

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL
SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE
Selflessness – Integrity – Objectivity – Accountability – Openness – Honesty - Leadership

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council to be held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Keswick on Thursday 17th August 2023 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
 Councillor Steve Harwood

Councillors

Louise Dunn	Chris Houghton	Claire Houghton
Denstone Kemp	Sally Lansbury	Benita Laphorn
Jean Murray	Adam Paxon	Lorraine Taylor

Also present was Vivien Little (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), one member of the press, and seven members of the public.

77. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nelson and Parsons.

78. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 20 July 2023 (pages 14-17).

79. Requests for Dispensations

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

80. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Taylor made a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to planning application 7/2023/2128 as she was related to the applicants. She would leave the room for this item.

81. Police Report

RECEIVED the report of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team. PCSO Liam Forrester was in attendance at the meeting, and answered questions from Councillors relating to graffiti, vehicles in the Market Square, and the one way system on St Johns Street, engagement with holiday let agencies over anti-social behaviour, Street display licenses for displays at ground level and raising general visibility in Keswick.

82. Matters to be received from the Public

A number of members of the public spoke with regard to busking in the Market Square. One member of the public brought up that not all buskers followed the Code of Conduct, and some were allegedly malicious and violently aggressive, though that was the view of the speaker. The member of the public wished that Keswick Town Council would do more to enforce the 'no amplification' rule.

The Clerk pointed out that while Keswick Town Council had drawn up the Code of Conduct, it was a voluntary Code of Conduct, and that the Town Council had no powers to enforce the no amplification rule. She then stated she had been working with officers at Cumberland Council to try and move things forward, and if any busker felt threatened they should contact the police.

Two other members of the public had the opposing view, and found that buskers were a nuisance in the town, and wished they could be limited. The previous members of the Town Council couldn't do anything, and Keswick Town Council should have some responsibility for the town.

Councillor Lansbury responded that a lot of work had gone on in the background on a co-ordinated approach, but the situation had become worse following lockdown, and that there was a number of nuisances in Keswick, not only buskers, but also unauthorised street traders.

Another member of the public felt that they were receiving no benefit from Keswick Town Council as they meant well, but there was no progress being made.

Councillor Campbell-Savours (Cumberland Council) requested to speak, and stated that he was working with senior legal people both during his time at Allerdale Borough Council, and at Cumberland Council, and that the process had got stuck; he was hoping to follow this through.

It was noted that both the Market Square and area of land at Lower Lake Road fell under the jurisdiction of Cumberland Council, not Keswick Town Council.

Councillor Kemp arrived at 7.09pm

83. Matters to be raised by Councillors

Councillor Lansbury introduced the Project Manager at Keswick Community Emergency Response Partnership (who was in attendance), and requested that Councillors consider becoming volunteers for events such as flooding. There would also be a tour of the Mountain Rescue Multi Agency response room arranged for all Councillors in mid September.

84. Applications for Development

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

Plan Ref.	Description of Development Location
7/2023/2075	Internal change of use of garage to habitable room. Extension into rear garden. New pitched roof in place of flat roof over previous extension. New weatherboard cladding to existing extension Beechings Folly, Brundholme Road, Keswick, CA12 4NL <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
7/2023/2126	Single storey rear extension and two storey side extension to dwelling following approval of application 7/2022/2198 The Rowans, Ambleside Road, Keswick, CA12 4DN <i>No comments made</i> SUPPORT
7/2023/2128	Change of use to a dwelling house 15, Ambleside Road, Keswick, CA12 4DL <i>The statement accompanying this application – item 5 is incorrect. This property is currently advertised for holiday letting on Sykes Cottages, My Cottage holidays, Lakes Cottage holidays and Booking.com web sites and has been used in this way for some time. Consequently, this should be a 'Change of Use' application and not a Certificate of Lawfulness</i>

- 7/2023/2129 First floor balcony to side extension
St John's House, St John's Street, Keswick, CA12 5AP
No comments made
SUPPORT
- 7/2023/2134 Change of use to one flat
6a St. Johns Street, Keswick, CA12 5AX
No comments required
- 7/2023/2142 Change of use from guesthouse/holiday let to C3 residential dwelling
(family home).
14, Ambleside Road, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4DL
No comments made
SUPPORT

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

Councillor Taylor left the meeting at 7.40pm, and returned at 7.42pm

- 85. Mayor's Report**
RECEIVED details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 14 July 2023 – 10 August 2023.
- 86. Correspondence from Above Derwent Parish Council**
Consideration was given to the correspondence from Above Derwent Parish Council.
RESOLVED that Keswick Town Council support this approach from Above Derwent Parish Council, and that the Clerk respond to the letter received (Action – Clerk)
- 87. Reports from Ward Representatives**
RECEIVED reports from the following representatives:
- i) Cumberland Council – Councillor Campbell-Savours informed Councillors about the Community Panels which had been set up by Cumberland Council, and encouraged Councillors to respond to the survey which would be sent out to find out what the priorities of the panel should be. He encouraged respondents to be as ambitious as possible.
- He also gave an update on the Thirlmere Road (the U7003). There was an informal consultation taking place with a view to drawing up a TRO to close it, however given the number of signatories in support of it remaining open, it could be possible to get the road reopened.
- With regard to traffic travelling the wrong way on St John's Street, with people ignoring the one way signage, Councillor Campbell-Savours intended to arrange a meeting with the Leader of the Council on site. While altering the pavements etc was part of what the Keswick Transport Study had concluded, there was currently no funding in place, however there could be a time when government funding could be applied for, so it was important to have a plan in place.
- The damaged benches in Market Square would all be repaired on Monday by Cumberland Council.
- ii) LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative – **RECEIVED** the report of the North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative.

- iii) It was requested that the Clerk ask the representative to attend the next Town Council meeting (Action – Clerk)

88. Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts for August 2023 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payments (Action – RFO)

- I) For the Town Council, vouchers 95 - 105 amounting to £38,268.27 (thirty eight thousand two hundred and sixty eight pounds and twenty seven pence)
- II) For the Trusts, vouchers HP65 – FP82 amounting to £47,093.19 (forty seven thousand and ninety three pounds and nineteen pence)

89. Visitor Management Working Group

Consideration was given to a report from the Clerk.

RESOLVED that:

- i) The Terms of Reference for the Visitor Management Working Group be accepted; and
- ii) That the temporary toilets be removed from the start of the Keswick to Threlkeld trail at the end of September, to allow for publicity to take place, and that this information be communicated to Park Run (Action – Clerk).

90. Clerk's Report

Consideration was given to a report from the Clerk.

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.

91. Consultation

Consideration was given to notification of a telecoms installation.

RESOLVED that the Planning Group prepare a response to the notification (Action – Clerk).

The meeting closed at 8.27 p.m.


Chairman

21.09.2023
Date