

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 22 June 2020 at 7.00pm via video conference

Present:– Cllr. M. Orchard (MO).

Councillors

C. Bell (CB), J. Cook (JC), A. Emmerson (AE), S. Graham (SG), M. Irving (MI),
W. Jefferson (WJ), J. McCormick (JM), J. Snaith (JS) & G. Wilkinson (GW).

Also present: Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk)

	<p><i>In accordance with The Local Authorities & Police & Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority & Police & Crime Panel Meetings) (England & Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held by video conference call.</i></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending this unorthodox meeting - being the Town Council's first virtual meeting due to the coronavirus situation.</p>	
578.	Apologies: Cllr. A.J. Markley	
579.	Virtual Meeting Procedure RESOLVED that the Virtual Meeting Procedure be adopted by the Town Council.	
580.	Co-option Three applications were received for consideration by the Council – Carol Doran, Gary Brady & Owen Martin. Carol Doran was proposed by Cllr. Snaith & seconded by Cllr. Wilkinson. Owen Martin was proposed by Cllr. Emmerson and seconded by Cllr. Bell. Mr Brady was not proposed as no-one on the Council knows him. A vote took place. Carol Doran received 5 votes and Owen Martin received 5 votes. The Chairman used his casting vote and voted for Carol, resulting in her being duly co-opted on to the Town Council. Since moving to Silloth Carol has put her name forward to join the Council on a number of occasions, attends Town Council meetings and is a valuable member of the Town's volunteers. She deserves a chance and it will be nice to see a new face on the Council. Owen Martin and Gary Brady are to be thanked for putting their names forward for co-option. Carol was informed of the decision and welcomed on to the Town Council. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office is to be signed at the earliest opportunity.	
581.	Declarations of Interests None.	
582.	Exclusion of Press & Public Item 11(b) in relation to quotations for the supply of picnic benches and bins.	
583.	Chairman's Announcements It has been a difficult time since the last meeting with the lockdown but everyone has been doing their bit. The Chairman and Clerk have been in regular contact and a grant of £2,000 has gone out to the Rotary Club to support the local community. Thanks to be sent to the Rotary for the work they have done so far and what they are continuing to do for the community.	
584.	Minutes It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
585.	Adjournment of meeting There had been no requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.	

<p>586.</p>	<p>Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications RESOLVED that the schedule of correspondence, notices and publications be noted.</p> <p>a) Allerdale Borough Council – Footway Lighting – Breakdown of the lights and costs of footway lighting in Silloth. Every light will have a specific number and it was questioned if these could be provided. The Clerk has asked for more detailed information and a map is to be provided by Allerdale but things have been held up due to the Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>b) NALC – New Model Code of Conduct consultation – Deadline 17 August 2020. Individual Cllrs. to send in their responses.</p> <p>c) Request from the owner of a mobile prosecco bar (Prosecco al Fresco) enquiring if it would be possible to set up on the Green to sell to the public. It was suggested that if it is allowed that it should not be allowed before the pubs are allowed to open. Some of the legislation is now being relaxed and people are being encouraged to eat and drink outside. Cllr. Cook to ascertain what the Allerdale stance is on it. The Council needs to support local businesses during this difficult time, many of which will be operating at 25% capacity. If agreed then a daily rate should apply like other events on the Green or consider putting it out to tender. RESOLVED that more information be requested i.e. one-off event, daily event, set hours, where they would be located and further consideration to be given at the next Council meeting which will take place on 6 July. They could also be invited to attend the next Zoom meeting and answer any other questions.</p>	<p>All Cllrs.</p> <p>JC</p> <p>WEJ</p>
<p>587.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Payment of Accounts RESOLVED that the payments listed in the register report to 2 March 2020 be approved.</p> <p>b) Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 RESOLVED that the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 are approved.</p> <p>c) Annual Governance & Accountability Return for 2019/20 Part 3 RESOLVED that the Chairman is authorized to sign the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) and the Accounting Statements (Section 2) which form part of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2019/20 which will be forwarded to the external auditor.</p> <p>d) Budget 2020/21 A summary of the financial impacts of covid-19 was produced by the Clerk in terms of the potential loss of income, grant given to the Rotary Club, additional expenditure incurred, and discretionary relief received on business rates for the Community Hall. It amounts to a financial impact of approx. £10,500 for this current year which the Council needs to be mindful of when making any future decisions. There should be a reduction in the water costs due to the Splash Park not being on. The ice cream concession is being rolled over to next year and there may be opportunities for other income through tenders of the land used by the fairground, prosecco van etc. The ice cream concession may be able to operate this year and Shelley has suggested paying on a pro rata basis for the time she can trade which the Council are in agreement with. The same basis could be used for the Land Train but it depends on when restrictions are lifted as to when the Land Train will be able to operate. The circus is still hoping to visit in August and have put measures in place to ensure social distancing can be carried out. Clerk to email the dates to everyone. Any additional dates would be charged for.</p>	
<p>588.</p>	<p>Picnic Tables and Additional Bins Following a request from a local business owner for permission to extend their outdoor seating area on the Green, the Council considered the option of purchasing a number of picnic benches and additional bins which would be sited along the edge of the Green, to support local businesses in the town during this difficult time. The benches would be strategically placed and would be available for anyone to use, be an asset of the town and could be stored when things get back to normal, being brought out for events during the summer months. The costs would be approx. £4,000 + VAT for the purchase of 9 picnic tables and 3 bins. The Chairman spoke to Cllr. Cook who is portfolio holder for Tourism at Allerdale and asked if there was a chance of any financial support</p>	

	<p>from Allerdale Borough Council. Cllr. Cook asked the question and Allerdale has agreed to purchase the picnic benches and bins which will be an asset for the town. Businesses will have to operate at a much-reduced capacity, after having lost a lot of trade already this year due to the lockdown and this would provide some support. Site meeting to take place to consider suitable locations for the benches. The Council needs to be on board with this. Businesses are on board and willing to keep the area tidy at night. Picnic tables are made from recycled plastic and therefore no maintenance involved and will be secured to the ground. Market is to be sited around the toilet block so it shouldn't affect where the benches are located. Parks Committee meeting to be held in the next week to 10 days, to look at possible locations. The benches would belong to the Town Council, would be available for anyone to use and not allocated to any particular business. It was also questioned whether businesses could put some of their own seating outside their own properties which would take some pressure off the benches and provide additional space. May also be able to look at purchasing additional benches if it works out. The locations of our other picnic areas could be publicised - BMX track, Splash park and the Play area etc. These are unprecedented times and it was RESOLVED that the Parks Committee look at suitable locations, with suggestions to be brought back to the next full council meeting. Part of Allerdale's criteria was for the benches to be temporary and they will be brought in at the end of the season.</p>	WEJ
<p>589.</p>	<p>Councillors' reports and items for future agenda</p> <p>To discuss the situation regarding the public toilets, with a view to putting a plan in place for re-opening them, following the necessary guidance available. Cllr. Cook to find out what Allerdale's stance is on it – Cllr. Cook</p> <p>Staffing committee meeting regarding the emptying of the bins on the Green. An email was sent to the Clerk with photos of the mess which is not the responsibility of FCC staff – Cllr. M. Irving</p> <p>Need to identify which of the bins are the responsibility of the Town Council and look at where they should be sited, as bins sited within 6 ft of a path tend to be the responsibility of Tivoli for emptying.</p> <p>Wages – Cllr. McCormick</p>	JC

Signed.....

Date.....