

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on 4 November 2013

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

592 **Apologies:-** Cllr. D. Wallace, A. Weightman & PC Andy Robertson.

593 **Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. Markley – re: Markley Transport, Carrs coaches, County Council etc

Cllr. C. Graham – STAG, SPAND and Fake Festivals

Cllr. A.Emmerson – STAG & Schools

Cllr. M. Orchard – Silloth RUFC

594 **Exclusion of Press & Public**

It was agreed that the public be excluded for item 22 on the Agenda.

595 **Chairman's Announcements**

Cllr. Elaine Wannop has sent an email standing down as Councillor and wishing the Council well in the future. Elaine has been a dedicated member of the Council for 13 years and it was agreed that a card be sent from the Council thanking her. Vacancy to be advertised and Allerdale notified.

Cllr. Markley gave a report on the various events he had attended over the last month which included the opening of the Silloth junior play area, Cumbria Dialect competition, Silloth Civic Service, Golf club dinner for British Heart Foundation & Firework display on the Airfield. The CALC AGM takes place on Saturday at Rheged. Cllr. Markley has been invited to be a judge at Carlisle Cathedral by the High Sheriff. He will be going to Manchester on Wednesday following the refit of HMS Biter and has been invited to a trip on the boat on Thursday morning. HMS Biter will be the most advanced destroyer the navy has. Solway school prize day is on Wednesday evening. Remembrance Day service on Sunday. The Mayor of Allerdale will be attending and also crew of HMS Biter.

596 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings held on the 7 & 21 October 2013 were approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

597 **Police Report**

Andy Robertson sent his apologies and sent a report by email which was quite lengthy. There have been a number of incidents involving fireworks despite this being the first year that kids have received some education on fireworks by the Fire Service.

598 **Adjournment of Meeting**

There had been no prior requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting, although Mrs Lathan asked to speak. There has been some Black Nightshade and Woody Nightshade found on the Green. She questioned the training of the greens staff in relation to spraying of weeds. Mrs Lathan questioned the safety of the woodland play area as the logs are slippery. Ken has the relevant spraying certificate and the greens staff have been instructed to keep a look out for these plants. The play area is regularly inspected and has an annual safety inspection.

599 **Correspondence**

a) Clerks & Councils Direct – November 2013.

b) Allerdale Borough Council – re: Spot the Grot – Poster with QR code which when scanned with a smart phone assists with the reporting of environmental issues.

- c) Neighbourhood Forum – North East Allerdale forum - Next meeting is on 7 November at St Cuthberts, The Old Convent, Burnfoot, Wigton 7-9pm.
- d) Solway Wetlands Centre – Invitation to a familiarisation afternoon at Solway Wetlands Centre, Bowness on Solway from 1-3pm on 6 November.
- e) Cumbria CVS – Speed Volunteer Recruitment Event on Tuesday 12 November 5.30-7pm at St Michaels Church, Falcon Place, Workington.
- f) Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – Information about the Cumbria Independent Custody Visiting Scheme – West Cumbria ICV Panel. Closing date for applications 29 November 2013.
- g) Cumbria County Council – Emergency Temporary Road Closure B5300 Blitterlees, nr Silloth. Notice will be in force for up to 21 days from 21 October, although anticipated that it will only be required for 5 days.
- h) Email from Mr Colin Baty attaching a copy of his Insurance policy to enable him to practise football coaching on the small patch of land between the rugby pitch and the industrial estate. Coaching will take place on Thursday's at 6.30pm and he does not require the use of the football changing rooms.
- i) Allerdale Borough Council – Allerdale Local Plan (Part one) submission to the Secretary of State for Public examination took place on 23 October 2013. Documentation can be seen at www.allerdale.gov.uk/localplan
- j) Cumbria County Council – Emergency Temporary Road Closure C2015 Wolsty, nr Silloth. Notice will be in force for up to 21 days from 23 October, although anticipated that it will only be required for 2 days.
- k) CALC – Annual General Meeting 2013 on Saturday 9 November in Pennine Room at Rheged, Penrith at 10.30am. Notice of meeting, Agenda, Minutes and Annual Report 2013.
- l) Cumbria in Bloom – Annual General Meeting on Monday 18 November 2013 at Newton Rigg College, Penrith. Agenda, Minutes and Management Committee nomination form.
- m) Allerdale Borough Council – re: Cumbria County Council budget consultation. Email from Joe Broomfield drawing attention to the above consultation which could have a significant impact on town centres within Allerdale. Proposition 29 in particular outlines proposed on-street parking charges. However Silloth is not included in the list of places where the council will focus their local site investigations.
- n) Email from Debbie McGrath, Programme Manager AMT Towns Alive about the benefits of developing a Corporate or Business Plan for the Council which can bring a wealth of benefits. Silloth produced a Town Plan a number of years ago. It was agreed that more information is required and enquire as to the likely costs involved.
- o) Email from Philip Jones asking the Council for help by objecting to the planning application for 85m wind turbine on land near Roerigg Tarn, Lowick Common, nr Lowick Green (Ref SL/2013/0906). It was agreed that a letter be sent to object to the application.
- p) Allerdale Borough Council – Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2013 – Consultation Friday 11 October to Friday 15 November 2013. The Sports Hall is to be used as a Polling Station for Skinburness residents. The Council felt that there should be a Polling Station up Skinburness, as it is a long way to come for some elderly residents. It was questioned why there is a need for a polling station at the Sports Hall, when the main one at Christ Church Hall is nearby.
- q) CALC – re: MRWS: Consultation on the site selection process for a Geological Disposal Facility CALC's Executive Committee considered the issues and agreed a draft consultation response. A copy of the full paper is attached with the proposed consultation paper response set out in the appendix. Item included later in the agenda.
- r) Cumbria County Council – Budget consultation. Comments and feedback by 20 January 2013. County Council have got to save £88m over 3 years. It is hoped there will be no detrimental effect on services. Consideration should possibly be given to having a unitary authority to save money.

600 Planning Applications

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

Ref No: 2/2013/0703 **Proposal:** Demolition of garage and erection of single storey extension

Location: 1 Burnswark Terrace, Solway Street, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Warick, Cavalcade Developments

Ref No: 2/2013/0742 **Proposal:** The installation of new aluminium shopfronts, the redecoration of the existing door frames and roller shutters, the infilling of an existing delivery access and the installation of a new delivery door **Location:** Co-operative Retail Services Ltd, Caldew Street, Silloth **Applicant:** The Co-operative Group

Ref No: 2/2013/0743 **Proposal:** Remove three existing AC condenser units and a plant condenser unit from the rear wall and install new timber compound with new refrigeration plant with it. The existing fire door on side elevation will be redecorated **Location:** Co-operative Retail Services Ltd, Caldew Street, Silloth **Applicant:** The Co-operative Group

The following applications were deferred to full council by the Planning Committee:-

Ref No: 2/2013/0745 **Applicant:** Mr Colin Winter **Proposal:** Installation of two 11 kw gaia wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 24.5m **Location:** West house Farm, Pelutho, Silloth. It would appear these turbines are to produce electricity for his own use due to their size. The Council are aware that alternatives need to be found and the need to look towards renewable energy. The Council has to be consistent and it was agreed that the application be refused on the grounds of cumulative effect, the adverse effect on tourism and close proximity to the AONB.

Ref No: 2/2013/0746 **Applicant:** Messrs Bennett, Hinde & Gill **Proposal:** Outline application for residential development **Location:** Land to rear of 158 Skinburness Road, Silloth. The proposal is for 3 single storey properties. Concerns were expressed about access to the properties which is an unadopted lane. It was agreed that the application be approved but it should be stipulated that the lane needs to be brought up to an adopted standard, maintained and kept clear at all times, as the lane is used for access by other properties.

601 Committee Reports

Minutes of the Parks Committee held on 29 October 2013 were provided to members of the Council. An additional meeting had taken place with Bill Allen from Lawn Terrace. The minutes were noted.

602 Licences

None

603 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Primary School: Governors meeting this week.

Joint Advisory Body: No report.

Silloth Tourism Action Group: Bonfire and fireworks went ahead which was a good event but weather put people off. This will be a regular event. In previous years the Rotary club had a bonfire in the Sports ground but someone put a gas cylinder in the bonfire which put an end to it. It was agreed that the seafront would be a good place to stage the event which would be handy for the town. STAG have taken the decision to apply to be a Company limited by guarantee as a number of the committee were not in favour of carrying on unless they became limited. STAG have their own marquee and hope to hold their own craft events on Bank Holidays. Dates to be provided a.s.a.p.

Sea Dyke Charity: No meeting.

Longcake Education Trust: £450 was given to each school.

Solway Community Technology College: Prize giving evening on Wednesday. A banquet will be put on for the Rotary club. The school will be putting on performances of Macbeth in November at the Theatre by the Lake, Keswick.

Sports Hall: No meeting.

Community Hall: The Clerk will be checking the surveyors report which was carried out a couple of years ago prior to drawing up a specification of work to be done and going out to tender. To be brought back to the next meeting.

604 Allerdale & County Council Reports

Allerdale: No report.

County Council: The proposed Carlisle HQ will be on Cecil Street and plan to close some of the existing buildings. The Sunday bus service (60) which is provided by Reays coaches is being withdrawn. The government have pulled back from paying fuel duty rebate. The County Council have not been paying a subsidy towards this service and as it is commercial the service is being withdrawn. Silloth will be even more cut off. Prices have also gone up considerably. It is also affecting services in other places in the County.

605 Park Manager's Report

Ken gave a detailed report on what grounds maintenance work has been done since the last meeting. Holding back on cutting shrubs because it has been too wet and the tractor would cause damage to the grass.

606 Town Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided a detailed report of work done since the last meeting. The Town Council's new website has been redesigned and updated. www.silloth-on-solway-tc.gov.uk

607 Requests for Financial Assistance

None

608 Payment of Accounts

The Clerk produced a register report to 4 November 2013 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.

609 Application for an event

Application has been received from Friends of the Green for Silloth Green Day on 25 May, with more information to follow.

610 Silloth Green – Update

BMX Track is underway which has been designed and compliant with ROSPA. Need to have a ROSPA compliant sign which will include the various funders logos. 14 December will be the official opening day of the track, with a group of BMX stunt riders called the Clan from Aberdeen coming to do a display. There will be 3 x 20 minute displays with professional commentary and 3 x 20 min sessions interacting with the kids. Fire service volunteers will also be coming with the Climbing Wall. Food is to be provided for the kids that attend the event. The building of the track will take 2-3 weeks. The hardcore base is in but there is a lot more work to do, including the installation of the picnic areas, fencing to go up and bridge to be constructed.

611 Fake Festivals – Update

The Council are waiting to hear from Cllr Jefferson who was going to speak to Cumbria Tourism to see if they had any experience of Fake Festivals. Clerk to contact Bill to see if there had been any feedback.

612 Consultation - Review of the Siting Process for a Geological Disposal Facility - September 2013.

Cllr. Markley went to London and has spoken to Baroness Verma and they are keen to have Town Councils views on the consultation. Cumbria Trust has put together a response to the document. The Council needs to formulate a response and it was suggested that a date for a public meeting be put in the Solway Buzz to inform people of what the Council are doing. Cllr. Jefferson had offered to put together a response but he was not present at the meeting. Some Cllrs. were not in favour of a public meeting as feelings are running high on this issue. No-one is in favour of it coming to Silloth. The consultation is a review on the siting process. They have eliminated the County Council and Town/Parish Councils from the consultation but it is important that the Council responds. Individual responses can go in also. It was agreed that an additional meeting be held on 11 November to put a response together. It was agreed that an announcement be put in the Solway Buzz to inform the public that the Council will be having an extra meeting to put together their response to the consultation. A public meeting will be held to inform them of the Council's response and also included on the website. Details to be provided to let people know where they can view the consultation document and submit their own comments.

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.

613 Amounts owing to the Town Council

A bill has been sent to Raynor Fletcher for ground rent at the seafront but due to the changeover with the Council taking over the concessions from Allerdale, it had not been clear which period he had previously been billed for. A bill has been sent for 2011/12, with a further one to follow for 2012/13.

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