



WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting

11th November 2015 at 7.00pm, The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p>Present: Cllrs Mr L Hallatsch (in the Chair), Mrs J Borer, Ms S Bloy, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Mr J Saunders, Mr I Telford, Mrs C Hallatsch, Ms G Nicholson, Cllrs Miss K Atkinson, Mr A Legge, Mr W F Smith & Mr P Jewell. Also: Julie Wright (Town Clerk), District Councillors David Williams and Ben Berry and 4 members of the public. The meeting opened at 7.00pm.</p>
180.	<p>Apologies and absence: Apologies: Cllrs Mrs S Lilley, Mr Mike Stafford & Mr Allan Winrow</p>
181.	<p>Minutes: It was resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28th October 2015 be signed as a true and accurate record.</p>
182.	<p>Declarations of Interest: Cllr Ian Telford in planning item (b) as applicants are close friends. Cllr John Saunders in planning item (c) due to close proximity to home. Cllr K Atkinson in planning item (d) Cllr Sue Bloy in planning item (g), which is her residence. Cllr B Smith in item 190 The Hub. Councillors will remain in the Chamber during discussion of the items, but will not take part in the vote.</p>
183.	<p>Requests for Dispensations: The Mayor announced that a request had been received, under Standing Order no 7, to reconsider the planning application no 7/2015/5609 (Borranfoot, Old Mill Crescent, Storrs Park, Bowness), due to further information coming to light about the application which was not available at our previous meeting. As required by Standing Order 7, the request has been signed by 7 councillors. The Mayor also announced that he had accepted a few items of information and one minor decision to be added to the end of the agenda (prior to planning) by the Clerk. These are recorded at item 196.</p>
184.	<p>Update from Lakeland Arts on progress with the Jetty Project: Gordon Watson (Chief Executive) and Charlotte Upton (Project Manager) updated the Town Council as follows: The contractors (T Armstong) have been appointed, after several delays in the process and will be starting on site on Monday 16th November. It is hoped to finalise the building work and open the new facility in April 2017. In the meantime, it is important to maintain the profile of the collection and build anticipation to the opening, so there have been temporary displays in prominent locations. The importance of the volunteers cannot be over-stressed and it is important to maintain their interest and expertise. Currently there are 30 regular volunteers and the target is 150. A project with schools has recently been launched. This involves 3 schools in Windermere</p>

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	<p>and is based on different themes.</p> <p>Gordon and Charlotte gave great emphasis to the importance of community engagement both with celebrating the opening and in continuing to promote and improve the facilities into the future. They would welcome any support and ideas from the Town Council.</p> <p>There was then a discussion/question and answer session with Councillors, which included the storage and conservation of the boats, whilst the building work is taking place, the aims to have a real diversification of exhibits, including aircraft and social history. Town Council asked that consideration be given as to how the community can be encouraged into the facilities with a targeted charging structure and it was confirmed that this is something Lakeland Arts are looking into. It was also established that the model boat and aircraft clubs are to be protected in their use of the site, once building work is complete.</p> <p>The Mayor and Council gave thanks to Gordon and Charlotte for taking the time to provide this useful and interesting update and wished them success with the project.</p>
185.	<p>Public Input:</p> <p>A local resident spoke on behalf of four households in the locality of planning application 5609 (Borranfoot). He outlined the formal objections to the application that have been lodged with the National Park. They included the size of the building which is more akin to a house rather than a garage and the location, which is felt to be un-neighbourly. There was some uncertainty about the boundary distance of the development to the neighbouring house and whether this was 1m or 2m. Residents also have some serious concerns about environmental issues, especially flooding, but also fire risk.</p> <p>Councillors asked a number of questions and thanked Mr Thomas for registering his concerns.</p>
186.	<p>Mayor & Member Announcements:</p> <p><u>The Mayor</u> gave thanks to all those councillors who had turned out in appalling wet weather to the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.</p> <p><u>Cllrs Bill Smith, John Saunders and Lisa Greasley</u> reported on their attendance at the Windermere Endowed Schools Foundation meeting and reminded Councillors of the good work that is done by the foundation.</p> <p><u>Cllr Legge</u> reported back from the Orrest Head & Elleray Woods Advisory Group and agreed the contents of a letter to send to SLDC and LDNPA, asking for an update on progress with the Carriage Drive and concerns from the Council that work had not yet started.</p> <p><u>Cllr Greasley</u> reminded Council that 28 November is the Winter Lights parade and 29th November the Jingle Bell jog at Cockshott Point, organized by the Lions. She will attend the event as Deputy Mayor. She had also attended the Cumbria in Bloom meeting and it is hoped that Windermere will continue to provide support in 2016 and hopefully re-enter the competition.</p> <p><u>Cllr Jenny Borer</u> reminded Council that the Advent Tea, organized by the Town Twinning Group, takes place on 6th December at 2-4pm in the Marchesi Centre. Carols will be sung by the St Martin & Mary Primary School choir and all are welcome.</p>
187.	<p>District & County Councillors' reports:</p> <p><u>Cllr David Williams</u> reported on his recent meeting with Lawrence Conway (Chief Executive SLDC) at which the dis-used toilets on the Glebe were discussed. There are clearly no plans</p>

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	<p>to re-open these facilities at this stage. He also appraised Council of forthcoming developments for the whole of Cumbria. The Chancellor has agreed inward funding of £450m to Cumbria over 15 years, on the proviso that Cumbria elect a Mayor. The plan is to replace the Police & Crime Commissioner post with a full elected Mayor and that elections will take place next year.</p> <p>Cllr Ben Berry asked to be copied into the letter concerning Orrest Head and also reported on the Boundary Commission consultation on ward changes and explained the issue with linkages to elections by thirds. His personal viewpoint is that smaller single member wards work best in our locality, rather than larger areas with multiple members.</p>
188.	<p>Finance:</p> <p>The invoices as listed in the agenda were approved for payment, with one addition - the payment to the Town Steward of £428.99, for work completed in October.</p>
189.	<p>Windermere & Bowness Community Plan:</p> <p>The review, completed by the Clerk, and the priorities for 2016/17, recommended by the Policy & Finance Committee, were approved.</p> <p>The procedure for an annual review of the plan, which includes the Annual Parish Meeting, an additional meeting of Policy & Finance and recommendations to Council each year, was also approved.</p> <p>The Clerk will update the Council's website with the priorities for 2016/17 and will organise the Annual Parish Meeting to focus on these priorities.</p> <p>Cllr Greasley provided a copy of a colourful and professional Community Plan publication from Hebden Bridge and asked that the Clerk do some research into whether or not something similar could be produced for Windermere.</p>
190.	<p>The Hub:</p> <p>Cllr Smith explained that the Hub has historically cost approximately £1,000 per quarter, net of approx. £2,000 sponsorship and advertising income. It is getting more difficult to attract advertising and, with the growth of Windermere Now, the Town Council should consider whether or not to continue with its support for the publication.</p> <p>There was a full debate and a variety of issues were raised by a number of Councillors, including:</p> <p>The value for money that the Hub represents, especially due to the work which Cllr Smith puts in free of charge.</p> <p>The true community focus of the Hub, which is a useful and informative publication.</p> <p>The need to develop the Council's own website to improve communication (and value for money). This work is under-way but will take time to complete.</p> <p>The attractiveness of using Windermere Now to report on and promote Town Council activities, especially now that it is published on a monthly basis. However this cannot be relied upon in full at this stage. The Clerk explained that the Town Council have been offered a "trial" column in the January edition and that she will endeavour to ensure it is a comprehensive report. However, it has been explained that the column may be subject to editing. There was a discussion as to the possibility of purchasing a page space in each publication, to ensure that town council issues are covered fully.</p>

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	<p>Councillors resolved to:</p> <p>a) Continue to support the Hub for another year, with a further decision to be made in a year's time;</p> <p>b) To increase the budget for the Hub from £4k to £5k, to be funded from reserves in 2016/17;</p> <p>c) To authorize the Clerk to agree with Cllr Smith ways to improve the timing of reimbursement, with the possibility of the Town Council funding the printing costs up front;</p> <p>d) To authorize the Clerk to have discussions with Windermere Now about the possibility of guaranteeing publishing space for Town Council information.</p>
191.	<p>Highways Improvements:</p> <p>The list of proposed highways improvements, as discussed at the last Town Council meeting, was circulated. One amendment was made to wording and the Crescent Road repairs were added. The list was then approved. The Clerk will now pass this to Cllrs Colin Jones & Jim Bland and CCC for consideration in the Highways work planning for 2016/17.</p>
192.	<p>Budget & Precept 2016/17:</p> <p>The Clerk's budget report and calculations were discussed. The following was approved:</p> <p>A precept of £115,900 (an increase of 0.8%)</p> <p>A reduction in the annual allotments budget, in line with previous years' expenditure</p> <p>An increase in the Community Events budget of £12k to recognize the priority in the community plan;</p> <p>Increase in the budget for the Town Steward, to reflect the increase in hours;</p> <p>Reductions in subscriptions, rents and finance officer budgets, to reflect actual prior years' spending.</p> <p>The Council resolved to approve:</p> <p>a) The expenditure budget of £121,000.</p> <p>b) The income budget of £126,072.</p> <p>c) A precept for 2016/17 of £115,900.</p>
193.	<p>Cumbria County Council Budget Consultation:</p> <p>It was agreed that 4 councillors would take the lead on the 4 consultation documents as follows:</p> <p>Cllr Grania Nicholson: Extra Care Housing,</p> <p>Cllr Peter Jewell: Commissioning for Care and Support</p> <p>Cllr Ian Telford: Fire & Rescue Strategy</p> <p>Cllr John Saunders: Council Plan</p> <p>They will report back to the January Council meeting, providing a short summary of the contents and any suggested comments to send on to the County Council.</p>
194.	<p>Boundary Commission review of SLDC:</p> <p>There was a brief discussion and Members agreed to take more time to consider the options. Comments do not need to be returned to the Boundary Commission until 11 January 2016. This item was thus postponed to be considered at the December Council meeting.</p>

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195.	<p>Lease at Ferry Nab toilets:</p> <p>A letter from BWCCT was read out. This outlined that the Ferry Nab facilities will be closed by SLDC for-redevelopment in April 2016. The original short-term lease between the Town Council and SLDC actually expired on 31 August 2014 and, since then, BWCCT have, in good faith, continued to manage the facilities at a cost of £7,500pa. In order to minimize the ongoing drain on resources, BWCCT consider it necessary to terminate the management of Ferry Nab and therefore give notice of their intention to do so with effect from 31 December 2015. As a consequence the Town Council may wish to consider its options and return these out of lease facilities back to SLDC.</p> <p>The Town Council decided to give notice to SLDC to return the facilities, with effect from 31 December 2015.</p>
196.	<p>Clerk's Verbal Report (added to the agenda with the agreement of the Mayor):</p> <p>The Clerk covered the following items:</p> <p>LDNPA - withdrawal of planning application 5296 Beemire, Birthwaite Road (recommended for approval by WTC).</p> <p>Thank-you letters from the 6 businesses who have received shop front improvement grants recently.</p> <p>Thank-you letter from the Friends of the 597 - for grant of £500.</p> <p>CALC circular for November (distributed by email)</p> <p>Cumbria Bloom AGM on 16th November - invite (Cllr Greasley to attend)</p> <p>Christmas Shop Window competition - a request from the W&B Chamber of Trade for Windermere Town Council to fund 2 small cups to be given to the winners of the competition. It was agreed to spend up to £100 on the 2 cups and for the inscription to read: "Presented by Windermere Town Council (large script) W&BCT Christmas Window Competition (smaller script). The funding is dependent on all local businesses being invited to enter.</p> <p>The Chamber of Trade also advised Council that they are consulting members on the proposals to improve crossing at Goodly Dale, pedestrian crossing and bus shelter on Lake Rd and 20MPH limit Beresford Rd to Glebe.</p> <p>Finally, it was agreed that, during the period of the Clerk's leave, there should be a planning meeting, to ensure that the Council has the opportunity to respond on planning applications and can meet the deadlines. This will take place on Wednesday 25th November at 7pm and will be chaired by the Deputy Mayor. Cllr C Hallatsch will take minutes and will notify the LDNPA of recommendations. The Clerk will prepare and distribute the agenda prior to her holiday.</p>
197.	<p>Planning Applications:</p> <p>The following recommendations were made:</p> <p>a)7/2015/5609: Borranfoot, Old Mill Crescent, Storrs Park, Bowness: Erection of domestic garage/boat store/workshop (RECONSIDERATION FROM 28TH OCTOBER MEETING). Recommend for approval.</p> <p>b)7/2015/5632: The Byre, Priory Manor, Rayrigg Rd, Windermere: Change of use from ancillary accommodation to 2 Priory Manor to a local needs dwelling-house (without</p>

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	<p>alteration). Recommend for approval.</p> <p>c)7/2015/5627: Windermere Business Centre, Oldfield Court, Windermere: 3 proposed new windows to SE elevation. Recommend for approval.</p> <p>d)7/2015/5618: Land adjacent Past Your Eyes, Langdale Crescent, Windermere: Local needs dwelling-house. Recommend for approval.</p> <p>e)7/2015/5625: 12a, Broadfield, Troutbeck Bridge, Windermere: Single Storey extension to rear of property (RETROSPECTIVE). Refuse on the grounds that the development is not in keeping with the local area.</p> <p>f)7/2015/5499: Loray House, Queens Drive, Windermere: Conversion of a 3 storey house into 2 apartments, one ground floor with 2 bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen/diner and bathroom and one over the 1st & 2nd floors, with own entrance, 2 bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen/diner and bathroom. Recommend for approval.</p> <p>g)7/2015/5645: The Loft, Alexandra Rd, Windermere: Proposed new Juliet balcony to 1st floor apartment on SW elevation. New external gas meter box. Recommend for approval.</p> <p>h)7/2015/5648: College Road, Windermere: Change of use to run a Private Hire Company (not Hackney Carriage) - amendment to approval ref 7/2012/5482. Refuse on the grounds of noise in a predominantly residential area. Extension of the operating hours is un-neighbourly.</p> <p>i)7/2015/5601: 4 Rayrigg Rise, Windermere: Front extension, raised decking area to rear and alteration to existing driveway. Recommend for approval.</p> <p>The following was noted:</p> <p>Notice of Intention: Causeway Farm, Patterdale Rd, Windermere: Modern portal framed agricultural building - to note only at this stage. This was noted and it was requested that there be a reminder about the archaeological status of this farm.</p>
198.	<p>Tree Works</p> <p>The following tree works were noted.</p> <p>a)T/2015/0142: Verge between St Marys Church and St Marys Park, Windermere: Fell 1 yew, 3 Cypress, 1 Oak, 1 Holly. Work covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Application from SLDC. Reason is to thin out trees and allow others to grow.</p> <p>b)T/2015/0143: Verge between St Marys Church and St Marys Park, Windermere: Fell 1 Elm and 2 Willow. Work is in conservation area. Same reasoning as above.</p> <p>c)T/2015/0144: Border Lodge, Birthwaite Rd, Windermere. Remove dead branches from 1 Oak, reduce branches to give 2m clearance from BT lines, reduce limb overhanging the road to give clearance for vehicles. Crown raise 1 Oak to give clearance for vehicles. Work covered by TPO.</p> <p>d)T/2015/0147: Old Fallbarrow Cottage, Fallbarrow Road, Bowness: Prune 1 beech tree.</p>
199.	<p>Dates of Next Meetings:</p> <p>Wednesday 25th November 2015: Planning only (meet without Clerk)</p> <p>Wednesday 16th December 2015: Full Council (buffet prior to the meeting starting at 6pm).</p> <p>Wednesday 13th January 2016</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.45pm.</p>

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