



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> Windermere &amp; Bowness Town Council (W&amp;BTC) Chair - Mayor Leith Hallatsch, Cllrs Jenny Borer, Beverley Cullen, Sandra Lilley, Christine Cook, Peter Cook, Marina Davis, Caroline Kearney, Lisa Greasley, Christine Hallatsch, Kate Tripp &amp; John Saunders Also: Sally Parkyn (Town Clerk), Beccy Pinder (Facilities Officer - FO) and 3 members of the public. Also: Westmorland &amp; Furness Council (W&amp;FC) Steve Bavin and Andrew Jarvis. The meeting opened at 7pm</p>
102.	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Cllrs Adrian Legge (holiday) and Peter Hamilton &amp; Jackie Cooper(illness), Kevin Heffernan (work commitment) W&amp;FC Cllr Will Clark and Dyan Jones (prior commitments)</p>
103.	<p><b>Full Council Minutes:</b> The minutes of the Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were approved for signature with the addition of a p to Tripp on page 2.</p>
104.	<p><b>Planning sub-committee Minutes:</b> The minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were noted.</p>
105.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Cllrs Lisa Greasley and Jenny Borer declared an interest in respect of item 13. Grant Application a) because they are members of The Marchesi.</p>
106.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> NONE</p>
107.	<p><b>Items to be taken in private session:</b> It was unanimously agreed to discuss the agenda items on Longlands Recreation Area in private session, after the close of the meeting; also to 12. Finance items B &amp; C due to the confidential content.</p>
108.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> NONE</p>
109.	<p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Updates:</b> <u>Christine Hallatsch</u> had attended the judges service at Carlisle Cathedral with Leith on 11/11/23 and the Remembrance Service 12/11/23. Also thanked all who helped at and attended Windermere in Bloom. <u>Kate Tripp</u> had attended the Lakes Line Rail Users Group (LLRUG) AGM on 4/11/23 which had been attended by representatives of Northern, Transpennine, Windermere Lake Cruises(WLC) and Gates Travel. Both train companies were investing in new trains to be delivered later this decade and recruiting for new staff. Cancellation rates were improving. Demand was strong and the airport route was now above the pre-Covid levels. Northern were offering discounts with My Cumbria cards and family tickets and in January would be offering £1 tickets. WLC noted they were now a top three UK visitor attraction. However, custom was</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record:



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

	<p>20% down which they felt might be affected by campaigns highlighting the Lake water quality issues.</p> <p>Kate also listed the agenda items for the liaison group meeting on 17.11.23</p> <p><u>Jenny Borer</u> also attended the LLRUG AGM and was awarded a 40 year long service certificate for serving from its founding in 1984 through to 2024.</p> <p><u>Christine Cook</u> on 27/10/23 had attended the large multi-agency meeting organized by W&amp;FC to respond to W&amp;BTC's request for a Cumulative Impact Assessment and marshalls for Bowness.</p> <p><u>Lisa Greasley</u> had attended the Cumbria in Bloom awards where Elleray Wood and Jubilee Garden were given Gold Awards. Windermere School and the Bowness &amp; Windermere Community Care Trust won an award for their work at Windermere Station. She met the War Memorial gardener to plan work including preparations for Remembrance Day. All the Coronation Memorial Trees have now been planted including a ceremony attended by the Mayor and Lakes School pupils in Troutbeck Bridge. All daffodil and bluebell bulbs have now been planted on Orrest Head with the help of school children. The volunteers at Birthwaite Garden have asked us to take over the bush pruning as they can no longer manage the task.</p> <p><u>John Saunders</u> highlighted the issue of dangerous damaged road signs including one on Longlands Road which has been reported but not fixed. He had also attended a Chamber of Trade meeting which had a disappointing turn out. He noted the need to attract more members and hoped the Town Council could help them do so.</p> <p><u>Mayor Leith Hallatsch</u> had also enjoyed the Judges Service in Carlisle and tree planting at the Lakes School. He was working with the Chamber of Trade to offer a prize for the best festive window.</p>
110.	<p><b>Westmorland &amp; Furness Councillors' reports:</b></p> <p><u>Cllr Andrew Jarvis</u> reported that although very wet the Remembrance Service had been well attended.</p> <p>He had also been to the Hell to Windermere event at the Old Laundry about the Windermere Boys holocaust survivors.</p> <p>Along with Cllrs Will Clark and Dyan Jones he had applied for a sustainable transport grant to fix the issues with St Mary's footpath following the work carried out by Cumbria County Council contractors.</p> <p>He had been caught up in the flooding at Bannerigg and thought that the Town Council could help by highlighting the problem this posed for emergency services and writing to highways. In general W&amp;FC news the budget is on track with only a slight overspend. They have arranged to work with CALC (Cumbria Association of Local Councils). Councillors are now being informed if there are problems with refuse collections so they can share the information with their communities.</p> <p><u>Cllr Steve Bavin</u> reported that officers are now reviewing the Glebe bin placement. Cllr Greasley asked if the Dog Poo bin on Queen's Park which was due to be moved from its current slippery location could be moved as was agreed with the former South Lakeland District Council.</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record:



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

	<p>He had been to a ferry reliability meeting and work to improve it would be taking place when off the water for inspection in February. A 7% increase in taxi fares would be going to consultation.</p>
111.	<p><b>Advisory Group Reports:</b> <u>Cllr Peter Cook - Water Quality Advisory Group:</u> Love Windermere had a new leader, Andy Brown, who was hoping to refresh the organization. He was open to revisiting the idea of Town and Parish Council representation. Peter had been invited to attend a workshop in 29.11.23. The clerk was approaching the other lakeside parishes to gauge their interest and if they would like him to represent parish level councils on the board should a place be offered. W&amp;BTC unanimously selected Peter as representative on Love Windermere should such a role be required. Peter had also attended an online meeting with Louise Beardmore head of United Utilities. Current plans mainly surrounded moving rainwater out of the sewage system to prevent spills. A team had been asked to look at making Lake Windermere a special case and removing all sewage from the area. Sion Platts Killburn of United Utilities sounded a note of caution that this is currently only a concept and would be a huge undertaking both financially and logistically and would need buy in from community and government.</p>
112.	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b> <u>Elections:</u> W&amp;F website Town Councillor list still not up to date. Clerk has chased. <u>Clerk Training:</u> Clerk has done first three sessions. Very useful information <u>War Memorial:</u> Nick Berry did a great job preparing for remembrance. Clerk has been contacted by Step Cottage (opposite war memorial) where their section of the culvert burst. It turns out that EA wrote to them, us and CCC about all our sections. Clerk has contacted W&amp;F to find out what they have done and plan to do to try to coordinate. It was noted that a member of public had slipped while attending the two minutes silence. <u>Longlands Land:</u> Initial ideas received from both playground and pump track consultant. Community consultation to begin at Drop-in evening. Facebook reaction was generally positive with particular fondness for the yellow train. <u>Langstone House/New council office:</u> No developments. Leaking window reported. Basement now accessed by key not combination lock. <u>Finance:</u> The clerk would like to look into getting Scribe (Parish Council specific software) to speed up and simplify the accounting process. Will bring a report to January Policy &amp; Finance meeting. <u>W&amp;FC Liaison Group:</u> Kate is sending out an agenda to members. Next Liaison group meeting 17.11.23. <u>Langrigge Play Area:</u> Clerk has chased up the lease noting the urgency to get sorted. The replacement post for the basketball hoop had been carried out. <u>Parking:</u> Still waiting for response to letter asking for clarification on Rectory Fields car parking has been sent to the National Trust. Clerk to chase up in New Year. <u>Planning &amp; Licensing:</u> The multi agency meeting on 27.10.23 was very positive. As was a meeting with Barwatch. A report on the CIA is being prepared by licensing officers to go to</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record:



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

	<p>W&amp;FC Licensing Committee. Clerk is meeting with Gill Holmes to prepare a grant application for trial of marshalls for 2024 season.</p> <p><u>Facilities Officer (FO):</u> Blachere putting on Bowness lights 24.11.23. Windermere lights group have no fixed date yet but plan to be done by December.</p> <p><u>Public Toilets:</u> There has been a change of staffing at Healthmatic. The Facilities Officer Beccy met with Lyn Taylor (Cleaning Manager) who has a list of jobs to work through and Martin Fearon (MD) to explain what needed improvement. Meeting with Healthmatic on 24.11.23 to monitor progress.</p> <p><u>Town Steward (TS):</u> The coronation trees have now been planted. Tulip bulbs and heucheras have been added to planters to keep looking good through winter into spring. Still waiting for quote for repairs to Baddeley Clock after initial visit. Cllrs asked if it was possible to electrify the clock to future proof it. Clerk to investigate. Hedge trimming at Langrigg has started. Sign cleaning due to get underway.</p> <p><u>Elleray Woods:</u> The memorial benches have arrived but are being stored until nearer opening. The path is almost complete through new section. All contributions to the tarmac work have been received. Recent storms have required lots of clearing up particularly to remove debris affecting drainage.</p> <p><u>Community Drop-in Evening:</u> 18 groups so far have signed up for a table. Posters are spread around town and regular Facebook posts to promote are ongoing.</p> <p><u>Emails and phone calls:</u> Ongoing at 50 a day.</p>
113.	<p><b>Finance:</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: N Power for October 23 -Braithwaite Fold £149.26, Broad Street £59.22, Bowness Bay £128.30, Pinfold £123.61, Rayrigg Meadow £68.94, Rayrigg Road £103.70. NAYAX fees 491.02. SLCC Annual subscription £316.00, Berry Garden Services war memorial weeding and cleaning £286.67, RBL wreath £20.</p> <p>b) Was moved to private session.</p> <p>c) Was moved to private session.</p> <p>d) The purchase of two memorial benches was approved in the October Minutes Item 93 c.</p> <p>e) A budget of up to £200 for the purchase of two reusable Town Council Roller Banners and refreshments for the community drop-in evening was agreed.</p>
114.	<p><b>Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group</b></p> <p>Councillors noted the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.</p> <p><u>Toilets:</u></p> <p>The following items regarding the operation of the public toilets were agreed:</p> <p>a) That the Broad Street men’s toilet be closed over winter and the ladies operated as a unisex facility while the clerk investigates the cheaper door lock mechanism to replace the paddlegate.</p> <p>b) That Cllr Heffernan assist the FO in finding a suitable alarm system for Rayrigg Meadow toilets to discuss at the January Policy and Finance meeting.</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record:



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

- c) That the FO put up a notice at Rayrigg Meadow regarding the emptying of cassette toilets and the clerk follow up with Westmorland & Furness Council and the National Park about the proposal to put chemical toilet disposal facilities in place.
- d) That the clerk investigate a “disaster plan” for the toilets should another event like Covid mean the reserves were used up to prevent them becoming a drain on the wider council reserves.
- e) That the clerk and FO investigate, through W&FC and other sources, grant funding for the refurbishment of the Glebe Toilets.

### Finance:

The following items of were agreed:

- a) That the clerk ask both the legal and financial teams at W&FC to explain the issue of the district footway lighting charge to ensure that it is being used correctly and ensure that the increase we request is the percentage shown on the council tax forms.
- b) That the council accept the draft budget and request a 4% increase in the precept (provided that an acceptable form of words to explain how it is calculated is available).

### Grant Applications:

- a) The full financial information was available so a decision was taken to vote on the Marchesi Centre Roof grant application. This was refused by a majority.

### Windermere Christmas Lights and other festive events:

The following items were agreed:

- a) That an investigation be carried out to consider lighting options up to a £5000 budget. This will initially be carried out by the FO, with support from Councillors, if it can be done within her working hours.
- b) That Christmas light planning begin in January 2024.
- c) That the Drop in Evening be used to consult the community on what they would like to see.
- d) That a working group be set up in January to consider the different options and how they could be carried out.

### Elleray Woods:

It was agreed that:

- a) That the level of the general contingency fund be raised to £10,000. This was not specific to Elleray Woods but could be spend there or elsewhere as required.

### Town Steward Succession Planning:

It was agreed that:

- a) That a sum allowing for a handover period be included in the 2024-5 budget which can be returned to the reserves if not needed.
- b) That an up-to-date job specification be drawn up by April 2024.
- c) That a working group be set up at AGM 2024 to oversee the process of finding a new Town Steward.

### Langstone House:

It was agreed that:

Signed as a true and accurate record:





# 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

	<p>a) That a £10k reserve be created for the proposed office relocation should it occur.</p> <p><b>Community Drop in Event:</b> It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The clerk to purchase 2 roller banners which can be reused.</li><li>b) The clerk with support to create PowerPoint and leaflet for use on the night.</li></ul>
115.	<p><b>Code of Conduct:</b> This was agreed to be adjourned until the meeting on 6.12.23.</p>
	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> Forthcoming meetings as follows, starting at 7pm, unless otherwise shown: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023: Extraordinary Planning Meeting: Langstone House Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023: Planning sub-committee: Langstone House Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023: Full Council: Langstone House</p>
	<p><b>The Mayor then closed the meeting in public at 8:50pm and convened in private session to discuss the following four items:</b></p>
116.	<p><b>Longlands:</b> The following items were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Clerk to clarify the legal situation with the current lawyer and CALC and report to Full Council.</li><li>b) £20k be put in a development fund to start the process. This matches the sum given to the Windermere Queen's Park redevelopment and was agreed previously.</li><li>c) The clerk to research community consultation methods and feed back to the Parks and Open Spaces group to decide on their approach.</li></ul> <p><b>Finance</b>_(moved from Item 113.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>b) The Council viewed the end of month 7 general and toilet accounts budget monitoring reports which were approved. The clerk was asked to combine the salary elements of the budget monitoring showing the total which should improve clarity.</li><li>c) The Council authorised the the Local Government Services Pay award and salary calculation.</li></ul>

Signed as a true and accurate record: