

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held in the Council Chamber, 50 Main Street, Keswick, on Thursday 15th December 2016 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor David Burn

Councillors

Allan Daniels	Martin Jordan	Denstone Kemp
Graham Kendall	Susan Leighton	Andrew Lysser
Duncan Miller	Adam Paxon	Paul Titley

Also present were Lynda Walker (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), Geoff Davies (Lake District National Park Authority), and 2 members of the press.

151. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lywood (holiday), and Councillor Pugmire (illness).

152. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17th November 2016 (pages 30-34).

153. Requests for Dispensations

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

154. Declarations of Interests

No declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on the agenda were received.

155. Police Report

RECEIVED the report of the Allerdale West Neighbourhood Policing team for November. 14 crimes had been reported in the Keswick area during November 2016 with 8 anti-social behaviour incidents reported during the month (this compares with a total of 40 incidents for the same period in 2015). Councillors raised concern about revellers trying to climb the scaffolding at the Moot Hall on New Years Eve and it was agreed to raise this issue later in the meeting should a Police Officer arrive.

156. Matters to be received from the Public

There were no members of the public present. Councillor Leighton spoke about the many compliments she had received about the Christmas lighting displays and thanked and congratulated the office team and the contractors.

157. Applications for Development

- i) **RESOLVED** that the following observations be submitted to the Lake District National Park Authority:-

Plan Ref.	Description of Development Location
T/2016/0181	Horse Chestnut - Fell; Conifer - Fell; 4 x Conifers - Fell Townhead, 25 St Johns Street SUPPORT

- 7/2016/2274** Two flood doors - one to the front of the shop and one to the back (Resubmission of planning approval 7/2016/2099)
7 Tithebarn Street
Support – vital that this area is protected
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2275** Erection of new communications aerial
Council Offices, 50 Main Street
Declared interest – Applicant is Keswick Town Council
Declared Interest
- 7/2016/2276** Ground floor change of use from Children’s Nursery to residential dwelling. First floor retained use of residential dwelling. Entire building to form a single residential property.
Flat Westholme, Blencathra Street
Support – conversion back to original state and no impact on neighbours
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2283** Construction of two storey extension to the rear elevation of a two storey domestic dwelling (resubmission)
5 Park Holme
Support – resubmission and smaller in scale than original (more in keeping with neighbouring extensions)
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2285** Replacement of existing garage with new, bigger garage.
41 Millfield Gardens
Support – Site visit made - can only improve the area and has no impact on neighbours
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2289** Proposed installation of 1 no. 03m transmission dish onto a new antenna support pole
Skiddaw Hotel, 31 Main Street
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2291** Change of use from hot food takeaway (A5) to beauty salon
3a St Johns Street
Support – refreshing of St Johns Street and good to see new shops
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2295** Proposed construction of a replacement gauging station and associated infrastructure
Land to the south of the B5289 High Hill
Support – essential to flood data
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2297** Proposed construction of a replacement gauging station and associated infrastructure
Land at Keswick Camping and Caravanning Club
Support – essential to flood data
SUPPORT
- 7/2016/2298** Demolition of existing porch & outhouse. Construction of new porch, bedroom, bathroom and store
Strathmore Guesthouse, 8 St Johns Terrace, Ambleside Road
Support – new build will make a big improvement to rear of guest house
SUPPORT

- 7/2016/2309** Installation of parking space at the rear of the property requiring demolition and rebuilding of rear wall
Primrose Cottage, 10 Greta Street
Support – subject to the car parking area having a permeable surface (flooded in 2015)
SUPPORT
- ii) No Lake District National Park planning decisions had been received.

It was agreed to bring item 10 on the agenda forward

158. Reports from Ward Representatives

RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:

- i) Allerdale Borough Council Ward Representatives – none present
- ii) Cumbria County Council Ward Representative
- iii) Lake District National Park Authority North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative – Geoff Davies reported that the Housing Supplementary Planning Document had now been agreed and spoke about the recent Development Control Committee meeting to determine the United Utilities pipeline application. He gave further information about the UU Legacy Fund which would soon be opening for applications. It was agreed that Councillors Titley, Daniels, Kendall and Jordan form a working group to come up with potential projects and report back to a future meeting.

(Geoff Davies left the meeting)

159. Review of Health Services - Future of Keswick Hospital

The Mayor gave a verbal report on the public meeting held at Keswick School on 28th November 2016 and urged everyone to respond to the consultation document before the deadline which was imminent.

PCSO Catherine Smith joined the meeting.

160. Police Report (cont)

PCSO Catherine Smith gave a description of the Shopwatch Scheme in operation in Keswick following a spike in shoplifting offences as a result of the lack of CCTV in the town. Councillors raised concerns about possible injury to people trying to climb the scaffolding on the Moot Hall on New Year's Eve. PCSO Smith confirmed that there would be a police presence and that the Police would be made aware.

161. Mayor's Report

RECEIVED details of the Mayor's engagements and meetings attendance for the period 11th November – 8th December 2016.

The Mayor also gave a report on a meeting he and Lynn Jones of Keswick Flood Action Group had attended, together with Jamie Reed MP, with the Floods Minister, Therese Coffey, on 14th December 2016. A trial of an upland flood risk management scheme had been suggested and it was agreed that the Derwent catchment area should be put forward as a pathfinder. It was further agreed that a letter be sent to the Department for Communities and Local Government regarding Bellwin funding for local councils. The Mayor asked for it to be put on record that the Town Council and Keswick Flood Action Group were working well together.

162. Reports from Liaison Meetings

- i) Allerdale Flood Resilience Group - Councillor Titley tabled a report following his attendance at the meeting on 7th December 2016.

163. Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts for December 2016 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payment for:

- i) The Town Council, vouchers 167 – 187 amounting to £28,316.52 (twenty eight thousand three hundred and sixteen pounds and fifty two pence)

- ii) The Trusts, vouchers HP124 – FP163 amounting to £11,459.61 (eleven thousand four hundred and fifty nine pounds and sixty one pence)

164. Budget for 2017/2018

The draft budget for 2017/18 was presented for approval together with recommended grant payments to local organisations, and the report of the Staffing Committee following the annual review of pay and conditions of service of employees as required by Standing Order no. 7. The RFO reported on a change to business rates which had been notified after the draft budgets had been circulated and would require additional funding.

RESOLVED

- i) That the list of recommended grants be approved
- ii) that the draft Budget for the financial year 2017/18 be approved to include the recommendations in the report of the Staffing Committee
- iii) that the additional amount required for business rates be funded from reserves to keep the increase in the precept below 10%
- iv) that the precept for 2017/18 be set at £220,930 (an increase of 9.61% on the previous year)
- v) that an earmarked reserve of £20,000 be set up from general reserves to fund a contribution to future local affordable housing schemes
- vi) that the use of an alternative meeting room be investigated in view of the increase in business rates for the Council Chamber
- vii) that the following items be funded from the 2016/17 contingency amount:
 - Loop system/assisted listening system for the Council Chamber - £500
 - Website upgrade - £1,320
 - Telephone system - £2,600
 - Backdated business rates - £3,357.29

165. Request for Grant - Keswick Senior Citizens Club

Consideration was given to a request from Keswick Senior Citizens club for financial support towards a new heating system.

RESOLVED that a grant of £1,000 be offered towards the new heating system, to be funded from the 2016/17 contingency amount, subject to a copy of the quote being provided

166. Derwent 7 Cluster Group of Parishes

RECEIVED a request from the current Chair of the Derwent 7 for a named representative to attend future meetings of the Group, and a suggestion that the position of chair should rotate on a biennial timescale.

167. Clerk's Report

RECEIVED the Clerk's report.

168. Events Committee Minutes

RECEIVED for information the Minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on 15 November 2016.

169. Correspondence

Consideration was given to the following correspondence:

- i) Allerdale BC – response re. elections management
RESOLVED that Andrew Seekings be thanked for responding and for the advice given
- ii) Allerdale BC – response re pedlar at Keswick market
- iii) Shelagh Brown – petition against use of live reindeer at Victorian Fayre
- iv) CALC – request for Councillors' help in encouraging uptake of fibre broadband
- v) CALC – newsletter for Allerdale councils

Prior to the following business the Chairman moved the following resolution:

'That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable/in the public interest that the public and/or press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw'

170. Internal Audit

Consideration was given to the report of the Responsible Financial Officer.

RESOLVED that Ian Smithson be appointed as the Council's Internal Auditor for the year ending 31st March 2017.

171. Walker Park

The Clerk reported on the response received from Allerdale BC regarding the rent review for Walker Park.

RESOLVED that appropriate professional advice be sought regarding the best way forward in relation to the agreement.

172. Staffing Committee Minutes

RECEIVED for information the Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 29th November 2016.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Chairman

Date