

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF KIRKBY LONSDALE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD BY ZOOM
ON WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2020 AT 7PM**

Present: Councillors Mike Burchnall (Acting Chairman, in the Chair), Allan Muirhead Marie Batty, Mike Marczynski, Robin Ree, Sarah Tatham and Edward Waller.

Also in attendance: Helena Constantine (QES Councillor), District Councillor Kevin Lancaster, Amanda Atkinson (SLDC Locality Officer), Polly Straker (SLDC Locality Officer, Central Lakes area), two members of the public and Town Clerk Kevin Price.

Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Geoffrey Buswell and David Storey (leave of absence).

The Clerk explained that the Chairman was absent, due to illness and the Deputy Chairman was unable to take the chair; the proposal was that Councillor Burchnall chair the meeting and this was agreed by the Council.

Amanda Atkinson (Locality Officer, SLDC) and her colleague Polly Straker were welcomed to the meeting. A short video was shown and a presentation made on the 'new system' instigated by SLDC to deal with all types of enquiries. A short period of discussion followed, during which a number of questions from Councillors were answered.

20/153 Public participation:

Anne Burgess expressed appreciation of Councillors' work, the number of projects currently in hand and the present online meetings.

20/154 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2020 were agreed and signed by the Chairman, with two small amendments:

Apologies for absence: to add Councillor Sarah Tatham to the list.

Minute 20/148 Play Park: The fireworks had been set off in the park (not the bins). The bins had been taken off their plinths and rolled across the park.

The Clerk will make these amendments and send a copy to the Acting Chairman for signing.

20/155 Requests for Dispensations: None.

20/156 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Muirhead declared an interest in any matters relating to the CIC.

20/157 Updates:

- a. CCTV: Councillor Burchnall reported that the planning application for the camera on the Royal has been submitted and a response is expected by the end of January.
- b. Library Undercroft: Councillor Marczynski reported on the latest correspondence from CCC, which had been circulated to Councillors today. The present lease to CCC (SLDC owns the building) would not allow for use by the Town Council and therefore a new lease would need to be negotiated. It would be hoped that this will not involve an increase in the rent payable. The situation is ongoing.
- c. Filming at Devil's Bridge and on the gravel path: Remi Itani had been granted permission for this earlier in the year, but it was cancelled due to the pandemic. He now wishes to re-arrange it to take place on Sunday 31st January 2021 from 6am to 12 noon. The Council agreed to this.
- d. Website: A2A has been uploading items to the website, but Councillor Sarah Tatham has now completed the training and has taken over the site. Future items for the website should be sent to her.
- e. Former Councillor and Chairman Mark Day had been in touch with the Clerk to ascertain the dates he was a Councillor and these had been supplied. He wished to pass his good wishes on to the present Council.
- f. The toilets at Jingling Lane and Devil's Bridge are now 'card-only'.

20/158 County and District Councillors:

Councillor Lancaster spoke about the various options put forward for a possible Unitary Authority in Cumbria. The details had been circulated to all Councillors and it is expected that there will be further consultations between February and May 2021.

20/159 Finance:

It was resolved to remove from the Bank Mandate the names of former Councillors and to add Councillors Mike Marczynski and Robin Ree as signatories on the Council's accounts, in addition to Councillor Allan Muirhead and the Clerk, any two to sign.

20/160 Budget Review in advance of setting the Precept in January:

Councillor Burchnall had circulated a review of the Budget - this will be updated and re-circulated prior to the Precept meeting in January.

20/161 Council Work Programme:

The Work Programme had been circulated. The work on the monument in the Square is awaiting the determination of SLDC's planning application. A cover for the sand bags needs to be agreed - Councillor Marczynski agreed to deal with this. Councillors were asked to review the work allocated to them, before the next meeting.

20/162 Emergency Plan:

Councillor Batty has volunteered to lead on this and will be assisted by Councillors Burchnall and Muirhead.

20/163 Litter bins in Jubilee Park:

Emails from Andrew Vickers (SLDC) had been circulated to all Councillors. The present bins need to be removed and replaced and this was agreed. Councillor Marczyński will action this.

20/164 Recycling bins:

Emails from Andrew Vickers (SLDC) had been circulated and it had been agreed that the entrance to the play park should be moved further away from the recycling bins. Councillor Marczyński has written to SLDC to see if planning permission is required for the proposed works and he will follow this up.

20/165 Disabled Access in Kirkby Lonsdale:

The notes from Councillors Muirhead and Ree had been circulated last month but no reply has yet been received from SLDC. The Clerk will ask Amanda Atkinson to follow this up, and keep Councillor Lancaster informed of progress.

20/166 Electric charge points:

Information had been received following the installation of electric charge points in Dalston. The material was noted and the consultants who are to undertake the Transport and Public Realm Study for the Council will be asked to consider the need for electric charging points now and in the future, together with how further points could be procured.

Councillor Batty will discuss with Helena Constantine as to any interest there might be at QES, both in this matter and in climate change generally and both will begin the preparation of a climate change action plan.

20/167 The Brow:

The Council agreed to accept the quotation for site investigation works of £10,600 plus VAT, but before work can be carried out the views of CCC (as Highway Authority for the footpath) are to be sought, together with the formal permission of adjacent landowners over which access will be required, including Underley Estates and the Rugby Club.

20/168 Play Park:

Councillor Batty updated the Council on the renovation of the Play Park. The Council agreed to approve the recommendations of the working group to extend the deadline for submissions for the toddler area renewal to 3rd February 2021. Fund raising will not commence until after the New Year.

20/169 Trees adjacent to the River Lune:

It is requested that the Town Council arrange for these trees to be cut back as a matter of urgency. The rationale is to keep the trees alive and all the root system in place to protect the bank from erosion while removing much of the weight in the upper trunks which may lever the trees (and roots) away from the bank in the next big flood. The Tree Officer from YDNP (Geoff Garrett) has endorsed this approach.

The following recommendation was agreed:

The Town Council will arrange for a contractor to meet Councillor Nick Cotton to identify the works required, obtain an estimate and delegate the Town Clerk to accept the estimate, if this is deemed reasonable, and authorise that the works be carried out. In the circumstances the Clerk to approach any contractor who has recently carried out similar work for the Council.

20/170 Planning sub-group:

The following applications were considered:

SL/2020/0822 Manor View, Pitt Lane. Single storey rear extension (re-submission SL/2020/0377). The Council considers that this resubmitted application should still be refused as it would be in conflict with the South Lakeland Development Management Policy DM16(2), would set an undesirable precedent for the extension of small rural farm buildings and is not justified as the property is already of sufficient size.

SL/2020/0851 Salt Pie Cottage, Salt Pie Lane. Alterations, extension and separation to create new dwelling. Whilst not objecting to the principle of the application (ie the creation of two separate dwellings) the Council considers that amendments should be sought which allow the remaining cottage (Salt Pie Cottage) to have a small amount of rear space to allow bin storage etc. The Council would also ask SLDC to ensure, as far as possible, through the application that parking is not allowed on the section of Horse Market around the vehicular entrance to the site.

20/01260/FUL Land To The West Of Sellet Hall Biggins Lane Whittington Lancashire. Change of use of agricultural land for the siting of seven holiday lodges with associated access track and installation of a package treatment plant. The Council resolved to recommend refusal on grounds that: this is not a brownfield site and there is no justification for developing a green field site in this location; there are no demonstrable benefits to the rural economy, as required by planning policy; the development would set a precedent for similar undesirable developments on agricultural land in the area; access to Biggins Lane would result in highway safety issues given the limited visibility available and the amount of large vehicles and agricultural machinery which uses Biggins Lane.

20/171 Provisional dates for 2021 meeting:

The following dates were provisionally agreed, the dates for the March and April meetings to be finalised nearer the time:

(all Wednesdays at 7pm)

13th January	Precept Meeting
10th February	
3rd or 10th March	
7th or 14th April	
12th May	Annual Town Meeting and Annual Council Meeting
9th June	
14th July	
11th August	
8th September	
13th October	
10th November	
8th December	

20/172 Date of the next meeting:

***Wednesday 13th January 2021 by ZOOM at 7pm
(This will be the Precept Meeting)***

20/173 The Chairman, Councillor Geoffrey Buswell had sent this message to those in attendance, which was read out by the Clerk:

“I would just like to thank you all for your support throughout the year and especially the past couple of months. Let us hope we can get back to face to face meetings soon in the hall and progress of our projects that have been delayed due to the corona19 virus. Sorry there are no sausage rolls or the chance of a festive drink but may I wish you all and your families a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.” Geoffrey.

The Clerk will pass on the good wishes of the Council for a speedy recovery,

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed:

Dated: