

Minutes of a meeting of Silloth Town Council
Held 5 March 2012

Present:- Cllrs. I. Baty, A.J. Markley, G. Wilkinson, C. Graham, S. Graham, D. Wallace, E. Wannop, R.W. Allison, M. Snaith, A. Weightman & W. Jefferson. Also PC Andy Robertson, PCSO Hubert Wiosenski, Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk) & Ken Wannop.

020 **Apologies**
Cllr. C. Baty

021 **Declaration of Interest**
Cllr. Markley - County Council, Allerdale Borough Council, school & Markley transport.
Cllr. Wannop - re: Ken Wannop.
Cllr. C. Graham - re: STAG.

023 **Exclusion of Press & Public**
It was agreed that items 21, 22, 23 & 24 be discussed without the Press and Public present.

024 **Chairman's Announcements**
No announcements.

025 **Minutes**
Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2012 were approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

026 **Police Report**
PC Andy Robertson gave a summary of crime logs for the last 3 weeks during which time the Police have been very busy. There had been various acts of antisocial behaviour, damage to vehicles, thefts and the major incident being the robbery from the Cumberland Building Society by a man armed with a knife. A man has since been arrested and charged and was also responsible for the damage to 8 vehicles which had their tyres slashed. PC Robertson thanked the townsfolk for their help with the robbery etc and in assisting the Police in their enquiries. Cllr. Markley has written to the Building Society following the incident about the premises in that there are no partitions to protect staff and for the confidentiality of their customers. It was questioned whether a letter needs to be sent from the Town Council. It is the Building Societies policy to be open. It was agreed that a letter be sent to express concern for the public and staff working there.

027 **Allerdale Youth Council**
Rebecca Whent and Rachel Gaw attended the meeting to discuss the development of the Allerdale Youth Council and the possible involvement by the Town Council. An attempt was made to set up a youth council in Workington but they were not getting good representation from the rest of Allerdale. Wigton are looking at setting up a Neighbourhood youth forum. Set up an Allerdale youth assembly with 4 people

attending from Silloth. Trying to develop so that they can have a voice locally. Rachel works with young people and finds out what the issues are both positive and negative. Works with Lois Baird and the school council. They have a strong voice and are keen to be heard. 50 youngsters attended the Allerdale Youth assembly together with people who make decisions, covering issues of transport, crime & disorder, health, stereotypes and environment & community. The aim of the day was to get their voice heard. They are currently devising a next steps action plan. Keen to work with youngsters in their own areas and develop partnerships in their own areas. Getting involved with the skate park. The kids are not getting a wish list but can see what can happen and the chance to voice their views. The school are keen to work with the Council. Litter and dog muck has been brought up and is a problem in a lot of areas. Want to set up a speed-networking event where everyone gets the chance to ask 3 questions in a limited amount of time. It will bring people together to see what can be done and break down the barriers between youngsters and authorities etc. The skate park will be for the community, not just for youngsters and will help them to take ownership of projects. Decision makers at the youth assembly have taken on board the youngsters comments. Rebecca and Rachel offered their help and support. Members from Silloth would feed into the Cumbria youth council. Could be part of the remit for the Community Engagement officer who will shortly be in post.

028 Adjournment of Meeting

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

029 Correspondence

- a) Cumbria County Council - Your Cumbria magazine - Spring 2012.
- b) BDO - Audit Briefing - Winter 2012.
- c) Clerks & Councils Direct - March 2012.
- d) Friends of the Lake District - Our Green Space.
- e) Cumbria Foods Direct - Information and poster.
- f) DWF LLP - Lease of the Green - Letter enclosing the lease and giving details of the amendments to the clauses and lease plans which are to be initialed and returned to DWF.
- g) Cumbria County Council - Town & Country Planning - Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework Resubmission of Site allocations policies and proposals map. Documents can be downloaded from www.cumbria.gov.uk
- h) Letter from Mr & Mrs Fraser of Fairways View who are in favour of the children having a bike/skate park but object to it being located on the old tennis courts due to previous abusive behaviour and rubbish etc.
- i) Great North Air Ambulance - Letter of thanks for the donation of £100.
- j) Mencap - Letter of thanks for the donation of £50.
- k) Cumbria County Council - Letter acknowledging receipt of the Council's comments regarding the proposed changes to household waste recycling centres.
- l) Allerdale Borough Council - re: Dog fouling. Street cleaning contractor to give attention to Esk St. Environmental Wardens are aware of the problem. John Somerset will also keep an eye on the area.
- m) Email from Bill and Winifred Allan expressing their concerns about the putting green

being located opposite Lawn Terrace and potential damage caused by golf balls. It will be a putting green not a driving range, so it is not anticipated that there will be any damage. In August 2010 the plans showed the Putting Green opposite Lawn Terrace together with its mounds etc. Mr & Mrs Allan's comments were noted.

n) Cumbria County Council - re: Bus Infrastructure Information. Introduction to Denene Kerr and request for information.

o) Request for a meeting between the Town Council and The Space to jointly formulate and agree a plan acceptable to both parties, to enable them to bid for money. Copy of letter received from Cumbria Waste Management. Town Council were not in favour of any formalised agreement. Prefer a loose flexible partnership with a shared vision etc. The Town Council will give them 100% support for the endeavours of The Space. The Town Council are happy to send them a letter of support and if that's not sufficient then they can come back to the Council.

p) Request from Jimmy Lettice for a meeting with representatives of the Town Council to provide an update on plans for the sporting clubs and sports area. The Town Council want a proper brief of what the clubs want to discuss. Looking to build an impressive facility with rugby, football and tennis under one roof, working together. Town Council needs something in black and white, with a plan so we know what we are looking at. Funding is available. Copy of plans to be obtained and ask them to do a presentation to the Town Council, with a view to meeting at a later date.

030 Planning Applications

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

Application under Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to carry out works to trees in Silloth Conservation Area - Land at Silloth Green. Allerdale have considered the proposed works and has decided not to make a tree preservation order and therefore the work can proceed.

031 Committee Reports

13 February 2012 - Parks Committee meeting

20 February 2012 - Parks Committee meeting

The comments raised by the Parks committee regarding the footpaths have been forwarded to The Green project board.

032 Licences

None.

033 Reports from Representatives

Primary School Everything is running ok.

Joint Advisory Committee Good meeting - the best attended. Solway wetlands project is an extension of the AONB. Good reputation nationally, with 3 ½ staff and 200 volunteers.

Silloth Tourist Action Group Jubilee weekend - pulling things together and linking with the school.

Silloth Regeneration Partnership Formally closed the Regeneration partnership and made offers to members to join STAG. Remaining money (approx. £6000) will go back

to the Town Council as funds came from there.

Sea Dyke Charity Meeting next Monday. Town Council are happy for Cllr. Markley to continue as the Town Council's representative.

Longcake Education Trust There was a meeting but Cllr. Wilkinson was unable to attend.

Solway Community Technology College There are plans to merge the library with the Discovery Centre and TIC. AONB and Allerdale are on board with the proposal. The library could be developed. The move will bring life back to the Discovery Centre and should not be detrimental to the school.

Sports Hall There is damage to the guttering, caused by the trees which have since been pruned.

Silloth Community Hall - The Space Cllr. Wallace to represent the Town Council.

034 Allerdale & County Council Reports

Allerdale Borough Council - The concern is that there is need for Allerdale to save money to keep the Government happy which may affect our services. If we want the public toilets opened and closed at a specific time we may need to pay for it. Allerdale have tried to make savings without touching the Council tax but it is likely to go up next year. They have pushed things to the lowest level. Allerdale proposed to increase the rates whereas County Council didn't. There are proposals to increase a salary or two including the Leader.

Cumbria County Council - Voted not to increase the Council tax this year.

Government offered £5.5m but it might cost more in the long run. There is still £30-£40m still to save. Things are going through Cabinet next week. 15 March -

Neighbourhood Forum meeting - will be showing a 10 min MRWS video because the consultation ends in March. There are 2 or 3 growth pots - encouraging County Council to put a bid in for Cumbria - to extend the cycle track from Silloth to Allonby. The track between Allonby and Maryport is already being done. CNDR is now open. Sports hub - pot of money there if they can get bids in. Aspatria care home is finishing and building a new one in Barrow. Closed three - Aspatria, Workington and Distington. Decision will be made next month. Consultations will be taken on board when decision is made.

Waste recycling sites - decision will be made next week.

035 Handyman's Report

Shelters have been painted. Play area - bark and edging done. Spent 2-3 weeks clearing the woods opposite the compound. Rotary would like to plant 60 new trees and involve the kids in planting them to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. It was questioned whether the fencing will be continued right round. Cllr. Jefferson to see if he can get some young trees for free through AONB etc. It would cost £3 each for year old trees from Leslies. Can be bought from the internet for £1 each. Town Council to pay for them if necessary.

036 Town Clerk's Report

Nothing to report.

037 Requests for Financial Assistance

The Town Council considered the request for financial assistance from Silloth Music and Beer Festival. The funding is basically required for advertising. In the past the Festivals Committee have helped fund the festival. It was questioned what the relationship was between the Festivals Committee and the Beer Festival. Up to date bank statement required for the Beer Festival, as the one supplied was for the Festivals Committee. The Town Council agreed in principle to provide funding of £1000 once the bank statement has been received.

038 Payment of Accounts

The Clerk produced a register report 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. The amount paid for water rates for the Changing Rooms was queried - this is being taken up with United Utilities by the Clerk.

039 Applications for events

An application was received from the Kite Festival. Further clarification is needed re: Marquee, bar and dance etc. Bar is run by First Responders. Profit goes to the Kite Festival as it was expensive to put on. Town Council have no problem with the Kite Festival and raising funds but not in favour of the marquee being used for private functions.

040 The Green Project

A) Update on progress

Site meeting tomorrow in the Golf Hotel. Pagoda will be painted in its original colours - light blue and sky blue. It was originally part of the British Railways. It will look different.

B) Part-time Parks Warden and Community Engagement Officer

Park Warden - Interviews have taken place for the Parks Warden position and there are three good candidates. The interview panel could not agree on who to appoint and it was agreed to put it to the Council and go with what they decide. There was concern that the interview panel were working from criteria not relevant to the job. Some Cllrs. felt strongly that jobs should go to people in Silloth. Need the best person for the job and should be inclusive of how convenient it is for that person to do the job. It was questioned whether the post should be re-advertised. Criteria did not give any weight towards candidates being local. It is now up to the Town Council to make a decision on who to appoint from the short list of 3 people. The marking would not have been so close if proper weighting had been given to locality. Availability should have been in the criteria. It was therefore agreed that Mark Collin be appointed as Park Warden. Cllr. C. Graham requested that it be recorded that she could not agree to the decision.

Community Engagement Officer - Candidates have been short listed and interviews will be taking place on Thursday. It needs to be the right person for the job. There is no local person being interviewed. Position needed 2 A-levels and relevant experience. There was less of a need for someone local to do this job. Cllr. Baty was not happy that

the job would be going to someone out of town. One candidate could not be considered as he had been a member of the Town Council within the last 12 months. Four people are to be interviewed on Thursday and two have yet to get in touch.

041 Ice cream and/or food concessions on the Green

Three tenders have been received for ice cream and/or food concessions on the Green for the 2012 season which were opened at the meeting by the Chairman. The tenders ranged from £50 to £700 for the Pines car park and from £500 to £4230 for the Lifeboat station site. It was agreed that the Parks committee evaluate the tenders.

042 Estimates

Two estimates had been received for the resurfacing of the footpath from the Bowling club down to the Rugby Club. The Town Council agreed that Tolson's be asked to carry out the work at the quoted price of £2350.

043 Amounts owing to the Town Council

Nothing of any concern.

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