

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Tuesday 10th October 2017 at 7.00 pm
in The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

PRESENT Councillors Graham Vincent (Chair), Jonathan Owen (Vice Chair), Andy Blackman, Shirley Evans, Jon Robinson

In the absence of the Committee Chairman at the start of the meeting, Councillor Owen chaired the meeting.

APOLOGIES Councillors Archibald, Clare and Veevers

OFFICERS Liz Richardson (Town Clerk), Helen Moriarty (Project Manager) and Hazel Belshaw (Temporary Council Secretary)

465/17/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Barbara Colley, Kendal & District Bus Users Group – Blackhall Road Bus Shelter (accompanied by Councillor Andy Pimlett).

Barbara Colley is part of KADBUS, who help facilitate the bus services in the town. The current issue they have is that Stagecoach have changed the route of the number 41 town service and it now stops on Blackhall Road, opposite the bus station. She advised Members that the bus shelters on that side of the road are minimal. KADBUS have made enquiries with CCC regarding infrastructure funding for two new larger shelters. There is a meeting on Friday 13th October at which their funding application will be discussed. One of the conditions of the funding will be that KTC take on the maintenance of any new shelters. Therefore she is asking the Committee to approve the maintenance of the new bus shelters should funding be granted (item 13 on the agenda).

466/17/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None.

467/17/18 ORDER OF BUSINESS
The Vice Chair, Councillor J Owen brought forward agenda item 5. Presentation on Kendal Plastic Free Town, Mary Edwards, Zero Waste Kendal Group. Followed by item 13, Proposal for Maintenance of New Bus Shelters on Blackhall Road.

468/17/18 PRESENTATION ON KENDAL PLASTIC FREE TOWN BY MARY EDWARDS, ZERO WASTE KENDAL GROUP

Mary Edwards started Zero Waste Kendal in the Spring of 2017 as an informal network of people from the Kendal area. Their aims are to:

- Raise awareness of plastic waste and the harm it can cause
- Make it easier and more appealing to make choices in their everyday lives
- Work with anyone who is willing to make that possible.

She spoke to Members on the issues of plastic waste - how it is harmful to wildlife and how plastic that ends up in the sea is not just a coastal problem but comes downstream from rivers in towns, like Kendal.

Initially the group would like to focus on making Kendal a single use plastic free town with a water refill scheme adopted by local businesses. It would be similar to a scheme in Bristol (www.refill.org.uk). Businesses in Kendal would display a sticker in their window so residents know that they are involved with the refill scheme. In the future the group would also like to see public water fountains in the town. This was linked to a proposal from Mr Steve Palmer, Environment Group Westmorland & Lonsdale Constituency Labour Party previously circulated.

Councillor Blackman asked how much engagement the group had had with schools. Mary advised that at this stage there had not been much engagement but her plan was to visit Kendal schools to talk to them.

There was a discussion around the water refill scheme and producing Kendal logo water bottles. Councillor Blackman advised that he would put Mary in touch with Kendal Schools Collaborative Partnership and Kendal BID who may be able to help and be involved.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Blackman assist Mary Edwards, Zero Waste Kendal in contacting Kendal BID and Kendal Schools Collaborative Partnership.

469/17/18**PROPOSAL FOR MAINTENANCE OF NEW BUS SHELTERS ON BLACKHALL ROAD**

The Town Clerk presented the paper that had been previously circulated. She highlighted that KTC do not currently look after many bus shelters in town; most of the shelters are owned by CCC. She also raised a possible issue with the planters that are fixed along Blackhall Road and that if they needed moving then the cost should be considered in the scheme.

Councillor J Robinson suggested that if KTC were to maintain the new shelters then they should be branded with the KTC logo.

There was a discussion around vandalism of the shelters and it was highlighted that the shelters currently on Blackhall Road had not suffered much vandalism.

It was proposed by Councillor J Robinson that KTC maintain the new shelters and that KTC be involved in their design. This was seconded by Councillor S Evans and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION

That KTC maintain the proposed new bus shelters on Blackhall Road and that KTC be involved in their design.

470/17/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH JULY

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July, which had been approved by full Council on 7th August.

Councillor Blackman proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor S Evans and carried unanimously.

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

MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)

471/17/18 Request for support to reposition 30mph sign on A6 south of Kendal (ref minute 193/17/18)

The Town Clerk confirmed that a letter to CCC had been sent.

472/17/18 Approval of CCC Town Centre bench asset transfer (ref minute 196/17/18)

The Town Clerk confirmed she had sent the comments made on the memorandum of agreement to CCC. Since then she advised that a bench had collapsed in town. She was now aware that there is a flaw in the design which has been recognised by CCC. She has advised that KTC will not consider the transfer until all the benches undergo a remedial fix. It has been agreed that once the problem is rectified CCC will come back and a site visit will be arranged.

473/17/18 Canal Head allotments footpath repair update and renewal of approval of fund (ref minute 198/17/18)

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Assistant to the Town Clerk now had the relevant permission and was sourcing a contractor for the work, which will happen over the winter.

474/17/18 Proposal for interpretation panel at Scouts Scar and near Kendal Racecourse (ref minute 199/17/18)

The Town Clerk advised Members that she had written to the Lake District National Park, copied to Friends of the Lake District. LDNP have responded to say they are reviewing all interpretation panels and will consider it.

475/17/18 Wildman Street (ref minute 202/17/18)

The Town Clerk confirmed she has asked for feedback.

476/17/18 Waterside paving (ref minute 203/17/18)

The Town Clerk advised that she had heard from Peter Hosking at CCC. They are aware of the issues but is not part of the approved works for this year, although it does have potential for future years.

477/17/18 Footpath to the south of Romney Bridge (ref minute 204/17/18)

The Town Clerk has emailed SLDC to ask if they have a regular maintenance routine for that area and Councillor Vincent as ward Councillor and is awaiting a response.

478/17/18**2018/19 BUDGET PROPOSALS REPORT TO INCLUDE KENDAL MINT CLEAN FUNDING BID FROM COUNCILLOR BLACKMAN**

The Town Clerk presented the 2018/19 Budget Proposals Report that had been previously circulated.

Members also considered the current 2017/18 budget spend.

Councillor Blackman advised Members that he would like to have the hi-vis jackets used for Kendal Mint Clean printed with the KTC logo. It was felt that there is enough money within the budget this year.

Councillor Owen suggested using the retained services of an arborist. He felt it may be useful to have a specialist on hand to answer questions that get raised when trees in the town have been removed. The Project Manager advised that Graham Nicholson from SLDC has been very useful in the past. It was felt that it wasn't something that KTC needed to have retained as a service but should we need advice from an arborist money could be used from the new infrastructure budget.

The Town Clerk advised Members that there is no money left in the Development Fund item for repainting railings. Therefore should money be needed for painting railings it would need to come from the new infrastructure budget. Members agreed that it would be advisable to leave the budget at £3,500 for 2018/19. It was agreed the other day to day service budgets also remain the same as 2017/18.

At this stage Councillor Vincent joined the meeting.

Members discussed the Development Fund items. SLDC have been looking at the possibility of improvements to Abbot Hall play area and Councillor Brook is involved with a proposed new Kendal Parks play area. In the past KTC have donated £5,000 to new play park schemes. It was agreed this figure would be proposed for both new play areas.

The Strategic Transport Infrastructure Study initial report was about to be published. It was agreed that the proposed £10k funding for 2018/19 be included, and probably combined with the 2017/18 budget of £10k which was currently unspent, for the next step of the project.

The Town Clerk was unsure if the Lakes Line Feasibility Study money is required and will contact them. Councillor Vincent advised Members that the group still aims to promote track improvements.

Councillor Owen confirmed that the £270 remaining in the Radar Speed Gun item would be needed to pay for the first yearly calibration of the device. Thereafter the annual cost would have to come from another budget line.

The Town Clerk asked whether Members wanted to consider a funding allocation to the KADBUS Blackhall Road bus shelter project (in addition to taking on their maintenance). It was agreed a sum of £1k would be put forward.

The proposed Action Plan projects for the Project Manager in 2018/19 were considered. These comprised £3k green wall, £4k Kendal Castle to Bowling Fell creative link and £8k for various Riverside improvement projects. Councillor Vincent advised that the development of the riverside improvement project would be a lottery funding bid and it may be worth ring-fencing the £8k to go towards an overall scheme. It was agreed to include these projects in the 2018/19 bid.

There is a small amount of money left in the Environment Reserve and this could be used for a small joint project with Kendal in Bloom Committee.

RECOMMENDATION That the Committee recommend Development Fund bids of:

1. £5,000 for Abbot Hall play area improvement project
2. £5,000 for Kendal Parks play area
3. £1,000 for the Blackhall Road Bus Shelters
4. £10,000 for the Strategic Transport Infrastructure Study
5. £15,000 allocation for the Project Manager Action Plan projects.

479/17/18

UPDATE ON PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND JOINT KENDAL IN BLOOM PROJECTS

The Town Clerk gave an update from Deb Clarke at SLDC with regards to the Nobles Rest and Maudes Meadow improvement project. Tenders have been received and are now to be assessed. The work includes drainage, path improvements and moving benches in Nobles Rest and path and drainage improvements in Maudes Meadow. Initial work would start soon on a related project to carry out selective tree pruning and removals on the banked land to the west of the park. She shared a map of various trees that are being reduced/removed. When work starts in the park it will be extensive and messy and will require closure of the park, although access via Marks and Spencer will remain open. The support of KTC was requested.

Councillor J Robinson advised Members he had attended a meeting with local residents which discussed the proposed tree work. Graham Nicholson from SLDC will spend a large part of his maintenance budget on this work which will be done this year. The work will create disruption in the park and early communication with the public was needed. The main park work will require the park to close. All the drainage work is within the circle of the footpath to make it more useable. The work on the Maudes Meadow is still part of the package but a date for this to be undertaken is yet to be decided.

480/17/18**UPDATE ON KTC ACTION PLAN PROJECTS TO INCLUDE GREEN WALL AND LOWTHER STREET**

The Project Manager gave an update on KTC Action Plan projects.

Green Wall

There was not much to report as she was still waiting to hear from Network Rail but their engineers are looking at it. One of the companies who she has spoken to regarding the work has suggested the idea of using community participation when planting the wall. Councillor J Robinson suggested asking Kendal Conservation Volunteers for advice. Councillor S Evans suggested that something could be done to make the Porsche garage more aesthetically pleasing in that area.

Signage Project

The Project Manager advised she had a meeting with Jim Maguire and Ben Taylor from SLDC with regards to improvements to the signage in town. SLDC will quote for the low signage but a quote for improvements to the signs that are higher up would be needed. It had been decided to leave the signs blue. She has a meeting in the next couple of weeks with Victoria Upton from CCC to go through the list of signage.

Castle Project

All three entry signs have now been installed. The path work is largely complete and handed back to SLDC for sign off. She has received the final drafts for the new interpretation boards and will share with Members before going ahead.

Canal Project

The £10,000 from KTC was to improve the access from Burton Road although Japanese knot weed was found in the area. She is still waiting on an update on the management plan for dealing with this from SLDC.

481/17/18**UPDATE ON SPEED GUN AND PROCEDURES**

Councillor Owen advised that Michael Roberts had run speed gun training with PC Kevin Jackson from Cumbria Police, 5 Councillors and 3 residents on Sedbergh Road. Councillor Archibald has been approached by Windermere Road residents who are keen to use the speed gun. Councillor J Robinson is keen to use on Greenside. Councillor S Evans advised that there must be one trained person to operate the gun and training only takes one hour.

482/17/18**ANNUAL LAKES LINE SURVEY**

The Town Clerk updated Members on the Lakes Line annual survey which took place on the 23rd and 24th June. She highlighted a few key points:

- Day 1 total (Friday) the same as last year but day 2 (Saturday) was increased, due mainly to no cancellations.
- Holidays was the biggest category for the reason for travelling.
- There were more local users from Windermere to Oxenholme than on the reverse route.

- The main user postcodes were LA9, LA23, LA8, LA22 and LA1.
- China was the commonest country of origin for overseas visitors, followed by other Far East countries.
- Most people interviewed were satisfied with the service but a number of regular users made negative comments about the old trains and number of cancellations.
- Main starting and final station was Euston.

RESOLVED

Members noted the Annual Lakes Line Survey.

483/17/18

REQUEST FOR A REVIEW OF CYCLING STRATEGIES IN KENDAL TO INCLUDE ROUTES AND GUIDANCE FOR CYCLING – COUNCILLOR CLARE AND PROPOSAL FOR MOBIKES

Councillor Owen commented that the cycling strategy document previously circulated was a draft and there are still details missing. Therefore he suggested we ask for CCC to come to a future meeting to see how KTC can input into the strategy.

The Project Manager commented that she had attended a meeting of the SLDC air quality working group and suggested that they could look at it. The Town Clerk felt this group dealt more with compiling information on projects.

Councillor S Evans commented that she is not convinced Wildman Street cycle route (currently being trialled) is viable and questioned what happens when you get to New Road. Councillor Vincent felt that it needs some more thought.

The Town Clerk then raised the letter received from Tim Farron regarding Mobikes previously circulated. Members discussed the idea but felt that it was not appropriate for Kendal as it needed private sector investors and Kendal is too hilly. There had also been a problem in Manchester, which had trialled the concept, with bikes ending up in canals. Members did not wish to see bikes ending up in the River Kent. Members agreed that they would prefer to support other initiatives to encourage cycling in Kendal such as street realm.

RESOLVED

1. The Town Clerk to contact the relevant person at CCC to liaise over KTC input to the cycling strategy.
2. The Town Clerk to reply to the letter from Tim Farron, MP regarding Mobikes.

484/17/18

BENCH AT STRICKLANDGATE HOUSE

Members discussed the paper from Councillor Emmott regarding the request from Stricklandgate House to remove the KTC owned bench from outside the building. There are concerns over litter and the amount of people that smoke on the bench and the resulting smell in the offices.

Councillor Vincent commented that he had noticed that this bench does get a lot litter but thought that it was worth speaking to street

cleaning to highlight the problem area rather than removing the bench.

Councillor J Robinson understood that McDonalds are keen to manage the litter from their premises and are aware of the problem. It may be worth asking them to look at that area in the morning.

Members agreed that they were not minded to move the bench and felt it was of benefit to all including service users of Stricklandgate House. They felt that if there are litter issues these should be addressed at their root.

RESOLVED

The Town Clerk to discuss the litter issue and options for remedial action further with Councillor Emmott but that the bench is to remain outside Stricklandgate House.

485/17/18

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The Town Clerk advised that the current issue of the newsletter is being printed and features many of the Environment & Highways Committee projects.

A suggestion for the next edition was photos of volunteers using the speed gun.

486/17/18

REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2017/18

A discussion on the review of spend against budget 2017/18 had been covered under agenda item 6, 2018/19 Budget Proposals Report.

RESOLVED

That the Review of Spend Against Budget 2017/18 was noted.

487/17/18

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

488/17/18

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15th January 2018

The meeting closed at 9.59pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
468/17/18	Presentation on Kendal Plastic Free Town by Mary Edwards	RES	That Cllr Blackman assist Mary Edwards, Zero Waste Kendal in contacting Kendal BID and Kendal Schools Collaborative Partnership.
469/17/18	Proposal for maintenance of new bus shelters on Blackhall Road	REC	That KTC maintain the proposed new bus shelters on Blackhall Road and that KTC be involved in their design.
478/17/18	2018/19 Budget Proposals Report	REC	That the Committee recommend Development Fund bids of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £5,000 for Abbot Hall play area improvement project 2. £5,000 for Kendal Parks play area 3. £1,000 for the Blackhall Road Bus Shelters 4. £10,000 for the Strategic Transport Infrastructure Study 5. £15,000 allocation for the Project Manager Action Plan projects.
483/17/18	Request for a review of cycling strategies in Kendal to include routes and guidance for cycling and proposal for mobikes	RES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Town Clerk to contact the relevant person at CCC to liaise over KTC input to the cycling strategy. 2. The Town Clerk to reply to the letter from Tim Farron, MP regarding Mobikes.
484/17/18	Bench at Stricklandgate House	RES	The Town Clerk to discuss the litter issue and options for remedial action further with Councillor Emmott but that the bench is to remain outside Stricklandgate House.