



# WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

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

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the Marchesi Centre, Windermere at 7pm

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> In person: Mayor Adrian Legge (in the Chair), Cllrs Jenny Borer, Peter Cook, Christine Hallatsch, Leith Hallatsch, Lisa Greasley, Peter Hamilton, Fiona Wilkinson, Mike Stafford, Joanne Daley, Cath Musetti, Grania Nicholson, Ian Telford, Magda Khan &amp; Alan Hands. Via Zoom (observer only): Cllr John Saunders. Also: Julie Hartley (Town Clerk) and 1 member of the public. SLDC/CCC Councillors: Andrew Jarvis, Kevin Holmes, Jim Bland, Dyan Jones. The meeting opened at 7pm</p>
108.	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Cllrs Marina Davis, Christine Cook, Deputy Mayor Kate Tripp</p>
109.	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting:</b> The minutes of the Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were approved for signature.</p>
110.	<p><b>Planning Minutes:</b> The minutes of the planning meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were noted.</p>
111.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> NONE</p>
112.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> NONE</p>
113.	<p><b>Co-option of a Town Councillor:</b> It was agreed unanimously that this item should be taken in private at the close of the public part of the meeting, due to the personal nature of the content. (Proposed Cllr Borer, Seconded Cllr Greasley).</p>
114.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> NONE</p>
115.	<p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Announcements:</b> Mayor Adrian Legge gave an update of the meetings and engagements he had attended on behalf of the Council over the last 2 months. This included Remembrance at the War Memorial, several internal meetings on Local Government Reorganisation, the opening of new facilities at Queens Park, many visits to Elleray Woods in the wake of Storm Arwen to assess damage and liaise with the Town Steward and LDNPA on clearance and safety work. Also a Windermere Gateway meeting and a visit to Kendal Archive to research documents that relate to ownership of Elleray Woods. Current issues include a potential invite to attend the next Barwatch meeting, the work that has started on the Crag Brow roundabout and continued challenges with Elleray Woods. There were several questions from councillors which focused on Windermere Gateway (the effectiveness of communications to the community) and Elleray Woods. Mayor Legge agreed to raise the issue of community consultation again at the next Windermere Gateway meeting. Finally, the Mayor thanked Cllr Cath Musetti for her help in getting the assistance from Ambleside Roofing, which was instrumental in getting the winter lights erected on St Martin's Church tree.</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record:



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	<p><u>Deputy Mayor Kate Tripp</u> had sent apologies but provided a written report which updated on her meetings, including Planning sub-committee, Lakes line rail user group AGM (with Cllr Borer), charring Policy &amp; Finance advisory group, several meetings re Local Government reorganization, Windermere Gateway, Lakes Line Community Rail project, Toilets advisory group and a briefing from CALC on LGR. In addition, together with Cllr Marina Davis, Kate is a primary monitor for the Town Council Facebook group with a membership of currently 1,286.</p> <p><u>Cllr Pete Cook</u> had also submitted a written report on the recent work of the LGR Advisory Group. There is still no response from the office of Michael Gove MP, but there was a full-page article in the 25 November issue of the Westmorland Gazette which set out the aims of the Town Council in its bid to retain control of the assets arising from the lake bed for the good of the Town. A meeting is planned with senior SLDC officers in the near future and other parish councils locally have been contacted. Businesses around the lake will also be kept up to date.</p> <p><u>Cllr Christine Hallatsch</u>: Wished to thank officers and councillors who had been involved in re-instating new winter lights on the tree outside St Martin's Church in Bowness. It looks wonderful and it is good that the lights will continue until 31 January. She asked that consideration be given to re-instating lights on the tree outside the Windermere Library, which had suffered damage in Storm Arwen. The Clerk reassured members that work has already started to identify options for expansion of Winter lights this year supported by the Town Council and that the library tree will be included in deliberations.</p> <p><u>Cllr Cath Musetti</u> wished to re-iterate the comments made by Cllr Hallatsch and gave thanks to all involved in the re-lighting of St Martin's tree. Thanks go especially to Chris Wear, who turned out on behalf of the community with his cherry picker and made this achievement possible. Cath confirmed that a letter of thanks and a small gift had been sent to Chris. Thanks should also go to the Assistant Clerk, Beccy Pinder, who worked tirelessly in the final week before Christmas to make this happen and to North West Electricity who provided a crew for a full day to finalise the display. Great community effort.</p> <p><u>Cllr Peter Hamilton</u>: Highlighted again the need to try and re-instate Bowness &amp; Windermere Forward, which, as a group, seems to have disbanded. It is important that this focus continues and all agreed that Town Council should do whatever it can to assist.</p> <p><u>Cllr Lisa Greasley</u>, as lead councillor for parks and open spaces, updated on work done to rectify tree damage in Queens Park and also delays to work at Millerground, caused by Storm Arwen.</p>
116.	<p><b>District &amp; County Councillors' reports:</b></p> <p><u>Cllr Kevin Holmes</u> thanked the Town Council, on behalf of the community, for the re-lighting of St Martin's tree. He also updated on Lakes Administration (of which he is Chairman). The future of the lake bed under LGR is a key issue and meetings are taking place with SLDC officers. He confirmed that Windermere Lake will not be dealt with as part of the main statutory order on transfer of assets and will need a separate order, due to separate parliamentary legislation.</p>

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	<p><u>Cllr Andrew Jarvis</u>: gave an update on the situation with the 597 bus, which is funded via charitable donations. Coming out of Covid 19, the finances are in poor shape and renewed fund-raising is needed. Any help that Council can give will be most welcome. LGR work is progressing and the new project director has been appointed. High level meetings are held every week and work streams have been identified for each major area of transition. He will keep Council up to date as work progresses. On specifically local issues, Cllr Jarvis has contributed to dealing with the flooding on Thwaites Lane over new year and is the new Local Authority governor at St Martin and St Mary's school.</p> <p>Cllr Dyan Jones updated the Council on the Net Zero strategy and work progressing to aim to achieve this. There are numerous strands of work all over the district and a good example is introduction of electric vehicle charging points, which will enable the Council to move to electric fleet eventually.</p> <p><u>Cllr Jim Bland</u> also thanked the Town Council for its work with the Winter Lights at St Martins. He underlined the work due to start on the Crag Brow roundabout which is due to finish before Easter.</p> <p>Cllr Hamilton raised some concerns about the design with regard to access for large carriers and the Mayor agreed to take this forward with the project managers. Cllr Christine Hallatch raised deep concerns about the depth of potholes on the top stretch of Oldfield Road, which are now posing a significant risk to vehicles and to safety. Cllr Bland confirmed that CCC Councillor Ben Berry needs to be contacted about this to take it forward with Highways and Cllr Hallatsch agreed to do this.</p>
117.	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b></p> <p>The written report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk highlighted specific items as follows:</p> <p>She read out the December report from the Town Steward in full, as this contained important information about the work completed in the wake of Storm Arwen to make Elleray Woods accessible. All agreed that thanks should go to Gary Hancox, the Town Steward for the valuable and excellent work put in and also to Will Hicks for prioritising tree surgeon work in the woodland. The Clerk had already sent thanks to Will Hicks in writing. The Clerk updated Councillors on the work undertaken by SLDC to provide additional litter bins in key locations, which the Council has paid for out of the CCC Covid grant. 10 have been installed and the locations were read out. There are a further 2 available and Town Councillors were asked for their opinions on where they should be best sited. The suggestions agreed were outside the Co-op in Windermere and in Rayrigg Road layby. The Clerk will send these suggestions on to SLDC.</p> <p>The Clerk also highlighted the opportunities in the new year for councillor training courses online via CALC and asked that those interested contact her. She will re-circulate the list of courses. Also, she highlighted the repair work that is ordered for Baddeley Clock to get it up and running again and the deadline later this week for receipt of tenders for the cleaning and maintenance contracts for the public toilets facilities.</p> <p>The Clerk answered a number of questions from Councillors.</p>

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118.	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>a) Invoices listed on the January Orders for payment were proposed by Cllr Christine Hallatsch and seconded by Cllr Ian Telford, with the addition of: Gary Hancox - £1,358.99 for Town Steward work in December 2021. HSBC Bank Charges for December 21: £10.00 Healthmatic Toilet Cleaning Dec/Jan 22: £4,511.72 Water Plus: Water Bills for Sept to Jan 22 for 4 facilities: £1,740.55 NAYAX: Charges on £4.5k of toilets income in December 21: £311.53 Enviroguard: Mechanical Jet £294. All amounts are inclusive of VAT. These were agreed unanimously.</p> <p>b) Cllr Lisa Greasley proposed that Council agree to an additional £1,821 of expenditure to improve the pump track surfacing at Queens Park, which has been highlighted as potentially dangerous. This would include £725 Turf and £1,096 rubber matting. This was seconded by Cllr Jenny Borer and agreed with 9 votes in favour.</p>
119.	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b></p> <p>The following dates were noted. All meetings will commence at 7pm: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022: Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022: Planning sub-committee (Marchesi Centre) Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022; Full Council: Marchesi Centre</p>
	<p><b>The Mayor concluded business in public at 8.20pm and moved to private session for the following agenda item:</b></p>
120.	<p><b>Co-option of a Town Councillor</b></p> <p>The application from a local resident to fill the vacant seat in the Bowness North ward was discussed. The Clerk was asked to update on the waiting list and confirmed that there is one other resident on the list. Councillors did not feel able to make a decision without meeting both candidates and it was agreed that the Clerk would invite them to the February Town Council meeting.</p>

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