



# WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

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

## Minutes of the Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7pm via Zoom online

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> Mayor John Saunders (in the Chair), Deputy Mayor Sandra Lilley, Cllrs Mr Adrian Legge, Mrs Jenny Borer, Mr Peter Cook, Mr Leith Hallatsch, Mrs Christine Hallatsch, Mr Ian Telford, Mrs Christine Cook, Marina Davis, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Mrs Kate Tripp, Magda Khan &amp; Peter Hamilton. Also: Mrs Julie Hartley (Town Clerk) SLDC/CCC Councillors: Andrew Jarvis, Kevin Holmes, Jim Bland. There was one member of the public in attendance. The meeting opened at 7pm.</p>
226..	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Cllrs Mike Stafford, Catherine Musetti, Tim Shearer, Grania Nicholson, Fiona Wilkinson &amp; Alan Hands. SLDC Cllr Ben Berry,</p>
227.	<p><b>Minutes:</b> The minutes of the Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were signed as a true record.</p>
228.	<p><b>Planning sub-committee Minutes:</b> The planning minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November were noted.</p>
229.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> NONE</p>
230.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> None received</p>
221.	<p><b>Item to be taken in private session:</b> Council agreed that the item on appointment of the Assistant Clerk be taken in private at the end of the meeting due to the private nature of the content.</p>
222.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> NONE</p>
223.	<p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Updates:</b> Cllr <u>Adrian Legge</u> attended the Elleray Woods/Orrest Head project meeting with the LDNPA. There is no further progress to be expected until the RDPE grant announcement is made in January. Cllr Legge had also followed up on the problems that were experienced at the War Memorial for Remembrance wreath laying. The RBL were able to confirm that this was a simple mis-understanding in a difficult year and is unlikely to re-occur. Cllr <u>Peter Hamilton</u> had met with a tree specialist to take a look at the Ash tree in St Martin's square. He confirmed that the tree is in a poor state and that the roots are being starved of nourishment. If action is taken quickly, it could be saved and it would be a shame if there was a re-run of the problems with the Horse Chestnut removed last year. It was</p>
<b>Action</b>	

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<p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p>	<p>agreed that the Clerk will contact the relevant authority to establish what can be done and that this issue be included on the January council agenda.</p> <p><u>Cllr Lisa Greasley</u> has been working with the gardener at the War Memorial on the idea of a privacy hedge between the Memorial and new Culvert areas, which will make an improvement visually to the area. Two quotations have been received to provide bare rooted privet and laurel and delivery and labour costs calculated. The two quotations come to £470 (lower) and £544. Cllr Greasley recommended that the lower quotation be accepted and this was agreed. The Clerk will contact the War Memorial gardener and confirm this. Cllr Greasley also raised the problem of graffiti on the sign at the entrance to Windermere from the Ambleside end (road sign) and the Clerk agreed to contact the relevant authority and request that it is cleaned. Also, had worked to enable the dangerous tree in Elleray Gardens to be sorted out and the wall re-instated. Finally, a meeting was held with Polly Straker from SLDC to discuss the Windermere Park for All project. A lot of progress was made and it was agreed that there is scope to re-design the plans and to conduct improved and more complete consultation.</p> <p><u>Cllr Magda Khan</u>: reported on the Endowed Schools meeting and the distribution of grants.</p> <p><u>Mayor Saunders</u>: Had attended the CCC/South Lakes meeting that morning at which the new Traffic Regulation orders for Kendal were agreed and a report back was made on the Highways budget, which is largely on track. Mayor Saunders thanked those Councillors who had contacted him to make suggestions about potential areas for Coach and additional car parking in the 2021 season. There have been some very good suggestions and both Lakes and Windermere school have made offers to assist. The list has been sent to the Visitor group (SLDC, CCC, LDNPA, National Trust etc) and they need to be followed up and tested for practicality. The group is expected to meet again in January/February next year. Given the position with Covid 19 and the new signage erected by LDNPA, it has been decided not to place an order for more robust signage for Bowness &amp; Windermere. An invitation to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Steamboat on Windermere has been received. The event will take place in August next year and the invite will be passed on to the next Mayor for consideration. It looks like it is going to be an excellent showcase for Windermere. Finally, a response has been received from SLDC on the Library Gardens. They have decided they will continue as trustee of the gardens and will not be passing the management on to the Paradise Project. The gardens will remain in public ownership and management.</p>
<p><b>224.</b></p>	<p><b>District &amp; County Councillors' reports:</b></p> <p><u>Cllr Andrew Jarvis</u> updated on the SLDC Full Council, including Local Government Reorganisation and approval for the Bay proposal to be submitted to HM Government. He explained that there are 3 further proposals in preparation and the Clerk confirmed that links to 2 of these are contained on the Town Council's website. He also briefed on the financial position at SLDC, in particular the effects from the Covid 19 pandemic, which has resulted in a predicted deficit of £1.5m in the SLDC revenue account. There will be a knock-</p>

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<p><b>Action</b></p>	<p>on impact next financial year of close to £1m and SLDC are looking at various methods to raise income and reduce expenditure. One course of action under consideration is to raise Car Parking charges to match those of the LDNPA and also to look at a half hour charge period. There will be consultation on this with communities shortly. Cllr Jarvis also confirmed that there will be free car parking to assist the high street on Sundays and Thursdays after 4pm for Christmas shopping.</p> <p>W&amp;B Town Councillors asked a number of questions, which included whether there is scope for a lower parking charge for residents and examples of other towns and cities that do this were passed on. Also, there were questions seeking clarification of the level of reserves held at SLDC.</p> <p><u>Cllr Kevin Holmes</u>: updated that a new headteacher who will be starting at St Martin and St Mary's school after Christmas.</p> <p><u>Cllr Jim Bland</u> raised the issue of the lack of Christmas lights in Bowness. He had tried to contact the volunteer group to ask about this but has not been able to get an answer. The Clerk agreed to try on his behalf. Cllr Bland also reported that there may be a delay in the Albert roundabout project in Bowness of up to one year. Finally, he reported on the continued unreliability of the Windermere Ferry and Cllr Hamilton stated that he had made some recommendations about alignment of ramps. He will speak to Cllr Bland about this separately.</p>
<p><b>225.</b></p>	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b> The Clerk had circulated a progress report on various projects prior to the meeting. This was noted.</p>
<p><b>226.</b></p>	<p><b>Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group:</b> Council noted and accepted the notes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and agreed the following recommendation: a) Grant payment to Sea Cadets: £500.00.</p>
<p><b>227.</b></p>	<p><b>Local Government Reorganisation:</b> Council approved the letter sent to SLDC in response to the consultation on the Bay proposals.</p>
<p><b>228.</b></p>	<p><b>Invoices for payment:</b> a) Councillors approved those payments listed on the agenda and the following additional payments, received since the agenda was published: Fairfield Property Services (painting of toilets door): £56.00</p>

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229.	<b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> The following dates were noted. All meetings commence at 7pm via Zoom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full Council: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021</li><li>• Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021</li><li>• Planning sub-committee: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021</li></ul>
	<b>The Mayor concluded the meeting in public at 8.10 pm</b>
230.	<b>Assistant Clerk:</b> The Clerk updated Councillors on the outcome of the interviews for Assistant Clerk and the appointment of Rebecca Pinder as Assistant Clerk was approved. The Clerk was delegated to finalise the contract of employment (standard NALC contract), starting point on pay scale, starting date and working arrangements, including the provision of equipment to enable home-working.

Signed as a true and accurate record: