

**Silloth-on-Solway Town Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 2 November 2020 at 7.00pm via video conference**

**Present:**– Councillor M. Orchard (MO).

**Councillors**

J. Cook (JC), C. Doran (CD), V. Hope (VH), W. Jefferson (WJ),  
A.J. Markley (AJM), J. McCormick (JM), J. Snaith (JS) & G. Wilkinson (GW).  
Also present: Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk) & various members of the public.

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|      | <i><b>In accordance with The Local Authorities &amp; Police &amp; Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority &amp; Police &amp; Crime Panel Meetings) (England &amp; Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held by video conference call.</b></i>  |            |
| 729. | <b>Apologies:</b> Councillors M. Irving (working), A. Emmerson (working) & S. Graham (another commitment).  |            |
| 730. | <b>Declarations of Interest</b><br>None.  |            |
| 731. | <b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b><br>It was agreed that the public be excluded for item 23 on the Agenda.  |            |
| 732. | <b>Chairman's Announcements</b><br>The Chairman met with the Area Manager of ISS regarding the cemetery. There will be one final cut and the paths will be swept. Councillor Orchard has been co-opted on to Holme Low Parish Council. A lease has been signed with Allerdale Borough Council for the building at the cemetery which is a project that Holme Low will be taking the lead on but both Councils could work together on. Councillor Wilkinson attended the meeting with Mark Jenkinson and John Cook and walked around the shops, as well as raising the Green Flag. Letter of thanks to be sent to Mark Jenkinson.  | <b>WEJ</b> |
| 733. | <b>Minutes</b><br><b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meetings held on 5 October and 12 October 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.  |            |
| 734. | <b>Adjournment of meeting</b><br>Beth Montgomerie attended the meeting to ask the Council about Green Day and Carnival Day which have applied for permission for 3 days for each event instead of one day. She wanted to know where the fairground was going to be positioned for the 3 days, as it is usually opposite Lawn Terrace which is unfair on the residents. The Council are not in a position to answer yet as the events need to be discussed but everyone will be kept informed. The Council and fairground operator will need to work with local residents.   |            |
| 735. | <b>Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications</b><br><b>RESOLVED</b> that the schedule of correspondence, notices and publications be noted.<br>a) Silloth Carnival – Email from the Carnival committee which has made a decision not to support the current proposal to let the fair be run by a 3 <sup>rd</sup> party. The letter from the Carnival committee will be discussed at a future meeting when the events are considered.<br>b) Cumbria County Council – re: Silloth Emergency Response Group – Email from Heather Nixon with details of what the group needs to undertake to move forward and copies of emergency plans for other towns. It was questioned whether this would interfere in any way with what existing groups do such as the First responders. The Emergency Response group would be a link for the County Council to know who to contact in case of an emergency. A simple document is needed to set a group up and it was suggested that First Responders, Rotary & |            |

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|  | <p>Fire Service be contacted. Community Resilience group has been up and running since March. A group would help communicate with local groups.</p> <p>c) Junior Football – re: container – Request to site a storage container on the car park behind the MUGA to store nets and equipment. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a couple of councillors look at what is already down at the sports area and consider whether the existing containers can be sited together.</p> <p>d) Allerdale Borough Council – Review of Statement of Licensing Policy. Closing date for comments is 13 November 2020. Councillors can send in their individual responses if they wish.</p> <p>e) Email from a local resident with the suggestion that the council should consider fixing some cycle racks in and around the centre of town. The cost and location would need to be considered. <b>RESOLVED</b> to defer the matter until the Spring when additional information is available about costs and suppliers and also look into any funding available.</p> <p>f) Allerdale Borough Council - Further email re: Proposed cycling event in Silloth. It was suggested that the decision be deferred until the Council has resolved the issues regarding events on the Green. The event would be an opportunity to showcase Silloth and promote the town. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the date be pencilled in to enable the event to be organised, subject to confirmation on what the plans will be. Reply to be sent to Joe Broomfield.</p> <p>g) Allerdale Borough Council – Workington Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Consultation 23 October until 4 December 2020. They are putting in for funding and asking for people’s views on the plans.</p> <p>h) Silloth Sports Association - Email regarding the possibility of getting the local community to paint a mural on one side of the MUGA cabin and also the gable end of the Football Changing Rooms. It would need to be done professionally and Council would need to have input into the designs. When youngsters are involved in a project then there is no damage. Also need to clarify which cabin is to be painted. <b>RESOLVED</b> to agree in principle, with designs to come back to the Council for approval. Reply to be sent to Colin.</p> <p>i) Email from the Chairman of Silloth Christmas Lights sub-committee requesting permission to erect the Christmas lights on and around the toilet block on Criffel Street and use the power. Also thanking the Council for their continued support. The current president of Rotary posted on social media that the Council provide nothing to Christmas lights but contrary to what has been said the Council have contributed a lot over the years and continue to put the lights on the toilet block, provide the electricity and put colour changing bulbs in the Victorian lights every year. The Council will continue to support the Christmas lights. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Rotary pointing out what has been done by the Council over the years.</p> <p>j) Request from ‘The CPR Group’ for the council’s support in funding a new initiative within secondary and primary schools to help reduce the amount of lives lost through cardiac arrest. The First Responders do an awful lot for the town. Letter to be sent to ask if there is anything specific they want help with. Cllr. Hope will contact Peter and Lorna Gilmour to see what the First Responders do for the community, to avoid any duplication.</p> <p>k) CALC – Standards Matter 2: Public consultation and public sector surveys. Consultation launched as part of its review into the institutions, processes and structures in place to support high standards of conduct. Responses by 4 December 2020. Councillors to send in their individual responses.</p> <p>l) Enquiry to see if there is any council land available for rent or purchase which would be for allotment purposes but further down the line for an environmental project. The Council would need to know more information on what they are planning to do. There is a waiting list for allotments but there may be private land available and a post on social media could be useful. Reply to be sent.</p> <p>m) Junior Football – re: Dog fouling on football pitches. Dog fouling seems to be increasing and it has been questioned whether anything can be done as a collective. Allerdale has been in town today and spoken to Amy Wise who is Secretary of the Junior Football. More signage it to be put in place and more enforcement action taken. There needs to be a prosecution for</p> | <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>VH</p> <p>All Cllrs.</p> <p>WEJ</p> |
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|             | <p>people to take notice. It has been an ongoing problem for a number of years. If anyone sees anything or knows anything, then take a photo or video and send it via the myAllerdale app or contact Claire McAvoyn direct and she will send someone down. Information to be shared on social media.</p> <p>n) Solway Community School – re: Annual Awards. Letter seeking the Council’s continued support for the Annual Awards. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a donation of £25 be given to cover the cost of a prize.</p>  | <p><b>WEJ</b></p> <p><b>WEJ</b></p> |
| <b>736.</b> | <p><b>Planning Applications</b><br/>None. Planning Committee meeting next week.</p>  |                                     |
| <b>737.</b> | <p><b>Committees</b><br/>No meetings.</p>  |                                     |
| <b>738.</b> | <p><b>Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies</b><br/><b>RESOLVED</b> that verbal reports received from Representatives on Outside bodies be noted.<br/><b>Joint Advisory Committee</b> – Naomi is trying to put something together but doubtful now due to the lockdown. <b>STAG</b> – No report. <b>Sea Dyke Charity</b> – There was to be a meeting on this Saturday coming. Cottage is to be modernised. <b>Longcake Education Trust</b> – No meeting. <b>Solway Community School &amp; Sports Hall</b> – Councillor Cook suggested that the Chair of the Governors be invited to the next meeting to provide an update. <b>Friends of the Green</b> – There has been no meeting as such. Friends have been making some fantastic things to sell to raise money for the Green which they would like to do on an ad hoc basis. They have also applied for a lot of money and are waiting for the outcome. Now also linked with the Co-op community funding. Volunteers are doing a marvellous job which is helping with mental and physical wellbeing and working with the grounds maintenance team. Thanks to Carol and Wendy and the team for all they are doing. Thanks to D.A. Harrisons and an anonymous donation. The raised beds will help people with disabilities and mobility issues to get involved. The pop ups are used to sell homemade goods to raise money for the Green. The last volunteering session will be on Wednesday. The volunteers do an amazing job and it would be good to see any members of the Council to pay a visit. Pass on thanks to the volunteers. <b>Sports Association</b> – Councillor Orchard spoke to the chair of the sports association. New teams, new kids getting involved and developing a junior section for the girls. Considerable funding will be coming from CCC and ABC which will hopefully be announced at the next meeting for both the sports and Friends of the Green. MUGA is being used an awful lot and the junior pitch. <b>Coastal Community Team</b> – Everything is on target. Cycle path is ongoing. There are a couple of car parks they can’t go ahead with straight away as Allerdale don’t own the land, including beside the Docks. They will need to seek permission etc.</p> |                                     |
| <b>739</b>  | <p><b>Borough &amp; County Council Reports</b><br/><b>Allerdale Borough Council (ABC)</b> – A lot of the new cycle path has already been completed and they are hoping to finish by December. The official opening could coincide with the cycle event. Papers have gone out about the Cumbria and Allerdale councils combining. Councillor Cook met with two people who won the ‘Perfect Day out in Allerdale’ competition. A film will be coming out and shows Silloth at its best, as it was a lovely day.<br/><b>Cumbria County Council (CCC)</b> – Work to Greenrow corner has been delayed now until January next year, as they needed a licence to get access to the river. Solway Street and the zebra crossing is being down, Aspatria road will hopefully get finished next week. Libraries – there has been a phased approach to opening but due to lockdown this has had to be shelved. Damaged railings near the dock entrance to be reported to Allerdale. It was suggested that there is a lack of information and reports need to be put on social media and website to point people in the right direction. Crosscanonby road end is to be done which will be a big job. Thursday will be the start of the second lockdown and any sources of funding need to be identified. With no events this year many voluntary groups have struggled to raise funds. Write to Allerdale and County Council to find out</p>  |                                     |

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|             | <p>what money is available and copy Councillors Markley and Cook into the emails. Community food hub is being set up and a property has been donated for their use. They are setting up a committee and bank account. Pass any funding information on to Councillor Hope, who will keep the Council and Clerk up to date with progress.</p>   |  |
| <b>740.</b> | <p><b>Park Manager's Report</b><br/>The Park Manager had provided a report on work done over the last month which was noted.</p>  |  |
| <b>741.</b> | <p><b>Town Clerk's Report</b><br/>The Town Clerk provided a report on work done since the last meeting which was also noted. No holidays taken again and the Clerk was commended for her dedication.</p>  |  |
| <b>742.</b> | <p><b>Payment of Accounts</b><br/><b>RESOLVED</b> that the payments listed in the register report to 2 November 2020 be approved for payment.</p>   |  |
| <b>743.</b> | <p><b>Applications for financial assistance</b><br/>No applications received.</p>   |  |
| <b>744.</b> | <p><b>2021/22 Budget</b><br/>Updated impact of covid on the Council's budget is not known.<br/>Various suggestions were considered for items to be included in the 2021/22 Budget:<br/>Play equipment – some of the larger items of equipment at the Eden Street play area are in need of being replaced.<br/>Town Council website – to comply with accessibility guidelines etc<br/>Volunteer groups – to support them due to covid.<br/>Social media – consider outsourcing social media side of things i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc. Silloth as a town needs to be promoted and possibly look at setting up a subcommittee of the Council to look at social media and promotion. STAG was set up to promote the town and access funding. It was agreed to look at it in the new year, move forward and promote the town with the sole purpose of promoting Silloth.</p> |  |
| <b>745.</b> | <p><b>Events to be held on Town Council property</b><br/>No requests have been received for events on the Green in 2021.</p>  |  |
| <b>746.</b> | <p><b>Freedom of Information</b><br/>The internal review has been carried out and is self-explanatory. What is happening at the moment is not typical and priority goes to existing practices rather than what different bodies undertake to cope with covid. Nothing has changed as far as procedures are concerned. Different councils at different levels take different views. Cllr. Jefferson was commended for his work on the internal review.</p>   |  |
| <b>747.</b> | <p><b>Application for a memorial bench</b><br/>An application was received for a memorial bench for Jake Nichol which was approved by the Town Council.</p>   |  |
| <b>748.</b> | <p><b>Pebbles from Heaven</b><br/>The Council considered a request from a member of the public for a peaceful area of the Green to be put to one side for 'Pebbles for Heaven', where people can paint pebbles for people who have passed away. One suggestion was the woodland area opposite the BMX track. Friends of the Green had considered it and decided not to undertake the project. The location would need to be considered and how to keep the pebbles in place. If there was a designated area they may be left untouched. If youngsters are involved in a project it tends to be untouched i.e. millennium mosaic and murals. A discreet area would be best and possibly down towards the dock entrance. If the kids</p>  |  |

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|             | <p>at school were involved with it initially then it would be more likely to be respected. Possibly near the big fella sculpture would be another option. A social media post could get the public's feedback. Vicky to get more information, speak to the schools and look at what other people do in other areas. It was suggested that the pebbles could be cemented in and they would then be secure.</p>  | <p>VH</p> |
| <p>749.</p> | <p><b>Showmen's Guild</b></p> <p>A request had been received from Alex James, area chairman of the Showmen's Guild who would like to discuss with the Council the ins and outs of the guild and how it could have implications for future events. Normally it would need the Council's prior agreement before someone was invited to attend a Council meeting but as Alex was already present, the Council agreed to allow him to speak. The Council is not a member of the Showmen's Guild and therefore the rules of the Guild are not applicable to the Council. The rules protect its members, the Council and members of the public. It sits on the ADS board which covers health and safety. The rule book also covers noise and pollution, with the Guild issuing fines to its members if an official complaint is upheld. All members must have a HSG175 book which is the "Fairgrounds and amusement parks: Guidance on safe practice". The Showmen's Guild is not just there for its members but can mediate between Councils, local authorities and individuals. Joyce Fletcher has a condition of let having attended a lot of these events for many years and within the rules that gives her rights and privileges. As long as there are no problems she can continue to do that fair every year. She also has subtenants and has to follow the rules, in that she can't just put the rent up but would have to seek the permission of the Showmen's Guild. The rules go back many years. When there is an event on the Green the event organiser would not be able to invite any other fairground which was a member of the Showmen's Guild as it would be breaking the rules of the Showmen's Guild but could invite a fairground who was not a member of the Guild. However 95% of travelling fairgrounds are members of the Showmen's Guild and it would limit the number of fairgrounds available. It is as though the Town Council are being held to ransom and it is being dictated to as to who can and can't use the Green. Non-members of the Guild can go on the Green as it is not classed as a fairground, it is simply an organised event. When subletting takes place there should be a test certificate for each ride and public liability insurance which have not previously been passed on to the Council. All rides have to have a test certificate which is lodged with the Showmen's Guild and must be kept with the piece of equipment. All of the certificates would have been given to the Town Council if they were required to do so. When more than one piece of fairground equipment attends a site it is classed as a fairground according to Health and safety rules. Someone would then be classed as the organiser and responsible for that fairground should there be any accidents etc. They would be classed as the lessee and as long as they don't do anything wrong, they can attend the event every year. Fletchers could invite someone who is not a member of the Showmen's Guild. Fletchers have grandfather rights for Silloth fairground. The fairground held on the seafront and the events on the Green are two different events. It was questioned if the Council can choose which fair it wants to have at the events on the Green. The Council can have a non-Guild member but if it chooses a Guild member then that member must follow the Guild rules. If a Guild member has previously attended the event and brought others to the event with them, they will have a duty of care to allow those members to also attend the event. She would not be able to choose not to allow a member to attend unless they had broken the rules in some way. If the fairground side of things was organised by a third party and Fletchers were invited to attend then Joyce could open herself up to a complaint if the other members who would normally attend were not invited. It may also pose an issue with regards to rent if it was increased. There wouldn't be a problem if Joyce Fletcher was invited to run the fair, along with the other individual, as long as all the other fairground rides accommodated as well. The Council needs to be clear on what it can do, as it does not want to put any of the events at risk. It was suggested that there have been issues with subletting, with the money not coming to the Town Council or the event organisers. If any Guild member has done anything questionable it can be investigated. Any Council or member of the public can get in touch with the Guild and they will investigate a complaint. The Town Council needs to generate more income from the Green for the ratepayers of Silloth and maintain the</p> |           |

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|                    | <p>precept. Alex was thanked for coming and it has been really useful. It would be useful if he would be available to attend another meeting of the Council. The main issue had been that concerns were raised on social media about the high prices being charged for rides at the Carnival. One of the Carnival organisers explained that it costs thousands to put on the event and they receive £1,000 from the fairground. However, a lot of the rides were sublets and therefore the income received by the fairground operator from the sublets in effect cancelled out the payment they had made to the Carnival. No-one has an issue with Fletchers being on the Green but the Council needs to look at what's right for the Green and the ratepayers of the town. Alex was again thanked for coming and will be available to come along to a future meeting to help find a resolution.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>750.</b></p> | <p><b>Councillors' reports and items for future agenda</b></p> <p>It was questioned whether there needs to be any decisions made regarding the lockdown with regards to the toilets etc. The situation will be monitored and if necessary an immediate decision will be made to close them if there is a safety issue.</p> <p>It was suggested that due to the current situation with covid that the meeting at the start of December should not be held, to allow the Clerk and everyone else to have a break. If anything urgent comes up then a meeting can be called at a week's notice. This was agreed by the Council.</p> <p>It was suggested that the cleaning staff should be thanked for what they have done throughout the covid pandemic. With Christmas coming, the Council should maybe look at it.</p> <p>If there's anything the Council can do to help with the food hub, then Vicky to let the Council know. It is questionable as to whether the Remembrance Service will be taking place but Councillor Markley will let the Clerk know if he hears anything.</p> <p>The priority is to find out what funding is available for the community groups and Vicky to keep in touch with the Council.</p> |  |
| <p><b>751.</b></p> | <p><b>Amounts owing to the Town Council</b></p> <p>There were no amounts owing to the Town Council.</p>  |  |

Signed.....

Date.....