

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of
Kendal Town Council
held on Monday, 3rd October 2016 at 7.30 p.m.
in the SLDC Council Chamber, the Town Hall, Kendal**

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor S Coleman) in the Chair;
Councillors T Clare, G Cook, J Brook, C Feeney-Johnson, J Veevers, G Archibald, S Emmott, D Evans, S Evans, A Finch, M Severn, L Oldham, P Walker, A Blackman, K Bracey, J Robinson, R Sutton, K Teasdale and J Owen.

APOLOGIES Councillors A Robinson, G Vincent, P Bramham, G Tirvengadam, C Hardy, C Hogg, R Hogg, K Hurst-Jones,

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

426/16/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

427/16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this point.

428/16/17 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on 5th September 2016.

The Town Clerk pointed out that Councillor Hurst-Jones was not present at the meeting and the minutes would be amended accordingly.

Councillor S Evans proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. This was seconded by Councillor Brook and carried with one abstention.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5th September 2016 be approved as a correct record, subject to the amendment discussed, and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

429/16/17 Draft Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (Ref Minute 339/16/17)

The Town Clerk advised that the draft Standing Orders had been amended as agreed and printed. Copies had been placed on each Councillor's desk.

430/16/17 POLICE REPORT FROM CUMBRIA CONSTABULARY

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

431/16/17 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for attending engagements when he had been unable to do so.

The Mayor repeated his request for Councillors to let him know if they were aware of any particular achievements by residents so that he may write and congratulate them.

432/16/17 OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**(a) The Brewery Arts Trust Board – Cllr Sutton**

Councillor Sutton referred to the summary of a meeting held at the Brewery Arts Centre on 1st September 2016 which had previously been circulated to Members. There were no questions raised by Members.

(b) Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) Meeting – Cllr Sutton

Councillor Sutton referred to a report from the CALC meeting held on 8th September 2016 which had previously been circulated to Members. There were no questions raised by Members.

433/16/17 CONSULTATION FROM THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND – PROPOSALS FOR WESTMORLAND AND LONSDALE COUNTY CONSTITUENCY

Members considered a document from the Boundary Commission for England summarising initial proposals for the North West region. The contents were noted.

434/16/17 HELME CHASE MIDWIFERY-LED UNIT CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO MAKE PERMANENT AN INTERIM CHANGE

Council considered a press release from NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group regarding a public consultation to take place across South Lakes over the next six weeks to seek views about making permanent an interim change at Helme Chase. The interim change, made almost two years ago, means that while women can still deliver their babies at Helme Chase 24/7, staff are no longer on duty in the unit overnight and at weekends if there are no women or babies to care for. Instead they operate an on call service.

There was a strong general consensus of opinion amongst Councillors that the proposal should be opposed, with many Members expressing their concern.

Councillor Severn felt that the only reason why the unit could not be a 24 hour service for low risk births must be purely on financial grounds. Councillor D Evans said that it would see further deterioration of the quality of service provided if the move went ahead and felt Council should oppose in the strongest possible terms. Councillor Cook posed a question about new housing developments planned for the town and whether the NHS had taken these into account and the increased number of women wishing to access the unit.

Councillor S Evans expressed her concern that it was a way of reducing the service provided so that it could be claimed fewer people were using it. The subsequent step then being to announce the closure of the facility altogether.

Councillor Clare suggested that the NHS should be asked to provide figures to show how many people accessing facilities at Barrow and Lancaster come from the Kendal area.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson suggested that Helme Chase could provide a service to the wider community and relieve the pressure on the over-stretched Barrow and Lancaster maternity units.

The Mayor said that post recovery in Kendal was not pushed enough. Such aftercare could make all the difference in the first few days following birth and could mean the difference between a mother breastfeeding and not.

Councillor Severn proposed that KTC write to NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group to object to the change being made permanent and stating our preference for the reinstatement of a 24 hour midwife service at Helme Chase. The letter to include concerns that the service provided is gradually being sliced away, about women being encouraged to attend Lancaster and Barrow and the idea of Kendal providing a service to the hinterland. It should also request data regarding the number of women from Kendal using facilities at Lancaster and Barrow and whether new housing had been taken into account. This was seconded by Councillor D Evans and carried unanimously.

Councillor D Evans asked that the Clinical Commissioning Group be invited to attend the next Council meeting and queried the possibility of inviting neighbouring Parish Councils to attend to consider the idea about Kendal providing a service to the hinterlands.

RESOLVED

That KTC write to NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group to object to the change being made permanent and stating their preference for the reinstatement of a 24 hour midwife service at Helme Chase and that they be invited to the next Council meeting.

435/16/17

PARISH REMUNERATION PANEL UPDATE

The Town Clerk reported that each year KTC receives a request from the Independent Parish Remuneration Panel to consider whether the Council

wishes to make a submission in respect of allowances or expenses for Members for the forthcoming Financial Year. Members had been provided with a copy of the letter from SLDC dated 30th August 2016.

She advised that due to timescale and the deadline date for response, the letter from SLDC had been presented to the Management Committee at their meeting on 19th September 2016. The Management Committee had resolved that KTC Councillors do not accept an allowance and therefore there were no issues to raise with the Parish Remuneration Panel.

Council noted and confirmed acceptance of the resolution.

436/16/17 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON EVENT DECISION TREE

Councillor Emmott presented a Christmas Lights switch on cancellation contact list. The aim of the document was to ensure a mechanism was in place if for some reason the event had to be cancelled.

Council noted the document.

437/16/17 KENDAL IN BLOOM COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting held on 1st September 2016 were presented by Councillor Oldham who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Feeney-Johnson and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting held on 1st September 2016 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Councillor Oldham then presented the following recommendations of the Committee and proposed approval:

438/16/17 Proposed Pollinator Project (Minute 308/16/17)

That the proposal to support the pollinator project should be considered at Council. This is to include an allocation of approx. £1800 from the community project budget line and that any underspend be allocated to the project.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson seconded the proposal and gave a brief overview of the project which was for a pollinator corridor through Kendal. The bid for funding of the original scheme had been unsuccessful but highlighted the benefits for school children and the natural environment. The Kendal in Bloom Committee had then worked with South Lakes Action on Climate Change looking at the same project but on a smaller scale.

Councillor Brook asked whether the outcome of the funding bid for £10k with The Ernest Cook Trust was known. Councillor Feeney-Johnson believed that this had been successful. He also queried the matter of any underspend being allocated to the project. Councillor Blackman

confirmed that the underspend referred to the Kendal in Bloom budget underspend.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That Council support the pollinator project, including an allocation of approx. £1800 from the community project budget line and that any underspend in the Kendal in Bloom budget be allocated to the project.

439/16/17 **Flood Monies** (Minute 321/16/17)
That Council consider £500 be assigned from the Flood Reserve to the Pots of Joy project.

Councillor S Evans expressed her support for the proposal and explained that Sandylands Methodist Church had organised 500 pots, one to be handed out to every resident affected by the flooding on Sandylands. This had been part of a two day community event arranged by the Church.

Councillor Clare asked whether the pots were purely for residents of Sandylands. Councillors Veevers asked what had been in the pots. Councillor S Evans advised that the pots had contained a mixture of plants with pansies on top and bulbs further down which would come through later in the Spring. She said that the pots had been spread as widely as possible and there had been enough to hand out to residents on Appleby Road as well.

Councillor Cook asked who KTC would be funding if the proposal were to be approved. It was his understanding that funding was not given to religious institutions.

After a general discussion Councillor Walker proposed that the matter be deferred to the next meeting to allow for further clarification to be sought as to the payee. This was seconded by Councillor Clare and carried with 1 abstention and 2 Members against. Councillor Clare added that Council needed to be informed of the geographical area that benefited from the pots as this was not made clear in the minutes.

Councillor Cook asked what the outcome had been for Kendal in Bloom and Cumbria in Bloom competitions. Councillor Oldham advised that KTC had been awarded Silver for Cumbria in Bloom. Kendal in Bloom had been a big success this year with very positive feedback and attendance at the recent Awards Ceremony. Results in respect of Britain in Bloom are to be announced on 14th October 2016.

RESOLVED That Council defer a decision on assigning £500 from the Flood Reserve to the Pots of Joy project until the next meeting to allow for further clarification to be sought as to the payee

440/16/17 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 5th and 19th September 2016 were presented by Councillor J Robinson who asked Council to receive these minutes.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5th and 19th September 2016 be received.

441/16/17 MAYORALTY & ARTS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Mayoralty & Arts Committee meeting held on 12th September 2016 were presented by Councillor Coleman who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Blackman and carried unanimously.

Councillor Veevers referred to Minute 364/16/17 relating to Kendal Museum grant request. He advised that correspondence had been received from the Museum and confirmed that the KTC logo appeared on the footer of their stationery as requested by Council.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Mayoralty & Arts Committee meeting held on 12th September 2016 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

FINANCIAL MATTERS**442/16/17 (a) Bank Payments Schedule: August 2016**

The Town Treasurer presented the Bank Payments Schedule for August 2016.

RESOLVED That the Bank Payments Schedule for August 2016 be approved.

443/16/17 (b) Invoices over £3,000

The Treasurer reported that there was one invoice over £3,000 which required approval as follows:

- SLDC – contribution to Oxenholme play area - £5,000 (no VAT).

Members voted, with 1 abstention, that payment of the invoice be approved. .

RESOLVED That payment of the invoice over £3,000 be approved.

444/16/17 (c) Allocation of £1.5k from the Floods Reserve to pay for the shortfall in budget to print the Kendal Promotional Leaflet Series (Ref Management Committee)

The Town Clerk explained that at the last meeting of the Management Committee on 19th September 2016 the Project Manager had advised

that the Kendal promotional leaflets and website should be ready later in the year and would probably be launched together. There would be 3 leaflets and a print run of 10,000 each was needed for a distribution contract. There was a shortfall in the budget of £1,500 for this print run. It had been a recommendation from the Management Committee that £1,500 should be made available from the Flood Reserve for the printing of leaflets as part of promoting Kendal as being open for business.

The Treasurer informed Members that there were sufficient funds in the Flood Reserve to cover this amount.

Members voted unanimously in favour.

RESOLVED That £1,500 should be made available from the Flood Reserve to pay for the shortfall in budget to print the Kendal Promotional Leaflet Series.

The meeting ended at 8.28 p.m.

Signature

Date