

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BROAD STREET, WINDERMERE ON WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2010

Mesdames J S Borer, S Clayton, J L Garlick, E Greasley, C Hallatsch, J Jewell, V Newton, H Stephenson and J Stocker. Messrs L J Hallatsch, A B Legge, A Marsh, W F Smith, J Walters and A Winrow.

Also in attendance were County Councillor Mr J Bland, District Councillor Miss K Atkinson, Sergeant J Stephens and PC R Hunter

255. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs D Jones and Messrs J H Morphet and M Stafford together with District Councillor Mr D Williams.

256. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Member of the public spoke on sustainability and green issues requesting support from the Council for various matters. She was asked to submit a formal request for consideration. She also indicated that there were a group of volunteers that could give feedback on the state and condition of public footpaths in the area. She was thanked for her attendance.

257. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs J Stocker declared a personal interest in the Grant applications considered by the Policy & Finance Advisory Group relating to Windermere Air Show, Phoenix Centre User Groups and Cumbria Rural Citizens Advice Bureau.

258. .MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 25th January were approved with minor amendments..

259. POLICE

Sergeant John Stephens advised the Council that Anti-Social Behaviour had reduced by 67.3% over the last three months. The next Youth Disco would be taking place shortly. Police were implementing a new long term project entitled "First Gear" which hoped to address the issues raised by Young Drivers.

The Police had held their first Windermere Safer, Stronger, Community Meeting in the Council Chamber immediately prior to Council Meeting commencing. The next meeting would be held on the 14th April.

Rebecca Hunter thanked the Town Council for the provision of the Alcohol Awareness Box. Questions were then answered.

260. MATTERS ARISING

The County Council had advised that the application to register the Glebe as a Town or Village Green had been rejected.

The Windermere Fire Service had offered the 16th February as a day for visiting the Fire Station. This was agreed.

A reply had been received from the County Council relating to concerns with the junction of the A592 and Longtail Hill. It was agreed to pass the reply on to the residents who had raised the issue.

261. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Nine Planning Applications were considered by the Council and it was resolved to make the following comments to the Lake District National Park Authority.

- 7/09/5704 16 Annisgarth Park - Extension & Alterations - Approve
- 7/09/5707 High Stile, Lickbarrow Close - Demolish dwelling & build detached dwelling with integral garage. Reinstate gate on western boundary – concerned as to unneighbourliness
- 7/095722 2 Belle Isle View - Two Storey Extension – No comment
- 7/09/5746 Talisker House, Brantfell Road - Convert integral garage. To bedrooms and extension to first floor bedrooms - Approve
- 7/09/5769 1 Silver Howe, Smithy Lane – Extension - Approve
- 7/09/5775 10 Main Road - Change of Use from Café/Restaurant to wine bar serving tapas style food - Approve
- 7/10/5009 Applegarth Hotel, College Road - Part remove entrance porch & replace – Approve
- 7/10/5011 Land off Ellerthwaite Square - 2 Flats with integral garages – if local, affordable housing - Approve
- 7/10/5012 6 & 8 Fairfield Road - Demolish flat roof extensions on South West. Replace with two storey extension. Single storey porch extension to North East (No.6 only) - Approve

262 COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF THE LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY,

Mrs H Stephenson had recently attended a conference entitled “Inspiring Local Councillors”. Out of that, it was hoped to develop more child-friendly communities. Also considered were community asset transfer and development trusts. She had attended a Youth Café Meeting and a Cabinet Meeting. She was pleased to report that the Windermere Allotments Group had been successful in getting one parcel of land owned by South Lakeland District Council released for allotments at the rear of Orrest Drive Flats. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee were also considering Licensing a temporary use of housing land for the short term.

Miss K Atkinson reported on a Lake Administration Committee Meeting. She also advised that Residents in School Knott Close had been advised that the building needed to be improved and that the residents would need to be relocated. Those residents would be given priority for re-housing. It was uncertain as the future use of the property for sheltered housing. It was noted that South Lakes Housing had no funding for the improvement works as yet.

It was agreed to write to South Lakes Housing for Further Information and whether they had considered a rolling refurbishment programme that may have enabled the residents to stay in the accommodation during the works.

263. REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Mr L Hallatsch had attended a Chamber of Trade Meeting which had seen a presentation of the Kendal Shop Watch Scheme which was hoped to be rolled out in Windermere & Bowness.

MR A Legge had attended the Lake Administration Meeting. It had received a report on the flooding on the Ferry Nab office. Lake District National Park were now providing the Lake Patrol rather than the District Council. The Ferry was to receive new cables.

He had also attended a meeting with United Utilities relating to progress on the Glebe Sewage Tank. United Utilities were surveying the main sewer to assess its condition and capacity. They would not be able to start on the Glebe until Autumn 2010 and envisage an 18 month program of work. If they were unable to commence in Autumn 2010, the work would be deferred for a further 12 months so as to reduce conflict with visitors during the summer months. It was also noted that United Utilities have no requirement to consider provision for future new development which would be connected to the sewerage system.

Mrs J Jewell had attended a BBC Gardeners Question Time recently held at St Annes School.

Mrs J Stocker reported on a Community Safety Partnership Meeting. It was hoping to provide more security cameras at the Library and at Broad Street.

Mrs S Clayton reported on proposals to provide a Youth Café in Windermere, possibly the vacant School Knott Stores.

Mrs J Garlick reported on the Annual Meeting of the Youth Project

264. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Clerk read out decisions on recent planning applications made by the Lake District National Park Authority.

265 POLICY & FINANCE

The Council considered the minutes of the Council's Policy & Finance Advisory Group.

The following applications for Grant Aid were agreed:-

- a) North West Air Ambulance £350.00
- b) Windermere Air Show – After some debate £3,000
- c) Phoenix Centre User Groups - £2,000
- d) Cumbria Rural Citizens Advice Bureau - £2,000
- e) Mencap and Red Cross – No Grant

Windermere Community Plan

The Town Council accepted the plan that had been prepared by the Working Party and also commended the amount of work that had gone into it.

It was agreed that the next stage would be set priorities and to seek out interested persons or groups from the Community to be involved. The Group should comprise of both Councillors and Members of the Public if possible. Initial priorities could consider housing, park spaces and leisure, and green and clean. Groups formed should, in conjunction with the Town Council set their own Terms of Reference to incorporate periodic review of the sectors of the Community Plan that they were progressing. It was also agreed that the Clerk Designate once in post, be the promoter of the Community Plan on behalf of the Council with the remit of putting in place Groups to take the plan forward.

Local Area Partnership

It was agreed that for the time being, the Council would send four representatives to the next meeting. A number of representatives, was to be subject to further discussion.

There were many concerns relating to the administration of the partnership and the Terms of Reference and Objectives. It was agreed that there needed to be a community led approach to the working of the Group and it should be renamed. It was also noted that both Lakes and Skelwith Parish Councils who were the other Parish Councils in the Group also had similar concerns.

South Cumbria Retirement Band

It was agreed to ask the band to provide a program of dates for a maximum of six concerts for which the Council would pay £100.00 for each concert, the programme should also include if possible one weekend and one evening concert.

266. CASUAL VACANCY – BOWNESS SOUTH WARD

The Council considered two applications and after a secret ballot, Mr Michael Patrick Nicholson was co-opted to the Council.

267. ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY

It was agreed that this would be held on either the 12th or the 15th April and that it should be held in the Ladyholme Centre if available. If not, at the Marchesi Centre.

Organisations that had received Grant Assistance from the Council over the past year could be invited to a short presentation of how those monies had been used by the organisations. It was agreed that this would be a presentation only with no opportunity for questions from the floor.

268. CLERK DESIGNATE

The Council approved the Job Specification submitted.

269. BANK ACCOUNTS

The Clerk advised that the Council's Bank Accounts were currently held at HSBC.

The current balance in the deposit account is £82,000. Allowing for the receipt of the precept into that account, it was not expected that the balance in that account would fall below £70,000 throughout the year.

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme covers the Council in the event of the bank failing to meet its obligations up to a maximum of £50,000. It was agreed that in order to ensure that the Council's funds are fully protected should be further banking problems in the future, a further account be opened at a separate bank or building society.

270. CORRESPONDENCE

The Council received notification of a temporary road closure order on Ellerthwaite Road to enable resurfacing to take place.

Further to Minute No. 252 relating to the consultation on Public Toilets in South Lakeland, a reply had been received from the Consultants to the effect that they had adjusted the Consultation period to cover the first week of the Easter holiday. They would be conducting Visitor Surveys in the first week of the holiday period, a day planned for Windermere and Bowness on Thursday 1st April.

The Council had been advised by CALC of a Consultation document issued by DEFRA relating to the future and vision for the National Parks covering the next forty years. DEFRA had decided not to consult Town and Parish Councils within National Parks and the Deadline for a response had been the 5th February. It was agreed to write to DEFRA expressing the Council's strong concerns.

The Council also received the Agenda for the Lakes Line Rail User Group, CALC South Lakeland District Meeting, Lakes Parish Council and Tree Preservation Orders at Priory Grange and Crown Rigg.