

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE RUSKIN ROOM
LUNESDALE HALL, KIRKBY LONSDALE
ON WEDNESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2021 AT 7PM**

Present: Councillors Allan Muirhead (Deputy Chairman, in the Chair), Mike Burchnall, Mike Marczyński, Dave Storey and Edward Waller.

Apologies: were accepted from Councillors Geoffrey Buswell and Robin Ree, and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

21/190 Minutes

As neither the Chairman nor Clerk could be present at the meeting it was agreed that the signing of the minutes for November should be carried forward to the January 2022 meeting.

21/191 Requests for dispensation: None

21/192 Declarations of Interest:

Councillors Marczyński and Muirhead declared an interest should any matters relating to the CIC be discussed.

21/193 Casual Vacancies

It was agreed that interviews for the two vacancies be deferred until 16th December. Interviews would be followed by a one item formal Town Council meeting to co-opt two councillors.

21/194 Public Participation: None

21/195 Planning Sub Group: There were no applications to be considered.

21/196 County and District Councillors reports: None

21/197 Town Council Work Programme:

Councillor Burchnall reported that the CCTV cameras were in place but not yet operational, that measures were being put in place to ensure that the cameras did not invade the privacy of nearby residential properties (i.e., by masking) and that he would find out the date when the cameras would become operational and write a piece for AKL explaining the function and operation of the cameras.

21/198 Saving Ruskin's View/Church Brow

The report circulated with the agenda was discussed together with various updates, including an update from St Mary's PCC. The following were agreed

1. The report circulated with the agenda was noted and Councillor Burchnall was confirmed as the Council's official spokesperson on this issue.
2. The Council considered the email from Alex Denton, Cumbria County Council (dated 3rd December) re; the Church Brow footpath. The Council resolved that subject to the County Council agreeing that any liability arising from the closure should lie with the County Council, the Town Council agrees in principle to pay 50% of the costs of the works, subject to the costs being reasonable, the costs to be agreed in advance and that the means and design of the form of enclosure be agreed in advance. The Council recommends that consideration be given to a lockable gate at the gazebo end of the closure and screening should be added, explaining the reason for closure. Councillor Burchnall to advise Alex Denton at CCC and discuss further.
3. St Mary's PCC has agreed in principle to putting up a viewing platform in the Old Churchyard, if the Town Council lead on the development and funding. It was agreed that a cost be sought for this (both to hire and buy the materials) and the matter be reported back to the meeting of the Town Council in February. Councillor Burchnall to action.
4. Further correspondence had been received from John Short since the preparation of the Agenda and responses have been sent.
5. Quotations to carry out the required topographical survey had been received by Fairhurst and shared with Councillor Marczyński. Councillor Marczyński moved that the quotation from Commendium be agreed and this was approved. Councillor Marczyński to advise Fairhurst.
6. Since the preparation of the Agenda a draft funding strategy has been received from the Council's consultant, Sam Millar. It was agreed that this be printed and a copy provided to all councillors, to be actioned by the Clerk, and that the appointment of a professional fund raiser be explored and the costs etc be reported to the Council meeting in January, 2022.
7. Despite approaches via Tim Farron MP, Cumbria County Council has only indicated to date that it will deal with the closure of the exiting footpath but not provide any further assistance or funding to the Town Council. Given that the future of The Brow and footpath are inextricably linked and that Ruskin's View is a major tourist attraction, it was agreed a high-level meeting with officers and members of the County Council be held and that County Councillor Nick Cotton be asked to convene this. The Clerk to write to Councillor Cotton asking him to arrange this.

8. Councillor Marczynski outlined a proposal that he and Fairhurst were assessing, namely the construction of a footpath on the existing line, but elevated above the existing footpath by a small amount but consisting of a steel structure which is piled into the bedrock. It was agreed that this was worthy of further investigation and an update will be provided by Councillor Marczynski at the first available Council meeting.

21/199 Jubilee Park: the clearance of scrub was noted.

21/200 Kirkby Lonsdale Relief in Need Charity

Councillor Buswell was confirmed as the Council's representative for the next four years.

21/201 Emergency Plan

It was agreed that a copy of the Draft Emergency Plan be printed for all councillors (the Clerk to action) and that this be further considered at the Council meeting in January.

21/202 Finance

It was agreed that the Council contribute £300 to the 'pub patrols' and the Clerk advise the organisers accordingly.

21/203 Booths roundabout/The Ram

It was resolved that the roundabout was the preferred location for Andy Kay's sculpture and that Chris Potts be authorised to draw up the scheme, hold a pre-planning discussion with SLDC and submit a planning application for the scheme.

21/204 New Entrance to the Play Park

The planning application was now four months beyond when a decision should have been made. It was agreed that Councillor Marczynski write to the CEO of South Lakeland District Council asking for an immediate decision.

21/205 Mill Ayre

This was deferred until the next meeting.

21/206 Correspondence: None

21/207 Date of the next meeting

Following interviews of applicants for Councillor vacancies, a one item Town Council meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday 16th December in the Bective Room to co-opt successful applicants. The January meeting of the Town Council will be held in the Bective Room at 7pm on Wednesday 12th January 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed:

Dated: