

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on 1 October 2012

Present:- Cllrs. I. Baty, A.J. Markley, G. Wilkinson, W. Jefferson & D. Wallace, E. Wannop, M. Snaith, C. Graham & C. Baty. Also Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk), Ken Wannop, Insp. Kelly & PCSO Wiosenski.

215 **Apologies**

Cllrs. R.W. Allison & A. Weightman.

216 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Markley - re: County Council, Allerdale Borough Council, energy board, Carrs Coaches etc.

Cllr. Wannop - re: Ken

Cllr. Graham - re: STAG

217 **Exclusion of Press & Public**

There was no need to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting.

218 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman opened the Music & Beer Festival which went well.

219 **Minutes**

After an amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2012 were approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

220 **Police Report**

Insp. Kelly & PCSO Wiosenski attended the meeting. There had been complaints regarding the lack of Policing at the Carnival, as streets were not cordoned off whilst the procession was going around. It had been explained to the Carnival Committee by Alan Taylor that marshalls were needed. It needs to be sorted out with the Carnival Committee, to ensure they adhere to the requirements. In previous years the streets have been closed off to traffic. The Police have not gone down in numbers but have had a reduction in their budget which affects what resources are available. Silloth will be getting its own office with full IT capabilities etc by the end of the year, for Andy and other officers to work from. Letter to be sent to STAG and other committees pointing out that times have changed due to budget cuts etc and they will now need to provide marshals at events. Further letter to be sent to the Police thanking the officers for giving the Council a detailed breakdown of the requirements. PCSO Wiosenski gave a brief summary of incidents of crime since the last meeting. The Council were told that Hubert will be leaving as he has new job down South. He has been very beneficial to the community and the Police will be looking for a replacement.

221 **Adjournment of Meeting**

There had been no requests to adjourn the meeting from members of the public.

Correspondence

- a) Clerks & Councils Direct - September 2012.
- b) Cumbria County Council - Local News & Views - Issue 7 - Summer 2012.
- c) Action with Communities in Cumbria - ACT Gazette Issue 11: Autumn 2012.
- d) North West Air Ambulance - Skylines Autumn/Winter 2012.
- e) Cruse Bereavement Care Cumbria - Information and leaflets promoting the organisation.
- f) Audit Commission - Letter to confirm the appointment of BDO LLP as external auditor to audit the annual returns of the Town Council for 5 years from 2012/13.
- g) Silloth Music & Beer Festival - Letter of thanks to acknowledge receipt of the cheque for £1000 from the Town Council.
- h) Email from Mr Buchan re: Waste repository - thanking the Council for the reply which he feels sure will restore confidence in our town councillors.
- i) Email from Linda Cunningham-Brown re: Waste Repository - thanking the Council for their reply and expressing relief that the Town Council are strongly opposing the plans.
- j) Email from Joe Broomfield at Allerdale re: Criffel Street Market. Current contract with Geraud UK runs until 4 November 2014. Following this the contract will go out to tender. Item to be included on the November Agenda regarding the market, as Mr Broomfield will be attending the meeting.
- k) Allerdale Borough Council - re: Parish Council Training. Dates of training sessions to be held in October on the new Standards regime, including the Code of Conduct and declarations of interest.
- l) Zurich Municipal - Dedicated account handler will soon be in contact to discuss the council's insurance renewal.
- m) Email from Jimmy Lettice asking for additional bins around the sports areas.
- n) Copy of the email from Brian Irving, Solway Coast AONB sent to Alan Smith at Allerdale in support of the Town Council's position regarding the MRWS Partnership's document.
- o) Email from Solway Community Technology College who are delighted to involve the school in the Heart Town Scheme and the use of the school to hold the launch.
- p) Letter from Silloth Primary School who would like to be involved in the British Heart Foundation initiative.
- q) Cumbria County Council - Re: proposed nuclear repository. Letter from Eddie Martin to confirm that the Council's points will be taken into consideration and the letter distributed to his Cabinet colleagues.
- r) Email from Jimmy Lettice asking for permission from the Council to dig a trench to bury some electrical wires to the rugby club and fill in as good as new for a 3 phase electricity supply. Email circulated to members of the Council and there were no objections to the work being carried out as long as the ground was left to a satisfactory standard. Application for financial assistance also submitted.
- s) Cumbria County Council Highways Winter Service 2012/13. Details of changes to enable willing volunteers to become involved. Local Councils are invited to express any interests. The Town Council could apply to be a pilot and get extra supply of grit and keep streets clear of ice and snow. It was agreed that the Council ask to be involved and work with the County Council.

t) Further emails received from Mr Colin Harrow re: Solway Crafters requesting additional information to assist with his submission to the Standards Committee. It was questioned whether Mr Harrow was entitled to ask for the information he had requested. There had been no meeting called to overturn the mayors decision. It had been agreed by the Town Council that the rent be reduced to £100 per weekend and that the previous rent needed to be paid in full before he could attend another event. It was felt the people to deal with this are the Standards Committee, as they are independent and can make a decision. Minutes are clear that if arrears had been paid the Solway Crafters would have been allowed back on the Green. In view of the allegations being made which rely on third party information and hearsay, it was agreed that the Council have nothing further to add. Letter to be sent to Mr Harrow.

u) Cumbria County Council - re: Claiming Public Rights of Way. Information and application forms etc explaining the process for claiming public rights of way. It would be necessary to prove that a path has been used for more over 20 years. When the Sea Dyke was done there were two wildlife areas and rights of way allowed but these have since been fenced off. The information was requested following problems with access to West beach across ABP land. Clerk to check map showing the existing Rights of Way.

v) Email from Cllr. C. Graham asking for the Council's permission for a banner 20ft x 3ft being displayed on the Green to raise people's awareness of the Nuclear Waste Repository. The Town Council have made it clear what their opinion is with regard to the proposed nuclear repository and it has had a real impact. There are large numbers of people in Silloth who were not aware of the potential waste repository. There have been petitions around the town and posters put up. There will be a public meeting on Wednesday at the Golf Hotel to raise awareness of the proposal. Cllr. Markley is unable to speak about this at public meetings. A significant amount of work has been done. There has been a Cabinet re-shuffle and a new cabinet minister in place. Cllr. Markley will be meeting Baroness this week. The decision to be made on 11 October may well be deferred for a few months. It has been County Council policy that decommissioning waste should be stored on the site where it was created unless a rigorous assessment is carried out. The Town Council was Allerdale and the County Council to withdraw their expression of interest. The Town Council did not agree to grant permission for a banner on the Green.

w) Allerdale Borough Council - re: Playground Inspections. Letter asking if the Council would like its playgrounds inspected at a cost of £56 + vat per inspection. Arrangements to be made for the council play areas to be inspected, including the woodland play area.

x) Invitation to the Remembrance Service which is to be held on Sunday 11 November at 9.45 am at Christ Church, Silloth. Cllr. Markley usually attends the service. Wreath to be ordered. HMS Biter have been asked if they will be attending.

223

Planning Applications

a) **Allerdale Borough Council** have approved the following:-

Ref No: 2/2012/0517 **Proposal:** Demolition of existing garage and proposed single storey extension **Location:** 66 Skinburness Road, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Law

b) **Town Council** have approved the following:-

Ref No: 2/2012/9010 **Proposal:** Proposed control kiosk to house electrics and

controls for an underwater wastewater pumping station **Location:** West side of access track, off Golf Terrace, Silloth **Applicant:** United Utilities

Ref No: 2/2012/0638 **Proposal:** Replacement of 7 timber windows to ground floor with UPVC windows **Location:** The Criffel Inn, Criffel St, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr David Halpin. A number of years ago, new windows were put in for which there was no planning permission and they had to be removed.

Ref No: 2/2012/0617 **Proposal:** Single storey extension to rear of property **Location:** 47 Skinburness Drive, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Anthony Allen

224 **Licences**

None.

225 **Committee Reports**

No reports.

226 **Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Primary School Returned to school. Cllr. Markley didn't get to the last governors meeting. There will be an issue about school funding which will affect all schools in a couple of years.

Joint Advisory Committee Met with Paul Shackley from Allerdale. Allerdale were trying to say that the JAC was not legally constituted and that Brian was an Allerdale employee. The AONB is acknowledged by the National AONB. Brian Irving takes his instructions from and is monitored by AONB also paid through Allendale. Things have calmed down and Brian is happy now. JAC meeting next Thursday.

Silloth Tourism Action Group Firework and bonfire evening organised for 26 October. STAG were asked by Anna for support for setting up a new website which will cost £2500. She was told funding was there but this offer has been withdrawn. Money needs to be found to set the website up. It is very in depth and will involve the community and organisers of events etc. Cllr. Markley is willing to put some funds in to get the site up and running. It was agreed that Anna be asked to attend the next meeting to explain what the site will include and where funding can be acquired. Town Council involvement is crucial. West Cumbria Tourism has offered Chis Graham a seat in her capacity as Secretary of STAG. Allerdale gives £20k to West Cumbria Tourism but gives nothing to Silloth. Brian Irving and Cllr. Jefferson have been offered seats but have declined because Silloth is not part of West Cumbria. Cllrs. Markley and Jefferson both sit on Cumbria Tourist Board. AONB report on tourism matters direct to Cumbria Tourism.

Sea Dyke Charity No meeting

Longcake Education Trust Meeting next week.

Solway Community Technology College Back to school. Funding issues. School dinner on 10 October. Race night being held at Golf Hotel on Friday night.

Sports Hall No meeting.

The Space - Silloth Community Hall See agenda item later.

227 **Allerdale & County Council Reports**

Allerdale - Cllr. Snaith - Allerdale have been disturbed by being lobbied by members of the public who still didn't know about the proposed nuclear repository. The three leaders

are going to London. Members of the executive committee were subdued as members if the council were disenfranchised. Situation is fluid but it will be an interesting election next time.

Cllr. Jefferson - By getting Allerdale to withdraw their expression of interest re: nuclear repository it will take the pressure off Silloth and Blackdyke etc. Once involved it is difficult to get out of. Rumour is that it will be January before it is sorted out which will give it time to die down or to gather more information.

Cumbria County Council - Cllr. Markley is listening to everyone's comments and will be voicing his opinions. Baroness is coming up for a two day visit this week. The Government are concerned about it. Highways - Stank bridge was to be started on 1 October but now not going to start due to not having the right machinery and has now been shelved until Spring. Cars will be diverted around by the Abbey and wagons would have to go to Kirkbride or Aspatria. Still waiting for the relevant documentation before repairs can be carried out at Beckfoot. Need various environmental permissions in place. Leader is in Toronto at the expense of the Nuclear Decommissioning Agency.

228 Handyman's Report

The Water Splash area was switched off at the weekend of the Beer festival. Kids have been putting stones on the pressure pads to keep the water running. Water Splash has been switched off because of the weather but if there is some good weather it can be switched back on. Ken asked where the water splash equipment is to be stored over the winter period. Cllr Baty offered the use of his container. There has been some incidents of damage on the Green - Pagoda window was damaged. Graffiti on some of the water splash equipment. Some fires have lit under some of the equipment in the Pines. Catches on the toilet doors are not working - contractors have been emailed about this. Ken has been asked by the Christmas Lights Committee if it will be okay to put Christmas tree in flower bed opposite Church. Ken suggested that it be sunk into the ground and covered over when not in use, rather than the big white contained. It would need to be dug put by hand. This was agreed by the Town Council. It was questioned why some of the new trees are dying. Contractor is responsible for looking after them for the first year. Work was to be done to the gorse bushes opposite Lido entrance but it was agreed that a letter be sent to Skinburness Residents Association for their feelings. Some residents want the work done and some don't. Let residents association ask the question.

229 Town Clerk's Report

Launch of Heart Town - 16 October at Solway Community Technology College. Paul Shackley wants to meet with the Council but not in a full Council meeting. Clerk to arrange a meeting to include Cllrs. Baty, Markley and Wilkinson. 23 October to be suggested.

230 Requests for Financial Assistance

A request Silloth RUFC for funding towards the increased cost of the electricity supply for the new flood lights was received. The Council have already given them funding towards lights. Cables have been laid to the four corners. It was suggested that a letter be written to the electricity people expressing concerns at the costs. A trench has been dug across the tarmac to the rugby club which has not been reinstated yet. The Council

agreed in the past that any requests from sports clubs had to be considered at the annual meeting with the clubs. Clerk to check what the last funding went towards i.e. mobile lights or flood lights. Rugby club should go back to the RFU.

231 Payment of Accounts

The Clerk produced a register report to 1 October 2012 which provided details of cheque payments and other transactions through the Town Council's current account. The list of cheque payments were approved by the Town Council for payment.

232 Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2012

The Town Council considered the issues raised by the internal auditor following the audit of the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2012. His comments were noted. There were no issues raised by the external auditor on the Annual Return.

233 2013/14 Budget

The Clerk asked the Council to consider items for inclusion in the 2013/14 Budget. A lot depends on the meeting with Mr Shackley. Funding to be included for the Community Space and ongoing events on the Green. Budget meeting will be held in December.

234 Electricity Consumption on the Green

It was previously agreed that consumption would be monitored and whether to charge event organisers would be at the Council's discretion. Some of the fittings in the feeder pillar opposite the Church are wrong and need to be changed from 32 to 64. Cost to be obtained to get the sockets changed.

235 Loose Canons

A lot of confusion can be caused due to too many people getting involved. No-one can make a decision without the authority of the Council. Any altercations with the public or outside bodies should be brought back to the Council. A Cllr. can express their own individual opinion but they are not acting on behalf of the Council. Cllrs. should not be issue orders to members of staff. Clerk is the line manager and working in conjunction with the Mayor. Cllrs. need to stop leaping in and instead bring things back to the Council. The Council need to speak as one body and anyone representing the Council needs to make it clear if they are expressing their personal opinion.

236 The Green Project- Update on progress

Jason Dixey has been asked how much money is left. There is £53633 remaining in the Capital budget but out of that BMW track will cost £20k and signage £7k. Pruning and town garden not yet expended, also equipment, materials and volunteer labour. There should be approx £26k left. Claim has not yet gone into lottery. It was agreed that Jason be invited to the next Town Council to see what funding is left and how it can be utilised.

237 The Space - Update on progress

The Clerk had put together various Policy documents for The Space, compiled in accordance with guidance from ACRE. The Council agreed to the contents of the Memorandum of Understanding and the adoption of various Policy documents. Further

meeting to be held to move things forward. Outside of the building is almost complete. Waiting for the weather to improve and then the external painting can be done.

238 Youth Club Lease

The Clerk had put together some draft terms for a lease between the Town Council and the Youth Club. It was agreed that these be considered and brought back to the next Council meeting.

239 Code of Conduct

The Town Council adopted the code dealing with the conduct that is expected of members and co-opted members of the Council when they are acting in that capacity as required by section 27 of the Localism Act 2011.

240 Amounts owing to the Town Council

The only amount outstanding is the amount owed by Solway Crafters.

Signed..... Date.....