



# WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

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

## Minutes of the Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7pm via Zoom online

| Minute No |  |
|-----------|--|
|           | <p><b>Present:</b><br/>Mayor John Saunders (in the Chair), Cllrs Adrian Legge, Jenny Borer, Peter Cook, Leith Hallatsch, Christine Hallatsch, Ian Telford, Christine Cook, Marina Davis, Lisa Greasley, Kate Tripp, Peter Hamilton, Catherine Musetti, Tim Shearer, Fiona Wilkinson, Magda Khan &amp; Grania Nicholson<br/>Also: Julie Hartley (Town Clerk) &amp; Marian Jones, Area Ranger, Lake District National Park (LDNPA).<br/>SLDC/CCC Councillors: Andrew Jarvis, Kevin Holmes, Jim Bland. There was one member of the public in attendance. The meeting opened at 7pm.</p>   |
| 245.      | <p><b>Apologies and absence:</b><br/>Cllrs Mike Stafford, Alan Hands, Sandra Lilley. PCSO Sarah Blacow.<br/>Cllr Lilley's application for a leave of absence until 31 March 2021 was approved.</p>   |
| 246.      | <p><b>Orrest Head Project Assets Agreement:</b><br/>The proposed agreement had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting and Marian Jones attended the meeting to explain the detail and to answer questions. The need for the 5 year agreement is to support the bid for funding from Rural Development Projects England (RDPE), which is vital to the completion of the project. Assets which will be the responsibility of the LDNPA for the 5 year period include benches, waymarkers, interpretation boards and the surfacing of the paths, but not the actual freehold of the land. After the 5 year period, all assets listed return to the Town Council/Windermere School or SLDC for maintenance as indicated on the agreement. Several councillors asked questions and Cllr Legge offered to answer any further questions or liaise with Marian for an answer. 15 councillors approved the signing of the agreement with 2 abstentions.</p> |
| 247.      | <p><b>Minutes:</b><br/>The minutes of the Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were signed as a true record.</p>   |
| 248.      | <p><b>Planning sub-committee Minutes:</b><br/>The minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were noted.<br/>The notes of the pre-meeting with the LDNPA were also noted.</p>   |
| 249.      | <p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b><br/>NONE</p>   |
| 250.      | <p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b><br/>NONE</p>   |
| 251.      | <p><b>Public Input:</b><br/>NONE</p>   |
| 252.      | <p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Updates:</b></p>  |

Signed as a true and accurate record:



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|      | <p>The Local Government Reform Advisory Group had circulated notes of their meetings held last week and the SWOT analysis that they have carried out on the four proposals that are currently in circulation. The group are also looking into asset transfers, delegation of functions, evaluation of extra support and contact with other Town Councils in Cumbria. The Mayor and Councillors thanked the group for the excellent work so far and supported the continuation of the work as detailed.</p> <p><u>Cllr Ian Telford</u> updated on some issues that he has been dealing with locally, including gravel for the footpath at School Knott (following the flood defence work completed), the perilous state of the road surface around Ellerthwaite Square and Park Avenue (CCC have indicated a full re-surfacing within the next 12 months) and flooding on Ambleside Rd.</p> <p><u>Cllr Peter Hamilton</u> updated on the recent meeting of Lakes Administration and is pleased to see that the focus on debt management has led to improvements but looks forward to focusing on other lake related issues at future meetings.</p> <p><u>Cllr Lisa Greasley</u>: had attended a CALC training course online and updated on the Queens Park (Park for All) project. Tenders for work on the play area are due and a decision on the contractor should be made on 11 February. Also informed councillors about the recent consultation on the SLDC Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) covering dog fouling and anti-social behaviour in the district's park and open spaces. SLDC proposals are to maintain all of those that are still in existence and to add control over use of BBQs and fires at Millerground and the Glebe. On the suggestion of the Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Group, SLDC will also look to extend this to Biskey Howe. Councillors supported this response from the Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Group to SLDC.</p> <p><u>Cllr Leith Hallatsch</u>: Attended the CALC meeting, which is at the early stages of development and largely looking at ideas for the future.</p> <p><u>Mayor Saunders</u>: Attended the Gateway Group project meeting, which is still at an early stage and there is, as yet, nothing definite to update. Also attended the Visitors 2021 group, looking at plans to deal with potential increased visitor numbers in the summer season. The notes of the meeting had been circulated to councillors and a number of comments have been received. Mayor Saunders thanked councillors for their input. Cllr Hamilton also offered to assist with the in depth videos that he had taken in the 2020 season. The Mayor had a long video meeting to the High Sheriff (Julie Barton) and put forward many strong points about Windermere &amp; Bowness. Also drew attention to the CCC Highways Survey, which has been posted on the Town Council facebook page.</p> |
| 253. | <p><b>District &amp; County Councillors' reports:</b></p> <p><u>Cllr Andrew Jarvis</u>: had attended the A592 briefing that afternoon (Clerk also attended and will update in detail). Also highlighted that it has been made clear to SLDC that the existing phone arrangements for parish councillors attending Lakes Administration are totally unacceptable.</p>   |

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|      | <p>Cllr Jim Bland: Highlighted that the work on the Bowness roundabout has started and received thanks from the Mayor for pushing this with CCC. Had supported Cllr Hamilton with assessing the health of the tree at the bottom of Ash Street. A couple of experts had now looked at this and come to the conclusion that it is better to wait until the leaves come into bud to properly assess its state of health. CCC Full Council this week will be making decisions on Unitary government for Cumbria.</p>   |
| 254. | <p><b>Clerk's Report:</b></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated a progress report on various projects and added the update received from the Town Steward, covering his work in January. This had included dealing with flooding issues in Elleray Woods, filling of potholes on the access road, repairs to the stand-pipe in the allotments, re-bark chipping paths in the woods and constructing a new hurdle fence. This was noted.</p> <p>The Clerk also verbally updated on the meeting attended that afternoon on the A592 Highways project, which is being funded by £7.5m of central government Road Safety fund. This is aimed at improving safety on some of the nation's highest accident risk roads. The project will cover the whole length of the A592 from A66 at Rheged to Cooks corner roundabout in Windermere. Measures will include surface treatment, vehicle restraints (barriers), new signs and lines, drainage improvements, pedestrian safety improvements, traffic calming, vegetation clearance. Every effort will be made to deliver improvements that are in keeping with the natural beauty of the landscape and to minimize disruption to locals and businesses, but, given the size and extent of the project, there will be some disruption and work will be conducted over the next 2 to 3 years. Local consultation will take various forms but include these forums, where various interest groups can meet, discuss issues, feed in views from the community and help spread information locally. There will be 3 groups, which split the A592 geographically and Windemere is included in the Hartsop to Windermere group, which it is hoped will meet every two months. A councillor from WBTC will be appointed later on the agenda.</p> <p>The best way to contact the project team is a dedicated email address;<br/><a href="mailto:A592@cumbria.gov.uk">A592@cumbria.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The Clerk also confirmed that the Public Toilets Advisory Group had meet last week and agreed terms of reference and remit for the review and business plan, which it is hoped will be presented to Full Council at the March meeting.</p> |
| 255. | <p><b>Financial Issues:</b></p> <p>Councillors approved those payments listed on the Orders for Payment listing which had been circulated with the agenda and in addition approved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) CALC - councillor online training: £60.00</li><li>b) Viking- printer cartridges and stamps: £155.93</li><li>c) Town Steward: £1,233.24</li></ul>   |

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| 256. | <p><b>Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group:</b><br/>The notes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 were noted</p> <p><b>a) <u>Trusteeship &amp; management of the land at Longlands</u></b><br/>The following recommendations were approved by 14 councillors with 2 abstentions and 1 against (Cllr Lisa Greasley):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. That WBTC take on the 1902 trusteeship from SLDC and that the responsibilities for maintenance of the land and boundaries subsequently pass to the Town Council as trustees;</li><li>ii. That the contents of the Resource Agreement with SLDC are approved on condition that assurance can be obtained about the period beyond any local government re-organisation in Cumbria.</li><li>iii. That the Clerk contact SLDC to set in motion the preparation and signing of necessary legal documentation.</li></ul> <p><b>b) <u>Council Noticeboards:</u></b><br/>The following recommendations were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. That the number of official noticeboards is reduced from 5 to the 3 which are located in each area: Troutbeck Bridge (Service Station), Windermere (Langstone House), Bowness (Royalty Cinema bus stop);</li><li>ii. That 2 of the noticeboards in poor condition are replaced with aluminium long-lasting weather-proof noticeboards;</li><li>iii. That the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest quotation (from the local company) is accepted;</li><li>iv. That the Council name is updated on all 3 noticeboards;</li><li>v. That the 2 remaining noticeboards are removed (Ladyholme &amp; Windermere Post Office) but retained and stored in Langstone House. Several councillors expressed an interest in securing a southern Bowness location and erecting and maintaining a noticeboard there themselves. They agreed to take on this work outside of the core work of the Clerk on the 3 official noticeboards.</li><li>vi. That the cost to the Council, after utilizing the Locality Grant from SLDC Councillor Holmes, is approximately £700 and that the Clerk be given approval to spend up to a</li></ul> |

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|      | <p>net £800. The costs should be funded from the remaining balance on the Mayoral budget.</p> <p>c) <b>Millerground Swimming:</b> That the Clerk contact Better Leisure on behalf of the Council to discuss the feasibility of a swimming shelter and offer funding of up to £1,000 from Town Council (remainder of Mayor's budget for 2020/21).</p> <p>d) <b>Hanging Baskets provision for summer 2021:</b> That the quotation received from Horton Landscaping and contained in the Advisory Group minutes be approved.</p> |
| 257. | <p><b>Appointment of Town Councillors to Groups:</b><br/>The following appointments were approved unanimously:</p> <p>a) Cllr Peter Hamilton to the Geese Management Group (Bowness Promenade);</p> <p>b) Cllr Cath Musetti to the A 592 Steering Group, Hartsop to Windermere.</p>   |
| 258. | <p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b><br/>The following dates were noted. All meetings commence at 7pm via Zoom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planning sub-committee: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021</li><li>• Full Council: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021</li><li>• Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group: 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021.</li></ul>  |
|      | <p><b>The meeting closed at 8.30pm</b></p>  |

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