

**Silloth-on-Solway Town Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Parks Committee**  
**Held on Monday 29 February 2016 at 7.00pm at Silloth Community Hall**

**Present**            W. Jefferson (WJ) – Chairman

**Councillors**

C. Graham (CG), D. Graham (DG), O. Martin (OM), I. Baty (IB) & J. Cook (JC).

Also present: Wendy Jameson – Town Clerk (WEJ), Anna Malina – Community Engagement Officer (AM),  
Tim Barker, Ann Winter, Vivian Russell, David Holding, Maureen Irving, David Holding

<b>530</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b>  Cllrs. A.J. Markley, G. Wilkinson &amp; S. Graham. Also Fausto Previtali.</p>	
<b>531</b>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b>  As recorded.</p>	
<b>532</b>	<p><b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b>  There was no reason to exclude Press or Public.</p>	
<b>533</b>	<p><b>Adjournment of meeting</b>  Item 6 on the Agenda will be discussed at the end of the Parks Committee meeting to allow open forum.</p>	
<b>534</b>	<p><b>Minutes</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on the 8 February 2016 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<b>534</b>	<p><b>Britain in Bloom</b>  Cllr. Jefferson gave an outline of how we can prepare for the Britain in Bloom judging. Anna Malina will be co-ordinating the Britain in Bloom activities. A structure needs set up to get the town looking its best before the judges visit the town at the beginning of August. Most of the work will be done by separate groups responsible for specific areas. Things need to be kept light and informal. Wendy has volunteered to be responsible for the allotments and Ely for the sports communities i.e. football, rugby, bowling etc. There will probably be no need for a separate financial set up, as it can be operated through the Town Council. There is a strong community spirit in the town, with people working on their specific interests but this will be a good opportunity for groups to work together. There may not be any need for fundraising as such, as hopefully funds will be there via sponsorship etc. BiB has been included in the Coastal Community Team Economic plan and will be looking to get funds from that source initially. The route has been considered but should remain organic.</p> <p>Everyone present introduced themselves and the formal part of the Parks Committee meeting was drawn to a close.</p> <p>Anna gave some background information on Silloth in Bloom and Britain in Bloom etc. Silloth have received awards from Cumbria in Bloom for the last two years and nominated for a Britain in Bloom award. Anna gave a summary of the seminar at Birmingham.</p> <p>The judges will stay in a local hotel overnight which is paid for by RHS. The route will take 2.5 hours and will need a time keeper to keep everything to schedule. There will be a presentation and a portfolio put together for the judges.</p> <p>Groups need to get together and take on responsibility for specific areas. 23 separate invites had been sent out to the meeting. Not everyone can attend meetings but would still like to be</p>	

	<p>involved.</p> <p>Don is willing to take on responsibility for local businesses, although it is often difficult to get them working together. The whole campaign needs to be promoted now, not just in July. Businesses need to be involved which will benefit the town and also tourism. Various suggestions were made about adding planters and hanging baskets etc but theft is sometimes an issue. Owen to obtain costs for baskets to go around lamp posts. Businesses may be able to help with sponsorship. It was suggested that there could be a red white and blue theme to coincide with the Queen's birthday celebrations. There was a discussion on whether there should be a competition for the best shop display which seems to work in other places to get people involved. Article to be included in the next Solway Buzz to appeal for volunteers. There needs to be a recap on what has been achieved so far in terms of Cumbria in Bloom to refresh people's memories and encourage involvement, to better what has already been achieved. Anna will need photographs showing progress throughout the process to go into the portfolio.</p> <p>Next meeting to take place in mid March.</p>	
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Signed.....

Date.....