



WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting

10th July 2019 at 7.00pm, The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere

| Minute No | |
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| | <p>Present: Cllrs Mayor John Saunders (in the Chair), Ms Magda Khan, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Ms Grania Nicholson, Mrs Kate Tripp, Mr Adrian Legge, Mr Leith Hallatsch, Mrs C Hallatsch, Mrs Jenny Borer, Ms Sandra Lilley, Mr Tim Shearer. Also: Mrs Julie Hartley (Town Clerk), SLDC/CCC Cllrs Kevin Holmes, Jim Bland, Bill Smith, Alan Katz and Rose Smith (all from Paradise Project) and 5 members of the public. The meeting opened at 7pm.</p> |
| 36. | <p>Apologies and absence: Apologies: Cllr Mr Peter Hamilton, Mr Mike Stafford & Mr Trevor Myers, SLDC Cllrs Dyan Jones, John Holmes, Brian Rendell, Ben Berry & Andrew Jarvis.</p> |
| 37. | <p>Minutes: It was resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5th June 2019 be signed as a true and accurate record.</p> |
| 38. | <p>Planning sub-committee Minutes: The planning minutes of 26th June 2019 were accepted by Council.</p> |
| 39. | <p>Declarations of Interest: Mayor John Saunders declared an interest in agenda item 15 (bench sponsorship at Millerground) as he is a member of the Millerground Working Group.</p> |
| 40. | <p>Requests for Dispensations: NONE</p> |
| 41. | <p>Items to be taken in private session: It was agreed that the agenda item on Co-optation of new councillors be taken in private session at the end of the meeting due to the personal nature of the application forms.</p> |
| 42. | <p>Update on the Paradise Project: Bill Smith gave a short presentation to update Town Council on progress with the Paradise Project. This is still at the stage of agreement of possible leases on the Library Building and Gardens with Cumbria County Council and South Lakeland District Council. There is an outline business plan which seeks to provide the base information needed by investors as the project aims to raise at least £4m in capital funding to improve the Library building and provide improved facilities for the Library service, a community hub with space to rent and the Holocaust exhibition. Bill underlined in clear terms that this project is about enhancing and preserving the building for the future and that there is a strong commitment to maintaining library services in Windermere and that this can be done alongside the desire to expand and enhance the legacy and local history exhibition and archive which will focus on Calgarth and the Windermere Boys. Bill, Alan (Katz) and Rose (Smith) provided further reassurances and answered a variety of questions. A full copy of the presentation was provided to the Clerk who will circulate it to Councillors.</p> |

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| 43. | Public Input: NONE |
| 44. | Mayor & Member Updates: <u>Cllr Adrian Legge</u> met with LDNPA Rangers and other parish councils at Orrest Head, to look at the potential final part of the project which would take the Carriage Drive to the summit. Also attended Lakes Administration meeting (with Cllrs Borer and Leith Hallatsch). It was mainly a training event, enhanced by Cllr Borer's history of the lake ownership. <u>Cllr Lisa Greasley</u> has been involved with Cumbria in Bloom judging for the last 2 weeks. This has given a perspective on how good Windermere looks and Cllr Greasley praised the display in Windermere this year. Also attended a Well Being meeting. <u>Cllr Grania Nicholson</u> reported on the Well Being meeting. It is fair to say that progress in Windermere has been slow and that there has been little in the way of ideas to utilize the funding available. In order to drive it forward, a core group has been formed, which includes Cllrs Nicholson and Greasley. A September event is planned which will invite lots of different local groups which offer well being services to the Marchesi, to offer taster sessions. <u>Cllr Sandra Lilley</u> had attended Lakes Line User Group meetings and there was an air of optimism as there have been some improvements in service, but there are still many underlying problems to deal with. Also confirmed that, as the plants at the station are almost impossible for Horton Landscaping to access, she is watering them herself. Recently, Sandra completed the Modules 1 & 2 of the CALC training (Effective Councillor). There was a lot to learn and module 2 especially was very heavy on the legal side of things. Also attended the CALC summer conference (with Cllr Borer). <u>Cllr Jenny Borer</u> : Had found the CALC conference useful and lots of "back to basics" tips, including some agenda suggestions, which she handed to the Clerk. Cllr Borer wished to underline again her concerns, raised on several occasions, about the complex issues with ownership of Windermere lake if Cumbria ever does move to Unitary local government. Cllr Borer had once again been appointed to the Lake Steering Group, which oversees the 10 year lake strategy produced by SLDC. She wished to raise a concern about the timing of any comments made by the group on planning around the lake, as, with only 2 meetings a year, it is almost impossible for the comments to be timely. It was agreed that this should be added to the agenda for the forthcoming meeting with the Chief Executive of the LDNPA. <u>Mayor Saunders</u> : Had attended the CALC meeting with SLDC present, where there was a presentation on Town and Parish council reorganization in South Lakeland and the possible reduction of town councillors at Windermere was discussed. There was assurance that there would be consideration given to the objections raised by the Town Council. Attended the Windermere Motor Boat Racing Club day and it was a great day out for everyone. On 29 June, spent a couple of hours outside Windermere station handing out maps of Bowness & Windermere as Mayor. There was an interesting and warm response from tourists and a clear lack of knowledge about the Mayor from local residents, which needs to be taken on board going forward. Finally, attended the Town Twinning evening drinks and dinner and met the civic representatives from Diessen. |

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| 45. | <p>District & County Councillors' reports:</p> <p><u>Cllr Kevin Holmes:</u> Underlined some recently issued statistics, which show a 5.6% increase in tourism in 2018, with 44% or £1.3bn of the entire Cumbria visitor contribution coming from South Lakes. In response to a number of enquiries, SLDC have confirmed that all the plastic collected from households in South Lakeland is sorted and sent to recycling plants. Finally, Kevin referenced a 10 year plan for the enhancement of parks and spaces. The Clerk will obtain this from SLDC.</p> <p><u>Cllr Jim Bland:</u> Was very pleased to report the re-surfacing at Brantfell. The options for the roundabout in Bowness are still open for debate and discussion but will be progressed and finally the Windermere Ferry Advisory Committee has now been re-constituted and will be holding its first meeting shortly.</p> |
| 46. | <p>Clerk's Report:</p> <p>The Clerk's report, circulated prior to the meeting, was noted. The following was added: Andy Nicol has completed the woodland survey of the Town Council owned parts of Elleray Woods and produced his report which is very complimentary of the Town Council and Town Steward management of the woods. He has identified one defective Sycamore branch which needs to be removed as soon as is possible and the Town Steward will organize this next week.</p> <p>There has been confirmation from SLDC that works at Biskey Howe are underway (started Monday 8th July). This will include improvement of paths and steps and installation of new finger-posts.</p> <p>The Town Steward has reported his work in June, mainly planting up summer bedding in Crescent Road, Nat West island and outside the Council Chamber. Also clipping of box hedging, cutting the large Laurel spheres in Birthwaite Gardens and supply of plants to Alice Howe Farm who will plant and maintain these at the Welcome sign. Also re-instatment of walling in Elleray Bank, replacement of bulbs at Baddeley Clock and removal of Council noticeboard from outside the pizza restaurant.</p> |
| 47. | <p>Finance:</p> <p>The payments as listed on the agenda were approved. The following were also approved: Nicol Landscapes (tree survey in Elleray Woods), £550 net of VAT WPS Insurance: £2,754.98 for Insurance policy July to June 2020. Gary Hancox: £1,203.99. CALC (training for Sandra Lilley): £80</p> |
| 48. | <p>Windermere Ferry Advisory Group:</p> <p>There has been one nomination for Cllr Adrian Legge (proposed Cllr Jenny Borer, seconded by Cllr Lisa Greasley). Cllr Legge was duly appointed to represent the Council and report back on any meetings attended. In case of Cllr Legge not being available, it was agreed to also appoint a deputy and Cllr Borer was proposed (by Lisa Greasley) and seconded (by Cllr Leith Hallatsch). This was agreed.</p> |
| 49. | <p>Windermere Byelaw Exemption Application:</p> <p>This was distributed to Town Councillors by email prior to the meeting. There was a</p> |

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| | discussion of the proposals from Coniston Speed Records committee to hold the Endurance event on Windermere for this year only, whilst a bye-law change is put in place on Coniston Water. The endurance event would take place on Windermere on 9 th and 10 th November 2019. Councillors discussed the proposals and raised no concerns. The Clerk will feed this back to the LDNPA (consultation deadline is 12 th August 2019). |
| 50. | Sponsorship of Bench at Millerground: The Clerk had distributed details of the bench proposal from SLDC prior to the meeting. SLDC are putting new benches in place at the opened up Millerground viewpoint and have asked if the Town Council is interested in sponsoring a bench. Councillors agreed that an application should be made for a bench in the Town Council's name at a cost of £800 net of VAT, which includes siting and fixing, an engraved metal plaque (wording to be: Donated by Windermere Town Council in 2019 to celebrate the Millerground Improvements) and maintenance and insurance for a 10 year period. |
| 51. | Tree Planting Scheme SLDC SLDC have written to the Council, outlining their pledge to plant 2000 new trees in the District and they have invited the Town Council to help identify new locations. SLDC are offering to supply and plant new trees and provide 12 months of aftercare free of charge. The specific species will be decided in conjunction with landowners based on the site and available space. One suggestion has already been made - outside Café Italia. Another suggestion is re-planting around Biskey howe (where rhododendrons have been removed). It was agreed that any further suggestions be made to the Clerk by 28 th July and she will forward them on to SLDC. |
| 52. | Coaches on Newby Bridge Road (agenda item request from Cllr Mike Stafford): Cllr Stafford was not present at the meeting, so this item did not go ahead. It was agreed that Coach parking is an important issue and should be added to the August agenda for full discussion of various locations including Newby Bridge Road. |
| 53. | Dates of Next Meetings: Wednesday 24 th July: Planning sub-committee (7pm) Thursday 25 th July: Policy & Finance Advisory Group (6.15pm) Wednesday 14 th August: Full Council (7pm) |
| | The Mayor closed the public part of the meeting for discussion in private session. |
| 54. | Co-option of New Councillors: Three application forms were reviewed and Mr Alan Hands, Mrs Marina Davis and Mrs Fiona Wilkinson were duly co-opted onto Town Council. |
| | The meeting closed at 8.25pm. |

Signed as a true and accurate record: