

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on 7 April 2014

Present:- Cllrs. A.J. Markley, G. Wilkinson, S. Graham, A. Emmerson, J. Baxter, M. Orchard, A. Weightman & C. Graham. Also Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk), Anna Malina & Ken Wannop.

758 **Apologies:-** Cllrs. I. Baty, C. Baty & D. Wallace. Also PCSO Pete Nichol.

759 **Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. A.J. Markley – re: Markley Transport, Carrs Coaches, County Council etc.

Cllr. A. Emmerson – re: STAG & schools.

Cllr. C. Graham – re: STAG & SPAND.

Cllr. J. Baxter – re: Silloth Rugby Club & Sports Hall.

Cllr. M. Orchard – re: Silloth Rugby Club.

760 **Exclusion of Press & Public**

It was agreed that the public be excluded for items 24, 25 & 26 on the Agenda.

761 **Chairman's Announcements**

Cllr. Markley attended an event at Shap Wells for the changeover of the High Sherrif. He also presented Citizen Awards at Solway Community School and attended the opening of the Coastal path between Allonby and Maryport. Cllr. Markley has been asked to meet with Alan Barry for tea at Cumbria County Council and will present a plaque from the Town Council in appreciation, as County Council have done a lot of work with the Town Council. Cllr. Markley has spoken to the Corporate Director with regard to the sports ground and there should be a community land asset transfer going ahead and the Town Council will become the owners of it. Rory Stewart is organising an event to link Hadrian's Wall and it was suggested that a beacon be placed at Skinburness to link up with Bowness. Tony will pursue it further.

762 **Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 3 March 2014 were approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

763 **Police Report**

PCSO Pete Nichol sent his apologies and emailed a copy of the up to date Newsletter which is also available on the Cumbria Police website.

764 **Silloth Green**

Signage – Some files sent to Border Signs by email had not got there but things are back on track now. Anna has worked with Barry Hope and Mr Ostle to get photos. Maps need some alterations and the logos need some work. Any feedback from the Council would be welcome. Once designs have been agreed by Jane, Anna will send copies to the Clerk to circulate to the Council. Signage should be up by the end of April/beginning of May.

Community Garden – Moota will be on site on Mon 14 April to do the hard landscaping work. Fencing is to be put up around the garden. The story tellers chair is going to be heavy to lift. Need to liaise with Moota to decide where it is going to be sited.

Green Flag – will be judged whenever it takes place.

Training – Owen is attending a 2 day course in 1st Aid and will get a level 3 certificate in 1st Aid. All groups are aware that training for risk assessments and 1st aid is available.

Funding – Anna is working with Friends of the Green and STAG to apply for funding to support events on the Green etc. The Theatre on the Green event is happening in August. Email has been received from Nick Herepath to say the bid has been successful for the £9,600 for the Silloth Airfield project. A form is to be filled in for the permission to start. There will be a lot of work involved. FLAG – an expression of interest has been written. STAG have put in a bid for funding but have been offered 50%

of the funding rather than the 80%. They have now asked for a full application to be submitted. Cllr. Markley declared an interest, as he is on the FLAG board.

The toilets on the Green were to be renovated but have not yet been completed. Email to be sent to Mr Bryden to confirm when the work is to be finished. Toilets need to be open for Easter.

Anna Malina left the meeting.

765 Adjournment of Meeting

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

766 Correspondence

- a) CALC Circular – March 2014.
- b) Robin Round – Autumn 2013.
- c) Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2014.
- d) ACT Gazette – Issue 17 – Spring 2014.
- e) Hospice at Home – Summer 2014.
- f) CALC Circular – April 2014.
- g) Solway Firth Partnership – Copies of the ‘Invasive Non-Native Species’ in the Solway Identification Guide and ‘Making the most of the Coast’ project publications.
- h) CALC – GDF Consultation Responses can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/geological-disposal-facility-siting-process-review>
- i) CALC Allerdale District – Agenda for meeting on 13 March 2014 at Cockermouth Town Hall and Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2013 at Village Hall Bothel.
- j) Zurich Municipal – Confirmation that payment has been raised for £2511.23 in settlement of recent claim, following deduction of VAT and policy excess.
- k) Email from Eric Telford to confirm that the Football club would be grateful if the Town Council could re-commence cutting the pitch on the basis that only ride on mowers are used and the grass is left one inch long. Also asking for a copy of the lease between the Town Council and football club and the steps to be taken to have it re-issued.
- l) CALC – re: Allerdale’s Budget Proposals 2014/15 – Copy of the reply from Allerdale in response to representations made by Geoff Smith, on CALC’s behalf.
- m) Silloth Rugby Club – Copy of email received by Jimmy Lettice from Rebecca Stamper providing an update on plans to develop the all weather area.
- n) NALC Briefing – repeal of S150 (5) of the LOGA 1972 – Minister has made the necessary order to repeal the statutory requirement for payments to be made by cheque signed by two members. To take advantage of this the Council would need to adopt new Financial Regulations.
- o) CALC – Council tax support grant needs to be accounted for separately from the Council’s precept.
- p) NALC Briefing – re: Electronic Payments to HMRC (England & Wales).
- q) CALC – Information about a basic playground inspection training course being arranged by Cockermouth Town Council in May 2014. Course is specifically designed to meet the requirements of town and parish councils and will be undertaken by Roger Davis from ROSPA.
- r) Email from David Bryden providing an update on work being carried out to public conveniences on Criffel Street which should be completed by end of first week in April.
- s) Email from Elizabeth Clark, Boltons Parish Council asking for the Town Council’s continued support against plans for wind turbines at High Pow. Application has been withdrawn but is to be submitted in Spring 2014.
- t) Email received by Solway Buzz regarding 3 sets of ladies toilets being locked at 4pm on Saturday 29 March. Visitor will not be coming back to the town again. Reply to be sent explaining that the Town Council are not responsible for closing the toilets and that the Criffel Street ones are currently being refurbished.
- u) Overview & Scrutiny Footway Lighting Review – Information requested on the provision of footway lighting. Responses requested by 16 May 2014. There is funding of £87K available. There are some lights on electricity poles along Blitterlees.
- v) Email from Jimmy Lettice regarding energy saving idea. The Council are happy for the idea to go forward but need more information.

- w) CALC – External Audit & Data Transparency Consultation – Comments requested by 9 May 2014. A lot of the requirements are already covered by publication of information on the Town Council website. Clerk to complete the questionnaire.
- x) Email from Jimmy Lettice requesting permission for Silloth Rugby Club to erect two concrete block spectator and players dugouts. The Town Council agreed to grant permission for two concrete block spectator and players dugouts. Reply to be sent to Mr Lettice.
- y) Parcs Programme – Summer 2014. Email from Cumbria SPAA Foundation Ltd asking if the Council would like provision for this coming year at a cost of £75 per 2hr session. The Council would prefer to support the local sports clubs and provide them with the funding if they are able to provide some activities for youngsters. Letter to be sent to Sports Association to ask for their suggestions and see what they can come up with.
- z) Email from Chris Broadbent, CRSP Road Safety Coordinator seeking information about the location and condition of SID's it owns and advise if the Parish Council owns one. The Town Council contributed towards the cost of one a few years ago.
- aa) Letter from Mrs S Parker expressing concern about the bags of dog mess left by the golf course on the path leading to west beach. The land in question could either belong to the Golf Course or Associated British Ports. Letter to be sent to Allerdale to investigate the matter and also notify the landowners.

767 Planning Applications

The following application was deferred to Full Council by the Planning Committee:-

Ref No: 2/2014/0059 **Proposal:** Installation of solar panels on roof **Location:** Silloth RUFC, Eden Street, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr J Lettice. The Town Council agreed that the application be approved, as there are already some solar panels installed on the roof.

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

Ref No: 2/2014/0070 **Proposal:** Two storey extension to side and sunroom to rear **Location:** 17 Skinburness Drive, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr P. Markley

Allerdale Borough Council approved the following:-

Ref No: 2/2014/0044 **Proposal:** Remove three existing AC condenser units and a plant condenser unit from the rear wall of the store and install a new timber compound with new refrigeration plant/AC within it. The existing fire escape door on the side elevation will be redecorated. **Location:** Co-operative Retail Services Ltd, Caldew Street, Silloth **Applicant:** The Co-operative Group

Allerdale Borough Council have refused the following:-

Ref No: 2/2014/0014 **Proposal:** To provide 1st floor office/store area above garage **Location:** Norsands, East Cote, Skinburness, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Stephen Gray

768 Committee Reports

Allotments Committee held on 12 March 2014 – Noted.

Parks Committee held on 17 March 2014 – Noted.

Meeting held with Event Organisers on 31 March 2014 – Every event will need a risk assessment which will need to be submitted to the Council within 28 days of the event. Funding will be a problem to events. An item is to be included on the agenda for the next meeting, to look at funding for Anna's position for next year. There needs to be a meeting with Jason to get the HLF claim sorted and get an update for the Town Council on the current financial position re: HLF funding.

769 Licences

None

Cllr. C. Graham left the meeting.

770 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Primary School: The Primary School needed some fencing and some of the left over metal fencing left over from the BMX track is to be given to them. Schools will be finishing this week for Easter.

Joint Advisory Body: No meeting.

Silloth Tourism Action Group: No report.

Sea Dyke Charity: Meeting tonight.

Longcake Education Trust: No meeting.

Solway Community Technology College: Getting ready of OFSTED inspection. Pupils from the school were on Radio Cumbria interviewing people about how Cumbria had changed. Letter to be sent to say the Town Council are pleased to hear about the school's achievements.

Sports Hall: No meeting.

771 Allerdale & County Council Reports

Allerdale: Cllr. Jefferson has been working to get some extra funding for the town. £10k is to be made available through the market town manager.

County Council: County Council need to save an additional £20m on top of the £88m they already have to save and have been asking for voluntary redundancies. They have also been selling some land to bring funds in. Need to look towards becoming a unitary authority. Cllr. Markley has been invited to a meeting at Maryport with Tony Cunningham in relation to the coastal erosion.

772 Park Manager's Report

Ken provided a report on work done over the last month. The play area wall is in need of attention, as the mortar seems to have disintegrated in places and daylight can be seen through the gaps. It was agreed that a proper survey be carried out to ascertain what needs to be done. Ken has taken the seat out of the wooden shelter up Skinburness Road which had been damaged. If temporary repairs were carried out it could be done for about half the cost previously quoted to refurbish the building. There has been a lot of broken glass in the woodland play area. There is also a lot of dog fouling near the pensioners hut at Eden Street playing fields. Clerk to report the problems to Allerdale. Ken asked the Council when it wanted the Splash Pad set up and it was agreed to set the equipment up for Easter and if the weather is adequate Ken to use his judgement as to whether to switch it on. Grounds maintenance team started cutting the grass on the football pitch 3 weeks ago and have put fertiliser on the pitch and rolled it. The entrance in to the town is an eyesore, with the paths along Barracks Bridge covered with weeds. Some people are forced to walk into the road to avoid the weeds etc which is potentially dangerous. Clerk to contact Cumbria Highways.

773 Town Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided a detailed report of work done since the last meeting. The Clerk reminded members of the Council that reports will be required for the Town Report. Ray Holyoak will be starting work on the refurbishment of the kitchen and toilets in the Community Hall on 15 April.

774 Payment of Accounts

The Clerk produced a register report to 7 April 2014 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.

775 Bank Accounts

After some consideration, it was agreed to move the Town Council's bank accounts from HSBC (who no longer have a branch in the town) to the Cumberland Building Society, to enable easier access to banking facilities.

776 Application for financial assistance

A request for funding was received from Toma Fund, a Children's Cancer Charity. There is no budget for donations this year and it was agreed that no donation be provided.

777 Applications for events

a) Silloth Vintage Rally – 21 & 22 June 2014 – Completed application form and risk assessment has been received. Site plan and copy of public liability insurance will be required before the event.

b) Silloth Shootout – 21 April 2014 – Application form received but the event has been advertised prior to permission being granted by the Council. A risk assessment has been provided for Laser

Shooting Ltd but is dated 1 April 2013 and is due for review. A new site specific risk assessment is required.

c) Silloth Kite Festival – 18 – 20 July 2014 – Application form received but the event has been advertised prior to permission being granted by the Council.

There is also a theatre event planned for August which the Council have not yet been consulted on.

778 Recognising Volunteer Effort

Information has been obtained about what other Councils do to recognise volunteer effort in the form of Honorary Freeman and Civic Awards. There are a lot of people who do a lot in the town. It was agreed to treat everything on its own merit and recognise achievements in the Mayor's reports.

779 Paramount Amusements

The Council considered a request from Mr Paul Blake to site a 28ft high slide outside the Paramount Amusements as a permanent fixture. He wants the Town Council's comments before he puts it to Allerdale Borough Council. It was felt that it will be an attraction, like one that was there 30 years ago. The Clerk questioned whether it would be acceptable to HLF from a heritage point of view. It was agreed that the Council support the request. Letter to be sent to Mr Blake.

780 Memorial Stone for Bill Allison

A discussion took place on the proposed wording to be included on a Memorial stone for Bill Allison. The amendment is to be taken back to Wendy for her approval. The memorial stone is to be made from grey granite measuring 600 x 300 (2ft x 1ft) with engraved letters, inlaid in black. The stone is to be laid into a path within the Community Garden and it was suggested with some sort of edging would be needed. Prices to be obtained for the memorial stone, once the wording has been agreed.

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.

781 Ice Cream Concessions

Mr Montgomery has agreed to take both pitches at the Lifeboat Station and BMX Car Park and has paid for them. Mr Tinnion is to have the Skinburness Car park site and payment has been received. Clerk is awaiting copies of public liability insurance before issuing licences. If the insurances are not received then the concessions can be allocated elsewhere. Clerk to liaise with the Chairman if required.

782 Putting Green and Deck Chairs

It was agreed that Paramount Amusements and Fletchers Amusements be asked if they would be interested in hiring out the Putting Green and Deck Chairs. The Town Council may consider additional suggestions if they are in keeping with facilities on the Green.

783 Amounts owing to the Town Council

Fletchers Amusements now owe two years rent and it was agreed that payment needs to be obtained before they open to the public this year. A copy of the risk assessment is also required.

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