



WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

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

Annual Report 2020/21

The Civic Year in brief

In common with most organisations, the last civic year has been dominated by the need to adapt ourselves to working within the parameters of social distancing and at the same time to continue to serve our community.

We have continued to meet as Full Council to transact business on our community's behalf and the planning sub-committee have carried out a full programme, researching and reviewing a wide range and number of planning applications in our area.



Unfortunately, we were not able to organize Windermere in Bloom this year, but we continued to provide the 102 hanging baskets which brightened our summer months and to support the Winter Lights.

The Town Council took over direct management of the public toilets in Windermere & Bowness and ensured that at least three facilities remained open throughout lock-down. A huge amount of work went into assessing how our busy toilets could operate as safely as possible, right down to the management of the queues.



The Town Council's facebook page has gone from strength to strength, with over 1,000 local members and has been particularly useful during periods of lock-down, in disseminating key messages from the Cumbria-wide resilience team. The Mayor has been a visible and supportive presence in the community and has personally responded to large amounts of posts, texts, emails and phone calls from concerned residents. He has contributed to numerous meetings with key organisations all aimed at ensuring our community is prepared for the re-opening of tourism and visitors.

Responding to local concerns about anti-social behaviour, Town Council has part-funded four new strategically placed CCTV cameras, that are directly linked to Cumbria Police. They have been operating since February this year.

The clerk has continued to support the Council and community remotely, working from home and via social media. She has ensured that progress has continued to be made on projects that have an impact on our community. This includes the transfer of the trusteeship at Longlands to the Town Council and the review of the future of Langstone House and the Town Council presence there.

Looking forward to 2021/22

Currently, it is planned to return to face to face Town Council meetings in July this year. Prior to that, the Council's Annual Parish Meeting will be held online on 14th April and the Annual General Meeting on 5th May. Mayor Saunders has given notice that he will stand down as Mayor at that meeting, so there will be a new Mayor elected.

Key work that is scheduled for this year is as follows:

- ❖ Re-opening in full of 6 public toilets facilities, with contactless access and new charging regime, which will aim to recoup the costs of operating the toilets from visitors and users of the facilities.
- ❖ Renovation and improvement of the toilet facilities at Millerground, to include full modernization and installation of a Changing Places facility.
- ❖ Town Council vacating Langstone House to a new purpose-built meeting room by the Library, making way for local affordable housing on Broad Street.
- ❖ Transfer of responsibility for the land held in trust at Longlands, Bowness. It is envisaged that there will be local consultation on how the area can be improved, within the covenants that are laid down on the land.



- ❖ Completion of a new access path in Elleray Woods, which will go all the way to the summit of Orrest Head. This work will be accompanied with improvements to the summit and viewpoint.



- ❖ It is also hoped to start work on a new Community Plan, which will take in the views of all local residents, setting community priorities for years to come.

These projects will be delivered on top of the normal work carried out by Town Council, taking care of local assets like the War Memorial, Elleray Woods and Baddeley Clock, reviewing every planning application for our area and managing allotments, public toilets and play areas.

None of this would happen without the dedication of the 20 unpaid volunteers who give up their time to serve as Town Councillors. Their details are shown on the final page of this report.

Financial Statements 2020/21

EXPENDITURE (Net of VAT)	Full Year Budget	Full Year Actual	Variance
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION			
Clerk's Salary	24,500	24,174	-326
Assistant Clerk	0	2,909	2,909
Employers NI Contribution/Pension	9,000	12,146	3,146
Mayor's Allowance	2,000	1,162	-838
Insurances	3,000	2,779	-221
Subscriptions	1,000	1,235	235
Audit Fee	1,000	600	-400
War Memorial	1,500	2,332	832
Baddeley Clock	400	169	-231
Council Chamber Rent and Cleaning	900	811	-89
Office Administration & Clerk's Expenses	3,500	3,192	-308
Councillors' Training & Travelling Expenses	500	100	-400
IT Contingency/Website	600	870	270
TOTAL EXPENDITURE PART A	47,900	52,478	4,578
PART B - SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Orrest Head and Elleray Woods	5,000	86	-4,914
Lights, Town Centre enhancement	2,200	1,754	-446
Town Steward (Labour and materials)	15,000	13,049	-1,951
Langrigge Playground	2,700	1,861	-839
Public Conveniences	25,000	35,387	10,387
Allotments	500	367	-133
Windermere in Bloom	10,000	10,872	872
Community Grants & Events	12,000	5,498	-6,502
Longlands Land Management	2,000	0	-2,000
Contingency/Maintenance	5,000	500	-4,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURE PART B	79,400	69,374	-10,026
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	127,300	121,853	5,447

Financial Statements 2020/21

INCOME			
Precept	128,000	128,000	0
Council Tax grant	7,000	6,827	-173
Rents	950	704	-246
WiB Sponsorship	825	650	-175
Grants Received	-	1,100	1,100
Bank Interest	375	218	-157
Total Income	137,150	137,499	349
Net Surplus	9,850	15,646	5,796

RESERVES

Reserve	Balance at 1 April 20	Income & Exp	Balance at 31 March 21
Benches (CCC)	1,306.00	-	1,306.00
Bowness & Wind Forward	2,850.00	800.00	2,050.00
Integrated Care	3,764.00	1,500.00	2,264.00
CCTV Investment	52,000.00	34,650.00	17,350.00
597 Bus	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Langrigge Play Area	700.00	-	700.00
St Marys Swimming pool	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Windermere Park for All	-	20,000.00	20,000.00
Public Toilets	7,000.00	6,300.00	13,300.00
Total specific reserves	70,620.00	12,650.00	57,970.00
General reserve	117,599.00	14,654.00	102,945.00
Total reserves	188,219.00	27,304.00	160,915.00

Your Councillors:

Applethwaite Ward:

Cllr Jenny Borer

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Cllr Christine Cook

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Cllr Cath Musetti

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Cllr John Saunders

mayor@windermere-tc.gov.uk

Windermere Town Ward:

Cllr Marina Davis

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Cllr Lisa Greasley

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Cllr Leith Hallatsch

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Cllr Grania Nicholson

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Cllr Ian Telford

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Cllr Fiona Wilkinson

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Bowness North Ward:

Cllr Peter Cook

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Cllr Christine Hallatsch

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Cllr Adrian Legge

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Cllr Tim Shearer

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Cllr Mike Stafford

Cllr Kate Tripp

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Bowness South Ward:

Cllr Magda Khan

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Cllr Pete Hamilton

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Cllr Alan Hands

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Cllr Sandra Lilley (stood down on 31/3/21)

Town Clerk:

Mrs Julie Hartley

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Assistant Town Clerk:

Miss Beccy Pinder

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