



# 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> January 2025 at 7pm, Langstone House, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> Mayor Christine Hallatsch (Chair), Cllrs Jenny Borer, Christine Cook, Beverley Cullen, Marina Davis, Lisa Greasley, Caroline Kearney, Peter Hamilton, Adrian Legge, Sandra Lilley, John Saunders Also: Sally Parkyn (Town Clerk), Westmorland &amp; Furness (W&amp;F) Councillors Andrew Jarvis and Steve Bavin and two members of the public. The meeting opened at 7pm</p>
147.	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Cllr Kendra Kennedy (holiday), Cllrs Kevin Heffernan, Peter Cook, Jackie Cooper, Kay Kennedy Hardy and Fiona Poole (ill health) W&amp;F Cllrs Dyan Jones and Will Clark,</p>
148.	<p><b>Full Council Minutes:</b> <i>Note - the meeting listed for 8<sup>th</sup> January did not take place.</i> The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 were approved with the amendments: Item 138 to read "Longlands Questionnaire"; Item 140 CCTV - December to read January, Public Conveniences 2024 to read 2023; Item 145 13/1/24 to read 13/1/25.</p>
149.	<p><b>Planning Subcommittee Meeting Minutes:</b> The minutes of the Planning Subcommittee held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 were noted.</p>
150.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Cllr Saunders noted his membership of the Bowness Bowling Club.</p>
151.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> It was resolved that Cllr Saunders be allowed to answer questions on items regarding the Bowness Bowling Club but not to vote</p>
136.	<p><b>Items to be taken in private session:</b> It was agreed to discuss the agenda items on Longlands, after the close of the meeting, due to the confidential content.</p>
137.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> A resident drew the Council's attention to the presence of 52 motorhomes parked on Glebe Road over New Year and associated concerns. The Mayor directed him to W&amp;FC who are the Highways Authority. W&amp;FC's Ward Councillor Bavin noted his concerns but also W&amp;Fs desire to make the village a prosperous place and that the owners would have been celebrating and spending money at local venues.</p>
152.	<p><b>Mayor and Member Announcements including Advisory Group reports:</b> The Mayor thanked all Councillors for attending the Christmas meal. Cllr Saunders attended the 20mph Zone meeting - the Bowness scheme will not be going ahead but Windermere will be considered in 2026. Cllr Cullen noted that Liaison group will be rescheduled due to lack of business.</p>
153.	<p><b>Westmorland &amp; Furness Councillors' Reports:</b> W&amp;F Cllr Bavin reported that the building work at the Royalty Cinema building was on track and the new cinema tenant should have access in February. The fly tipping at Longlands was due to be removed and he was investigating potential funding options for Speed Indicator devices.</p>

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	<p>His planned meeting with police to discuss antisocial behaviour was postponed. He encourages residents to participate in the consultation into the Library service. He also noted that the Ferry will be out of service for 2-3 weeks from 27<sup>th</sup> January to install parts found to be needed during the 2024 service which were unavailable at the time. <u>Cllr Jarvis</u> noted that the recent communications from Highways were attempting to provide greater clarity about the impact of the upcoming work on residents. There were budget consultations on council tax due to the end of the Rural Services grant creating additional cost pressures on rural councils. He reported that the Devolution process to appoint a Mayor for Cumbria to head economic development was at a very early stage. W&amp;FC were engaging with the process while details on funding and advantages or disadvantages became clearer but were not bound to support the proposal if it was not felt to be in the best interests of the area. He reported the proposal from Highways that if Town and Parish Councils wished all footway lighting for which they are responsible be taken over by W&amp;FC.</p>
154.	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b> <u>Clerk Training:</u> Signed up for Procurement Training 21.1.25 <u>Honour Board:</u> No updates <u>War Memorial Culvert:</u> No updates <u>Updating Deeds and Langrigg Lease:</u> No updates <u>Longlands Land:</u> This will be discussed in private session. <u>Winter Lights:</u> The lights were returned to the volunteer Winter Lights group along with their account archives. The volunteer group installed them in the centre of Windermere before Christmas. The Festive Window competition had excellent engagement via the Facebook Poll and the Mayor handed out the three awards. <u>Langstone House/New council office:</u> No developments <u>Finance:</u> The precept request letter was sent to W&amp;FC that week. As the precept now exceeds the threshold we are required to send an overview of our accounts for publication. This will be along the lines of the information given in the annual report so is already in the public domain. <u>W&amp;FC Liaison Group:</u> Date of next Liaison group to be arranged by Cllr Cullen. <u>Langrigg Play Area:</u> No updates. <u>Roads: 20mph Zones:</u> Clerk wrote to police 16.12.24 regarding speed enforcement in Bowness, response: <i>I raised this with our Neighbourhood Policing Team and safety cameras to see if something can be put in place to try and combat the issue of speeding.</i> The meeting with W&amp;FC regarding a possible wider 20mph zone took place on 13.1.25. <u>Planning &amp; Licensing:</u> The W&amp;FC Licensing Officer dealing with the Cumulative Impact Assessment is coming to give an update prior to the Planning Subcommittee meeting on 22.1.25. The next Gateway Vision group meeting is on 28.1.25. Clerk will chase up confirmation of the dates for the quarterly briefings. <u>CCTV:</u> The clerk has circulated a report based on the usage information from police and Bedroq so a decision on renewing the contract can be minuted at the January Full Council.</p>

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	<p><u>Public Conveniences:</u> Toilets income for December was £4909.50 (up from £3755.50 in December 2023).</p> <p>Three blockages were cleared on New Years Eve at Rayrigg Road, Glebe and Braithwaite Fold. The usual contractors were closed so used Dynorod (with whom the former Facilities Officer had previously set up an account with a price matched rate).</p> <p>The toilet roll dispenser at Broad Street Men's toilet was vandalised and a replacement and spare have been ordered.</p> <p>Progress on the Broad Street water meter has been held up by Christmas but the search for a plumber has recommenced.</p> <p>The Clerk will chase Healthmatic regarding the increase to 60p now the holidays are over. An explanation will be written to go on the Facebook page and website. They do not have stickers in stock for 60p so Clerk will either get bespoke stickers made or begin without them.</p> <p><u>Town Steward (TS):</u> The Town Steward will refix the drainpipe to the outside of Broad Street men's toilets. He has offered to carry out some smaller repairs on the toilet blocks while there is less to do with plants over winter so the only additional cost will be the materials.</p> <p><u>Elleray Woods:</u> The Town Steward has almost finished repairing the large amount of storm damaged walls on Orrest Head. The tree work has been started and a progress report is awaited. The Town Steward is hoping to begin work on the section of boardwalk in the new compartment when conditions allow. He has been is making plans for repairs to the leaky Bowness Bay flat roof, Braithwaite Fold missing roof tile and woodwork and the Quarry Rigg woodwork.</p> <p><u>Emails and phone calls:</u> Notable correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There has been a request by a resident for a much larger bus shelter at Troutbeck Bridge to accommodate the school children waiting for a bus.</li><li>• The publication of the Temporary Road Closure Notice for Droomer Drive starting 16.1.24 has caused concern. The Clerk has approached Highways for further information.</li><li>• There has been a good response to the RFO job advert published on Indeed with 32 applicants. Shortlisting will take place after 13.1.25.</li><li>• The Millbeck Water testing report has been published thanks to additional support from Tim Boden from AAFAF.</li><li>• Tim Farron has written on behalf of a constituent who was aggrieved at the lack of Christmas lights. The clerk replied clarifying the situation explaining that there were in fact lights.</li></ul>
155.	<p><b>Finance/Procedural:</b></p> <p>a) It was resolved to pay the invoices detailed on the Orders for Payment listing with the addition of £42.77 to Playdale for a replacement part for the Langrigge climbing frame, £71.99 to Viking for a shredder, Nayax payment fees of £329.16, Waterplus £38.51 for Quarry Rigg Toilets and £101.70 for water at Broad Street toilets.</p> <p>b) The Town Council resolved to accept the budget monitoring statement and bank reconciliation.</p> <p>c) The Town Council resolved to appoint Intec to repair the broken paddlegate at the Broad Street Men's Toilets.</p>

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	<p>d) It was resolved that the clerk should open the agreed Unity Bank account with payment card immediately.</p> <p>e) It was resolved that the signatories would be Cllrs Cullen, Hallatsch, Kearney and Davis.</p> <p>f) The Town Council resolved to continue the CCTV contact with Bedroq for a further year.</p>
156.	<p><b>Staffing Matters:</b></p> <p>a) It was resolved to appoint Clls Cook, Cullen, Greasley, Saunders and Hallatsch to form the panel to carry out the selection process and make a recommendation to Full Council on the appointment of Responsible Financial Officer.</p> <p>b) It was resolved to authorise the members of the Staffing Advisory Group to support the Mayor in carrying out the Clerk's annual appraisal.</p>
157.	<p><b>Christmas Lights:</b></p> <p>It was resolved to postpone holding a meeting open to the public and businesses regarding the future of Winter Lights in the Town.</p>
158.	<p><b>Policy updates:</b> It was resolved to defer approval the following policies until the Policy and Finance meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Community Engagement policy.</li><li>b. The Risk Assessment and Management.</li></ul>
	<p>The Chair concluded the business in public and moved into private session for discussion of the following items:</p>
159.	<p><b>Longlands:</b></p> <p>Councillors were updated regarding the lease and resolved the changes needed to the proposal.</p>
	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b></p> <p>To note dates of forthcoming meetings as follows, starting at 7pm unless noted otherwise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025: Planning Subcommittee Meeting (Langstone House)</li><li>• Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025: Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group Meeting (Langstone House)</li><li>• Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025: Full Council (Langstone House)</li></ul>
	<p><b>The Mayor concluded the business of Full Council at 8:32pm</b></p>

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