

# APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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CA16 6YB

## PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD IN THE MOOT HALL MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023 at 7.07pm

### Present:

Cllr Stephenson (Chair)      Cllr Hayes (Mayor ex Officio)  
Cllr Connell                      Cllr Kemp  
Cllr P Davidson                  Cllr Pape

### Also in attendance:

Cllr Anderton  
Cllr Heap  
Town Clerk  
Clerk's Assistant

### P1/01/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Curley and Cllr Chalmers.

### P2/01/23 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Connell declared a personal interest in relation to any item on the agenda that relates to Cumbria County Council and Eden District Council.

### P3/01/23 Actions from Previous Minutes

#### • Oaklea Trust – Edenside and Dowpitts Wood

The Clerk reported that the Edenside planning application was still being held up by EDC Planning Department because of issues around nutrient neutrality. Cllr Connell has agreed to speak with the EDC planning officer to see what can be done about progressing this. Progress on developing a partnership with Oaklea Trust on the use of Dowpitts Wood had been held up due to staff changes. However, they are hopeful that plans can now be picked back up and progressed, with a view to working together to apply for funding early this year.

#### • British Legion commemorative bench plans

The Clerk met with BLC representative to discuss the plans to install a commemorative bench outside the Club. EDC have already given their approval in principle, subject to Appleby Town Council signing an Agreement to take on responsibility for the installation and future maintenance of the bench. Once a final design has been finalised, plans can be submitted.

#### • Warm Spots Sessions: Two sessions have been held and both have been successful, with around 15 people attending each week. Any councillors who are available to pop in and help would be more than welcome to do so. It was noted the Warm Spots have been successful in bringing more people into town, who then go on to browse other businesses.

#### • Co-op parking issues: A follow-up letter has been sent to the Co-op regarding concerns around the exit of the car park and cars unlawfully parking at the front of the building.

#### • Ukraine tree art: Following the comments made at the December committee, all the tree art has now been removed.

### P4/01/23 Planning Applications

The following applications were brought to the committee for their consideration. The below comments were made:

[22/0960](#) – consultation period ended 5<sup>th</sup> January  
**Mount Eden, The Sands, CA16 6XR**  
Fell to ground Beech Tree subject to TPO  
*Applicant: Mr White, Whites Tree Services (Agent)*  
**No objections**

[22/0965](#)  
**Up Top, Roman Road, CA16 5JH**  
Variation of condition 2 (plans compliance) for the enlargement of detached agricultural shed, attached to approval 22/0473.

[22/0961](#) – consultation period ended 5<sup>th</sup> January  
**Mount Eden, The Sands, CA16 6XR**  
Reduce Beech Tree by 15% or 2m  
*Applicant: Mr White, Whites Tree Services (Agent)*  
**No objections**

[22/0892](#) – consultation period ended 4<sup>th</sup> January  
**Howgill House, Bongate, CA16 6UW**  
Retrospective siting of biomass boiler and flue  
*Applicant: Mr David Pigney*  
**No objections**

**ACTION**

**Cllr  
Connell**

**Clerk**

<p><i>Applicant: Mr and Mrs Lees</i>  <b>No objections – comments made regarding landscaping and materials, because of the elevated position of the property, it needs to blend in with its surroundings and not be a ‘blot’ on the landscape.</b></p>	
<p>Late entry <a href="#">22/0992</a>  <b>Appleby War Memorial Swimming Pool, Chapel Street, CA16 6QR</b>          Lawful Development Certificate for the installation of a ventilation column to pumping station  <i>Applicant: Mr Jack Comer, Environment Agency</i>  <b>No objections</b></p>	

[22/0848](#)

**Land off Station Road, Appleby**

After the committee meeting in December, some comments were sent to EDC regarding safety issues around the Barratt Homes development. The applicant has since responded:

- The single track road at the top of the development cannot be widened due to the surrounding ancient hedges, which are apparently covered under a protection order. To avoid pedestrians having to use that road, there will be a footpath through the development which brings you out by the A66 overpass. Cllr Anderton reiterated that the single track road was unsafe and would not be suitable for the increased level of traffic. She also commented about vehicular access while the site was under construction, and whether this would alter the ancient hedge.
- Cllr Connell to make enquiries with Cumbria County Council Highways regarding concerns that there were no plans to widen the top end of the access road because of a hedge protection order, and also the 30mph speed limit.

**Cllr  
Connell**

**P5/01/23 Plannings Decisions**

There were no Planning Decisions for the committee to consider.

**P6/01/23 Chairman’s Report**

- **A66 Transpennine:** There are to be further consultations on some design changes, with drop-in sessions to be held at both Warcop and Kirkby Thore. The design changes will be uploaded to the A66 website once the drop-ins have been held. Cllr Stephenson was hoping to attend the Kirkby Thore event.
- **Westmorland and Furness Council:** An email has been circulated requesting feedback on three proposals regarding council tax levels. The closing date for responses is 13<sup>th</sup> February.
- **Train Visit:** Because of engineering works at Carlisle, the Northern Belle Steam Train will be stopping in Appleby for 2-3 hours on Saturdays, 1<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> April and 27<sup>th</sup> May. Appleby TIC has already been in touch with the organisers to help facilitate with anything that would make their visit to Appleby memorable. Cllr Hayes is happy to meet the train in his role as Mayor and the Rotary have agreed to meet and greet, hand out leaflets, direct people into town, etc. It has also been suggested that the minibus could be used as a shuttle bus to/from town for anyone with mobility issues. All enquiries relating to this should be directed to Nicola Elliott at the TIC to reduce any confusion and duplication of efforts. We hope to be able to open the Council Chamber to visitors on those dates. It was noted that it would be best not to have too many events on for visitors, as this could distract people from spending money in the local shops and cafes. Cllr Anderton highlighted this would be good publicity for the town.

**P7/01/23 Environment Agency Updates**

- **Doomgate Culvert Project:** The Clerk reported she had contacted the EA and passed on the Council Meeting dates for them to attend and give all councillors a project update. The planning application for the works compound to be located adjacent to the Swimming Pool is still awaiting approval, with a number of issues yet to be resolved. There was some confusion with the Planning Officer having understood that the Council had submitted objections to the application and the Clerk will write to EDC Planning to clarify that this is not the case and the Council has no objections to the application.
- **Ventilation:** The planning application 22/0992 has been received for the ventilation works which are to take place in Appleby Swimming Pool car park. Vents are to be installed to prevent gas build ups from the chambers beneath the car park, and to comply with Health & Safety regulations. These will look like lampposts and will not have an effect on any scenery around that area.

**Clerk**

- **Drainage:** The Officers working on the Chapel Street drainage project are due to attend site. One resident has raised some concerns and the EA have agreed to meet him and explain what work is being carried out.

**P8/01/23 Kirkby Stephen Saturday Bus Service**

The Clerk reported Kirkby Stephen Town Council had been in contact regarding plans to pilot a Saturday bus service between Penrith and Kirkby Stephen, which would stop in Appleby on route. This was identified as part of a Transport Audit carried out last year. The service would consist of 5 return trips every Saturday, starting hopefully in May this year. KS Council have approached Appleby Council to ask if they could make a contribution towards getting this service off the ground. The operator of the service will be Stagecoach, with the Upper Eden CIC acting as the commissioning body.

The Clerk suggested the balance from the closed 573 Bus Service account, which was closed in August 2022, could be rounded up to £600 and donated to this pilot. Cllr Connell agreed that by contributing these funds to a local bus service, the money would still be used for its intended purpose, to support local transport links.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that £600 be contributed to support the new Saturday Bus Service.

**Full Council**

**P9/01/23 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas**

Cllr Davidson raised a comment regarding the disparity in prices of some goods in the Co-op, with prices in the Appleby being more expensive than Kirkby Stephen. The Co-op have reported back that this is due to Appleby being deemed a more 'affluent area'. Cllr Hayes supported the disappointment around this issue, however noted that the Standing Orders should be reviewed to see how the Council can approach commercial issues. Cllr Kemp agreed however highlighted the Council's responsibility to support their residents.

**Clerk**

**P10/01/23 Date of the Next Meeting**

Councillors noted that the next meeting of the Planning and General Purposes Committee will be held in the Moot Hall on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.15pm** or at the rising of the Finance Committee.

**All**

There being no further business the meeting closed at **8.17pm**.

AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON: **WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE WAS AUTHORISED BY THE COMMITTEE TO SIGN THESE MINUTES TO CONFIRM THEIR BEING A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD:

*Cllr Stephenson*

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