

Grange-over-Sands Town Council
Priorities and Action Plan 2019 – 2020
APPROVED October 2019

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) In October 2019 the Council committed to working with local authorities and the community towards addressing the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss. ii) The Council recognises the Climate Change and Nature Emergency and commits to identify 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 to reduce consumption and promote biodiversity; ii) Supporting Grange Climate Action Now with advice/reduced room rates.
Victoria Hall: Maintenance	Implement <i>Victoria Hall Maintenance Plan 2018 – 2022</i> (approved May 2018)	Ongoing	See <i>Victoria Hall Maintenance Plan.</i>
Victoria Hall: Operations	Continue to hire and promote the Hall as a Community Venue.	Ongoing	See <i>Victoria Hall Action Plan.</i>
Victoria Hall: Future	Work with Victoria Hall Support Group (VHSG) with remit to engage with the challenges of losing SLDC grant income from 2019.	Ongoing	See <i>Victoria Hall Action Plan.</i>

	Victoria Hall Working Party (formed February 2018) to create and review <i>Victoria Hall Action Plan</i> , meeting quarterly and reporting to Full Council.	Ongoing	See <i>Victoria Hall Action Plan</i> .
Information Centre	Provide an Information Centre for residents, visitors and businesses.	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Review the service to ensure effective delivery as integral part of Victoria Hall.	Ongoing	See <i>Victoria Hall Action Plan</i> .
	Recruit and train volunteers. Advertise and interview for new volunteers.	Ongoing	Ongoing through word of mouth. Advert in <i>Grange Now</i> early Spring.
Public Conveniences	On behalf of the 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. To consider phase-in of contactless payment due to theft of coins.
Recreational Facilities and Parks	Enable the provision of the Recreation Ground on the Promenade. Phased replacement first generation skate ramps over three years.	Seasonal Ongoing	Ongoing – contracted to Horton Leisure Third and final ramp scheduled winter 2019–20.
	Fund and organise wall-top planting at the Ornamental Gardens.	Seasonal	Ongoing
Allotments	Provide and maintain allotments at two sites – Grange Fell and Yewbarrow.	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Investigate creation new allotments as demanded.	As required	As required
Bandstand	Organise <i>Music in the Park</i> Summer Concert Season:	Ongoing – season runs May to September.	2019 season successfully underway.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Charity and Co to book bands, generate publicity and seek sponsors; • Risk Assess; • Provide Portaloo; • Ensure speakers installed/removed each season to comply with Listed Building Consent. 		New trolley purchased as old one stolen.
Civic Pride:	Continue to encourage civic pride through the provision of:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Lengthsman 	Ongoing	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hanging Baskets and Christmas Trees at Victoria Hall 	May and December	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas lights 	Seasonal	Lights purchased with contract to install, store and maintain until 2022.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor/Deputy Mayor attendance at events 	Ongoing	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and update Mayoral Chain 	Ongoing	Materials at Jewellers – waiting for a break in use of chain to do the job
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of the War Memorial 	Ongoing	Ongoing – Anniversary ‘Tommy’ to be removed as needed.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to organising Remembrance Sunday Service 	November	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouragement of litter-picking group 	Ongoing	Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouragement of gardening groups and liaison with SLDC 	Ongoing	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers' 'thank you' tea party/event 	Annually	Need to set date for 2019 event.
<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 Ornamental Gardens • Park Road Gardens • The Lido • Signage 	Ongoing	<p>Resolution to support SLDC 'Light touch' restoration of the Lido (March 2018; confirmed December 2019)</p> <p>SLDC resolved to fund 'light touch restoration' Feb 2019.</p> <p>Grant paid to 3Ps Community Group to improve duck hut shelter and area.</p>
Local Groups	Continue working collaboratively with local groups to support 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.	N/A
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	Respond to planning application consultations from local planning authority (South Lakeland District Council). Promote community engagement in planning and represent our residents. Request training/meeting with SLDC to ensure GTC planning responses are heard.	Ongoing	Ongoing - Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee Sub-Group are working with Holbeck Homes on the proposed Holker Development, to ensure effective community consultation. Training on Local Plan requested from SLDC February 2019 – scheduled November 2019.
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
<p>Objective 4: Community Engagement</p> <p>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 when required, due consideration.</p>			
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	Ongoing
Councillors: Representatives	Provide Councillor Representatives for local groups as requested.	Ongoing	Complete – agreed reps May 2018 for 18/19. Cllr. Howson to represent to Save Grange Lido (August 2019)

Website: Information	Publish updated Council documents, promote events and the Information Centre and Victoria Hall.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Website: Engagement	Use social media to engage wider audience.	Ongoing	Help needed with social media.
Grants	Support local non-profit organisations by providing grants through the Bay Villa Trust.	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. • Maintain internal controls. 	Ongoing – audit date set by External Auditor	Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write, update and review Risk Assessments for all activities. • Write, 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	Respond to queries to Council Office, 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
<p>Objective Six: Professional Standards</p> <p>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.</p>			
What	How	When	Progress

Grange Town Council Priorities and Action Plan 2019-2020

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	Annual Review (resolved May 2019)