

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held remotely via the Zoom app on Thursday 16th April 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor David Burn

Alexandra Boardman
Alan Dunn
Tony Lywood
Paul Titley

Markus Campbell - Savours
Steve Harwood
Duncan Miller

Allan Daniels
Sally Lansbury
Peter Terry

Also present were Lynda Walker (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), Christine Fawcett (Keswick Parks Manager), Dr Geoff Davies and two members of the press.

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the first 'virtual' Town Council meeting which was being recorded. He said that a two minute break would be taken at 8.00 pm so that members could join in with the Thursday evening 'clap for the NHS'.

238. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Paxon.

239. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 19th March 2020 (pages 59-63).

240. Requests for Dispensations

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

241. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda were received.

242. Police Report

Councillors had received a copy of Cumbria Constabulary's Covid-19 (Coronavirus) update of 9th April 2020 via email. The Mayor and Councillor Dunn had details of named police contacts to report any issues arising in the town or the parks.

(Councillor Titley joined the meeting).

243. Matters to be received from the Public

No members of the public were present.

It was agreed to defer item 7 on the agenda to the end of the meeting.

Councillor Campbell-Savours joined the meeting.

244. Applications for Development

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

| Plan ref. | Description of Development Location |
|-------------|--|
| 7/2019/2166 | <p>Proposed youth centre and residential development Keswick Youth Centre, The Old Mill, Main Street, Keswick, CA12 5NJ</p> <p><i>Object - The Planning Group is fully supportive of the reinstatement of the Youth Club but is charged with acting on guidance and planning policies of the LDNPA in the context of the designated conservation area. The amended proposal has been reduced in size only marginally at the western end to provide a greater distance between the proposed end dwelling and Greta Grove House. There has been no attempt to reduce the overall mass of the building relative to adjacent properties, particularly the impact on the Old Mill Court dwellings, which has been a major concern to individual objectors. There has also been no detail submitted to address the objection raised by the Environment Agency in this high risk flood zone. Whilst supporting the provision of a Youth Centre, we object to the scale and mass of the development as currently proposed in this setting. It is our view that the building should be restricted to 2 storeys in height plus the roof - accepting that the ground floor level is predominantly open for car parking use. This does not detract in any way from the space required for the Youth Centre. The space currently shown as office accommodation on the 2nd floor level could be provided in a different form utilising the roof space. This would reduce the overall mass of the building to be more compatible with the original building on the site. A similar restriction should also apply to the residential element though an increase in height of the two end units would be acceptable to reflect the form of the original building. This would be a more neighbourly form of development given the level of objections raised by adjacent residents and business owners affected. If such changes were made and the Environment Agency concerns were satisfied, this project could be supported.</i></p> <p>OBJECT</p> |
| 7/2020/2078 | <p>Change of window decals on 1st floor windows following withdrawal of planning application 7/2019/2295 35 Main Street, Keswick, CA12 5BL</p> <p><i>Support - A simple 'Advertisement Consent' application seeking to improve present display. Suggested display is more in-keeping with this area. Note: Previous application for new windows withdrawn.</i></p> <p>SUPPORT</p> |

- 7/2020/2083 Development of 5 No. Flats/Maisonettes for Local Occupancy - following withdrawal of application ref 7/2019/2258
Acorn Garage, Helvellyn Street, Keswick, CA12 4EH
Object - We are supportive of the principle of providing local occupancy housing on this site and consider the opening up of the courtyard area at the rear for parking is a significant improvement relative to the existing building. The design details are in keeping with the area and the submitted proposals are an improvement on the original withdrawn application. Having considered representations from neighbouring properties we are concerned at the adverse impact the rear projection into the site will have on the Leonard Street properties, which will have a significant overbearing effect being in such close proximity to the boundary. We also have concerns regarding the visibility of cars leaving the site adjacent to the existing store building on the site frontage. This will require vehicles to be across the pavement before exiting onto Helvellyn Street, which is frequently parked on both sides of the road restricting traffic flow. This should be addressed by the Highways Department. We recommend the overall design is revisited to address these concerns and provide a more neighbourly development.
OBJECT
- 7/2020/2084 Alterations and extension to provide an annexe. To include a bedroom, lounge/kitchen/dining area and utility room.
34 Blencathra Street, Keswick, CA12 4HP
Object - This proposal is a significant first floor extension to an existing substantial 3 storey dwelling creating what is effectively a separate apartment with an independent entrance. No justification is provided on the intended use or need for this accommodation which could generate additional parking demand in an already congested area. We are concerned this additional mass of building will adversely impact on neighbouring properties. This is located in the Article 4 directive area and we consider that the detailed design of windows is out of character with the traditional features of the existing house.
OBJECT
- 7/2020/2089 Use as unfettered dwelling house within its own curtilage
The Stable, 2 Derwent Street, Keswick, CA12 5AL
No comments required – FOR INFORMATION ONLY
- 7/2020/2092 Alterations & extensions
29 Penrith Road, Keswick, CA12 4HA
Support - Sufficient 'garden ground' for small pitched roof extensions one of which replaces a poor quality 'flat roof' build to the rear.

SUPPORT

7/2020/2094

Proposed single storey extension to the rear, following withdrawal of 7/2020/2072

Malindi, The Heads, Keswick, CA12 5ER

No comments made.

SUPPORT

- ii) **RECEIVED** update on National Park Planning Decisions.

245. Mayor's Report

The Mayor commented that Allerdale Borough Council staff were to be commended for their monitoring of the car parks in Keswick to deter visitors at this time. It would appear that most people were following the Government guidelines and messages issued by other bodies e.g. the LDNPA urging people to stay away.

246. Reports from Ward Representatives

RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:

- i) Allerdale Borough Council – Councillor Daniels said that there had been no meetings and little correspondence to report. Councillor Lansbury said that she had been assisting with applications to the Council for business grants and that in most cases these had been paid. She commended the work of the Keswick Community Emergency Recovery Partnership and advised that a grant had been received from Cumbria Community Foundation to support this work. Councillor Campbell-Savours said that help was available for anyone currently struggling to pay their Council Tax and he would supply the helpline numbers to the press.
- ii) Cumbria County Council – County Councillor Lywood said that an informal meeting of the Local Committee for Allerdale would take place soon. He thanked Councillor Lansbury for her work to support business grant applicants.
- iii) Lake District National Park Authority North Distinctive Area Parishes – Dr Geoff Davies submitted a written report and added that LDNPA staff had been seconded to help the communications effort to get people to Stay at Home. He thanked these officers for helping to keep the Lake District quiet. He gave detailed information on arrangements for delegated powers to the Head of Development Management to determine planning applications and confirmed that he would not wish to see major applications decided without the involvement of the Development Control Committee.

247. Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts for April 2020 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payment for:

- i) The Town Council, vouchers 224 – 9 amounting to £35,411.49 (thirty five thousand four hundred and eleven pounds and forty nine pence).
- ii) The Parks Trusts, vouchers HP252 – FP224 amounting to £5,575.64 (five thousand five hundred and seventy five pounds and sixty four pence).

248. Budget Summary Comparisons as at 31st March 2020

RECEIVED budget comparisons for the 4th Quarter.

249. Verification of Bank Reconciliations

RESOLVED that Councillor Miller be appointed to sign the bank reconciliations and original bank statements as evidence of verification.

250. Annual Review of Financial Regulations

RECEIVED the report of the Responsible Financial Officer.

RESOLVED that no changes be made to the current Financial Regulations.

251. Assets Register

RESOLVED that the updated Assets Register be approved and adopted.

252. Delegation Arrangements

Consideration was given to arrangements for delegating decisions to the Clerk should this become necessary as the Coronavirus pandemic continues.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be authorised to act with delegated authority as follows:

- To take action on any issue of such urgency that it cannot wait until the next normal Council meeting. If circumstances permit, the Clerk would normally be expected to consult with the Mayor or Deputy Mayor if the Mayor is unavailable and take his/her view into account
- To submit planning observations on behalf of the Council to the planning authority following consultation with Councillors who for the time being constitute the Council's Planning Group and with the Mayor or Deputy Mayor as above
- To authorise the payment of accounts on behalf of the Town Council and Keswick Parks Charitable Trusts following inspection by two Councillors and consultation with Mayor or Deputy Mayor as above.

All decisions taken under delegated authority to be in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and reported to the next available Council meeting.

Note: these arrangements shall be reviewed in 6 months' time.

253. Minutes of Committee Meetings

RECEIVED for information the Minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on 18th March 2020.

254. Matters to be raised by Councillors

Councillor Titley proposed an agenda item for the next meeting concerning how to support Keswick post-Covid 19. He outlined a three point plan to support businesses and locals and to stage an event at an appropriate time. It was agreed that this be considered at the next meeting.

Councillor Terry outlined concerns about the performance of Public Health England which he felt had failed in its remit to 'protect public health'. He also raised the issue of MPs receiving a £10,000 grant to support them working from home which he felt was unnecessary.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Chairman

Date