

**KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL**

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11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

A meeting of Keswick Town Council will be held remotely via the Zoom app on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at **7.30 p.m.**

The meeting will be open to the press and public, however access to a laptop/pc/iPad will be required to use 'Zoom', together with the link and password for the meeting which will be sent by email and made available on request to members of the public.

Prior to the meeting at **7pm**, David Sawday, Chief Operating Officer from Keswick Ministries will provide an update on the plans for the 2021 convention.



**Vivien Little  
Town Clerk**

**A G E N D A**

- 1. Apologies**  
To receive apologies for absence.
- 2. Minutes**  
To authorise the Chairman to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (pages 46 - 52).
- 3. Requests for Dispensations**  
The Clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
- 4. Declarations of Interests**  
To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.
- 5. Police Report**  
To receive the newsletter of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team (if available).
- 6. Matters to be received from the Public**

Such matters may be received throughout the meeting, however items raised should not be discussed for longer than 10 minutes and the Chairman reserves the right to curtail repetitious matters. Public participation shall not be longer than half an hour throughout the meeting.

**7. Matters to be raised by Councillors**

An opportunity for Councillors to raise any unforeseen matters which are not on the agenda, with the consent of the Chair, and which do not require a decision – items raised should not be discussed for longer than 10 minutes.

**8. Applications for Development**

- i) To examine applications for development and agree observations to be submitted to the Lake District National Park Authority
- ii) To receive update on National Park Planning Decisions

**9. Proposed Sustainability Charge for access to the Lake District National Park.**

To consider a motion from the Mayor that Cumbria County Council be asked to carry out a feasibility study into the case for a sustainability charge on motorists entering the Lake District National Park.

**10. Mayor's Report**

To receive details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**11. Local Government Reorganisation Update**

- i) To consider a proposal from the Mayor to respond to support the single unitary authority proposal and reject the two part solutions
- ii) To consider a motion from Councillor Lywood to return the car parks, foreshore and Town Hall to Keswick Town Council control, and request from Allerdale Borough Council to provide a list of Keswick assets which they current own.

**12. Reports from Ward Representatives**

To receive reports from the following representatives:

- i) Allerdale Borough Council Ward Representatives
- ii) Cumbria County Council Ward Representative
- iii) Lake District National Park Authority North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative (enclosed)

**13. Climate Change Working Group**

To receive an update from the Council's Working Group and to consider the motion from Councillor Alexandra Boardman that Keswick Town Council support in principle the creation of pollination havens.

**14. Visitor Management Working Group**

To receive an update from Councillor Boardman.

**15. Payment of Accounts**

To confirm the payment of accounts for March 2021 as approved by the Inspection Committee (to be circulated at the meeting) for:

- i) The Town Council
- ii) The Trusts

**16. Station Platform**

To a motion put forward by the Mayor to consider making representations to Allerdale Borough Council to progress a lease at the Old Station Platform to provide facilities for users to the Keswick to Threlkeld trail.

**17. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

- i) Keswick Youth Centre – Councillor Campbell-Savours

**18. Minutes**

- i) To receive for information the minutes of the Cumbria Association of Local Councils Allerdale District meeting held on 20 January 2021; and
- ii) To receive for information the notes of the Keswick Ministries Town Liaison Forum from Tuesday 9 February 2021.

**19. Correspondence**

To consider the following correspondence:

- i) Letter from Lake District National Park Authority regarding multi-agency approach to visitor management

**Prior to consideration of the following business, the Chairman will move 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'*

**20. Minutes of Committee Meetings**

To receive for information the Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 16 and 23 February 2021, and 2 March 2021.

**21. Request from local resident**

To consider correspondence received.

## KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held remotely using the Zoom app on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman  
Councillor Paul Titley

Councillors		
Alexandra Boardman	David Burn	Markus Campbell-Savours
Allan Daniels	Alan Dunn	Steve Harwood
Sally Lansbury	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), Emma Moody and Cath Johnson (LDNPA), 1 member of the press and 7 members of the public.

**188. Apologies**

There were no apologies for absence.

**189. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 (pages 41 - 45).

**190. Requests for Dispensations**

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

**191. Declarations of Interests**

Declarations of interests in respect of items on the agenda were received from:  
Councillor Titley – item 10 (i) application no. 7/2021/2013 – lives in neighbouring property

**192. Police Report**

**RECEIVED** the newsletter of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team.  
There had been a total of 7 antisocial behaviour incident logs and 15 crimes reported in December 2020 (comparative figures for December 2019 were 0 and 41 respectively).

**193. Matters to be received from the Public**

A local resident commented on what he felt was the negative impression given towards the anticipated influx of tourists in summer 2021 by Councillor comments in recent press articles.

**194. Matters to be raised by Councillors**

Councillor Terry complimented the Mayor on his photograph in a recent edition of 'Heritage Railways' in an article about the re-opening of the Keswick to Threlkeld Multi User Trail.

**195. Visitor Management Action Plan – Keswick to Threlkeld (K2T) Multi User Trail**

Emma Moody (Lead Strategy Adviser, Transport and Recreation) and Cath Johnson (Northern Area Ranger) of the LDNPA outlined the purpose of the draft Visitor Management Action Plan which was to prepare for the impact of increased visitor numbers during the anticipated summer 'staycation'. The Plan represented a multi-agency approach and more detailed action plans were recommended for specific areas such as the K2T Trail which had been very busy since its re-opening. The main issue raised was the lack of toilets on the new trail which Keswick Community Asset Company was trying to address with Allerdale Borough Council. Feedback on the plan and on potential problem areas was welcome.

**RESOLVED** that Councillors Boardman, Burn, Dunn and Lansbury liaise with the LDNPA on any issues identified and report back to the Council.

*Emma and Cath left the meeting.*

**196. Proposed Sustainability Charge for access to the Lake District National Park**

Consideration was given to the report of the Mayor proposing that a feasibility study be carried out into the case for a sustainability charge on motorists entering the Lake District National Park the proceeds of which could be used to fund better public transport. He asked Councillors to consult on the issue prior to making a decision at the next meeting. A member of the public present spoke on favour of the proposal.

**197. Applications for Development**

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

<b>Plan Ref:</b>	<b>Description of Development Location</b>
T/2021/0017	Fell 1 ash tree (T1). Remove lower limbs overhanging boundary hedge 1 sycamore (T2) Beetholm, Southey Hill, Keswick CA12 5ND <i>Support in principle, subject to new tree being planted to replace ash tree identified to be removed.</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
T/2021/0024	Remove 1 limb from beech tree (T1) - 5 day notice Greta Lodge, Southey Hill, Keswick CA12 5ND <i>For information only, no comments required.</i>
7/2021/2003	Single storey rear extension and erection of rear wall with screening hedge 2 Springs Road, Keswick, CA12 4AQ <i>Support in principle</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>We acknowledge the intention to plant a boundary hedge but are concerned at the length of time it will take to mature to the height required. We are concerned at the dominant visual appearance a blockwork wall would have as illustrated in a neighbour's objection. We consider that a timber fence would be a more appropriate initial boundary screen. The position of the boundary fence/hedge relative to the kerb should be subject to agreement with CCC Highways.</i></li> <li>2) <i>We maintain our concern that the high number of individual rooflights is visually unattractive in such a small roof area and request that consideration be given to interlinking the two blocks of 3 rooflights over the studio and kitchen.</i></li> </ol> <b>SUPPORT</b>
7/2021/2004	Operation of a Temporary self-catering Campsite for 3 weeks. To run in conjunction with the Keswick Convention in 2021. Subject to Covid-19 Regulations

Crosthwaite Conference Centre, Church Lane, Keswick CA12 5QG

*Support – no comments made.*

**SUPPORT**

7/2021/2007

Demolition of conservatory and porch, internal alterations and side extension following withdrawal of 7/2020/2248

26 Heads Road, Keswick CA12 5EX

*Object - the aim of providing improvements to the existing semi-detached dwelling for use as a family home by the applicants is acknowledged but there are elements of this new proposal which we consider to be unacceptable: (1) The proposed extension has been increased in size at both the side and the rear. This creates a disproportionately elongated front elevation to Heads Road particularly on the projecting gable. It is acknowledged that an improvement has been made by changing the corner window but the proportions of the original proposal were more of an acceptable development relative to the site. (2) Given the concerns expressed on the previous application by other properties affected, we consider the increase in size and building mass now proposed is unneighbourly and over-development of the site. (3) The side extension is now so close to the adjacent garage to Hazeldene it is creating an unnecessary difficulty for future maintenance. (4) No details are provided to show what is proposed between the front of the dwelling and the boundary wall/hedge to Heads Road to create the new entrance and outdoor space. This is an important element of the proposal given the excavation involved and the impact on adjacent properties. We feel this application cannot be properly considered without this information.*

**OBJECT**

7/2021/2013

Extension to existing car parking area to rear

Ambulance Station, Penrith Road, Keswick CA12 4PA

*Support – no comments made*

**SUPPORT**

7/2021/2015

Replacement windows and door

1 Helvellyn Street, Keswick CA12 4EH

*Support – no comments made.*

**SUPPORT**

7/2021/2017

Erection of a new detached building consisting of 3 no. light industrial works units

Greta Motor Body Works Ltd, Industrial Estate, Southey Hill, Main Street, Keswick CA12 5NR

*Support in principle – subject to Environment Agency approval of the measures proposed in the Flood Risk Assessment provided relative to the high level of flood risk in this location.*

**SUPPORT**

7/2021/2024

Extensions and alterations

23 Lakeland Park, Keswick CA12 4AT

*Support – no comments made.*

**SUPPORT**

7/2021/2025

Change of use from retail (Class A1 to Sui Generis) cafe bar  
11 Pack Horse Court, Keswick CA12 5JB

*Object*

- 1) *We have no objection to bringing the current vacant shop into use as a café*
- 2) *We object to the introduction of a bar with late night opening hours and live music with residential properties above and in close proximity*
- 3) *We object to the removal of an existing plant feature which contributes to the ambience of the courtyard*
- 4) *We object to the use of outdoor heaters which are environmentally unfriendly*

**OBJECT**

7/2021/2027

Erection of two-storey rear extension for additional living accommodation

24 Poplar Street, Keswick CA12 5BW

*Support in principle - subject to concerns/objections from neighbours.*

**SUPPORT**

7/2021/2034

Amendment to design for terrace and addition of pergola at eastern boundary, condition 2 (plans) and removal of privacy screening, condition 5 on planning permission 7/2020/2075 (Proposed ground floor infill extension, first floor side extension, loft conversion, facade alterations and all associated works)

Manor Crest, Manor Brow, Keswick CA12 4AW

*Object*

- 1) *We are concerned about the omission of the screening defined in condition no. 5 of the original planning permission to prevent overlooking on the western side despite the amended patio form.*
- 2) *No details are provided of the proposed pergola to prevent overlooking on the eastern side from the amended patio.*

**OBJECT**

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

*It was agreed to bring forward item 14 (i) on the agenda.*

**198. Reports from Ward Representatives**

- i) LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative – Dr Davies submitted a written report.

*Dr Davies left the meeting.*

**199. Applications for Development (cont)**

- iii) Councillor Daniels commented on proposed changes to wording/policy in the Housing Provision Supplementary Planning Document covering the local connection criteria in relation to employment, amending the geography (localities), new homes on farms and guidance on dwelling sizes. He shared the comments made by Allerdale Borough Council.

**RESOLVED** that the Council support the response made by the Borough Council.

*Councillor Paxon left the meeting.*

**200. Licensing Applications**

i) **RESOLVED** that the following observations be submitted to Allerdale Borough Council:

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Details of Application Location</b>
Magic Mountain Café Bar	Hours premises open to public – Mon to Sun 8am to 1.30am Live Music – Mon to Sun 6pm to 11pm Recorded Music – Mon to Sun 8am to 1am Supply of Alcohol – Mon to Sun 8am to 1am 11 Packhorse Court, Keswick, CA12 5JB <i>Object – wholly inappropriate hours suggested for alcohol consumption and entertainment (unsociable) in a mixed commercial/residential area (7 extremely close households)</i> <b>OBJECT</b>
St John’s Church	Occasional social events such as meals after church held occasionally during the year and during/after some concerts. Ambleside Road, Keswick CA12 4DD <i>Support – no comments made.</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>

ii) **RESOLVED** that the terms of reference of the Planning Group be amended as detailed in the Clerk’s report with the addition of the following:

- All licensing applications to be communicated to Councillors
- All decisions to be communicated to Councillors prior to being reported at the next available Council meeting

**201. Blue Finger Post Signage**

Jonathan Moore, a local resident, presented a report recommending improvements to the blue finger post signage in the town and providing costings.

**RESOLVED** that the County Council’s offer of match funding up to £2,500 be accepted and that £2,500 be provided from the underspend in the current year’s budget on Neighbourhood Plan communication (£365) and the remaining contingency amount (£2,135), the outstanding amount (up to £1,000) to be funded by Keswick Tourism Association.

**202. Mayor’s Report**

**RECEIVED** details of the Mayor’s engagements and meeting attendance for the period 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

**203. Reports from Ward Representatives (cont)**

**RECEIVED** reports from the following representatives:

ii) Allerdale Borough Council Ward Representatives – Councillor Daniels reported that he had been in discussion with the relevant officers regarding the possible removal of the 5% discount on Council Tax for second home owners.



- iii) Cumbria County Council Ward Representative – Councillor Lywood reported on discussions concerning the provision of a pavement outside the Calvert Way development, progress on the implementation of the Keswick Transport Study, and the County Council's budget which had now been set for 2021-22.

**204. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

- i) Keswick Youth Centre – Councillor Campbell-Savours passed on thanks from the Youth Centre for the Council's grant – full report to be submitted to next meeting
- ii) Keswick Fair Trade Committee – Councillor Campbell-Savours reported that Fairtrade fortnight started on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and outlined the importance of buying Fairtrade products.

**205. Payment of Accounts**

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

- i) For the Town Council, vouchers 166 – 186, amounting to £22,719.04 (twenty two thousand seven hundred and nineteen pounds and four pence)
- ii) For the Trusts, vouchers HP179 – FP174, amounting to £17,822.32 (seventeen thousand eight hundred and twenty two pounds and thirty two pence)

**206. Council Tax Base Confirmation**

**RECEIVED** the report of the Responsible Financial Officer.

**207. Review of Internal Control and Audit**

**RESOLVED** that Councillors Boardman and Campbell-Savours carry out the annual review of the effectiveness of the Council's system of internal audit.

**208. Annual Review of Risk Management**

**RESOLVED** that the Annual Risk Management Assessment be approved and adopted.

**209. Climate Change Working Group**

**RECEIVED** an update from the Council's Working Group including the Allerdale Borough Council Climate Change and Biodiversity Group.

**210. Clerk's Report**

**RECEIVED** the Clerk's report.

**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'*

**211. Contracting**

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

**RESOLVED** that a £10,000 grant be awarded to Hope Park Charitable Trust to offset the loss of income caused by the Covid 19 lockdowns to be funded from the Covid Business Grant.

**212. Minutes of Committee Meetings**

**RECEIVED** for information the Minutes of the Staffing Committee meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date

**Planning Applications received between 12/02/2021 - 11/03/2021**

Plan ref	Location	Description of Proposed Development
T/2021/0029	29, Calvert Way, Keswick, CA12 4LZ	Pollard 1 oak tree (T1). Crown reduce 1 sycamore tree (T2) by 2m
T/2021/0035	Greta Grove House, Flat 1, Elliott Park, Keswick, CA12 5NF	T2 - Lime tree - Fell - 5 DAY NOTICE due to condition of tree. T3, T4, T5 & T6 - Lime trees - Crown lift to highway and footpath clearance height (approx 5.2 mtr road / 2.4 mtr path). T7 - Yew tree - Prune back growth over parking bays and highway clearance.
T/2021/0040	Acorn House, Ambleside Road, Keswick, CA12 4DL	Fell 1 silver birch (T1)
7/2021/2022	3, Fenton, Keswick, CA12 4AZ	Demolition of existing side conservatory and build new two storey
7/2021/2035	Grassmoor, Halls Mead, Keswick, CA12 4BE	Proposed rear, side and front elevations
7/2021/2037	9, Penrith Road, Keswick, CA12 4HF	Replacement conservatory
7/2021/2040	Former Ravensfield Care Home, High Hill, Keswick, CA12 5NX	Erection of Hotel (C1) with restaurant / bar ground floor, together with means of access, car parking, creation of loading/ delivery bay and ancillary works without compliance with condition 7 (puffin crossing) of planning permission reference 7/2020/2039 - financial contribution to be used towards improving town centre car park signage in place of condition
7/2021/2044	Dalkeith Guest House, 1 Leonard Street, Keswick, CA12 4EJ	Removal of asbestos roof and removal of walls above 1.3m. Erection of bin store and garden store
7/2021/2047	The Coach House, Main Street, Keswick, CA12 5NH	Dwelling
7/2021/2048	Greta Hall, Main Street, Keswick, CA12 5NH	Use of building as a single dwelling, or as 1, 2 or 3 units of residential letting accommodation as indicated on attached floor plan
7/2021/2049	11, Wordsworth Street, Keswick, CA12 4HU	To re-roof a single storey kitchen and form a seating area on the first floor
7/2021/2054	34, Blencathra Street, Keswick, CA12 4HP	Non material amendment to planning permission ref 7/2020/2148 (Alterations and extension to provide an annexe. To include a bedroom, lounge/kitchen/dining area and utility room following withdrawal of application ref 7/2020/2084) to substitute dual pitched roof for lean to pitch roof to ground floor extension
7/2021/2067	38, Wordsworth Street, Keswick, CA12 4BZ	Demolition of existing single storey garage and kitchen. Construction of new single storey extension to accommodate store, kitchen, utility & W.C. Increase in size of existing 2 storey extension to create larger bathroom

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:** Interested parties are invited to let the Town Clerk have their comments, in writing or by e-mail to: [townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk), prior to the meeting regarding any of the planning applications on this sheet.

Decisions Received from LDNPA

Planning Decisions Received between 12/02/2021 & 11/03/2021

Plan Ref	Date of Application	Location	Postcode	Description	KTC Observations	LDNPA Decision	Appeal	Appeal Decision
7/2020/2165	July-20	Acorn Garage, Helvellyn Street, Keswick	CA12 4EH	Development of 5 no. flats/maisonettes for local occupancy	OBJECT	REFUSED	Dec-20	appeal dismissed
7/2020/2306	Dec-20	32 Lake Road, Keswick	CA12 5DQ	Alterations to shop front to Lake Road and installation of new kitchen extract system to rear	SUPPORT	GRANTED		
7/2020/2309	Dec-20	High Hill Garage, Keswick	CA12 5NY	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	OBJECT	WITHDRAWN		
7/2021/2013	January-21	Ambulance Station, Penrith Road, Keswick	CA12 4PA	Extension to existing car parking area to rear	SUPPORT	GRANTED		
7/2021/2015	January-21	1, Helvellyn Street, Keswick	CA12 4EH	Replacement windows and door	SUPPORT	GRANTED		

**This paper outlines the case for Cumbria County Council to carry out a feasibility study on the Introduction of a Sustainability Charge for access to the Lake District National Park.**

1. **Introduction.** The Popularity of the Lake District continues to increase. In 2020 we all witnessed the huge surge in visitor numbers. We put this down to the effect of Covid. But it might also be what a 'normal' summer in a few years will look like if nothing is done to change the transportation model in the National Park. Currently there are too few places to park, too many vehicles arriving and few alternative means of transport apart from a few boats and a thin but expensive bus service. The funds raised by a charge for visitors to the park could go a long way to solve all these problems.
2. **Improvements to Public Transport.** We believe that the charge would be bearable by those well-off enough to have a car, and through subsequent improvements in local transport, will improve access for those that are unable to visit the park as they do not have personal transport. The presence of plentiful, reliable, and cheap public transport should reduce the reliance on cars by visitors and enable workers to access new opportunities without having to pay penal bus fares.
3. **Financial impact on Residents.** We envisage that the charge will not be made to those vehicles with registered addresses in the county.
4. **Financial impact on Businesses.** We envisage that the charge will not be made on business vehicles entering the park, whether based inside or outside the county. Improved public transport should improve the ability to hire staff who have long journeys to get to work. We acknowledge the concerns of businesses regarding visitors who might be put off by the thought of having to pay to get in. The National Park remains a world-wide destination and a gate fee is common in National Parks all over the world. The beauty of the park is already threatened by the numbers of cars and ripped up roads, and the decline in its beauty will certainly have a negative impact on visitor numbers.
5. **Highways burden.** 41 counties in England have larger populations than Cumbria, but only 3 have larger road networks. It is therefore not surprising that road maintenance in Cumbria struggles with so few residents to support those costs. The surge in traffic in 2020 matches the surge in potholes. (Cumbria Highways Statistics: 4,900 miles of carriageway, 2,500 miles of footways and cycleways, 3,200 structures, including some 1,800 bridges, 900 large culverts and 500 retaining walls, 145,000 road gullies and 45,000 street lighting columns.)
6. **Tax Raising.** The government is committed to the reduction of petrol and diesel cars. This will undoubtedly mean a significant drop in taxes raised by petrol tax and petrol VAT. The obvious (and most talked about) alternative is road pricing, i.e., you pay according to the distance driven. However, all these taxes revert to central government. Congestion charges, Sustainability charges, and general road pricing are going to become the norm for car owners. A Sustainability Charge operated by CCC would keep the income in Cumbria.
7. **Legislation.** Current legislation makes it possible for the local transport authority to introduce a congestion charge if it is part of the local Transport Plan, and provided the proceeds are used for transport. Cumbria Highways is the authority for Cumbria (part of CCC). It is debatable if congestion in the Lakes is sufficient to meet the definition required by the legislation. However, that can be balanced by an offer to reduce the charge to zero in off season periods.
8. **Technology.** The technology exists. London's congestion charge complex comprises 400 points of entry. The Lake District National Park has around 180. Since 2009, IBM has been responsible for the day-to-day operation of the charging system, whilst Siemens Traffic Solutions provides and operates the physical enforcement infrastructure. The scheme makes use of purpose-built automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras, manufactured by PIPs Technology, to record vehicles entering and exiting the zone. Cameras can record number plates with a 90% accuracy rate through the technology. The camera network and other roadside equipment is managed largely automatically by an installation system developed by Roke Manor Research Ltd, which delivers number plates to the billing system. The registered keeper of such a vehicle is looked up in a database provided by the DVLA.
9. **Climate Change Emergency (CCE).** Keswick Town Council has declared a CCE, and in 2019 MPs approved a motion to declare an environment and climate emergency. Applying pressure to reduce the number of cars in the National Park plus offering an alternative convenient public transport system is a move in the right direction to address the emergency.

**Sustainability Charge for access to the Lake District National Park – An Alternative View**

I acknowledge the well argued case and the aims of this proposal but I am fundamentally opposed to this course of action as a matter of principle. We are lucky enough to be able to enjoy everything the National Park has to offer and I think it is right that the opportunity should be available to everyone from outside the area to have the same experience without having to pay for the privilege. We live in a natural environment rather than a man made theme park and it should be open to all. I am not in favour of a culture of charging for something simply because you can.

The aims of providing improved public transport at affordable levels, subsidised where necessary, would be supported by all. However this is a national problem not just an issue in the Lake District. To isolate this to a Cumbria solution with a sustainability charge would in my view be a regressive tax. It might be popular locally but would engender a feeling of resentment towards the Lake District by visitors who are charged.

It is acknowledged that a fundamental rethink will be necessary over time on how funds are raised to address the changing impact of environmental/climate change policies. In my view the alternative of switching to 'Road Pricing' as a national policy would be a golden opportunity. This would be a new way of fixing funding at a level to address the aims of this proposal and future road maintenance which would not appear to be an additional tax but a replacement of current models. It has the advantage that those who travel the greatest distance would contribute most but more importantly we would all pay rather than an isolated charge on visitors. It would be a tremendous incentive to use the roads as little as possible and to try alternative means of public transport. This in turn generates the impetus for the improvements and balanced costing required.

Localised funds can have a positive impact as evidenced by the excellent initiative by Tony and Paul to safeguard good quality public toilet provision in the town. However it can have a negative impact on a larger scale which I believe could result from the proposed sustainability charge. Whenever government sees a problem area or service being resolved independently there is a tendency to reduce or eliminate funding which would normally be allocated to such issues.

I am concerned at the principle of carrying out a feasibility study as they tend to deal with facts and figures rather than hearts and minds. They can also be tailored to justify any point of view by the instigator. It is easy to be dazzled by how many millions this policy would raise for Cumbria County Council but there can be no certainty it would be used for the purposes intended given the ongoing constraints on public finances. I believe visitors would reluctantly pay a sustainability charge but it would be the end of "Welcome to the Lake District " – or worse it would push the problem elsewhere and they would go to the Yorkshire Dales for free.

**Councillor Steve Harwood**

**KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 18TH MARCH 2021**

**MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & MEETING ATTENDANCE**

For period 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Staffing Committee meeting, held via zoom
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Staffing Committee meeting, held via zoom
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Rural Services Network Seminar (Transport ), held via zoom
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	BBC TV Interview (125 Years of Reminder), held via zoom
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Staffing Committee meeting, held via zoom
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Housing meeting, held via zoom
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Council Climate Change group, held via zoom
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Premier Inn Development (phone)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Events Committee meeting, held via zoom

# **Government Consultation on Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria**

22 February – 19 April 2021

## **Cumbria's proposals as submitted to Westminster by 9 December 2020**

- A. Allerdale Borough Council and Copeland Borough Council** submitted a joint proposal for two unitary councils covering the whole of the area of the administrative county of Cumbria: one unitary council in the West comprising the current districts of Allerdale, Carlisle and Copeland; and one in the East comprising the current districts of Barrow, Eden and South Lakeland.
- B. Barrow Borough Council and South Lakeland District Council** submitted a joint proposal for two unitary councils covering the whole of the area of the administrative county of Cumbria and the administrative district area of Lancaster City within Lancashire County: one unitary council ("The Bay") comprising the current districts of Barrow, Lancaster City (in Lancashire) and South Lakeland; and one comprising the current districts of Allerdale, Carlisle, Copeland and Eden districts in "North Cumbria".
- C. Carlisle City Council and Eden District Council** submitted a joint proposal for two unitary councils covering the whole of the area of the administrative county of Cumbria: one unitary council in the north comprising the current districts of Allerdale, Carlisle and Eden; and one in the south comprising the current districts of Barrow, Copeland and South Lakeland in the south.
- D. Cumbria County Council** submitted proposal for a single unitary council for the whole of the area of the administrative county of Cumbria County.

**ends**



# Questions from the Government Consultation on Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria

22 February – 19 April 2021

The government has sent out a consultation on local government reorganisation. It seeks views on the Cumbria proposals and in particular on the following questions in relation to each proposal:

- Q1. Is the councils' proposal likely to improve local government and service delivery across each area? Specifically, is it likely to improve council services, give greater value for money, generate savings, provide stronger strategic and local leadership, and create more sustainable structures?
- Q2. Where it is proposed that services will be delivered on a different geographic footprint to currently, or through some form of joint arrangements is this likely to improve those services? Such services may for example be children's services, waste collection and disposal, adult health and social care, planning, and transport.
- Q3. Is the councils' proposal also likely to impact local public services delivered by others, such as police, fire and rescue, and health services?
- Q4. Do you support the proposal from the councils?
- Q5. Do the unitary councils proposed by the councils represent a credible geography?
- Q6. Do you have any other comments with regards to the proposed reorganisation of local government in each area?

Please indicate reasons for your answers.

## Report from the North DA Parishes Member of the LDNPA – February 2021

At Development Control Committee (DCC) on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, we received a Development Management (DM) performance report<sup>1</sup> covering April to December 2020. While the pandemic may have brought a halt to so many aspects of our lives, the making of planning applications does not appear to be one of them. 827 applications were received during the first three quarters of the current year, compared with 1129 in the full year 2019-20 - a negligible decrease in workload. 753 applications were determined during the report period, compared with 1053 in the full year 2019-20. The speed of decisions is also important. During the report period, 80% of major applications were determined within 13 weeks (against a target of at least 60%) and 78% of minor applications within 8 weeks (against a target of at least 65%). However, the report states:

*“This has been an extremely challenging period, with remote working and staff shortages throughout, the team has not been at full complement at any time. Through prioritisation of our statutory decision-taking function, strong application performance has been maintained. However, to achieve this we have had to stop discretionary planning work. Pre-application services have been suspended and there were several months when we were unable to provide a duty planner. All new compliance reports are reviewed, however, action has been reduced to limited targeted enforcement only. [...] For around six months in spring and summer 2020 we estimate that our casework staff resource was cut by around one-third (equal to four of twelve full time posts).”*

High-priority compliance work has continued: 5 Enforcement Notices, 4 Breach of Condition Notices and 1 Planning Contravention Notice have been issued. The duty planner has now also been reinstated.

I have written previously about the temporarily extended scheme of delegation, whereby some applications that would have gone to DCC have instead been determined by officers following consultation with the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Committee. The report shows that 96% of applications were determined under delegated powers, compared with an average of just over 92% for the preceding three years.

Finally, the report includes a very positive view of the DM service in “normal” times:

*“In 2018 we commissioned the Government’s Planning Advisory Service (PAS) to undertake a resource, productivity and performance review – independent benchmarking comparing the amount of output we achieved for staff input compared to other planning authorities. PAS indicated we were highly efficient when fully staffed. Our productivity per team member was only bettered by two other Authorities they had reviewed nationwide. Compared to other National Park Authorities they had reviewed, PAS indicated our productivity at full staffing was between 54% and 69% higher.”*

Geoff Davies

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0027/376722/2021\\_02\\_03-DM-Performance-Report-20.21Q3.pdf](https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/376722/2021_02_03-DM-Performance-Report-20.21Q3.pdf)

**Climate Change Working Group - Summary for the March KTC Meeting**

**TETRAPACK/ALLERDALE RECYCLING** – this is still ongoing with Allerdale.

**BALSAM BASHING** – Peter Terry continues to meet with the group, they now have plans of areas with Balsam from the National Trust. The group is now looking to form working ‘bubble groups of 6’ and then allocate them the relevant ‘patch’ as a large community groups are not able to meet up at this time.

**TREE PLANTING IN THE PARK** – The trees have now arrived from the Woodland Trust and Christine has confirmed that three of the Woodland Trust volunteers will plant them in March. (This work had originally been planned for last November). There are other Countrywide initiatives for tree planting (e.g. as a legacy to Captain Tom) but suitable land would need to be identified first as well as cover ongoing costs.

**GET CUMBRIA BUZZING** – Attached are details of this County wide initiative for your information. We would like to ask KTC to support the motion:

‘KTC Support in Principle the creation of pollination havens’

This is not a request for any funding but having our support will potentially enable community groups to access grants that may be available.

**ALLERDALES ACTION PLAN TOP ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE** Allerdale has now produced a plan which is now open for comment. If you do have any feedback please send it directly to Sally and Allan who are co-ordinating one response by KTC (please give them your feedback by 31<sup>st</sup> March as the collective comments need to be back by 6<sup>th</sup> April). Allerdale have also planned a stakeholder workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> March at 1:30pm and there is space for 2 or 3 KTCs.

**HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY BY CAFS AND ALLERDALE** – Lynda sent out details about the home energy and efficiency sessions being organised by CAFS and ALLERDALE, the next one is due 24<sup>th</sup> March for anyone who would like to attend.

Cllr Alexandra Boardman

9<sup>th</sup> March 2021

# Get Cumbria Buzzing!



Cumbria  
Wildlife Trust

## Events in 2021

For up more information about our events' please visit our webpage:

<https://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/events>

or call 01539 816 300

### Pollinator Gardening Webinars

Get Your Garden Buzzing!  
Tuesday 30 March 2:00pm-3:00pm

Top 10 Herbs for Pollinators  
Tuesday 13 April 1:00pm-2:00pm

Making Hanging Baskets for Pollinators  
Tuesday 25 May 1:00pm-2:00pm

Making the Most of Your Small Space for Pollinators  
Tuesday 8 June 1:00pm-2:00pm



### Big Buzz Week

A week of activities to celebrate the Get Cumbria Buzzing! project The highlight of the week is a webinar on 'The Secret Life of Flies' by Erica McAlister, a British scientist, museum curator and author of *The Secret Life of Flies*. 6:30pm-7:30pm Wednesday 9th June. More information coming soon.

### Identification and Recording Training

The importance of pollinators  
Tuesday 2 March 7:00pm-8:00pm

Introduction to Identifying and Recording Moths  
Tuesday 18 May 1:00pm-2:00pm

Introduction to Identifying and Recording Bumblebees  
Tuesday 22 June 1:00pm-2:00pm



Recording Pollinators in the Field, Thursday 13th May morning session 10:00pm-12:30pm or afternoon session 1.30pm-4:00pm

Recording Pollinators in the Field, Thursday 17 June morning session 10:00pm-12:30 or afternoon session 1:30pm-4:00pm

### Supported Pollinator Recording Day

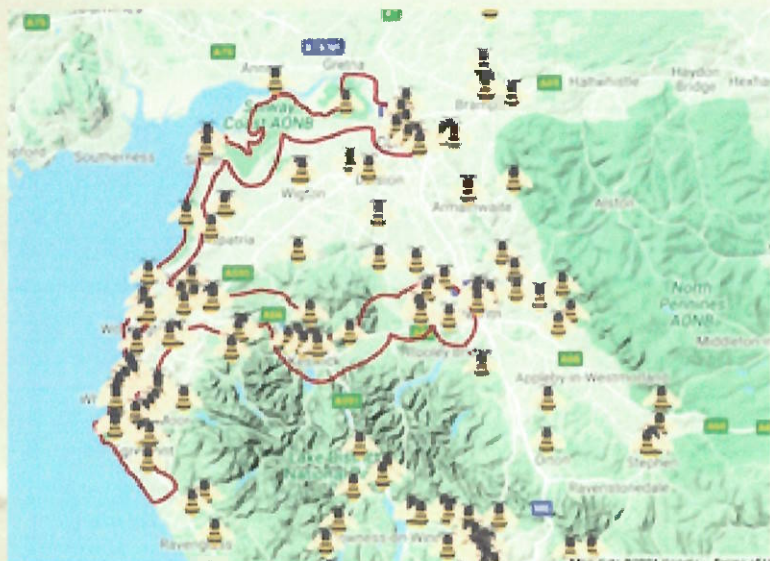
Thursday 20th May 10:00-12:30 or 13:30-16:00 at Gosling Sike, CA3 0LD  
Come along to our supported recording day where you will gain a better understanding of how to record your sightings and become part of our pollinator survey programme.



# Get your garden *buzzing!*



## Add your post code to our map! 2021 campaign



The map shows our project area in red, which is part of the B-Line pollinator network. Researched and mapped by charity Buglife, B-Lines are a series of 'best fit' pathways that run through our towns and countryside and have the potential to link fragmented habitats. The bees on the map show the places where people have already planted for pollinators.

## Will you help us – and plant for pollinators?

Get Cumbria Buzzing! project aims to create and restore 115 hectares (284 acres) of pollinator friendly habitat along and across northwest Cumbria, and we need your help.

As well as working with our partner organisations, we are asking everyone to plant for pollinators. Whether it's a window box or hanging basket, or in your garden, allotment, community space, every patch of pollinator-friendly planting counts!

Once you've finished planting, go to our webpage <https://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/getcumbriabuzzing/get-your-garden-buzzing-and-put-your-postcode-our-map> and add your postcode to our map, so we can see how many gardens and greenspaces habitat have been created especially for our butterflies, bees, hoverflies and other pollinating insects. We want our project area to be(e) covered in flowers for our bees!

We are also running the following free workshop where you can learn more:

- 'Get Your Garden Buzzing!' webinar 30 March 2:00pm-3:00pm
- 'Top 10 Herbs for Pollinators' webinar 13 April 1:00pm-2:00pm
- 'Making Hanging Baskets for Pollinators' webinar 25 May 1:00pm-2:00pm
- 'Making the Most of your Small Space for Pollinators' webinar 8 June 1:00pm-2:00pm
- 'Creating a Pollinator Haven using Perennials' webinar 6 July 1:00pm-2:00pm
- 'Wildlife Gardening for Pollinators' webinar 21 July 1:00pm-2:00pm

For more information go to

[www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/getcumbriabuzzing](https://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/getcumbriabuzzing)

Get Cumbria Buzzing is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Highways England and other funders.

Our partners are: Allerdale Borough Council, Buglife, Butterfly Conservation, Carlisle City Council, Copeland Borough Council, Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre, Florence Arts Centre, Highways England, National Trust, Solway Coast AONB, and Workington Nature Partnership.

# Allerdale Borough Council

## Action plan to address climate change 2021



### Introduction

In March 2020, Allerdale Borough Council established a Climate Change Working Group with a series of tasks to address, including the development of a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

The target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 is very challenging. While we recommend it should be retained as a target and used to keep up the pressure on central Government to support our work, it is more important that the Council focuses on developing and delivering a viable, sustainable response to the challenge of climate change, rather than risk becoming distracted by and disheartened by, a deadline. The 2030 date should be kept under review and could possibly be revised as our understanding of what is possible improves.

The Council has a vision for a low carbon future and is seeking to address climate change concerns within all key Council services. The Council can make positive impacts through the quality of the environment, housing, planning decisions, choice of transport use, energy savings and reducing carbon emissions. Local authorities generally represent around 2 – 5% of local emissions through their own activities, resulting directly from energy used in council operations, vehicle fleet, buildings, and electricity purchased. Importantly, Local Authorities can also potentially influence around a third of an area's emissions through place shaping, partnerships and leadership (*'So you've declared a climate emergency: what next?' APSE*)

This Council's Climate Change Action Plan is broadly grouped into the headers proposed in the recommendations of *'A blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level'* (ADEPT and partners January 2021).

- Growing the Zero and Low Carbon Economy
- Retrofitting homes and buildings to reduce consumption and emissions
- Decarbonising transport
- Planning to deliver Zero Carbon development that protects and enhances nature
- Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption
- Restoring nature for all
- Developing local authority funding, governance and accounting systems that are fit for purpose

This action plan is intended as a living document which will be annually reviewed and updated by this Council's Climate Change Working Group. The Council intends to set specific targets for carbon emission reductions, but we are constrained by the lack of consistent information available to us. Further Government direction and work is needed to carry out detailed appraisals of baseline data and data collection guidelines. Some of our actions and targets

will change in line with the Bills currently going through Parliament. These are the Environment Bill, the Decarbonisation and Economic Strategy Bill and the Climate and Ecology Bill. Added to these, the Glasgow COP26 in November this year, will bring new ambitions which will be reflected in future revisions of this action plan.

## Global implications of climate change

There has been wide debate about the causes of global warming. What is clear is that global temperatures are rising and the scientific consensus is now that human activities, including population growth, significantly affect climate change. The 20th century was the warmest century in the last 1,000 years with 0.6°C warming. The 1990s was the warmest decade in Central England since records began in the 1660s. The main influence on global climate is the emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane. At present, about 36.4 billion tonnes of MtCO<sub>2</sub> (2019 [www.globalcarbonatlas.org](http://www.globalcarbonatlas.org)) is emitted globally each year, mainly through burning coal, oil and gas for energy. Increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere over the last 200 years have trapped more energy in the lower atmosphere, altering our climate.



Figure 1 “Warming stripes” – based on the global annual average temperatures 1850-2020  
Source: [www.climate-lab-book.ac.uk](http://www.climate-lab-book.ac.uk)

The ‘warming stripes’ illustration at Figure 1 represents how the average temperatures globally have increased over the last 170 years, using the blue colours for cooler temperatures from the 1850s and reds for more warmer temperatures.

As well as the predicted temperature rise, we are experiencing changing rainfall, more stormy weather and more extreme weather events. The melting of polar ice caps will lead to an increase in sea levels and extensive flooding of low-lying areas of land. It has also been predicted that in future centuries the Gulf Stream may slow down and result in dramatic cooling of North West Europe. Predicted global impacts include flooding, drought, increased disease, famine and conflict or war because of water or food. Two overall strategies can help address these issues: mitigation and adaptation:

**Mitigation** – this refers to actions that reduce human contribution to the causes of climate change. This means reducing our emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), through energy efficiency and using alternative forms of transport and energy.

Mitigation is important in the long term as it is only by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions that we can hope to minimise human-induced climate change. Many of the measures to help reduce emissions may also have other benefits such as saving money and encouraging a more sustainable society.

**Adaptation** - addresses the impacts and opportunities resulting from a changing climate. Irrespective of the success of mitigation efforts, there will still be some degree of unavoidable climate change. This stems from our historic greenhouse gas emissions and the persistence of these gases in the atmosphere.

Governments around the world have pledged to reduce their emissions to limit the degree of warming. The most recent was the 2016 Paris Agreement in which world leaders committed to take action to keep a rise in global temperatures this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. In climate models, this 2°C rise by the end of the century represents sizeable cuts in global emissions.

## The national context

The Climate Change Committee (an independent non-departmental public body, formed under the Climate Change Act 2008 to advise the United Kingdom and devolved Governments and Parliaments on tackling and preparing for climate change) has advised that the UK government sets its Sixth Carbon Budget (i.e. the legal limit for UK emissions of greenhouse gases over the years 2033-37) to require a reduction in UK emissions of 78% by 2035 relative to 1990 levels, a 63% reduction from 2019 as an appropriate contribution to the UK's Net-Zero target. In England, there is no overall plan on how local authorities fit into delivering Net Zero although the Climate and Ecology Bill seeks to address this.

Over half of the UK's emissions cuts are dependent on purchasing decisions, behaviours and habits of individuals, businesses and organisations.

Local authorities are currently constrained by a lack of detailed benchmarking information, government targets and clear trajectories for decarbonising activities for energy, buildings, transport and land use. Hence this Action Plan will need to be regularly reviewed as targets, pathways and funding streams are created.

## Local impacts of climate change

Climate change is a global issue which also has local impacts. By the end of the 21st century, all areas of the UK are projected to be warmer, more so in summer than in winter with hotter, dryer summer months, wetter winters and a change in the pattern of extreme weather events. This projected temperature rise in the UK is consistent with future warming globally. By 2070, in the high emission scenario, this range amounts to 0.9°C to 5.4°C in summer, and 0.7°C to 4.2°C in winter.



In Cumbria, it is estimated that the average daily temperature will rise between 1 and 2 degrees by 2050 and that summer rainfall will reduce by 15% but that winter rainfall will increase by between 15% and 30%. The Allerdale area has experienced severe adverse flooding events over the last decade with millions being spent locally to mitigate possible future flooding events.

The Joint Cumbria Public Health Strategy 2019 provides the following priority areas which are addressed in Allerdale's Climate Change Action Plan:

### **Green Spaces and Biodiversity**

The co-benefits of protecting nature sites and creating new rich green space include better mental and physical health for local people, greater resilience to future climate change extremes and more resilient food production

Some example of local authority work in this action plan include:

- Protection and restoration of nature through nature recovery strategies
- Carbon sequestration through nature-based solutions such as restoring peatland, considerate land management and additional tree planting
- Habitat restoration and green infrastructure growth
- Wildflower verges, reduced pesticide used and changed mowing patterns

### **Air Quality**

By supporting low carbon infrastructure and transport initiatives, Allerdale Borough Council can reduce resource use, reduce CO2E emissions and improve air quality. Hence improving health and wellbeing of our residents and protecting the planet.

Our action plan addresses air quality in its sections; 'growing the low carbon economy' and 'decarbonising transport'

- Support development of safe walking and cycle routes
- Rapid transition to low carbon vehicle in our fleets and EV charging points for our communities
- Developing interventions that reduce the need to travel

### **Climate Change**

Slowing, stopping and then removing the greenhouse gases from our atmosphere is an ambitious target – achievable only with joined up thinking and commitment across all areas of local government and our communities. Local Councils are an indispensable partner in reaching the national target of net zero by 2050.

- Seek funding and partnership activities to support re-skilling, retraining and local research
- Work with partners on promotion of retrofitting properties to reduce energy use and emissions
- Supporting partnerships to bring green jobs to Allerdale

## Waste reduction

We cannot easily recycle our way out of the strain on natural resources and the quantity of waste that is currently produced locally. New solutions to reduce single-use items and unnecessary products that soon end up as waste are needed.

- Awareness campaigns to lead to minimisation of residual waste
- Promote re-use and recycling initiatives
- Create additional recycle streams to use waste as a resource
- PR Campaigns to raise awareness of possibilities
- Look at our own procurement policies to ensure that 'whole life costs' are considered in the value of products

Allerdale Borough Council's role in partnerships and with the public, places us at the heart of the climate conversation and in developing and replicating local solutions. However, these levers alone are not sufficient to deliver our Carbon Neutral ambitions, due to gaps in key powers that prevent systems-scale or holistic approaches, policy and funding barriers, and a lack of capacity and skills caused by funding cuts. Figure 2 below shows local authorities' leverage and influence through their services, planning and enforcement roles, housing, regeneration, economic development activities, education and skills services and investments.



Figure 2 local authority levers of influence – the 'onion diagram'  
Source: Rachel Coxcoon at the Centre for Sustainable Energy

## What is Allerdale Borough Council already doing to tackle climate change?

**Growing a Zero and Low Carbon Economy** – within its sphere of influence as a local authority we seek to influence around a third of the area's emissions through place shaping, partnerships and leadership. The Council's Procurement Strategy makes reference to environment and sustainability in a purchasing context. Ongoing work with the other Cumbrian local authorities through EPiC (Effective Procurement in Cumbria) should help establish a consistent approach in helping to address climate change across Cumbria through sustainable procurement.

**Reducing consumption and emissions:** Council staff are encouraged to switch off computer equipment when not in use. Allerdale House was designed to be energy efficient though further improvements can be made. Audits for energy performance certificates are ongoing in relevant Council buildings. It is a legal requirement to display energy certificates in large public sector buildings. Work to reduce fuel poverty is ongoing. Inspections on homes under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System to assess decent homes includes energy efficiency.

**Decarbonising transport:** the staff travel policy requires staff to make efficient journeys and consider public transport. Close working with partners has led to an extensive cycle network in West Cumbria. The Council currently promotes a scheme to encourage staff to cycle to work. Electric vehicles have been recently purchased for some Council Services. COVID19 has led to a change in travel and working patterns which has massively decreased road miles. Many of these adaptations will be retained for the future.

**Planning to deliver Zero Carbon development:** the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, which involves three overarching interdependent objectives – economic, social and environmental. These objectives are delivered through the preparation and implantation of plans and the application of policies in the NPPF. The environmental objective includes mitigating and adapting to climate change. Section 14 of the NPPF relates specifically to meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change. Our Local Plan is consistent with the NPPF.

Building Control are ensuring that new developments have appropriate thermal insulation as required by the current Building Regulations and are helping construction companies build environmentally-friendly homes.

**Reducing waste:** Allerdale Borough Council is delivering a recycling rate of 34% with a particular focus on the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste that was previously sent to landfill, and contributed to greenhouse gases from the landfill site. Ongoing work with the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership assists in waste reduction and recycling.

The recycling facilities for staff in Council offices in main offices include cans and bottles in addition to paper. The design and print tender specifications will include the need for use of recycled paper. Electronic versions of meeting papers are now the standard method of distribution. Old computer equipment is reused or recycled. Water coolers supplied from the mains are present in most Council offices which reduce the need for staff to use bottled water.

**Restoring nature:** The Council's AONB team manage the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The Parks and Open Spaces team manages the Council's two nature reserves at Harrington and Siddick Pond with help from community groups, and through an extensive programme for volunteers and education. The management plans for these areas are regularly reviewed to increase biodiversity, create carbon sinks and help slow run-off of water.

A Shoreline Management Plan for the North West of England and North Wales has been developed. This sets out the long-term direction for managing risk to our coastline. The Cumbria Coastal Strategy has recently been developed and is currently going through the approval process with all partners (Spring 2021).

## Baseline data and reporting on progress

At this point we are reviewing the data available to the Council to establish current baselines. The Council is participating in the project to determine the level of need to decarbonise public sector buildings in the North West, funded by the Local Energy Hub and government, which is intended to lead to a programme of activity based on the identification of urgent need for remedial action, and through the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership we are addressing the outcomes of the carbon audit for Cumbria. We recognise we need to both understand the scale of the need through accurate current data and prioritise our activities accordingly.

Local authorities do not currently have to monitor or report reductions in their own or area emissions. This will change as the Environment Bill and Climate and Ecology Bill pass through their due Parliamentary process.

The Climate Change Committee recommends that local authority action plans should state how progress will be monitored and reported back to partnerships and residents, along with methods of ongoing engagement. The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's 2020 recommendations give us guidelines for self-scrutiny.

General guiding principles are:

- Measure and report Scopes 1 and 2 as a minimum. Scope 1 is direct GHG emissions from sources owned or controlled by the local authority, for example emissions from boilers and vehicles. Scope 2 accounts for emissions of purchased electricity consumed by the local authority.

- Define and report on Scope 3 as actively as possible. Scope 3 includes indirect emissions from wider supply chains, emissions from the use of local authority services, contracted out services and investments. Local authorities should assess the significance of emissions and level of control they have over different types of Scope 3 emissions and focus on the areas with the most emissions over which they have the most control or influence.

See the Terminology section at the end of the document for a definition of the scopes.

Work gathering baseline data is ongoing and methodology will be improved to provide more accurate and specific information.

From the latest figures available (BEIS 2017) the greenhouse gases emissions (excluding removals from Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry – LULUCF) which originated in Allerdale were 629.1 ktCO<sub>2</sub>, with just over a third of this being attributable to industrial and commercial fuel use (289.4 ktCO<sub>2</sub>), alongside roughly equal amounts attributable to domestic energy use (178.2 ktCO<sub>2</sub>) and transport (181.4 ktCO<sub>2</sub>). The per capita emissions have fallen between 2005 and 2017 from 13.4 ktCO<sub>2</sub> to 6.5 ktCO<sub>2</sub>.

The data allocates emissions on an “end-user” basis where emissions are distributed according to the point of energy consumption (or point of emission if not energy related). Except for the energy industry, emissions from the production of goods are assigned to where the production takes place. On this basis, emissions from the production of goods which are exported have been included, and emissions from the production of goods which are imported are excluded.

The Allerdale area emissions have been recently benchmarked through work commissioned by the Cumbria Climate Change Working Group, now known as Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership and carried out by Small World Consulting, and summarised as part of a countywide profile in ‘A Carbon Baseline for Cumbria’, 2020 (available via [www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk](http://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk)).

The Tyndall Centre’s (University of Manchester) assessment of a carbon budget for Allerdale as a district (<https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/reports/E07000026>) shows that for the area to make its fair contribution to delivering the Paris Agreement's commitment to staying “well below 2°C and pursuing 1.5°C” global temperature rise, then an immediate and rapid programme of decarbonisation is needed. At 2017 CO<sub>2</sub> emission levels, Allerdale will exceed the recommended budget available within 8 years from 2020. To stay within the recommended carbon budget Allerdale will, from 2020 onwards, need to achieve average mitigation rates of CO<sub>2</sub> from energy of around -11.2% per year. This will require that Allerdale rapidly transitions away from unabated fossil fuel use. For context, the relative change in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy compared to a 2015 Paris Agreement reference year are shown in Table 1.

Year	Reduction in Annual Emissions (based on recommended pathway)
2020	35.8%
2025	64.5%
2030	80.4%
2035	89.2%
2040	94.0%
2045	96.7%
2050	98.2%

**Table 1: Percentage reduction of annual emissions for the recommended CO<sub>2</sub> only pathway out to 2050 in relation to 2015**

Source: The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

The carbon budgets recommended should be reviewed on a five yearly basis to reflect the most up-to-date science, any changes in global agreements on climate mitigation and progress on the successful deployment at scale of negative emissions technologies.

These budgets do not downscale aviation and shipping emissions from the UK national level. However if these emissions continue to increase as currently envisaged by Government, aviation and shipping will take an increasing share of the UK carbon budget, reducing the available budgets for combined and local authorities. **The Tyndall Centre recommends that Allerdale seriously consider strategies for significantly limiting emissions growth from aviation and shipping.** This could include interactions with the UK Government or other local authorities and local enterprise partnership discussions on aviation that reflect the need of the carbon budget to limit aviation and shipping emissions growth.

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the carbon budget related to electricity use from the National Grid in Allerdale are largely dependent upon national government policy and changes to power generation across the country. The Tyndall Centre recommends **that Allerdale promote the deployment of low carbon electricity generation within the region and where possible influence national policy on this issue.**

The Tyndall Centre also recommends **that the LULUCF sector should be managed to ensure CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration where possible. The management of LULUCF could also include action to increase wider social and environmental benefits.**

## In summary

This Council's Climate Change Action Plan is broadly but not specifically grouped into the headers proposed by the LGA and partners in their recommendations '*A blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level*' January 2021.

- Growing the Zero and Low Carbon Economy
- Retrofitting homes and buildings to reduce consumption and emissions
- Decarbonising transport
- Planning to deliver Zero Carbon development that protects and enhances nature
- Reducing Waste and Encouraging Sustainable Consumption
- Restoring Nature for all
- Developing local authority funding, governance and accounting systems that are fit for purpose

We also consider the themes fitting within the Council Strategy 2020 – 2030 and the Cumbria Joint Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2019-2029).

This action plan has been developed across Political parties within the Council. Each section is led by different Council members according to their own areas of knowledge and special interest who work as sub-teams within the Climate Change group. The work is supported and delivered by relevant senior managers and Lead Officers across all departments.

A Climate Change Action Plan cannot be delivered by one person alone, nor solely by Allerdale Borough Council. In order to be carbon neutral, we need to embed climate actions across all functions, policies and service areas and work with people living, working and visiting the area to achieve these outcomes.

We will be engaging with our communities across the borough to rise up and take action to address what is arguably the most difficult, but most important, challenge of our age.

## Section A: Growing the low carbon economy – skills and infrastructure

We want to create thriving resilient economy that supports a fair transition to Net Zero Carbon, through communication, training and skills, support for businesses and a procurement approach that influences the emissions of supply chains and products. We encourage bold use of technology to decarbonise our operations.

	Actions	Activity
A1	Reduction in the impact of climate change on our services and community	Assess the risk associated with climate change for the Council Services and our communities and produce plan to adapt accordingly
A2	Review council policies and strategies to consider impact of climate change	Ensure climate change actions are reflected in both existing and any new strategies and policies
A3	Develop a stakeholder engagement strategy	Devise a programme in conjunction with partners for: a) stakeholders b) members c) the community to raise awareness of climate change including engagement with young people d) communications strategy for the work of the group
A4	Work with key partners	a) develop and deliver strategic projects which deliver best practices on sustainable development. b) develop plans to address the causes and impact of climate change according to local priorities
A5	Support the work of the network of local partnerships in raising awareness of climate change in Cumbria	Participate in the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership including working closely with other Cumbrian authorities
A6	Building relationships with and lobbying the area's three MPs	Preparation for COP26 as a priority in working towards improvements
A7	Increased skills in local workforce to implement changes	a) better understanding among Council officers of climate change implementation b) sufficiently skilled local workforce to resource necessary changes
A8	Provide and co-ordinate training on climate change for staff and members, particularly front line staff	Introduce programme of carbon literacy training as soon as possible and awareness raising (ongoing)
A9	Inward investment in renewables energies and other 'green job' opportunities	Support large scale projects
<p><b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> - CAFS, Centre for Alternative Technology, SusKes, Climate Emergency West Cumbria, TWIG, Friends of the Earth, Schools and Colleges, Copeland Borough Council, Parish Councils, MPs</p>		



## Section B: Retro-fitting homes and buildings

We want to improve housing stock and the wider built environment to reduce carbon emissions, build resilience to future climate change, reduce fuel poverty and influence improved living conditions

	Actions	Activity
B1	Work with Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS) to promote energy efficiencies in households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) promote availability of energy saving measures in homes in conjunction with CAfS</li> <li>b) promotion of government schemes to improve homes</li> <li>c) promote full occupancy of homes</li> </ul>
B2	Running energy efficiency schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) targeting deprivation and fuel poverty, including working with Housing Associations (HAs), environmental groups and other agencies</li> <li>b) promotion of government schemes to improve homes</li> <li>c) build knowledge through working with social housing providers</li> <li>d) regularly run a collective energy switching scheme</li> </ul>
B3	Ensure Private Rented Accommodation in Allerdale does not have an EPC rating below an E	Enforcement activity in accordance with the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) regulations
B4	Raise awareness of funding available for energy efficiency	Improve awareness amongst front line staff, visiting officers, Customer Service Advisors and partners
B5	Encourage awareness of emissions from domestic heating sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) promote eco-friendly sources inc. ground and air source heat pumps and PV options</li> <li>b) promote awareness of emissions from log burners</li> </ul>
B6	Work with tenants, leases and occupants of Council owned buildings (GLL) to identify energy savings	Once work to identify which buildings require work to address emissions is complete, begin to develop solutions
B7	Review energy use and plan for energy efficiencies in Council buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) identify potential for energy efficiencies and sustainability for operational buildings</li> <li>b) produce prioritised action plan</li> <li>c) implement prioritised action</li> </ul>
B8	Investigate the potential for installing renewable energy generation in existing or new Council buildings	Explore potential for improvements initially at Allerdale House e.g. solar panels and other sources of energy creation, then other Council owned buildings
B9	Review energy suppliers for Council building and seek to move towards 100% supply from 'green' sources or suppliers	Work to ensure Council purchases of electricity and gas are from renewable sources
<p><b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> – CAfS, social landlords and housing associations, Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership, energy companies, Cumbria LEP</p>		

## Section C: Decarbonisation of transport & reducing road miles

We want to reduce traffic and shift to more sustainable modes of transport. This will lead to improvements in emissions, air quality, noise and safety.

	Actions	Activity
C1	Contribute to addressing wider community-based transport issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) transport savings by holding virtual meetings</li> <li>b) lobbying for more bus services</li> <li>c) Lift share apps</li> </ul>
C2	Review existing car user policy to identify sustainable travel incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) consider staff pool bicycle scheme</li> <li>b) continue supported purchase schemes for staff</li> <li>c) encourage staff use of public transport</li> <li>d) regularly promote sensible driving message to staff and members</li> </ul>
C3	Work with main partners to achieve reduction in energy use and greenhouse gases in the delivery of Council services	<p>Particularly in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) planning replacement of vehicles</li> <li>b) encourage transition from petrol fuelled equipment to electric</li> <li>c) Reducing distances and frequency of travel</li> </ul>
C4	Maximise benefits of projects by partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Support projects such as Charge My Street (electric vehicle charge points)</li> <li>b) Further promote Local Cycling and Walking Plans (LCWiPs)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> - CAFS, Cumbria County Council, LDNPA, Sustrans, Allerdale Waste Services, other initiatives - Liftshare (app), Bicycle Mayor for Cumbria, Slow Roads Network,</p>		

## Section D: Planning to deliver zero carbon development that protects and enhances nature

We want to ensure that new development is carbon neutral, makes space for nature and links with walking and cycling routes to essential facilities.

	Actions	Activity
D1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Ensure forthcoming legislation is effectively implemented and supported within the authority</li> <li>b) Regularly review planning policies to incorporate sustainable development taking into account the needs and character of the area through the Local Plan</li> <li>c) Ensure robust strategies are in place to support legislation</li> <li>d) Ensure interdepartmental coordination enables continuous improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ensure all senior managers are aware of the impacts of proposed legislation</li> <li>ii. Ensure the Council is able to service the requirements of implementing the proposed new planning requirements</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) Develop supplementary planning documents relating to biodiversity and environmental gains.</li> <li>c) Continue to collaborate with other Cumbrian authorities on the draft local nature recovery strategy and ensure this is implemented when adopted.</li> <li>d) Enable close communication between all relevant staff, particularly planning policy and development control in conjunction with parks and open spaces</li> </ul>
D2	Examine existing supplementary planning guidance for sustainable development and determine if any change is required to bring guidance in line with best practice	Consider if planning conditions can <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) enable the commissioning of independent monitoring of planning applications as a condition of approval</li> <li>b) require the installation of electric vehicle charge points in public facing developments</li> </ul>
D3	Promote higher building quality standards that include sustainable and green building principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) monitor use of pre-planning checklist</li> <li>b) promote biodiversity support inc. swift bricks, hedgehog runs etc.</li> <li>c) expand list and use of appropriate external organisations as consultees</li> </ul>
D4	Review existing main Council policies and consider making amendments to assist in tackling climate change	Development and phasing in of 'green clauses' (such as requiring energy efficiency) into Council leases and rental contracts
D5	Protect below market value (BMV) land to grow crops for local consumption.	Local Plan policy S36 and para 329 page 142 sets out the principle of protection of most versatile agricultural land for food production.
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> – Lake District National Park Authority, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Workington Nature Partnership, Natural England, Local Government Association		

## **Section E: - Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption: within Allerdale Borough Council estate**

**We aim to reduce waste and support sustainable consumption and production, through a more circular economy. We want to be bold in our use of technology to reduce resource use and greenhouse gas emissions. Communications and newsletters**

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Activity</b>
E1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Review departmental and central printing strategy</li> <li>b) Review potential for further reducing volume of paper for Committee work</li> <li>c) Consider extending the use of video conferencing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Encourage greater use of electronic devices by staff</li> <li>b) Encourage greater use of electronic devices by staff and councillors</li> <li>c) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. explore alternative methods and providers</li> <li>ii. Develop hybrid provision to allow combined in-person and virtual meetings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
E2	Continue re-use schemes when disposing of furniture/ equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Repair and extend life where possible</li> <li>b) Offer spare or replaced items to community groups and voluntary organisations</li> </ul>
E3	Consider impact of on staff and the community in accessing and delivery of services at current and potential Council Centres.	Review options for the delivery of Council services
E4	Monitor working temperatures and other factors adversely affecting workforce.	Ensure steps are taken to mitigate any changes in working conditions or wellbeing in Allerdale Borough Council workplaces.
E5	Regularly review the Council's Strategic Procurement Strategy to increase the purchase of sustainable goods and services	Ensure any new climate change aspects are incorporated into Procurement Policy
E6	Review the Council's use of outside caterers and include need for locally sourced food and reusable or recyclable utensils.	Public health needs may challenge actions intended to alleviate climate change, however choosing sustainable resources should continue to be the intended solution.

## **Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption: Allerdale Borough Council residents and businesses**

**We aim to reduce waste and support sustainable consumption and production, through a more circular economy. We want to discourage wasteful lifestyles that create environmental problems both here and abroad, on land and in the marine environment.**

E7	Improve recycling knowledge and practices in Allerdale including awareness of service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) review trade waste options</li> <li>b) review bulky waste collection and potential re-use system for furniture</li> <li>c) review information on bin calendars</li> <li>d) update Council website and information links</li> <li>e) run PR campaign to raise awareness of facilities and services</li> </ul>
E8	Extend provision of doorstep recycling facilities in accordance with annual programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Work with Allerdale Waste Services to determine programme.</li> <li>b) Address issues for areas of the borough not covered by current services</li> </ul>

E9	Minimisation of residual waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) continue to work on Tetra-Pak recycling scheme options</li> <li>b) Investigate anaerobic digestion for food waste</li> <li>c) Soft plastic recycling</li> <li>d) Electrical</li> <li>e) Furniture</li> <li>f) Extended Producer Responsibility scheme</li> <li>g) Food waste/Sustainable Food Action Plan</li> </ul>
E10	Minimisation of residual waste at source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) raise awareness of staff and public on waste minimisation and recycling</li> <li>b) work on a waste minimisation campaign</li> <li>c) work to improve attitudes and actions regarding environmental crimes e.g. fly-tipping with a particular focus on identified hotspots</li> <li>d) carry out educational campaigns to support the above</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> – Cumbria Action for Sustainability, Allerdale Waste Services, Cumbria LEP, BEC, Copeland Borough Council, SK, CEWC, FotE, Refill initiative, Schools and Colleges, Parish Councils, businesses</p>		

## Section F: Restoring nature for all: Biodiversity, land use, land use change and forestry

We want to provide easy access to quality natural spaces, supporting wellbeing for individuals and communities. We want green spaces to have the co-benefits of providing natural potential for flood water slowing, carbon capture, flourishing insect friendly pollination areas and wildlife habitats, in addition to human focussed leisure facilities.

F1	Nature reserves become sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) progress the Solway Coast AONB Management Plan</li> <li>b) development of management plans for the Council's nature reserves at Harrington and Siddick Ponds</li> </ul>
F2	Support for community focused projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Encourage orchards &amp; allotments</li> <li>b) support development of horticultural businesses</li> <li>c) develop a small grants scheme</li> <li>d) complete the Allonby to Silloth coastal cycle path extension</li> </ul>
F3	Promote biodiversity by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) planting to minimise maintenance/ links to biodiversity</li> <li>b) identify areas of land for tree planting</li> <li>c) encourage composting</li> <li>d) promote/develop more Get Cumbria Buzzing sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) change bedding plants to perennials/use peat free compost</li> <li>b) work with the Woodland Trust and local groups such as TWIG; be part of the emerging Partnership project for a West Cumbria Community Coastal Forest</li> <li>c) reduce the use of Glyphosate as a general weed killer</li> <li>d) i - work with Cumbria Wildlife Trust and local groups ii – work with town and parish councils</li> </ul>
F4	Reduction in overall flood risk	Planting to mitigate the effects by slowing the flow in rivers and streams
F5	Reduce flood probability and severity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Continue to promote and ensure urban run-off through SUDS (sustainable urban drainage systems)</li> <li>b) Work with United Utilities with regard to reviewing water management from Thirlmere</li> </ul>
F6	Explore carbon capture potential	This would include both usage and storage
F7	Explore hydrogen-related energy possibilities	Continue to monitor the project research being undertaken for Cumbria LEP
F8	Increased community awareness of climate change issues in AONB area	Communication and community engagement
F9	Prevent import of pests, diseases through local docks	Work in collaboration to ensure adherence to legislation

## Restoring Nature for All: Water, flooding and coastal change

We want to address water wastage and develop grey water systems. We want to work with partners to improve flood resilience, consider coastal erosion, shoreline management, improve biodiversity and address beach litter.

F10	Implement results of trial using water saving devices in Council	Improve ABC utilities supply/usage
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	buildings and assess scope for extending	
F11	Assess scope for reuse of grey water in Council buildings and prioritise for action	Improve ABC utilities supply/usage
F12	Recognise the Council's role in ensuring sufficient public water for agriculture, industry, council use including statutory duties with regard to private water supplies and improving water sanitation (SDG 6)	Work with Environment Agency, United Utilities, Cumbria County Council and other partners
F13	Raise awareness of staff and community on water saving measures	a) develop goals to reduce water leakage, wastage b) consider feasibility of installing rainwater and/or grey water recovery systems
F14	Work to address coastal issues	a) Work with partners to support the implementation of the Cumbria Coastal Strategy b) Work with partners to support the implementation of the Shoreline Management Plan c) Work with partners and Cumbria County Council on coastal issues, particularly in relation to the B5300 d) Participate in the LGA Coastal Special Interest Group
F15	Increase river and coastal flood resilience and safety	a) assess risk for people, livelihoods and prosperity b) ensure access to flood-readiness information (for evacuation) c) ensure access to flood-resilience and support information d) Work closely with the EA and respective flood action groups throughout the borough e) Assist EA and CCC with all flood alleviation methods including improving river defences NFM catchment management
F16	Review beach cleaning activities	Work with a range of groups to help clean beaches but of greater importance to ensure the profile of dirty beaches and how the public can help reduce this.
F17	Support ongoing work with partners to address diffuse pollution and improve bathing water quality.	Promote the benefits of domestic travel and blue spaces for recreation and health, in conjunction with initiatives such as LoveMyBeach and Active Coast.
F18	Support ongoing action plan for Allonby as a priority bathing water.	Ensure compliance with Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 14
<p><b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> - Solway Coast AONB, Solway Firth Partnership, Workington Nature Partnership, Northside Community Garden and Recreation Society, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust, Sustainable Keswick (SusKes), Climate Emergency West Cumbria (CEWC), Get Cumbria Buzzing, TWIG, RSPB, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, West Cumbria Rivers Trust, Natural England-Solway Coast AONB, Solway Firth Partnership, Workington Nature Partnership, Environment Agency, United Utilities, Cumbria County Council, Marine Management Organisation (MMO), West Cumbria Rivers Trust, 'Love my Beach',</p>		

## Section G: Developing local authority funding, governance and accounting systems that are fit for purpose

We want to develop a strategic approach to influencing climate and biodiversity problems. We hope to provide citizens with appropriate engagement opportunities based on transparent proposals, processes and performance, which will deliver innovative solutions. We aim to influence investment strategies and procurement policies to ensure they are in line with this Council's Climate Change ambitions and contribute to a local, circular economy

	Actions	Activity
G1	Scrutiny of treasury and procurement via Overview and Scrutiny or Audit Committee to ensure actions are in line with Climate Change Strategy aims	Ensure that whole life costs and local, ethical purchasing guidelines are followed Address policies to include the economic costs of Climate change adaptation and mitigation
G2	Innovative funding and financing mechanisms	Look at community bonds and funding partnerships
G3	Use the UK shared prosperity fund to fund the transition to the low carbon economy	Lobby Government
G4	Provide LA's with the evidence that helps to apply policies and target resources to deliver necessary cuts in emissions	Lobby Government
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups –</b>		



## Terminology

Below are explanations of some of the terms used in this document.

'Net Zero' greenhouse gas emissions means that while some greenhouse gas emissions (not only CO<sub>2</sub>) are still being generated by a process, these emissions are being balanced by forestry or removed by technologies making the overall net emissions zero.

'Carbon Neutral' means that while some carbon dioxide emissions are still being generated by a building/process these emissions are being offset somewhere else making the overall net carbon dioxide emissions zero. This is also termed net-zero carbon dioxide emissions.

'Zero Carbon' means that no carbon dioxide emissions are being produced from a product/service e.g. zero-carbon electricity could be provided by a 100% renewable energy supplier.

'Scopes' are defined as emissions broken down into three categories by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol in order to better understand the source.

Scope 1 – All Direct Emissions from the activities of an organisation or under their control. Including fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers, fleet vehicles and air-conditioning leaks.

Scope 2 – Indirect Emissions from electricity purchased and used by the organisation. Emissions are created during the production of the energy and eventually used by the organisation.

Scope 3 – All Other Indirect Emissions from activities of the organisation, occurring from sources that they do not own or control. These are usually the greatest share of the carbon footprint, covering emissions associated with business travel, procurement, waste and water.

## **VISITOR MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN K2T MULTI USER TRAIL**

The working group (Cllrs Boardman, Burn, Dunn(Chair) and Lansbury) had a Zoom meeting today with Emma Moody (LDNPA), Cath Johnson (LDNPA), Cllr Tony Markley (Allerdale BC) and Ernie Davidson (Allerdale BC) on 10 March 2021. The following areas were discussed.

### **Bins**

Ernie Davidson said that there were probably 4 bins along the length of the trail. More bins could be provided if there was a genuine need but they had to be accessible to the contractor. Cath Johnson said the LDNPA's policy was to encourage people to take litter home. She would look at the need for more or better signage to get this message across. She would also monitor the situation and liaise with Allerdale if additional or larger bins were needed at particular locations. She would also consider the case for recycling bins in the longer term.

### **Toilets**

Emma Moody said that there was a huge cost in getting toilets on to the trail. Funding had been looked at and the result of bids should be known within a few weeks. Cath Johnson said it would not be possible to have Portalooos in the middle of the trail as the area was a designated SSSI. It was thought that the public toilets in Threlkeld may suffice at that end, and thought would be given to signage giving details of their location. Portalooos would also be considered, but siting was problematic. Portalooos at the Keswick end of the trail would be needed and Sally Lansbury and Ernie Davidson would meet to identify the optimum location.

### **Parking**

Ernie Davidson's assumption was that at least as many people would visit Keswick this year as came after lockdown in 2020, and there was a need to get drivers to leave the A66 at the Crosthwaite Roundabout exit to avoid everyone driving through the town. There would be additional parking at the Rawnsley site, and also a need to get people to use the Keswick Town Council and Football Club car parks. Emma Moody said that she was working with Allerdale BC to get appropriate AA type signs on to the A66 to help meet these aims. Information about car parking in Keswick would also be put on the LDNPA website.

### **Latrigg Close**

Cath Johnson said the LDNPA have spoken to a number of residents whose properties back on to the trail, and that several measures had been considered to help address the privacy

issue. The LDNPA have a proposal which they hope to discuss with these residents in the near future.

**AOB**

Cath Johnson suggested that a representative from Threlkeld Parish Council be invited to join the group. This was agreed.

**Date of next meeting**

The group arranged to meet with the Allerdale and LDNPA representatives on 7 April to discuss progress.

Cllr David Burn

10 March 2021



## **Keswick to Threlkeld Trail Visitor Management Action Plan.**

### **Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach.**

**March to October 2021**

**Lead: Emma Moody (LDNPA)**

## (Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

### **Background:**

Since the Keswick to Threlkeld Cycle route opened on 5th December 2020 it has been incredibly popular, however its popularity has led to a number of issues which have an impact on the local environment, the local residents and on the visitors themselves.

### **Brief description of area:**

The Keswick to Threlkeld Trail runs for 4 miles between Threlkeld and Keswick. A former railway line it had been open to walkers and cyclists before it was severely damaged by Storm Desmond in 2015. Following extensive repairs it has now reopened. This VMAP refers to the trail and its influence on the visitor management of the area immediately around it.

### **Intention:**

To have a coordinated multi-agency approach agreed to manage the increased visitor pressure and associated anti-social issues within the Keswick to Threlkeld Trail and immediate vicinity.

This action plans sets out a proposal which everyone involved will need to agree, to be a positive step towards mitigating the visitor impact.

This action will aim to achieve the following:

1. Agree an action plan that is realistic and achievable to help resolve the visitor management issues.
2. Agree patrolling regime for known problem areas caused by visitor pressure impact
3. All required patrolling is reviewed against need.
4. Improved means to supply relevant reports and information to those who can act upon it.
5. Those involved are aware of everyone's role and responsibilities.
6. Manages the expectations of the communities, businesses, other land managers and other organisations.
7. Resolves issues on the ground by making the most effective use of the limited resources available from all organisations and land managers.
8. The action plan is dynamic and responsive to need and change.

### **Scope**

Visitor management between March and October 2021. Longer term management will be covered through the maintenance plan and in the ongoing review of the trail.

### **Awareness (Current Situation):**

- The route has proved to be extremely popular, with thousands of local people and visitors enjoying walking, cycling, using a wheelchair or mobility scooter, or pushing a child in a buggy along it during December
- This has shown that the route has achieved its objectives: encouraging active travel, improving health and wellbeing and providing access for all. However the volume of people has led to some issues and concerns.
- Many people are driving to the start of the route, and this is causing inconsiderate parking at the Threlkeld and Keswick ends of the route. This has led to buses being unable to get through and people's driveways being blocked in Threlkeld. People are

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

also parking in the layby on the A66 near the Threlkeld end and crossing the A66 at a hazardous location.

- The parking is making cycling to the start and finish, or from the finish to local cafés and businesses hazardous
- There are localised litter problems
- There are concerns around social distancing on the route
- There is a lack of public toilets at the Keswick end of the route, and a lack of information about where to find toilets and other services/businesses

Timeline of action plan's development:

10<sup>th</sup> February 2021: 1st Action Plan agreed at LDNPA Recovery Programme Board

17<sup>th</sup> February 2021: Action Plan agreed at Tactical Visitor Management Group

This will continue to be a live document with actions being added and amended as opportunities, new issues and challenges arise.

The plan will be reviewed following Easter and the May half term holidays to enable lessons learned to be applied.

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

**Visitor Management Area Action Plan:**

This is the action plan for delivery from 1 March 2021 till 31 October 2021:

Action	Lead	Support	By when	Progress commentary	Photo of completed action if needed	Status RAG
<b>Car parking and transport</b>						
Action 0: Continue to discuss with stakeholders plan as it evolves and set up working groups as needed	LDNPA			Attended TPC and KTC meetings. Met with ABC. Meetings planned with CCC and HE		
Action 1: Include all Keswick and Threlkeld car parks on safer lakes Reason: to reduce fly parking	LDNPA			To go live 29/03		
Action 2: Include more details on parking on LDNPA website K2T pages Reason: to reduce fly parking	LDNPA			To be in place by 29/03		
Action 3: Provide information on how the LDNPA Northern Office and cricket club parking can be used safely via permitted route (walking only) Reason: to enable people to use existing car parks	LDNPA			To be in place by 29/03		
Action 4: Implement Keswick Transport Study recommendations on signage of car parks Reason: to disperse parking to available sites	ABC/ LDNPA			Plan being drawn up		
Action 5: More information for people on foot/bike to the start of the trail within Keswick. Reason: To help visitors park where there is space and encourage into settlements to spend in businesses	LDNPA	ABC/KT C		Can this be included in the KTC review of the blue signposts?		

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

Action 6: Look into safety measures/warning on A66 between Scales and the Burns Road turning, where large numbers of pedestrians and visitors are found. Reason: To reduce risk of accidents	HE				Meeting arranged with HE	
Action 7: Install bollards on verges in Threlkeld Reason: to reduce damage to grass	CCC				Threlkeld PC have contacted CCC	
Action 8: Install no parking signs in the following locations: No parking - Threlkeld village, gateways and junctions onto A66. 2 hours only - A66 laybys Reason: to reduce obstruction to the road or residential/farm gateways	HE (A66) CCC (County roads)				Threlkeld PC already doing some work in verges, but more needed. Work with HE to look at signage in laybys	
Action 9: CCC to consider TRO to deal with parking hazards in Threlkeld (longer term) but consider cones at corners/entrances in short term Reason: to reduce traffic hazard/obstruction	CCC				Meeting arranged with CCC	
Action 10: police to ticket obstructive parking in Threlkeld and Keswick Reason: to reduce traffic hazard	Police				Community to contact 101 or Cvalerts when problems occur	
Action 11: Mark parking bays for disabled users at Keswick swimming pool more clearly and enforce Reason: Access for all	ABC				Agreed by ABC	



(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

Action 12: Look into options for overflow parking in Keswick Reason: to increase capacity	LDNPA/ TPC/ KTC			Options being explored with landowners	
Action 13: Discuss with pubs and businesses opening up their car parks to the public when there is capacity	LDNPA			Owner of Horse & Farrier/Salutation may be interested. Capacity at Easter when hospitality cannot open	
Fly camping					
Action 14: Install 'no camping signs' at the following locations: Gale Road, others if Parish and Town Councils raise as an issue Reason: to reduce fly camping	LDNPA				
Action 15: Include information about Existing local camp/caravan/motorhome sites in comms Reason: To provide alternatives to fly camping	CT				
Motorhomes					
Action 16: Install 'no overnight parking/camping' signs at the following locations Gale Road car park, Dickney Car Park, LDNPA Northern Office, Keswick car parks Reason: to reduce motorhome parking in inappropriate places	LDNPA/ ABC/ CCC			Signs now available	
Action 17: Prioritise these locations in motorhome patrols: Gale Rd car park, Keswick and Threlkeld car parks Reason: to reduce motorhome parking in inappropriate places	LDNPA			Patrols alerted	
Action 18: Comms regarding problem locations and behaviour	LDNPA/ CT			Motorhome code of conduct being produced and circulated by CT	

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

Reason: To raise awareness of appropriate behaviour/parking locations including code of conduct								
Visitor management infrastructure								
Action 19: Litter bin collection and provision, continue with 'take your litter home' message on route, but keep under review. Ensure bins at Keswick and Threlkeld are of suitable size and regularly emptied Reason: To reduce littering and overflowing bins	EDC/ ABC							
Action 20: Litter removal, priorities for action Continue to check line and do litter picks according to maintenance programme Reason: To reduce littering	LDNPA						Rotas now in place	
Action 21: Litter signage locations, to review current littering hotspots on or close to line when on patrols and put up additional signs Reason: To reduce littering	LDNPA							
Action 22: Toilet provision. Continue to work on reopening of Keswick Station toilets for 2022 but investigate portaloos provision for 2021 Reason: Public health	KTC/ ABC/ LDNPA							
Action 23: Toilets. Ensure information about the trail includes existing toilet locations in Keswick and Threlkeld Reason: Public Health	LDNPA	CT					Website updated	
Management of visitor pressures								

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

Action 24: All communities be aware of and to use cvalerts. Let KTC, Threlkeld PC and St Johns in the Vale PC know Reason: To aid quick action on issues	All			Email address: cvalerts@lakedistrict.gov.uk	
Action 25: LDNPA/Police/ Allerdale Marshals to run regular patrols along line Reason: Public safety and reassurance, reduction in damage to infrastructure	LDNPA/ Police			LDNPA already running patrols if problems and action being taken as a result. ABC have agreed their marshals will also include the line on their rounds. Police are aware and will continue to monitor and attend where needed.	
Action 26: Continue to update and install signs and digital comms with clear messaging around social distancing and responsible use of route Reason: public safety	LDNPA				
Action 27: Provide information on suitable linking paths including Lastrigg, Castlerigg Stone Circle Brundholme Road, Threlkeld Quarry Museum. Branch Lines project. Reason: to disperse visitors and support local businesses	LDNPA	CT/KTC/ TPC		CCC to look into establishing future use of Brundholme Road	
Action 28: Gather evidence and monitoring data around use of trail to inform review of the line in autumn, including use by horse riders Reason: to inform future management	LDNPA				

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

Providing a World Class Welcome to Our New Visitors, as we are a Park for All					
Action 29: Visitor welcome volunteers to be deployed Reason: To welcome and direct visitors	LDNPA				Look into roving welcome/litter picking volunteers on line
Action 30: Install 'Welcome to Keswick' map at old railway station and signage into town Reason: To encourage visitors to walk into town and support economy, provide information on toilet locations etc.					Discuss with KTC/KTA
Action 31: Install signage to/from Threikeld end of track to Coffee Shop and pubs and toilets Reason: to provide local information					Discuss with TPC/Businesses
Action 32: provide map online and in Keswick information centre to show how to get to start of route on foot and by bike	LDNPA			KTC, KTA	
Action 33: Use of buses to reach K2T to be publicized on LDNPA and partner websites and when safe to do so social media campaign around it. Bus stops to be shown on maps. Reason: To reduce traffic	LDNPA			CT	
Action 34: ESIF 2 funding to be used to promote sustainable use of trail including public transport and parking messages and itineraries from Keswick for staying visitors	CT				

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

<p>Action 35: Outdoor events coordination, make sure go through Safety Advisory Group where relevant Due to numbers of people using trail and covid restrictions we will have to consider large scale event requests on the route carefully, and allow if run at quiet times and support the local economy. Keswick parkruns to resume when allowed according to government guidance. Reason: To ensure only safe and appropriate events are planned</p>	<p>CCC</p>			<p>Ongoing, 'Roadmap' gives more details as to what will be allowed when.</p>	
<p>Action 36: Work with businesses to display information about safe/sustainable/responsible behavior in the national park Reason: to improve visitor experience</p>	<p>LDNPA</p>	<p>KTC, KTA, TPC</p>		<p>Posters to be available for download by 29/03 at <a href="https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/coronavirus/lake-district-covid-19-poster-downloads">https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/coronavirus/lake-district-covid-19-poster-downloads</a></p>	
<p>Action 37: Include information about accessibility of route and facilities for users with disabilities in all information about the line. Reason: Access for all</p>	<p>LDNPA</p>			<p>Website to be checked</p>	

(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

Map showing the K2T Visitor Management Action Plan Area



(Name of area) Visitor Management Action Plan – Agreeing a Co-ordinated Multi-agency Approach

**Action Plan Contacts List**

Organisation/ contact/ Group	Remit	Point of contact
LDNPA	Coordination	Emma.moody@lakedistrict.gov.uk
LDNPA	Area Ranger	Cath.johnson@lakedistrict.gov.uk
CCC	Highways matters	
ABC	Car parks, toilet provision	
HE	A66 highways matters	
KTC	Keswick Community Input	
TPC	Threlkeld Community Input	

**Communicating the plan, timeline**

Communication	Who	Key audience	When
Discuss draft plan	All partners	stakeholders	Feb 2021
Final Plan	All partners	stakeholders	March 2021
Post Easter review	All partners	stakeholder	Late April 2021
Pre summer review	All partners	stakeholders	June 2021

## **Cumbria Association of Local Councils Allerdale District**

**Minutes of a three-tier meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
Held virtually on the Zoom platform**

**Chair Chris Shaw (Calc)**

**PRESENT: -**

Tony Markley (Silloth TC/CCC/ABC)	Gordon Moore (Ireby and Uldale PC)
Roger Hart (Allonby PC)	Trevor Gear (Hayton and Mealo PC)
John Cowan (Oughterside and A PC)	David Wilson (Brigham PC)
Stephen Stoddart (CCC)	Mary Bradley (Broughton PC)
Lizzy Shaw (CCC)	Ian Hinde (Allerdale BC)
Sue Hannah (Broughton PC)	Lynda Walker (Keswick TC)
Christine Poate (Lorton PC)	Paul Titley (Keswick TC)
Peter Hunter (Thursby PC)	Ron Salmon (Oughterside PC)
Kathryn Mitchell (Lowseswater PC)	Yvette Kahane (Buttermere PC)
Hilary Harrington (Workington TC)	Doug Coyle (CCC)
Mike Johnson (Boltons PC/Allerdale BC)	Marion Fitzgerald (Allerdale B C)
Alan Daniels (Keswick TC/Allerdale BC)	Helen Barlow (Thursby PC)
Ray McCreadie (Thursby PC)	Tim Cartmell (Caldbeck PC)
Joanne Collins (Plumbland PC)	Jim Lister (CCC/Allerdale BC)
Elaine Lynch (Wigton T C /Allerdale BC)	Penny Poole (Blindbothel PC)
Janet Mansfield (Allhallows PC)	Alexandra Boardman
Anthony Lane	

**Announcement and Apologies**

Chris Shaw (Calc Liaison Officer for Allerdale said in the absence of a chair he would lead on Part one. He said he had apologies from Michael Milner (Lowseswater pc) David Burn (Keswick TC) Above Derwent PC and Borrowdale PC

### **Part One**

#### **Allerdale Calc General Meeting**

##### **a. Chair**

The liaison officer said that members would recall that at the annual meeting there were no nominations for the position of chair. He said subsequently Roger Hart (Allonby pc) had been nominated. The nomination was seconded and no other nominations were received. Roger Hart was elected chair of the Allerdale district of Cumbria Association of local councils.

##### **b) District executive committee**

The liaison officer said members would recall that at the annual meeting there were no nominations to sit on the executive committee. He said that Mary Bradley (Broughton PC) had now been nominated. The nomination was seconded and agreed. The liaison officer said that Mary Bradley would now take a seat on the working party in Allerdale to consider



whether a community siting partnership for a Geological Disposal Facility in Allerdale should be formed. (see item 5 main meeting)

## **2 Update on holding parish/town council's meetings and Transparency regulations**

The liaison officer said that the coronavirus regulations that permitted councils to hold meetings virtually expired on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 but to date the government had not said whether or not they would be extended. He said the National Association and the Local Government Association were pressing for the regulation to be renewed. He would keep local councils aware of information as it became available. So far as the transparency regulations were concerned members would be aware that all councils with a turnover of £25k and below were required to publish on a free to air public website certain information. He said that county associations had the responsibility to ensure that all councils met the regulations and he would provide a report to the county executive in March 2021. He would contact clerks in due course. He was asked and agreed to recirculate the information that was necessary.

### **Part two**

#### **Joint Meeting**

Chair

It was agreed that Chris Shaw would chair the meeting

## **3 Minutes of the September 2020 meeting and any matters arising.**

The chair said that the main agenda contained all the relevant issues save the Allerdale Community Lottery item. Marion Fitzgerald said it was proving to be a success and to date £42k had been raised for the organisations that had signed up. Ian Hinde (ABC) said that the website [www.allerdalelottery.com](http://www.allerdalelottery.com) was on a link from the borough council website where full details of the lottery could be found and tickets could be purchased on line.

**It was agreed to take item 7 next but the note will show the matter in the order of the agenda.**

## **4. Local Government Reorganisation**

Marion Fitzgerald said that on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 Allerdale and Copeland forwarded a joint submission to the minister which meant there were 4 submissions before him. Allerdale borough council favoured an east/west split with ABC /CBC and Carlisle as one unitary authority with Eden South Lakeland and Barrow as the second unitary authority with a combined authority with a mayor being formed. She said that there were other proposals with Carlisle and Eden wanting a north/south split with Allerdale the third northern council and the other three districts forming the southern unitary whilst Barrow and South Lakeland wanted to team up with Lancaster City. The fourth option was single unitary authority for the whole of Cumbria which was the county council submission. She said all the submissions were on the various district and county council websites. Tony Markley said that the position had been set out and it was now a question of waiting for the minister to respond after which a public consultation would take place. A question was asked on how any

change would impact on town and parish councils. Mike Johnson said that he thought the new unitary authority would be open to discussing what devolution to the town and parish councils could be undertaken whilst accepting that they would remain as the authority for statutory services.

## **5 Nuclear Waste Geological Disposal Facility**

Marion Fitzgerald said that on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 a working group had been formed in Allerdale to consider this issue. It follows the setting up of a working group in Copeland but there was a significant difference. In Copeland the borough council had itself forward as an interested party. That was not the case in Allerdale where a third party was the interested party but the local authority was invited to join the working group. They didn't have to do so but believed that being at the table they would be understand the position as it moved forward. She was clear that it did not mean that the borough council were offering to host a GDF but it had to be accepted that the vast majority of the high-level waste was already in West Cumbria and so the district council had an obvious interest. Marion gave details of the present membership and how the working group would operate. She said the initial search area would cover the whole of Allerdale outside the LDNPA boundaries with undersea as a possibility for the actual GDF with surface facilities in Allerdale. She said there would be a major effort to engage the public during the lifetime of the working party to see whether there is a possible site that was suitable but also a potential willing community that was prepared to take the discussion further. No commitments are taken by the working party which would cease to exist if a community partnership was formed. She said even if a community partnership was formed it would be open to that partnership to end any involvement. It was noted that the county council had declined to be members of the working group but would be kept informed of activities. The chair said that Calc would be members of the working party given that there were no specific search areas but should a community partnership be formed to look at specific areas then there was an expectation that the local town and or parish council would be directly involved. Finally, she said that there was an independent chair and that RWM were committed to work with the local authority in whatever form it was after potential reorganisation

## **6. Principal authorities budget consultation**

Marion Fitzgerald spoke about the pressure all local councils were under with a significant drop in income and reduced revenue support from central government which is likely to end in the next two to three years. It did mean that the council had to take a more commercial view. She said that over the last eight years revenue support had dropped from £4.8 million to less than half a million. Now over 80% of income came from fees and charges rents investments council taxes and business rates. She said that whilst the borough council were the collecting authority less than 10% came to ABC with the county council and the police commissioner's office absorbing the remainder. She said that at band d a council tax of £1960 resulted in £174 coming to the borough council. Marion spoke about the savings made and the duties undertaken especially with the addition of extra work caused by the epidemic. She said that following extensive discussion it had been agreed to raise the council tax element for ABC by £5.00 at band d. which would raise an estimated £154k.

Lizzie Shaw spoke about the county council budget consultation which closed on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 but the documents were still on the website and set out in detail the problems encountered and the savings that had to be made. The final decisions would be taken at full council in February 2021 but the recommendation was to increase the council tax by 1.99% to raise £5 million.

### **7 State of the B5300 (Maryport to Silloth) and plans**

The chairman introduced Doug Coyle the county council officer who took the meeting through his presentation on the Cumbria Coastal Strategy (It was circulated following the meeting). Doug Coyle touched on funding during his presentation and said that initially Defra would fund up to 80% if the assessment proved through a business case that the project should go to design and construction. It may then be necessary to see the remaining funding through local government or the LEP. At this point Paul Titley (Keswick T C) queried the economic case. Doug Coyle said there would be funding up front to allow the council to prove their case and that is what will happen. Tony Markley said that the road was within his division and he would fight tooth and nail to ensure it remained, as it was, an important route up the Solway Coast. Dealing with the area around the Workington steel works the question was asked whether Network rail were involved. The answer was yes.

### **8 Covid Restrictions and work of the district response group**

The chairman said he normally joined this meeting which was held each Tuesday on behalf of Calc and it was clear that some magnificent work had been undertaken both by the public authorities and volunteer groups with a representative from Cockermouth appearing on Northern News television. Lizzie Shaw gave examples where volunteer groups in Workington had assisted when issues surrounding care homes had emerged. She said that the newsletter had reverted to a weekly publication because of the many events at present. There was concern that the response groups in Cumbria as a whole were finding difficulty in getting to that part of the population that were not used to asking for assistance. Lizzie referred to concurrent events and the need for an emergency plan to cover other issues such as bad weather and flooding. She said that DWP had provided a lump sum grant to each district council area for assistance to vulnerable adults and Allerdale had received £39k. The information on this issue was to be included in the newsletter

The chairman closed the meeting thanking all for attending

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm

**Notes of Keswick Ministries Town Liaison Forum  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021**



**Attendees:** Lynda Walker, Marcus Campbell-Savours, Vanessa Metcalfe, Charles Hope, Katie Callon, Sophie Tinnion-Davies, Chris Winter, Steph Davis-Johnson, David Sawday, Sarah Robinson, Murray Lawrie & Simon Overend (Chair).

1. **Welcome & apologies:** Apologies had been received from Duncan Miller, Adam Paxon, Joe Bloomfield, Andy Murphie, Laura McClellan – moved to new role serving different area with the County. Appreciation expressed to Lynda Walker for her friendship and support as she retires from her Town Clerk role in March. Chris Winter welcomed to his first meeting. Sophie welcomed back from maternity leave.
2. **Notes from previous meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Agreed with no matters arising not covered by the agenda.
3. **No agenda items raised by invitees.**
4. **Situation report and updates from forum representatives:**
  - a. **Town council** – still meeting on-line; handling challenges around the operation of the parks; seeking advice from LDNP around handling visitor numbers.
  - b. **KTA** – good level of self-catering bookings for later in the year. Many BnB's not yet taking bookings.
  - c. **Police** – we should get some clarity and guidance from the PM's planned statement on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.
5. **Updates from KM:**
  - a. **Derwent Project update - including Phase 1 works in progress; future use of the building. Favourable dialogue with LDNP, Cumbria Tourism and others:** There has been significant progress on the refurbishment of the former Pencil Factory, using many local contractors. Phase 1 refurbishment of the ground floor and M&E is underway with the plan that the ground floor is then usable for Convention in the summer. Phase 2 to bring the first and second floors into use will then commence in the autumn, subject to funding. Planning permission to be sought to add a mezzanine level above the rear lean-to; this will provide a more flexible space on the top floor. As mentioned previously, the packing warehouse is currently being retained and will be used as the main venue this year. Encouraging conversations have been held with the organisers of the Mountain Festival, Cumbria Tourism, Allerdale and LDNP, who all see the facilities as being a great asset to the town and wider economy bringing new business and extending the season. It is hoped that spaces will be lettable by 2023. Marcus asked about the idea of a bridge from the Crosthwaite Road end of Fitz Park to the Pencil Factory site, saying that he and others would be supportive. As shared at the December meeting, in answer to a similar question from Duncan Miller, David shared that KM was keen to take this forward, but had felt some discouragement from the Town Council when the proposal was first raised. It would cost c.£1/4m and funds would need to be raised.
  - b. **Teaching & Training Events:** These continue to be held on-line, with a number introduced to address challenges and opportunities raised by the pandemic.
  - c. **Keswick Convention 2021 – plans for three-week event working with Covid restrictions e.g. social distancing; liaising with and submitting documentation to county led Safety Advisory Group:** Simon shared the current thinking and the site plan which shows the packing warehouse as the main venue with two marquees providing additional capacity and helping facilitate social distancing. Marcus encouraged KM to communicate clearly around the actions being taken to manage numbers and keep the event and town safe e.g. ticketing. In response to an offer from the police, it was agreed that consistent multi-agency communications are important. It might be appropriate to arrange further meetings after the PM's 22<sup>nd</sup> February statement.

**6. Next meeting – 2.00pm Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May.**



**Lake District  
National Park**

26 February 2021

Dear Councillor

As the Government has now set out its roadmap for easing lockdown in England, I would like to update you on our further efforts to support the multi-agency approach towards visitor management in preparation for the easing of lockdown. The pressures created by COVID-19 on the National Park, and also other areas of beauty around the UK, have been, and will continue to be, considerable, as many people have had to defer their normal holiday plans and have chosen to visit Britain's National Parks for the vital health and well-being benefits it brings. Our role has been to balance these many different pressures; supporting our communities, re-building the vital tourism economy, and supporting national health and well-being.

In October 2020, the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) team wrote a review of all the challenges that we had experienced, dealt with, and would have to deal with in the future. This review was formed into a Tactical Visitor Management Action Plan (TVMAP) that has been contributed to very widely, including being shared with Lake District Town and Parish Councils via my last letter of 23 December 2020. The Action Plan has resulted in a number of key outcomes that will directly improve the situation in 2021.

- 1. Formation of a Tactical Visitor Management Group.** This action plan is governed by a new multi-agency group called the Tactical Visitor Management Group. This is chaired by Cumbria Police and LDNPA and has all the District Councils, Cumbria County Council, Highways England, the National Trust, Forestry England, Cumbria LEP and Cumbria Tourism. This group is a sub group of the Cumbria Resilience Forum and is able to call forwards tactical support from all agencies to help deliver the agreed actions. It meets weekly and is the first group of its type that is directly focussed on welcoming, managing and mitigating visitor pressures.
- 2. Geographic Pressure Zone Plans.** In areas of exceptional pressure, specific multi-agency plans are currently being finalised. These include bespoke solutions for areas that need them. Affected Parish/Town Councils will be engaged in this process once the plans are initially agreed by TVMG.

- 3. Car Park Delivery Group – Extra Car Parking.** An existing multi-agency group has been adjusted to specifically tackle identified areas of parking deficit in the Lakes. They have built on the successes of 2020, where the number of spaces in the summer was boosted by around 20%, to further increase this with an expectation of further additional capacity for peak times in Spring and Summer 2021.
- 4. Education.** The LDNPA are working with other National Parks and other agencies to refresh the Countryside Code and to talk about litter awareness. We are aware that this won't be totally successful so this is also backed up by further litter management which we come onto below.
- 5. Attract and Disperse.** We will also be launching new 'Attract and Disperse Communications' in conjunction with Cumbria Tourism to endeavour to educate visitors that there are more places in the Lakes than just Windermere and Keswick. This is a detailed strategy that also includes capitalising on the declaration of 2021 as being the Cumbria's Year of Coast. As part of this work, the multi-agency team are also taking forward a Motorhome Action Plan encouraging users toward the coastal and Pennine routes, thereby trying to help alleviate the pressures within the Lakes.
- 6. Traffic Management.** We are working with Cumbria County Council, Highways England and Cumbria Tourism to better inform visitors about areas that have capacity. Our Safer Lakes website will display real time information on how busy car parks are and all agencies will be tasked with sharing this information. Within communities, temporary signage is being explored to better improve the flow to car parks that normally have under-utilised capacity that are being forgotten about. If all this fails, the Car Park Delivery Group is working to ensure that irresponsible parking is enforced against, whether on the highway or in car parks.
- 7. Kickstart Staff.** The National Park has engaged with the Government Kickstart scheme and we will be deploying welcome hosts to key car parks, supported by our Safer Lakes Team. These Welcome Hosts will help to keep areas tidy, will welcome and inform visitors and will also be able to call for help when needed from ourselves or other agencies.
- 8. Volunteers.** The LDNPA are also progressing our plans to deploy significant numbers of visitor management volunteers to key locations to both improve visitor experience and to reduce community tensions / impacts. In specific areas of volunteer need, our Volunteer's Manager, Chris Wingrove, may be in touch with your Town/Parish Council to ask for your support in identifying local volunteers who could support this activity. If there is a specific contact in your Town/Parish Council to whom Chris could report to in the first instance, please let him know via email [Chris.Wingrove@lakedistrict.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Wingrove@lakedistrict.gov.uk) or telephone 01539 792606.
- 9. Enforcement Group.** An enforcement group now meets every week to manage the **COVID rules and how these are enforced.** Police, LDNPA, District Councils, CCC, Military, BTP and Environmental / Public Health Officers are all present and target their resources at pressure points. The enforcement group will continue to act on intelligence to educate and enforce the rules.

**10. The Safer Lakes Team.** Last year we formed the Safer Lakes Team. This is a combination of 8 paid LDNPA officers and over 100 volunteers who help us to target assistance to anywhere that is under pressure. This team has been refined over the winter and we have recruited to it further to support the challenges that lay ahead. If you encounter any issues you can email [CVAAlerts@LakeDistrict.gov.uk](mailto:CVAAlerts@LakeDistrict.gov.uk). This is monitored from 07:00 – 22:30 every day and we will task our team, or a partner agency if issues are identified. Our Safer Lakes Teams now patrol every day, simply looking after communities and the visitors to which they play host.

**11. Signage.** The LDNPA has installed over 12,000 temporary signs in communities, including providing thousands to local businesses. These signs remind visitors and residents about the importance of social distancing, etc. We are refreshing these and they will be deployed following the 'Lockdown Ending roadmap' to ensure they account for implications arising regarding public health messaging. For printable posters and signs as well as links to other information, please visit the relevant pages of our website at <https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

**12. Camping.** Our farming officer, with the assistance of NFU, has been working with farmers throughout Cumbria to see if additional temporary camping sites can be brought forward. Again this will help to disperse visitors but will also assist with moving on fly campers to organised sites.

These are just a few examples of the work we have been coordinating ahead of the 2021 visitor season. We are mindful that there will be a period where the stay at home messaging ceases before our tourism attractions are able to open to welcome and absorb visitors, and it is probably true to say that things will be far from perfect and that issues, some quite difficult, will arise, but we are in a better position and far better prepared than at the end of lockdown last year. While we share the concerns raised by our visitor economy, especially after "losing" a second Easter Holiday, we also remain very mindful that the Lake District is a place where people live, work and bring up their families

I hope this briefing is helpful and I will endeavor to keep you updated over the coming months. In the meantime I hope that you stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully



**Michael McKinley**

Chairman

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