

# KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of  
Kendal Town Council  
held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 at 7.30 p.m.  
in the SLDC Council Chamber, the Town Hall, Kendal**

**PRESENT** The Deputy Mayor (Councillor S Coleman) in the Chair;  
Councillors A Robinson, G Vincent, P Bramham, J Brook, C Feeney-  
Johnson, J Veevers, G Archibald, S Emmott, D Evans, S Evans, A Finch,  
M Severn, G Tirvengadam, L Oldham, A Blackman, K Bracey, C Hardy, J  
Robinson, R Sutton and K Teasdale.

**APOLOGIES** Councillors T Clare, G Cook, P Walker, C Hogg and R Hogg

**OFFICERS** Liz Richardson (Town Clerk), Jack Jones (Town Treasurer) and Nicky  
King (Council Secretary)

The Chair opened the meeting with a minute's silence in memory of  
Councillor John McCreesh who passed away suddenly on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>  
January.

**853/15/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**854/15/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors D Evans and S Evans declared an other registrable interest  
in agenda item 5, being members of the South Lakeland Credit Union.

**855/15/16 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on  
4<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Councillor Brook proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct  
record and signed by the Chair. This was seconded by Councillor A  
Robinson and carried unanimously.

**856/15/16 Minute 720/15/16 – Kendal Emergency Planning Project**

Councillor J Robinson requested that any Councillors interested in  
assisting with the project let him know. He also repeated the request  
made at the last meeting for Councillors to read and check the Directory  
of Offers & Services which was being compiled and let him have any  
relevant details for their respective ward.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be  
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**857/15/16 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair stated that thoughts were with the Mayor (Councillor C Hogg) and his wife (Councillor R Hogg) who were currently in hospital. The Mayor was donating a kidney to his wife.

The Chair reminded Councillors that raffle prizes were required for the Mayor's annual charity dinner on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Walker and his wife on the recent arrival of their baby boy, Jamie.

A list of Mayoral engagements for January had been previously circulated.

**858/15/16 REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT FUND**

The Treasurer explained that the meetings of Council on 23 November 2015 and 4 January 2016 had determined the Revenue Budget for 2016/17, following which he had reviewed the presentation of the Development Fund. The following points were highlighted from the report:

- No new schemes had been added to the programme.
- Spending for 2017/18 and 2018/19 was referred to as 'indicative spending'.
- The programme is spent up to the end of 2016/17.
- For the two subsequent years, contributions of £33,209 for 2017/18 and £22,500 for 2018/19 would be needed from the revenue budget to fund the indicative schemes.

Councillor Emmott proposed that the Development Fund programme be approved as shown in the statement. This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the Development Fund programme be approved, as shown in the statement.

**859/15/16 SPENDING IDEAS RELATING TO RESPONSE TO THE FLOODING**

Councillor Emmott referred to minute 795/15/16 of the Management Committee meeting held on 18 January 2016. Members had been asked to consider ideas for spending the additional precept in response to the recent flooding.

A general discussion ensued with several Councillors raising various suggestions and comments as follows:-

Councillor Vincent raised the point that there would be many things not apparent at the current time and questioned whether it was the appropriate time to spend the monies. Councillor Brook agreed that

certain projects would not come to light for some time and suggested that some money be held back for such items. Councillor Emmott was in agreement and suggested that the matter be a standing item on future Management Committee agendas so that new ideas could be picked up as they came to light.

The Treasurer informed Members that an application had been received from the Kendal Oral History Group who were seeking funds to assist with a project which would audibly record people's experiences of the flooding in December 2015. A sum of £399 was being requested for the purchase of a new recorder. The Treasurer advised that this could be met from the Flood Recovery monies, rather than the Grants budget.

Councillor A Robinson agreed that any decisions on spending the additional precept in respect to the flooding should be postponed. He commented that organisations themselves may submit ideas to KTC over the next few months. He added that he was happy to support the application from the Kendal Oral History Group but would prefer that this be funded from existing reserves, if available, rather than from the additional precept.

It was suggested by Councillor Archibald that the residents of Kendal would expect KTC to have some plans as to how the additional precept might be spent. He informed Members that Kendal BID had requested financial help from KTC for two projects to set Kendal on the map post April (once Victoria Bridge was open again), as follows:

1. Funding of £750 towards the costs of continuing the PR campaign to tell people that Kendal is open following the flooding. Part of this would be their #bridgeisback campaign in preparation for Victoria bridge reopening in which every business in Kendal would be handed a poster with the #bridgeisback and encouraged, once the bridge is reopened, to write a message (offer or welcome etc) and display. This funding would be required immediately.
2. Funding of £1,000 to promote Kendal in all the major cities in the UK via 'City Dressing'. This project would have more longevity.

The Treasurer advised that the contingency fund existed for unforeseen expenditure and informed Members that there was approximately £1,400 remaining in the fund. This would be sufficient to support the request for £399 from Kendal Oral History Group and £750 for Kendal BID.

Councillor Emmott emphasised that it was important to support the businesses of the town and commented that shops had been very quiet since the flooding. She agreed with the Treasurer's suggestion that monies should be allocated out of the contingency fund and asked whether a letter of promise could be issued for the further £1,000 requested by Kendal BID, to be paid once funds became available.

Councillor Severn said that it would be valuable to have archive material of people's experiences of the December flooding. He commented that

Cumbria had been badly hit by the floods but hadn't received the same level of publicity as other regions in the country that had also been affected.

Councillor D Evans also expressed his support for the request from Kendal Oral History Group project. He said that the recordings would be a very useful source of information and would also be a help with planning matters in the future.

The Town Clerk put forward two suggestions from the Mayor for possible events (1) a 'Best of Kendal' weekend (2) Heroes of Kendal (a plaque in the street to commemorate people who have done good things for the town).

Councillor Feeney-Johnson informed Members of a project by the Comic Arts Festival which KTC may wish to support. The project would explore climate change but focus on the floods in Kendal told through 5 people's stories. The total cost would be £1,500, however the Lake District National Park Authority had agreed to fund half, therefore Comic Arts Festival were looking to raise a further £750. Councillor Feeney-Johnson advised that there were funds available in the Christmas Lights & Festivals budget should Councillors wish to support the project.

Following the general discussion, the following 4 proposals were made:

1. Councillor Emmott proposed that £399 be awarded to Kendal Oral History Group to purchase a new recorder to assist with a project which would audibly record people's experiences of the flooding in December 2015. This was seconded by Councillor Severn and carried unanimously.
2. Councillor Emmott proposed that £750 be awarded to Kendal BID for their PR campaign #bridgeisback. This was seconded by Councillor Severn and carried unanimously.
3. Councillor Feeney-Johnson proposed that £750 be spent from the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee budget for the Comic Arts Festivals' flood project. This was seconded by Councillor A Robinson and carried unanimously.
4. Councillor Archibald proposed that £1,000 be committed from the additional precept monies of £20,000 from next year's budget for the Kendal BID 'City Dressing' campaign. This was seconded by Councillor Emmott and carried with one abstention.

Councillor A Robinson questioned whether the £1,000 for Kendal BID should be funded from the additional precept of £20,000 and suggested that the monies come from contingencies. He proposed an amendment that a commitment be made to grant £1,000, but further consideration be given as to where the funds should come from. The Treasurer commented that it was looking like there would be significant underspending in the current financial year and Councillors may wish to

consider funding the £1,000 from the working balance. Councillor Archibald accepted the amendment and this was carried.

**RESOLVED**

1. That £399 be awarded from the Contingency Fund to Kendal Oral History Group to purchase a new recorder to assist with a project which would audibly record people's experiences of the flooding in December 2015.
2. That £750 be awarded from the Contingency Fund to Kendal BID for their PR campaign #bridgeisback.
3. That £750 be spent from the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee budget for the Comic Arts Festivals' flood project.
4. That £1,000 be committed for the Kendal BID 'City Dressing' campaign in 2016/17. Further consideration to be given as to where the funds should come from.
5. That spending ideas relating to response to the flooding be a standing item on future Management Committee agendas.

860/15/16

**INPUT TO FLOODING RELATED QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF RESPONSIBLE BODIES**

Councillor Emmott put forward the following proposed motion:-

***“That Council works with/requests SLDC, CCC, The Environment Agency and others to progress the delivery of a Northern Development Route, as stated in our Action Plan, and allocates appropriate funding in the 2016/17 financial year and, if necessary, the following one. Progression to include preparation and submission to the Government within the next three financial years and investigation of whether any necessary embankment(s) might also serve as flood defence”.***

Councillor S Evans commented that without the northern development route, Kendal would be in serious trouble. She felt that, on the grounds of economic survival, the northern development route was very much needed. She added that it would also help with a long held want of KTC to improve air quality in the town centre.

Councillor D Evans thought that the northern development route was vital in order to provide another river crossing. He proposed an amendment to the motion and suggested that reference to “.....the next **three** financial years” be changed to ....”the next financial year”.

Councillor Emmott advised that she was happy to amend the motion as suggested by Councillor D Evans.

Councillor Tirvengadam expressed his support and asked whether the northern development route could form part of the Kendal Masterplan. Councillor Emmott replied that this wish had been made very clear to Dan Hudson at SLDC.

Councillor Archibald commented that the route did form part of the Kendal Action Plan and he endorsed its importance.

Councillor Veevers said that the route was crucial. He considered that it would take heavy traffic out of the town centre and alleviate the problem of pollution.

The motion, as amended, was seconded by Councillor Veevers and carried unanimously.

## RESOLVED

That the revised motion be accepted and Council works with/requests SLDC, CCC, The Environment Agency and others to progress the delivery of a Northern Development Route.

The Planning Committee at its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016 had suggested four questions relating to the December 2015 flooding to be asked of the appropriate responsible body such as SLDC, United Utilities, the Environment Agency and CCC. The Management Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 agreed that these, along with any other questions from Councillors, should be put to the responsible body. Members had been requested to consider any additional questions they would like to see answered and these were discussed as follows:-

Councillor Vincent:

It was widely understood that this rainfall would occur. Will agencies concerned consider, with the advantage of that knowledge, draining Kentmere over a period of time to increase its capacity to hold rainwater?

Councillor Feeney-Johnson:

Some properties have now been flooded three times in ten years – need to ask agencies what are they going to do to improve the capacity of clean waste pipes?

Councillor Veevers:

As far as he was aware the Auction Mart site had never flooded in the past – the drainage on the now developed site should be investigated.

Councillor Archibald:

Why was so much of the flood water contaminated with foul waste?

Councillor Archibald also referred to question 2 proposed by the Planning Committee and suggested that this read “How many properties **built** post 2009 have flooded.....”.

Councillor J Robinson:

Are SLDC going to review their land allocations policy?

There is water being pumped directly into the River Kent from the waste water treatment works at Watercreek following its flooding – how are United Utilities going to restore the plant and flood proof it in the future

Councillor S Evans:

Ask all relevant agencies to make sure they know where all culverts and streams are and consider whether their capacity needs to be increased.

Councillor Severn:

Considered that there was a phrase missing from the questions proposed by the Planning Committee which he considered vital and that was 'climate change'. Need to ask agencies what they are doing to combat climate change.

Councillor Brook:

Ask the Environment Agency to explain why the flooding in November generated significant warnings, whilst the December flooding did not? Can they explain why dredging did not take place until after the floods?

Councillor D Evans:

Lessons need to be learnt by the various agencies. They have got to look at ways of reducing run off from fells.

Councillor Bracey:

The presence of crayfish had been given as a reason why dredging of the River Kent could not take place in the past. How come it was ok to dredge the river now?

Councillor Coleman:

Need to push the Environment Agency to do more about riverbank erosion.

Councillor A Robinson stated that he would like to re-write the four questions proposed by the Planning Committee and outlined in the report previously circulated. It was agreed that he would do so in conjunction with the Town Clerk.

Councillor Emmott suggested that Councillor A Robinson and the Town Clerk work on the four questions along with the other suggestions put forward. The revised list of questions to then go back to the next Management Committee meeting, followed by the following full Council meeting. This was agreed.

**RESOLVED**

That Councillor A Robinson and the Town Clerk work on the four questions proposed by the Planning Committee, along with the other suggestions put forward. The revised list of questions to then go back to the next Management Committee meeting, followed by the following full Council meeting.

**861/15/16**

**ANNUAL REPORT & TOWN ASSEMBLY**

The Town Clerk reported that the Annual Report was being compiled and would need to be checked by Councillors and then printed. It would be presented at the Annual Town Assembly on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm prior to Council at 8pm. A number of Committee chairs are to give presentations.

**862/15/16 REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR OF KENDAL 2016/17**

The Town Clerk invited nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Kendal for 2016/17. Nominations were requested in writing with a proposer and seconder by the end of February for reporting at the March Council meeting. However, the Town Clerk stated that nominations can be received at any point up until the Mayor Making meeting.

**RESOLVED** That nominations be invited for Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Kendal for 2016/17.

**863/15/16 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were presented by Councillor Emmott who proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor A Robinson and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**864/15/16 Presentation on Kendal Masterplan (Minute 790/15/16)**

Councillor Emmott presented the following recommendation of the Committee:

*“That the Management Committee seek permission from SLDC for 2 reps on their stakeholder group for the Kendal Masterplan, 1 from Planning and 1 other from KTC as a whole, to be sought at full Council”.*

Councillors Sutton, Bramham and J Robinson (Planning) volunteered to be reps on the stakeholder group. Councillor J Robinson advised that he may be unable to attend any daytime meetings as he had work commitments. Councillor A Robinson volunteered to be a substitute rep in the event that Councillor J Robinson could not attend.

It was proposed by Councillor Emmott that Councillors Bramham or Sutton and J Robinson act as reps on the stakeholder group for the Kendal Masterplan. Councillor A Robinson to be a substitute rep in the event of Councillor J Robinson being unable to attend. This was seconded by Councillor A Robinson and carried by unanimous vote.

**RESOLVED** That Councillors Bramham or Sutton and J Robinson act as reps on the stakeholder group for the Kendal Masterplan. Councillor A Robinson to be a substitute rep in the event of Councillor J Robinson being unable to attend.

**865/15/16 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

01.02.2016

Council

January 2016 were presented by Councillor J Robinson who asked Council to receive these minutes.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be received.

**866/15/16 ENVIRONMENT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were presented by Councillor Archibald who proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

Councillor S Evans highlighted an error in the minutes. She was late attending the meeting and did not make a declaration of interest as stated in minute 745/15/16. It was agreed that the minutes be amended to reflect this.

The proposal to approve the minutes as a correct record was seconded by Councillor S Evans (subject to the amendment agreed) and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be approved as a correct record of the meeting (subject to the amendment agreed).

**867/15/16 SLDC Car Park Review (Minute 752/15/16)**

Councillor Archibald presented the following recommendation of the Committee:

*“That volunteers are sought at Council to form a Car Park review task group”.*

Councillor Archibald advised that SLDC had commissioned a consultant’s report on car parking in Kendal. Councillor Bracey asked what the timescale was. Councillor Archibald replied that the consultation was ongoing but it was anticipated that there would be an Action Plan in 2-3 months’ time.

Councillors Bracey and Finch volunteered to be on the car park review task group.

**RESOLVED** That Councillors Bracey and Finch be on the car park review task group.

**868/15/16 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & FESTIVALS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were presented by Councillor Feeney-Johnson who proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Teasdale and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be approved as a correct record of the meetings.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson presented the following four recommendations of the Committee:

**869/15/16 Grant Applications** (Minute 663/15/16)

*“The committee recommended that the grant applications were approved by full Council”.*

**870/15/16 Financial Statement** (Minute 668/15/16)

*“That any unallocated spend is used to purchase replacement lights”.*

**871/15/16 Food Festival Banner** (Minute 773/15/16)

*“To support the purchase of a banner to be sited at Kirkland for the Food Festival”.*

**872/15/16 Lakes Alive Festival** (Minute 774/15/16)

*“The Members recommended to support the Lakes Alive Festival”.*

The four recommendations were seconded by Councillor Finch and carried unanimously.

Councillor Coleman remarked that the idea of displaying a food festival banner on the bridge by Kendal Railway Station had been discussed in the past and queried whether this would be a possibility. Councillor Feeney-Johnson advised that the bridge was owned by Network Rail and they had not granted permission last time a request was made. She added that obtaining permission was a very complicated process.

Councillor S Evans queried whether the monies promised by Network Rail following the work on Longpool Bridge had been received. The Town Clerk confirmed that no monies had been received by the Council but may have been by others and it was agreed that she would follow this up.

Councillor A Robinson commended the volume of work handled by the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee and the benefit it brings to Kendal.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the four recommendations of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee be approved.
2. That the Town Clerk follow up whether any monies had been received from Network Rail following the work on Longpool Bridge.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS****873/15/16 (a) Budgetary Control Statement for 9 Months Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015**

The Treasurer reported a continuation of existing trends. He highlighted that the statement indicated substantial net underspending of approximately £29k, with large underspending across all main headings, and suggested that Council may wish to consider the budgetary provision in the future.

**RESOLVED** That the Finance report for 9 months ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 be accepted.

**874/15/16 (b) Bank Payments Schedule: December 2015**

The Treasurer presented the Bank Payments Schedule for December 2015.

**RESOLVED** That the Bank Payments Schedule for December 2015 be approved.

**875/15/16 (c) Petty Cash Payments: October to December 2015**

The Treasurer presented the Petty Cash Payments for October to December 2015. He advised that the heading was incorrectly shown as July to September 2015, but confirmed that the figures were correct.

**876/15/16 (d) Invoices over £2,000**

There were no invoices over £2,000 to report.

**877/15/16 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Emmott and seconded by Councillor Archibald to move to Part II, this was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the press and public be excluded for the following items of business.

**Part II**

In accordance with Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, the following reports were excluded from inspection by members of the public as they contain 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*]

**878/15/16 WAINWRIGHT AWARD [Paragraph 1]**

Councillor Brook declared an interest at this point and withdrew from the

meeting. Councillor Severn also declared an interest.

There were three candidates for the award and Councillors were asked to vote in order of preference. The Town Clerk and Treasurer counted the collected votes which on a single transferable vote system resulted in a tie. The lowest scoring candidate was removed and Councillors were asked to vote again for the candidate they wanted from the two remaining. After counting, Ms Cheryl Berry was announced as the winner.

The Chair proposed that the award be presented at the start of the March Council meeting due to the previously arranged Council photograph prior to March Council. This was seconded by Councillor Emmott and carried.

**RESOLVED** That Ms Cheryl Berry be presented with the Wainwright Award at the March Council meeting.

**879/15/16 READMISSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** That the press and public be re-admitted for the remainder of the meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.

Signature .....

Date .....