



WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting

27th July 2016 at 7.00pm, The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere

| Minute No | |
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| | <p>Present: Cllr Leith Hallatsch (in the chair), Mr W F Smith, Mr P Jewell, Ms K Atkinson, Mrs J Borer, Mr Mike Stafford, Mrs C Hallatsch, Mr I Telford, Mr A Legge, Ms G Nicholson, Ms Sue Bloy. Also: Julie Wright (Town Clerk), PCSO Debbie Ross and 7 members of the public. The meeting opened at 7.00pm.</p> |
| 79. | <p>Apologies and absence: Apologies: Mr J Saunders, Mrs S Lilley, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Mr Allan Winrow & SLDC Councillor Ben Berry.</p> |
| 80. | <p>Minutes: It was resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th July 2016 be signed as a true and accurate record.</p> |
| 81. | <p>Declarations of Interest: Cllr Ian Telford in planning item at 92 (a) and Cllr Smith in Tree Application (a) at 93 (client). Councillors who declare an interest are allowed to remain in the room during discussion of the item, but do not participate in the debate or vote.</p> |
| 82. | <p>Requests for Dispensations: NONE</p> |
| 83. | <p>Public Input: Mr G Brown had asked to address the Council on several items of concerns about procedures associated with item 91, the planning motion on the Brookdene recommendation. Mr Brown highlighted the following as areas of concern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of <u>written</u> notice given by the 7 councillors who had supported the motion. • The support of one councilor to the motion who was not present at the meeting. • The lack of any material planning factors as the basis for the motion. • The lack of clarity on what constitutes a “no comment” opinion. • The opportunity for a “no comment” motion at the previous meeting. <p>Mr Brown called upon the Council to vote against the motion and uphold the previous recommendation of approval on the Brookdene application.</p> <p>Mrs J Wright, the Town Clerk, responded to Mr Brown’s concerns by stating the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was confident that sufficient communication had been received from Councillors, in the form of email or telephone, within the requisite deadline, to include the motion on the agenda. The standing orders require minor revision to reflect modern communications, but the actions of the Clerk and Councillors are not in breach of the essence of the regulations. • Any councilor can vote to support a motion, whether or not they were present at the original meeting. • The motion is not based upon material planning factors, but expresses the wish to |

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| | <p>revisit the recommendation due the large number of abstentions and the lack of a “no comment” option at the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A “no comment” response can be returned in all circumstances, even if there are extensive discussions and presentations on the planning application. It is up to Town Councillors to use their judgement. |
| 83. | <p>Police Update PCSO Debbie Ross updated Councillors as follows: A spate of theft of dinghies, especially at Ferry Nab. The police are working closely with Lake Wardens, taking preventative measures to tackle anti-social behavior on the Lake, as the summer season progresses. Complaints about youth disorder have reduced and the problems at the community church have calmed down. Councillors asked various questions and the Clerk agreed to follow up with PCSO Sarah Blacow the idea that has been mooted to utilize a school football pitch out of hours, to help with youth activities.</p> |
| 85. | <p>Mayor & Member Announcements: <u>Cllr Stafford:</u> Updated Councillors about the van fire incident in Crescent Road on Thursday morning. He also asked the Clerk to check with SLDC what is happening with the lawn at the Library, which is in a bad state. <u>Cllr Bloy:</u> Attended the Windermere Flood event at the Marchesi Centre on 26 July, organised by Cumbria County Council. The investigation report was presented and copies distributed (several copies made available to councillors). One of the key messages to be delivered is the new focus on the catchment approach to flood prevention, which will implement a considered and longer term solution rather than quick fixes. Cllr Bloy drew attention to the map of the areas in Windermere that are recorded as being flooded. If Councillors are aware of any areas that are missing, they should contact CCC direct. The study has identified at risk properties in Windermere and the Environment Agency will be in contact to work with the Town Council on provision of information, perhaps utilizing the website. <u>Cllr Smith:</u> had attended the ceremony held at the Library to present Trevor Avery with the British Empire Medal. <u>Cllr Jewell</u> wished to highlight problems at Orrest Drive flats, where significant neighbourhood disturbances are being experienced. <u>Mayor Hallatsch:</u> Had presented trophies at the Triathlon (at 8am on a Saturday morning) and had also presented long service awards to the Citizens Advice Bureau.</p> |
| 86. | <p>District & County Councillors’ reports: None in attendance, but the Clerk took the opportunity to update Councillors on 2 issues (full Clerk’s report will be presented at the next Council meeting). The letter from the Lake District Holocaust project was distributed prior to discussion at the next Council meeting on 10 August. A thank-you letter which has been received from the Troutbeck Bridge Flood Action group, appreciating Cllr Borer’s attendance at the recent Flood Event organized by CCC and the Council for its assistance with putting some pressure on the Environment Agency for action.</p> |

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| 87. | <p>Policy & Finance Advisory Group: Members noted the contents of the minutes of the meeting held on 21st July and approved the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) <u>Ellerthwaite Square:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the project is one which will make a difference, one in which the Town Council should be involved and that funding should be made available to support it.• That the potential of acquiring funding from CCC and sponsorship from Stagecoach be looked into by the Clerk, thereby reducing the net costs.• That the Town Council should commit funds of up to £10k to the project.• That 2 local contractors be shortlisted from the four who provided bids and that all the bidders be contacted by the Clerk, to explain the process.• That the Clerk be given authority to take forward the project, along the lines outlined above.b) <u>Council Chamber broadband contract;</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• To authorise the Clerk to place the order with Plus Net for 24 month contract at £32 per month.c) <u>South Lakeland Tourism partnership:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support the proposal to make £3,000 available from the remaining partnership funds (of approx £7,000) to support the trial of a Christmas market in Windermere.d) <u>Langrigge Play area</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the proposal to purchase new equipment (small climbing frame, parrot double springer and whale single springer along with replacement safety surfacing, installation and delivery) is approved in principal and the Clerk approaches the Lions to establish if they will fund 50% of the costs. If so, the clerk will obtain 2 further quotations and place the order as soon as possible in the early Autumn.• That the Clerk will build into her work-plan, an upgrade of the signage to the playground at the Helm Road end.e) <u>Grant application from Friends of 597 bus</u><p>That a grant for £500 is approved.</p>f) <u>Replacement for Town Council notice-board at Ladyholme centre</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is accepted that a replacement notice-board is now required and expenditure up to £1,200 is approved. The Clerk is directed to obtain quotations and order the work. |
| 88. | <p>Application for co-option: A motion to approve the application from Ross McMillan for co-option to the ward of Bowness South was proposed by Cllr Borer and seconded by Cllr Christine Hallatsch. The application was approved unanimously.</p> |

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| 89. | <p>Windermere Motor Boat Racing Club Exemption application: Councillors have no objection to the application to the exemption from speed limits for four events over 2 years: 8 July & 30 September 2017 and 7 July and 29 September in 2018. The Clerk was asked to respond positively to the consultation from the LDNPA.</p> |
| 90. | <p>New Inter-City West Coast Franchise (2018): The proposed consultation response drafted by the Clerk was approved. The detailed response is based on customer consultation conducted by the Community Rail Partnership.</p> |
| 90. | <p>Langstone House: The Deputy Mayor had asked that this item be included on an agenda to gauge the opinion of Councillors for installing a sign that denotes Langstone House and Windermere Town Council. This item was postponed until the next meeting on 10th August, due to the Deputy Mayor having given apologies.</p> |
| 91. | <p>Planning Motion: <u>Cllr Legge</u> proposed the motion as set out on the agenda, which requested Council to amend its recommendation of approval on the planning application for Brookdene to one of no comment. The motion had been supported by the requisite 7 councillors. Cllr Legge started his introduction by confirming that he has no personal ties or relationship to either the applicant or the objector. He believed the recommendation returned on 13th July was not fully considered and the option for “no comment” was not proposed. As more than a third of councillors abstained, a more representative result may have been achieved if this had happened. He also believed that the Council had been presented with incomplete and conflicting information and information which differed markedly between applicants and objectors. Both sides cannot be correct and it is up to the LDNPA to unravel that. After the Town Council meeting, information had been sent from the objectors to the LDNPA and the Town Council, including a tree report, which indicates that the Oak tree which is subject to TPO is in such a poor state that using this as the basis to set the house back from the street line may be erroneous. As this is such a key issue, it throws even more doubt and confusion around this application. Town Councillors’ lack the time and expertise to unpick the conflicting, extensive and complex information on this application and, as such, should refer it to the LDNPA with “no comment.” Cllr Legge’s motion was seconded by Cllr Borer.</p> <p><u>Cllr Smith</u> proposed an amendment to the motion. He proposed that the Town Council retain its previous recommendation of approval. He aired concerns about the process and was sympathetic to the applicant’s comments on the standing orders. As a point of principle, the Town Council should stand by its decision made at the previous meeting. The motion amendment was seconded by Cllr Peter Jewell, who made the point that, although planning is complex and hard work, the local facts are simple - this is a normally designed house on a large plot. There were profound splits amongst councillors during the original debate, but there was a marginal vote in favour of recommending approval and this should be upheld.</p> <p>Councillors first voted on the amendment to the motion. The result was 3 in favour and 8 against so the amendment was rejected.</p> |

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| | <p>Councillors then voted on the substantive motion, as proposed by Cllr Legge. The result was 8 in favour and 3 against.</p> <p>The motion as set out on the agenda was approved and the Council recommendation on this application was amended to “no comment.” The clerk was asked to communicate this to the LDNPA.</p> |
| 92. | <p>Planning Applications:</p> <p>The following recommendations were made:</p> <p>a) 7/2016/5428: Talisker House, Brantfell Road, Bowness: Construction of new 3 bedroom dwelling in grounds of Talisker House in place of garage with dayroom over (re-submission of 7/2016/5166). NO COMMENT</p> <p>b) 7/2016/5419: The Cottage, Brantfield House, Brantfell Road, Bowness: Install a summer house at the top of the garden on a natural raised area. Also decking area at bottom of the garden, where the ground falls away. Part of the decking will be raised to retain its level with the rest of the garden. NO COMMENT</p> <p>c) 7/2016/5429: Windermere Quays, Glebe Road, Bowness: Variation of condition 2 on approval 7/2014/5320 relating to reconfiguration of the marina and minor amendments to the treatment and details of elevations of re-modelled building. NO COMMENT</p> <p>d) 7/2016/5426: Greenways, Middle Entrance Drive, Bowness: Erection of porch and single storey kitchen/dining extension. NO COMMENT</p> <p>e) 7/2016/5343: Limefitt Caravan Park, Patterdale Road, Windermere: Use of land for siting 5 holiday lodges. NO COMMENT</p> |
| 93. | <p>Tree Application:</p> <p>This was noted.</p> |
| 94. | <p>Planning Decisions:</p> <p>The decisions of the LDNPA, as set out on the agenda, were noted.</p> |
| 95. | <p>Dates of Next Meetings:</p> <p>Wednesday 10th August 2016: Full Council</p> <p>Wednesday 24th August 2016: Full Council (lighter agenda)</p> <p>Wednesday 14th September 2016: Full Council</p> |
| | <p>The meeting closed at 8.05pm after which followed an informal presentation from David Haughian of Cumbria County Council on the new proposals for the Glebe Optimising Connectivity development.</p> |

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