

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held remotely using the Zoom app on Thursday 21st January 2021 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor Paul Titley

Councillors		
Alexandra Boardman	David Burn	Markus Campbell-Savours
Allan Daniels	Alan Dunn	Steve Harwood
Tony Lywood	Duncan Miller	Adam Paxon
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 representative of the press and 4 members of the public.

Prior to the meeting, Gary Brady, Census Engagement Manager for North Cumbria, explained the arrangements for the census which would take place on 21st March. He asked for the Council's help in ensuring that as many as possible took part as the information obtained helped the Government and local authorities to plan services and to allocate resources where need is identified. The aim was for as many people as possible to complete the 2021 census on-line, however it was accepted that in Cumbria there are many small rural communities, some with poor broadband reach, and many older residents, some of whom are not confident working with computers. Paper census forms could be supplied where this was preferred. It was agreed that the information would be placed on the Council's website.

168. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lansbury.

169. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 17th December 2020 (pages 36 -40).

170. Requests for Dispensations

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

171. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interests in respect of items on the agenda were received.

172. Police Report

No report was available from the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team.

173. Matters to be received from the Public

No matters were raised by the public.

174. Matters to be raised by Councillors

Councillor Terry reported that the roof on the former railway station had now been made safe and thanked Councillor Campbell-Savours for his intervention with Allerdale Borough Council.

Councillors Lywood and Paxon joined the meeting.

175. K2T Trail – Latrigg Close Privacy

A local resident outlined the privacy issues which had been caused for residents of Latrigg Close properties which backed onto the multi-user trail. Since the re-opening of the trail there had been high user numbers and the extensive felling of trees had left the rear of the properties completely exposed.

The issue had been raised with the LDNPA and an officer was now working to resolve the situation. It had been suggested that a living willow screen could be erected and the authority was also looking at the re-planting of the embankment. She was confident that the work would go ahead but asked for the Council's support in keeping the pressure up. Dr Davies offered to progress the issue.

RESOLVED that the Town Council prevail on the Lake District National Park Authority to restore some privacy to the residents of Latrigg Close following the elimination of most of the trees and shrubs along that section of the K2T multi-user trail.

176. Request for Pedestrian Crossing outside Keswick School

The Headteacher of Keswick School spoke in support of the need for a crossing outside Keswick School which had been raised by a member of the public at the last Town Council meeting.

Councillor Burn advised that an on-line petition had now been started by a local resident. County Councillor Lywood said that he would ask for the matter to be considered by the Highways Working Group and the Local Area Committee. Councillor Terry asked for a holistic approach to be taken to pedestrian safety on High Hill rather than just a crossing of the road adjacent to Vicarage Hill.

RESOLVED that representations be made to Cumbria County Council, the highway authority, for a crossing to be placed in an appropriate location outside Keswick School.

177. Applications for Development

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

Plan Ref:	Description of Development Location
7/2020/2262	Install 2 no Velux windows Flat 5 Leonard Place, Keswick CA12 4HL <i>No comments made.</i> SUPPORT
7/2020/2294	Demolition of garage and conservatory, replacement windows and door, and erection of shed and outdoor shelter 1 Millbank, Keswick CA12 5LX <i>No comments made.</i> SUPPORT
7/2020/2298	Extension and alterations 131 Windebrowe Avenue, Keswick CA12 4JB <i>No comments made.</i> SUPPORT
7/2020/2299	Change of Use of Guest House to Guest House/Holiday Let 22 Stanger Street, Keswick CA12 5JU

Support on the basis that the proposed use is for a single unit of holiday letting accommodation with owner's accommodation retained and no external alterations on the same condition applied to previously approved application 7/2020/2199 at 28 Stanger Street

SUPPORT

7/2020/2300

Erection of a single storey wet room extension to side of existing dwelling and rear ramped access for disabled person

83 Latrigg Close, Keswick CA12 4LF

No comments made.

SUPPORT

7/2020/2306

Alterations to shop front to Lake Road and installation of new

kitchen extract system to rear

32 Lake Road, Keswick CA12 5DQ

Support – subject to Environmental Health being satisfied that the new extract system will not have a detrimental effect on adjacent properties.

SUPPORT

7/2020/2309

Amendment to condition 5 (opening hours) on planning permission 7/2017/2157. Redevelopment of existing petrol filling station to provide replacement SPAR convenience store, forecourt alterations, extended canopy, customer parking and associated works

High Hill Garage, Keswick CA12 5NY

Object – It is considered to be un-neighbourly to have a 24 hour, 7 days a week business operation in this location with a high number of residential properties in close proximity involving traffic entering and exiting in night time hours. We strongly support the objections raised by neighbouring residents in the context of noise and light pollution, who have direct experience of the impact of night-time opening. This challenges the conclusions reached in the noise impact assessment submitted and should not be ignored.

OBJECT

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

178. Mayor's Report

RECEIVED details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 11th December 2020–14th January 2021.

179. Reports from Ward Representatives

RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:

- i) Allerdale Borough Council – Councillor Daniels spoke about the need for more rental properties in Keswick as Keswick Community Housing Trust had recently received 38 applications for one vacant property. He referred to the Borough Council’s Housing Strategy which identified the need for 100 properties over 5 years but contained no plan for how this might be achieved.
- ii) Cumbria County Council Ward Representative – Councillor Lywood outlined action he had taken to resolve the problems being caused for St Herbert’s Primary school due to lack of IT equipment for pupils who were home schooling. He also advised that he had been in contact with the Property Services department of Allerdale Borough Council to try to establish a safe route to town for residents of Calvert Way.
- iii) Lake District National Park Authority North Distinctive Area Parishes – Dr Davies provided a written report. He also advised that due to resource issues it would not be possible for the LDNPA to produce the promised list of local occupancy properties within the original timeframe. The Clerk was asked to write to the authority to establish progress and to ask when it would be available.

180. Clerk’s Report

Consideration was given to the Clerk’s report.

RESOLVED

- i. that a report be brought to the next meeting recommending that delegated powers be granted to the Planning Working Group to submit comments to the Borough Council on licensing applications, in consultation with other Councillors
- ii. that costs be obtained for the work required to renovate the blue finger posts in the town centre for consideration at the next meeting.

181. Request for Funding

RESOLVED that a payment of £3,000 be authorised to St Herbert’s School, Keswick for IT equipment for pupils to facilitate home learning, to be funded from underspends in the Events budget for 2020/21.

182. Provision of Bus Shelters

Consideration was given to the report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED that no action be taken at the present time.

183. Lake District National Park Authority – Supplementary Planning Documents consultation

Dr Davies explained the implications of the proposals contained in the Supplementary planning documents which set out how the policies in the Local Plan would be implemented in relation to Biodiversity and Housing, in particular a proposed change to local occupancy conditions.

RESOLVED that a proposed response be formulated by the Planning Group for consideration at the next meeting.

Dr Davies left the meeting.

184. Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts for January 2021 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payment:

- i. For the Town Council, vouchers 142 – 165, amounting to £74,113.54 (seventy four thousand one hundred and thirteen pounds and fifty four pence)
- ii. For the Trusts, vouchers HP164 – FP157, amounting to £4,197.85 (four thousand one hundred and ninety seven pounds and eighty five pence)

- 185. **Quarterly Budgets**
RECEIVED for information the third quarter budget comparisons.
- 186. **Climate Change Working Group**
RECEIVED an update from the Climate Change Working Group.

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’

- 187. **Staffing**
RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Chairman

Date