

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held using the Zoom app on Thursday 20th August 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor Paul Titley

Alexandra Boardman
Alan Dunn
Tony Lywood
Peter Terry

David Burn
Steve Harwood
Duncan Miller

Allan Daniels
Sally Lansbury
Adam Paxon

Also present were Lynda Walker (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), Dr Geoff Davies (Lake District National Park Authority North Distinctive Area Parishes representative) one member of the press and six members of the public.

63. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Markus Campbell-Savours (holiday).

64. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 16th July 2020 (pages 11- 15).

65. Requests for Dispensations

The Clerk reported that no requests for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member had a disclosable pecuniary interest had been received.

66. Declarations of Interests

Declarations of interests in respect of items on the agenda were received from:
Councillor Dunn – item 10 – resident of St John’s Street.

67. Police Report

RECEIVED: the Cockermouth and Keswick ‘Allerdale Focus’ newsletter for July 2020 (circulated prior to the meeting). No police officers were present. Councillor Lywood listed three incidents which had taken place in the town in recent days and Councillors agreed that the current policing situation was unsatisfactory. The Mayor said that he would take this up with the Police.

(Councillor Paxon joined the meeting).

68. Matters to be received from the Public

A local hotelier asked that the Council continue its objection to the Premier Inn proposal on the former Ravensfield site following submission of a revised planning application. The Mayor advised that no comment could be made pending consideration of the updated plans.

69. Matters to be raised by Councillors

No issues were raised.

70. Applications for Development

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

Plan Ref:	Description of Development Location
1604.416/JSW/LNW	<p>Tree preservation order (No. 416) - Beech tree (T/2020/0072) Land at 25 St Johns Street <i>Support TPO No1 on plan but recommend that tree no. 2 on application T/2020/0072 also have a TPO</i> SUPPORT</p>
7/2020/2039	<p>Erection of Hotel (C1) with restaurant/bar (A3/A4) at ground floor, together with means of access, car parking, creation of loading/delivery bay and ancillary works Former Ravensfield Care Home, High Hill, Keswick, CA12 5NX Response deferred until September Town Council meeting – Extension request sent to LDNPA.</p>
7/2020/2165	<p>Development of 5 no. flats/maisonettes for local occupancy Acorn Garage, Helvellyn Street, Keswick, CA12 4EH <i>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 to the existing building. The design details are in keeping with the area and the submitted proposals are an improvement on the previous application with a reduction in height of the rear dwelling adjacent to 16 Leonard Street. Following a site visit to appraise concerns raised by residents of neighbouring properties, we remain concerned at the overbearing impact of the three storey unit on the Leonard Street properties in such close proximity to the boundary. We would ask the applicant to consider how the walls, on both sides of the site up to the boundary, can physically be built as detailed without access from neighbouring properties – whose owners are objectors to this application. Despite comments made by CCC Highways, we remain concerned about restricted visibility for cars exiting onto Helvellyn Street adjacent to the existing store building on the site frontage. We recommend the overall design is revisited to address these concerns and provide a more neighbourly development</i> OBJECT</p>
7/2020/2166	<p>One projecting sign and two signs to new shop front 7 Museum Square, Keswick, CA12 5DZ <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT</p>
7/2020/2170	<p>Approval of details reserved by condition no. 3 of planning approval 7/2018/2118 (Forming new 2 storey dedicated family entrance, extension to vehicle bays & two storey garage and silver command, office space with high ropes training area.) - Details of windows & doors Lakeside Car Park, Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Base, Lake Road, Keswick, CA12 5DJ</p>

No comments made

SUPPORT

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| 7/2020/2171 | Proposed extensions and alterations to existing dwelling including demolition of existing single storey garage/utility room
Nandi Hills, Lonsties, Keswick, CA12 4TD
<i>No comments made</i>
SUPPORT |
| 7/2020/2178 | Siting of tables and chairs to facilitate eating and drinking area
25 Main Street, Keswick, CA12 5BL
<i>No comments made</i>
SUPPORT |
| 7/2020/2188 | Change of use of vacant retail store to 4 x 1 no. bed dwellings following approval of planning application 7/2019/2269
18 Otley Road, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5LE
<i>No comments made</i>
SUPPORT |

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

71. Planning White Paper

Consideration was given to the implications of the White Paper 'Planning for the Future' and how the Council could best respond to the consultation. The Chair reminded Councillors that there was currently an opportunity to submit a nomination to the Executive Committee of the Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) and suggested that having a representative on this Committee would enable more input into the National Association of Local Councils' (NALC) response.

RESOLVED that the Planning Group supplemented by Councillor Terry prepare a draft consultation response for approval by the Council to the White Paper, and that Councillor Terry be nominated for the vacant position on the CALC Executive Committee.

72. Review of Station Street/St John's Street One Way System

Consideration was given to the effectiveness of the current temporary one way system in Station Street/St John's Street. Members of the public presented views for and against. It was agreed that there were issues with signage and enforcement and that monthly monitoring should take place.

RESOLVED that the temporary one-way system remain in place with monthly monitoring and that a request for traffic calming and better signage be made to Cumbria Highways.

(Councillor Paxon left the meeting).

73. Reports from Ward Representatives

RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:

- i. LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative – Dr Davies presented a written report and gave his initial comments on the Planning White Paper. Councillor Lywood advised that a funding application had been submitted for a spur from the K2T multi-user trail on the A66 to St John's in the Vale.
(Dr Davies left the meeting)
- ii. Allerdale Borough Council
Councillor Daniels said that the 'no cash' policy on the Borough Council's car parks was discriminatory and leading to large queues building up due to the poor functionality of the system. He asked that representations be made to allow cash payments to be re-introduced. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council.

Councillor Lansbury advised that grants were available to Sports Clubs using Fitz Park and that she had informed the clubs of this opportunity.

iii. Cumbria County Council

Councillor Lywood advised that five artists had expressed an interest in designing the mural for the new bus shelter at Penrith Road and outlined how the Working Group proposed to decide a theme and involve the schoolchildren from St. Herbert's School. Councillors were happy with the action proposed.

74. Otley Road Recycling Centre

Councillor Daniels raised the issue of the state of the Otley Road recycling centre which was being used for flytipping by businesses and becoming a health hazard due to the accumulation of waste.

RESOLVED that representations be made to Allerdale Borough Council for action to be taken to monitor the use of the site and to keep it tidier.

75. Keswick to Threlkeld Trail

Consideration was given to the report of Councillor Harwood and the response from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to the Council's letter of 16th June 2020.

RESOLVED that the action recommended in the report be approved i.e.

- i. A formal response be sent to DEFRA recording the Council's concern that its principal request has not been addressed
- ii. A submission be made to the Local Government Ombudsman
- iii. Contact be made with the Langdale 4x4 team to establish progress of their case and any learning points

76. Recognition of Fundraising Achievement

Councillor Lywood proposed that an art work should be commissioned and sited in the town to honour 'Max' the dog and his achievement (with his owner) in raising over £300,000 for charity. Crowd funding was suggested as a way of covering any costs.

RESOLVED that the proposal be supported and that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Titley and Max's owner form a working group to take it forward.

77. Proposed Cycling Station

Councillor Lywood advised that Keswick Community Asset Company had agreed to fund a 'cycling station' outside Keswick Mini Market. Consultation had taken place with County Highways and local businesses who were all supportive.

RESOLVED that the Town Council support the proposal to install the Cycling Station in the suggested location.

78. Payment of Accounts

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

- i) For the Town Council, vouchers 46 – 71, amounting to £44,995.29 (forty four thousand nine hundred and ninety five pounds and twenty nine pence)
- ii) For the Trusts, vouchers HP55 – FP69, amounting to £8,942.73 (eight thousand nine hundred and forty two pounds and seventy three pence)

79. Mayor's Allowance

Consideration was given to re-allocating the budget provision for the Mayor's allowance for 2020-21 (£2,000) to another budget head as the Mayor had indicated that he did not wish to accept it in the current circumstances.

RESOLVED that £2,000 be vired from the Mayor's Allowance to the Grants allocation in the current year's budget.

80. Quarterly Budgets

RECEIVED for information the quarterly budgets comparison.

81. Climate Change Working Group Update

RECEIVED an update from Councillor Boardman.

82. Clerk's Report

Consideration was given to the Clerk's report.

RESOLVED:

- i) that Councillor Lansbury replace Councillor Harwood on the Staffing Committee
- ii) that the offer of free membership of the Rural Market Towns Group be accepted (Councillor Daniels offered to represent the Council on this group)

83. Minutes of Committee Meetings

RECEIVED for information the Minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on 16th July 2020.

84. Correspondence

RECEIVED the following correspondence:

- i) Keswick Senior Citizens Club – thanks for grant.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Chairman

Date