



WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council On 13th March 2024 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p>Present: Windermere & Bowness Town Council (W&BTC) Deputy Mayor Lisa Greasley (in the chair for items 176 & 177), Cllrs Jenny Borer, Sandra Lilley, John Saunders, Kate Tripp, Kay Kennedy-Hardy, Kendra Kennedy, Christine Cook, Peter Cook, Caroline Kearney, Peter Hamilton, Marina Davis, Jackie Cooper, Kevin Heffernan, Christine Hallatsch and Beverley Cullen. Also: Sally Parkyn (Town Clerk), Facilities Officer (FO) Rebecca Pinder and four members of the public. Also: Westmorland & Furness Council (W&FC) Steve Bavin and Andrew Jarvis. The meeting opened at 7pm</p>
176.	<p>Apologies and absence: Cllrs Adrian Legge (holiday) and Fiona Poole (Family commitment) W&FC Cllr Will Clark (prior commitment)</p>
177.	<p>Election of Mayor: Cllr Christine Hallatsch, proposed by Cllr Peter Hamilton and seconded by Cllr Beverley Cullen was elected as mayor and with 7 votes compared to 5 votes for Cllr Sandra Lilley and 4 votes for Cllr Lisa Greasley. She and the Clerk signed the Acceptance of Office. The rest of the meeting was chaired by Cllr Christine Hallatsch.</p>
178.	<p>Election of Deputy Mayor: Cllr Lisa Greasley continued to serve as Deputy Mayor so an election was not required.</p>
179.	<p>Full Council Minutes: The minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th February 2024 were unanimously approved for signature.</p>
180.	<p>Planning Subcommittee Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the Planning Subcommittee held on 28th February 2024 were noted.</p>
181.	<p>Declarations of Interest: NONE</p>
182.	<p>Requests for Dispensations: NONE</p>
183.	<p>Items to be taken in private session: It was unanimously agreed to discuss the agenda items on renewing the quote for Langrigge Play Area grass cutting and bin emptying, appointment of sculptor and the clerk's appraisal in private session, after the close of the meeting, due to the confidential content.</p>
184.	<p>Public Input: Two members of the public spoke raising the concerns of themselves and other residents about a proposed full variation to a premises license in Bowness and issues with the current license. They were advised that it would be discussed by the Planning Subcommittee at the meeting on 27.3.24.</p>
185.	<p>Member Updates: Cllr John Saunders: reported the recent Chamber of trade meeting had been cancelled.</p>

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	<p><u>Cllr Kate Tripp</u>: On the 29th February she and Cllr Lilley had attended the Lakes Line Rail User Group (LLRUG) 40th Anniversary celebration. Cllr Borer also attended as a founder member. Special guest Tim Farron agreed with the need to keep working to get a passing loop installed on the line.</p> <p>From the meeting she reported that: Oxenholme is in the bottom ten nationally for cancellations and punctuality, The Stage Coach summer timetable, including train information, is now out.</p> <p>Cllr Lisa Greasley reported that the station planters are to be refurbished by local school children. The broken railings near the stream in Queen's Park have been reported to Westmorland & Furness Council.</p> <p><u>Cllr Peter Hamilton</u>: reported concerns about an incident involving a replica gun in a shop in Bowness. This was felt to be a police matter and it would be the decision of the victims if they wished to report it.</p>
186.	<p>Advisory Group Reports:</p> <p><u>Windermere Lake Water Quality Advisory Group (WLWQAG):</u></p> <p>The group met to decide plans for the summer. Caroline Kearney has volunteered to lead the Water testing group.</p> <p>The Town Council Lake Anney solution water quality statement has encouraged other parishes to do the same such as Lakes Parish and Cllr Peter Cook has been invited to speak to Staveley Parish Council.</p> <p>Love Windermere have agreed to have a parish council representative on the board. Cllr Peter Cook has accepted the place with Cllr Pip Simpson of Lakes Parish serving as deputy. United Utilities representative has been working on the high level plans for the Lake Anney solution in Windermere. Work has now stalled on that as United utilities wait for a response from other partners.</p>
187.	<p>Westmorland & Furness Councillor Announcements:</p> <p><u>Cllr Steve Bavin</u>: announced that the ferry five yearly inspection is now scheduled for 14.4.24-24.5.24. Work to improve reliability will be carried out at the same time. Funding of £5000 towards the summer marshalls requested by Town council has been awarded by Westmorland and Furness Council. The further community grant application has not yet been decided.</p> <p><u>Cllr Andrew Jarvis</u>: had attended the Gateway community meeting.</p> <p>He noted that a lot of work had been done on pot holes and that any remaining should be reported.</p> <p>The 597 bus is now running on a Friday funded by Westmorland & Furness council so please use it. All are welcome to attend the AGM of the Friends of the 597 Bus group on 25th April at the Marchesi Centre.</p> <p>The W&FC grant policy had been approved.</p> <p>The W&FC budget has been approved and has avoided the financial problems many other local councils are facing. From 2025-6 and onwards it is hoped the local area will benefit from the double council tax on second homes.</p>

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	<p>The new Lake District Visitor management plan has been published. In order to widen knowledge of the issues facing the area he has invited Sam Plum the W&FC Chief executive to spend the day here.</p>
188.	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p><u>King Charles II Coronation portrait:</u> public bodies, including town council's, have been invited to apply for a free framed portrait which has been done.</p> <p><u>Elections:</u> Declarations of interest page on our website is now up to date and W&FC's page is correct except for the newest councillors. Their forms have been sent to the monitoring officer. This will now be removed from the list.</p> <p><u>Clerk Training:</u> Clerk is gradually working on CiLCA assignments. However, due to not meeting the necessary percentage of elected councillors General Power of Competence cannot be obtained until the 2027 elections.</p> <p><u>Finance:</u> VAT reclaim has been received. The audit forms have not yet been received. Access to Scribe began on 1.3.24. Clerk starting to set up ready for next financial year.</p> <p><u>Baddeley Clock:</u> Electricity upgrade and removal of existing mechanism took place 4.3.24.</p> <p><u>War Memorial Culvert:</u> The Clerk has begun working on the forms for the Environment Agency permit to carry out the work these are ready to go to contactor to be checked.</p> <p><u>Longlands Land:</u> Parks and open spaces group to decide on next steps and bring to Policy and Finance meeting.</p> <p><u>Langstone House/New council office:</u> there were no developments to feedback from Liaison group meeting.</p> <p><u>Langrigge Play Area:</u> Lease now signed completed. Need to update with Land registry.</p> <p><u>W&FC Liaison Group:</u> Next Liaison group date TBC. Send items for Agenda to Kate.</p> <p><u>Library Gardens:</u> W&F Cllr Dyan Jones has offered to set up a meeting with their officers regarding the gardens. Councillors need to be clear before the meeting what they are asking for and costs involved. Suggest Parks and Open spaces bring a proposal to Policy and Finance meeting.</p> <p><u>Facilities Officer (FO):</u> Winter Lights group have taken down lights and will contact clerk with their decision by the end of the week. St Martin's have been contacted to turn off their tree.</p> <p><u>Planning & Licensing:</u> Planning is trialling putting individual planning applications on Facebook (closed to comments) to increase awareness. The marshalls grant application has been submitted on 12.3.24. <u>Parking:</u> The National Trust has explained the limitation on the use of Rectory Field. It will not be possible to extend parking here. This will be removed from the ongoing list.</p> <p><u>Defibrillator:</u> This has been fitted on 4.3.24 after permission from W&FC received. Licence to be signed.</p> <p><u>Town Steward (TS):</u> The Goodley Dale Bus shelter has now been fixed. Gary has cleared the blocked roof drain at BB. Scented hyacinths have been planted at Bowness Bay. He is</p>

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	<p>beginning the spring tidy of planters and with over 90% of plants surviving the winter will only need to purchase a few more plants to top up the scheme. Note: the pay increase previously agreed at full council 19.4.23 will go into effect in April 24. <u>Elleray Woods:</u> Despite the weather good progress has been made in the new compartment and it is on track to open at Easter with the opening in the wall created but currently blocked off. Site visit and advisory group meeting on 27th March 3pm. <u>20mph Zones:</u> the application has been submitted to W&FC. Demand for the scheme has been higher than anticipated so it will take time for officers to work through the applications. <u>Emails and phone calls:</u> Ongoing at 50 a day. Facilities Officer's Report: The income is still up on last year. The quarterly meeting with Healthmatic has been rescheduled for 22.3.24. The Broad Street men's paddle gate which is currently broken is to be inspected by an independent engineer to see if it can be repaired. The Glebe men's door has been kicked in for the second time in a year despite the current door having three locking points. The joiner is to view if it can be repaired. Security measures such as adding a metal plate will be investigated. A third builder has viewed the Glebe ladies to quote for an additional door.</p>
189.	<p>Finance a) It was unanimously resolved to accept the payment of the invoices detailed on the Orders for Payment listing with the addition of two payments to GAL Electrical for work at Baddeley Clock - £370.96 and Rayrigg Meadow Toilets - £389.05. Also the payments to Npower for toilet block electricity of £108.96 Rayrigg Meadow, £84.21 Rayrigg Road, £117.31 Braithwaite Fold, £116.42 Quarry Rigg, £99.55 Bowness bay, £50.08 Broad Street. b) It was unanimously resolved to accept the the budget monitoring position for the first 11 months of the financial year.</p>
190.	<p>Licence to site a Public Defibrillator at Rayrigg Meadow public convenience It was resolved to authorise the Mayor to sign the licence agreement with Westmorland & Furness Council.</p>
191.	<p>Biodiversity Policy It was resolved to adopt the new biodiversity policy.</p>
192.	<p>Water Testing 1. It was resolved to accept the Water Quality Advisory Group recommendation to implement a trial volunteer water testing program from April to October 2024. 2. It was resolved to provide a budget of £500 for the program. 3. It was resolved to authorise the clerk to spend up to £250 under delegated powers to purchase the initial equipment.</p>

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193.	CCTV temporary continuation: 1. It was resolved to agree to pay monthly for the CCTV to remain operational until the April meeting. 2. It was resolved that the clerk with the assistance of ward councillors should approach neighbouring businesses about use of their Wi-Fi signal to carry the CCTV images to police HQ.
	The Chair then closed the meeting in public at 8:38pm and convened in private session to discuss the following items:
194.	Contract to carry out grass cutting and bin emptying at Langrigge Play Area: It was resolved to accept the quote from Continental Landscapes to renew the contract to carry out grass cutting and bin emptying at Langrigge Play area.
195.	Appointment of Sculptor It was decided to postpone a decision on a sculptor to create an initial chainsaw sculpture in Elleray Woods new compartment to the April meeting and to request a quotation for owls.
196.	Clerk's Appraisal Councillors provide feedback to the Mayor regarding the clerk's performance since June 2023 and award of increment.
	Dates of Next Meetings: To note dates of forthcoming meetings as follows, starting at 7pm, unless otherwise shown: Wednesday 27 th March 2024: Orrest head & Elleray Woods site visit and meeting at 3pm Elleray Woods Wednesday 27 th March 2024: Planning sub-committee: Langstone House Wednesday 17 th April: Annual Parish Meeting followed by Full Council at 6pm Marchesi Centre

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