

**Silloth-on-Solway Town Council**

**Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 7 September 2015 at 7.00pm at Silloth Community Hall**

**Present**

Cllr. W. Jefferson (WJ) – Deputy Chairman

**Councillors**

J. Cook (JC), A. Emmerson (AE), D. M. Pattinson (DMP), G. Wilkinson (GW),  
M. Orchard (MO) I. Baty (IB), C. Graham (CG) & D. Graham (DG).

Also present: Wendy Jameson – Town Clerk (WEJ).

<b>320</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Cllrs. A.J. Markley, O. Martin & S. Graham. Also Ken Wannop, Anna Malina & PCSO Peter Nichol.	
<b>321</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> As recorded.	
<b>322</b>	<b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b> It was agreed that the public be excluded for items 26, 27, 28 & 29 on the Agenda.	
<b>323</b>	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that a letter of thanks be sent to the Solway Buzz thanking members of the Council and community who have been involved with and supported the very successful season of events in the town which includes Silloth Green Day, Silloth Vintage Rally, the Ragnarock Rally, Fairy Day, Theatre performance on the Green, Silloth Beach Half Marathon, Silloth Sportive event, Silloth Carnival, Tour of Britain activities and the Silloth Music & Beer Festival.	<b>WEJ</b>
<b>324</b>	<b>Minutes</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on the 3 August 2015 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
<b>325</b>	<b>Police Report</b> PCSO Peter Nichol sent his apologies. The Silloth Newsletter provides some useful guidance on crime prevention and it was agreed that a link be included on the Council's Facebook page.	<b>WEJ</b>
<b>326</b>	<b>Adjournment of Meeting</b> There had been no prior requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.	
<b>327</b>	<b>Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the schedule of correspondence, notices and publications be noted. Casual vacancy on CALC Executive Committee. Nominations must be received in the CALC office on or before Friday 16 October. No volunteers. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Email from Richard Irving who is concerned by the lack of B&amp;B's in Silloth and hopes that the Town Council is doing all it can to encourage B&amp;B's and not discouraging them by legislation. The Town Council have never discouraged B&amp;B's. The Council are aware of the potential shortage. A new one has started next to the Rafa Club which is already taking bookings and there are a number of popular holiday lets in the town. As tourism improves and demand increases, then more will accommodation will come available. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a reply be sent to Mr Irving. Clerk to check that the accommodation listing on the Town Council's website is up to date.</li><li>• Publication of reports on scope of Appraisal of Sustainability, and approach to the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Government's (to be developed) draft National Policy</li></ul>	<b>WEJ</b>

	<p>Statement on geological disposal infrastructure. Responses to the consultation questions to be sent by 25 September. The Town Council has not changed its views on geological disposal facilities. Cumbria Trust does an excellent job but some members have had to leave the group due to its lobbying which is having an effect on their businesses etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ulverston Town Council – re: derelict sites which have planning permission but which are then abandoned and blighting their neighbourhoods. Letter to be sent thanking them for their email. <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr. Jefferson write to the MP, with a copy to be sent to Ulverston Town Council. We understand the issues and sympathise. Skinburness Hotel is a prime example of a developer applying for planning permission and then abandoning the property.</li> <li>• Allerdale Borough Council - Consultation on the Draft Local Validation Requirements. Consultation will run from 17 August to 7 September 2015. Allerdale are trying to make planning requirements very clear to prevent people getting it wrong. It was questioned what progress is being made with the houses at the former Fisons site.</li> <li>• Email from David Bryden regarding the public toilet cleaning and maintenance provision at Silloth which comes to an end at the end of March 2016. The town is lucky to have a good provision of public toilets. The Town Council have been happy with the contribution from Allerdale in providing the cleaning. <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr. Jefferson speak with Allerdale to try to get it extended on the same terms, with help from Cllr. Cook if required. Toilets are essential for events in the town which benefits Allerdale. There may be grants available to diversify the use of the toilets which may need to be looked at further.</li> <li>• Email from Carolyn Searle regarding the minutes of the allotment committee and the condition of the footpath running behind the Crofts estate. Minutes are not legal until they have been confirmed by the committee to which they relate. Cllr. Jefferson has asked for guidance from Allerdale’s legal officer. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Town Council are not happy to publish draft minutes on the website but draft minutes can be provided on an individual basis when requested. The maintenance of the Stiles footpath is the responsibility of the Town Council and the Clerk has spoken to the grounds maintenance team to request that it is tidied up.</li> <li>• Email from a visitor to the town about the bad smell coming from the Dock which spoiled their visit. The matter has been reported to Environmental Health at Allerdale Borough Council and is being dealt with. This is not the first time there has been a problem with smell from Caltech. The appropriate action has been taken.</li> <li>• Consultation on the proposed Internal Drainage Board for the Waver Wampool. Email asking if the Council is able to submit a response or whether an extension is needed to allow the proposals to be discussed at the next meeting. The whole decision has now been delayed as the Environment Agency and farmers are questioning the best way forward. If there is an IDB then there will be an increase in Council tax. The matter is to be considered by Allerdale with the full facts presented to them. It could affect a lot of private properties and not just farmers, as there is a lot of low lying land on the Solway Plain. The Council does not have enough information to make a proper decision. Brian at AONB is ensuring that Allerdale are properly briefed before they make a decision. Cllr. Jefferson agreed to ensure that further information is provided to the Council.</li> <li>• Letter from Roy Ivinson regarding access to Silloth beach and the increasing restriction the harbour authority are placing upon it. ABP have a responsibility to protect the area and have prevented access to certain areas but in the future it will be developed to provide picnic benches etc. The land belongs to ABP and we need to be patient to let plans develop. Ed Deeley the Harbour Master would be happy to come and talk to the Council if necessary. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a copy of the letter from Mr Ivinson be forwarded on to Ed Deeley for a response and a reply sent to Mr Ivinson to say we will let him know the outcome.</li> </ul>	<p>WJ</p> <p>WJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p>
328	<p><b>Planning Applications</b> The Town Council approved the following:-</p>	

	<p><b>Plan No:</b> PB/2015/0022 <b>Proposal:</b> Removal of telephone and replace with Defibrillator inside telephone kiosk <b>Location:</b> Phone box at Blitterlees, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr John Sherlock</p> <p><b>Plan No:</b> PB/2015/0026 <b>Proposal:</b> Removal of telephone and replace with Defibrillator inside telephone kiosk <b>Location:</b> Phone box at entrance to Ryehills Road, Skinburness, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr John Sherlock</p> <p>The <b>Town Council</b> refused the following:</p> <p><b>Plan No:</b> PB/2015/0024 <b>Proposal:</b> Removal of telephone and replace with Defibrillator inside telephone kiosk <b>Location:</b> Phone box opposite Golf Hotel, Criffel Street, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr John Sherlock</p> <p><b>Plan No:</b> PB/2015/0025 <b>Proposal:</b> Removal of telephone and replace with Defibrillator inside telephone kiosk <b>Location:</b> Phone box at entrance to the Lido Village, Barracks Bridge, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr John Sherlock - Telephone box is no longer there.</p> <p><b>Allerdale Borough Council</b> has approved the following:-</p> <p><b>Ref No:</b> 2/2015/0354 <b>Proposal:</b> Subdivision of 1 dwelling into 2 dwellings. Resubmission of 2/2015/0087 <b>Location:</b> The Minstrel, Skinburness Road, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr James Graham</p>	
329	<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
330	<p><b>Licences</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
331	<p><b>Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that verbal reports received from Representatives on Outside bodies be noted.</p>	
332	<p><b>Allerdale &amp; County Council Reports</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that verbal reports received from Allerdale and County Councillors be noted.</p>	
333	<p><b>Park Manager's Report</b></p> <p>No report.</p>	
334	<p><b>Community Engagement Officer's Report</b></p> <p>No report.</p>	
335	<p><b>Town Clerk's Report</b></p> <p>The Town Clerk provided a report on work done since the last meeting.</p>	
336	<p><b>Payment of Accounts</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the payments listed in the register report to 7 September 2015 be approved for payment.</p>	
337	<p><b>Applications for financial assistance</b></p> <p>An application for financial assistance was received from Clare Stabler from NADT for the Friday night project. The amount requested is £516 to cover room hire and travel costs. It was questioned whether the Sports Hall should be asked to reduce the rate charged for the use of the hall. It is important to try to keep youngsters here. The project is keen to get youngsters involved in a community project. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Town Council provide a grant of £400 and ask the sports hall to consider reducing the room hire charge to cover the additional £116.</p>	<b>WEJ</b>
338	<p><b>Applications for events</b></p> <p>An application was received from Solway Crafters to hold craft fairs on the Green during 2016 on Fri 25 March – Mon 28 March 2016 and Sat 30 April – Mon 2 May 2016. <b>RESOLVED</b> that</p>	

	permission be granted for the craft fairs. Dates to be considered for next year's events and festivals as they are submitted.	WEJ
339	<p><b>Allerdale Borough Council – Funding</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that £4,000 be allocated to STAG to cover the cost of the Silloth brochure and to support tourism in the town. £400 allocated to the Friday Night project organised by NADT. Notice to be placed in the Solway Buzz to invite applications from organisers of events on Silloth Green for the remaining balance of the funding, after covering the cost of the big screen for the Tour of Britain event.</p>	WEJ
340	<p><b>Free Wifi</b></p> <p>Cllr. Cook met with someone from Allerdale regarding the provision of Free Wifi in the centre of town. It would cost £6,000 to install the antenna and £2,000 p.a. running costs. The antenna would need to be fixed to a brick building, with the Amusement arcade and RNLI station as suggested locations. The range of the signal would only be 150 yards which would not provide a lot of cover on the Green. Allerdale wanted to know if the Town Council would be willing to contribute. Solway Communications have quoted a cost of £2,000 installation and £30 p/m with a range of 500 yards, with the antenna able to be fixed to a lamp post, next to a power supply. The signal can also be directional. <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr. Cook find out more information and sketch out a proposal for the next meeting. Free Wifi will compliment the town and bring people in. The Council would be in favour if it did not cost the town anything. It could be beneficial to have Solway Communications explain what is involved.</p>	JC
341	<p><b>Silloth Community Garden</b></p> <p>There was a proposal that the Council consider the installation of small seating around the story telling chair. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the matter be deferred to the next meeting, as Cllr. Martin was not present.</p>	WEJ
342	<p><b>LOVE my BEACH Campaign</b></p> <p>The campaign is being led by the Environment Agency. People need to be aware of what they are putting down the drains and encouraged to pick up litter and pick up after their dogs. It was suggested that the Council adopt the principles and promote keeping the beach clean as it is important for the area to be attractive. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council support the proposal, with an item to be included on the next agenda.</p>	
343	<p><b>Play Area Safety Inspection Report – Silloth BMX Track</b></p> <p>An inspection was carried out which identified a couple of areas of the track which are in need of repair due to the surfacing becoming worn and exposing the hardcore underneath. The Clerk has spoken to Ken and the repairs are to be attended to asap.</p>	
344	<p><b>Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2015</b></p> <p>The Town Council considered the report from BDO LLP following the external audit of the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015. Although the spending and receipt of public money is monitored, there is a lack of evidence of budget monitoring. The Council must regularly review, and ensure this review, of the actual income and expenditure against the budgeted income and expenditure is monitored, on at least a quarterly basis. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the comments be noted and that regular monitoring will be included on the agenda each quarter.</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>	
345	<p><b>Insurance Claims</b></p>	

	The Clerk has spoken to CT Hayton's today regarding the repair to the Hedge Cutter. They have confirmed that they will proceed with obtaining a replacement machine, at the same price as having the damaged one repaired, the cost of which will be covered by the insurance.	
346	<p><b>Community Asset Transfers &amp; Sports Club Leases</b></p> <p>The County Council's legal representative has been in touch asking for details of the Council's solicitor which has been provided. Bell Park &amp; Kerridge Solicitors have provided an estimate of the costs for dealing with registering the unregistered land - £250.00 plus VAT, as well as the Land Registry fees and also drafting the individual leases with the sports clubs - £750.00 plus VAT per lease, as well as any disbursements payable if required costing between £6.00 to £12.00 for each piece of land. These costs are in addition to the costs for dealing with the Community Asset Transfers and registering of land involved. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the costs be accepted and the solicitor be instructed to carry out the necessary work as soon as possible.</p>	WEJ
347	<p><b>Quotations</b></p> <p><b>Victorian Lighting</b> – The Council are not in a position to consider estimates for the provision of Victorian lighting along the edge of the Green, as all the necessary information is not currently available.</p> <p><b>Renovation of shelter</b> – Four estimates were received for the refurbishment of the shelter on Skinburness Road from Norman Hughes Outdoor Joinery, Mark Beverley Joinery Ltd, Jim Scott Joinery Ltd and Ray Holyoak Joinery Ltd with prices ranging from £1,943 + VAT to £5,020 + VAT. The estimates were considered by the Town Council and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to award the job to Mark Beverley Joinery Ltd at the price of £2,800 + VAT. Story Decorating have offered to paint the building.</p>	WEJ
348	<p><b>Amounts owing to the Town Council</b></p> <p>None.</p>	

Signed.....

Date.....