

**Minutes of the extra ordinary meeting of Hawkshead Parish Council
Virtually by Zoom on Tuesday 30th March 2021 at 8.00 pm**

Present: Cllr Woodhouse (Chair)
Cllrs Spedding, Bremner, Johnston, Mcclennan
Clerk – Tracey Thornley

In attendance: 6 members of the public

56/2021 Apologies

RESOLVED Cllr Moulton (work commitments)

57/2021 Requests for Dispensations

No requests received

58/2021 Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of Agenda items

No declarations of pecuniary interests received

59/2021 Planning

RESOLVED Councillors considered planning applications and formulate comments to the planning Authority-

7/2021/5123 – Land to rear of High Cross, Hawkshead, Ambleside, LA22 0QB – Use as 2 dwellings

As there was no public participation section on the agenda for this meeting and a significant number of public in attendance regarding this planning the Chair felt their input would be useful and asked for agreement from Councillors that the public would be able to speak, all agreed. All public were then given the opportunity to speak before Councillors made their decision on a response to the Planning Department.

A member of the public who introduced himself as a Local Town Planning Consultant and has been asked to represent the owners of one of the properties at this address regarding the certificate of lawfulness and claims being made by the applicant that they have been living there for 10 years. He has noted that there are 6 letters from local residents on the website all objecting to this.

All members of the public felt that there was no evidence of the people occupying the premises continuously for 10 years, no utility bills, Council tax etc seem to have been paid or there being any records of additional residential properties at the site. They felt if this application got the agreement then this would open up the flood gates for other people to do the same thing.

Councillors then discussed amongst themselves whether they felt the property had been continuously occupied for 10 years. They came to the conclusion that there were strongly against the application based on:-

- They don't believe that someone has been living there continuously for the last 10 years.
- There is no proper evidence of this being occupied and the local community have been consulted and also confirm that continuous occupation has not been the case.

Councillors therefore strongly object. They also felt that they would like to see action taken for any use to be ceased. The general consensus is that it is unfair for the rest of the community who pay their Council tax etc. If this is allowed it was felt that it would have consequences for the rest of the community to do the same. ACTION Clerk to notify Planning

60/2021 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday 20th April 2021 either in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead or via Zoom at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Chair Initials Date