



2023-2024 CIVIC DUTIES



A brief description of Civic Duties attended for 2023-2024

Simone Faulkner

Deputy Mayor's Statement

May 2023

The following was covered:

03.05.2023 Worked on the GDF application form.

07.05.2023 Attended the Veterans Coronation Buffet.

09.05.2023 Checked CCTV for children playing on trolleys/sliding off the Pavilion roof. Gates reported left unlocked!

10.05.2023 Meeting with Angela Dixon and Rachel Street. Reviewing Food/Energy Crisis. Gathering evidence of Community self- help! Warm Hub and Warm Rooms to continue into the Summer months albeit refreshments and sandwiches. There is still a need to ensure the most vulnerable have point of contact and support.

10.05.2023 Attended a Teams meeting on Emergency Planning! This will need to be one of the first priority for the new Council!

12.05.2023 Attended Prize giving at the rugby Union Wilson Park!

17.05.2023 Attended the opening of the refurbish green space at Haverigg school.

21.05.2023 Attended Millom Striders- Run the Edge 10k race around the Sea Wall. Help to hand out medals with the Mayor. A most enjoyable morning!

Grateful thanks to both Mrs Jopson and Mrs Hoyle for doing a sterling job keeping us all on the right track. It cannot be easy juggling the every- day tasks as well as Finance reports and the added Coronation celebrations. We all appreciate your hard work!

Councillor Simone Faulkner

Deputy Mayor

May 2023

It is a privilege to have been chosen as your next Mayor of Millom and Haverigg! I know this last year I have had the opportunity to run through the role and on one or two occasions it had appeared as though it was certainly a baptism of fire!!! However, it made me realise that issues brought to the Council are wide and varied and at times complexed. It is at this point that the quote "Volunteers don't get paid, not because they are worthless but because they are priceless." This is so true of our Councillors and also for the Council Staff! I am very much looking forward to working with you and tackling issues where we can make a difference!

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor

Mayor's Announcement

28.06.2023

The theme for this year is: ***Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!***

Welcome all to a new Council year! Especially, I would like to welcome our new co-opted Councillors! We are now a full complement of Councillors and I thank you for volunteering to be here!

This year is going to be both challenging and hopefully rewarding! We have in the first instance a lot of on-going issues to deal with Allotments, Beach Café, Emergency Plan to name but a few!

My objectives for the year are to connect with the community more! To really know and understand what works well and more importantly what needs to be addressed in order to build a cohesive community that works for the good of the Town. I am looking at forging stronger links with the new Cumberland Authority and other service providers to improve the quality of health and well-being for many of our residents!

No one likes change. It always brings a feeling of uncertainty! For years Millom has been overlooked, placed at the end of the queue! With the Town Deal the spotlight is going to be firmly placed on our Town and village! Not since the closing of the mines as there been such a cash injection! The Government as seen fit to spend this kind of money and we must look upon it as a positive opportunity for the future of Millom and Haverigg. As a Council we need to be ready to deal with the highs and lows of this new adventure and turn all negatives into a positive!

The key focus for this year will be to look at redesigning the Haverigg foreshore, continue to improve the Parks, the aesthetic appearance of both Millom and Haverigg and work hard on trying to improve our areas infrastructure in order to accommodate the predicted tourists!!

I look forward to working with you all and thank you in advance for your dedication and commitment!

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor

Mayor's Announcement September 2023

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's duties have included the following: accompanying Home Group Representatives around Millom and Haverigg to inspect properties! Many were in good order. However, the pavements around the old people's bungalow in Haverigg are in a state of disrepair. Appalling! As the last time I visited this area before Covid. the condition, of tarmac breaking up was highlighted. **Action: email sent to Councillor Andy Pratt requesting resurfacing.**

- 04.08.2023 Meeting with Hannah Kessler re Millom Kind Project aimed at schools and the Elderly. May result in a carnival type procession in Millom.
- Workstream groups had meetings in August.
- Public Consultation Questionnaire for the Community Plan was made available. This will finish in the first week of October. (6 weeks Consultation process)
- 23.08.2023 Presented CPG with their certificate for Millom's Best Business in Bloom.
- 25.08.2023 Meeting with the Prison review of work carried by the work force.
- Call from a member of the public concerned with children climbing the metal container. The Clerk and myself attended as no police presence in Millom at that time! Moved the children on and spoke to young parents' re- behaviour! This is an issue....
- 05.09.2023 Met the Allotment Holders regarding Allotment Policy and issues arising. Councillor McGrath and I were invited to visit the allotments Thursday 07.09.2023. Good PR. Proves that there is a need for dialogue with many of our community groups.
- 06.09.2023 Drone images of dog kennels and an untidy allotment. Letter sent as first warning to the allotment holder!
- 07.09.2023 Dropped in to Mix and Mingle to introduce myself and received a very warm welcome. They did express their concerns about Millom the derelict buildings, Town Deal, Crime and lack of transport, dentistry and NHS. This was good PR. Will pop in again in October.
- 10.09.2023 Heavy rain prompted numerous telephone calls from anxious residents. Councillor Brown and myself inspected the Combined Sewers Overflow along the River Lazy. These were open and flowing. We then visited Millom addresses in Albert Street affected by flooding. Spoke to many residents as to how the flooding affected their property. Some were quite angry- 6 years since the first bad flooding and still we await new drainage system!!! **Action: To ask Cumberland Councillors when this long-awaited improvement is going to happen? To be included in our Community Plan.**

- We also visited Oxford Street, Surrey Street and Mainsgate Road.
- During September contacted Highways to repair a loose kerb stone in Haverigg. Work completed.
- At the same time contacted Highways regarding overgrown hedgerow on the Haverigg to Millom Road. Requested acknowledge but still no sign of cutting back.

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor

Mayor's Announcement October 2023

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's duties have included the following:

- 30.09.23 Mayor's appeal Coffee Morning. We raised £276.80 after cost of hiring the Hall. Special thanks to Councillor Brown, Councillor Kellet and Mrs Hoyle for making this happen. I had three apologies for not being there. However, donations were given towards the event. It was noted by the public that there were not many Councillors at this event! We have to be seen to become a force in the community and a force to be reckon with, with
- the new authority.
- 30.09.2023 Attended Haverigg Inshore Rescue celebrations of 50 years serving the public!
- With Councillor Kellet we visited four local schools concerning the forthcoming Remembrance Service. The message was given to the Headteachers that we needed more dialogue with the local schools, antisocial behaviour is becoming an issue by the young in our community and vandalism to the park is prevalent! I urged the Headteachers to mention this problem in their assemblies! Councillor Kellet then presented each school with a wooden remembrance plaque and I with Civic Sunday bookmarks! If a school is in your ward I would recommend that you form a link and visit in order to continue this dialogue.
- I am pleased to say that each primary school are going to contribute to the remembrance service at the Cenotaph and expectation to both Remembrance Service Millom and Haverigg will see a full attendance of most Councillors.
- We will be working on the Emergency Plan in the next two weeks and I will be asking various Councillors to take an active part. I am looking for proactive Councillors not one who relies on others to do the work. If there is a possible issue in the community or not, I would expect Councillors to touch base with the Clerk to see if she needs any help. This is working as a team!!!
- I have also had a lesson given by Councillor Liebhart on how to create internet meetings using Google Meet. This will enable us that to start working on our "workstream groups". This will accommodate Councillors who are working during the day. If for any reason you cannot access the meeting through your computer the session will be delivered from the Offices.

Mayor's Announcement July 2023

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's duties have included the following: Opening the Norman Nicholson Festival, attended the Ulverston Civic Sunday with my Consort Councillor Brown, visited Alston on a fact-finding mission concerning Social Enterprise (more research needed before bringing this topic to Council), Millom Civic Sunday, Beach Café viewing and meeting with Gillian Elliott NDA concerning the options for the Library building.

August is going to be another busy month. 18 and 19th August we will be holding our public consultation in the Guide Hall we will use this as a baseline for our community plan.

I would like to thank everyone for their support at the very damp Civic Sunday Service! I feel it was a success and certainly impressed the visiting dignitaries.

We do not meet as a Council until September so for those that are going on holiday I wish you a relaxing time and will welcome any help from Councillors at the Public Consultation in August.

Simone Faulkner

Councillor/Mayor

Mayor's Announcement November 2023

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's duties have included the following:

1. 28.10.2023 Attended the re-opening of St Luke's Institute after refurbishment.
2. 02.11.2023 Councillor meeting Community Plan. Focus Emergency Plan. Two Councillors attended!
3. 05.11.2023 Rusland Pool Remembrance Service
4. Remembrance Preparation.
5. 07.11.2023 Mayor filming of the order of event.
6. 08.11.2023 Run through of the poem with all schools taking part 4p.m.
7. **09.11.2023 Invited to the Old Millom Library by Deborah Pearson (Commercial Properties Programme & Stakeholder Manager/Associate NDA) for further updates. Weatherproofing has now been given the go ahead.**
8. 09.11.2023 Choir Recording "In Flanders Field" and 28.11.2023 recording of the poem by the schools for addition on the event video. Grateful thanks to all the schools who have worked to make this happen.
9. 11.11.2023 Attended the Cenotaph.
10. 11.11.2023 Attended the "Voce" evening organised by Royal British Legion.
11. 12.11.2023 Remembrance Service in Millom and Haverigg. Grateful thanks to all who worked extremely hard for this event. Especially Councillor Amos, Councillor Liebhart and Councillor Kellet. A review of the event will take place in January.
12. 14.11.2023 Meeting with the Allotment Holders the new "Tenancy Agreement" was provided.
13. 15.11.2023 Attended the Recreation Centre for a meeting with Marion Giles and two Cumberland Officers who were on a fact- finding mission. Discussion on the important role the centre plays in the community.
14. **17.11.2023 Town Deal Meeting. Focus on projects that have been put forward for planning. Other projects still require further discussion. Communication Strategy to be improved. This is paramount for the community to gain access to information.**
15. 19.11.2023 Attended the MNC Christmas Fayre
16. 19.11.2023 Attended the Flower Club celebration of 55 years.
17. Palladium Gardens- PowerPoint prepared. Various meetings with the Norman Nicholson Society on possible themes.

The Community continues to provide support for the vulnerable and we have to acknowledge the sterling work that is being done by these groups. The

Remembrance service showed a wide variety of people coming together and this in itself is what we all striving to see.

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor



Mayor's Civic Duties and Announcement December 2023/January 2024

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's Civic duties have included the following:

02.12.2023 Christmas Fayre The forecast for the day was sleet showers!!! However, a very large mass of snow descended on our Town and Village. The Fayre went ahead. However, due to the deterioration of the weather had to be closed early. The next few days saw the impact of the accumulation of snow and ice on the roads many were impassable. Through this we saw true community spirit. Many volunteers helping their neighbours to clear snow and indeed we must thank Cumberland Authority for all the hard work they did in clearing the very large amount of snow around the area.

With snow comes the thaw and the risk of flooding which unfortunately happened to a few households in Millom and Haverigg. Some of these households were affected again four weeks later with the amount of rain that fell. As Mayor I attended these properties to support the families and identify the reason for the flooding. Some were blocked drains and others were where ditches had not been cleared of growth.

I attended many Christmas Carol services throughout December. Salvation Army, Cricket Club, Baptist church.

20.12.2023 I attended the army cadet's presentation evening and handed out awards. Very pleasing to see the cadets in uniform and displaying very proudly their Millom Standard.

On Christmas morning I visited the care homes and hospital with hamper baskets.

31.12.2023 Sunday Attended the Civic Service to welcome in the New Year. A pleasant gathering and an opportunity to chat with many residents.

07.01.2024 Attended the Flying Club where I saw the enthusiasm of owners young and old of some very fine example of pigeons. I presented awards and gain in depth knowledge of the club's history and how intelligent these homing birds really are.

The month of January was a time to attend many meetings: police/Town Deal/Royal British Legion/Irene Rogan/shaping ideas for the Palladium Gardens/Disaster Fund.

27.01.2024 attended with the Millom Town Chair the celebration of 150 years of Millom Rugby League Club.

Address to Councillors:

I hope you all had a restful Christmas and New Year? With every new year comes new challenges! This one is no exception. I would like to thank you all in advance for the work you will be doing this year and the support you will be giving to your community.

A few dates for February to place in your diaries 10th February is the Millom Kind Festival 12-7pm. Most of the events will be in the Square and the Beggars Theatre. The other important date is the 24th of February and the dedication of a new plaque for the Cenotaph. This plaque commemorates all arm forces personnel who have lost their lives since the second world war. The plaque has been kindly donated by Mr Todd stonemason.

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor

Mayor's Civic Duties and Announcement February 2024

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's Civic duties have included the following:

1. 27.01.2024 Attended with the Chair. Rugby League celebrations of their 150 years. A lovely atmosphere and reminiscences of sporting achievement.
2. 30.01.2024 HMO emergency meeting.
3. 02.02.2024 Meeting with MP Trudy Harrison, Police, Cumberland Authority, Millom Town Council
4. 09.02.2024 Millom Town Council Statement release and Press Release.
5. 09.02.2024 Filmed for Community Awareness HMO.....
6. 10.02.2024 Attended the Kindness festival. Lovely sunny day in the park. The group were not able to use the Square as wrong application had been submitted in November. Cumberland Authority only informed the organisers three days before the event!!!! Hence Millom Town Council came to the rescue and allowed them to use the Park.
7. 14.02.2024 Attended the PPG meeting. The second since June. CHOC to rebrand name and an introduction by the executive Sue Blakemore how they are committed to improve services for this Town.
8. 20.02.2024 Reported to Police incident in the back of Albert Street.
9. 21.02.2024 Invited to attend Church Leaders luncheon at the Baptist Church. Leaders were keen to find out developments on HMO as no one had approached them or informed them!
10. 21/22.02. 2024 Invited to appear on various tv news channel! Contrary to popular belief (totally out of my comfort zone) Councillor MacGrath and myself at no point did this to compete with Mr Myers tv appearances.
11. 22.02.2024 Chaired HMO Public Meeting in the Palladium.
12. 24.02.2024 Plaque unveiling at the Cenotaph. Plaque donated by Mr and Mrs Todd.
13. 26.02.2024 I welcomed Year 10 Millom School students at the start of their work experience week focussing on the Iron Line project.

Issues arising in the Community

HMO!!!!

From the start the community came together. However, please spare a thought that some of the actions at the start of this issue, also created irreversible damage to some of the residents of this Town. These residents have told me that time will never heal being scared and hurt in a Town they grew up in. A Town that turned against them!!

We have all heard the power and the good of social media but with this comes the caveat that written words can be so damaging. It saddens me that this week the church leaders have come under fire. May I remind this Council that the church leaders also had no knowledge of the fact that HMO'S were for Asylum seekers or the numbers of possible Asylum Seekers destined for this Town. The Community has been quick to criticise the Church leaders. The same church leaders who helped the community through Covid, the same Church leaders who have helped the Community through the Food and Energy crisis. I suggest that Councillors have talks with the Community. Allay their fears, ask for understanding but above all ask for tolerance. We have to encourage respect for the ones that protect us, guide us but above all **respect** for the very structures that provides stability to this Town.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Clerk and the Finance Officer for doing a sterling job researching Land Registry, corresponding to numerous letters and organising media interviews. We are very fortunate to have these ladies working for the Council. Without their quick response to tasks, we would have played catch up.

Dates for diaries:

29.02.2024 I am looking for a few Councillors to come to the Office to support the work experience students. They will be holding a consultation meeting starting at 10-11 am.

30.02.2024 Again volunteers to be part of the final presentations from students in the Office. 10.30-11.30. We must be seen to be supportive. The youngsters of today will become the adults of tomorrow!

Millom Town Deal drop in session. March 6th 3-6pm Millom Guide Hall

Millom Town Deal drop in session for Businesses March 6th 2-3pm Millom Guide Hall

13.03.2024 Community Plan meeting 10.00- 12.00 am

15.03.2024 Events meeting 4.00-5.00 pm

19.03.2024 Environment meeting 10.00- 11.00 am

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor

Mayor's Civic Duties and Announcement March 2024

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's Civic duties have included the following:

1. 26.02-01.03 Millom School Work Experience in the Council Offices. Working on the Iron Line Project.
2. 06.03.24 Met with "Playdale" representative for 3D imaging of a possible Haverigg playground design. the design should be with us after Easter.
3. 06.03.2024 Attended the drop- in session for the Town Deal. 1-6pm A good event. However, poorly attended by the Community.
4. 13.03.2024 Community Plan meeting.
5. 11.03.2024 Met with the organisers of Millom Fest.
6. 15.03.2024 Met Jason from Gate Stoop Stub to discuss our concerns of heavy stone lorries going up and down the road with a playground in situ.
7. 19.03.2024 4pm meeting and consultation with the Coastguard, Rugby Union regarding Haverigg Foreshore redevelopment.
8. 19.03.2024 16.30pm Environment meeting. Report to follow at April meeting.
9. 21.03.2024 Visited Thwaites School Open Afternoon.
10. 24.03.2024 Visited MNC Easter Fair.
11. 24.03.2024 Light Up A Life Church Service at St George's Church. Lovely service.
12. 25.03.2024 18.30 Meeting and consultation with Palladium Theatre Trustees with regards to the concept of the Palladium Gardens redevelopment.
13. 26.03.2024 18.00pm Millom School Presentation Evening.

Council Issues

Yet again workgroup meetings have been poorly attended by Councillors. I am suggesting the next Community meeting we have together with the Environment working groups and spend time looking at ways to improve attendance. We need to look at the effectiveness of these meetings.

Growing concern with community and negative comments on social media!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Clerk and the Finance Officer for meeting the public and working on application form requirements. No easy task.

Dates for diaries:

16.04.2024 Community Plan/Environment meeting 4.30-6.30pm

16.04.2024 Events meeting 4.30-5.30 pm

Councillor Simone Faulkner Mayor

Mayor's Civic Duties and Announcement April 2024

Building a more positive community and embracing every opportunity!

This month's Mayor's Civic duties have included the following:

1. 05.04.2024 Handed over the Haverigg Concept designs to "Make Do and Mends" for display. Many thanks to Penny Chubb for facilitating this project.
 2. 07.04.2024 Happy Birthday Millom Town Council 50 years young! We held a Sunday afternoon tea for past and present Councillors and Mayors. Lovely afternoon with wonderful food and cakes courtesy of Councillor Kellett and the Clerk Mrs Jopson. Everyone received a Millom Town Council badge.
 3. 11.04.2024 Meeting with Natasha Harfoot the new Haverigg Prison Workforce organiser. Good productive discussion.
 4. 13.04.2024 The Community were given the opportunity to celebrate the 50 years of Millom Town Council in the Tin Chapel. Refreshments, a large raffle, Millom Town Council historical paperwork on display and the concept of Haverigg foreshore. Grateful thanks to all Councillors who contributed to the raffle, which made £260.15 towards the Mayor's appeal and also to all who attended the event and made it such a success.
 5. 15.04.2024 Attended the Community Engagement Evening at Thwaites Village Hall. Good opportunity to discuss common issues and future developments.
 6. 16.04.2024 Millom Town Council Community Plan. We revisited the group listing to accommodate the new Councillors. Looking at 2021 census it is evident that with an aging population as a Council we need clarity of future services for Millom. Local residential homes can only accommodate 55 from a population of 7,241.
Action: I am therefore asking the Council for permission to invite Cumberland Authority's Social Services for a meeting with a view to map out future delivery of such services.
 7. 18.04.2024 A meeting with Trudy Harrison regarding South Copeland Active Travel Inaugural Taskforce focussing on cycle routes in South Cumbria. Millom Town Deal have secured cycle route along the Iron Line and along Salthouse Road. There are more routes around Millom to look at.
Action: I am asking the Council to invite Jonathan Powell to the June meeting. He has possible routes and maps that we can look at. The objective is to connect cycle routes from the Duddon to the Esk. This will also include all Parishes up the coast. Any Councillors who are keen cyclist and who may like to be involved in developing cycle routes around Millom just let me know.
 8. 18.04.2024 Attended the Rugby Union Presentation evening at Wilson Park Haverigg. Councillor Brown was my escort for the evening.
- 23.04.2024 Attended a meeting at Millom School with Director of Learning for KS4 Mrs Donna Burgess. The school are looking at 6 weeks community involvement work.

Councillor Faulkner Mayor