

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BROAD STREET, WINDERMERE ON MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2009

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Mr W Smith (Mayor) Mesdames J S Borer, S Clayton, J L Garlick, E Greasley, C Hallatsch, J Jewell, and J Stocker. Messrs L J Hallatsch, A Marsh, J H Morphet, M Stafford, J Walters and A Winrow.

Also present were County Councillor Mr J Stephenson, District Councillors Miss K Atkinson and Mr D Williams, PC Rebecca Hunter and PCSO Sarah Blacow.

151. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Mesdames C Houlihan and H Stephenson and Mr A B Legge.

152. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests in any of items on the Agenda were declared by members.

153. MINUTES

The Council approved the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 14th October.

154. WINDERMERE FIRST RESPONDERS

Mr David Dixon attended the meeting. He advised that the Windermere First Responders now have charitable status and thanked the Council for its donation. There were now five First Responders kits located in the Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck area. They contained basic First Aid Equipment, an oxygen cylinder and a defibrillator. The team went live two weeks ago and since then had answered 20 call outs. They were a voluntary service that were asked to respond following 999 calls. They were intended to provide a link between the 999 call and the arrival of the ambulance. They would not normally be called out unless an ambulance was on the way. It was noted that the Lake Wardens will still provide a similar service in daylight hours within 500 yards of the Lake Shore. He advised that there were ongoing costs of £2,000 per year to maintain the kits and the radios. He then answered questions and was thanked for this attendance.

155. MATTERS ARISING

a) A letter was received from Stagecoach Cumbria advising that they were unable to attend evening meetings to discuss services operated by Stagecoach in the Windermere and Bowness area. It was agreed to place this matter on a future Agenda so that detailed queries can be forwarded by letter.

b) Bowness South Ward – Casual Vacancy

The District Council had advised the Council that no request had been received within the statutory period for the above vacancy to be filled by election and it could now be filled by the Town Council by co-option.

The Clerk would place the Notices requesting applications for co-option in due course.

c) Char Boat Planter – Ellerthwaite Square

The County Council had replied to confirm that the island in Ellerthwaite Square formed part of the Highway Network. Whilst there were no objections in principle, the Council had to apply to the Highways Department formally to obtain a permit.

The Clerk also advised that the Civic Society had requested an early decision on whether the Town Council wished to accept its offer of a Char Boat Planter because the vendor of the boat was wanting to know whether the Civic Society was still wishing to purchase the boat. It was agreed to place the matter on the next Agenda given that the Town Council now knew what the situation was relating to ownership of the island.

156 POLICE

PC Robecca Hunter advised that the Windermere Police were making extra efforts this year to prevent youth disorder over the Halloween period. Another disco was to be held in the Wheelhouse on Mischief Night and there would be a five-side football tournament together with an increased police presence. She then answered questions.

157. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4 planning applications were considered by the Council and it was resolved to send the following comments to the Lake District National Park Authority:-

7/09/5578 Mill Beck Cottage – Garage and Conservatory – Approve

7/09/5604 & 5605 The Belsfield, Kendal Road – Convert coach house and staff flat to form 19 Bedroom Units – Approve

7/09/5608 Ashness, Ferney Green – Local stone skin to South elevation, install natural stone lintels and sills. Alter window positions and dimensions. Install UPVC windows - Approve

7/08/5609 6 Claife Close – Extension – No comment

158. COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF THE LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Mr D Williams confirmed to the Council that the Windermere Tourist Information Centre was to be closed by South Lakeland District Council at the end of 2010.

Miss K Atkinson advised that the Windermere District Councillors had requested the overview and scrutiny committee to re-consider this decision . The decision was noted by the Council with regret. It was however also noted that discussions were in hand with commercial operators which may result a Tourist Information Centre continuing in Windermere beyond the end of 2010.

Mr J Stephenson advised that Council of the County Council Members Highway Priority Work Scheme and invited suggestions as to what minor works might be usefully put forward.

159. REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

Mr L Hallatsch had attended a CALC Meeting which were considering the boundaries of local action plan areas and the criteria for determining those boundaries.

Mr M Stafford and Mrs J Jewell had had a meeting with the local officers of the Fire Station relating the Landrover. It was noted that the Fire Service had been asked to attend a future meeting of the Town Council when this matter could be further discussed.

Mrs Joan Stocker had attended a meeting for the Windermere Community Safety Partnership. It maybe that this organisation may merge into the LAP Groups. The Fire Service had recently visited local schools.

Mrs J Garlick reported on a meeting of the Windermere Youth Project. Members of the project were working towards junior football club coaching awards and the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. They had recently been involved in crafts, sports and cooking from different cultures.

The Mayor circulated a list of his activities since the last meeting.

Mrs J Jewell had received a report from members of the public who had been told not to fish or swim near the Millerground bathing area. It was not clear who had told them not to do this and it was agreed to write Lakes Leisure and South Lakeland District Council for clarification.

Mrs J Borer had attended a Twinning Association Meeting. There was to be a hotpot supper on the 18th November to raise funds. It was noted that the Diessen band would be playing on the Glebe next year when they visited.

160. ORREST HEAD AND ELLERAY WOOD ADVISORY GROUP

The Town Council received the Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Group which was held on the 13th October. The Town Council agreed with the proposals to add signs at various locations relating either to no public access or no camping or fires. It was also agreed that the pathways to the pond could be improved in principle but that members of the public should not be further encouraged to visit the pond by means of signs.

161. THE GLEBE – REGISTRATION AS A VILLAGE GREEN.

In response to the Council's objections to the application for the registration of this land as Town or Village Green, the Civic Society, who are the applicants had written to the Commons Registration Authority. Copies of those responses had been circulated to Councillors. The Council had also received that evening a statement by the Civic Society circulated by Mr Legge.

The Clerk reminded members that they should, in considering this matter not be side-tracked by the issues relating to the United Utilities proposals on part of the Glebe.

It was resolved to advise the Commons Registration Authority that the Town Council repeated its objections to the application and to request the authority to expedite the decision if at all possible.

162. CRESCENT ROAD – REPLACEMENT BENCHES

The Council received a sketch of a proposed replacement bench manufactured out of steel and timber produced by Mr Chris Bramell. He had estimated that these could be produced for £1,820.00.

The Council considered that these would be a better and more substantial bench than those at present in Crescent Road, but could not justify the cost. It was therefore agreed that the County Council would be requested to replace the damaged benches on a like for like basis but in alternative locations so as to avoid vehicle strikes, or if they were to be replaced in the same locations then the benches should be protected if possible.

163. ALLOWANCES FOR PARISH COUNCILS FOR 2010/11

The Council considered whether it wished to ask the District Council Parish Remuneration Panel to consider the issues of allowances or expenses for its members.

By a majority, it was resolved not to make such a request.

164. WINDERMERE SCHOOL ENDOWMENT

The Council had been asked to consider appointing a governor to replace the late Mrs Pat Holmes. Following a ballot, it was agreed to appoint Mr J Walters.

165. PARKING IN LAYBYS

Some Councillors were concerned at the use of the last lay-by leaving Windermere on the A591 near Alice Howe Farm for the sale of Motor Vehicles.

It was agreed that difficulties for other users of the lay-by may be caused if the County Council considered imposing a time limit for the parking of vehicles in that location. It was agreed to write to the County Council requesting them to take action for the unauthorised use of the highway for commercial purposes.

166. ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were approved and passed for payment.

South Lakes Development Trust	Grant re: Allotments Group	1,065.00
BTCV	Work in Elleray Wood	316.25
VFMS	Watering Hanging Baskets – final Payment for 2009	1050.00
Kendal Paint & Colour Co.	Materials	15.74
B G Whittaker	Salary (includes Back Pay to April 2009)	513.05
HMRC	PAYE	486.45
Thomson Wilson Pattinson	Post & Copying	167.04
G Hancox	Town Steward	4252.62
E-On	St Martins Christmas Lights	43.28

167. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED .

The Council received the South Lakeland District Council overview and scrutiny annual report.

It was noted that the Lake District National Park had made a Tree Preservation Order covering all the trees in Fallbarrow Park.

It was noted that there would be a closure of Dubbs Road to permit works to be carried out on the road. The closure period would be for a period of six months from the 27th November.

The Council received the Minutes and Agenda of the Lakes Parish Council, Cumbria Voluntary Society News and the Minutes of the District Council Standards Committee.

A letter had been received from the County Council Passenger Transport Officer requesting details as to ownership of the bus shelter on the forecourt of Windermere Railway Station which had fallen into a poor condition. The Rail Station Manager wished to have it removed from the current site.

It was felt that the bus shelter had been provided by the Rail Operating Company at the time of the construction of the current station and was intended to form part of the transport gateway.

The Council received a report from the Town Steward advising of his recent activities. He had investigated the Char Boat Planter at the top of Long Tail Hill. Councillor Morphet advised that the Char Boat has drain holes in its base, had been bitumen treated on the inside before being planted, and had been laid on gravel and slates.

It was agreed to write to the District Council relating to the replacement of missing benches at Queens Park. Benches outside the Glebe Information Centre and Pinfold in Bowness also required to be painted. It was noted that Cumbria in Bloom was looking for a new Secretary.