



# 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 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> Mayor Leith Hallatsch, Jenny Borer, Sandra Lilley, Peter Cook, Kate Trip, Christine Hallatsch, Lisa Greasley, Peter Hamilton, John Saunders, Caroline Kearney Also: Sally Parkyn (Town Clerk) and 2 members of the public. Also: Westmorland &amp; Furness Council (W&amp;FC) Steve Bavin, Will Clark &amp; Dyan Jones The meeting opened at 7pm</p>
16.	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Cllrs Adrian Legge &amp; Marina Davis (annual leave), Cllr Christine Cook (illness), W&amp;FC Cllr Andrew Jarvis (annual leave),</p>
17.	<p><b>Item to be discussed in private session:</b> NONE</p>
18.	<p><b>Full Council Minutes:</b> The minutes of the AGM Full Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were accepted as a true and accurate record.</p>
19.	<p><b>Planning sub-committee Minutes:</b> The minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were noted.</p>
20.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> NONE</p>
21.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> NONE</p>
22.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> NONE</p>
23.	<p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Updates:</b> <b>Cllr Peter Cook:</b> announced he was standing down as chair of the Westmorland &amp; Furness Liaison Group and Kate Tripp would be taking over as chair after a transition period over the summer. <b>Cllr Kate Tripp:</b> Noted the new time for the Hurricane and Spitfire flyby on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June currently scheduled for 14:57 but subject to change. On 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 she attended the Lakes Line Community Rail Partnership along with Adrian Faulkner from the Chamber of Trade. The Chamber of Trade noted that footfall in our area was up this year. Nigel Wilkinson of Windermere Lake Cruises noted takings were 20% down this year and they need staff in retail and catering. Ian Rathbone is the new W&amp;FC representative. At Windermere Station the ticket machine is now outside for 24-hour access. A water fountain will be put inside where it stood. There is also a water fountain at Oxenholme. Staveley are looking for volunteers for their station improvement work.</p>

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	<p>30 June and 31 July a passenger survey will be carried out on the Windermere Line. Volunteers welcome.</p> <p>The new paper timetable is available in the station or at Booths.</p> <p>Train cancellations on the line are down to 4% (after 13% last year)</p> <p>The current industrial action is over terms and conditions not pay.</p> <p>Kendal Station is trialing video assistance for deaf passengers.</p> <p>The Eden Project which is planned to be opposite Morecambe station has £50 million in funding but needs another £50 million.</p> <p>The £2 bus fairs are to continue until October then become £2.50.</p> <p>Emma Moody is leading the Strategic Visitor Group at Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA)</p> <p>Avanti Trains have been granted a 7 month extension to their contract.</p> <p><b>CLlr Peter Hamilton:</b> noted that the Goose Management Group is restarting and he will step back up as the W&amp;BTC representative.</p> <p><b>CLlr Lisa Greasley:</b> noted the daffodil bulbs funded by the Civic Society have been ordered for Orrest head and the pupils of Windermere School will help with the planting.</p> <p>6-23 July the 5 W&amp;BTC entries to Cumbria in Bloom will be judged.</p> <p>She has been in contact with BT to request the urgent need to cut back the plants around their property.</p> <p>On 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023 she opened the new Joe Brown store in Bowness.</p> <p>CLlr Greasley attended the Windermere Endowed Committee meeting where the lease for the Langrigge play area was agreed.</p> <p>The Coronation Trees have been delivered but due to the hot dry weather they will be planted in September giving them a better chance of survival. She will do the new paperwork to agree the planting with W&amp;FC and the site location for Troutbeck Bridge has been sent to the Lakes School governors for approval.</p> <p><b>Mayor Leith Hallatsch:</b> attended the Mayor Making in Kendal and enjoyed meeting the very active Rinteln Town Twinning Group.</p>
24.	<p><b>District &amp; County Councillors' reports:</b></p> <p><b>CLlr Steve Bavin:</b> reported a useful meeting with Police Sergeant Mellard. He passed on a request that people call 999 if there is a risk of injury or damage to property. After the event people can use 101 by phone or the online reporting service. The more reports that are received the more resources this area will get so it is worth doing.</p>

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	<p>Noise nuisance issues can be reported to W&amp;FC online if they can be heard from your home, this means enforcement action can be taken if required. However, there will be a record of this if a search is made in future on your property.</p> <p>He has been in touch with National Trust about the use of Rectory Fields for parking. Unfortunately, over the recent bank holidays the farmer was using the field for grass, so it was unavailable.</p> <p>He also reported that the Radar Key for disabled toilet access will be moving to a contactless system.</p> <p><b>Cllr Will Clark:</b> reported that the LDNPA Tactical Visitor Group is to begin meeting again. The Lake Administration Committee will meet on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.</p> <p><b>Cllr Dyan Jones:</b> noted there has been a lot of work on the IT systems but there have been a number of IT glitches as the 4 councils' platforms have been combined. They are hopefully aware of most of the issues but if users spot anything to let her know.</p>
25.	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b></p> <p><u>Elections:</u> Last three amendments to Declaration of Interest forms needed. The rest are with the Monitoring Officer.</p> <p><u>War Memorial Culvert:</u> Cumbria Landscaping are still waiting on Environment Agency permits being processed.</p> <p><u>Longlands Land:</u> Bowling Club committee have replied with a decision not to sign a lease. This has been forwarded to the Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Group for a response.</p> <p><u>Public Toilets:</u> The wall outside Broad Street been fixed by Gary, then damaged again slightly.</p> <p>Verbal report from inspection carried out 13/6/23 by Facilities Officer and Town Clerk in preparation for quarterly Healthmatic meeting: income is up but so are blockages. Timed access for Millerground is being put in on 26/6/23.</p> <p>Healthmatic Quarterly meeting 27/6/23 notes will be presented at Policy &amp; Finance meeting on 29/6/23.</p> <p>The issue of schools needing toilet access has been resolved by directing them to Braithwaite Fold.</p> <p><u>Langstone House/New council office:</u> the new office has now been granted planning permission. Langstone house planning application is still with LDNP.</p> <p><u>Finance:</u> The end of year accounts are with external auditor and notice of rights of public inspection between 5<sup>th</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 has been published.</p> <p>Insurance quote: Council Guard 4.6% increase but includes changing places and Longlands now.</p>

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	<p><u>Elleray Woods:</u> Delayed tarmac work has been rescheduled to start 6/9/23. Meeting about the donation box with LDNP and LDF booked for 13/7/23. Daffodils have been ordered from the allocated Civic Society reserve.</p> <p><u>Westmorland &amp; Furness Council Liaison Group:</u> Next liaison meeting 7.7.23</p> <p><u>Langrigge Play Area:</u> Windermere Endowed committee have met and approved a continuation of the peppercorn rent so it has now gone to their solicitor and we should receive the lease in due course.</p> <p><u>Planning &amp; Licensing:</u> Planning Subcommittee are gathering additional evidence on the need for the Cumulative Impact Report/ marshals request. There have been some positive enforcement actions taken by Lake District National Park planning.</p> <p><u>Facilities Officer:</u> all allotment invoices now paid and all plots let. A rubbish collection is being arranged as a skip was not needed.</p> <p><u>Town Steward:</u> The new planters are complete in Bowness. He has been needing to water on extra days while they are getting established. Time has had to be spent fixing vandalism and littering. He has also been tackling ivy.</p> <p><u>Emails and phone calls:</u> Ongoing at up to 50 a day.</p>
26.	<p><b>Invoice Payments:</b></p> <p>a) Council approved those items included on the Orders for Payment list which had been circulated with the agenda and in addition approved the following: Purchase of a budget laptop for councillors to use to attend online meetings, read email and digital documents and conduct other council related business. Gary Hancox payment of £1440.00, plants £641.72, NAYAX charges of £636.21, Water Plus Rayrigg Road Toilets £224.39 and pre authorization to reimburse cost for the planting scheme up to £1000.</p> <p>b) To view the relative variance from budget forecast report. This was the first monthly report and was accepted by the council as useful information with suggestions for various amendments to make it clearer in future.</p>
27.	<p><b>Town Twinning 25 Year celebration:</b></p> <p>a) To formally thank everyone who supported the Town Twinning 25 Year Celebration event on May 28<sup>th</sup> 2023; particularly acknowledging the efforts of Cllr Jenny Borer (Chair of Town Twinning) and Joan Jones (an active and longstanding member) in making it possible. This was unanimously agreed with a request for the clerk to write to both ladies along with the Town Twinning organisation expressing their thanks.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Jenny Borer accepted the thanks and noted that it had been a wonderful day. She thanked the Old Pump House Café for providing the band's lunch. She also expressed thanks to Cllr Lisa Greasley and town Steward Gary Hancox for tidying up the garden bed at the Diessen Promenade in Bowness. The Blasergruppe also played at Allan Bank and Town Twinning group enjoyed a celebratory meal at the Lamplighter and a farewell full English breakfast at the Jetty Museum. Cllr Borer referred to questions about the future of the Twinning Association as there is such a small membership, particularly of active members, and the Diessen Group is similarly lacking in officers. However, there will be a Town Twinning event in Diessen in September.</p> <p>b) Deputy mayor Lisa Greasley, suggested that Town Council fund a plaque, commemorating the 25 Years event, to be placed on Diessen Promenade near the 20<sup>th</sup> celebration sign (cost around £250). Subject to permission being granted by Westmorland &amp; Furness Council and a suitable rock being procured. It was unanimously agreed that this should be taken forward and returned to council once permission and a fixed price are established.</p>
28.	<p><b>Windermere Lake Water quality:</b></p> <p>a) To set up a Windermere Lake Water Quality Advisory Group (WLWQ) to represent WBTC at relevant discussion groups, correspond (via the clerk) with relevant organisations and report back on actions WBTC can take to support improvement in water quality. Agreed unanimously.</p> <p>b) If WLWQ approved, to request councillors who would like to become members and choose a chair. The councillors who volunteered to join the group were: Peter Cook, Jenny Borer, Kate Tripp, Peter Hamilton, Caroline Kearney and Christine Cook. They will decide the chair at their first meeting.</p> <p>c) In the interest of balance, that Matt Staniek is invited to give a presentation 5:30-6:30pm before a future Council Meeting to explain the current position of his campaign to improve the water quality of Lake Windermere and answer questions. This was agreed by a majority with an amendment to make the time 6-7pm.</p>
29.	<p><b>Road Safety &amp; Parking Issues:</b></p> <p>That the Car Parking Project group use their previous findings to lead on this issue and sign off on the actions the Town Clerk carries out at the request of the council:</p>

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	<p>a) Town Clerk, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, write to our local MP and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities about reintroducing the 56 days for temporary parking so the National Trust can open Rectory Field on busy days through the summer.</p> <p>b) That the Town Clerk, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, write to the National Trust requesting that Rectory Fields be open on all future summer bank holiday weekends together with any additional parking areas which may be identified.</p> <p>c) That the Town Clerk, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, write to Westmorland &amp; Furness Council requesting that action be taken to improve the traffic situation in our area. Notably, that yellow lines be painted along Rayrigg Road, that measures be taken to slow traffic through central Bowness and along Limethwaite Road near the park, that additional traffic wardens be employed to work on bank holiday weekends enforcing the no parking rules and enquiries made if any additional parking areas can be identified.</p> <p>d) That the Town Clerk, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, write to the police inviting them to attend a future meeting to speak to council about how they could improve road safety and night-time public safety in our area.</p> <p>e) That the Town Clerk, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, write to the Lake District National Park asking for leadership and strategic planning to restore the Lake District to be worthy of its World Heritage status; tackling issues such as litter and urgently reconsidering park and ride facilities to reduce the number of vehicles entering the Lake District and in the meantime attempting to identify additional parking areas. These were agreed unanimously.</p>
30.	<p><b>Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) Update:</b> That following recent events in Bowness, Planning Subcommittee, via the clerk, write to W&amp;FC Licensing committee and the Director of Thriving Communities with additional evidence of the urgent need for a CIA and marshals in Bowness. This was agreed unanimously.</p>
31.	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> To note dates of forthcoming meetings as follows, starting at 7pm, unless otherwise shown: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022: Planning sub-committee: Langstone House. Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022: Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group: Langstone House. Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022: Full Council: Langstone House</p>
	<p><b>The Mayor concluded the business of Full Council at 8:27pm</b></p>

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