

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of
Kendal Town Council
held on Monday, 3rd September 2018 at 7.30 p.m.
in the SLDC Council Chamber, the Town Hall, Kendal**

PRESENT The Deputy Mayor (Councillor A Finch) in the Chair;
Councillors G Cook, P Bramham, J Brook, G Archibald, S Coleman, S
Evans, A Blackman, C Hogg, R Hogg, J Owen, J Cornthwaite, A
Edwards, P Gibson, E Hennessy, H Ladhams, S Long, D Miles, M Miles
and C Rowley

APOLOGIES Councillors G Vincent, M Severn, G Tirvengadam, R Sutton, D
Rathbone, R Crawford and J Dunlop

OFFICERS L Richardson (Town Clerk), J Lomax (temporary Treasurer) and N King
(Council Secretary)

278/18/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

279/18/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C Hogg declared an interest in the following items on the
agenda:

- Item 7 – Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee (reference Lakes
Alive festival) – board member.
- Item 4 – Towpath Trail and Canal Bicentenary Update – SLDC
Portfolio Holder.

280/18/19 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6TH AUGUST 2018

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on
6th August 2018.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6th August 2018 be
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**281/18/19 PRESENTATION – TOWPATH TRAIL AND CANAL BICENTENARY
UPDATE BY HELEN MORIARTY, PROJECT MANAGER,
LANCASTER CANAL REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP**

LCRP members include KTC, SLDC, CCC, Lancaster City Council,
Canal & Rivers Trust, Lancaster Canal Trust and Inland Waterways
Association. Its current focus is to create a towpath trail between Kendal
and Lancaster. Helen Moriarty explained that it is currently a public right
of way, but some sections are muddy and inaccessible due to stiles. It is
proposed to upgrade the path surface, increase the range of users
and remove the stiles and replace with gates, but ownership issues make
this a challenging exercise.

Funding was granted by KTC in July 2018. This has contributed to work on the Kendal to Natland section of the towpath specifically. Helen Moriarty reported on three schemes which the KTC grant would contribute towards as follows:

1. Work to improve access at Burton Road near the Leisure Centre. This section is too steep for wheelchair access and it is proposed to reduce the incline. A total cost of £40k has been obtained for improvement works.
2. Dunmail Drive link onto towpath. Proposals include adopting the current desire line as a public right of way and improving access.
3. Parkside Road improvements to fencing and removing concrete bollards.

Helen Moriarty reported on progress of the three schemes.

Burton Road

Japanese Knotweed had been discovered by CCC and a management plan put in place by SLDC. The preference is to amend the scheme to avoid the Knotweed. LCRP are in agreement with this in order to progress the scheme. Another issue is drainage – LCRP together with SLDC investigating ownership and responsibility of a leak.

Dunmail Drive link

New fencing erected as part of the Burton Road cycling project has exacerbated the access issue. CCC removed one bollard and designed an improvement scheme. This has yet to be delivered.

Parkside Road

LCRP have not made any further proposals as it was not felt appropriate due to SLDC proposals to create parking in the area.

Negotiations with land owners re designation is causing delay on the whole of the Kendal to Natland section of the towpath trail.

LCRP's aspiration is to try and link the work to the canal's bicentenary year in 2019. It has been suggested linking the Bicentenary to the Torchlight festival and Light up Lancaster festival. Lancaster Canal Trust want to deliver a milestone project, ensuring that all milestones are restored. A Heritage Lottery bid to fund Bicentenary celebrations is being developed by the Canal and River Trust, the outcome of which should be known in January 2019.

In respect of the wider project, the trail between Kendal and Lancaster, Heritage Lottery funding of £1.5m has been secured to repair Stainton aqueduct and interpret the three structures at Hincaster, Sedgwick and Stainton. Appointment of a person to deliver the project will be made soon. A bid to Sport England for funding to enhance the condition of the towpath is in its second phase. The KTC grant had helped secure these funding streams.

Councillor Archibald asked whether other Parish Councils appreciated that further funding has been secured as a result of the grant awarded by

KTC. Helen Moriarty replied that this had been reported in the LCRP newsletter.

Councillor Cook referred to Dunmail Drive and reported similar issues at Lound Place which is a cycle route.

Councillor Cornthwaite asked whether Story Homes had been contacted in respect of the Natland Road development which was next to the towpath. Helen Moriarty noted that they hadn't and said she would liaise with them.

It was pointed out by Councillor C Hogg that it had been a long term ambition to connect Lancaster and Kendal in terms of cycling. He suggested that it might be time to hold high level strategic conversations. Helen Moriarty reported a good meeting with Highways England. They were particularly interested in sections which would take cyclists off A roads and onto the towpath.

Councillor Edwards asked whether schools from Kendal to Lancaster would be involved in the bicentenary event. Helen Moriarty remarked that funding bids are all pinned to community engagement and schools would be involved.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Helen Moriarty for the presentation.

282/18/19

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's engagements had been previously circulated. The Deputy Mayor informed Members that he would be covering all but one event in September, the Tour of Britain Sportive on 8th September.

A plea was made for a Councillor to attend the Comic Arts Festival Dinner on 11th October as neither the Mayor nor Deputy Mayor were available. Councillor Coleman volunteered. Town Clerk to forward details.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk forward details of the Comic Arts Festival Dinner to Councillor Coleman.

283/18/19

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2019

Members were provided with the calendar of meetings for 2019.

284/18/19

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & FESTIVALS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee meeting held on 17th July 2018 were presented by Councillor Evans who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Edwards and carried unanimously.

Councillor Cook mentioned Wildman Street and noted a feeling that the area misses out in respect of Christmas lights. Councillor Evans advised that this would be discussed further at a meeting of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee scheduled to be held on Tuesday 4th September. She commented that the height of the buildings on Wildman Street makes matters difficult.

The Deputy Mayor requested that consideration be given to the Torchlight Festival and accessibility for people with learning difficulties. He works with people who have severe learning difficulties and can't attend as there is nowhere to park and no suitable area to watch. He asked that an appropriate location with the required facilities be considered for next year.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee meeting held on 17th July 2018 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

285/18/19 KENDAL IN BLOOM COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting held on 23rd July 2018 were presented by Councillor Blackman who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Edwards and carried unanimously.

Minute Ref 206/18/19 – Cutting of Grass Verges on Shap Road

Councillor Evans noted a correction. Reference to the laundry on Appleby Road should be Shap Road. It was agreed that the minutes be amended accordingly.

Councillor Blackman referred to minute 205/18/19 which noted an idea to create wheelbarrow gardens which would take part in the Torchlight parade. He advised that Committee were unable to proceed with the plans, although it remained an aspiration to work on year round activity.

It was noted that the next Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting had been brought forward from Monday 8th October to Tuesday 2nd October 2018.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting held on 23rd July 2018 be approved as a correct record of the meeting, subject to the amendment agreed.

286/18/19 AUDIT, GRANTS & CHARITIES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee meeting held on 30th July 2018 were presented by Councillor Cook who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Bramham and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee meeting held on 30th July 2018 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Councillor Cook then presented the following recommendations of the Committee:

287/18/19 General Grants (Ref Minute 222/18/19)

That Council introduce 3 year funding agreements to recipients that are currently regularly funded over £1,500. This would apply to Kendal Brewery Arts Centre, Abbot Hall – Lakeland Arts Trust, One Voice, The Quaker Tapestry at Kendal, South Lakes Citizens Advice Bureau and Sandgate Hydrotherapy Pool. Funding to apply to grant applications for the 2019/20 financial year.

Councillor Cook explained that there had been ongoing discussion for some time about whether KTC should commit to more than one year grants in certain circumstances. The recommendation put forward by the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee was for a 3 year funding agreement for recipients currently regularly funded over £1,500. This would run until the end of the current Council.

Councillor Cornthwaite asked whether this would rule out those recipients requesting higher amounts of funding at a later stage. Councillor Cook's opinion was that this shouldn't be the case, however any top-up would have to be requested and considered by Council in the usual manner.

Councillor Rowley felt that the criteria should be made clearer. He was concerned that applications for £1,500 might be submitted in order to be eligible to apply for the 3 year funding agreement. Councillor Cook clarified that if Council granted approval it would be for the recipients listed in the recommendation only. Committee were not looking to accept any new requests for 3 year funding during the current Council.

Councillor C Hogg commented that the recipients mentioned were key organisations which have a major role to play within Kendal. A 3 year funding agreement would allow them some planning time.

Councillor Brook supported the proposal but queried whether the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee had considered the binding of a future Council. He added that the wording of the opt-out clause needed to be carefully considered, including a proviso that they operated in Kendal. Councillor Cook confirmed that Committee were conscious about tying the hands of a future Council. He advised that any 3 year funding agreements granted would be one-off and not roll on. Councillor Brook advised that he was happy to proceed on that basis.

It was noted that one organisation from the list had requested a 3 year agreement. If Council approved the recommendation details would be made available to the other organisations when the grant criteria was distributed by the Treasurer in the next few weeks.

It was proposed by Councillor Cook that the recommendation be approved. This was seconded by Councillor C Hogg and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That Council introduce 3 year funding agreements to recipients that are currently regularly funded over £1,500. This would apply to Kendal Brewery Arts Centre, Abbot Hall – Lakeland Arts Trust, One Voice, The Quaker Tapestry at Kendal, South Lakes Citizens Advice Bureau and Sandgate Hydrotherapy Pool. Funding to apply to grant applications for the 2019/20 financial year.

288/18/19

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6th August 2018 were presented by Councillor Finch who asked Council to receive these minutes.

An update was requested from Councillor Rathbone on minute 229/18/19.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6th August 2018 be received.

289/18/19 OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Hennessy presented a report from a SLACC meeting held on 2nd August 2018.

He mentioned the Peoples Café and commented that we were lucky to live in a reasonably prosperous part of the UK, but it was important to acknowledge that poverty and food poverty is on our doorstep. He said it was important KTC continued to support this service.

Councillor Archibald asked whether SLACC had discussed ways KTC could be involved in climate change issues. Councillor Hennessy asked Councillor Rowley to reply. Councillor Rowley said that SLACC had been heavily involved in incorporating the Peoples Café into its constitution, along with Zero Waste Kendal. The fundamental purpose of both is to reduce food waste and he advised that they may combine at some point in the future. He observed that food waste contributes to carbon footprint. He remarked that SLACC, and possibly KTC, could support the development of the Peoples Café. He talked about various ways this might be achieved and the challenges faced in redistributing fresh food.

Councillor Bramham commented that the Peoples Café is not a new initiative. A similar scheme was run at Hallgarth, but was unable to continue due to lack of volunteers.

Councillor Archibald commented that there was an opportunity for KTC to champion the causes of climate change. He asked Members to consider whether there was a role for KTC to promote ideas.

A general discussion then ensued. Councillor Coleman suggested that KTC reduce its use of paper. Councillor Blackman advised that the Assistant to the Town Clerk was exploring an initiative to ensure allotment produce was not allowed to go to waste. Councillor Rowley commented that there were many things that could be done in Kendal that don't necessarily fall under the label of 'climate change', but which could have an enormous affect.

Kendal Rinteln Association

Councillor Blackman advised that he had attended a meeting of Kendal Rinteln Association. He highlighted concern that many supporters of the twinning initiative had been involved since its inception 25 years ago. He feared that unless new enthusiasts were found the Association may dwindle. He made a plea to Members to consider ways Council could be involved in steering the future twinning relationship with Rinteln. Details of forthcoming twinning events were given.

290/18/19 FINANCIAL MATTERS

291/18/19 (a) Bank Payments Schedule: July 2018

The Town Clerk presented the Bank Payments Schedule for July 2018. It was proposed by Councillor Owen that the Bank Payments Schedule for July 2018 be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Cook and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the Bank Payments Schedule for July 2018 be approved.

292/18/19 (b) Invoices over £3,000

The Town Clerk reported that there were two invoices over £3,000 which required approval as follows:

- SLDC – Parish Poll – £8,636.42 (no VAT).
Councillor Coleman proposed payment of the invoice. This was seconded by Councillor Blackman and carried with 1 against and 1 abstention.
- MTP Media – reprint of Welcome to Kendal Booklet - £3,476.00 (no VAT).
Councillor Coleman proposed payment of the invoice. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried unanimously.

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

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

Signature

Date