



WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 9th February 2022 at the Marchesi Centre, Windermere at 7pm

Minute No	
	<p>Present: Mayor Adrian Legge (in the Chair), Deputy Mayor Kate Tripp, Cllrs Jenny Borer, John Saunders, Peter Cook (arrived at 8pm), Christine Cook, Christine Hallatsch, Leith Hallatsch, Lisa Greasley, Marina Davis, Peter Hamilton, Mike Stafford, Joanne Daley, Cath Musetti, Grania Nicholson, Magda Khan & Alan Hands. Also: Julie Hartley (Town Clerk), Rebecca Pinder (Asst Town Clerk) and 8 members of the public. SLDC/CCC Councillors: Andrew Jarvis, Kevin Holmes & Jim Bland. The meeting opened at 7pm</p>
121.	<p>Apologies and absence: Apologies were accepted from Cllr Fiona Wilkinson & SLDC Cllr Dyan Jones, both due to family commitments. The Mayor also accepted the resignation of Cllr Ian Telford, due to his move out of the area. The Mayor had written to Ian expressing the appreciation of the Town Council for Ian's contribution over the past years. The Clerk will notify SLDC.</p>
122.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th January 2022 were approved for signature, with two minor amendments proposed by Cllr Lisa Greasley which related to the SLDC recycling problems highlighted by Cllrs Greasley and Nicholson and also the Council's commitment to the continued improvement of Christmas Lights.</p>
123.	<p>Planning Minutes: The minutes of the planning meeting held on 26th January 2022 were noted.</p>
124.	<p>Declarations of Interest: NONE</p>
125.	<p>Requests for Dispensations: NONE</p>
126.	<p>Public Toilets Cleaning & Maintenance Contracts: It was agreed that this item should be taken in private at the close of the public part of the meeting, due to much of the content being commercial in confidence. (Proposed Cllr Greasley, Seconded Cllr Tripp).</p>
127.	<p>Public Input: Tim Berry addressed the Council to update on the work that is taking place at the Heathwaite Mission to engage with young people who have problems with drugs & alcohol. The programme is focused on giving these young people a chance. It is a very difficult area to provide support to and a code of conduct has been agreed as to how the Mission operates. Tim passed a copy to Town Council. The programme of activities has been extended to include interest for all ages, from toddlers to older people and building works are planned which will make the Mission more accessible. Councillors asked a number of questions and it</p>

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	<p>was noted that the work could not continue without support from the community in general and the Cumbria Police.</p> <p><u>Julie Tait</u> updated the Council on arrangements to bring the Comic Arts Festival to Bowness. Artwork and advertising has been developed, copies of which were left for Councillors to look at and efforts have been made to ensure connectivity with Kendal and especially the college. Shuttle buses will be arranged between Kendal and Bowness. The festival will take place on the middle weekend of October, which is a traditional quieter period before the half-term. Projects are being developed in all the local primary schools to engage young people with the festival, there is a special day arranged prior to the start of the festival for Lakes School and work is ongoing with the Phoenix Centre. Businesses have been included in developing ideas and there has been a great response to the windows trail - half the businesses approached have signed up already. Venues have been agreed and include Windermere Jetty and work has started to ensure careful visitor management. So far, it is confirmed that there will be visitors from at least 16 countries. Councillors were supportive of the arrangements and were keen to stress the need for good car parking and management of vehicles.</p> <p><u>Tim Keenan</u> gave a short update on the work of the Windermere Food Farm, which is located in a large field behind the Windermere Hotel - many photographs had been shared with Councillors earlier in the day. Tim underlined the aims of the project which is to grow organic sustainable food by the community for the community. From very basic beginnings, progress is already clear and donations of fencing, seeds and polytunnels have helped. A community composting scheme has been established, aimed at reducing Windermere's food waste and reducing carbon footprint. There is an educational side to the project and work has started with local schools. There are about 40 volunteers, of all ages and a well established facebook group.</p> <p><u>Mr Hindle:</u> had concerns he wished to share about the Langrigge Park item on the agenda. His concerns focused on any plans to change the use of the area, which is a good playground and well used. Problems with noise, vandalism do exist but are not significant and the green open area provides enjoyment for all ages in the neighbourhood. He asked that Town Council continue to support the play area.</p> <p>The Clerk clarified to Mr Hindle that the lease that is up for renewal is simply for Town Council managing the play area. The land is owned by Windermere Endowed Schools who will determine its future direction.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked the public contributors for taking the time to join the meeting and wished them all the very best in their endeavours within the local community.</p>
128.	<p>Mayor & Member Announcements:</p> <p><u>Mayor Adrian Legge:</u> Activities have covered a wide range, starting with working with the LDNPA to finalise work needed to re-open the main track to Orrest Head summit after the damage caused by Storm Arwen. This is now fully open. As well as internal meetings of</p>

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planning sub-committee, the Local Government Reorganisation Advisory Group, Policy & Finance and with the Clerk, he had also had the online meeting with Cumbria Highways about Bowness Promenade. The plans for the promenade came as a surprise, as Town Council had not been involved in any consultation and work was due to start in 5 days. Mayor Legge has made it clear to the leaders of all the organisations involved that the situation was unacceptable. So far there has been an apology from Cumbria Highways. Also had a meeting with the local police superintendent covering local police matters and the Bowness Burgler as well as attending a Barwatch meeting as a guest, which went very well and it is clear that there needs to be better communications with Town Council.

Deputy Mayor Kate Tripp had taken part in a number of internal meetings, including the panel for appointment of toilets cleaning and maintenance contractors, planning sub committee and charring the Policy & Finance Advisory Group. In addition, Kate had taken responsibility for engaging with parishes in the area on the issue of Local Government Reform and the lake-bed. This has gone well so far, with good reactions from both Claife and Cartmel Fell parish councils.

Cllr Pete Cook had submitted a written report on the recent work of the LGR Advisory Group. The online meeting with officers from SLDC had gone very well and engagement with surrounding parishes and the LGR development board continues. A reminder will shortly be sent to the office of Michael Gove MP and a further letter to Tim Farron.

Cllr Mike Stafford: had been involved in inspecting the materials that are being used for the paving at Bowness Promenade and is reassured that they are of a good quality and, very importantly, non-slip.

Cllr Peter Hamilton: was pleased to observe the Bowness Promenade project coming together and has had early discussions about the possibility of a statue in Bowness.

Cllr Lisa Greasley: was pleased to report the installation of the new surfacing at Queens Park, supported by the Town Council and also noted completion of the work necessary to deal with the risk from falling trees in the wake of Storm Arwen. Had met the Town Steward, who has been working in the Elleray Woods walled garden and it is pleasing to see the spring bulbs coming through in this area. Cllr Greasley is also dealing with some complaints locally about the footpath between Goodly Dale and Sheriffs Wood. Finally, chaired the appointments panel for the award of the toilets cleaning and maintenance contracts.

Cllr Leith Hallatsch: reported on his appointment to the CALC Executive and as the chair of the CALC South Lakeland Committee. Nothing further to report on the Speed Indicator devices.

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	<p>Cllr Magda Khan: wished to raise with SLDC councillors in particular the situation at Robinson Place, where it is understood that the private bar has been awarded a lease over the area of public land by SLDC. Cllr Khan was personally asked to leave the area if she would not buy a drink. It was agreed that Cllr Jarvis would follow this up with the property team at SLDC and that the Clerk would also contact the Locality Manager about this and also a hazard highlighted by Cllr Khan at the Longlands Play area.</p>
129.	<p>District & County Councillors' reports: Cllr Andrew Jarvis: reported that most of his time had recently been focused on Budgets and Local Government Reorganisation. He has used his Ward budget of £1k this year (Windermere Food Farm and 597 Bus) but would welcome suggestions for next year. Cllr Kevin Holmes: reported on the Lakes Administration meeting that he chairs. Cllr Jim Bland: updated on progress with Bowness Roundabout and Promenade projects.</p>
130.	<p>Clerk's Report: The written report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk highlighted specific items as follows: Separate reports are on the agenda for key work areas, including Public Toilets contracts, Windermere in Bloom and Langrigge Play area. Key work this month will focus on local government reorganisation, CCTV follow up, financial work prior to the year end and the start of succession planning, in preparation for the Policy & Finance meeting in March. The Clerk answered a number of questions from Councillors concerning Longlands land and dedications of benches in Elleray Woods.</p>
131.	<p>Policy & Finance Advisory Group: Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2022, after requests for changes from Cllr Greasley concerning apologies and the detail of the Windermere in Bloom proposals. Cllr Kate Tripp then presented the following recommendations for approval: a) The financial report which is summarised in the minutes was noted; Cllr Tripp then proposed (seconded by Cllr Borer) that the three grant applications be referred back to Policy & Finance Advisory Group for discussion so that clear recommendations can be made to Council. This was countered by a proposal to consider the applications and make decisions in this meeting. This was proposed by Cllr Lisa Greasley and seconded by Cllr Peter Hamilton. This proposal was carried in a vote of 9 for and 6 against. b) The grant application from the Comic Arts Festival £2.5k was discussed and questions raised about turnover, Arts Council and status of the Lakes Arts Festivals. Councillors had concerns about the level of the grant which is well in excess of the amount usually offered to local community groups. Cllr Greasley seconded by Cllr Hamilton, proposed a grant of £1k. This was carried by a vote of 7 in favour, 4 against and 4 absentions.</p>

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	<p>c) The grant application from the Windermere Food farm (£500) was agreed (proposed Cllr Kate Tripp, seconded Cllr Greasley with one abstention from Cllr Magda Khan).</p> <p>d) The recommendation to release the £1,000 set aside in reserves to assist the running of the 597 Bus by the Friends of the 597 Bus Group was agreed unanimously (proposed Cllr Borer, seconded Cllr Musetti).</p> <p>e) The recommendation to accept the quotation for the annual maintenance work on the War Memorial, set out in the minutes was agreed unanimously (proposed by Cllr Kate Tripp and seconded by Cllr Leith Hallatsch).</p> <p>f) The virement of £1,000 from the 2022 General Contingency budget to the War Memorial budget, as this has been erroneously under-stated was agreed unanimously (proposed Cllr Kate Tripp, seconded Cllr Christine Hallatsch).</p> <p>g) The proposals to change the public displays for Windermere in Bloom, making them more sustainable for the future (items 7 i to iv in minutes) was agreed unanimously (proposed Cllr Kate Tripp, seconded Cllr Lisa Greasley).</p> <p>h) The proposals for minor changes to administration for Windermere in Bloom (items i to iii under 7 (administrative issues) in the minutes) was agreed unanimously (proposed Cllr Kate Tripp, seconded Cllr Lisa Greasley).</p> <p>i) It was noted that the recommendations for Langrigge Play area were to be discussed in agenda item 13.</p>
132.	<p>Langrigge Play Area: The Clerk presented the report, which updated Councillors on the legal situation with the lease, which comes to an end this year. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Windermere Endowed Schools to obtain further information as to their future plans and strategies and will report back to a future Town Council meeting in the Spring with clear recommendations. (Proposed Cllr Christine Hallatsch, seconded Cllr Jenny Borer, with 15 in favour and 1 abstention).</p>
133.	<p>War Memorial: Cllr Lisa Greasley proposed and Cllr Mike Stafford seconded that the possibility of installing two central handrails on the entrance steps and middle steps be explored and quotations be obtained and presented to a future Town Council meeting (unanimous).</p>
134.	<p>Finance: a) Payment of invoices listed on the February Orders for payment were approved unanimously (proposed by Cllr Borer and seconded by Cllr Christine Hallatsch) with the addition of:</p>

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	<p>Gary Hancox - £1,200 for Town Steward work in January 2022. HSBC Bank Charges for January 2022: £9.00 Water Plus: Water charges for Broad Street toilets: £115.97 Cllr Cath Musetti: refund of expenditure on a present for assistance with St Martins lights: £27 All amounts are inclusive of VAT.</p> <p>b) A grant application for £735.00 from the Lakes Line Rail User Group for support in funding events in Windermere to commemorate the 175th anniversary was agreed (Proposed Cllr Kate Tripp, seconded Cllr Jenny Borer).</p>
135.	<p>Dates of Next Meetings: The following dates were noted. All meetings will commence at 7pm: Wednesday 23rd February 2022: Planning sub-committee (Langstone House) Wednesday 9th March 2022; Full Council: Marchesi Centre</p>
	<p>The Mayor concluded business in public at 9 pm and moved to private session for the following agenda items:</p>
136.	<p>a) Award of Contracts for Cleaning and Maintenance of Public Toilets: Cllr Lisa Greasley, as chair of the Advisory Group and appointments panel, presented the report of the Assistant Clerk on the findings and conclusions of the contract award process and recommended that Healthmatic be appointed as contractor for both Cleaning and Maintenance and that the Clerk and Assistant Clerk agree contract terms with them. This was seconded by Cllr John Saunders and the following recommendations agreed unanimously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Healthmatic are appointed as contractors for cleaning and maintenance of all facilities, based on the fact that they bring a vast range of knowledge and experience to the contract.b) The Assistant Clerk & Clerk are delegated to agree the wording of a 5 year contract with Healthmatic in consultation with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor & Chair of the Toilets Advisory Group (Cllr Greasley). If there are any significant departures from the terms covered in this report, a further decision will be required by Full Council.c) That arrangements be put in place to cancel the inherited arrangements from BWCCT with the retained plumber and electrician with effect from 1 April 2022. <p>b) Appointment of contractor for painting and decorating: The Assistant Clerk presented the quotations obtained and it was proposed by Cllr Greasley and seconded by Cllr Christine Hallatsch that Steve Kiliner and Son be appointed. This was agreed unanimously.</p>

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