

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 16 January 2017 at 7.00pm at Silloth Community Hall

Present: A. J. Markley (AJM) – Chairman

Councillors

J. Cook (JC), W. Jefferson (WJ), O. Martin (OM), C. Graham (CG), D. Graham (DG), A. Emmerson (AE),
 I. Baty (IB), D. Pattinson (DP), G. Wilkinson (GW) & M. Orchard (MO).

Also present: Wendy Jameson – Town Clerk (WEJ), Ken Wannop – Park Manager (KW) & PCSO Nichol.

236.	Apologies Cllr. S. Graham	
237.	Declarations of Interest As recorded. Cllr. Markley also declared an interest in relation to a planning application.	
238.	Exclusion of Press & Public It was agreed that the public be excluded for items 29, 30 & 31 on the Agenda.	
239.	Chairman's Announcements Gordon Baker died on Christmas Day, who did a lot for the town and the allotments for many years. Betty Blake has also sadly passed away. The Chairman gave a report on the various events he had attended over the last month which included:- Memorial services for the men who were lost 60 years ago, Solway School banquet, Christmas Lights switch on, Santa Claus with the Rotary, Carol services, Midnight mass and various other meetings around the town. The bus service between Skinburness and Maryport is to be reinstated from 30 January and has been taken over by Ellenvale Coaches. The service needs to be used to ensure it continues.	
240.	Minutes After some minor amendments, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5 December 2016 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
241.	Police Report PCSO Peter Nichol gave a report on recent incidents of crime which was emailed to members of the Council prior to the meeting. The Council was disappointed to hear that the CPS decided not to prosecute the individuals involved in the fires on the golf course last year, despite all the work done by the Police and co-operation from members of the public which is soul destroying. RESOLVED that a letter to be sent to the Police Inspector and matter to be taken up with the Police and Crime Commissioner when he visits the town.	WEJ
242.	Conservation Area Kevin Kerrigan (Head of Development Services) from Allerdale Borough Council attended the meeting to answer any concerns members of the Council had in relation to the Conservation Area in Silloth. The main issues raised involved the replacement of windows within the Conservation area and work to trees within the town. When work is required to trees within the Conservation area, an application would need to be submitted to the planning department which would give Allerdale the opportunity to put a TPO on a tree. If the trees are causing damage to footpaths or property, then Allerdale will normally allow the works to be done, with no fee for the application. With regard to windows, the preference is always for timber windows and the use of UPVC is not something that is encouraged, however technology is improving and they are closer to the look of timber. If UPVC were to be used, it would have to be a specialist window. There is scope for discussion for modern replacement windows to be used and they will be considered on a case by case basis but will come	

	<p>down to design principally. A Neighbourhood Development Order could be put in place but is not an easy process. A design guide would be specified and provided people meet the guide they would not need planning permission. The Local Plan part 1 was adopted in 2014 and part 2 is now moving to consultation which commences on 27 January for 8 weeks. There will be a public drop in session in Silloth. Kevin was thanked for coming to the meeting.</p>	
<p>243.</p>	<p>Adjournment of Meeting Mr Jeff Downham requested to speak at the meeting and explained the concerns he had in relation to the outline application for 5 houses at Blitterlees, Silloth. His concerns related to access, drainage, scale of the development and lack of consistency with the Allerdale local plan.</p>	
<p>244.</p>	<p>Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications RESOLVED that the schedule of correspondence, notices and publications be noted.</p> <p>a) Croft Goode Architects – Pedestrian/cycle route from Harvest Park development. Copy of revised footpath link. The developers at Harvest Park have asked to meet the Council on site on Thursday. Any alteration to the footpath would need to go through planning. The Town Council decided at the last meeting that the path should be per the S106 agreement. One house is now occupied which is a deterrent, following a number of thefts from the site. RESOLVED that a meeting to be organised for Thursday and members of the Council to be notified.</p> <p>b) Allerdale Borough Council – Budget Consultation. Deadline for responses is 31 January 2017. Documentation and online survey can be viewed at:- https://cumbria.citizenspace.com/allerdale-borough-council/chief-executives-office/budget-2017-18/consult_view. Councillors to respond individually.</p> <p>c) Cumbria County Council – budget Consultation. Deadline for responses is 20 January 2017. Documentation and online survey can be viewed at:- http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/budgetconsultation/default.asp. Councillors to respond individually.</p> <p>d) WHP Telecoms – Re: Proposed Arqiva Smart Meter Antenna Installation at the tower structure on the Green, on West side of Skinburness Road, Silloth. East Cote lighthouse belongs to Associated British Ports and therefore permission would need to be obtained from them. It was questioned whether planning permission would be obtained as it may affect local residents. Reply to be sent to WHP Telecoms.</p> <p>e) Proposed Electricity Reinforcement Scheme in Silloth - Electricity North West are proposing to install a high voltage underground cable between the existing (Primary) Electricity Substation near ‘Hylton Park Caravan Site’ towards ‘The Cumberland Inn’ and are seeking information about the ownership of land at the Eden Street sports ground. Additional email received with details of additional land which may be affected by the work at Skiddaw Street leading down to Hylton Park Caravan site and alongside the Rugby pitch. Further information will be required. The work may also affect the plans for the new footpath from Harvest Park. Reply to be sent to confirm that the Town Council owns part of the land in question and is in the process of having the other land transferred from Cumbria County Council. Also notify them of the S106 agreement and new footpath/cycle link to be constructed.</p> <p>f) Email from Sarah Burton who recently visited the town, expressing concern about the amount of dog mess everywhere. The Town Council acknowledges the problem which will be reported to Allerdale Borough Council.</p>	<p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p>
<p>245.</p>	<p>Planning Applications Cllr. Markley left the meeting.</p> <p>The following application was deferred by the Planning Committee for consideration by the Full Council:- Plan No: 2/2016/0727 Proposal: Outline planning application with All Matters Reserved for 5 no</p>	

	<p>dwellings Location: Land at Blitterlees, Silloth, Cumbria Applicant: Mr A. J. Markley The application was sent to Silloth Town Council by mistake, as it is within the Parish of Holme Low. When the Clerk contacted Allerdale, they suggested that comments still be obtained from Silloth. Concerns were expressed about flooding and the removal of hedgerows. RESOLVED that the application be referred back to Allerdale Borough Council, to seek further guidance as to whether Silloth is empowered to comment on this, as it is not within our Parish. Email to be sent to Allerdale to clarify the matter.</p> <p>Cllr. Markley re-joined the meeting.</p> <p>Allerdale Borough Council has approved the following:- Plan No: 2/2016/0675 Proposal: Proposed demolition of existing detached garage and outhouse, new detached timber framed lodge building to provide granny annex Location: The Anville, Blitterlees, Silloth Applicant: Mr & Mrs Wickham</p> <p>The Town Council have approved the following:- Plan No: 2/2016/0736 Proposal: Two storey extensions to western elevation, external paving and new perimeter fencing Location: 9 Good Companions Rest Home, Criffel Street, Silloth Applicant: Mr Mark Newby Plan No: 2/2016/0737 Proposal: Change of use of upper floors into two residential units, addition of new entrance, replacement windows and heightened cill level on rear window – Resubmission of application 2/2016/0406 Location: 9 Eden Street, Silloth, Cumbria Applicant: Mr Alan Maggs Plan No: 2/2016/0740 Proposal: Listed building consent for alterations of upper floors into two residential units, addition of new entrance and staircase, removal of internal staircase, replacement windows and heightened cill level on rear window – Resubmission of application 2/2016/0408 Location: 9 Eden Street, Silloth, Cumbria Applicant: Mr Alan Maggs Plan No: HOU/2016/0059 Proposal: Single storey rear extension Location: 2 Church Terrace, Silloth Applicant: Mr Peter Wise, Wise Group Limited</p>	WEJ
246.	<p>Committee Reports None. Dates of forthcoming meetings:- Play Equipment Committee – Sat 21 January at 10.00 am Sports Clubs – Mon 23 January at 7.00 pm Youth Shelter – Mon 30 January at 7.00 pm Allotment Committee – Tues 7 February at 7.00 pm</p>	
247.	<p>Licences None.</p>	
248.	<p>Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies RESOLVED that verbal reports received from Representatives on Outside bodies be noted. Primary School – Cllr. Martin has attended a couple of meetings. Joint Advisory Body – No meeting. STAG – No meeting. Sea Dyke Charity – No meeting. Longcake Education Foundation – No meeting. Solway Community Technology College – Ofsted report is out now and the school is heading in the right direction. Banquet was excellent. Sports Hall – No meeting. Friends of the Green – No meeting. Sports Association – No meeting. Meeting with the sports clubs is to be arranged. Silloth Coastal Community Team – Papers have gone in and will hear back next month if the bid has</p>	

	<p>been successful.</p> <p>Cumbria in Bloom – Meeting of Silloth in Bloom community group will be held shortly.</p>	
249.	<p>Allerdale & County Council Reports RESOLVED that verbal reports received from Allerdale and County Councillors be noted. Allerdale – Borough Council is busy with budget setting. The coming year is about delivery. Concrete projects need to come from the communities with a willingness to push them forward. Full Council meeting on Wednesday. County Council – busy with the Budget. LEP has not been as successful as it was hoped. Cllr. Markley attended a seminar on autism which was interesting. More talks about the nuclear power station. IFCA – taken 6 years to get a new vessel and the Solway Protector is finally getting replaced although not with a brand new vessel. Bus service between Skinburness and Maryport is to continue which was mentioned earlier.</p>	
250.	<p>Park Manager's Report A written report was provided by the Park Manager on work done in December. A lot of dead shrubs were taken out and the gaps need to be filled as soon as possible. Bill will be getting Allerdale more involved with this year's Britain in Bloom preparations and funding will be transferred across. There will be a meeting to take an initial look at what is needed, taking into account the comments from last year's judges. Work has started on pointing the playing field wall and about a third has been done. Some additional strengthening work is required.</p>	
251.	<p>Town Clerk's Report The Town Clerk provided a report on work done since the last meeting.</p>	
252.	<p>Payment of Accounts RESOLVED that the payments listed in the register report to 16 January 2017 be approved for payment.</p>	
253.	<p>Applications for financial assistance None.</p>	
254.	<p>Applications for events The Town Council agreed to the dates for the following events:- 27/28th May – Silloth Green Day 12/13th August – Fairy Day 26/27/28th August – Silloth Carnival 28/29th April – Lake District Challenge Cup – Football Tournament 10/11th June – Silloth Vintage Rally</p>	
255.	<p>Memorial Seat/Statue The gentleman involved wants to proceed with the memorial seat/statue and for the Town Council to apply for planning permission for the seat/statue. He wants it done as quietly as possible. It was questioned whether it could be combined as a memorial to the men who died 60 years ago, although another suggestion was to put a memorial on the buoy that was offered to the Council. There would be no expense to the Town Council for the seat/statue. HLF were agreeable to the proposal but questioned whether there would be public consultation carried out. RESOLVED that a proper proposal be put together and brought back to the Town Council, before a planning application can be submitted.</p>	JC
256.	<p>Charging Points for Electric Cars Cllr. Emmerson has not managed to obtain any information and therefore item to be removed from the Agenda.</p>	

257.	<p>Water Treatment plant</p> <p>The water treatment plant on the Airfield is working at over capacity, with tankers having to go in on a daily basis to drain it. Allerdale are allowing further development in the town but the water treatment plant is not up to standard. The smell is often an issue. It was questioned whether it could be affecting the water quality. The system is overloaded and action needs to be taken. RESOLVED that an email be sent to United Utilities to take the matter up with them.</p>	WEJ
258.	<p>Flooding on Skinburness Road</p> <p>A complaint was received from Mr & Mrs Law regarding the flooding which occurs on the road opposite their house at 66 Skinburness Road after heavy rainfall. Photographs were provided to illustrate the problem which has already been reported to Cumbria Highways. RESOLVED that the matter be reported again to Cumbria Highways. Flooding at West Silloth opposite Bertie's fish and chip shop also to be reported.</p>	WEJ
259.	<p>Annual Review of Charges for Silloth Green</p> <p>The Town Council reviewed the charges on the Green. RESOLVED that charges be increased to £105 for the first day, £55 for each additional day and a charge of £20 for electricity used. No charge for events/festivals organised by local groups. It was agreed that there would be no increase to the rent charged to Fletchers Amusements which will be left at £2,000.</p>	
260.	<p>Public Conveniences</p> <p>The Town Council will become responsible for the cleaning of the Public conveniences from 1 April 2017, with Allerdale contributing 50% of the cleaning costs (the figure will be based on the cleaning costs for the year Apr16/Mar 17) to the Town Council. From April 2018, the Town Council will become fully responsible for all aspects of providing public toilets in the town with no further contribution from Allerdale. The Town Council gave some consideration to the options available which could be taking on additional staff on a job share basis or finding an outside contractor to do the work. If a contractor was used it was suggested that the grounds maintenance staff could close all the toilets at the end of the day. RESOLVED that prices be obtained from outside contractors to undertake the cleaning, opening and closing and separate price for just the cleaning.</p>	WEJ
261.	<p>Budget 2016/17</p> <p>The Clerk provided a report comparing the actual expenditure to date with the overall budget for 2016/17. Everything is on track. RESOLVED that the report be noted.</p>	
262.	<p>2017/18 Budget</p> <p>The Clerk had produced some draft figures for the 2017/18 Budget which was considered by the Town Council in some detail. £500 included to support the Christmas Lights committee. £1,000 included to cover potential repairs to the Community Hall. Provision £5,000 included towards the purchase of new play equipment at West Silloth. Provision of £5,000 was included in the budget to cover possible machinery repairs and replacements. £2,500 is included in the budget to support the activities of STAG and £1,000 for youth provision. £6,500 is included in the budget towards the ongoing costs/improvements associated with the Silloth Green project which will also help towards Silloth's entry into this year's Britain in Bloom competition. Costs associated with the setting up of Public Wifi for the Green was removed from the budget and it is hoped that this will be business led instead. It is anticipated that savings will be made this year due to the de-regulation of water.</p> <p>Taking into account the level of reserves at the end of this financial year which are anticipated to be approx. £21,500, it was RESOLVED that the total funding requirement for 2017/18 would be £172,390 less CTRS Grant of £1,478, resulting in a Precept of £170,912. Using the Council Tax base figure of £862.19 provided by Allerdale, this would result in a £198.23 charge on a Band D property for the Town Council's element of the Council Tax Bill. This is a slight decrease on last year's figure. The Clerk was thanked for all the work she has done in compiling the Budget figures and setting out</p>	

	the requirements for the coming year.	
263.	Councillors Matters None.	
	<i>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.</i>	
264.	Community Asset Transfers & Sports Club Leases Nothing to report.	
265.	Pension Scheme Letter received from Aegon regarding changes to the Town Council's pension scheme by which new charges are being introduced, due to the auto-enrolment rules. The Council considered the options available i) using the existing pension scheme with the additional charges to pay ii) find an alternative scheme which meets the auto-enrolment rules or iii) get help from an advisor who may charge for their advice. RESOLVED that further enquiries be made regarding alternative schemes and the Clerk to contact Cumbria County Council to obtain information about the Local Government Pension Scheme.	WEJ
266.	Amounts owing to the Town Council None.	

Signed.....

Date.....