

**Silloth-on-Solway Town Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 14 December 2015 at 7.00pm at Silloth Community Hall**

**Present**            A.J. Markley (AJM) – Chairman

**Councillors**

J. Cook (JC), I. Baty (IB), G. Wilkinson (GW), O. Martin (OM),  
C. Graham (CG), D. Graham (DG) & S. Graham (SG).

Also present: Wendy Jameson – Town Clerk (WEJ) & Anna Malina – Community Engagement Officer (AM).

427	<b>Apologies</b> Cllrs. W. Jefferson, M. Orchard, D. Pattinson & A. Emmerson. Also Ken Wannop.	
428	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> As recorded.	
429	<b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b> It was agreed that the public be excluded for items 26, 27 & 28 on the Agenda.	
430	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b> Silloth escaped the recent flooding thankfully but our thoughts go out to all those who have been affected due to the unprecedented volume of rain. The Chairman attended a number of events over the last few weeks.	
431	<b>Minutes</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meetings held on the 2 & 9 November 2015 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
432	<b>Adjournment of Meeting</b> There had been no prior requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.	
433	<b>Police Report</b> The Police Report was circulated to members of the Council and taken as read.	
434	<b>Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the schedule of correspondence, notices and publications be noted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cumbria County Council – Consultation on new Council plan, Budget Savings and new ways of working. All the savings proposals and further background are available at <a href="http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/budgetconsultation">www.cumbria.gov.uk/budgetconsultation</a>. Consultation will run until 22 January 2016. <b>RESOLVED</b> Cllrs. to send individual responses in and also include on the January agenda.</li> <li>● Allerdale Borough Council – Consultation on its draft budget for 2016/17. Comments to be submitted before 14 January 2016. Online consultation can be accessed at <a href="https://cumbria.citizenspace.com/allerdale-borough-council/corporate-improvement-team-1/budget-consultation-2016-17">https://cumbria.citizenspace.com/allerdale-borough-council/corporate-improvement-team-1/budget-consultation-2016-17</a>. <b>RESOLVED</b> Cllrs. to send individual responses in and also include on the January agenda.</li> <li>● Letter from Sue Hayman MP re: letters received by people across her constituency, from Lord Egremont claiming mineral rights on their properties. There was a test case in which the mineral rights were proven. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a reply be sent to Sue Hayman to say the Council is aware of the issue and is happy to discuss the matter further if she so wishes.</li> <li>● Allerdale Borough Council – Consultation into changes to parking charges. Closing date 14 January 2015. There are no car parks in Silloth for which there are charges and it therefore doesn't affect Silloth but it does affect local residents who use the car parks within</li> </ul>	<p>All Cllrs.</p> <p>All Cllrs.</p> <p>WEJ</p>

	<p>Allerdale. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a reply be sent to express concern about the increases which should not be excessive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allerdale Borough Council – Proposal to remove Silloth (West Beach) from the list of designated bathing waters. Comments required by 20 January 2016. To bring the standards up to meet the new criteria would be a major issue. If Silloth is removed from the list of designated bathing waters there would be no testing of water. The tides are an issue and also the moving sand. Concerns were expressed, as the proposals do not go well with attempts to improve access to West beach and encourage its use. The matter will be discussed at the STAG meeting tomorrow. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the matter be discussed at the January Council meeting.</li> <li>Letter from Jimmy Lettice regarding the water supply to the Rugby Club and Fitness Centre. Water usage at the Fitness Centre should be minimal as there is only a sink and toilets used. Having a separate supply would be too costly. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a meter needs fitted to monitor the water usage of the fitness centre.</li> </ul>	WEJ   WEJ  WEJ
435	<p><b>Planning Applications</b>  <b>Allerdale Borough Council</b> have approved the following:-  <b>Ref No:</b> 2/2015/0591 <b>Proposal:</b> Single storey extension <b>Location:</b> 74 Skinburness Road, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr D. Austin  <b>Ref No:</b> 2/2015/0602 <b>Proposal:</b> Demolition of 2 existing buildings and erection of new livestock and storage building <b>Location:</b> Blitterlees Farm, Blitterlees, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Miss Elizabeth Elliot</p> <p>The <b>Town Council</b> have approved the following:-  <b>Ref No:</b> 2/2015/0672 <b>Proposal:</b> Installation of a 250kw solar array and associated inverters <b>Location:</b> Silloth Docks, Station Road, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Associated British Ports  <b>Ref No:</b> 2/2015/0662 <b>Proposal:</b> Listed building consent to fit garage door <b>Location:</b> 2 Park Terrace, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr John Morgan</p>	
436	<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks Committee - Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2015 were circulated to members of the Town Council and taken as read. Charges for use of the Green will need to be reviewed next year.</li> <li>The Town Council considered the responsibilities of the Parks Committee which can make some recommendations but the full Council would have to make any major decisions. Common sense should be used in determining what should be brought back to the full Council.</li> </ol>	
437	<p><b>Licences</b> None.</p>	
438	<p><b>Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that verbal reports received from Representatives on Outside bodies be noted.</p>	
439	<p><b>Allerdale &amp; County Council Reports</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that verbal reports received from Allerdale and County Councillors be noted.  Allerdale Borough Council - Things are progressing with the Coastal Community Plan and trying to push things through. The Silloth community are doing their bit to support people affected by the floods by sending things to Carlisle and out West. The Rotary club collected £800-900 in donations outside the Golf Hotel and also made a donation of £600. There has been an excellent response to the appeal for clothing and towels etc. Cllr. Cook is proud of how the community has pulled together.  County Council – Things are coming together in the town and in the county. There was an unprecedented amount of water and our thoughts go out to all those affected. Thanks go to</p>	

	all the services called out to assist which included the Silloth Lifeboat crew who rescued someone in Abbeytown. Currently going through budget reports at the County Council.	
<b>440</b>	<b>Park Manager's Report</b> The Park manager provided a list of work undertaken by the grounds maintenance team over the last month.	
<b>441</b>	<b>Community Engagement Officer's Report</b> Interpretation – Pagoda – The proposal is to have images above the recesses in the Pagoda, with text in the recesses. Various images were shown to Cllrs. at the meeting which will depict the views out of the windows. Bee Garden Lecterns – Vivian has put an awful lot of work into putting information together. Graphical artist is putting the information together for the panels. It was agreed to press ahead with it. Education – Leaflets – The leaflet will be sent to 360 educational establishments with a newsletter by the end of January. 5000 have been printed, so there should be enough to last a while. Website – Anna explained the information which has been added to the Heritage Archives on the Silloth Green website and the educational resources, which includes detailed photos from Vivian and links to other educational resources and videos etc. Green Flag Award 2016 – Closing date for applications is 31 January which Anna will submit. Judging this year will be done by a mystery shop type visit which can take place at any time. Arts Out West – Anna attended a Kathleen Ferrier show at Mawbray which was organised by Arts out West. Silloth can be involved. Cllr. Cook has spoken to Jennifer at Solway Community School as it would be an ideal venue. Finances would need to be in place but if sustainable it would be a positive thing. STAG will progress it further.	
<b>442</b>	<b>Town Clerk's Report</b> The Town Clerk provided a report on work done since the last meeting.	
<b>443</b>	<b>Payment of Accounts</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the payments listed in the register report to 14 December 2015 be approved for payment.	
<b>444</b>	<b>Applications for financial assistance</b> The Town Council considered the following requests for funding:- a) Silloth Rugby Club – Application for £10,000 to install a new kitchen and food preparation area. The Town Council fully support the improvements but are unable to support the request for funding at the present time as there are no resources available. It was suggested that applications be submitted to the neighbourhood forum and 0-19 budget etc. b) North of England Brass Band Championships committee – The Town Council are unable to provide any financial support but the brass bands would be welcome to attend events on the Green. c) Great North Air Ambulance – It was agreed to provide a donation of £100, as it provides a valuable service to the community.	
<b>445</b>	<b>Applications for events</b> None.	
<b>446</b>	<b>Silloth Green - Harvesting of Holly</b> The Town Council considered a request from Mr Keith Bell to allow him to harvest holly from the bushes on the Green for which he would make a contribution to the Town Council. <b>RESOLVED</b> that permission is not granted as the Town Council wish to preserve the holly as a heritage asset.	<b>WEJ</b>

447	<p><b>Speed limit at Causewayhead</b></p> <p>Holme Low Parish Council received a reply from Philip Groom from Cumbria Highways to say that a reduction of the speed limit at Causewayhead would not be possible. There have been requests from local residents to have the speed limit reduced within the town and also within the Crofts estate. People are still parking at corners of junctions which is a real issue. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a letter be sent to Philip Groom to support Holme Low's request for a reduction to the speed limit at Causewayhead and request to see evidence to back up the previous claim relating to the speed of vehicles around the town. Copy of the response to be provided to the Chamber of Trade.</p>	WEJ
448	<p><b>Audit Procurement Changes</b></p> <p>The Town Council considered whether to opt out of the new audit procurement arrangements which are to come into effect from the start of the 2017/18 financial year. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council choose to have an auditor appointed to them by a new 'sector-led body'.</p>	
449	<p><b>Silloth Green – Consultancy &amp; Expert Advice</b></p> <p>It was suggested that the Council consider paying Vivian Russell for the consultancy work undertaken in relation to the lecterns and the education cards. The matter was raised at the Parks Committee meeting and then referred to the full Council. Vivian has not made a request for payment and the work was not actually sanctioned by the Council. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a request would need to come from Vivian with an amount, before the Council can consider the matter. Item to be included on the next Agenda.</p>	WEJ
450	<p><b>Cemetery at Causewayhead</b></p> <p>Various emails had been received in relation to the grounds maintenance of the cemetery at Causewayhead, providing details of all the legal requirements and training etc. The Council may need to look at the costs involved in getting the necessary training. It was questioned whether Allerdale would consider allowing the Town Council's grounds maintenance team to undertake the grass cutting. Further letter to be sent to Allerdale.</p>	WEJ
451	<p><b>Public Conveniences</b></p> <p>The Town Council were to take over the cleaning and maintenance of the public conveniences from March 2016 onwards but Allerdale have come back with a proposal that Allerdale continue to open up the toilet blocks for a further period of 12 months, with the Town Council responsible for the repairs. In the second year the Borough Council contribute 50% of the cleaning costs to the Town Council and after the second year the Town Council become fully responsible for all aspects of providing public toilets within the Town without further financial contribution from Allerdale. <b>RESOLVED</b> that this proposal was acceptable by the Town Council which will phase it in over 2 years. Also that consideration be given in the future to charging for using the facilities.</p>	WEJ
	<p><i><b>RESOLVED</b> that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and that were instructed to withdraw.</i></p>	
452	<p><b>Community Asset Transfers &amp; Sports Club Leases</b></p> <p>No further progress. Leases have been sent to the Sports clubs and the Council is currently waiting for their feedback. It will be for the clubs to seek their own legal advice. Community Asset Transfer is in the hands of the solicitors.</p>	
453	<p><b>Amounts owing to the Town Council</b></p> <p>Bills have been sent to the Sports clubs for the annual rents which have not been paid yet. No other amounts outstanding. Bill has not been sent to Fletchers Amusements yet for the fairground.</p>	

454	<p><b>Budget 2016/17</b></p> <p>The Clerk had produced some draft budget figures for 2016/17. Precept figures have to be submitted to Allerdale by 22 January 2016. The general feeling is that the Precept should not go up. Consideration needs to be given as to whether to continue with the role of Community Engagement Officer and what that role would be etc. It was questioned whether the role could be incorporated within the Discovery Centre or as part of the Coastal Development plan. It was questioned if support could come from Allerdale Borough Council to fund the role. There would need to be a clear role and job description if the role was to continue. <b>RESOLVED</b> that further consideration to be given to items for inclusion within the Budget and item to be included on the next Agenda.</p>	WEJ
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Signed.....

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