

Minutes of a meeting of the Parks Committee
Held on 22 April 2013

Present:- Cllrs. A.J. Markley & S. Graham. Also John Cook, Vicky Hope, Owen Martin, Jennifer Rowlands, Anna Malina, Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk) & Ken Wannop.

413 Apologies:- Cllrs. W. Jefferson, M. Snaith, G. Wilkinson & R.W. Allison.

414 Declarations of Interest
Cllr. Markley

415 Exclusion of Press & Public
None

416 Minutes
Minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2013 were approved and signed as a true record.

417 Handyman's Report
Ken attended a meeting today with Lambert Gill, lottery people, Jason etc to go through the snagging list. Lambert Gill will be re-grassing various areas. Possibly going to fit a different type of door on the Pagoda, as the existing one is too weak. Dead trees – 93 out of 100 trees planted are dead which are to be replaced. The light and heater in the toilets will be sorted out. Exterior light at the Lifeboat toilet will also be sorted out. Looked at where the BMX track is to be sited. Gary is confident about doing the job but after May Lambert Gill will not be the County Council's main contractor and may have to be put out to tender. Pushing for Lambert Gill to do the work, with ROSPA to sign it off at a nominal fee. Mark has been getting hassle on the Green from local kids when he has been locking doors. If anything like that happens again, Mark to be advised to walk away and phone the Police.

418 Green Flag Award – Action Plan
Consideration was given to the key criteria of the Green Flag Award and putting things in place to meet the requirements. This needs to be done over the next 12 months. HLF are expecting Anna to work with everyone i.e. Parks committee, maintenance team, FOG etc. Signage is in progress. FOG have come up with the idea of a Park Watch scheme. Silloth is generally clean and tidy, although dog fouling is an ongoing problem. Dog warden from Allerdale will come out if they are given information on places and times etc. There could be a specific campaign to address the issue – with a dedicated page on the website and also involving the schools. Council was given the option some time ago of being able to issue fixed penalties. Problem tends to be worse in the winter. Management and maintenance plan needs reviewed this year. Existing plan can be used as a basis. Community Involvement – need to monitor who uses the Green but difficult to do a count as it is an open space and not fenced in. Number of people attending the Sunday market may be a good indicator. Could get figures from event organisers but would need an overall picture over the whole year.

Marketing strategy – Anna is dealing with it. New Silloth Green website has been launched. Silloth could be advertised on the back of a wagon. The Facebook advert for the Silloth Green event has had 17,000 hits – biggest free day out. Good to get kids input. Management is in place – Parks committee, FOG, Town Council etc.

Toilets are an issue, especially the Criffel Street ones. Allerdale were to bring them up to spec. It was suggested that a team get together, to get the work done i.e. STAG, FOG and grounds maintenance team. Assess what needs done and get costs etc. There is no outside door on the gents toilets. Push Allerdale to get the repairs done by the bank holiday weekend. Ask Cllrs. if they are in agreement with STAG, FOG etc taking on to themselves to get the work done. Fairy Dust and Declutter company have offered to do a deep clean of all the toilets. Could have themed toilets and make the best of what we have got. If bringing events and people on to the Green, the toilets need to be brought up to standard.

419 Silloth Green Project

Update – A meeting took place last month with Nick and Jane from HLF who were impressed when they had a look over the Green.

Finance – 2nd claim put together and waiting for Jason to check it over.

BMW track – Jason dealing with it.

Signage – prices were obtained for wooden signage but HLF preferred metal style signs. They have to be good quality and in keeping with the rest of the Green. Anna is investigating. £35k in the budget for signage and interpretation. Anna to put prices together and bring back to Town Council. Also to include a noticeboard. Anna, Wendy and Ken to survey what is needed.

Town Garden – 3 quotes have been obtained and currently waiting to hear from Jane at HLF. FOG are keen to get involved and do some gardening. FOG to liaise with Ken as to what needs done.

Rhododendrons – Cllr. Markley has been in touch with Peter Frost-Pennington at Muncaster Castle for advice on the Rhododendrons. He will be coming to Silloth on Tuesday 30 April at 10.00-10.30 am with the head gardener, to see what can be done. HLF understand the issues.

Snagging List etc – Jason dealing with it.

420 Vandalism

Introduction of a Park Watch scheme should help problems with vandalism. Also Police to be asked to keep a check on the situation.

421 Friends of the Green – Report

No need for a separate report as everything was covered during the meeting.

422 Application for a memorial bench

Mrs Valerie Irwin has applied to have a memorial bench to be sited on the seafront up Skinburness, in memory of her husband Mr Alan Irwin. This was agreed by the Parks Committee.

Signed.....

Date.....