



# WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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

## Minutes of the Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.00pm, The Council Chamber, Broad Street, Windermere

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> Mayor Leith Hallatsch (in the chair), Deputy Mayor J Saunders, Cllrs Ms Magda Khan, Mrs L Greasley, Mrs JS Borer, Mr Adrian Legge, Mrs C Hallatsch, Mr Ian Telford, Mr Ross McMillan, Ms K Atkinson &amp; Cllr Sandra Britton. Also: Mrs Julie Hartley (Town Clerk), SLDC Cllr Dyan Jones (up to 8pm), SLDC officers Deborah Clarke &amp; Nicola Metcalfe. 2 members of the public. The meeting opened at 7.00pm.</p>
186.	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Apologies: Cllrs Ms Sue Bloy, Ms S Lilley, Mr Mike Stafford, Ms Grania Nicholson, SLDC/CCC Cllrs Ben Berry, David Williams &amp; Andrew Jarvis. <b>Absence - no apologies:</b> Cllr Peter Jewell. The Mayor welcomed new Councillor Sandra Britton who signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office.</p>
187.	<p><b>Minutes:</b> It was resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November and the amendment to the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November, be signed as a true and accurate record.</p>
188.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> NONE</p>
189.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> NONE</p>
190.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> NONE</p>
191.	<p><b>Windermere &amp; Bowness Parks &amp; Open Spaces:</b> Officers from SLDC Parks &amp; Open Spaces department (Deborah Clarke and Nicola Metcalfe) gave a presentation and updated the Council on plans for a number of public planting areas in Windermere &amp; Bowness, as follows: <u>Baddeley Clock</u> This area was very over-grown, dark, unattractive and encouraging anti-social behaviour. The aim has been to open up the area to light, to improve the drainage and the paths. 24 trees and many old over-grown shrubs have been removed. There has been a programme of re-grassing the area and planting bulbs with local school-children. Ideas are now being sought from local experts on attractive, low maintenance planting and the Clerk suggested the Town Steward would be a good local source of information. It is hoped to replace seating with a donated seats programme and new bins. Ideas for sponsorship will also be sought, to assist with regular maintenance and upkeep of the beds. <u>Millerground</u> Galpin Landscape Architects have been appointed as the contractor to draw up the plans for the area. The aim is to improve access and usage of this beautiful natural local resource. An</p>

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	<p>outline plan of ideas was shown, to give councilors a feel for what is being considered by the project committee. Once the plan has more detail, there will be a full consultation with Town Council in the new year (probably a February meeting).</p> <p><u>Queen's Park Football Pitch:</u> SLDC officers have worked closely with the football club to improve the condition of the pitch and deal with drainage problems. This has included assisting with funding applications (successful) and access to training to enable the club to carry out its own maintenance and purchase the necessary machinery. This should help to secure the future of the pitch.</p> <p><u>Queen's Park:</u> SLDC have been approached by a group of community volunteers who are keen to see the play area improved. Early ideas are for play equipment, skating, a pump track and football. A group has been constituted, of 6 members of the community, Cllrs Ben Berry, Dyan Jones and David Fletcher and includes SLDC officers. There is also scope for the Town Council to put a representative on this committee. What is needed early is an idea of what the possibilities are for this area, within budgetary constraints. As such, Playscape Engineering have been appointed to provide a specification. There will be another meeting of the group in early January.</p> <p><u>Bowness Promenade:</u> The landscape architect who designed the Glebe improvement scheme has been appointed to assess the potential for the area directly in front of the Belsfield Hotel. The aim is to update the display and clear the sight lines, to encourage more use of this area and open up the views. The current overgrown shrubs will be removed and the layout will be re-designed. The aim is to have a big display, that will impress, but that is also relatively easy to maintain. It is hoped to complete the project by April next year, ideally before Easter. There will be sponsorship opportunities for local businesses, to assist with the annual costs. Once plans are more detailed, SLDC will return to Town Council for a full consultation, probably in February next year.</p> <p>Town Councillors asked a number of questions and made comments about the substantial problems with litter around the Promenade area in particular. There were specific questions about plans for Cockshott Point and SLDC confirmed that they are working with the National Trust to attract funding to improve the area. Although Councillors could appreciate the need to thin back trees in the areas covered, there were questions about the approach to tree re-planting and SLDC officers agreed to cover this when they come back to Town Council in February next year.</p> <p>On behalf of all Councillors, the Mayor thanked Deborah and Nicola for their excellent and informative presentation and looked forward to seeing them again next year.</p>
192.	<p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Announcements:</b></p> <p><u>Cllr Legge:</u> Attended a meeting of the Lake District Paradise Project at Windermere Library this morning, with the Clerk. Present were representatives of Paradise Project, Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust, CCC, SLDC and the CCC councillor Ben Berry. CCC acknowledges that the public relations aspects of the way in which the project was introduced to the public left</p>

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a lot to be desired and were surprised by the somewhat hostile reception they received at the public meeting.

Everyone at today's meeting had sight of the Town Council's letter to CCC and a similar letter to CCC from the Civic Society, both sent after the public meeting, both voicing councillors' and constituents' concerns about the project. The responses from the committee were very reassuring and positive, particularly on issues of guaranteeing public ownership and the continuation of library facilities. It is fair to say that all of concerns raised by local people were dealt with positively.

There is scope to widen the facilities offered at the library and the scope of the exhibition.

The committee does not intend publishing a statement to allay public fears and concerns at present. Rather, the next stage is to receive the feasibility study, expected by the end of January. If that study says that the project is not viable, then it won't go ahead. If it is feasible, the public concerns can be addressed and the project can be further developed.

WINDERMERE LAKE USERS' FORUM is to be wound up. This is a body formed by LDNPA and SLDC to bring together representatives of lake users, where each could voice concerns and ideas for management of the lake. There is no official statement from SLDC explaining the reasons. All Town Councillors had concerns and it was agreed that Cllr Borer would obtain more information from SLDC at the Windermere Strategy meeting later in the month. Cllr Borer will report back to the next Town Council.

The Wainwright Topograph on Orrest Head – the graffiti has been removed by our Town Steward.

Cllr John Saunders: Attended a very interesting CALC meeting. There was a presentation on Health & Well Being and the role of libraries - interesting to our local community. The Highways HIMS system is up and running and there were apologies for teething problems, but already the system is delivering cost savings, compared to telephone contact. CCC are to conduct a review of all contracts with parish and town councils for local grass cutting, gritting etc. Windermere does not have any of these arrangements.

Cllr Jenny Borer: Along with other Councillors, attended the Westmorland Youth Orchestra at Lakes School. It was excellent. Will be attending the annual meeting of St Mary's Surgery on 14<sup>th</sup> December and there is a presentation about Integrated Care. It was agreed that the subject is starting to confuse and that the Town Council should ask Cllr Ben Berry to provide an update and clarification of issues at the next meeting he attends. The Clerk will arrange this. The Town Twinning Advent celebration, with children from local schools, was, as ever a delightful event.

Cllr Telford: Wished to express thanks to the organisers of the Winter Lights. Local feedback has been very positive. This year was exceptional. The Clerk will send a letter from the Town Council. Also, raised the possibility of a bench dedicated to Thomas Bland in Baddeley Clock gardens, to recognize his services to the Clock over many years. The Clerk will look into this in the new year.

Cllr Greasley: Had met Nick Berry, the War Memorial gardener. The gardens are looking good and now have their Winter and Spring planting. Also visited bike shops in Windermere and

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	<p>confirmed that they are not encouraging routes using Elleray Woods.</p> <p><u>Mayor Hallatsch</u>: Took part and enjoyed the Winter Lights procession, especially the impressive cart horses. The fireworks were a fantastic display. Had to give apologies to the Westmorland Youth Orchestra, as could not do both events, but was glad to see the event supported by so many councillors. Attended a Town Twinning lunch to discuss a number of issues and finally, thoroughly enjoyed the international food festival at St Cuthberts on St Nicholas Day. The food was absolutely excellent and the Town Council was thanked for its support.</p>
193.	<p><b>District &amp; County Councillors' reports:</b> None in attendance.</p>
194.	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b> The Clerk had circulated a written report as part of the agenda papers. The following items were highlighted: The new lease for the Bowness Bay public conveniences has now been signed. This provides a 25 year lease, with break clauses each 5 years and its contents are materially unchanged. The Town Council agreed to provide verbal support (at this stage) to the Educational project in Windermere schools which tackles litter and plastic in the sea and lakes. The Clerk added the following items: A letter from SLDC/CCC Cllr Ben Berry was read out which outlined the plans for investment in the Queen's Park play area. It was agreed to place this on the early January agenda for decisions as to Town Council representation and banking arrangements . County Council budget consultation (deadline 8<sup>th</sup> January). Key item is the proposed council tax increase of 1.99% + 2% for Social care (total 3.99%). The savings target is much lower this year, at £35m and there are no proposals to cut front-line services. Response from SLDC Council Leader, Giles Archibald to the Town Council's letter about representation at official ceremonies in the parish area. CALC training courses for Councillors (circulated on email) for January to June 2018. Town Steward report for November, when work was dominated by repairs and containment of major flooding in Elleray Woods. All road signs and bus shelters are now cleaned. Will be doing toilets sky-lights in December. Inspection of Langrigge play area by SLDC - all equipment has a low risk assessment. It has been confirmed that the Town Council is responsible for cleaning now that SLDC have vacated Langstone House. The Clerk will make arrangements in the new year. It has been arranged that local firm ADL will do a feasibility study of disabled access to the War Memorial, free of charge, and deliver suggestions to the Town Council early in the new year. It was agreed that the Clerk would update the British Legion on this issue and ask for any feedback. Councillors noted the above information. The Mayor confirmed that the Clerk's Performance appraisal has been completed for the year and thanked those councillors who had taken part.</p>
195.	<p><b>Finance:</b> Councillors approved the payments of the invoices as outlined on the agenda.</p>

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	<p>The following payments were also approved: Town Steward: £952.00. Berry's Garden Services (Winter and Spring bedding at War Memorial): £213.09</p>
196.	<p><b>Planning Applications:</b> The following recommendations were agreed: a)7/2017/5685: <b>86 Craig Walk, Bowness:</b> Dormer Window, together with internal alterations and shortening the length of the porch. RECOMMEND APPROVAL. IMPROVEMENT b)7/2017/5769: <b>Lower Flat &amp; Maisonette, Thornbarrow Cottage, Thornbarrow Rd, Windermere:</b> Demolition of existing porch, erection of single storey porch, external alterations. PORCH HAS ALREADY BEEN DEMOLISHED, SO TOWN COUNCIL TREATED THIS APPLICATION AS RETROSPECTIVE AND HAS NO COMMENT. c)7/2017/5758: <b>Sarnico, Ferry Nab, Windermere:</b> Replacement of an existing timber jetty on the bank of the Lake, by a new jetty to match the existing structure. RECOMMEND APPROVAL. IMPROVEMENT. d)7/2017/5785: <b>7 Brantfell Walk, Windermere:</b> Erection of flat roofed 1 bedroom single storey dwelling in garden area of existing house, for use by mother of house owner. NO NOTICES HAD BEEN ERECTED LOCALLY AND TOWN COUNCIL ARE CONCERNED THAT LOCAL PEOPLE MUST BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT. e)7/2017/5787: <b>Hill Rising, Smithy Lane, Bowness:</b> Replacement of sub-standard dwellinghouse and garaging with associated hard and soft landscaping - re-submission of 7/2017/5652. RECOMMEND REFUSAL ON SAME GROUNDS AS PREVIOUSLY. THE ISSUES RAISES THEN HAVE NOT BEEN ADDRESSED BY THIS RE-SUBMISSION.</p>
197.	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 with earlier start time of 6.30pm: Urgent items only Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018: Full Council Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018: Full Council (lighter agenda)</p>
	<p><b>The meeting closed at 9.05pm.</b></p>

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