

LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting held on 28th September 2020 at The Beehive, University of Cumbria Ambleside Campus at 6pm

- PRESENT: Cllr L Waterhouse (In the Chair), B. Hewitt, Mrs E. Footit L. Johnson (in the Beehive) Mrs J. Birkett, W. Clark, Mrs G. Hodkinson, N.C. Martin, P. Martyn, C. Shepherd, P Simpson, P.Truelove and P. Wileman (in virtual reality).
- IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Mrs Vicky Hughes (South Lakeland District Councillor) (in reality)
- APOLOGIES: Cllr P.A.Thompson, Mrs V Rees. Cllr Malcolm Lamb
- ALSO: M A. Johnson (Beehive), Suzanne Pender (reality) and Jane Renouf (Beehive).

12 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the following meetings were approved:

- Council meeting held on 6th July 2020.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Mrs Waterhouse declared an interest in all Planning and on the agenda item relating to Waterhead Marine. Cllr Martin declared an interest in Orders for Payment. There were no other declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

14 MATTERS OF INFORMATION FROM AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 12

Cllr Truelove said that the Ghyllside Barn certificate of lawfulness application at Grasmere had been refused.

15. FINANCE

- a. RESOLVED – To agree the 22 Orders for Payment for October in the sum of £17621.99 and to confirm the Orders for Payment circulated by email and approved for August and September 2020. The Finance Officer will show the VAT separate from the net figures on the Orders for Payment.
- b. RESOLVED – To agree to meet the cost of repair and installation of the damaged 'Ambleside' metal sign on Rothay Bridge. Cllr Johnson said he is highly impressed with the standard of repair and installation.
- c. RESOLVED - To receive the joint report from the Clerk/RFO and Finance Officer on the COVID-19 impact on Council finances.
- d. RESOLVED – To agree to extend the COVID-19 Emergency powers granted to the Clerk to act on any urgent Council matter after consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK.

One person spoke on Covid testing for University students who had recently come back into the Village. The Clerk will make enquiries with the Campus Manager.

The Meeting was RECONVENED

Cllr Hewitt IN THE CHAIR

16. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. 7/2020/5506 Kitchen Garden, Wansfell Holme, Windermere
New vehicle access from A591 – No Objections

2. 7/2020/5513 The Shielings, Holbeck Ghyll, Windermere
Alterations to fenestration and new decking – No Objections

3. 7/2020/5541 Land between White Moss car park and woodland to south west
Ambleside

Proposed Forest road - The Council comment is that this application, if granted, it should be closely monitored as it may be used to facilitate camping or other activities in the area and not specifically forestry.

4. 7/2020/5553 1 Gale Crescent, Lower Gale, Ambleside

Extension and alterations to existing outbuilding to form two storey annexe (following withdrawal of planning application 7/2020/5395) – Refusal on the grounds that this may be in contravention of Policy CS14 (public footpaths) and CS03 (open market housing). It will result in the closure of a public footpath to enable the building work to take place, it will result in increased parking in High Gale and is generally overbearing and unneighbourly.

5. 7/2020/5569/5570 Golden Rule, Smithy Brow, Ambleside

Amendments to one rear window and replaced with new glazed door and erection of rear metal fire escape. – No Objections

Cllr Mrs Waterhouse IN THE CHAIR

17 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

A. From the Chairman – The Chairman said that she had spoken to Cllr Mrs Rees who has been poorly but keeps in touch with Council matters. Mrs Sowerbutts is now home after a spell in a care home, there has been a lot of people about in the National Park over the summer and LDNPA has increased patrols especially to deal with issues such as at Hodge Close and Stang End however as the weather has now turned this problem may ease.

B. From the Clerk – The Clerk reported that the Library will reopen on October 23rd but only on Mondays and Fridays. He will be meeting with County Council Officers to discuss how this will impact on the operations of Lakes Parish Office and meeting room. SLDC are making a discretionary grant towards the losses sustained by the Parish Council due to the COVID-19 emergency.

C From Members

a. Councillor Johnson commended Jane Renouf for her extensive interesting press reporting of local issues.

b. Cllr Mrs Hodgkinson commended the Parish Steward, Peter Ross, for the work he had done at Rydal. She said the bus layby had now been marked out and this had alleviated the parking problems previously experienced.

D. From District Councillors - Councillor Mrs Hughes had nothing to report

E. From the County Councillor – Councillor Clark reported on local issues and the communication liaison team who had done a good job during this COVID emergency.

18. TO AGREE A DISPENSATION FOR COUNCILLORS AFFECTED BY THE COVID EMERGENCY

The Local Government Act 1972 states that when a Council Member fails to attend any meeting for six consecutive months from the date of his or her last attendance then he or she ceases to be a member of the Authority unless the Council accepts a reason for the failure to attend before the six month period expires. Council are therefore asked to agree that the Covid19 emergency is an acceptable reason for vulnerable Councillors not to attend.

The recommendation is to grant a Dispensation to Cllr Mrs Vivienne Rees (last meeting January 2020) to be reviewed in January 2021.

RESOLVED That the Council agree to grant the necessary Dispensation to Cllr Mrs Rees and this be reviewed in January 2021.

19. AMBLESIDE CCTV

The Clerk had circulated a report from Tellemachus on the CCTV installation proposed for Ambleside.

RESOLVED To discontinue any further action on this due to the COVID emergency impact on Council finances and also the ongoing costs which are double the original estimate. The £6000 grant given by the PCC towards the cost of implementation will be returned.

20. LAKELAND MINIATURE VILLAGE

Deferred due to the apology received from Cllr Thompson

21. LDNPA DECISION TO GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION AT AMBLESIDE MARINE FOR HOLIDAY LETS, PARKING AND 47 BERTHS ON WINDERMERE

Cllr Truelove said that the initial report of Highways was for refusal on highway safety grounds, however this recommendation had been withdrawn at a late stage but with the recommendation that there be no temporary closures of the A591 during the construction phase. The Planning Officer, in her report to LDNPA Development Control Committee, stated that this restriction was considered unreasonable. Cllr Truelove considers this as perverse being a statement coming from someone with no transport qualifications. Any temporary closure or traffic light control of the A591 at this point will have a massive impact on traffic and particularly local people. Other issues raised were highway safety for boat owners crossing the A591, the innovative turntables at each holiday let for turning cars to face the A591, the cycle route question and inadequate car parking for the 47 berths proposed.

RESOLVED That the Clerk write in the first instance to LDNPA CEO highlighting the concerns of the Parish Council and invite a response. Consequent upon this reply, then the Clerk take all measures possible to highlight the perversity of the planning consent with its potential impact on the lives of people living in Lakes Parish and also visitors to central Lakeland. The Parish Council wish to tell the world that it had nothing to do with this consent and raise the issue with CALC plus the local and national press. The Clerk will also write to the relevant Minister and the Planning Inspectorate.

22. TREE WORKS

7/2020/0016 Broadgate Meadow Grasmere – Fell Cherry Tree adjacent to footpath due to stem defects

7/2020/0122 Archies, Wansfell Road, Ambleside – Remove 3 Conifers

No Observations

23. PLANNING DECISIONS

7/2019/5761 – Waterhead Marine Holiday lets, parking and 47 berths – Approved

7/2020/5197 – Grasmere Garden Centre – single unit warehouse – Approved

7/2020/5295 – High Green Lodge Troutbeck – amend design – Approved

7/2020/5333 – Shoe Craft House Ambleside – Change of use from Betting shop to hot food takeaway – Approved

7/2020/5361 – Chesters by the River – enlarge decking and alterations – Approved

7/2020/5149 – Wordsworth Hotel Grasmere – additional hotel facilities – Approved

7/2020/5430 – Garden House, Kelbarrow Grasmere – external lift – Approved

7/2020/5441 – Gatesgarth Belle Vue Lane Ambleside – external stairs – Approved

7/2020/5443 – Ambleside Salutation Hotel – partial enclosure of veranda – Approved

7/2020/5395 – 1 Gale Crescent Ambleside – extensions and alterations – Withdrawn

7/2020/5401 – Former Edmondson Chapel of Rest Ambleside – holiday let - Withdrawn

The Chairman MOVED Part 2 on the grounds of Confidentiality of the business to be transaction – this was carried unanimously

24. CLERK SUCCESSION PLANNING

The Clerk submitted a report on the proposed succession from himself to the Clerk Designate

RESOLVED To agree the plan for succession and adopt the recommendations contained within the report.

25. WHITE PLATTS

The Council reviewed the operation of White Platts during the COVID-19 Emergency.

RESOLVED - That a Performance Monitoring Task Group be formed reporting monthly to the Finance Committee. That the Task Group comprise the Vice Chairman, the Clerk Designate, Mr Gudgeon and one other nominated Councillor.

The Meeting closed at 7.15pm