

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD BY ZOOM  
ON WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7PM**

**Present:** Councillors Allan Muirhead (Deputy Chairman, in the Chair), Geoffrey Buswell, Marie Batty, Mike Burchnall, Mike Marczynski, Robin Ree and Edward Waller.

**Also in attendance:** Helena Constantine (QES Councillor), four members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

**Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Storey (leave of absence) and Sarah Tatham and District Councillor Kevin Lancaster.

Councillor Muirhead welcomed Helena Constantine, representing QES and said the Council is pleased to re-establish regular contact with the school through a QES Councillor, who may take a full part in the proceedings, but without a vote.

**20/131 Public participation:** None.

**20/132 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2020 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**20/133 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

**20/134 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.

**20/135 Finance:**

The cash and budget statements were noted.

**20/136 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):**

Councillor Burchnall will present a full report and breakdown of the monies available, at the next meeting.

**20/137 Community Cupboard:**

Councillor Ree proposed a vote of thanks to Janet Bradshaw, the volunteers and the donors who have done such a great job, organising and running and Community Cupboard throughout the Covid crisis. This was endorsed by the Council and is recorded in the minutes.

**20/138 County and District Councillors:** None.

**20/139 Updates:**

- a. The Clerk had asked Councillor Cotton regarding the LAP monies held by this Council for many years and had asked if these could be used for unblocking of drains in the area. Initial enquiries have indicated that this may be possible, and would benefit a number of the LAP parishes, along the A683, A684, A65, and the B6254 (Kirkby Lonsdale to Old Town), B6256 (west of Sedbergh) and B6257 (Firbank). The Council agreed that problem gullies on the A65 between Kendal Road junction and Stanley Bridge could be included, but pointed out there are problems with drains outside 9 Main Street and at the Sun Hotel.
- b. Dodgson Croft Crossing. The Clerk had asked CCC why the work had not been done, as proposed, around the recent half-term school holiday. Victoria Upton (CCC) said the workload had slipped but it was expected to complete the installation by Christmas time, without the need for a road closure.
- c. Councillor Burchnall reported the Council now has a total of £11,000 funding for the CCTV cameras. Approval from the two landowners has been received but, as the Royal Hotel is a listed building, planning permission is required and this may take up to eight weeks to come through.

**20/140 Council Work programme:**

This was deferred until the next meeting.

**20/141 Local Government Reform in Cumbria:**

Councillor Burchnall had circulated his report, following meetings between SLDC Councillors, himself and Councillors Buswell and Muirhead. The following recommendation was accepted:

*'South Lakeland District Council be advised that Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council supports the creation of a new Bay Authority, combining the administrative areas of South Lakeland District Council, Barrow Borough Council and Lancaster City Council and that the Town Council's support be included in the submission being made to central government'.*

**20/142 Social Media:**

This was deferred until the next meeting.

**20/143 Disabled Access in Kirkby Lonsdale:**

Councillor Ree had circulated the 'walkaround notes' from CCC, following their survey on 14th September 2020. Further notes will be circulated by Councillor Ree to be considered at the next meeting.

#### **20/144 Ruskin's View:**

Councillor Ree reported on the recent clearance of vegetation from Ruskin's View. Because of later growth, there was further work required and a local volunteer, who is fully insured, had come forward to do this work at no cost to the Council.

Councillor Marczynski reported on the difficulties experienced in moving the Brow project forward. There appears to be no new safety issues however, following a recent visit. It is hoped that a full report, together with likely costs, can be presented at the next meeting.

#### **20/145 Memorial bench in Jubilee Park:**

A request to place a memorial bench in Jubilee Park had been received. The Council resolved to grant permission, after consultation with YDNPA.

#### **20/146 'Tree Town' project:**

The Council considered a letter from Jacqui Bastin regarding the 'Tree Town' project, which was begun by a young girl who wanted to do something to help the environment. The Council owns little available land in Kirkby Lonsdale and suggests that an approach is made by her to Underley or Rigmaden Estates, but would wish to keep in touch with any developments. Wild flowers in the town would certainly be a possibility and the Council would support this.

*(During public participation, Janet Bradshaw had indicated that the Community Cupboard would be interested in these proposals and for a community orchard/allotment to be established.*

#### **20/147 Auction Mart Yard:**

Councillor Batty reported that the Council's Appeal had been responded to by the Inspectorate and CCC is required to respond to the Council's application within 18 months.

#### **20/148 Play Park:**

Councillor Batty reported that two identical incidents has occurred recently, when fireworks had been set off in the (older) bins in the park. Despite this, the hedges have recently been cut and the area looks good.

#### **20/149 Kirkby Lonsdale Transport and Public Realm Study:**

Councillor Burchnall had circulated a paper 'Kirkby Lonsdale Transport and Public Realm Study'. It was resolved to accept the five recommendations of this report and to form a working group to take things forward. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting:

*Recommendations agreed:*

- a. The Brief as outlined in paragraph 6 above be shared with CCC Highways, County Councillor Nick Cotton, SLDC and the Kirkby Lonsdale Community Interest Company and Chamber of Trade.
- b. The Brief be amended to take on board any comments received.
- c. The resultant Brief be issued to a number of transport engineering consultants, including any that may be identified by CCC, to gauge interest and costs;
- d. In principle the Council agrees to use CIL funds to fund a consultant's study.
- e. A further report be presented to the Council once an indication of costs are known.

**20/150 Library Undercroft:**

Councillors Marczynski and Ree, together with Architect Chris Potts, had visited the Library Undercroft and an estimate of around £4,000 had been given for a survey and drawings to be produced, to outline the necessary work to make the area usable and to appoint contractors. The area could be used for Council storage, possibly as a parallel development with the CIC and a draft lease is awaited from SLDC, which owns the property.

**20/151 Planning sub-group:**

*The following application was considered:*

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 cafe and bar).

*(The Council had received one letter from a resident regarding this application, which had been circulated to all Councillors).*

The Town Council considered the revised opening hours being proposed by The Royal Barn, but takes the view that its original suggestion of a closing time for customers of 23.30 is a reasonable variation on the hours imposed by the Inspector on appeal, allowing a further 30 minutes of drinking time, followed by unlimited cleaning up time by staff. Accordingly the Council considers that the revised opening time of 23.45 should be refused given the noise and disturbance likely to be experienced by residents in the Royal House and Tram Lane.

**20/152 Date of the next meeting:**

***Wednesday 9th December 2020 by ZOOM at 7pm.***

*The meeting closed at 8.10pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*