

Silloth Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on 7 March 2011

Present:- Cllrs. A.J. Markley, W. Jefferson, E. Wannop, G. Wilkinson, A. Emmerson, S. Hart & M. Snaith. Also Ken Wannop & Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk).

685 Apologies:-

Cllrs. I.Baty, D.Wilson, R.W. Allison, C. Baty & A. Weightman.

686 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Wannop - re: Ken.

Cllr. Markley - re: Carrs Coaches, County Council etc

687 Exclusion of Press & Public

It was agreed that the Press & Public be excluded for item 22 on the agenda.

688 Chairman's Announcements

None.

689 Minutes

Minutes of the meetings held on 7 February 2011 were approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

690 Police Report

No report.

691 Adjournment of Meeting

There had been no requests from members of the public to raise any matters in the meeting.

692 Correspondence

a) BDO - Audit Briefing - Winter 2011.

b) Clerks & Councils Direct - March 2011.

c) Allerdale Borough Council - re: Missing street name plates - Email to say that the missing street name plates will be put on the next order in April.

d) Cumbria in Bloom - Invitation to towns and cities to join the 2011 Cumbria in Bloom competition.

e) Silloth First Responders - Letter of thanks for the generous donation of £500 towards the cost of the pager rental.

f) Silloth AFC - Letter of thanks to the Town Council for the cheque for £372.36 to reimburse the bills incurred for repairs carried out to the Changing Rooms.

g) Silloth Tennis Club - Letter of support for the proposed improvements to the Community Hall.

h) Silloth Christmas Lights Committee - Letter of thanks for the donation of £1000 towards the Christmas Lights.

i) Heritage Lottery Fund - Letter to confirm that the Contract for The Green project was completed on 14 February. Copy sent for our records.

j) Silloth & District Community Transport - Letter of support for the proposed improvements to the Community Hall.

- k) Monday Luncheon Club - Letter of support for the proposed improvements to the Community Hall.
- l) Holme Low Parish Council - Letter of support for the proposed improvements to the Community Hall.
- m) United Utilities - Concessionary scheme is available for community groups and community hall has qualified as eligible for the scheme which will mean a sizeable reduction in the water bills.
- n) Cumbria County Council - re: New contact details for leasehold and building maintenance arrangements.
- o) Silloth RUFC - Request from Jimmy Lettice by email that the Town Council reconsider the application for financial assistance from the Rugby Club. All sports clubs were invited to the meeting in December but no-one from the Rugby club attended, as Mr Lettice claims they did not receive the letter. Mr Lettice has since replied to Cllr. Markley asking to be considered for funding. The original lights belonged to the football club but were turned around to face the rugby pitch. Football club would prefer to have the old all weather area dug up, landscaped and grass seeded. The area could then be used for training and preserve the pitches. Approx. cost would be £3000. It was pointed out that this tarmac area is currently being used by the school for motorcycle training. Cllr. Markley is happy to give some funding if both clubs want this. If it is through the Town Council then VAT can be reclaimed. No-one is willing to fund training areas. It was suggested that both the football and the rugby club put together a joint application for a training area if this is what they want. Letter back to Mr Lettice and the football club to invite them to a special meeting to discuss a way of taking it forward. Need an agreed proposal from both clubs.
- p) WA Fairhurst & Partners - Email from Matthew Stafford attaching a copy of the Section 106 legal agreement concerning the new shared link from the Fisons site to the town centre. Defer for discussion as not everyone is here and need more time to look at it and consider the implications. Combine it with a special meeting with the sports clubs.
- q) CALC - Survey of Councils serving Key Service Centres. Letter asking if the Council would be willing to take part in the survey. The Council agreed to take part in the survey.
- r) Letter from Mr & Mrs Forsythe of Links Close regarding the ownership of a small piece of land between their garden fence and the Council's fence. The Playing fields are leased to the Town Council by Cumbria County Council, who may be the owners of the land in question. Letter to be sent to C.C.C. to make enquiries and also a reply to be sent to Mr & Mrs Forsythe.
- s) WA Fairhurst & Partners - There is an opportunity for the Town Council to obtain further land at no cost from C.C.C. which can be progressed in tandem or following the S106 agreement to prevent any delay. To be discussed at a later meeting.
- t) Silloth Vintage Rally - Letter asking for permission to use the Green for the Vintage Rally on 18-19 June 2011. There were no objections from the Town Council for the event being held on The Green.
- u) Copy of email received by Cllr. Jefferson regarding the road behind Station Mews, Silloth. Cllr. Jefferson spoke to Steve Long at Allerdale Borough Council at the road behind Station Mews is a private road. A planning application came back to the Council to remove a clause re: the road. It was not brought up to standard because it does not link to a public road.
- v) Allerdale Borough Council - re: Silloth - Parish Council elections - 5 May 2011. Council needs to decide whether to request poll cards in the event of a contested election. The Town Council agreed that a request be made for poll cards.
- w) Associated British Ports - re: Complaints received about the poor and uneven state of the

access track along the south side of Marshall Dock, leading to car parks and West Beach. Cllr. Wilkinson has spoken to Cllr. Wilson who will be taking the matter up with Allerdale Borough Council. Ken spent time over there clearing sand away. Letter to be sent to Allerdale Borough Council to see what they will do about it. Reply also to be sent to Capt. Puxley.

693 Planning Applications

a) The Town Council have approved the following:-

Ref No: 2/2011/0047 **Proposal:** Proposed security bollards and replace existing windows with UPVC **Location:** Paramount Amusements, Criffel Street, Silloth **Applicant:** Paul Blake

694 Licences

None.

695 Committee Reports

None.

696 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Primary School A meeting took place to say what is happening re: Head teacher. Three governors from another school will get to know everything and make a decision but Silloth school governors will not find out. It is costing the school a lot on money as nit is having to pay two Head teacher salaries. They had to go through an allocation of time before things can get sorted out once and for all. The Council were promised a full and final decision last summer which did not happen. A judgement will be made in the next month and it could then go to appeal, with the school and governors possibly facing being sued. The school is looking at the provision of school dinners as there are not enough using the facility.

Joint Advisory Committee Brian Irving is now back to work but only 3 days a week for now. Signs on the M6 - Cllr. Markley and Jefferson to take the matter further. Item to be included on the next Agenda.

Silloth Tourist Action Group Raynor Fletcher would like to hire the facilities on the Green again this year but the Bouncy Castle is in poor repair. The Council do not want to lose the amenity but cannot afford to replace the Bouncy Castle. Letter to be sent to Raynor asking what his proposals are. Copy invoice also to be sent. Western Lakes have contacted Cllr. Hart to ask for permission to have the craft tent on the Green on the following dates:- April 23-25, April 30-May 2, May 28-30 & July 9-10. This was agreed by the Town Council. It was suggested that they be asked for a suitable donation towards the cost of the electricity used.

Silloth Regeneration Partnership There have been issues with the time factor. Economic & Regeneration have been seriously reduced. Jason is still in a job and will be picking things up. Cllr. Markley and Allison are liasing.

North Allerdale Development Trust No meeting.

Sea Dyke Charity No meeting.

Long cake Education Trust The usual grants were given out. Rev. David Tembey is now on the trust.

Solway Community Technology College Everything going okay. Students are in the final at St. Benedict's. Also entering the technology competition.

Silloth Sports Hall There are problems with the building leaking and will be contacting the builders. Leaving rates as they are. Currently looking at what the building can be used for

i.e. indoor bowls etc. Youth club are using the hall.

Community Hall - The Space £5000 has been granted by the Area Local committee.

Money has also been granted to the Youth Club. Letter to be sent to Youth Club. If done through the Town Council the VAT can be reclaimed.

697 Allerdale & County Council Reports

Allerdale Borough Council - Cllr. Jefferson had nothing to report. Cllr. Snaith is looking forward to dramatic changes in May.

Cumbria County Council - Budget has been set with a saving of over £30m this year and £40m for the next 2 years. Consultation taking place re: single status. Some bus routes are being cut. Some work is to be done to the pavements in the town and will also be replacing some of the trees on the side streets. Some are massively overgrown and will be replaced with something more manageable. A lot of trees are past the stage of being pollarded.

698 Handyman's Report

Spent most of the time at Solway Community school. Used over 20T of top soil and only one more pitch to do. A little bit of maintenance has been done for beachcombers who caused some damage while driving their vehicles over the grass. Some general maintenance done. The team were praised for the job they had done to the road into New Street.

699 Town Clerk's Report

Nothing to report.

700 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.

701 Financial update

The Town Clerk had prepared an up to date financial report, comparing the actual figures from 1 April 2010 to the present date with the budgeted figures for 2010/11. £1000 remains unspent in the budget for Christmas Lighting. £3592 remains in the budget for donations and grants. £1587 remains in the budget for maintenance of play areas, £3000 in the Sports Fund, £7665 in Tourism and £2000 for Youth Provision.

702 Applications for financial assistance

The Town Council considered the following requests for financial assistance:-

- a) Silloth Rugby Club - To be dealt with at a future meeting.
- b) Silloth Vintage Rally - Some businesses do benefit from the event i.e. chippies and cafes as it does bring people into the town. It was agreed that a donation of £1000 be provided.
- c) Silloth Christmas Lights Committee - The committee are hoping to put up some Victorian style lighting on Criffel Street. Need to check that it doesn't clash with the Regeneration plans for the Green. Also need to know what the implications will be regarding the existing lighting. The Town Council are in favour in principle but will have to check what impact it will have on the Green project and the existing highway lighting.
- d) Mencap - Reply to be sent to say that the Council are unable to assist due to existing commitments to which funds are given.

703 Review of financial regulations and internal audit

The Town Council carried out a review of the effectiveness of its internal controls and were satisfied with the current arrangements. They were happy for Peter Wilson to continue doing the Council's internal audit. A review of the Financial Regulations is to be carried out in the near future.

704 Review of Risk Management policy

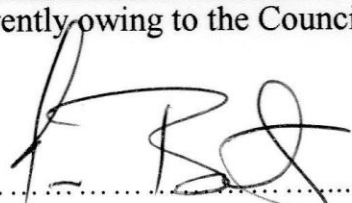
The Town Clerk had carried out a comprehensive review of the risks facing the Town Council in carrying out its duties, having completed a large number of risk assessments. The common theme as a result of the review is the need for further training in various aspects and also additional paperwork to be completed to verify that certain things have been done. The Town Council were satisfied with the review and agreed for the Clerk to implement the necessary changes. An annual review of the risk management needs to take place.

705 Update on HLF Bid

There have been limited people doing it but the project will move forward.

706 Amounts owing to the Town Council

Money is currently owing to the Council by the Rugby club for rent. Reminder to be sent.

Signed.....

Date...4/4/11.....