

## **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

### **South Lakeland & Barrow Community Safety Partnership (CSP) – Leith Hallatsch**

The minutes as always are on the website: [www.onesouthlakeland.org.uk/community-safety-partnership/](http://www.onesouthlakeland.org.uk/community-safety-partnership/)

### **CALC Executive Committee – David Peters**

On 18 January 2020 a depleted Executive assembled for its annual meeting. Owing to a shortage of nominations only two members had been elected at the AGM, leaving three vacancies to be filled at this year's AGM. The current thirteen members include three from South Lakeland parishes. Sue Castle-Clarke (Ousby PC) was elected Chair and Bryan Craig (Dalston PC) Vice-Chair. Sue is a trustee of ACT but will declare the interest if it ever arises. Representatives on other bodies were appointed; outgoing Chair Rick Petecki continues his involvement with NALC and other roles requiring distant travel (he likes going to London) including meeting Cumbria's MPs at NALC's Parliamentary Lobby Day on 10 March.

Signs of a 'new broom' were evident in a proposal to allocate "Portfolio Holder responsibilities" to members (e.g. Training; Transport; Larger Councils > 6,000 electors; Standards; Health and Wellbeing) but on meeting resistance this was watered down to being a "subject contact person". Another radical proposal – to expand the AGM to include a conference (like the well-attended event in June 2019) and move it from November to September (possible implications for our annual meeting?) – also provoked discussion and was deferred to the next meeting on 28 March 2020.

The Staffing Sub-Committee had been busy and presented a report, the recommendations of which were agreed. The underlying theme appears to be shifting more work towards the Parish Liaison Officers. The report mentioned consideration of a bi-monthly newsletter but that wasn't in the recommendations and wasn't discussed – so let's see what happens.

There was much discussion about helping T/PCs to comply fully with transparency requirements (particularly the code for smaller authorities) and it was pointed out that the related requirements for accessibility (regarding information published on websites and mobile apps) were also coming down the track. The Eden Association will hold a transparency workshop on 19 February. The value of achieving LCAS (Local Council Award Scheme) status was endorsed and will be publicised. Take-up in Cumbria is very low compared with most (mainly non-northern) counties, although Windermere Town Council is to be congratulated on being the third Cumbrian council to succeed. The false statement in CALC's 2019 Annual Report that only the Eden and Barrow charging authorities had passed on any CTRSG (council tax reduction support grant) to their parish councils in 2019/20 will be corrected in the newsletter and an apology sent to SLDC.

### **Standards Committee – David Peters & Peter Smillie**

There has been no meeting.

### **Housing Advisory Group – David Peters**

The next meeting will be on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

### **CCC South Lakeland Local Committee – John Saunders**

At the beginning of the November meeting, a public petition was presented asking for a footpath to be created between Kiln Croft and Kendal on the A6, as well as another requesting an improved bus service to and from Kendal to Arnside. A member of the public requested action limiting the use of 4x4 recreational vehicles on trail routes to the north of Tarn Hows. A presentation by the appointed Bicycle Mayor for Cumbria, Richard Ingham, outlined the advantages of cycling followed. Whilst in principle supporting the ideals of cycling, several members also pointed out problems with cyclists often experienced by other road users and pedestrians.

Members noted that Ulverston has been nominated as the South Lakeland town to be recommended to the Borderlands Board for inclusion in the Place Programme. This is aimed at revitalising certain towns within the Border region. A recently held review on Libraries acknowledged their changing roles and emphasised the need to further support communities and individuals as technology progressed. A recent meeting of the Windermere Ferry Advisory Group is requesting consideration of an increase in the charges for motorbikes and a review in pricing for users with Blue Badges. The Working Together programme has received further resources and Town and Parish Councils interested in taking up this opportunity can expect to be contacted shortly to develop agreements.

The Local Committee Communities revised 2019/20 budget of £725,377 currently has unallocated resources of £109,012. At this time in Highways, both the Local Revenue and Capital budgets are forecasting overspends of around £81K and £279K respectively. Efforts are being made to reduce these projected overspends by reducing certain highways works. A detailed report was noted concerning the South Lakeland bridges and structure repair and maintenance programs as well as the A590 emergency diversion routes in place. The existing and proposed cycle routes in and around South Lakes and Kendal were noted. A member expressed dissatisfaction at the planned cycle route on Shap Road. £20,000 has been allocated to the Healthy Ways to School programme. The CCC Parking Manager was working on resolving parking problems around schools. Towns and Parish councils would be asked to make suggestions regarding 20mph zones, road crossing, parking restrictions etc. A report on the future CCC Highways Asset Management Strategy stressed the need to put customers at the heart of everything done, as well as working closely together with Town and Parish Councils amongst others. An emphasis on digital platforms for communication will continue to be developed.

At the beginning of the January meeting, three public presentations were made. The first was objecting to the proposed change in disabled parking in Kendal town centre being discussed later in the meeting. Problems were being caused by commercial vehicles and general abuse of the disabled bays. The second was complaining about the fact that it had taken over 9 months for Highways to replace a fallen bus stop in Grange over Sands. The final presentation questioned the need to introduce restrictions in Cragg Drive in Grange over Sands when there did not appear to be any evidence to support the need for them.

Presenting under Area Planning it was reported that the Local Committee had again agreed its priorities for the 4-year term till March 2021. These will continue to be Economic Development, Education and Skills, Travel and accessibility, Health and wellbeing. Future funding allocations to Parishes etc. will be based on these criteria. A grant was approved for Orchestras Live (£2000). Given the potential future changes to Council structure it was proposed that a working group be established to look into the impact this may have. As of December, the financial statement for Area Planning showed a local committee unallocated resource of £91,853 of which £39,217 was unallocated community grants.

The report by Highways continues to show that both the devolved revenue and capital budgets are currently forecasting overspends of £57,458 (5%) and £322,585 (8%). After a brief debate the Local Committee voted to make permanent the experimental traffic order for Kendal town centre which came in to operation in September 2018 and changed parking arrangements. They also agreed to pass the TRO (2002) introducing various parking restrictions in Kendal roads as well as the proposed Grand over Sands TRO (2019) restricting parking on certain roads. There followed a presentation by the Cumbria Road Safety partnership ([www.crsp.co.uk](http://www.crsp.co.uk)) during which it was reported that in 2018 there had been 344 fatal accidents and serious injuries along with 1338 slight accidents on Cumbria's roads. More detailed statistics are available on the website.