



WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting

13th February 2019 at 7.30pm, The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p>Present: Mayor Leith Hallatsch (in the chair), Deputy Mayor John Saunders, Cllrs Mrs JS Borer, Mrs Christine Hallatsch, Mrs Kate Tripp, Mr Alan Hands, Mr Peter Hamilton, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Mr Adrian Legge, Ms Sandra Lilley, Ms Grania Nicholson. Also: Julie Hartley (Town Clerk), SLDC Cllrs Andrew Jarvis & David Williams. Bill Smith, Chairman of BWCCT, Helen Moriarty, Bowness & Windermere Forward and 1 member of the public. The meeting opened at 7.30pm.</p>
171.	<p>Apologies and absence: Cllrs Mr Mike Stafford, Ms Magda Khan, Ms K Atkinson & SLDC Cllrs Dyan Jones & Ben Berry.</p>
172.	<p>Minutes: It was resolved that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9th January 2019 be signed as a true and accurate record.</p>
173.	<p>Planning Minutes: It was resolved to accept the minutes of the planning sub-committee held on 23rd January 2019.</p>
174.	<p>Declarations of Interest: NONE</p>
175.	<p>Requests for Dispensations: NONE</p>
176.	<p>Public Input: Public Toilets in Windermere & Bowness: Bill Smith, Chairman of the Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust (BWCCT) explained the background to the current arrangements, whereby 7 public conveniences are operated and managed under a service agreement, by BWCCT, on behalf of the Town Council who own the head leases (from SLDC) on the buildings. The toilets are managed on a not for profit basis. It costs approximately £118,000 per annum to operate them (cleaning, maintenance and coin collection) and approximately £85,000 from 350,000 users is collected from pay on entry (charges are 20p or 40p at Bowness Bay and Quarry Rigg). Bowness Bay toilets provide 52% of the throughput and the facilities struggle to cope. There is clear scope for an additional facility in this area. The gap between costs and income is made up by the Town Council (currently £25,000 per annum) and SLDC provide funds on a medium term diminishing basis (£7,000 this year). Bill explained that there has been a significant increase in complaints in the last year and that he handles most of them personally. Most complaints are about the charge and the condition of the toilets. This is an issue which is radically affected by how the toilets are treated and used and not simply down to the cleaning regime. There are indications that the range of different cultures and backgrounds of visitors to the Lake District has contributed to the misuse of the facilities. The Trust have considered options to raise more income, given the dependence on local government funding but simply increasing the fee is not necessarily the answer as the</p>

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	<p>condition of some toilets does not justify an increased charge and the expectations of users are linked to the fee.</p> <p>Bill concluded by making it clear that the Trust are willing to continue managing the facilities as long as Bill is able and willing to continue. The Town Council should consider how resilient this situation is into the medium term. This was accepted by Councillors and it has been the subject of discussion at the Policy & Finance Advisory Group.</p> <p>Councillors asked a number of questions about the operation and the Clerk reminded Bill of the need for the Trust to respond to the new draft Service Agreement that had been prepared by the Council and now needs to be progressed.</p> <p>The Mayor and Councillors thanked Bill for his continuing commitment to the project and for all the work he does on a voluntary basis.</p>
177.	<p>Public Input: Bowness & Windermere Forward (BWF):</p> <p>Helen Moriarty, co-ordinator for BWF, provided an update to Town Council on progress with the establishment of Bowness (Glebe Tennis Courts) as a diverse outdoor market venue. Prom Art will be returning this summer and dates have been set for the 2nd Sunday of each month. An antiques market will take place on a Saturday each month and a Farmers market on a Friday. Given the diverse activity, it is important that one brand is created for Bowness which is readily recognizable and that local people are at the centre of these developments. BWF would like to employ a local company (Flock) to create this brand and promote it to local residents and businesses, by creating enthusiasm for the Glebe Tennis Courts as a venue and utilizing social media. BWF believe that this promotional activity is absolutely key to the success of the project.</p> <p>The Town Council have set aside £5,000 in reserves in the 2019/20 budget to assist with BWF projects and the BWF requested £3,300 of this to meet the costs associated with markets promotion.</p> <p>Town Councillors agreed to commit these funds in the new financial year and thanked Helen for coming to the meeting to explain the background.</p>
178.	<p>Public Input:</p> <p>There was no further input from the public.</p>
179.	<p>Mayor & Member Announcements:</p> <p><u>Cllr Borer:</u> updated on the recent Lake Administration meeting. The main item arising was general support for the re-instatement of the Windermere Ferry Advisory Committee with representation from parish councils around the lake.</p> <p><u>Cllr Greasley:</u> attended the planning sub-committee as an observer and found the presentation from Neil Henderson of the LDNPA very informative. Cllr Greasley had met with Michael Gudgeon to talk through and agree the approach to the public flower displays this year and with Adrian Faulkner to discuss the suggested Sculpture Trail. Had also attended Cumbria in Bloom, Policy & Finance Advisory Group and the funeral of ex-Councillor Jennifer Jewell.</p> <p><u>Cllr Saunders:</u> updated Council on the meeting of the CCC South Lakeland Local Committee. He was able to confirm that CCC have agreed to re-instate the Windermere Ferry Advisory Group. The officer who was to present on the new local agreement for Highways work was</p>

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	<p>not able to attend so there is no further information on this issue. The Chief Fire Officer gave a very interesting presentation on the Fire Management Plan and the role of the Fire Service in working proactively with the public on fire prevention as well as providing emergency response. Response times in Cumbria are good for a rural area but it is still the case that many calls are false, even though the situation is improving. New vehicles are being trialed (RRV or Rapid Response Vehicles). These are smaller and much quicker to get to an emergency than the large fire vehicles but are able to carry almost as much water and are as effective. Also it was confirmed that work along the A591 will continue as the Highways team take the opportunity for re-surfacing. The work is not now due to be completed until the end of March this year.</p> <p>Cllr Saunders also attended the recent Bowness & Windermere Forward event and drew councillors' attention to the Welcome Ambassador initiative that is being led by the LDNPA. There is due to be a training event on 15th April but there are no further details on this yet.</p> <p><u>Cllr Peter Hamilton</u>: Updated that he was still working to improve the situation with vandalism (smashed windows) on Ash Street.</p> <p><u>Cllr Sandra Lilly</u>: Reported an improvement in the situation at the Goodly Dale Surgery, which is benefiting from an injection of quality staff. SLDC Cllr Jarvis was able to add to this with the recent announcement of a good rating for the surgery from the Care Quality Commission.</p>
180.	<p>Policy & Finance Advisory Group: Deputy Mayor John Saunders presented the minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2019 and these were accepted by Council. The following recommendations were approved: a) That a pledge of £2,000 is made to the PTA of St Martin's and St Mary's School to assist with fund-raising for much needed swimming pool improvements. b) That a request is made for the use of 4 Speed Indicator Devices in the Windermere and Bowness area to the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership.</p>
181.	<p>District & County Councillors' reports: <u>Cllr Williams</u>: reported that he is still working on finding a way to achieve improvements in the appearance of Robinson Place. He has heard nothing further from CCC on the Albert Roundabout (removal and consolidation of signage). <u>Cllr Jarvis</u>: had been working on lots of minor issues locally but had nothing substantial to report.</p>
182.	<p>Clerk's Report: The Clerk had circulated a report prior to the meeting and added the following items which had been received in the meantime: A thank-you letter from the family of ex Cllr Jennifer Jewell, thanking the Town Council for the lovely flowers at Jennifer's funeral and also to those Councillors who attended the funeral. It was much appreciated by the family. Lakes Line Rail User Group: Agenda for the meeting on 15th February and minutes from 9th January. CALC Newsletter for February, already circulated on email, which has some interesting</p>

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	<p>articles, covering elections and recruitment of councillors, felling of trees consultation, the Great British Spring Clean 2019, Neighbourhood Planning training events - approximately 10 Councillors would be interested in attending such courses.</p> <p>Town Steward report for January, which covers repairs to the access road in Elleray Woods, brash hurdle in the woods, removal of fallen and damaged limbs from trees, emergence of the native daffodils, liter picking and planting schemes and the approval from the Forestry Commission to the new felling licence in Elleray Woods.</p> <p>Response from CCC to the question posed by the Town Council as to the existence of a funding reserve to replace the Ferry when needed. It has been confirmed by the Finance Department that no such reserve now exists and that any major work on the Ferry will be funded from the capital programme.</p> <p>Councillors asked questions of clarification and the Mayor thanked the Clerk for her report.</p>
183.	<p>Finance - Invoices for Payment:</p> <p>a) The invoices set out on the agenda were approved for payment. The following invoices, received more recently, were also approved:</p> <p>Town Steward payment for January: £952 A further invoice from Jewson for £55.39 (Rock Salt)</p> <p>b) The following grant applications were referred to Policy & Finance Advisory Group for discussion and recommendations.</p> <p>Queens Park Bowling Club contribution to new spiker (£1,000) Windermere Youth Project contribution to annual running costs (£2,500)</p>
184.	<p>Dates of Next Meetings:</p> <p>All meetings will start at 7pm at Langstone House unless otherwise stated. Notification of any agenda items/motions should be sent to the Clerk no later than 7 working days before the meeting.</p> <p>Wednesday 27th February 2019: Planning sub-committee Wednesday 6th March 2019: Full Council Wednesday 20th March 2019 at 6pm: Allotments Annual General Meeting. Wednesday 27th March: Planning sub-committee</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.20pm.</p>

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