

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BECTIVE ROOM
LUNESDALE HALL, KIRKBY LONSDALE
ON WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7PM**

Present: Councillors Mike Burchnall (Chair), Isabelle Bradshaw, Geoffrey Buswell, Paul Cassell, Mike Marczynski, Braddan Quayle, Robin Ree and Madeline Williams.

Also in attendance: Molly Watson (QES Councillor) six members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Allan Muirhead and received from District Councillor Kevin Lancaster.

The Chair asked for a moment's silence to remember the life and work of Alan Day, who recently died at the age of 96. He was Chairman of this Council for a number of years and stalwart worker for many causes in the town.

The Chair noted that a draft new Maintenance Contract had been circulated but some revision is required. It was agreed that the revision can take place outside of the meeting and will be presented as an agenda item at the next meeting.

22/170 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 12th October 2022 were approved to be signed by the Chair.

22/171 Requests for Dispensations: None.

22/172 Declarations of Interest:

Councillors Marczynski declared an interest should any matters relating to the CIC be discussed.

22/173 Public participation:

A member of the public asked the following questions regarding The Brow:

- a. When was Fairhurst appointed to lead on this work?
- b. How much money has been paid to Fairhurst since then?
- c. When was Commendium appointed to advise and how much money has been paid to them since that time?

He also urged the Council not to increase the Precept further in view of the present cost of living crisis, when many elderly residents of the town are struggling with their energy costs, etc. He stressed the words 'Realism', 'Constraint' and 'Integrity' in this respect.

It was agreed that a written response would be supplied by the Clerk to points a, b and c and that the concerns expressed would be considered during the precept setting process.

22/174 Save Ruskin's View:

Councillor Burchnall reported as follows:

- a. Fairhurst have amended the proposed scheme. Further information regarding costs of the major works and drainage is awaited for the next meeting.
- b. The official Fundraising will be launched at the Royal Barn on Friday 11th November from 2 to 7pm.

Councillor Williams reported that an application to register the group as a Charity had been refused and that the Fundraising Group would be considering whether to re-apply for charitable status or not.

22/175 Play Park:

Edward Waller, who leads on the Play Park group, was in attendance. He had circulated a full report to last month's Council meeting, in which he reported that the edgings on the tarmac path are cracking and constitute a trip hazard. The zip wire has been disconnected and a replacement is on order. Dog signs are to be erected.

The notice boards are in need of attention and Edward will speak with Councillor Buswell regarding this before the next meeting.

It was agreed that a list of essential repairs and proposals for improvement to the gateways to the Play Park be drawn up by the Play Park Working Group and this be presented to Council at its December meeting in time for consideration by the Council's precept setting meeting in January.

There are two trees by the Fire Station requiring urgent attention; the Clerk will notify SLDC.

22/176 Proposed QES working group:

Molly Watson had put together a paper that had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were some good suggestions made and any firm proposals can be brought to the next or a future meeting. Molly and her colleagues were congratulated on their enthusiasm and initiative and the Council agreed to work with her and QES, particularly in relation to Ruskin's View and the Brow footpath.

22/177 St Mary's Church Alternative footpath study:

The District Church Council had notified this Council that they have received a quotation for the proposed alternative footpath, in the sum of £6,881. It was resolved on a majority vote, that the Council will contribute 50% of this sum.

22/178 Access to parish graveyards:

The following proposal from Councillor Muirhead, proposed by the Chair, was voted upon, the majority present being in favour:

This Town Council welcomes the efforts of the representatives of St Mary's Parish Church, and others, to enable improved access to all areas of church land, particularly the graveyards, during the closure of The Brow.

The Town Council resolves to work with the church authorities at all levels including the Diocese, the PCC, the DCC and Church Wardens, recognising the need for compassion and sympathy for those whose family or friends are interred here.

The Town Council believes that the spiritual needs of the wider community are of prime importance. It further resolves to use all its resources to help find a solution which removes the current imposition of just two one-hour visiting periods each to the church graveyard, believing this does not fully meet the needs of those who have been bereaved.

22/179 Sustrans Kirkby Lonsdale to Ingleton Steering Group: Cowan Bridge Route Alignment Consultation:

Councillor Williams gave an update on the work of the Group. The Group is currently looking at 'quiet ways' (ie not main roads), in order to link Kirkby Lonsdale with Cowan Bridge. Another meeting of the steering group is due soon and a further report back will be made after that.

22/180 Defibrillators:

There is a National Register of Defibrillators and the Clerk will seek to register those in Kirkby Lonsdale on it. Councillor Bradshaw will pass the details on. Notices will be posted around the Town advising of the locations of defibrillators and also advising that in the first instance contact should be made with the emergency services.

22/181 Recordings Policy:

Councillor Bradshaw agreed to bring a draft Recordings Policy to a future meeting.

22/182 Town Council Facebook page:

Councillor Bradshaw will bring proposals to a future meeting.

22/183 Climate Change working group:

Councillor Bradshaw reported on the Big Green Week which had been a success. Some good contacts had been made. Councillor Williams will join the Climate Change working group.

22/184 Planning sub-group:

The following applications were considered and the Council raised no objections to them:

SL/2022/0941 1 Lune Close. Double storey front and single storey side extension; rear dormer and internal and external alterations.

SL/2022/0948 Broadlands, Low Biggins. Alterations to include demolition of existing rear conservatory & detached single garage, erection of a single storey rear conservatory extension & detached two storey double garage with storage & additional bedroom accommodation above.

SL/2022/0970 Elmdene, Ruskin Drive. Ground floor alterations to existing bungalow to create an open plan living area, utility space, repositioning of front entrance door and loft conversion with rear dormer to create additional 2 bedrooms & bathroom.

22/185 Reports: None.

It was reported that Councillor Muirhead had been in touch with Councillor Ian Mitchell over two issues in relation to Market Square and that Councillor Burchnall had asked Councillor Mitchell to arrange for the shadow leader of Westmorland and Furness Council to visit the town to look at the issues re the Brow footpath and Ruskin's View. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Councillor Mitchell reminding him of these actions.

22/186 Finance:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Craig Bradshaw	1452.00	Maintenance Contract
T Flitcroft	431.12	Computer equipment (final payment)
(The Clerk's other Councils will contribute to this pro-rata and VAT can be reclaimed)		
K M Price	485.50	Back Pay to 1 st April 2022
RBL Poppy Appeal	25.00	Remembrance wreath

(The Brow):

Fairhurst	6000.00	
Laura Keeler	1587.00	
Mike Burchnall	534.01	Re-imburement – The Brow
Mike Burchnall	707.81	Re-imburement for printing

(For CIC):

Healthmatic	390.00
Healthmatic	390.00

- b. The Report from the External Auditor on the Council's Accounts for 2021-22 was considered. There were some minor suggestions for future years but nothing that affected the Auditor's opinion. The Clerk and the Council's Internal Auditor will address these issues.
- c. The National Joint Council has agreed this year's Pay Award for Clerks and, as recommended by CALC and NALC it was resolved to pay the appropriate backpay and to amend the Standing Orders at the bank.

22/187 Correspondence:

- a. The Clerk had written a letter of sympathy upon the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September and an appreciative letter and photograph had been received from King Charles III. This will be kept in the Council's archives.
- b. Correspondence had been received from Chris Potts, regarding the planning application for 'the Ram'. The modifications suggested by the Council will be included in his submission to SLDC.

22/188 Future events:

The Remembrance Sunday service is on 13th November and Councillor Burchnall will lay the wreath on behalf of the Town Council.

22/189 Date of the next meeting:

Wednesday 14th December 2022 at 7pm in the Bective Room, Lunesdale Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale – the meeting will be followed by light refreshments.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed:

Dated: