

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held remotely using the Zoom app on Thursday 17th December 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor Paul Titley

Councillors		
Alexandra Boardman	David Burn	Allan Daniels
Alan Dunn	Steve Harwood	Sally Lansbury
Tony Lywood	Duncan Miller	Peter Terry

Also present were Lynda Walker (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), Dr Geoff Davies (Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative), 1 member of the press and 4 members of the public.

147. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Campbell-Savours and Paxon.

148. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 19th November 2020 (pages 30 - 35).

149. Requests for Dispensations

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

150. Declarations of Interests

Declarations of interests in respect of items on the agenda were received from:
Councillor Daniels – item 15 – member of Keswick Community Housing Trust

151. Police Report

RECEIVED the report of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team for November. 19 crimes and 7 anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents had been recorded during the month which compared with 17 crimes and 4 ASB incidents for November 2019. Councillor Terry asked that action be taken to ensure that motorists comply with the one-way system on Station Street.

152. Matters received from the Public

A local resident raised concerns about the activities of the Blencathra Hunt, which were under police investigation, and expressed disappointment that his request had been refused for an agenda item proposing that a letter be sent by the Town Council to indicate that the Hunt would no longer be welcome in Keswick town centre on Boxing Day. The Mayor pointed out that the Blencathra Hunt was based in Threlkeld Parish which came under Eden District Council and that the matter was still under consideration by the Crown Prosecution Service.

A different local resident expressed concerns about the safety of children crossing the road outside Keswick School and requested the support of the Town Council in approaching Cumbria County Council, as the highway authority, to provide a pedestrian crossing. Councillor Burn advised that the County Council had agreed to provide 'rumble strips' in this area to slow down traffic, however he supported the proposal for a crossing and suggested that the matter be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

153. Matters raised by Councillors

Councillor Terry expressed concern about lack of privacy for some householders on Latrigg Close following the recent removal of trees and the re-opening of the Keswick to Threlkeld Multi-User Trail which was attracting large numbers of users. The Mayor said that some residents appreciated the increased light onto their gardens.

Councillor Terry suggested that it would be useful, as a relatively new Councillor, to have knowledge of other Councillors' professional backgrounds and their skills and experience. He was happy to provide a short resume of his own career and asked if others would be prepared to share similar information via the Clerk, on a purely voluntary basis.

154. Applications for Development

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

Plan Ref:	Description of Development
T/2020/0160	Location: T3 - Lime: Crown reduction and crown lift Greta Lodge, Keswick CA12 5ND <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
T/2020/0166	Removal of co-dominant rubbing branch back to union, remainder of branch reduced back into canopy by 2.5-3m (C1). Crown reduce over properties by 2.5-3m (C1) Land to rear 1 Calvert Way, Keswick CA12 4LZ <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
T/2020/0169	Fell 1 Monterey cypress (T5). Crown lift 1 giant redwood to 5m in line with apex of roof (T2) Woodclose, Borrowdale Road, Keswick CA12 5DD <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
7/2020/2174	Change of use to existing utility block to provide additional accommodation including minor elevation changes to the building Keswick Convention Centre, Skiddaw Street Keswick CA12 4BY <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
7/2020/2250	Installation of two upper floor windows, on side profile of house. One with frosted glass (to open) one with clear glass (non-opening). 86 Latrigg Close, Keswick CA12 4LF <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
7/2020/2265	Replacement of two front facing windows 25 Southey Street, Keswick CA12 4EF <i>Support in principle but would prefer the proportion of the sliding sash windows to match ground floor & other windows</i> SUPPORT

- 7/2020/2268 Installation of outdoor electricity substation sited on raised concrete blocks. Installation of a secure steel fence around proximity of the site with steel access gate at the front Bridge Terrace Substation, Booths, Tithebarn Street, Keswick CA12 5EA
For information only, no comments required.
- 7/2020/2280 Approval of details reserved by condition on planning application 7/2018/2006: condition no. 16 a) All external windows and doors; their materials, design and finished colour; b) External wall finishes; their type and colour; c) Rainwater goods, their design, materials and colour; d) Parapet coping stones.
The Former Cumberland Pencil Factory Site, Southey Works, Carding Mill Lane, Keswick CA12 5NG
For information only, no comments required.
- 7/2020/2283 Non-material amendment to planning approval 7/2020/2114 (Removal of existing garage and construction of new single storey extension to side and rear of existing dwelling to provide additional living accommodation) - minor changes to the exterior including relocation of roof windows and changes to doors and windows and replacement of the as built patio doors with bifold doors
14 Manor Park, Keswick CA12 4AA
For information only, no comments required.
- 7/2020/2288 Replacement utility, conservatory and kitchen extension
16 Springs Road, Keswick CA12 4AQ
No comments made
SUPPORT

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

155. Mayor's Report

RECEIVED details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 13th November 2020 – 10th December 2020.

156. Reports from Ward Representatives

RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:

- i) Allerdale Borough Council – Councillor Lansbury reported that the Borough Council had submitted a proposal for dual unitary authorities in Cumbria – formal consultation was expected in February 2021 - and that the Borough Council's Climate Change Group was updating its action plan.
- ii) Cumbria County Council – Councillor Lywood reported that he was pushing for early action to be taken to address the parking problems in the 'back streets' area in line with the recommendations of the Keswick Transport Study. Signage was still awaited for the one-way system in Station Street/St John's Street.
- iii) LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes – Dr Davies submitted a written report and provided further information about different types of mechanisms used to ensure 'local occupancy' of properties. He advised that there was an interactive map available which would help the public to be aware of requirements so that they could be the 'eyes and ears' of the authority.

Councillor Lywood called for holiday letting properties to be exempt from Small Business Rates Relief and asked that this be discussed at the next Town Council meeting. Reference was also made to the Glover Report and its impact on representation on National Park authorities.

157. Payment of Accounts

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

- i. For the Town Council, vouchers 123–141, amounting to £23,022.10 (twenty-three thousand, twenty-two pounds and ten pence)
- ii. For the Trusts, vouchers HP145–FP141, amounting to £4,264.90 (four thousand two hundred and sixty-four pounds and ninety pence)

158. Budget for 2021/2022

The draft budget for 2021/22 was presented for approval together with recommended grant payments to local organisations.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the draft Budget for the financial year 2021/22 be approved
- ii) That the precept for 2021/22 be set at £273,697
- iii) That the list of recommended grants be approved for payment

159. Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was received and noted.

160. Road Safety Issues - Calvert Way

Councillor Miller asked for Council support in making representations to the appropriate authorities for action to be taken to address the road safety issue caused by the lack of pavement on Brundholme Road when exiting Calvert Way both left and right.

RESOLVED that Cumbria Highways' Network Manager be asked to progress action to address this issue in the first instance.

161. Keswick Community Housing Trust – Grant Request

Consideration was given to a request for financial support from Keswick Community Housing Trust.

RESOLVED that a grant of £3,000 p.a. for the next three financial years be agreed, to be funded from the 'Local Housing' reserve.

162. CCTV

Councillor Burn reported that the installation of the new CCTV cameras in the Market Square was now complete which would offer reassurance to residents and visitors particularly during the Christmas and New Year period. Councillor Burn was thanked for his efforts.

163. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

RECEIVED a report from Councillor Alan Dunn – Keswick Tourism Association.

164. Climate Change Working Group

RECEIVED an update from the Climate Change Working Group including a request for support with the 'Meadowland' project to convert grassed areas into wildflower meadows.

RESOLVED that the project be supported in principle based on completion of the area on the Borrowdale Road as a pilot, with full consultation prior to any other areas being changed, and particular consideration being given to potential road safety issues.

165. Minutes of Liaison Meetings

RECEIVED for information the notes of Keswick Ministries Town Liaison Forum held on 8th December 2020.

166. Correspondence

- i. Response from Dept for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs – Governance of Lake District National Park Authority – noted.

Prior to the following business the Chairman 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’

167. Staffing Committee Minutes

RECEIVED for information the draft Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 9th December 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Chairman

Date