

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD BY ZOOM  
ON WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST 2020 AT 7PM**

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

**Also in attendance:** Five members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

**Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mike Marczynski, David Storey, Sarah Tatham and Edward Waller, and District Councillors Kevin Lancaster and Suzie Pye.

**20/86 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

**20/87 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Burchnall declared an interest in the Hawkrigg planning application, 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 interested in any matters relating to the churchyard.

**20/88 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2020 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**20/89 Market Management/CIC:**

Janet Nuttall (Town and Tourism Manager) reported as follows:

- a. Following a period when the weekly market had been struggling, a new firm had been appointed to run it and their very professional approach has resulted in an increase in the number of traders. The contract is for five years, with a one-year exit clause if required. The market will continue being locally sourced wherever possible.
- b. Permission was sought, and granted, for the use of part of Ruskins View as a venue for the performance of commissioned poems on Saturday 26th September.
- c. Permission was sought, and granted, for small 'QR' codes to be used on sites around the town, telling the Vault story. A list of proposed sites was given.
- d. Financial assistance is sought towards the costs of the Christmas lights. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

## **20/90 Finance:**

- a. A quotation for maintenance work on The Brow, from Charlesworth Tree Care & Fencing Ltd in the sum of £1,344.00 including VAT, was accepted. The work cannot be started until after the nesting season at the end of September. Councillor Buswell has the key for the area.
- b. It was resolved to make a grant of £1,000 to the Kirkby Lonsdale Churchyard maintenance volunteer group.
- c. It was resolved to make a grant of £3,000 towards the further works at the Lunesdale Hall.
- d. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). It was agreed that in the next few months a meeting of the Finance, Strategy and Monitoring Group be arranged and that the group prepare and submit options to the Council for the expenditure of CIL monies and that this be in the context of a review of the Council's overall balances and programme of expenditure.

## **20/91 County and District Councillors**

In the absence of these councillors, Councillor Muirhead explained the circumstances around not yet having Covid-19 safety measures introduced in the town centre. These included signage, a temporary 20mph speed limit, and the temporary removal of nine parking spaces, while allowing for loading and unloading.

The County Council have repeatedly asked for, and been given, assurances that such measures, while not exactly welcomed, were deemed necessary in a town of relatively small shops and narrow pavements. The Chamber of Trade had been consulted about the views of local businesses.

Signage was due any time, but the Town Council was being asked to provide more detailed proof that the community as a whole did not object to temporary parking restrictions. Councillor Muirhead believed the Town Council had fulfilled their remit to present the views of the community. The Council resolved to tell the CEOs of SLDC and CCC that it was regrettable that previously agreed Covid-19 safety measures were not yet in place. If further evidence of support for these safety measures was required, it should be obtained by their own officers or elected members.

*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

**20/92 Planning sub-group:**

- a. *The following application was considered:*

Hawkrigg, Lune Valley Park, Hawkrigg, Mansergh. Change of use of land to west of existing site for the proposed siting of three additional holiday lodges with associated access, landscaping and parking.

The Council raises no objection given the small number of new lodges proposed and natural screening which is already in place. However, the Council does not consider that there is any further scope for additional lodges given that they would be in more open and visible locations and would add further to traffic movements in the area. Any further proposals are likely to be strongly objected to by the Council.

- b. SL/2019/0261 Land at Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC, Raygarth. Change of use of land to camping site from 1st May to 1st September each year - Councillor Burchnall reported on the outcome of the SLDC Planning Committee on 30th July, 2020 that this application has been approved, with conditions, for one year.

**20/93 Play Park:**

Councillor Batty updated the Council as follows:

- a. The Play Park re-opened and is being well used since lockdown restrictions have been lifted.
- b. Repairs to rope on Junior Activity have been completed and welded into place with the help of local firm Black Sheep Iron Works. The old broken rubbish bins have been removed ready for installation of new Glasdon Bins donated by the Civic Society. The zip wire parts have arrived and need fitting.
- c. The tender brief for renewal of the toddler area will be circulated and early discussions with potential funders remain positive. The play park committee plan to review tenders in late September. All should remain on track assuming no further CV-19 implications. It was agreed to re-share the brief with Russell Armer to secure agreed funding.

**20/94 Website:**

The Clerk had circulated a report on the future of the website, bearing in mind the need for compliance with the Accessibility Regulations from 22nd September. It was resolved to ask A2A of Milnthorpe to set up a website for the Town Council, fully compliant with the Accessibility Regulations, at a cost of £350 plus VAT. The Council would hope to recruit someone to 'run' the site in due course; in the meantime, A2A will be requested to upload any necessary documents. The site will have a link to the town website for tourist information etc and vice versa.

**20/95 Disabled access in Kirkby Lonsdale:**

It was resolved that Councillors Muirhead and Ree will prepare a submission to CCC and SLDC, involving partners in the town, and report back to the next meeting.

**20/96 Town Council work programme:**

It was agreed that the revised programme be noted and that any further updates passed to Councillor Burchnall; that leads for particular projects make sure that progress is being made; and that the Chair and Deputy Chair approach councillors not present at the meeting to agree a lead for the preparation of an Emergency Plan for the Town and that this be put in place over the next three months. Councillor Muirhead agreed to assist but not lead on this.

**20/97 Future of the Community Hub:**

The Council agreed to work with the existing Community Hub Coordinating Group and the CIC to establish a transfer, over time, of the telephone aspects of the Hub to the CIC Tourist Information Office and that the Town Council, the CIC and the Community Hub work closely together to establish the agreed wider Community Group to run and develop the Community Hub concept for the benefit of all the residents of the town.

**20/98 Town Meeting:**

The circulated note setting out proposals for the Town Meeting was agreed and if Councillors have further suggestions for groups that should be represented they should advise Councillor Burchnall. It was agreed that the Town Meeting should be an actual, socially distanced meeting, when circumstances allow, hopefully in the autumn. The Town Council will make the necessary arrangements.

**20/99 Haweswater Aqueduct:**

Following the discussion at the last meeting, United Utilities have received a large amount of representations. A new consultation is being launched, recommending the use of the Old Scotch Road as an alternative route.

**20/100 Clerk's matters:**

The Clerk reported on the following communications he had received since the last meeting:

- a. Queues outside the Ice Cream Parlour and Zero Pantry. This is part of a wider issue and discussions continue.
- b. Condition of Back Lane - the Clerk has reported this to CCC again.
- c. Possible signage required at Jingling Lane - this is under discussion.
- d. Wall by the War Memorial - missing stones. The Chairman had inspected it and the Clerk had reported it to the Revd. Richard Snow, who is checking whose responsibility this is.
- e. Proposed extended opening hours at the Royal Barn. This will be considered as part of a planning application at the next meeting.
- f. Condition of Mill Brow. The Clerk has reported this to CCC again.
- g. Garsdale Parish Council would like support from other affected Councils, to address the problems caused by the increased number of bikers in the area. Further developments are awaited but the general feeling is that this Council would be happy to be part of such a group.
- h. Auction Mart Yard. A review of the current standing of the case has been requested and an acknowledgement received.
- i. The Clerk reported that the waiting list for the allotments has recently increased to eight.

**20/101 Date of the next meeting:**

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

*The meeting closed at 8.40pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*