

Grange-over-Sands Town Council
Priorities and Action Plan 2021 – 2022
APPROVED 8 March 2021

Objective 1: Civic Amenities, Health and Wellbeing			
To support and contribute to the social fabric of the town, and to enhance community facilities and the quality of life.			
What	How	When	Progress
Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Commitment (Oct 2019) to working with local authorities and the community to address the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss. ii) Council recognises the Climate Change and Nature Emergency and commits to identifying actions to include in the overall Council Action Plan, to attend training, and to develop this response. 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Continuing with common-sense measures, reducing consumption and promoting biodiversity. ii) Supporting Peninsula Environmental Action Together (PEAT) to deliver the Greening Campaign (resolved Nov 2020). iii) Cllrs. Thomas and Howson are GTC representatives to PEAT.

Victoria Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Council committed (March 2018) to providing and promoting the Victoria Hall as a Community Venue, recognising that it is a valuable resource within the Community. ii) GTC subsidises the Hall, as it does to provide and maintain all the other services and facilities. iii) GTC encourages, supports and works alongside the Victoria Hall Support Group (VHSG) to improve the facilities, fundraise, increase income and footfall and raise the profile of the Hall. iv) A resolved Victoria Hall Maintenance Plan 2018 – 2022 (approved May 2018) is implemented. 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Victoria Hall Maintenance Plan 2018 – 2022 (approved May 2018) needs updating and next Plan drafting. ii) Exploring options for selling tickets for Vic Hall events as Information Centre closed due to Covid-19.
The Community Hub at the Vic	Support 'Light Up Lives' and the Grange and Peninsula Wellbeing Hub to move downstairs and set up 'The Community Hub at the Vic' from April 2021 (resolved Feb 2021).	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Rent discount offered £10 per ft² instead of £15 per ft² – to be reviewed annually. ii) Shared use of Room 4 (value £30 per session).
Public Conveniences	On behalf of Bay Villa Trust, provide three blocks of public conveniences (Ornamental Gardens, Church Hill and Promenade) working with the cleaning and maintenance contractors to ensure a high standard of facility.	Ongoing	Annual rolling contract with Healthmatic Ltd.

<p>Recreation and Parks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Enable the provision of the Recreation Ground on the Promenade. ii) Phased replacement first generation skate ramps over three years. iii) Replace I-Play (resolved Feb 2021). iv) Fund and organise wall-top planting at the Ornamental Gardens. 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Recreation Ground contracted to Horton Leisure. ii) Final skate ramp scheduled winter 2019/20 delayed due to Covid. iii) I-Play - Working Party (Feb 2021) investigating options for replacement.
<p>Allotments</p>	<p>Provide and maintain allotments at two sites – Grange Fell and Yewbarrow and investigate the creation of new allotments as required.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Band Concerts</p>	<p>Organise <i>Music in the Park</i> Summer Concert Season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Liaise with Charity and Co to book bands, generate publicity and seek sponsors. ii) Risk Assess event. iii) Provide Portaloo. iv) Pay rent to SLDC for bandstand and ensure speakers installed/removed each season to comply with Listed Building Consent. 	<p>Seasonal May-Sept</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 2021 Season booked and planned – hoping to go ahead, Covid-19 restrictions allowing. ii) Chase request with SLDC to tarmac a strip around the bandstand for access.

Civic Pride:	Continue to encourage civic pride through the provision of:		
	i) Community Lengthsman	Ongoing	Ongoing
	ii) Hanging baskets and Christmas lights at Victoria Hall	Seasonal	Ongoing
	iii) Christmas lights in town – icicles and street columns.	Seasonal	Lights purchased with contract to install, store and maintain until 2022.
	iv) Mayor/Deputy Mayor attendance at events	Ongoing	Ongoing – as Covid-19 restrictions allow.
	v) Maintain and update Mayoral Chain	Ongoing	Currently up to date.
	vi) Maintenance of the War Memorial	Ongoing	Ongoing – Anniversary ‘Tommy’ to be removed when necessary.
	vii) Contribute to organising Remembrance Sunday Parade	Seasonal	Ongoing – as permitted by Covid-19 restrictions.
	viii) Encouragement of litter-picking group	Ongoing	Ongoing

	ix) Encouragement of gardening groups and liaison with SLDC	Ongoing	Ongoing
	x) Volunteers' 'thank you' tea party/event	Annual	Ongoing – as permitted by Covid-19 restrictions.
<p>Objective 2: Economic Growth</p> <p>To support and contribute to the economic growth and prosperity of the Town.</p>			
What	How	When	Progress
General Amenity	<p>Continue to work in partnership with other authorities and stakeholders to improve the general amenity of the Town, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Promenade • The Lido • The Ornamental Gardens • Park Road Gardens • Olive Way 	Ongoing	<p>SLDC resolved to fund 'light touch restoration' Feb 2019.</p> <p>GTC resolved to support SLDC 'Light touch' restoration of the Lido. January 2021 - resolution to support revised plans.</p>

Local Groups	Continue working with local groups, supporting initiatives that contribute to the visitor experience and enhance the quality of life for residents.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Christmas Tree Committee	Support the Christmas Tree Committee by providing insurance cover for the lights, event, sleigh, and volunteers.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Events	Provide administrative support and advice for events in relation to licences, permissions and risk assessments.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Shop Front Grants	Administer Shop Front Grants to local businesses when available from SLDC.	As available from SLDC – Last grant Spring 2017.	As required.

Objective 3: Planning and Development			
To support sustainable appropriate development, where this meets local planning criteria and the Neighbourhood Plan.			
What	How	When	Progress
Planning Applications	<p>Respond to planning application consultations from Local Planning Authority (South Lakeland District Council).</p> <p>Promote community engagement in planning and represent residents.</p> <p>Request training/meeting with SLDC to ensure GTC planning responses are heard.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Training on Local Plan requested from SLDC February 2019 – scheduled November 2019.</p> <p>This did not take place.</p>
Neighbourhood Plan	Ensure GTC planning responses are congruent by creating NP guidelines for Councillors.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Consultations	Comment on Local Plan and structure plans for development, transportation and future strategic planning.	Ongoing	Ongoing

Objective 4: Community Engagement			
To encourage and facilitate community engagement ensuring those members of the community with the smallest voice are heard and to value the community's contributions and give them due consideration.			
What	How	When	Progress
Promote democracy and publicise Town Council's work	Publicise the duties and powers of the Town Council to residents (using website, social media, posters, <i>Grange Now</i> etc) and raise the profile of the Town Council.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Councillors: Surgeries	Hold regular joint Council surgeries with District Council in local venues and advertise them.	Ongoing	To be resumed when Covid-19 restrictions allow.
Councillors: Representatives	Provide Councillor Representatives for local groups as requested.	Ongoing	Ongoing – representatives are reviewed annually in May.
Website	Publish updated Council documents, promote events and Victoria Hall.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Social Media	Use social media to engage wider audience.	Ongoing	Got Facebook page – help needed.

Grants	Support local non-profit organisations and individuals by providing grants through the Bay Villa Trust.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Ward Boundaries	Encourage SLDC to change ward boundaries to ensure representation for all residents.	Ongoing	Ongoing
<p>Objective 5: Sustainability and Credibility – Core Council Business</p> <p>To ensure an adequate and realistic provision of resources and services that meets the Council’s objectives and to ensure that these are managed in such a way as to encourage economic efficiency through regular budget reviews and developing a precept that meets the needs and aspirations of the Community.</p>			
What	How	When	Progress
Statutory Duties	<p>Continue to undertake statutory duties to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage finances in compliance with the Financial Regulations. • Manage meetings and administer Council’s business in compliance with the Standing Orders. • Undertake external and internal audits. 	Ongoing – audit date set by External Auditor	Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain internal controls. • Carry out, update and review Risk Assessments for all activities. • Adopt, update and review Policies and Procedures. • Employ and manage staff in compliance with Employment Legislation. 		
Asset Management	Ensure that the Councils' assets are managed effectively on behalf of the community.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Public Queries	Help people solve problems or identify which Council or other body can best help them.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Budget and Precept	Ensure that approved actions are costed and included in the budget each year.	November	Ongoing
Bay Villa Trust	Council acts as Trustees to the Bay Villa Trust, managing investments, returns to Charity Commission and grants.	Ongoing	Ongoing

Objective Six: Professional Standards			
To adopt and maintain professional standards in all aspects of the Council’s business and be recognised locally and nationally as a well-managed council, representative of the needs of the people that it serves and for being transparent and honest in everything that it does.			
What	How	When	Progress
Local Council Award Scheme	Apply to the relevant scheme if the Council is eligible and if it will provide clear benefit for residents.	When Council eligible and if Councillors resolve to do it.	Ongoing
Aspiration	Aspire to high standards and best practice even if Council is not eligible or chooses not to apply to Local Council Award Scheme.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Training	Identify and support the training needs and aspirations of all councillors, staff and volunteers.	Ongoing	Ongoing
General Power of Competence (GPC)	Resolve to use GPC when the Council is eligible.	November 2017 first resolved	Reviewed annually in May.