

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council
Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 3 February 2020 at 7.00pm at Silloth Community Hall

Present:– Cllr. M. Orchard (MO).

Councillors

J. Cook (JC), P. Donald (PD), A. Emmerson (AE), S. Graham (SG), M. Irving (MI),
W. Jefferson (WJ), A.J. Markley (AJM), J. McCormick (JM) & J. Snaith (JS).

Also present: Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk).

507.	<p>Apologies Cllrs. G. Wilkinson & C. Bell. Also Ken Wannop (Park Manager).</p>	
508.	<p>Declarations of Interest As recorded.</p>	
509.	<p>Exclusion of Press & Public It was agreed that the public be excluded for items 10 (c) & 21 on the Agenda.</p>	
510.	<p>Chairman's Announcements There was a meeting with Ricki Crawford from Cumbria County Council (CCC) regarding potholes in and around Silloth. The condition of the road outside the Co-op was pointed out and also a pot hole on the zebra crossing. The road outside the Co-op was sorted out the very next day. He was questioned about the resurfacing of Solway Street. It was felt that Stanwix corner is a bigger priority, being a main entrance into the town. The work will be done and the budget is there. The streetlights were also mentioned and repairs have been done. A test will be done to see if they are up to standard, as the lights were very dim although there have been some improvements already. If there are any potholes etc they need to be reported and then action can be taken. Report to the Clerk or via the CCC website. Also attended Staffing Committee training session last week.</p>	
511.	<p>Minutes It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 13th January & 22nd January 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
512.	<p>Police Report Report on crimes is available online.</p>	
513.	<p>Adjournment of meeting There had been no requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.</p>	
514.	<p>Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications RESOLVED that the schedule of correspondence, notices and publications be noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Allerdale Borough Council Draft Delivery Plan 2020-24 consultation. You will find the consultation at https://cumbria.citizenspace.com/allerdale-borough-council/council-strategy-delivery-plan-2020-24/ where there is an online survey to complete. The consultation closes on 3 March 2020. Cllrs. to send in their individual responses. b) Email regarding the poor condition of the path behind the industrial units which is in need of attention. The path is part of the route 72 cycleway. It was questioned whether it can be incorporated in the new Allonby to Silloth cycle route. Email to be sent to Joe Broomfield to ask the question. c) Marine Management Organisation – Draft Marine Plans Consultation Awareness. Consultation opened on 14 January and will run for 12 weeks until 6 April 2020. https://consult.defra.gov.uk/mmo/draft-north-west-inshore-and-offshore-marine-plans/ 	<p style="text-align: right;">Cllrs. WEJ</p>

	<p>Cllrs. to send in their individual responses.</p> <p>d) Royal Airforce Spadeadam – Letter from Jez Lawton asking for the Council’s support in marking the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain 80th Anniversary. Email to be sent to Sheona Nicoll to ask if the RAFA club have any plans to mark the occasion.</p> <p>e) Email from Holme Low Parish regarding the former Waiting Room building at Causewayhead Cemetery, requesting two representatives from Silloth Town Council to join a working group to discuss the way forward. Cllr. Orchard has worked with contractors to improve the standard of the grass cutting. RESOLVED that Cllrs. Orchard and Graham represent the Council. Meeting will also include Cllrs. Markley and Cook, as Allerdale councillors. A lease is now in progress and decisions made as to what to do with the building which needs to be salvaged. Allerdale have promised to put a standpipe in as part of the lease.</p>	<p>Cllrs.</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>MO SG</p>
515.	<p>Planning Applications Allerdale Borough Council has approved the following:- Ref No: VAR/2019/0034 Applicant: Mr Frank Scott, Frank Scott Homes Proposal: Removal of Condition 12 of application 2/2016/0759 relating to the road traffic sign Location: Lycaon, Blitterlees, Silloth</p>	
516.	<p>Committee Reports Planning Committee – 13 January 2020 – Noted. Allotment Committee – 21 January meeting had to be cancelled yet again, as it was not quorate. Meeting was arranged for 6pm, with some members of the committee having turned up at 7pm. There have been complaints about the state of the allotments, with the flooding. It was suggested that a site meeting be held. Clerk to speak to Cllr. Wilkinson and another date to be arranged. Staffing Committee - 27 January 2020 – discussed at the end, after the press and public left the meeting.</p>	
517.	<p>Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies RESOLVED that verbal reports received from Representatives on Outside bodies be noted. Joint Advisory Committee – Meeting next month. Silloth Tourism Action Group (STAG) – The Accounts are being audited. There will be a STAG meeting next week. John met with Mark & Wendy regarding the books. Email was sent and will provide answers to the questions. Cash book, invoices, receipts etc are there for one year to prove the audit trail. Colin Smithson will be auditing the books. Need a meeting to approve the change of name before the AGM which will incorporate the rest of the Solway Plain. John has taken over as portfolio holder for tourism. Will need the full co-operation of the AONB if STAG are incorporating the Solway area. The statutory responsibility lies with the AONB. It was suggested that the priority of the group should be Silloth. Sea Dyke Charity – No meeting. Longcake Education Trust – No report. Solway Community School – Onwards and upwards. Sports Hall –Onwards and upwards. Friends of the Green – A lot of work is being done to the beds. Judith provided a report on what is being done, with an explanation. Volunteers are meeting Wednesday. New trees and shrubs are being delivered soon, using the £1,000 funding received from the Vintage Rally. There are plans to improve the Putting Green. The shed is in a bad state and Tony is trying to source a second hand one. Sports Association – No report. Coastal Community Team – Planning has been approved. Email was received from Joe Broomfield with an update.</p>	
518.	<p>Friends of Silloth Green The Council considered suggestions from Friends of Silloth Green. There needs to be signage to the Big Fella sculpture for visitors. Popularity has exceeded expectations. Prices have been obtained to add an extra finger on to the existing signage on the Green and also brown signs. Clerk to investigate the options and look into the possibility of obtaining some brown signs. It was suggested that the public toilets on Criffel Street could do with being spruced up and it was questioned if the grounds maintenance team could look at it. Fairy trail is also going to be updated and tidied up for the new season.</p>	

519.	<p>Borough & County Council Reports</p> <p>Allerdale Borough Council (ABC) – Allerdale have been looking at their budget for next year and wanting to put the budget up by the maximum amount. Cllr. Cook has met with Graham Kennedy and want to push the whole area as much as they can. Things are positive but without the funding. Ten thousand trees and shrubs are to be handed out in Allerdale. Cllr. Cook is now a mental health first aider and can guide people on where to go for help and advice.</p> <p>Cumbria County Council (CCC) – Cllr. Markley had attended a Port of Workington meeting. Highways – things are moving on, with money in place to replace some of the fleet. Trees around the town are monitored on a regular basis and if there are any issues they will be sorted. Borderlands funding – Workington meeting took place re: town fund. Need to decide on which towns are to get the funding. Governance Review is taking place in relation to the boundary between Silloth and Holme Low Parish at the Lido Village and Barracks Bridge. The boundary was always the beck. A recommendation is required from the Town Council. RESOLVED that the decision should be down to the residents to make, as there will be financial implications regarding the amount of council tax they will pay depending on which parish they are in, as Silloth has a higher Precept than Holme Low.</p> <p>£500m is being made available by the Government to fund feasibility studies of train routes that were closed during the Beeching cuts. There was a lengthy interview with Mark Jenkinson during which Silloth was mentioned. Would like to see if a feasibility study could be done. Write to Mark Jenkinson to see if it is possible and invite him to Silloth to discuss it further.</p>	WEJ WEJ
520.	<p>Park Manager’s Report</p> <p>The Park Manager provided a report on work done over the last month.</p>	
521.	<p>Town Clerk’s Report</p> <p>The Town Clerk provided a report on work done since the last meeting which was noted. The May bank holiday has been moved to Friday 8 May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day and it was agreed that the Town Council meeting will now be held on Monday 4 May, in accordance with the Council’s standing orders.</p>	
522.	<p>Payment of Accounts</p> <p>RESOLVED that the payments listed in the register report to 3 February 2020 be approved for payment. Schedule shows a grant of £2500 coming in from Cumbria Community Foundation from the Hellrigg Community Fund towards the cost of solar panels. The outside lights at the Community Hall have also been fixed today.</p>	
523.	<p>Applications for financial assistance</p> <p>None.</p>	
524.	<p>Applications for events</p> <p>The Town Council considered the applications received for events to be held on Town Council property:-</p> <p>a) Thurs 16 July 2020 - Use of the cabin on the Green for a Silloth Fairy dust Youth Café Club with Network Youth Church from 6pm to 9pm – Agreed.</p> <p>b) 25th-26th July 2020 – Charity event “Coast to Coast for forces” at Silloth Rugby Club in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal & Combat Stress – Agreed, subject to the necessary paperwork being submitted.</p> <p>c) Fri 28th Aug – Tues 2nd Sept – Silloth Carnival. Setting up and taking down on Fri 28 August and Tuesday 2 September, with the Carnival on the Monday and the Fair on Sat/Sun & Mon – Agreed, subject to necessary paper being submitted. Clerk also to check what was previously minuted regarding charging the Fairground when they are trading on the Green for extra days, over and above the date of the event. Confirmation also required on whether the cleaner can keep a check on the public toilets on the day of the Carnival.</p>	

	<p>d) VE DAY celebrations – Cllr. Donald has been in touch with Peter Reynolds and the Council have the opportunity to book the REME ‘Lightening Bolts’ display team as part of a VE Day event which would cost £2,000 + VAT. Allerdale are looking to do something and may have a budget available but need to grasp this chance. Cllr. Cook to speak to someone at Allerdale to find out what they are planning. Need to get more details i.e. dates and times that they are available. This could be the Town Council’s contribution to mark the occasion. The Town Council often doesn’t get any acknowledgement for what it does – e.g. everyone being thanked for helping to get the Youth Club re-opened but no mention of the Council paying the utility bills, not charging ground rent and other help over the years. RESOLVED that the REME ‘Lightning Bolts’ be booked for Friday 8 May, if possible and other plans can work around it. It would be good for everyone to work together. Could also look into the possibility of army simulators, climbing walls etc. Also possibly getting the schools involved. Cllr. Donald to speak to Peter Reynolds to pencil it in. Clerk to also drop Peter a line by email to confirm the booking.</p>	<p>PD WEJ</p>
525.	<p>Footpath behind Station Road Industrial Estate Dealt with earlier in the meeting. See minute 514 (b).</p>	
526.	<p>Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda Contact MP Mark Jenkinson to see if he can meet with the Town Council. Bus shelter on Skinburness Road, opposite the entrance to Solway Holiday Village – Cllr. M. Irving. There is a meeting of the Plastic Free Community Steering Group coming up – Cllr. J. McCormick. To encourage the involvement of the School Council – Cllr. M. Orchard.</p> <p>Cllr. Jefferson left the meeting.</p>	
	<p><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 they were instructed to withdraw.</i></p>	
527.	<p>Amounts owing to the Town Council Nothing of any concern.</p>	
528.	<p>Staffing The Staffing Committee attended a training session last week with Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) and received some useful guidance on staffing matters. A meeting took place with the grounds maintenance team and the situation was explained to them, with regard to the Council having to consider making a member of staff redundant, due to budget cuts and loss of contracting income. There was to be a 30-day consultation period, with individual interviews and the opportunity to have union representation present, however one member of staff offered himself for redundancy, despite being given the opportunity to go away and consider it. It was agreed that he could finish straight away, with him being paid for the consultation period, notice in lieu of pay and unused holidays. The precept is now exactly the same as last year. Tractor and verge cutter have also been sold and a Marshall trailer purchased as part of the deal. Capital receipts cannot be used to bring the budget down which was confirmed by CALC.</p>	

Signed.....

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