



# WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

*Representing the interests of the communities of Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge*

## Minutes of the Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7pm via Zoom online

Minute No	
	<p><b>Present:</b> Mayor John Saunders (in the Chair), Deputy Mayor Sandra Lilley, Cllrs Mr Adrian Legge, Mrs Jenny Borer, Mr Peter Cook, Mr Leith Hallatsch, Mrs Christine Hallatsch, Mr Ian Telford, Mrs Christine Cook, Marina Davis, Catherine Musetti, Mrs Lisa Greasley, Mrs Kate Tripp, Tim Shearer, Grania Nicholson. Also: Mrs Julie Hartley (Town Clerk) SLDC/CCC Councillors: Ben Berry, Kevin Holmes, Jim Bland. There was one member of the public in attendance. The meeting opened at 7pm.</p>
209.	<p><b>Apologies and absence:</b> Cllrs Mike Stafford, Fiona Wilkinson, Magda Khan, Alan Hands, Peter Hamilton.</p>
210.	<p><b>Minutes:</b> The minutes of the Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 be signed as a true record.</p>
211.	<p><b>Planning sub-committee Minutes:</b> The planning minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October were noted.</p>
212.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> NONE</p>
213.	<p><b>Requests for Dispensations:</b> None received</p>
214.	<p><b>Item to be taken in private session:</b> Council agreed that the item on public toilets during the 2<sup>nd</sup> lock-down period be taken in private at the end of the meeting as some of the content is commercial in confidence.</p>
215.	<p><b>Public Input:</b> An email from Vikki Bolton (Windermere Park for All secretary), who also attended the meeting, was read out by the Clerk. It gave background to the formation of the Windermere Park for All campaign and fundraising, to make improvements on Queen's Park. The aim is to refurbish the park, improve accessibility and provide activities for teenagers. It has been a long road of meetings and consultation to get to the current position but there have been some big wins with funding secured from the National Lottery, SLDC, Sam's Club, Frieda Scott and the Holehird Trust as well as lots of smaller examples of community fundraising, sponsored runs and the elf trail. It has been quite a challenge, but the group is now only £24,000 away from having all funding in place before the fast approaching deadline of February 2021. The item on the agenda tonight, which considers releasing £20,000 of funding not only is the lion's share of what is needed but it also unlocks the other near £150,000 which has been pledged if the February fund-raising deadline can be reached. Thank-you to the Town Council for considering the grant and we know you will be incredibly proud of what we can achieve.</p>

Signed as a true and accurate record:



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216.	<p><b>Mayor &amp; Member Updates:</b></p> <p>Cllr Sandra Lilley laid the wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of Town Council and also wished to thank the Winter Lights committee for their efforts in erecting the lights this year. Cllr Leith Hallatsch was pleased to report that, after some early confusion, there are now some up and coming CALC meetings which he will attend via Zoom.</p> <p>Cllr Adrian Legge was disappointed at the confusion over the date for wreath laying at the War Memorial - many were laid on Sunday and other organisations had been informed Monday. He will follow this up with the British Legion.</p> <p>Cllr Christine Hallatsch praised the children of St Cuthberts school for the display of painted stones laid at the War Memorial.</p> <p>Mayor Saunders reported back on the 2021 Visitor planning meeting he had attended with National Trust, SLDC, CCC, Windermere Lake Cruises with a further meeting planned in December, to practically evaluate further car &amp; bus parking options. He will welcome any input from Town Councillors with ideas as to potential parking areas.</p>
217.	<p><b>District &amp; County Councillors' reports:</b></p> <p>Cllr Ben Berry had 2 items to report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Windermere Park for All. Thank-you for the support given so far by the Town Council and hope that all Councillors have had the opportunity to look at the document that has been circulated in support of the grant funding request.</li><li>2. Local Government Reform in Cumbria. Cllr Berry explained the government's reasoning and the three options that have so far been presented.</li></ol> <p>Cllr Jim Bland updated on the work on improving Bowness Roundabout which will start in the new year. Also covered problems that have been experienced with the Windermere Ferry, due to high levels of water on the lake.</p>
218.	<p><b>Clerk's Report:</b></p> <p>The Clerk updated verbally on the consultation which is now open local government re-organisation in Cumbria, specifically the proposal from SLDC, Barrow and Lancaster to form a Unitary Authority based around Morecambe Bay. The deadline for final submissions to the Government is 9<sup>th</sup> December. The Town Council should aim to send a written response to SLDC by 30<sup>th</sup> November. The Clerk had outlined in an email how that may be achieved, by using email and the forthcoming Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group meeting as fora for debate and consolidation of Council views.</p> <p>The Clerk also reminded Councillors that interviews would be taking place for the Assistant Clerk the following day (Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November) and that 4 candidates would be interviewed. The outcome will be notified to councillors next week and approval of any appointment will be presented to Full Council on 9<sup>th</sup> December.</p>

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219.	<p><b>Elleray Woods &amp; Orrest Head Advisory Group:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Council noted and accepted the notes of the site visit and outdoor meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020.</li><li>b) Cllr Ian Telford has expressed an interest in the vacancy on the group and was proposed by Cllr Adrian Legge and seconded by Cllr Lisa Greasley. Cllr Telford was duly appointed.</li></ul>
220.	<p><b>Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group:</b></p> <p>Council noted and accepted the notes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and agreed the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The draft plans for a replacement Council meeting room and office be progressed with SLDC and the issues concerned with fixtures and fittings need to be considered and proposals agreed;</li><li>b) The draft plans for improvements at Millerground public toilets, including a changing rooms facility be further progressed with SLDC and the proposal to change the plans to locate the ladies on the outer side be put forward as an option which provides greater flexibility for future expansion;</li><li>c) Updated financial regulations be approved;</li><li>d) A grant of £250 to support Great North Air Ambulance be approved;</li><li>e) A grant application from the Cumbria Alcohol &amp; Drug Advisory Service (CADAS) is turned down on this occasion due to the fact that it asks for funding to support ongoing running costs. CADAS be asked if there are any specific projects that could be put forward for Council funding;</li><li>f) That a commitment to support the Windermere Park for All project for up to £20,000 be made and that release of any funds is to support specific items of expenditure to be invoiced as and when incurred. Conditions should be attached to this commitment that our Town Council representative on the group (Cllr Lisa Greasley) is given input into the development of the plan for the area and that the community that lives immediately around Queens Park is consulted in writing before any final plans are approved.</li><li>g) A grant of £2,200 to support the Winter Lights is approved.</li><li>h) That the Clerk is instructed to investigate the potential for the Town Council to fund its own traffic warden in busy times and report back to Policy &amp; Finance/Full Council;</li><li>i) That all councillors come forward with ideas of any further potential parking areas in Windermere &amp; Bowness directly to Mayor Saunders, prior to his next meeting with the Visitor group.</li></ul>

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221.	<b>Budget &amp; Precept 2021-22:</b> Council approved the budget outlined in the Responsible Financial Officer's report and recommended by the Policy & Finance Advisory Group, to include: a) An expenditure budget of £232,415 b) A precept of £129,280 (a 1% increase).
222.	<b>Council Diary 2021:</b> The list of meeting dates for 2021 was approved and noted.
223.	<b>Invoices for payment:</b> Councillors approved those payments listed on the agenda and the following additional payments, received since the agenda was published. Gary Hancox. Town Steward payment for work in October: £1,244.63 Berry's Garden Services: War Memorial winter planting: £234.93
224.	<b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> The following dates were noted. All meetings commence at 7pm via Zoom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Policy &amp; Finance Advisory Group: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020</li><li>• Planning sub-committee: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020</li><li>• Full Council: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020</li></ul>
	<b>The Mayor concluded the meeting in public at 8.05 pm</b>
225	<b>Public Toilet Facilities:</b> The Clerk outlined proposals for a reduced opening during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> lock-down period. This would entail 2 toilet facilities staying open at Bowness Bay and Broad Street and a reduced cleaning regime. Once lock-down is over, the toilets at Rayrigg Road will re-open and the cleaning regime will be re-instated but reduced from that of the summer. There will be a full review of the toilets facilities over the winter months, led by the newly formed Facilities Advisory Group and Assistant Clerk. Council approved these proposals as a way forward.

Signed as a true and accurate record: