

**KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL
SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE**

Selflessness – Integrity – Objectivity – Accountability – Openness – Honesty – Leadership

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 50 Main Street, Keswick on Thursday 17th September 2026 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
Councillor Natalie Evans
Councillors

Louise Dunn
Chris Houghton
Benita Lapthorn
Lorraine Taylor

Emily Hardy
Claire Houghton
Claire Peat

Steve Harwood
Denstone Kemp
Richard Scott

Also present was Vivien Little (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), Councillor Sally Lansbury (Cumberland Council), 1 member of the press, and six members of the public.

91. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Murray. Her apologies for absence were noted and accepted by Councillors.

92. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 20th of August 2026 (pages 16-20).

93. Requests for Dispensations

The Clerk reported that no requests for dispensation had been received.

94. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Kemp declared an interest in planning application 7/2026/2084 as he knew the owners. He would remain in the room and vote on the item.

95. Matters to be received from the Public

Councillor Evans read out a letter that had been received from the public, who had raised a number of concerns about the amount of traffic coming along Borrowdale Road, which had a negative impact on the member of the public's mental health, as well as concerns over the amount of pollution put into the surrounding area.

Councillor Peat said that Cumberland Council did monitor the levels of pollution on certain sections of Keswick, however not in what was considered the correct area, and that perhaps it was time to contact Cumberland Council again about the issue.

Councillor Harwood raised the point that this letter proved what they had been saying about the issue on Borrowdale Road for some time, and that it should be passed to Cumberland Council, as it wasn't just the Council saying it, but also members of the public. Councillor Harwood and the Clerk will contact an officer at Cumberland Council about the matter.

Councillor Kemp pointed out that this was an issue affect residents, as the infrastructure in place was not now working for the volume of traffic brought by tourists.

96. Matters to be raised by Councillors

Councillors Dunn and Peat informed Councillors that they were going to look to bring a report to the next Town Council meeting regarding flood preparedness, which would highlight who does what in the event of a flood, what actions would be needed, etc. Councillor Peat also informed Councillors that the KCERP AGM would be on Tuesday 29th September, and all were invited to attend.

Councillor Peat also informed Councillors that she had been in a walk about with Councillor Lansbury and an officer from Cumberland Council's Highways department to look at the long list of TRO information which was presented at the previous month's Council meeting. The list had been delegated to be looked at by the Visitor Management Working Group, as work needed to be done on it. Councillor Taylor asked if there were any way that the public could input into the list. Councillor Peat responded that they should go to the portal where TRO requests could be logged. This would highlight where there were problems that weren't necessarily known about.

Councillor Evans informed Councillors that she and the Clerk had attended Cumberland's Lakes to Sea Panel earlier that evening to bring forward the matter of potentially putting bollards at the entrance of Market Square from Derwent Close, and that it had been unanimously supported, and we were now waiting to hear what the next steps were.

97. Keswick Community Partnership Report

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk. Reverend Charles Hope was in attendance for discussion of this item. He explained the aim of the project, and what was achieved so far, and answered questions from Councillors.

RESOLVED that:

- i) Keswick Town Council actively supports the work of Keswick Community Partnership, and appoints at least one nominated member representative on this outside body; and
- ii) Keswick Town Council supports the work of improving awareness about access to services and activities by contributing £1,570 per annum for three years to Keswick Community Partnership from 1 April 2027 (Action – RFO).

98. Applications for Development

- i) **RESOLVED** that the following observations be submitted to the Lake District National Park Authority (Action – RFO).

Plan Ref.	Description, Location, Comments Recommendation
T/2026/0154	Felling of a dead bird cherry tree in boundary hedge Prior Holme, 9 Borrowdale Road, Keswick, CA12 5DD <i>Support – this is within the Conservation Area and although there is no specialist report, we support the action proposed</i> SUPPORT
T/2026/0156	T1 Dying conifer - Remove. T2 Norway Maple - Remove to facilitate safe removal of dying conifer. T3 Norway maple - prune to create 2m clearance of phone wire. T4 Yew prune branch ends to create 2m clearance of phone wire. T5 Ash - Fell (Roadside and pavement clearance). T6 Norway Maple - Fell (Roadside and pavement clearance). T7 Norway Maple - Crown raise (Roadside and pavement clearance). 8 Beech - Crown raise (Roadside and pavement clearance). T9 Norway maple - crown raise for roadside and pavement clearance. G1 Laurel - Fell or reduce to clear phone line. G2 Laurel - Fell or reduce to create space below T1 to facilitate safe removal Nether Place Nursing Home, Chestnut Hill, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4LS <i>Support – this is tree management work affecting 11 trees in the grounds of the Nursing Home which are subject to a Tree Preservation Order. We support the recommendations of Oliver Bennett Tree Services</i>

SUPPORT

- T/2026/0163 T1 - Section fell 1x Dead Beech Tree
The Coach House, Greta Hall, Main Street, Keswick, CA12 5NH
Support – this is within the Conservation Area and we support the recommendation of Paul Livesey of Precision Tree Services
SUPPORT
- T/2026/0166 T1 - Cypress Tree, reduce back to previous pruning points as shown in picture.
T2 - Larch Tree, reduce extended branch
17, Manor Park, Keswick, CA12 4AB
Support – this is within the Conservation Area and we support the recommendation of Paul Livesey of Precision Tree Services
SUPPORT
- 7/2026/2084 Proposed removal of the existing kitchen extraction system from the side elevation of the rear outrigger, including installation of a new kitchen extraction duct with roof penetration through the rear roof slope. Formation of new access flooring at ceiling level within the kitchen and installation of a new suspended grid ceiling. Removal of existing cooker hoods and replacement with new units.
Pack Horse Inn, Pack Horse Court, Keswick, CA12 5JB
Support – this is within the Conservation Area but the new extract flues on the rear roof cannot be seen from any vantage point at street level and we consider this to be acceptable
SUPPORT
- 7/2026/2085 Proposed removal of the existing kitchen extraction system from the side elevation of the rear outrigger, including installation of a new kitchen extraction duct with roof penetration through the rear roof slope. Formation of new access flooring at ceiling level within the kitchen and installation of a new suspended grid ceiling. Removal of existing cooker hoods and replacement with new units.
Pack Horse Inn, Pack Horse Court, Keswick, CA12 5JB
Support – The Pack Horse Inn is a Grade II listed building but the new extract flues on the rear roof cannot be seen from any vantage point at street level and we consider this to be acceptable
SUPPORT
- 7/2026/2140 Proposed alterations to rear elevation
12, Derwent Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5AN
Support – this is only a minor change to the previously approved application 7/2024/2148, which we support
SUPPORT
- 7/2026/2151 Erection of side extension to replace garage, front porch, raised patio and internal alterations to provide rear living room/space, walk-in-wardrobe and ensuite
37, Lakeland Park, Keswick, CA12 4AT
Support – these changes represent an improvement to the previously approved application 7/2025/2130, which we support
SUPPORT
- 7/2026/2152 Approval of details reserved by condition 8 (construction environmental method plan) on appeal decision APP/Q9495/W/23/3330570 (application

7/2022/2247) - Extension to existing holiday park, formation of access, landscaping and ancillary works.

Low Briery Holiday Village, Keswick, CA12 4RN
No comments required

7/2026/2154 Non-material amendment to application 7/2026/2014 (Erection of a building for the storage and maintenance of launch craft in association with Keswick Launch Company) for the addition of 3 windows and 2 doors to east elevation, new rooflights, omission of approved gable link
 Boat Repair Depot, Isthmus Bay, Keswick, CA12 5DJ
No comments required

ii) **RECEIVED** update on National Park planning decisions.

99. Mayor's Report

RECEIVED details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 14 August – 10 September 2026.

100. Reports from Ward Representatives

RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:

- i) Cumberland Council – Councillor Lansbury gave Councillors updates on her work. There had been a walk about in Keswick with the LDNPA's conservation officer to look at areas of concern in Keswick.

She also brought up the recent surgery with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, and the PSPO, which will be renewed in late 2027, and can be altered to be more robust then. Concerns in the meantime will still need to be logged with Cumberland in order to get an accurate picture.

- ii) LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative – **RECEIVED** the report of the North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative.

101. Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk. Concerns were raised about the timing of the documentation, and given that this could be a very important forum to put forward our voice, it was critical to get everything correct. Councillor Dunn, who had the most information about the forum stated that whoever was elected as Chair should push for the forum to have an 'interim' Chair until after the elections in May 2027, and then align with Chairmanship and any terms after that point.

RESOLVED that

- i) Councillor Dunn be the Keswick Town Council representative on the new Lake District Town and Parish Council Forum;
- ii) Councillor Evans be the Keswick Town Council representative on the Keswick Community Partnership; and
- iii) Councillor Hardy be a joint Keswick Town Council representative on Sustainable Keswick.

102. Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts for September 2026 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payment (*Action RFO*):

- i) For the Town Council, vouchers 125 – 146, amounting to £38,733.06 (thirty eight thousand seven hundred and thirty three pounds and six pence)
- ii) For the Trusts, vouchers HP100 – FP116, amounting to £28,087.16 (twenty eight thousand eighty seven pounds and sixteen pence).

103. Keswick Town Council Survey results

RECEIVED the paper from Councillor Dunn.

RESOLVED that:

- i) Keswick Town Council share the survey findings with the following: Cumberland Council; Lake District National Park Authority; Markus Campbell-Savours MP; Keswick Tourism Association; Cumbria Tourism; Holiday let companies (Action – Councillor Dunn and the Clerk);
- ii) Keswick Town Council continue to lobby for a licensing system for short term holiday rentals; and
- iii) Encourage residents to write to their MP, asking them to support the bill (Action – Clerk).

104. Clerk's Report

RECEIVED the Clerk's report.

RESOLVED that the Staffing Committee look at this report, and make proposals at the next meeting, focusing on guidelines, Councillors etiquette, and impact on staff (Action – Clerk).

105. Consultation

RECEIVED information on the Cumberland Council consultation on Polling Stations.

RESOLVED that no response be made on the consultation on Polling Stations.

106. Tour de France Update

RECEIVED the verbal update from Councillor Harwood.

107. Police Report

RECEIVED the report of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Prior to consideration of the following business, the Chair moved the resolution:

'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted'

Councillor Peat took the Chair at 8.40pm

Councillor Evans returned to the Chair at 8.43pm

108. Building update

RECEIVED the report of the Responsible Financial Officer.

RESOLVED that the Heads of Terms be accepted, and it be minuted that Councillors have requested consideration be given to improvements to the building in line with the Council's Climate Emergency declaration (Action – Clerk).

The meeting closed at 8.49p.m.

Chair

Date