

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Management Committee : 16th March 2009 at 7.30 p.m. In The Mayor's Parlour, The Town Hall, Kendal

- PRESENT** Councillors A. Robinson (Chairman), T. Clare, J. Bateson (Deputy Mayor), P. Beavan, R. Boden, G. Cook, C. Hogg, and K. Thompkins.
- APOLOGIES** Councillors C. Feeney-Johnson (Town Mayor, away on Mayoral business), P. Graham, and J. Veevers.
- OFFICERS** Liz Richardson (Town Clerk) and Margaret Graham (Secretary)
- Also in attendance was Councillor Tony Rothwell, by invitation, for the item on CALC.

621/08/09 **MINUTES OF 16TH FEBRUARY 2009**

Minute 576/08/09 The late Councillor Charles Batterson

Councillor Bateson reported that he was trying to establish the size/details of the photo-mosaic of the Town Hall in memory of Councillor Batterson

Minute 577/08/09 Kendal Library Centenary, 28.2.09

Councillors Clare Feeney-Johnson (Town Mayor) and Rob Boden had attended the Centenary event. Councillor Jonathan Brook was also present in his capacity as Chairman of South Lakeland District Council.

Minute 578/08/09 Request from Kendal Civic Society

The Town Clerk had written to the Civic Society regarding their request to use the Town Coat of Arms for the Stricklandgate House Time-Line.

- RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th February 2009 be accepted as a correct record.

***Note:** Councillor Chris Hogg declared a personal interest in the following item because he is a Member of South Lakeland District Council. Councillors Tom Clare and Geoff Cook both declared a personal interest in the following item because they are Members of Cumbria County Council.*

622/08/09 **CALC CONFERENCE ON LOCALITY WORKING , 28 February 2009**

Councillor Austen Robinson said he had been concerned by apparent antipathy towards the Kendal Town Council by representatives from Burneside and Natland Parish Councils. Burneside in particular had a fear of being "subsumed" in any cross-Parish working. Councillor Robinson had pointed out potential benefits (e.g. better public transport – buses to Hallgarth and Burneside). He cautioned that, because the recommendation is for the area of "Kendal", the Town Council would need to beware of overload in terms of the Kendal Futures Board and locality working. Councillor Cook pointed out that KFB has a lot of other partners and is led by the private sector. Councillor Robinson agreed that the Town Council might be able to support some KFB objectives.

Councillor Clare felt it would be easier to get the local authorities to work together but the Town Council might struggle in terms of partnership working with Parishes – even those co-terminus with the town. Councillor Robinson said that this should not preclude cross-Parish partnership working.

Councillor Tony Rothwell said he was pleased with the opportunity to have greater influence and felt the Town Council should respond positively to the CALC consultation documentation. He felt that, whilst locality working was something the local authorities *had* to do, the majority of parishes would go along with the proposals. The outcomes were not about offloading local authority services on to Towns/Parishes, but about the latter having proper influence on how budgets are spent in their areas.

There was some discussion on how many (Town) Councillors should sit on the Executive of the Local Area Partnerships (LAPs), the need for officer support from the local authorities to get things done, senior management backing, and the LAPs having the necessary authority.

Councillor Rothwell asked who was going to complete the consultation document. Members felt that “single hatted” Councillors should respond, to encourage ownership of the process. He suggested that the issues should be raised at the next full Council meeting, and that the SLDC/CCC lead officers should be invited to give a presentation/answer questions to enable Town Councillors to discuss and respond to the consultation document.

RESOLVED that an item be placed on the next full Council agenda for 6th April 2009, and the Town Clerk be asked to invite SLDC/CCC lead officers to give a presentation/answer questions.

623/08/09 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the following item of business as it contains exempt information as described in Schedule 12A of the Act.

624/08/09 STAFFING ISSUES

In accordance with Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, the following report was excluded from inspection by members of the public as it contains exempt information as described in Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as follows:-

- *Information relating to any individual [Paragraph 1]*

The Town Clerk tabled draft advertisement/job descriptions for two posts, and indicated that she needed authority to publish these within a reasonable timescale in order to fill the posts and achieve a handover period. She confirmed that the proposed new arrangements would be cost neutral.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be authorised to proceed with advertising the posts.

625/08/09 READMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be readmitted for the remainder of the meeting.

626/08/09 ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Annual Report had been printed and copies had been distributed to each Town Councillor.

The Town Clerk reported on the publicity arrangements for the Town Assembly; she confirmed that advertising space had not been taken in the local press. Councillor Rothwell pointed out that CALC considered it "good practice" to publish such events in the press. The Town Clerk said she had brought it up at the recent Neighbourhood Forum meeting that the Town Council would be holding its Annual Assembly on 23rd March 2009.

RESOLVED that the Assembly be not advertised in the press, but the arrangements for publicity be reviewed for next year.

Note: Councillor Chris Hogg declared a personal interest in the following TWO items because he is a Member of South Lakeland District Council.

627/08/09 ALLOCATION OF LAND DPD

The Town Clerk reported that she had received a response from Alastair McNeill of SLDC, confirming that they had received the Town Council's submission on the DPD and that they would be willing to meet with Members.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be asked to write to SLDC confirming the Town Council's interest in entering into a dialogue on the Allocation of Land DPD and requesting that a meeting be arranged.

628/08/09 NEW ROAD

Following the presentation to full Council by David Sykes of SLDC, Councillor Boden had prepared a document based on the report to the SLDC Cabinet. Councillor Clare suggested that the Town Council could ask to have input to the consultation document in respect of ideas for the future of the New Road site.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk invite SLDC officers to a meeting of the Committee with the purpose of discussing and offering suggestions on the future of New Road, for possible inclusion in the consultation document.

629/08/09 KENDAL FUTURES BOARD

Further to Minute 569, the Committee Chairman had prepared a list of possible areas for additional involvement /areas for investment with the Kendal Futures Board.

Councillor Tom Clare felt that the Futures Board should be advised of what the Town Council does in terms of being pro-active, leading on some projects and contributing financial support to others, with a view to the Board seeking to generate grant aid for Town Council projects (e.g. match funding) where applications for assistance from local authorities are not accepted. He suggested that the Board should be apprised of the four or five "large blocks of work" which the Town Council either undertakes or works in partnership with other authorities on, and the others to which it gives financial support.

It was agreed to write to Joanne Golton along these lines, giving details of the large projects (Kendal-in Bloom, Christmas Lights, Spatial dynamics/Parish Plan, and Parks and Open Spaces) – plus details of other projects where the Council has offered financial support.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be asked to provide a list of relevant projects to Joanne Golton for the Kendal Futures Board.

***Note:** Councillor Geoff Cook declared a personal interest in the following item because he is a Governor of Kendal College, and because of the College's links with the Museum.*

630/08/09 MUSEUM FUNDS

Report from the Town Treasurer was presented giving details of the current position regarding the Funds available for Kendal Museum; some of the money set aside over the years from 2004/05 had never been claimed and the current balance ear-marked for Kendal Museum is £9,996.50.

In 2007/08, costs of £1,919.81 arising from the exhibition of Cuthbert Rigby pictures at the Museum were charged against the Paintings Exhibition budget. This was to cover costs of the programme, posters, banners etc. As it could be argued that these costs should have been charged to the Museum, the Chairman of the Arts and Heritage Committee had requested that £2,000 be transferred from the Museum monies to the Painting Restorations Fund. Added to the income received from the sale of four paintings, this would give a total of £10,744.59 for the Restoration Fund.

A request had also been received from Carol Davies of the Museum for a modest sum of £250 to finance an exhibition board (The History of Kendal Museum). A copy of a previous exhibition board was provided for Member's information. The Chairman of the Arts and Heritage Committee had agreed that this should be supported.

Concern was expressed that the College had not sought permission from the Trustees of the Museum for building work that may be carried out. The College needed to be apprised of the situation.

RECOMMENDED that

- (1) the sum of £2,000 be transferred from the Museum Funds to the Paintings Restoration Fund; and**
- (2) the decision to release the sum of £250 to the Museum for an exhibition board be endorsed.**

631/08/09 VACANCY FOR UNDERLEY WARD

The Town Clerk reported that no nominations had been received, and the next step was for nominations for co-option to be invited. Councillor Rothwell pointed out that CALC advice on “good practice” is that such vacancies should be advertised in the press. It was agreed that if more than one nomination was received it would be necessary to carry out interviews.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be requested to advertise the vacancy on the Town Hall Notice Board and Website, and in the Press.

632/08/09 FUTURE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Having reconsidered the proposed Committee Structure for 2009/2010, the Committee were minded to recommend that the Environment and Highways & Infrastructure Committees be amalgamated. It was felt that the previous practice of having one of a pair of councillors from a ward on the Planning Committee and his/her opposite number on the Highways Committee should be applied to the amalgamated Environment/ Highways Committee.

Council had already agreed to the amalgamation of the Arts and Heritage and Mayoralty Committees, and to the transfer of the Festivals function to the Christmas Lights Committee.

RECOMMENDED that

- (1) the Environment and Highways & Infrastructure Committees be amalgamated;**
- (2) the practice of having one ward representative on the Planning Committee and the other on the Highways Committee be applied to the amalgamated Environment and Highways Committee.**

Note: Councillors Tom Clare and Geoff Cook both declared a personal interest in the following item because they are Members of Cumbria County Council.

633/08/09 CUMBRIA MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Town Clerk tabled a letter from Cumbria County Council indicating that the authority was to recommence work on the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework’s Site Allocations Policies and Proposals Map, inviting representations about what the documents should contain. It was suggested that the County Council should be asked to give a presentation to the full Council meeting in June, so that questions could be asked and a formal response formulated.

Councillor Geoff Cook pointed out that, because of the impending County Council elections, no matters concerning County Council functions should be discussed in the month leading up to the elections.

It was, therefore, suggested that the Council be asked to postpone its meeting until the 8th June. (Because June is a five-week month, this would still allow the Planning and Management Committees to meet two weeks after the full Council meeting in June, without affecting the calendar for the following month).

RECOMMENDED that

- (1) Council ask the Cumbria County Council to give a presentation/answer questions on the Minerals and Waste Development Framework at the full Town Council meeting in June; and
- (2) because of the embargo on discussing County Council issues in the month leading up to the County elections, the full Town Council meeting and first Planning Committee in June be postponed until Monday, 8th June;
and the second Planning Committee meeting and the Management Committee meeting in that month be postponed until Monday, 22nd June.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS**634/08/09 Land / Asset Register**

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Treasurer had a target of completing a land / asset register (e.g. seating) for the Town Council and work was in progress. It was suggested that the Allotments Committee might consider asking SLDC to transfer their allotments to the ownership of the Town Council, in terms of meeting current and future demand.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be requested to report progress on the Register to the next meeting of the Committee, for discussion.

635/08/09 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes

The Town Clerk reported that South Lakeland District Council was seeking suggestions for topics for its Work Programmes for 2009/2010. It was felt that Members should be asked for ideas, and that "Allotments" was a possible topic.

636/08/09 Request by Town Crier to Use Kendal Coat of Arms

A request had been received from Mr Richard Matthews to use the Town Coat of Arms in correspondence in his capacity as Town Crier. Members felt it would be more appropriate for any letters to be sent out from the Town Hall office.

The meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Minute	Subject	Information / Resolution / Recommendation to Council	
621	Late Councillor Charles Batteson	Info	Councillor Bateson establishing size/details of photo-mosaic in memory of Councillor Batteson
622	CALC Conference	Res	Item on agenda of Council meeting – 6th April 2009: Town Clerk to invite Local Authority lead officers
624	Staffing Issues	Res	Town Clerk authorised to proceed with advertising of posts
626	Annual Town Assembly	Res	Arrangements for publicity for next year to be reviewed
627	Allocation of Land DPD	Res	Town Clerk to contact SLDC to arrange meeting
628	New Road	Res	Town Clerk to invite SLDC to meet to discuss proposals
629	Kendal Futures Board	Res	Town Clerk to provide list of relevant projects, as discussed at meeting
630	Museum Funds	REC	Transfer £2,000 from Museum Funds to the Paintings Restoration Fund Endorse decision to release £250 to the Museum for an exhibition
631	Vacancy for Underley Ward	Res	Town Clerk to advertise the vacancy
632	Future Committee Structure	REC	Environment and Highways & Infrastructure Committees be amalgamated; and The Practice of having one ward representative on the Planning Committee and the other on the Highways Committee be extended to the amalgamated Environment & Highways Committee
633	Cumbria Minerals & Waste Devt Framework	REC	Ask Cumbria CC to give presentation to Council in June; Postpone Town Council (and Planning Committee) meetings to Monday, 8th June [because of embargo on discussing Cumbria CC issues in month leading up to County elections] Postpone Planning and Management meeting until Monday, 22nd June
634	Land / Asset Register	Res	Town Clerk to report progress to next meeting of Committee