell House, Brantfell Rd, Bowness: Re-plan accommodation. Alterations to window openings and new windows. Extension and balcony to SE elevation. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>7/2015/5389: 21 Victoria Street, Windermere. Change of use to A4 (drinking establishment). NO COMMENT.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to point out to the LDNPA that the Town Council regret the fact that this property is not being reverted to a domestic residence. Councillors also asked to be kept informed about the process of the licencing application and any objections locally.</p> <p>7/2015/5390: 21 Victoria Street, Windermere. Proposed signage.</p>

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	RECOMMEND APPROVAL
90.	Tree Works The three tree works on the agenda were noted.
91.	Notice of Intention (Barclays Bank change of use of part of 1st floor from office to residential): This item was noted.
92.	Highways Act: Adoption of development at Brantfell Place: This was noted.
93.	Planning Decisions (for information only) The planning decisions as set out on the agenda were noted.
94.	Dates of Next Meetings: Wednesday 12 th August 2015: Full Council Wednesday 16 th September 2015: Full Council. Wednesday 30 th September 2015: Full Council (lighter agenda)
	The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

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