

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Monday 10th October 2016 at 7.00 pm
in The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

PRESENT Councillors Tom Clare (Chair), Giles Archibald, Andy Blackman, Keith Bracey, Jonathan Owen, Jon Robinson and John Veevers

Also in attendance was Councillor Geoff Cook.

APOLOGIES None.

OFFICERS Liz Richardson (Town Clerk), Helen Moriarty (Project Manager) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)

445/16/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

446/16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this point.

447/16/17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH JULY 2016

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2016, which had been approved by full Council on 1st August 2016.

Councillor Clare proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor J Robinson and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th July 2016 be accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)

448/16/17 Lower Beast Banks Footpath (Minute 192/16/17)

Councillor J Robinson advised that he was still following up the possibility of the proposed footpath being adopted with CCC.

449/16/17 Parks Update – Repairs to Railings (Minute 197/16/17)

The Chair asked Councillor Veevers to liaise with the Project Manager regarding a means of painting galvanised railings.

Councillor Archibald confirmed that work to remove the railings on Little Aynam was on the list to be done.

The Town Clerk referred to the resolution by the Committee that the Project Manager be asked to prepare an audit template for an audit

of trees/condition survey. She advised that the Project Manager would be meeting with the Chair to progress this further.

450/16/17

PARKS UPDATE – DEBORAH CLARKE, SLDC

Deborah Clarke, SLDC, had not attended the meeting therefore a full update could not be provided.

Councillor Archibald advised that he had been assured work at Nobles Rest would commence in the New Year.

451/16/17

REPLACEMENT OF THE SHAKESPEARE OAK AT KENDAL GREEN

Members had previously been asked to consider whether they wished to replace the Shakespeare oak tree at an approximate cost of £200, following malicious damage to the tree. It had been decided to take no further action until a police investigation had been concluded.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the police had now concluded their investigation, however there was no evidence to make a charge. The Committee were asked to give further consideration to the replacement of the tree.

Councillor Veevers declared an interest at this point. He explained that his daughter (Diane Winder) worked for Horticare and they would be donating an oak sapling to replace the damaged tree. He had previously given his daughter the sapling and Horticare wished to donate it for this purpose. The Chair thanked Councillor Veevers and asked that the Mayor be requested to send a letter of thanks to Horticare.

RESOLVED

That the Mayor be requested to send a letter of thanks to Horticare for the donation of the oak sapling.

452/16/17

DRAFT TRAILS LEAFLET – HELEN MORIARTY, PROJECT MANAGER

The Project Manager presented the draft Trials leaflet. This would run in conjunction with the wayfinding project. She explained the symbols for cultural, woodland and historical trials, all three of which would be interlinked. A brief had been written and sent to three local designers/signmakers. Only one company had confirmed their interest. The suggestion was to use stickers similar to those used for cycleways, or alternatively traditional style plaques attached to posts by brackets. The Project Manager was due to have a walk around with the contractor the following week. She advised that there was some work to carry out in obtaining necessary permissions. Councillor J Robinson advised that this could take as long as eight weeks to obtain in some cases.

There was a general discussion regarding the use of stickers or plaques. Councillor Cook had a preference for adhesive stickers as these would presumably be cheaper and easier to remove if

necessary. The Town Clerk commented that a mixture of stickers and plaques would possibly be the way forward, with stickers being used where possible. She stressed the importance of getting the locations of the stickers right.

The Project Manager said there was the option for a symbol only, or a symbol with a place name and asked for Members' opinions. There was a general feeling that a generic sign with a symbol only would be the best option.

The Project Manager advised that two further leaflets in the series were progressing well; Sense of Place – Welcome to our Town (a generic Kendal leaflet) and the Cultural Guide. It was hoped to launch all three leaflets at the Mountain Film Festival in November.

Councillor J Robinson asked whether the leaflets would be published on the KTC website. The Project Manager confirmed that they would be published and reformatted to enable downloading and printing from the website.

Councillor Archibald queried whether the leaflets would be seen by free Wi-Fi users. The Project Manager said that she would investigate linking the leaflets to the home page of the free Wi-Fi. She would further check that reference to free Wi-Fi is made in the Trails leaflet.

The Chair advised that a minimum print run had been required. The Project Manager explained that in time it would be possible to see which leaflet proved most popular and adjust further print runs accordingly. The Chair requested that each Councillor receives a copy of the leaflets. The Town Clerk suggested that they be distributed at December Council.

RESOLVED

1. That the Project Manager investigate linking the leaflets to the home page of the free Wi-Fi and check that reference to free Wi-Fi is made in the Trails leaflet.
2. That each Councillor receives a copy of the leaflets, to be distributed at December Council.

453/16/17**WOOLPACK YARD MURAL UPDATE – HELEN MORIARTY,
PROJECT MANAGER**

The Project Manager advised that an unfavourable response had been received from the Senior Estates Surveyor of Holland and Barrett. KTC are keen to instigate a Wool Mural to improve Woolpack Yard and had asked the property owner to support the initiative by rendering the wall. As well as stating that they were unlikely to support the project financially, Holland and Barrett had advised that they would charge approximately £4,000 to obtain the necessary permissions and create a legally binding contract with KTC.

The Project Manager presented possible solutions/suggestions including reconsidering the mural idea and alternative improvement options.

A general discussion ensued. Councillor Bracey was of the opinion that Woolpack Yard used to be blocked to vehicle access and added that the absence of a dropped kerb would suggest this was the case. He commented that the poor state of the Yard was not good for the area and the installation of posts to stop traffic should be investigated. It was agreed that this would be a Cumbria Highways issue.

Councillor Vevers agreed that the Yard was an eyesore and detrimental to the town centre. The Chair advised that he had spoken to the Acting Conservation Officer who had confirmed the Conservation Officer would be back in post on 20th October and she would request that he followed the matter up on his return. A meeting between the Civic Society, the Project Manager and the Conservation Officer had been discussed to look at the appearance of buildings above shopfronts in general. Councillor J Robinson advised that he thought the Civic Society would be interested in being involved as it was a matter they had looked at in the past.

Councillor Cook pointed out that he thought the building was a listed building so any work carried out had to be permissible. He also referred to the ongoing scheme by Kendal Futures for standardised yard signage and commented that work should be in keeping with that scheme.

The Chair proposed that the Project Manager speak to the Conservation Officer upon his return to arrange a joint meeting. It was also suggested that the invitation be extended to the BID. This was seconded by Councillor Owen and agreed unanimously. Councillor J Robinson requested that a letter be sent to the Civic Society and it was agreed that the Project Manager would do this.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager speak to the Conservation Officer at SLDC upon his return to arrange a joint meeting. That a letter be sent to the Civic Society and the BID also be invited to attend.

454/16/17**SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES**

Question had been raised in the past as to whether solar power could be used to power our speed indicator device. The Town Clerk advised that it was possible but the cost would be excessive and there would be little benefit.

The Town Clerk informed Members that Councillor Peter Thornton had queried the possibility of having more devices around town. She advised that the cost was approximately £2,000 per device (solar powered), but she was unsure how many he was looking for.

Members discussed the need for further speed indicator devices. Councillor Vevers considered that the existing device was sufficient and questioned their effectiveness. Councillor Archibald reported constant complaints from residents and said evidence suggested that they do slow down traffic. He added that Windermere Road residents had complained because the device installed there had been moved. He suggested that some form of data collection would be a useful

feature. The Town Clerk commented that this would require someone to analyse the data.

Councillor Bracey suggested speaking to the police to ascertain how effective the device was at slowing down traffic.

The Chair suggested that before any decisions could be made it would be necessary to seek the opinion of the police and Cumbria Highways. He also said that it would be useful to ascertain whether County Councillors were able to fund further devices for their divisions. All Members agreed and it was decided that the Town Clerk would progress this matter.

RESOLVED

1. That the opinion of the police and Cumbria Highways be sought as to the effectiveness of speed indicator devices.
2. To ascertain whether County Councillors were able to fund further devices for their divisions.

INFRASTRUCTURE**455/16/17****(a) Repair of Kendal's benches**

The Town Clerk reported that complaints had been received about benches in the town centre belonging to CCC which required repair. Members agreed there was an ownership and maintenance question to be addressed and the three tiers (KTC, SLDC and CCC) needed to work together on this matter. Councillor Archibald said that SLDC's view was they should be maintaining the benches under their ownership. Councillor Cook reported that CCC had no budget for the maintenance of benches and if one was not fit for use it would be removed. He commented that there was an option for another body to take on the maintenance.

The Town Clerk advised that she had met with Karen Johnson, CCC, and started a discussion on the matter. She explained that she would like to see responsibility for the maintenance of our lights and their benches swapped. Whilst Karen Johnson had been open to the suggestion, she had heard nothing further. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would write to Karen Johnson to follow up and copy to town centre ward Members.

The Chair suggested formally writing to the Chair of the Local Committee (Councillor Nick Cotton). Councillor Archibald suggested inviting him to walk round the benches to survey condition. Town Clerk to action.

RESOLVED

1. That the Town Clerk would write to Karen Johnson to follow up on the discussion previously held on maintenance of benches.
2. That the Town Clerk write to the Chair of the Local Committee inviting him to walk round the benches to survey condition.

456/16/17**(b) Repair of KTC bench on Queens Road**

The Town Clerk reported that a group of volunteers had requested the renovation of a bench on a small triangle of land on Queens Road

which belongs to KTC. The volunteers were requesting KTC purchase the wood to repair the wooden slats and they would install.

Councillor Veevers proposed that the request be approved. This was seconded by Councillor J Robinson and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the request to renovate the bench on Queens Road be approved.

457/16/17 (c) Additional bin empty on Low Fellside – Cllr Archibald

Councillor Archibald reported that the new litter bin installed on Low Fellside (entrance to Maudes Meadow) appeared to be very well placed, however it was regularly overflowing and required emptying more frequently. SLDC had advised that a second collection could be arranged at a cost of £3.58 plus VAT per week.

Councillor J Robinson proposed that an additional collection be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Blackman and carried with one abstention.

RESOLVED That an additional bin empty on Low Fellside be approved.

458/16/17 WALKS IN KENDAL – CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION AND CORRESPONDENCE ON WALKS FROM KENDAL – CLLR CLARE

Further information had been received from the Ramblers Association on the footpaths they had highlighted around Kendal which were not formally acknowledged on the CCC Definitive Map. Members discussed the table of footpaths which had been compiled and agreed that the Chair and Councillor Blackman should meet with the Ramblers Association to discuss further.

The Town Clerk commented that the Ramblers Association had put together an excellent piece of work and asked whether they would like a letter of support from KTC. It was agreed that the Chair and Councillor Blackman would ask the question when they met.

Councillor J Robinson requested that the table of footpaths be circulated to Councillors. The Town Clerk agreed to action.

It was also suggested that the Chair ask the Ramblers Association if they could publish the list on their website so that it may be seen by the general public.

RESOLVED

1. That the Chair and Councillor Blackman meet with the Ramblers Association to discuss further the footpaths not formally acknowledged on the CCC Definitive Map.
2. That the Town Clerk circulate the table of footpaths to Councillors.
3. That the Chair ask the Ramblers Association if they could publish the list on their website.

BUDGET 2017/18**459/16/17****(a) KTC Action Plan Project Development Fund Bids**

The Project Manager presented a report summarising KTC funding to deliver the KTC Action Plan and highlighting potential projects for a development fund bid. Projects were organised under the broad themes of the Action Plan:

1. Improving Kendal's Interpretation and promotion
2. Improving Kendal's public realm
3. Improving Kendal's signage.

A new additional project was also brought to Members' attention to improve Kendal town centre street names. This would support the Kendal Trails project and easy navigation by making Kendal street names clear by replacing old wooden signs.

Following a general discussion the Chair proposed that the budget proposals be put forward to the Treasurer, as per the Project Manager's report. This was seconded by Councillor Bracey and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Town Treasurer be advised of the budget proposals for 2017/18 from the Committee.

460/16/17**(b) Kendal to Lancaster Towpath Trail Development Fund Bid – Helen Moriarty, Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership**

Helen Moriarty presented a bid on behalf of the Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership who hope to create a Towpath Trail using the north Lancaster Canal trail as a catalyst for economic regeneration.

The LCRP have put a bid to SLDC in respect of the capital growth programme for £130,000. Helen Moriarty advised that they also have existing historical funds which could provide match funding. The bid to KTC was for a contribution of £5,000 towards the project for improvements to the section of path from Canal Head to Natland Road.

Councillor Archibald queried what the estimated cost would be for the section of path from Canal Head to Natland Road. Helen Moriarty advised £30,000 for the Burton Road approach area and £30,000 for Burton Road to Natland Road path improvement.

Councillor Blackman expressed his opinion that the proposed Towpath Trail was a positive step forward and gave his support for the project.

Councillor Cook highlighted a drainage issue that would need to be addressed, stating that there were a number of drains along the route that regularly overflowed. He also referred to new developments at The Beeches and Natland Mill Beck Lane and queried whether the developers were paying CIL. The Town Clerk advised that CIL would

not be payable for developments already built but any future developments may produce CIL monies to KTC.

The Chair said that whilst he was supportive of the project, he would like to see a bigger vision of the canal corridor in Kendal and what was envisaged for the next 20 years.

Councillor Archibald pointed out that the Towpath Trail was an immediate project, not a long term one. He said SLDC would not do anything without strong support from KTC and Natland Parish Council. He added that if there was an issue around a particular area, it should be made part of the Kendal Masterplan.

Councillor Cook referred to the project to improve Kendal signage and said this should be added in as something KTC would like to see done. Helen Moriarty replied that the ambition was to have the Trail branded and signposted consistently all the way through. She added that it would be good to highlight that the path was a former canal as not everybody would be aware of that.

Councillor Veevers suggested that consideration be given to tidying up trees along the path.

The Chair proposed that the Committee support the project by the contribution of £5,000 but request that SLDC and other parties prepare proposals for a wider canal corridor. This was seconded by Councillor Veevers.

Councillor Blackman further proposed that the Committee agree to support the project by contributing £10,000 for the project within Kendal. Also that SLDC and other parties prepare proposals for a wider vision for the canal corridor. This was seconded by Councillor Owen and carried with 4 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED

That the Town Treasurer be advised that the Committee support the LCRP's Towpath Trail project by the contribution of £10,000 for 2017/18, but request that SLDC and other parties prepare proposals for a wider vision for the canal corridor.

461/16/17**REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2016/17**

The Town Clerk presented the budgetary control statement for six months ended 30 September 2016.

The following Development Fund items were highlighted:

The Chair referred to the Strategic Transport Infrastructure Study and pointed out that the £10,000 already contributed was for a bigger study. He said further work was likely to be necessary to bring Kendal's infrastructure up to date in order to support the town's development and anticipated that KTC would be asked to make a further contribution in March 2017. The Chair proposed that the Committee agreed to contribute a further £10,000 for this purpose. This was seconded by Councillor J Robinson and carried with 1 abstention.

It was pointed out that £2,000 budget remained for Heron Hill School Wildlife Area. The Chair proposed that Councillor Blackman request the school provide a plan before February 2017, otherwise this item would be deleted. All Members were in agreement. It was agreed that the title was misleading and should be changed to 'Heron Hill School Woodland Trail'.

The Town Clerk informed Members that she was still waiting for an invoice from the Civic Society in respect of Police Yard Lighting Scheme. Members agreed that the Town Clerk should write to the Civic Society informing them that unless an invoice was received by the end of December 2016, the budget would be removed.

RESOLVED

1. That the Town Treasurer be advised that the Committee agree to contribute a further £10,000 in 2017/18 for further work to bring infrastructure up to date in order to support the bigger project.
2. That Councillor Blackman request Heron Hill School provide a plan for their Woodland Trail before February 2017, otherwise the budget of £2,000 would be removed.
3. That the Town Clerk write to the Civic Society informing them that unless an invoice was received in respect of Police Yard Lighting Scheme by the end of December 2016, the budget would be removed.

462/16/17**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

It was noted that the next edition of the KTC newsletter would be issued in the Spring. The Chair requested that any items for inclusion be forwarded to himself or the Town Clerk.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS**463/16/17****Parkside Road Resurfacing Work**

Councillor Blackman queried the extent of resurfacing work at Parkside Road. He said the original plan was to surface up to the Cricket Ground but other work had prevented this. It was suggested that the Town Clerk seek further clarification.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk seek further clarification on the extent of the resurfacing work at Parkside Road.

464/16/17**Captain French Lane**

Councillor Bracey informed the Committee that complaints had been received from Captain French Lane residents regarding vehicles driving too fast up the Lane. He requested Committee's support for him to contact the County Councillor and Cumbria Highways regarding proposals to install traffic calming measures. The proposal was to remove two parking places part way up Captain French Lane in order to form a chicane. All Members were in agreement.

465/16/17

Gully Cleaning/Leaf Removal

Councillor Archibald informed Members that there was to be renewed effort to coordinate gully cleaning/leaf removal by SLDC and CCC.

466/16/17

REVISED MEETING DATES FOR 2017

The Town Clerk advised that it had been necessary to revise two meeting dates for 2017 as follows:

Tuesday 11th July (previously Monday 24th July)
Tuesday 10th October (previously Monday 23rd October)

467/16/17

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was noted as Tuesday 17th January 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.38pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
451	Replacement of the Shakespeare Oak at Kendal Green	RES	That the Mayor be requested to send a letter of thanks to Horticare for the donation of the oak sapling.
452	Draft Trails Leaflet	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Project Manager investigate linking the leaflets to the home page of the free Wi-Fi and check that reference to free Wi-Fi is made in the Trails leaflet. 2. That each Councillor receives a copy of the leaflets, to be distributed at December Council.
453	Woolpack Yard Mural	RES	That the Project Manager speak to the Conservation Officer at SLDC upon his return to arrange a joint meeting. That a letter be sent to the Civic Society and the BID also be invited to attend.
454	Speed Indicator Devices	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the opinion of the police and Cumbria Highways be sought as to the effectiveness of speed indicator devices. 2. To ascertain whether County Councillors were able to fund further devices for their divisions.
455	Repair of Kendal's benches	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Town Clerk would write to Karen Johnson to follow up on the discussion previously held on maintenance of benches. 2. That the Town Clerk write to the Chair of the Local Committee inviting him to walk round the benches to survey condition.
456	Repair of KTC bench on Queens Road	RES	That the request to renovate the bench on Queens Road be approved.
457	Additional bin empty on Low Fellside	RES	That an additional bin empty on Low Fellside be approved.
458	Walks in Kendal	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Chair and Councillor Blackman meet with the Ramblers Association to discuss further the footpaths not formally acknowledged on the CCC Definitive Map. 2. That the Town Clerk circulate the table of footpaths to Councillors. 3. That the Chair ask the Ramblers Association if they could publish the list on their website.

459	KTC Action Plan Project Development Fund Bids	RES	That the Town Treasurer be advised of the budget proposals for 2017/18 from the Committee.
460	Kendal to Lancaster Towpath Trail Development Fund Bid	RES	That the Town Treasurer be advised that the Committee support the LCRP's Towpath Trail project by the contribution of £10,000 for 2017/18, but request that SLDC and other parties prepare proposals for a wider vision for the canal corridor.
461	Review of Spend Against Budget 2016/17	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Town Treasurer be advised that the Committee agree to contribute a further £10,000 in 2017/18 for further work to bring infrastructure up to date in order to support the bigger project. 2. That Councillor Blackman request Heron Hill School provide a plan for their Woodland Trail before February 2017, otherwise the budget of £2,000 would be removed. 3. That the Town Clerk write to the Civic Society informing them that unless an invoice was received in respect of Police Yard Lighting Scheme by the end of December 2016, the budget would be removed.
463	Parkside Road Resurfacing Work	RES	That the Town Clerk seek further clarification on the extent of the resurfacing work at Parkside Road.