

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD BY ZOOM  
ON WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7PM**

**Present:** Councillors Geoffrey Buswell (Chairman), Marie Batty, Mike Burchnall, Mike Marczynski, Allan Muirhead, Robin Ree, Sarah Tatham and Edward Waller.

**Also in attendance:** District Councillor Kevin Lancaster, six members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

**Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Storey (leave of absence).

**20/102 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

**20/103 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Buswell declared an interest in any matters relating to the allotments, Councillor Muirhead declared an interest in any matters relating to the CIC and Councillor Ree declared an interest in Planning Application 7/202/0523 (The Royal Barn, New Road).

**20/104 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2020 were agreed and signed by the Chairman, with the following addition to minute 20/91:

*'The following was resolved:*

- a. The Town Council re-iterates strongly its previously expressed view that, because of the threat of Covid-19, the pedestrian environment within the town should be as pedestrian-friendly as possible, allowing the maximum social distancing, as recognised by a survey undertaken in the summer by CCC and SLDC with the Town Council's co-operation.;
- b. The Town Council. looks to the County Council, with support from our Ward representative, County Councillor Nick Cotton, to implement a temporary lower speed limit through Kirkby Lonsdale's main streets and the temporary removal of nine parking spaces along Main Street, whilst still allowing the servicing of shops;
- c. The Town Council understands, and has advised, that Kirkby Lonsdale Chamber of Trade would not object to the temporary removal of car parking in Main Street. If CCC wishes to verify this, they should approach the Chair of the Chamber of Trade through their own officers or Councillor Cotton.

- d. Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council advises the County Council that a survey of shopkeepers adjacent to the car parking area is not considered relevant or appropriate, as the spaces are for general public use and the affected area contains a very small percentage of the considerable public parking available in the town. Should this survey be considered necessary, it should be undertaken by a CCC officer or the elected Ward member.
- e. Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council would wish to see these measures in place within the next week as the holiday season gets underway'.

**20/105 Clerk's matters:**

- a. The reply from CCC to the Council's letter (minute 20/91 refers) had been circulated to all Councillors.

It was resolved that Cumbria County Council and South Lakeland District Council be advised that:

1. The Town Council strongly reiterates its view that during the Covid 19 crisis the town centre should be as pedestrian friendly as possible, to ensure social distancing, and in particular a temporary lower speed limit and the removal of nine car parking bays along Main Street should be initiated by Cumbria County Council, in conjunction with South Lakeland District Council, whilst allowing the servicing of shops.
2. The Council is extremely concerned that despite these proposals being put forward many months ago, and agreed in principle through earlier discussions, no action has been taken and that there has been very poor communication and mixed messages from our partner local authorities.
3. As the Chamber of Trade has advised the County Council that they are in support of the proposals, as are the Town Council, the Town Council now look to the County Council to make the necessary traffic orders as soon as possible. A wider survey of shopkeepers adjacent to the car parking spaces to be temporarily removed is not considered necessary or appropriate.
4. It is clear that national and local controls are being imposed or re-imposed due to the spread of the virus. Kirkby Lonsdale is an important tourist town and as such it is important that all reasonable measures are put in place to protect residents, shopkeepers and visitors. It is incumbent on the County Council to take such action or risk the public health consequences.

A majority of Councillors voted in favour. Councillor Marczynski asked that it be recorded that he had voted against the proposition.

- b. Letters both supporting and against Planning Application 7/2020/0523 (The Royal Barn, New Road) were read in full.

**20/106 Finance:**

- a. The cash and budget statements were noted and all payments listed on the cash statement were retrospectively approved.

- b. The Annual Pay Award for the Clerk, as recommended by NALC/SLCC was agreed - a 2.75% increase backdated to 1st April 2020.
- c. The 'home working' allowance paid to the Clerk was agreed at £6 weekly (HMRC has increased the tax-free amount from £4 weekly to £6 weekly - the first increase for many years) backdated to 1st April 2020).
- d. It was resolved to contribute £2,000 (via the CIC) towards the town Christmas lights.
- e. An offer from John Short to purchase a Radar Speed Sign for Kirkby Lonsdale was agreed in principle, subject to receiving more information about it.

### **20/107 County and District Councillors:**

Councillor Lancaster said that any speed indicator may require an electricity supply and this could be costly to install. He also reiterated the decision made on Planning Application SL/2020/0261 Land at Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC, Raygarth, as recorded in minute 20/92b - one year's change of use had been granted.

### **20/108 Planning sub-group:**

*The following applications were considered:*

SL/2020/0562 4 Fairview. Demolition of existing porch and conservatory, construction of new single storey rear extension and extension to existing patio. Approval recommended.

SL/2020/0523 The Royal Barn, New Road. Variation of condition 3 (opening hours) attached to planning permission SL/2014/0254 (Change of use to brewery and visitor centre with associated café and bar).

The Council cannot support the planning application as currently proposed, as the proposed opening hours would be detrimental to residential amenity, but if the applicant were to alter the proposed hours to 2330 on Fridays and Saturdays, reflecting similar uses in the town, together with 0100 on New Year's Eve/Day, leaving the other hours unaltered, the Council would be minded to support these hours.

### **20/109 Updates:**

- a. The work to transfer the monument in the Square to the Town Council from SLDC is due to be concluded by January.
- b. With reference to the Work Programme update presented at last month's meeting, it was agreed the 'Emergency Plan' will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

### **20/110 Play Park:**

Full input and KLTC consultation was given on the Play Park Tender Brief, which now has approval to send out for design & quotation. It is anticipated that submissions will be available by end October.

Councillor Batty confirmed that the Play Partnership has been successful in securing £3,500 from a Charitable Trust to be granted once the full £40,000 funds are in place for renewal of the play park toddler area. This is excellent news and welcomed by the sub-committee, giving a boost to future fundraising.

The aerial runway (zip wire) which is well used continues to be high maintenance requiring further parts and attention this month. The situation will be monitored.

### **20/111 Website:**

The Clerk reported that the new website is in process of being set up and he is visiting A2A shortly to finalise details.

### **20/112 Disabled access in Kirkby Lonsdale:**

A submission has been made to both CCC and SLDC. A response is awaited from CCC but SLDC has indicated support where possible and requested further details.

### **20/113 SLDC Local Plan Review:**

Council Burchnall had prepared a report as a response to the SLDC Local Plan Review consultation and it was resolved to submit this as the Council's response.

### **20/114 Sandbags in Kirkby Lonsdale:**

Councillor Pye had offered, on behalf of SLDC, to make available a supply of sandbags for public use, both by businesses and residents, in order to protect their homes in the event of flooding. This was agreed in principle, subject to being able to find somewhere to store them.

### **20/115 Date of the next meeting:**

***Wednesday 14th October 2020 by ZOOM at 7pm.***

*The meeting closed at 8.40pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*