

**Silloth-on-Solway Town Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council**  
**Held on Monday 10 June 2024**

**Present:** – Councillor O. Martin (OM)

**Councillors**

C. Baty (CB), J. Cook (JC), A. Emmerson (AE), M. Irving (MI), W. Jefferson (WJ),  
A.J. Markley (AJM), A. Reynolds (AR), J. Scott (JS) & C. Searle (CS).

Also present: Wendy Jameson (Town Clerk), Lorraine Smyth (ACT) and a student.

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| <b>267.</b> | <b>Apologies:</b> Cllr. M. Orchard.<br><b>Absent:</b> Cllr. K. Orchard.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
| <b>268.</b> | <b>Declarations of Interest</b><br>None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <b>269.</b> | <b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b><br>It was agreed that the Press and Public be excluded from item 6 on the agenda.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <b>270.</b> | <b>Public Participation</b><br>There were no requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| <b>271.</b> | <p><b>Town Plan</b></p> <p>Lorraine Smyth from ACTION with Communities in Cumbria attended the meeting to discuss the Town Plan which is now at the end of the process. The Town Plan covers four key areas: - Accessibility, Sustainability, Health &amp; Wellbeing, and Transport. Surveys were sent out and there have been 658 responses, with some good positive responses submitted. A detailed plan has been put together summarising the survey responses, with a history of the town, demographics etc including an Action Plan which have been identified by the community on what they think should be done. The Town Council needs to decide what they are going to do about it. There were 35 volunteers who have offered to help, so it does not have to be the Town Council to deliver the actions identified. Actions need to be delivered by the Town Council, not just the Town Clerk and also the community. The Council now needs to prioritise the key actions, although some things have already been done or are in the process i.e. Changing Places facility, improvements to the Eden Street play area, West Silloth play area and the fitness trail. Some residents have also said they would be willing to pay a little more on their Council tax to see projects being done. Lots of funding opportunities come along and it would be good to match priorities with the Cumberland Council plan. Cumberland Council need to be contacted to make them aware of what is in the Town Plan. The Town Council needs to focus on 1 or 2 key priorities from each of the Action plans to focus on in the next 6 months. The community have been asking what is happening with the surveys which is positive.</p> <p>Members of the Council were asked to identify their personal 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices from each of the Action plans and the results were discussed. They were then asked to put their initials next to any of the projects they would like to be involved with.</p> <p><b>Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First priority – Reinstatement of bus services to Maryport and Skinburness. Cllr. Markley has been pushing Cumberland Council for the services to be reinstated. The tenders have been advertised but there has been no interest. A lesser service could be considered running 3 days a week. Cumberland Council will invest in routes that will be sustainable. Alternatives could be considered such as Community Transport or shared taxis. It was questioned whether there would be enough demand to make it sustainable. We need to make sure we do not lose the Carlisle service and try to reinstate the Sunday/Bank Holiday service which is vital</li> </ul> |  |

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|  | <p>for anyone wanting to attend the events on the Green. There may be volunteers willing to drive a bus. Cllr. Cook has been asked to be on the board for Community Transport. A survey could be done to judge demand. <u>Working group</u> comprising of Cllrs. J. Scott, A.J. Markley &amp; J. Cook to work on it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second priority – Cheaper, more frequent buses. The £2 bus fares are running at the moment which have been extended and may be extended further.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wellbeing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First priority – Not enough social activities in Silloth. There needs to be more advertising of what is currently going on and then find out what is needed. <u>Working group</u> comprising of Cllrs. J. Scott, M. Irving, O. Martin, and W. Jefferson to work on it.</li> <li>• Second priority – More learning opportunities. An attempt had already been made to put courses on at the Community Hall but there was not sufficient interest at the time. Courses could be arranged through the WEA, U3A and Cumberland Council.</li> <li>• The fitness trail along the promenade is already in progress.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First priority – Care for the green spaces in Silloth. Litter &amp; fly tipping is also an issue. The Town Council empty 30 litter bins within the parks and green spaces. The Council will be exploring the possibility of an apprenticeship on the Green.</li> <li>• There was no clear second priority with various options chosen which included improved signage, better upkeep of pavements and roads, and more information on walking routes around the town. <u>Working group</u> comprising of Cllrs. A. Emmerson, C. Searle &amp; C. Baty.</li> </ul> <p><b>Accessibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First priority – Improved access to West Beach. A meeting is arranged for next week with Fox Jackson Ports. The Council is already working to improve access and will be able to update the community when there has been some progress.</li> <li>• Second priority – Lack of publicity for existing facilities – including West Beach, Grune Point etc.</li> <li>• Charging for the use of the toilets will bring in revenue and contribute towards the costs of maintenance etc. Usage figures are needed for each of the toilet blocks.</li> </ul> <p>The Town Council needs to tell the community what we are going to do, look at it again in 6 months to see where we are at and then look at the next set of priorities. Also need to bear in mind the capacity of the Council. Now that there is a Town Plan in place, the Council can prioritise what can be done and can apply for funding now for projects. It is good for the Council to focus on what it can and will do in the future. The Town Plan can attract bigger funding as it provides evidence, and more people can help. The plan should be reviewed every year at the annual Town meeting. A budget has been included for promoting the Town Plans and it was suggested that the Council look at alternative ways of promoting it such as a singer and consider how to sell it to the schools.</p> <p><b>Launch Event</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that a launch event for the Town Plan be held on 13 July 2024 – 11am to 2pm in Christ Church or Caldew Hall. Anyone interested in helping to organise the event to stay behind after the meeting.</p> |  |
|  | <p><b>RESOLVED</b> 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.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|  | <p>Cllr. Jefferson left the meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |

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| 272. | <p><b>Concession</b></p> <p>An email was received regarding the possibility of a mobile espresso coffee van parking on the concession pitch on Skinburness Road near the Big Fella. The pitch was previously advertised but no tenders were received. A minimum price of £1,500 was previously agreed for the period 10/02/24 to 31/10/24 which equates to approx. £40 p/w. As it is part way through the season, it was agreed to offer the pitch at £40 p/w until the end of the season. Public liability insurance and risk assessment will be required. Reply to be sent.</p> | WEJ |
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Signed..... Date.....