

## CUMBRIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

### SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of 184<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Part 1 Meeting with South Lakeland District Council

**SLDC Leader, Councillor Giles Archibald**, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked parishes for their tireless work in responding to coronavirus. He listed some of the SLDC's priorities on tackling climate change and biodiversity loss and alleviating poverty. **SLDC Chief Executive, Lawrence Conway**, mentioned major future work around housing and planning reforms and devolution. SLDC Officers Simon Rowley and Dan Hudson gave their apologies.

**Update on Local Plan Review** – SLDC Senior Specialist (Strategy) Alastair McNeill gave an update on the community engagement that has taken place this year around key issues as part of the Local Plan Review. He said that late responses from parishes to the questions posed and the call for sites will be accepted. He explained other current work, such as a future consultation with parishes on settlement services and facilities. He highlighted the key proposals in the Planning for the Future White Paper (responses by late October) and changes to the current planning system (responses by early October). In answering a question, he confirmed that if the White Paper is implemented in full, then the next Local Plan will need to be very different and SLDC is taking advice on this. Another question asked how the Local Plan can be flexible enough for town centre development and he said that that there will be more types of development in town centres in the future. **ACTION:** Amanda McCleery to obtain a copy of the powerpoint presentation to share with clerks.

**Update on Locality Services** – SLDC Operational Lead Claire Gould spoke on both Customer Services and Locality Services. She encouraged clerks to set up a My Account on behalf of their parish council as a way of logging and tracking reports and requests. She explained that South Lakeland has been divided into three locality areas of Ulverston, Lakes and Kendal, each with a team leader who is key point of contact for parish liaison and project staff. These teams work within their locality area on elections, localism, intelligence and street scene but then also offer specialist knowledge and skills across the district on housing, community development or environment. The powerpoint presentation, locality map, locality structure and using a My Account had been emailed to parish councils in August (on 26<sup>th</sup> August by SLDC Laura Chapman) but Claire said that she would investigate as not all parishes felt they had received it.

**Update on SLDC's Climate Change Action Plan** – SLDC Sustainability Co-ordinator Hannah Girvan presented on SLDC's Action Plan to address climate change. She gave examples of reducing carbon emissions within SLDC's own operations and within the district as a whole.

She mentioned several ways in which SLDC is collaborating with parishes, for example Climate Change Community Fund, Greening Campaign (toolkit to help with declaring a climate emergency) and Rural Community Energy Fund (details of which were emailed to parish clerks, along with SLDC's Action Plan, on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 by Amanda McCleery). She clarified, in questions, that land use change and removal is a way of offsetting carbon (eg. peat bog restoration). She said that she was not aware of any specific criteria for declaring a climate emergency and that Ulverston and Kendal town councils had already done so. **ACTION:** Amanda McCleery to obtain a copy of the powerpoint presentation to share with clerks.

## **Part 2 Association Business**

### **9/20 Present**

Amanda McCleery (Secretary); Peter Smillie (Arnside); David Peters (Chairman & Natland); David Rogerson (Levens); Leith Hallatsch (Windermere); John Chapman (Skelsmergh & Scalthwaiterigg); Peter Winter (Preston Patrick); Lorraine Thompson (Pennington); Will Huck (Burneside); Peter Greifenberg (Beetham); Janette Jenkinson (Ulverston).

### **10/20 Apologies for absence**

John Saunders (Windermere), Sandra Lilley (Windermere) and Diana Rutherford (Blawith and Subberthwaite).

### **11/20 Minutes**

The minutes of the 183<sup>rd</sup> meeting, held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020, were approved as a true record.

### **12/20 Matters arising from the minutes**

Amanda McCleery had contacted CCC Area Manager, Karen Johnson, about a transport toolkit for South Lakeland (similar to the one for Eden) but since then she had been leading CCC's response in South Lakeland to coronavirus.

### **13/20 Election of officers – 2020/21**

*Chairman – David Peters (Natland parish council) was re-elected.*

*Vice-Chairman – Leith Hallatsch (Windermere town council) was re-elected.*

### **14/20 Election of representatives to other bodies**

*South Cumbria Community Safety Partnership – Leith Hallatsch was re-elected.*

Please note that, Leith Hallatsch is a directly elected rep. of CALC Executive Committee.

*CALC Executive Committee – David Peters & Peter Smillie (Arnside parish council) were re-elected.*

*South Lakeland Health & Wellbeing Partnership – Peter Smillie was re-elected.*

*SLDC Housing Advisory Group – David Peters was re-elected.*

SLDC Standards Committee – David Peters & Peter Smillie were re-elected.

CCC South Lakeland Local Committee – Leith Hallatsch & John Saunders (Windermere town council) were re-elected

**ACTION:** Amanda to send out revised list to clerks (with the minutes).

### **15/20 Items of Interest from Parishes, LAPs and CALC**

1. *Windermere* – now called Windermere and Bowness town council.
2. *Ulverston* – a bioscience plant on a brownfield site has been proposed for the town.
3. *Pennington* – it has struggled to hold a parish council meeting and has not met since lock down. It is considering meeting in the parish rooms. There are exceptions to the current “rule of 6” for education or business purposes. However, NALC and CALC advice is to continue to meet remotely as those councillors without computers/poor broadband should be able to dial in on a mobile ‘phone or landline instead. The parish would need to carry out an extremely thorough risk assessment as part of any decision making process around face-to-face meetings.
4. *CALC* – A report titled “Items of interest from CALC” was emailed to parish clerks for their councillors on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. On the item of Local Government Reorganisation, CALC has produced an interim position statement which was emailed to parish clerks in August.

### **16/20 Reports from Representatives**

- CALC Executive Committee – David Peters
- SLDC Standards Committee – David Peters & Peter Smillie
- Housing Advisory Group – David Peters

The above reports were emailed to parish clerks for their councillors on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The South Lakeland Health & Wellbeing Partnership has not yet met. Leith Hallatsch and John Saunders could not make a recent meeting of CCC South Lakeland Local Committee.

### **17/20 Dates, Times and Venues for Next Meeting & 2021 Meetings**

*Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020*      *Remote*      *from 7pm*      Hosted by CCC  
Presentations on Highways and Local Government Reorganisation requested.

*Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021*      *from 7pm*

*Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021*      *from 7pm*      Hosted by SLDC

*Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021*      *from 7pm*      AGM

*Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021*      *from 7pm*      Hosted by CCC