

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on 2 December 2013

Present:- Cllrs. A.J. Markley, G. Wilkinson, I. Baty, S. Graham, C. Baty, M. Orchard & Cllr. Jefferson. Also Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk), Ken Wannop, Inspector Kelly & PC Andy Robertson.

There was a minutes silence in memory of Gus Proud, a former long serving member of the Council who has sadly died.

618 Apologies:- Cllr. D. Wallace, A. Weightman, A. Emmerson & C. Graham. Also Anna Malina.

619 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Markley – re: Markley Transport, Carrs coaches, County Council etc
Cllr. M. Orchard – Silloth RUFC

620 Exclusion of Press & Public

It was agreed that the public be excluded for items 23, 24 & 25 on the Agenda.

621 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman and his wife had attended various events over the last month which included the re-inauguration ceremony of HMS Biter at Manchester. The Remembrance Day service was well attended, with the crew from HMS Biter also present. He had attended a service at Carlisle Cathedral at the request of the High Sheriff and also a performance of Shakespeare at the Theatre by the Lake by Solway Community School and three other schools. He had attended a Christmas show at the school, the Christmas Lights switch on and various things on the Green. On 14 December from 12-1 there will be sherry and mince pies on the Green, with the Mayor of Allerdale attending. Also attending a Carol service by the Chairman of the County Council.

622 Minutes

The Council had previously discussed having a public meeting but it was now agreed that a note be put in the Buzz to say that there would not be a public meeting held and informing people of the Council's response to the DECC consultation document.

After a minor amendment to the minutes of 4 November, the minutes of the meetings held on the 4 & 11 November 2013 were approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

623 Police Report

PC Robertson gave a report of incidents of crime since the last meeting. The Police are liaising with the school and youth club regarding incidents involving youngsters. There had been a burglary at the Golf Club and goods have been recovered. The Police have been quietly clamping down on speeding, use of mobile phones and not using seatbelts etc. There is a low crime rate here and the Police are able to fluctuate the policing plan to cover areas that are more in need.

624 Adjournment of Meeting

There had been no prior requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

625 Silloth Green

a) Training – no update.

b) Signage – Met with representative from Border Signs. Tenders for signage are to go out shortly.

c) BMX Track – Construction is almost complete. There are concerns about the fencing. There has been an error on the plans and interpretation of where the metal fencing was to go. The contractors have suggested putting wooden fencing up which could be done by the opening day. The Council felt it was important from a Health and Safety point of view, that the front fence is done to segregate the work area from the BMX track and that the metal fencing be used as it would be more substantial. It was agreed that the fencing be taken out of the contract and the Council get the work done by local contractors.

Cllr. Markley, S. Graham, Ken and the Clerk to work together to get the work done before the opening.

RoSPA need to inspect the track before it opens and it was agreed that Jason be asked to arrange the inspection. If there are any problems highlighted they will be addressed. Signage will be going up shortly. Climbing wall is coming from the Fire Service for the opening event. A whacker plate is needed to maintain the track and it was agreed that this be obtained up to a value of £500 which would come out of the capital element of the maintenance budget. Vouchers will be given out at the opening event for Whiteheads. Sweatshirts have been printed up for kids who had the initial idea for the track. Food to be provided for kids attending the opening event. The ribbon will be cut by the kids. The Mayor of Allerdale, Bill Bacon will be coming and also Alan Barry. Ken and team are to erect fencing to create an arena which is 12m x 25m. STAG will be putting their marquee up and market Mark will be supplying refreshments.

d) Silloth Green Day – plans are progressing.

e) Green Flag Award – Green Flag are pleased with what we are doing and have noticed the story about the BMX track on the Silloth Green website. A spot check will be taking place this year rather than a judge visiting on a specified day.

Gorse bushes on Skinburness Road have been cut back and it has been a job well done, with a lot of positive comments received by Cllr. Markley.

626 Correspondence

a) Cumbria Association of Local Councils – Annual Report 2013.

b) Cumbria County Council – Go Cumbria – Bus Timetable and Travel Guide – 4 November to 13 April 2014.

c) CALC Circular – November 2013.

d) Green Flag Award Scheme – Newsletter – Winter 2013.

e) Connecting Cumbria – Newsletter – November 2013.

f) Email from S Hart to complain about the chopping of perfectly healthy trees at the sports area when the cutting back of the bushes around the bridge area would suffice.

g) Cumbria County Council – changes to Service 60: Skinburness – Maryport – Workington. From 6 January a reduced 2 hourly timetable will be introduced Mon to Sat, whilst the Sun service is being withdrawn.

h) CALC – Allerdale District – Minutes of the AGM held on 26 September 2013 at the Community Centre Crosby.

i) Email from Geoff Smith to say the deadline for the MRWS2 consultation has been extended to 19 December.

j) CALC – Invitation to stand for elections to NALC's smaller Council's committee. Nominations to be forwarded to CALC by Monday 25th November.

k) CALC – Invitation to stakeholder event on Government's consultation on revised siting process for a geological disposal facility (GDF) to be held in Penrith on 12 November.

l) CALC AGM – Email providing links to draft responses of other bodies to the consultation paper on a revised siting process for a nuclear repository.

m) Email from Philip Jones thanking the Council for their support in opposing the wind turbines at Lowick and offering the Council support in relation to local applications.

n) Email from Jimmy Lettice to say that contractors will be starting tomorrow and tarmac issue will be addressed. Thanks to be passed on the Ken and team for speedy response to requests although a couple of more bins may be needed when available. Also asking for an update in registering land with Land Registry.

o) Email from Peter Haley at Allerdale to confirm that FCC will pay for the concrete for the hard standing area in the council depot.

p) Email from Richard Greenwood, Cumbria Tourism to say that they have not come across Fake Festivals in Cumbria. Based on their website and speaking to a colleague in Bath there were no negative comments to report. Suggests that a licence be granted for an event and closely monitor it.

q) United Utilities – Winter Wise - new campaign – Winter warning to help homeowners avoid costly frozen pipes this winter.

r) Cumbria County Council – Urgent Temporary Road closure to allow urgent repairs to the carriageway B5300 Dubmill Point to Mawbray for a period of up to 5 days from Monday 11 November.

- s) Cumbria in Bloom – AGM and Participants Forum to be held at the Conference Centre, Newton Rigg College, Penrith on 18 November 2013 at 11am.
- t) Solway Community Technology College – Letter of thanks for the Town Council’s support of the annual Prize Giving evening.
- u) Fake Festivals - Email from Lee to confirm all the conditions stated but question the insurance cover in relation to the marquee which will be used by the Silloth Green event on the Sunday.
- v) Letter from James Baxter expressing an interest in the position on the Town Council.
- w) Invitation to the next Local Healthwatch Allerdale meeting to be held at St Michaels Parish Church library, Workington on 26 November 2013 - 1.30pm to 4pm.
- x) DECC – Consultation – review of the siting process for a Geological Disposal Facility. Email to confirm receipt of the Town Council’s response to the consultation.
- y) Email from Peter Haley at Allerdale regarding the dog fouling stencils and asking for confirmation if the Council do not want any permanent logos applied in our area. Email sent.
- z) Email to confirm the 2014 judging categories and confirming that Silloth Green will be a mystery shop in 2014.
- aa) Letter from Mrs Lathan expressing concerns about the children’s woodland play area. The play area is regularly inspected and an annual inspection carried out by an independent inspector which is due to be done shortly.
- bb) Email from Jimmy Lettice to confirm that the ducting for the 3 phase is going in and hopefully completed very soon. Also information about possible funding available from RFU towards pitch repairs and maintenance. There would be £5,000 funding available to spend on materials to improve the pitch. The Town Council are happy to work with the rugby club to secure the funding.
- cc) Allerdale Borough Council – re: Public conveniences. Email from David Bryden. Budget allocated for the improvement works is £15,000 and this cannot be exceeded, however if tender price is less than the budget figure, the residue could be used to address other area if work. Job to be put out to tender based on the original specification. January would be the best time to undertake the work. It is important the work is done to the drainage, as flooding was an ongoing problem.
- dd) CALC – Letter from a postgraduate student looking at what effect, if any the presence of the nuclear industry has on how we see our place as citizens in a local, national and global society. He is looking for volunteers for a short focus group discussion. Cllr. Markley will attend if he can.
- ee) Email from Debbie McGrath regarding costs etc for putting together a business plan. It was agreed that due to cost and time implications this was not something the Council would proceed with at the present time.
- ff) CALC – Both the County Council and Allerdale would like to speak to local councils in Allerdale regarding the budget consultation and the removal by ENW of footway lighting. Meeting to take place on Thurs 12 December at 7.00pm at Bothel Village Hall. If there is anyone available, they will attend.
- gg) CALC – re: County Council Budget Consultation – One of the savings proposals is to cease to subsidise ‘bus services and instead work with communities to find community solutions’. Details of bus services which would be affected are attached. The changes will affect the evening service (71) between Carlisle and Silloth. Letter to be sent to express the Council’s disappointment that the service is to be cut. The service needs to be kept as this is rural area and reduction in bus services cuts a community off.
- hh) Email from S. Hart regarding a sport and music festival. Also funders interested in developing the old all weather area and football pitch but need to discuss the possibility of a lease to access funding. There needs to be full agreement between the sports clubs. There needs to be a Sports Association formed and then come back with a firm plan rather than individual requests. Permission has already been granted for Colin to use the area near the all weather area for football training. It had previously decided not to develop the all weather area due to concerns from local residents. Application for an event already provided.
- ii) Email from Jimmy Lettice. Permission requested, if they are successful in their applications for shelters dug outs to erect them pitch side. Consideration of the funding applications will take place when the budget is agreed for 2014/15 and also the siting of the dug outs.

Planning Applications

The **Town Council** have approved the following:-

Ref No: 2/2013/0765 **Proposal:** Proposed detached garage with storage and home office at first floor
Location: 294 Skinburness Road, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Mike Taylor
Ref No: 2/2013/0690 **Proposal:** Proposed demolition of 8 buildings **Location:** Former Fisons Site, Harvest Industrial Estate, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Lorne Entwistle, Harvest Park Developments Ltd
Ref No: 2/2013/0778 **Proposal:** Erection of fence – retrospective **Location:** Seafield House, 7 Pine Terrace, Silloth **Applicant:** Mrs Tracey Galloway-Smith

628 **Committee Reports**

None

629 **Licences**

None

630 **Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Primary School: No problems.

Joint Advisory Body: Cllr. Jefferson provided a verbal report.

Silloth Tourism Action Group: No report. Continuing to have meetings and making plans for future events. Need a full list of dates for events next year.

Sea Dyke Charity: No meeting.

Longcake Education Trust: No meeting.

Solway Community Technology College: Attended Rotary event. Group of Yr 9 pupils are going into a cookery competition and two have been selected to enter.

Sports Hall: No meeting.

631 **Allerdale & County Council Reports**

Allerdale: Allerdale are currently making their decision on what to do in relation to the DECC consultation on the process. They seem happy for Town/Parish Councils and the County Council to be sidelined and for the Borough Council to make the decisions. The Lake District National Park have sent in their response to the consultation and categorically refuse to have any nuclear dump in the park. AONB response has gone in and the Town Council one.

County Council: County Council have submitted their response to the DECC consultation and local parishes have been encouraged to respond. Cllr. Markley has chaired a sub group on Scrutiny and LEP. County Council have accepted it and are moving forward. Cllr Markley is the vice chair of IFKA and has been acting Chair as the Chairman has resigned. Next Forum meeting is on Tues 10 December at Aspatria. Defibrillators – there are already 12 in the town with a further 2 accessible to the public. Needs publicised to let people know where they are. Tony is meeting with someone from Heart Foundation. Shelter up Skinburness needs looked at to see whether it can be repaired. Speed bumps on the road to Convalescent Home have caused complaints and also the restriction in the access for vehicles to West Beach but as this is private land it is outside the remit of the Town Council.

632 **Park Manager's Report**

Ken gave a detailed report on what grounds maintenance work has been done since the last meeting.

633 **Town Clerk's Report**

The Clerk provided a detailed report of work done since the last meeting. There has been no election called to fill the vacancy on the Town Council and therefore the Council need to co-opt to fill the vacancy. Budget for 2014/15 needs to be considered and any suggestions to be forwarded to the Clerk. Allotment committee meeting to be held on Monday 9 December.

634 **Requests for Financial Assistance**

West Cumbria Rape Crisis – It was agreed that no donation be provided at the present time due to budget constraints but could consider a donation next year.

635 **Payment of Accounts**

The Clerk produced a register report to 2 December 2013 which provided details of cheque payments and other transactions through the Town Council's current account. A detailed review of the Town

Council's assets, equipment, liabilities etc has been carried out prior to the insurance renewal. The Council agreed to enter into a 5 year agreement with Zurich Municipal which would save £2862.75 over the 5 years. The list of cheque payments were approved by the Town Council for payment, with the payment to Zurich amended to £6903.44.

636 Application for an event

Application has been received from Fake Festivals following permission having been granted for the event.

637 Sports ground

Following the installation of an earth barrier underneath the railway bridge by contractors on the Fisons site, there are concerns that the bank will be left there. It is located across the piece of land which was to be transferred to the Town Council by Cumbria County Council and where the new footpath was to go. Email received from David Rawle at County Council asking if there had been any progress on site. Cllr. Markley suggested that Dominic Donnini and Mike Smith be contacted on the matter. Email to be sent requesting that the boundary be put back to where it should be. The barrier was probably put there to protect the site.

638 Sports Club Leases and registering of land etc

The Clerk has reviewed the current leases and been in touch with DWF Solicitors to ascertain the cost of drawing up new leases between the sports clubs and the Council, registering the land etc and amending the Rugby Club lease. The total cost would be over £4000. It was suggested by the solicitor that the Rugby Club would be responsible for the cost of amending the rugby club lease which is normal practice. If the rugby club want the land etc registered, then there will be a legal costs involved but it was questioned whether this is necessary. Leases could be drawn up between the clubs and the Town Council without solicitors involved but these may not be sufficient for funders requirements.

639 Review of Standing Orders

Following the issue of new model standing orders, these were amended by the Clerk to suit the Council's requirements. These were reviewed and adopted for use by the Town Council.

RESOLVED 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.

640 Community Hall refurbishment

Some tenders have been received for work to the interior of the building but as there have not been sufficient quotes received, it was agreed that the matter be deferred until the January meeting to allow contractors more time to gets prices in. Clerk to inform the contractors involved.

641 Review of Town Clerk's hours

The Clerk requested that the Council review her weekly hours, as she is now regularly working over 30 hrs a week, as opposed to the 20 hrs for which she is paid. The Clerk left the meeting and after some consideration the Council agreed to offer an additional 5 hrs per week, with a further review in 12 months. This was accepted by the Clerk and she thanked the Council.

642 Amounts owing to the Town Council

The bills have been sent to the Sports clubs for this year's rent which have not been paid but there are no concerns as yet.

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