

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held remotely using the Zoom app on Thursday 18th 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 21st 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:

Plan Ref:	Description of Development Location
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> SUPPORT
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"> 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> 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> SUPPORT
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:

Business Name	Details of Application Location
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> OBJECT
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> SUPPORT

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 15th January 2021 – 11th 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 22nd 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 19th and 26th January and 2nd and 9th February 2021.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

Chairman

Date