

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BECTIVE ROOM  
LUNESDALE HALL, KIRKBY LONSDALE  
ON WEDNESDAY 17th MAY 2023 AT 7.10PM**

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

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

Apologies were received from Councillor Madeline Williams and Westmorland and Furness Councillors Hazel Hodgson and Ian Mitchell.

As this was the first meeting of the new Council, all Councillors signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the start of the meeting.

**23/76 Election of Chair:**

Councillor Mike Burchnall was elected Chair for 2023-24. He then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**23/77 Appointment of Deputy Chair:**

Councillor Isabelle Bradshaw was appointed Deputy Chair for 2023-24.

**23/78 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023 were approved to be signed by the Chair.

**23/79 Requests for Dispensations: None.**

**23/80 Declarations of Interest: None.**

**23/81 Tim Pitt of Lune Rivers Trust**

Tim Pitt, of Lune Rivers Trust gave an interesting presentation, together with slides, on the possible designation of the Lune as an inland bathing water. The Lune Rivers Trust is a charity dedicated to the conservation, protection, rehabilitation and improvement of the River Lune throughout its whole length and its associated tributaries in Cumbria, Yorkshire and North Lancashire. Their aim is to protect and improve the riverine habitat to encourage the biodiversity of the River Lune and its tributaries.

The Council would await feedback from the failed bids elsewhere in the country, particularly Staveley, and later in the year Councillor Bradshaw will submit a report to the Council, recommending what further action might be taken, including the possibility of the Council organising water quality testing of the river in accordance with Environment Agency criteria.

### **23/82 Council Vacancy:**

There have been two expressions of interest in the vacancy. It was resolved to advertise this on the website, with a closing date of 7th June. Interviews will be held prior to the 14<sup>th</sup> June meeting.

### **23/83 Ruskin's View:**

It was agreed that a briefing session on fundraising be arranged involving all Councillors, Sam Millar and Laura Keeler and the Friends of Ruskin's View. The Clerk to arrange this before the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

**23/84 Planning** – there were no planning matters.

### **23/85 Town Council Work Programme:**

- a. Councillor Quayle had approached Westmorland and Furness Council over signage to warn of the dangers of jumping off Devils Bridge. He had received no response and would now arrange for signage to be displayed as soon as possible.
- b. Councillor Marczynski said the documentation from WAF Council (former CCC Highways) is still awaited in respect of the Ram.

### **23/86 Safeguarding Policies:**

It was resolved to defer this to the next meeting, in order to examine other such policies.

### **23/87 Road closures and works to the town's car parks:**

It was agreed to write to WAF Council, expressing appreciation of the maintenance works carried out on the town's car parks; but to regret that no notice was given that the work was scheduled to take place.

### **23/88 Tree works at The Brow:**

It was agreed in principle that the work recommended by Fairhurst should be carried out; that an arboriculturist be employed by the Council to identify the works needed, in conjunction with a representative of Fairhurst; that these works be discussed with an officer of the YDNP; and that a contractor be employed to carry out all the necessary works. In view of the urgency of these works the costs incurred should be agreed by the Clerk and the Chair.

### **23/89 Amalgamation of the town's websites:**

Enquiries are being made regarding the possibility of amalgamating the town's three websites. One quotation has been received and it is likely that further quotations will be sought. It is likely that each party's share would be in the region of £3,000.

### **23/90 Geological Survey of The Brow:**

A request had been received from Carolina Goodship to carry out a geological survey of The Brow, in advance of any works there. This was agreed and the Council was assured that survey would be covered by the insurance held by the participants. The Clerk to advise Carolina Goodship.

### **23/91 Library Undercroft:**

It was resolved that this Council has no further interest in the possible use of the Library Undercroft. This will therefore enable the Community Cupboard and the Scouts to make approaches to the WAF Council regarding their possible use of the premises.

### **23/92 Reports:**

Councillor Hodgson had sent a report to the Clerk, which has been circulated to all Councillors.

### **23/93 Financial business:**

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

#### **For KLTC:**

Craig Bradshaw	£1,800.00	Maintenance Contract
Lunesdale Hall	£201.50	Hire of hall
Rural Market Towns group	£90.75	Subscription (after free trial)
Midland Flags	£934.06	Flags (shared)
Zurich Municipal	£2,064.51	Insurance premium

#### **For CIC:**

Healthmatic	£390.00
Healthmatic	£390.00
Healthmatic	£390.00
Absolute Digital Print Ltd	£121.20
S & S Site Services	£228.00
Lunesdale H & G	£2,348.40

#### **For The Brow:**

Save Ruskins View	£358.39	posters, compliments slips etc
Laura Keeler	£1,520.00	
Fairhurst	£11,607.60	from last month
Mrs S J Millar	£875.00	

b. The Clerk gave a Budget Report (which had been circulated to all Councillors) and outlined the current financial situation.

**23/94 Correspondence:**

Westmorland and Furness Council is consulting the Council on street naming at the Kirkby Lonsdale Phase 3 site. The name favoured by the Town Council, after discussion, was agreed to be 'Conifer'.

**23/95 Date of the next meeting:**

***Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7pm at The Bective Room, Lunesdale Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale.***

**23/96 The Brow/Ruskin's View:**

It was resolved to accept the new fee proposal from Fairhurst, in their letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023, paragraphs 1 to 6, and 7 to 11. The Clerk to write to Fairhurst advising of this.

*(This item was taken in private)*

*The meeting closed at 8.40pm*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*