

## KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

### Environment and Highways Committee

Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7.00 p.m.  
in The Mayor's Parlour, The Town Hall, Kendal

**PRESENT** Councillors Tom Clare (Chair), Keith Hurst-Jones (Vice Chair) Giles Archibald, Andy Blackman, Keith Bracey, Shirley Evans, Jon Robinson and John Veevers. .

**APOLOGIES** None received.

**OFFICERS** Liz Richardson (Town Clerk) and Rose Tideswell (Temporary Secretary)  
Also in attendance, by invitation, was South Lakeland District Council Officer Deborah Wright (Principal Community Spaces Officer) and Councillor John McCreesh for the item 9 on the Proposed Hallgarth Bus Shelter.

#### 456/15/16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Archibald, Hurst-Jones and S. Evans declared an other registrable interest in item 5 on the agenda (Proposals for Abbot Hall Park).

#### 457/15/16 **CHANGE FROM THE AGENDA**

The Chair proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July be moved down the agenda so that agenda item 5 (Proposal from SLDC for Abbot Hall Park), agenda item 6 (Peace Garden Interpretation Panel), agenda item 9 (proposed Hallgarth Bus Shelter Funding and Maintenance) and agenda item 13 Finance Statement could be taken first due to the presence of interested parties.

The Chair proposed that the agenda order be so changed and this was agreed by the meeting.

#### 458/15/16 **PROPOSAL FROM SLDC FOR ABBOT HALL PARK – Deborah Wright, SLDC**

The Chair welcomed Deborah Wright, Principal Community Spaces Officer from SLDC, who brought the Committee up to date on various projects, contained in a report which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

##### **Nobles Rest**

Ms Wright reported on the Nobles Rest park improvement project which is gaining momentum. There was a public meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October at the park with SLDC/Ebla Landscape Architects to discuss the plans and understand issues. This was attended by 25 people and 10 of these took part in the meeting that followed to agree priorities. The main issues are drainage, footpaths, trees and rabbits. Play equipment is not wanted. There is a proposal for a new entrance close to M & S.

It has been agreed to set up a gardening maintenance group, to meet by the end of October; a friends of Nobles Rest group to look at securing additional funding and to make a capital bid for drainage to SLDC with a drainage steering group.

The time scale is to complete the planning by December, complete the tender

process by March 2016 and the work to be completed by June 2016.

Discussions took place about the drainage problems. Ms Wright confirmed that the aim was for the centre of Nobles Rest to be dry however the outer areas of the park would still be wet. Councillor Veevers asked about a gate to the Town View allotment site from the park.

Ms Wright asked if KTC would consider providing the monies towards the new planting design around the memorial stone in the centre of the park.

Councillor Bracey commented that a plan and costings should be given before the Committee could agree to the planting costs.

Councillor S. Evans asked if the additional money could come from the Kendal in Bloom budget. Councillor J. Robinson advised the committee that the initial work would be a capital cost, with the revenue side being a SLDC expense. Councillor Archibald as portfolio holder for SLDC reminded the meeting that SLDC capital bids are bolstered if other bodies such as the KTC were to give monies towards the project and that an agreement in principal to fund the design and planting out of the centre will be crucial for the SLDC bid.

The Chair stated that the commitment from KTC is for all parks and Ms. Wright of SLDC would need to come back with a concept and monies required.

The Chair proposed that in principal support was given but that details of the design and costings for the planting around the memorial stone needed to be provided for approval. This was seconded by Councillor J. Robinson and carried with Councillors Hurst-Jones, Archibald and S. Evans abstaining.

Councillor Archibald stated that the signage around the park was poor. The Town Clerk advised the committee that the project manager is bidding to the Development Fund for additional signage.

### **Peace Garden**

Planting of the perennial plants is due next week.

### **Hallgarth Playground**

The playground at Hallgarth was officially opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> September and phase two is ongoing and includes replacing the zip wire, entrances and paths.

### **Sandylands Playground**

Residents and Councillors have raised the monies for the new playground. Komplan are the successful playground manufacturer and the order for the new equipment will be placed made next week. The playground will close on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and old equipment will be re-used where possible. The opening event is planned for February half term.

### **Romney Traffic Island**

There is an interest sponsor for Romney traffic island and on confirmation of this sponsor boards will be put out from early January.

### **Oxenholme Playground**

Work has only just started and there is a crowd funding exercise in November to try and raise the funds for one piece of play equipment.

### **Abbot Hall Park**

Ms Wright proposed that the radial beds at Abbot Hall be redesigned with more suitable plants and colour coordinated in rainbow order. The current beds had not been successful. It was proposed to use Stephenson Halliday who had designed the Peace Garden. The total cost would be around £6,700 of which the plants comprised £5,500. Ms Wright asked whether KTC could pay for the plants.

Councillor S Evans asked if we knew why the plants had been unsuccessful in the radial beds and that we need to ensure the new plants grow. Ms Wright thought bringing in new topsoil together with more suitable plants and fencing off of the area to enable plants to establish should solve the problem. She added that the scheme would deliver all year round plant presence and colour. Some other failed beds are to be grassed over.

Councillor Clare wanted to ensure that SLDC was responsible for quality assurance. Ms Wright confirmed this and that KTC were being asked to pay for the plants.

Councillor Veevers and Bracey supported the proposal on the understanding that quality control was in place and that KTC would not be replacing any plants that failed.

The Chair proposed supporting the cost of planting of the radial beds in Abbot Hall from the Environment Reserve. This was seconded by Councillor Veevers and passed unanimously with Councillors Hurst-Jones, Archibald and S. Evans abstaining.

**RESOLVED** That in principal support be given to KTC supporting the cost of planting around the memorial stone in Nobles Rest but that details of the design and costings for this planting be provided by Ms Wright, SLDC for approval by the Committee.

**RESOLVED** That the cost of planting of the radial beds in Abbot Hall be supported at a cost of £5,500 from the Environment Reserve.

### **459/15/16 PEACE GARDEN INTERPRETATION PANEL – Councillor T Clare**

The Chair reported that there had been a temporary interpretation panel whilst works were being undertaken on the Peace Garden. However SLDC and the architects did not favour a permanent interpretation panel. It had been suggested

that wider interpretation within Abbot Hall and the Riverside be looked at and in a similar vein at Nobles Rest also.

**460/15/16 FINANCE STATEMENT**

The Town Clerk referred to the Budgetary Control Statement for the six months ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 which had been circulated prior to the meeting and explained expenditure to that date.

Councillor Veevers asked about the ongoing project for the Heron Hill School Wildlife Area and the Chair replied that Councillor Blackman is going to follow this up.

The Town Clerk advised members that the £800 for K. Village Riverside interpretation panels may be utilised by the project manager.

Members received and noted the Finance Statement ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

**461/15/16 PROPOSED HALLGARTH BUS SHELTER FUNDING AND MAINTENANCE – Councillor J. McCreesh**

The Town Clerk referred to the report which had been circulated prior to the meeting seeking a contribution towards the cost and ongoing maintenance of a proposed bus shelter on Hallgarth. The location of the bus shelter had not yet been decided. Councillor J. McCreesh explained that he no longer needed a contribution towards the cost of the shelter just KTC to take on the ongoing maintenance.

Councillor Bracey reminded the committee that KTC had committed to paying for Sandylands Bus Shelter and then had had to replace panels on several occasions due to vandalism and that this commitment is ongoing. The Town Clerk informed the committee that KTC maintains 6 bus shelters and that there is a budget line for maintenance.

Councillor Archibald proposed that KTC take on the maintenance of a Hallgarth bus shelter. This was seconded by Councillor J Robinson and was carried with 3 abstentions.

**RESOLVED** that KTC take on the maintenance of a Hallgarth bus shelter.

**462/15/16 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015**

The Chair presented the minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 which had been approved by full Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015.

Councillor Hurst-Jones proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Bracey and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 be accepted as a correct record.

**MATTERS ARISING** (Not on Agenda)**463/15/16 Public Participation** (Minute 119/15/16)

Members asked if The Town Clerk had contacted Ms Meakin's District Councillor with regard to a potential dangerous tree. She reported that this had been done and the SLDC arboriculture specialist had been to see her.

**464/15/16 Finance Statement – Replacement Bus Shelter Panels** (Minute 122/15/16)

Councillor S. Evans reported that the two vandalised panels at the Rydal Road bus shelter had been removed. She will talk to the bus officer at CCC about alternative solutions.

**465/15/16 Improvements to Stramongate Bridge Area – New Bench** (Minute 124/15/16)

Councillor S. Evans informed the committee that she met last week with Councillor D. Evans and Tony Naylor of SLDC and the project is bigger than envisaged and will be in two stages.

**466/15/16 Police Yard** (Minute 128/15/16)

Councillor J. Robinson has not spoken to Sue Scott the enforcement officer at SLDC yet with regard to the issue of wheelie bins. Neither had he spoken to the officer from CCC dealing with the lighting scheme at Police Yard as he was still on sick leave. There was currently scaffolding up in Police Yard so any work would have to wait. The Chair asked Cllr J Robinson to ask the Civic Society what the current plans for lighting were.

**RESOLVED** Councillor J. Robinson to speak with Sue Scott, SLDC about enforcement of wheelie bins in Police Yard and the lighting officer from CCC and the Civic Society about the Police Yard lighting scheme.

**467/15/16 STREET FURNITURE AND LOWER BEAST BANKS FOOTPATH – Councillor J. Robinson**

Councillor J Robinson provided the meeting with maps and photograph's of the proposed site of a footpath on Lower Beasts Banks that residents were keen to have. This is an area on Beast Banks where people walk across the grass to avoid walking in the road or on an uneven gully that runs down between the green and parked cars. Councillor J. Robinson proposed that the committee ask SLDC permission to put in a surface path. This was agreed and Cllr J Robinson agreed to draft a letter for the Town Clerk to send to SLDC.

There then followed discussion on various street furniture requests.

Councillor S. Evans enquired about the Stramongate Bridge area where KTC has agreed to provide two seats. She asked whether KTC could also cover the installation costs of these seats. The Chair proposed that Councillor S. Evans provides the next meeting with a cost for this.

Councillor Archibald informed the Committee that the Rosemary Hill area has had volunteers clearing the area and it would be nice to have a seat placed on the hill as it has great views. The Committee asked that he come to the next meeting with a fully costed proposal.

Cllr Veevers asked about a bus stop seat on Wattsfield Road. There were several stops on this road and the Committee were unsure as to which Ward this area was in. The Town Clerk agreed to determine this and contact the CCC Ward Councillor to discuss.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor J Robinson draft a letter for the Town Clerk to send to SLDC for permission to site a footpath across the green area on Lower Beast Banks.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor S. Evans provides the next committee with a cost for installation of the two seats being provided at Stramongate Bridge for consideration.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Archibald provides the next meeting with a fully costed proposal for a seat on Rosemary Hill.

**468/15/16      PROPOSED SHAP ROAD BUS SHELTERS (Foodstore Development) MAINTENANCE**

The Town Clerk reported the request from the Highways Department, CCC that a condition of the planning consent for the new Foodstore on Shap Road was the provision of 2 bus shelters. The County no longer take on maintenance of shelters so are requesting that KTC take on the task of the maintenance. CCC will be requesting a commuted sum for their upkeep for thirty years, so require a figure from KTC of its charges for their upkeep. The Town Clerk referred to the report which had been previously circulated.

Councillor S. Evans was concerned about the amount of money that may be required and proposed that KTC should not maintain the bus shelters and that this should be the responsibility of the Foodstore. Councillor Bracey seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk writes to CCC advising them that KTC do not wish to take on the maintenance of the 2 bus shelters proposed on Shap Road as part of the Foodstore development.

**469/15/16      PAINTING OF RAILINGS – UPDATE**

The Town Clerk gave an update on the railings project. At the previous meeting suggestions were put forward by Members and the Kendal Civic Society on railings that required painting. It had been agreed to concentrate on three areas and the Town Clerk reported on these.

1. Vicarage Terrace (opposite Kendal College) – the railings are owned by CCC who have given permission to paint them. The cost to repaint these would be £900. Members suggested repainting the railings the current colour of green.

Councillor Veevers proposed repainting the Vicarage Terrace railings in green. This was seconded by Councillor Bracey and carried unanimously.

2. Miller Bridge (small section just over the bridge on Aynam Road) – the railings are owned by SLDC who advised that they are not on a current programme to be repainted. The cost to repaint these would be £200.

3. Little Aynam/Putting Green at Gooseholme – the railings are owned by SLDC who advised that they are not on a current programme to be repainted. The cost would be £440 for the railings around the Putting Green. To continue to paint the railings round to Thorny Hills, which would require SLDC to cut back the hedge, would be £2,680 as this is a long stretch of railings.

The Town Clerk explained that as they were SLDC railings a quote also had to be sought from SLDC's preferred contractor. This had been requested but not as yet received.

Councillor J. Robinson proposed repainting the Miller Bridge area and the smaller section around the Putting Green using the contractor providing the lower quotation. This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried unanimously.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would keep a list of all the suggestions for repainting of railings to enable a rolling programme for repainting.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk place a contract for the repainting of the railings on Vicarage Terrace, Miller Bridge and the Little Aynam Putting Green.

**470/15/16 KEEP KENDAL TIDY – Councillor G. Archibald**

Councillor Archibald gave the Committee an update on proposals for a campaign to Keep Kendal Tidy. The aim was to change behaviour and encourage people not to litter. He proposed establishing a task force that would be open to all Councillors and would work in partnership with others such as schools and the Civic Society. Ideas would be formulated and presented at a public meeting. Councillor J. Robinson seconded the proposal and it was carried unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION** that an item be placed on the agenda at Council to establish a Keep Kendal Tidy task group and seek members.

**471/15/16 ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

The Town Clerk advised the committee that items for the KTC newsletter needed to be with the Editor, Councillor Clare by the end of January 2016. It was suggested that an article about Keep Kendal Tidy should be included.

**472/15/16 BUDGET REVIEW 2016/17**

The Town Clerk brought the Committee up to date with the budget timetable, budget variations and the criteria for development fund bids. The Town Clerk asked Members to review the current spend against budget and then consider the budget required for 2016/17.

Councillor Archibald proposed that the £4K budget for Bus Shelters, Seats and Footpaths Maintenance be reduced to £3K next year as to date there had been

no spend. This was seconded by Councillor J Robinson and carried unanimously.

The Town Clerk reported on the work of the new Project Manager. Current work include projects to improve Kendal's signage, interpretation and public realm. The Project Manager had produced a paper which had been circulated prior to the meeting. She had proposed Development Fund bids for each project area over a 3 year period. These varied in value over each of the 3 years. It was suggested that a proposal for an equal amount of money in each year was preferable. Councillor Veevers proposed the total should be amended to £15,000 p.a. over 3 years as part of a rolling programme. This was seconded by the Chair and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that the proposed budget for Bus Shelters, Seats and Footpaths Maintenance be reduced from £4k to £3K next financial year.

**RESOLVED** that a Development Fund bid of £15,000 p.a. over 3 years for projects to improve Kendal's signage, interpretation and public realm be submitted to Council as part of the budget process.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **473/15/16 Emptying of Litter Bins**

Councillor Veevers reported that the litter bin on Highgate near Iceland was overflowing. The Town Clerk advised that any issue with litter bins should be reported to SLDC.

##### **474/15/16 The Old Grammar School**

The Chair raised concerns about the deterioration of the grade II listed Old Grammar School building owned by Abbot Hall. He proposed that he discuss the issue with interested parties such as the Kendal Civic Society. The Committee agreed that the Chair progress the action with interested parties.

**RESOLVED** that the Chair progress concerns about the deterioration of the grade II listed Old Grammar School building with interested parties.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

**Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council**

<b>Min</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Information / Resolution / Recommendation to Council</b>	
<b>458</b>	Proposal from SLDC for Abbot Hall Park	<b>RES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That in principal support be given to KTC supporting the cost of planting around the memorial stone in Nobles Rest but that details of the design and costings for this planting be provided by Ms Wright, SLDC for approval by the Committee.</li> <li>2. That the cost of planting of the radial beds in Abbot Hall be supported at a cost of £5,500 from the Environment Reserve.</li> </ol>
<b>461</b>	Proposed Hallgarth Bus Shelter Funding and Maintenance	<b>RES</b>	That KTC take on the maintenance of a Hallgarth bus shelter.
<b>466</b>	Police Yard	<b>RES</b>	Councillor J Robinson to speak with Sue Scott, SLDC, about enforcement of wheelie bins in Police Yard and the lighting officer from CCC and the Civic Society about the Police Yard lighting scheme.
<b>467</b>	Street Furniture and Lower Beast Banks Footpath	<b>RES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that Councillor J Robinson draft a letter for the Town Clerk to send to SLDC for permission to site a footpath across the green area on Lower Beast Banks.</li> <li>2. that Councillor S. Evans provides the next committee with a cost for installation of the two seats being provided at Stramongate Bridge for consideration.</li> <li>3. that Councillor Archibald provides the next meeting with a fully costed proposal for a seat on Rosemary Hill.</li> </ol>
<b>468</b>	Proposed Shap Road Bus Shelters (Foodstore Development) Maintenance	<b>RES</b>	that the Town Clerk writes to CCC advising them that KTC do not wish to take on the maintenance of the 2 bus shelters proposed on Shap Road as part of the Foodstore development.
<b>469</b>	Painting of Railings	<b>RES</b>	that the Town Clerk place a contract for the repainting of the railings on Vicarage Terrace, Miller Bridge and the Little Aynam Putting Green.
<b>470</b>	Keep Kendal Tidy	<b>REC</b>	that an item be placed on the agenda at Council to establish a Keep Kendal Tidy task group and seek members.

<b>472</b>	Budget Review 2016/17	<b>RES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. that the proposed budget for Bus Shelters, Seats and Footpaths Maintenance be reduced from £4k to £3K next financial year.</li><li>2. that a Development Fund bid of £15,000 p.a. over 3 years for projects to improve Kendal's signage, interpretation and public realm be submitted to Council as part of the budget process.</li></ol>
<b>474</b>	The Old Grammar School	<b>RES</b>	that the Chair progress concerns about the deterioration of the grade II listed Old Grammar School building with interested parties.