



# WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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

## ANNUAL REPORT OF WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL 2013/14

Windermere Town Council has 20 seats representing 4 wards, Applethwaite, Bowness North, Bowness South and Windermere Town. It serves approximately 8360 residents over 3730 households.

The current Councillors are:

Mr Allan Winrow (Mayor)	Bowness South Ward
Miss Kathleen Atkinson (Deputy Mayor)	Bowness South Ward
Miss Amanda Davies (co-opted Dec 2013)	Bowness South Ward
Mrs Joan Stocker	Applethwaite Ward
Mrs Jennifer Borer	Applethwaite Ward
Mr Colin Jones	Windermere Town Ward
Mrs Lisa Greasley	Windermere Town Ward
Mr Leith Hallatsch	Bowness South Ward
Mrs Penny Henderson	Windermere Town Ward
Mrs Jennifer Jewell	Bowness North Ward
Dr Robert Judson	Applethwaite Ward
Mr Adrian Legge	Bowness North Ward
Ms Sandra Lilley	Bowness South Ward
Mr Alan Marsh	Windermere Town Ward
Mr John Saunders	Bowness North Ward
Mr Bill Smith	Applethwaite Ward
Mr Mike Stafford	Windermere Town Ward
Ms Susan K Wales	Bowness North Ward

(Mr Jo Stephenson resigned as a town councillor in May 2013).

We currently have 2 vacancies, one in Bowness South Ward and one in Applethwaite Ward. The Town Council is non political and would welcome applications from people interested in making a difference and contributing to their community. Application forms are available from the Town Clerk (details below) or via the website.

The council meets every second Wednesday and every fourth Monday of the month in The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere at 7pm, with public participation being welcomed at all meetings. The Police, District Councillors and County Councillors are also invited to speak at meetings.

The Council currently employs a Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, Jane Saunders, and has contracts for services with its Town Steward, Gary Hancox, and its Finance Officer, Julie Wright.

The council seeks to represent to the best of its ability the interests of the communities of Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge.

### **The work of the council**

The Council held 17 Ordinary meetings and 3 Planning Committee meetings in 2013/14. All Council members are summoned to attend all meetings. However, the twice monthly meetings have been only part of the Council's work. Members are also involved in Advisory Groups such as

Council members represent the Council on a range of external bodies (see 'Representation on other bodies' below).

The following are some highlights of the Council's work in 2013/14:

- Continuing to supporting the provision of 8 public toilets, in conjunction with Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust.
- Windermere in Bloom Advisory Group - entry into Cumbria in Bloom & Britain in Bloom.
- The Orrest Head and Elleray Wood Advisory Group, with help from the Town Steward, is implementing a long term woodland management plan.
- Orrest Drive Allotments - 14 plots under cultivation.
- Work with the Lake District National Park in supporting and co-ordinating the Winderclean event in May each year.
- Development and expansion of Council website, [www.windermere-tc.gov.uk](http://www.windermere-tc.gov.uk). Agendas and minutes, the Community Plan, application forms for co-option to council, grant application forms and information are all currently available to view or download.
- Obtaining approval and funding for Goodly Dale bus shelter (by the Sheriff's Walk entrance).
- Footpath Improvement Project at Sheriff's Walk (in collaboration with Cumbria County Council).
- Bench Project – refurbishment of benches in our area.
- Listening to visiting speakers from organisations including Lake District National Park Authority (Policy Planning), South Cumbria Rivers Trust, Cumbria Tourism/Go Lakes Travel, Bowness & Windermere FairTrade Group, Windermere Area First Responders, Windermere Lake User Forum and Another Space.
- Considering and responding to a range of LDNPA and SLDC consultations.
- Supporting the community newsletter The Hub.

### **Representation on other bodies**

The Town Council has been represented on the following bodies:-

The Lake Administration Committee

Windermere Ferry Advisory Panel (now closed)

Policy and Finance Advisory Group

Windermere in Bloom Advisory Group

Winderclean

Orrest Head and Elleray Wood Advisory Group

Windermere Community Plan Working Party

Central Lakes Local Area Partnership

Cumbria Association of Local Councils

Lakes Line User Group

Windermere Youth Project

Ladyholme Community Centre

Cumbria Rural Citizens Advice Bureau

Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust

Bowness and Windermere Chamber of Trade

Langrigge Play Area Advisory Group

The Marchesi Centre

The Fairtrade Committee

The Hub

Windermere Endowed Schools Foundation

Windermere Community Safety Partnership

Goodly Dale Cottage Homes

Allotments Advisory Group

Lakes Line Community Rail Partnership

St Mary's Surgery Patient Group

Windermere Marine Aviation Heritage Group

In 2012/13, it cost £220,000 to run the Town Council. Audited accounts are available for inspection by appointment with the Town Clerk.

In 2013/14, the Town Council's total expenditure was £153,207.00. The decrease in expenditure is mainly due to reduced payments to meet the costs of the public toilets, and one-off expenditure on projects such as the toilets, allotments and Elleray Wood road repairs in the previous year. The Council's Income & Expenditure Account for 2013/14 is attached. NB These are un-audited figures for the financial year to 31 March 2014.

### **Funding Secured for Windermere Town Council**

During the course of the year, the Council received the following funding:-

Windermere in Bloom Sponsorship (local businesses) £670.00  
Bench Project (Impact International, United Utilities and Cumbria County Council) £1,640.00  
Sheriff's Walk Footpath Improvement Project (United Utilities) £500.00  
Goodly Dale bus shelter (Cumbria County Council) £4,000.00  
Toilet Grant (SLDC) £32,000.00

### **Grants to local bodies**

In 2013/14, the following grants totalling £6032.32 were awarded to local organisations/community groups from the Council's Donations/Grants and Community Youth Projects budgets:-

Another Space Ltd £782.00  
Kendal Concert Band £100.00  
Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust £250.32  
Police (Football project) £150.00  
Royal British Legion £50.00  
Windermere Area First Responders £750.00  
Cumbria Rural Citizens Advice Bureau £2500.00  
Windermere Diessen Twinning Association £450.00  
Windermere Youth Project £1000.00

In addition, Cumbria County Council Sheriff's Walk Footpath Improvement Project was awarded £500.00.

Further grants were made to the following organisations/groups under individual budget headings.  
Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust (Toilet grant) £25,000.00  
Windermere & Bowness Christmas Lights £2,500.00  
The Hub £4005.58

### **Community Plan**

The Community Plan was last updated in 2012 and work continues to be done on trying to address issues highlighted by our electors. The Plan is now due for further review.

### **Planning**

In the year 2013/14 the council considered and responded to 165 planning applications and attended site visits and Development Control Committee meetings.

### **Annual Meeting**

Our Annual Meeting will take place in The Council Chamber on Wednesday 14 May 2014 at 7pm when the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be appointed for the next 12 months. Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting.

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