

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Monday 9th July 2018 at 7.00 pm
in The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

- PRESENT** Councillors Jonathan Owen (Chair), Eamonn Hennessy (Vice Chair), Giles Archibald, Shirley Evans, Julia Dunlop, Jonathan Cornthwaite, Adam Edwards and Chris Rowley
- APOLOGIES** Councillor Andy Blackman
- OFFICERS** Helen Moriarty (Project Manager) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)
- Councillor Cook was also in attendance.
- 136/18/19 INTRODUCTION**
- The Chair welcomed those present. General introductions then took place, this being the first meeting of the Environment & Highways Committee following recent KTC elections.
- 137/18/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- None.
- 138/18/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- There were no declarations of interest made at this point.
- 139/18/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH MARCH 2018**
- The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2018, which had been approved by full Council on 9th April 2018.
- It was proposed by Councillor Archibald that the minutes be approved as a correct record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried with 5 abstentions.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26th March 2018 be accepted as a correct record.
- MATTERS ARISING** (Not on Agenda)
- 140/18/19 KTC Asset Plotting Proposal (Ref Minute 1079/17/18)**
- Councillor Hennessy asked whether the Garmin Etrax 35 had been purchased. It had been agreed at the last meeting to purchase the device in order to complete an asset plotting exercise. The Project Manager advised that it had now be purchased but the assets were yet to be plotted.

Councillor Archibald asked whether the item of work was included on the project list presented to the Management Committee. Project Manager to check.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager check whether the plotting assets exercise is included on the project list presented to the Management Committee.

141/18/19**Air Quality Management – Taxis (Ref Minute 1073/17/18)**

Councillor Rowley asked whether any progress had been made in respect of encouraging taxi drivers to switch of their engines. The Project Manager replied that this was included in the Air Quality report from SLDC. The Chair advised that the matter had been raised with the Licensing Committee. Councillor Archibald informed Members that leaflets were available from SLDC which could be distributed to taxi drivers if volunteers could be found. The leaflets explained the reasons for, and importance of, switching off engines.

142/18/19**Castle Crescent Flood Action Group (Ref Minute 1083/18/18)**

At the previous meeting the Project Manager had been asked to clarify with the Treasurer whether the Castle Crescent community group would be eligible for support as a non-constituted group. Councillor Evans requested an update. The Project Manager confirmed that they would be eligible and the group had requested further information on the application process.

143/18/19**Lowther Street Green Wall (Ref Minute 1082/17/18)**

Councillor Hennessy asked “what is a green wall”? The Chair explained that it was an area of vertical foliage in an urban area. Green walls are good at absorbing pollutants and improving air quality. A suitable location was currently being sought. LIP funding has been secured with a total budget of approximately £22-23k.

144/18/19**Blackhall Bus Shelter Update (Ref Minute 1076/17/18)**

Councillor Archibald requested an update. Councillor Cook confirmed that the bus shelter was on order. Currently waiting for contractors to complete work.

145/18/19**Selection Procedure of Committee Members**

Councillor Rowley asked for an explanation of the procedure for the selection of the Chair and Vice Chair. He felt that it had not been openly advertised. Councillor Archibald explained the process.

146/18/19**LONGPOOL PAINTING**

Longpool had been the preferred site for a green wall, however lengthy negotiation with Network Rail had not been successful. The Project Manager presented an alternative recommendation to paint the whole wall one single colour in order to improve its appearance. A quote had been obtained in the sum of £915. Further

improvements such as planting in front of the wall could be a future project. Members were advised that budget was available under New Infrastructure which had a current balance of £3,500.

Councillor Rowley commented that the existing quoin stones should be retained.

Councillor Archibald suggested that the budget would be better allocated from Maintenance and this was agreed.

Councillor Evans pointed out that any future planting would need to consider the access road to ensure visibility was not impaired.

Councillor Cook remarked that it was good practice for more than one quotation to be obtained. It was agreed that the Project Manager would seek a second quotation.

Councillor Edwards referred to a recent Network Rail meeting he had attended and suggested approaching Kendal College to get involved with future ideas for improvements, such as designing a mural. The Project Manager advised the idea of a mural had not been progressed due to the houses opposite which may not approve. She agreed to speak to the Allen Institute as a first step once the wall had been enhanced.

The matter of pest control, in particular mess from birds, was raised by Councillor Cornthwaite. The Project Manager said this would be a matter for Network Rail.

Councillor Hennessy proposed that the wall be painted, subject to a second quote being obtained. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the wall at Longpool be painted, subject to a second quotation being obtained.

147/18/19

UNITY SCULPTURE ENHANCEMENT

The Project Manager informed Members that local sculpture, Andy Levy, had approached the Mayor with the idea of painting the hand sculpture on Hawesmead Park, one dark and the other light. This would link to the Mayor's theme of diversity and be a symbol of racial equality and friendship. He would donate his time to apply the paint.

Councillor Hennessy commented that one attraction of the sculpture was the way it blended in with its surroundings and queried the proposed finish. Members discussed the use of dark/light varnish rather than paint and lifespan of the finish. The question of ownership/permission was raised by Councillor Archibald and it was agreed that the Project Manager would seek clarification.

The Chair proposed that approval be granted to carry out the work to the hand sculpture, subject to further information regarding ownership/permission and proposed finish. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That work to the hand sculpture at Hawesmead Park to represent one dark skin and the other light be approved, subject to further information regarding ownership/permission and proposed finish.

148/18/19**FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO APPROVE**

The Project Manager sought approval from Committee for the following financial recommendations:

1. Move £704 from Signage, Interpretation and Public Realm Improvements to Signage Improvements (and discard Signage, Interpretation and Public Realm Improvements).
2. Add BID and Kendal Futures Contribution to leaflet funding to reflect total budget of £9872.
3. Add £10,000 Greenwall funding to reflect LIP contribution (actual budget is £21,000).

There was a general discussion regarding item 2 and whether Committee were best placed to be responsible. It was agreed that this should fall under the remit of the Management Committee

The Chair proposed that items 1 and 3 be approved. Item 2 to be considered by the Management Committee for economic development. This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried unanimously.

Further to the above, the Treasurer has advised that the above are approved by Full Council not Management Committee and therefore requests that this is recommended to Council (see Annex attached to these minutes).

RECOMMENDATION

1. Move £704 from Signage, Interpretation and Public Realm Improvements to Signage Improvements (and discard Signage, Interpretation and Public Realm Improvements).
2. Add BID and Kendal Futures Contribution to leaflet funding to reflect total budget of £9872.
3. Add £10,000 Greenwall funding to reflect LIP contribution (actual budget is £21,000).

149/18/19**DOCKRAY WALL**

The Project Manager explained that the Dockray bridge area (behind the Antiques Emporium) is particularly run down. Determining ownership was proving difficult; SLDC, United Utilities, Canal and River Trust and the Environment Agency have all stated it is not an asset on their register. The business owner does not have ownership but is keen for it to be improved. The bench has also been recently vandalised and SLDC has been asked to attach it to the ground.

The proposal was to contact the Land Registry to confirm ownership and improve fencing based on ownership information. Agreement has been reached with SLDC that KTC would adopt the bench as an asset if they fixed it to the ground once the improvement works had been carried out.

Councillor Rowley referred to a land ownership issue at Wainwright Court. Residents had various concerns. He requested that the matter be raised with the Land Registry at the same time as Dockray.

There was a general discussion concerning timing of the improvement works. Councillor Evans referred to the EA's flood defence proposals and suggested that works wait until the proposals are known. The Chair reported that the chain link fencing was causing safety issues as it was overhanging onto the path.

Councillor Edwards reported a large tree in the river which could cause damage to Victoria Bridge in any future flooding. He suggested that it be looked at while the water level is low. Councillor Archibald commented that the EA should be alerted and Graham Nicholson at SLDC be requested to inspect.

The Chair proposed that the Project Manager contact the Land Registry to establish ownership, that removal of the fencing be proposed to the business owner and KTC to adopt the bench as an asset for future improvement (location to be confirmed). This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager contact the Land Registry to establish ownership, that removal of the fencing be proposed to the business owner and KTC to adopt the bench as an asset for future improvement (location to be confirmed). Wainwright Court ownership issue to be raised with the Land Registry also.

150/18/19

BUS SHELTER STATEMENT

The Town Clerk had requested agreement of a position statement regarding bus shelters, to ensure future adoption is consistent.

Members discussed the proposed position statement:

“Kendal Town Council will consider new bus shelters if the proposed location serves a large percentage of Kendal residents and is situated on the main roads of Kendal”.

Councillor Archibald commented that “a large percentage” was difficult to define. Councillor Cook added that KTC regularly receive requests for bus shelters. Consideration needed to be given to the purchase, ongoing repairs and maintenance. He too had concerns regarding “a large percentage” and also “main roads of Kendal”. He advised that he had received two requests for bus shelters, one at Milnthorpe Road near South Road and one from Kirkbarrow residents at the top of Echo Barn Hill.

The Chair proposed the following revised wording:

“In considering proposed new bus shelters, KTC will prioritise locations where local knowledge suggest the highest likely number of residents will benefit”.

This was proposed by Councillor Cornthwaite and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the position statement regarding new shelters be revised as discussed.

151/18/19**SLDC GREEN SPACES UPDATE**

The Project Manager presented a paper which updated Members on Kendal projects, the following items were highlighted:

Nobles Rest

Access between Low Fellside and Windermere Road should have been open early July. Councillor Archibald advised that dates previously given might not be fixed due to complications caused by the recent hot weather. In the case of Nobles Rest it had been too hot for concreting work.

Fletcher Park

Councillor Hennessy advised that SLDC were looking to hold a meeting with the community group to discuss a long term plan.

Councillor Cornthwaite reported a number of wind blown trees, some leaning at 45 degrees.

Pollinator Project

A mistake by Continental Landscapes was reported by Councillor Rowley. An apology had been made, along with an offer to supply replacement plugs.

Abbott Hall Park

Councillor Edwards requested that the Friends of Abbott Hall be included in any promotion.

There was a general discussion regarding the proposals for Abbott Hall Park and potential flood plain issues.

Hallgarth

Councillor Rowley advised that the zip wire at Hallgarth play area had now been removed. In the previous Committee meeting the Project Manager had been tasked with ascertaining when the zip wire was installed. The Project Manager said she would endeavour to find out more and advise Councillor Rowley.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager seek further information regarding the zip wire at Hallgarth play area.

152/18/19**VERBAL UPDATES**Sainsbury 106 Update

The Project Manager had previously been tasked with obtaining the wording of the Section 106 Agreement from the developer of Sainsbury's (Morbane). She presented this to the meeting and read out the relevant sections.

The Chair provided background information and explained that the Project Manager had been asked to clarify whether the 106 Agreement permitted funding to be spent on a green corridor option. Members agreed that the wording of the Agreement suggested funding could not be utilised for such purpose.

The Project Manager advised she had spoken to SLDC Economic Development Team who were awaiting the result of the Kendal Masterplan. It was more likely that funding would be spent on improvements at Longpool. She informed Members that it was currently year 1 of a 5 year period to spend the money, so there was opportunity for KTC to influence decisions in this respect.

A general discussion ensued regarding the requirements and problems around Appleby Road and Shap Road. Councillor Cornthwaite put forward several concerns. The Chair suggested CCC Highways be invited to attend a future meeting to explain modelling flow. Councillor Rowley pointed out that approximately 75% of traffic in Kendal is generated by people within Kendal. It was agreed that the Project Manager would contact Highways to arrange.

It was further agreed that the Project Manager would formally request SLDC to negotiate with Morbane to allow money to be used for an active travel route from Sainsburys and also include Shap Road.

RESOLVED

1. Project Manager to invite CCC Highways to attend a future meeting.
2. Project Manager to formally request SLDC to negotiate with Morbane to allow money to be used for an active travel route from Sainsburys and also include Shap Road.

Shap Road Issues

Councillor Cornthwaite raised the issue of roadsides not being cut resulting in the wall be obscured. It was noted that a decision regarding proposals to widen the pavement to enable cycling was awaited. It was agreed to include the matter with the resolution relating to the Sainsbury 106 Agreement and link with the changing of the wording.

Project Manager to Chase SLDC regarding mowing confirmation. It was also agreed that the Project Manager would organise a walkabout to include Councillors Evans and Edwards.

RESOLVED

Include item with resolution relating to Sainsbury's 106 Agreement. Project Manager to Chase SLDC regarding mowing confirmation and organise a walkabout to include Councillors Evans and Edwards.

Kendal Market

The Project Manager advised that improvement of Kendal market is in the Kendal Town Council's Action Plan. She would circulate the Masterplan to new Councillors. The Project Manager referred to a

big contrast between Keswick and Kendal markets in terms of footfall, quality of stalls etc.

Councillor Archibald advised that an improvement project was underway by SLDC. He suggested that Committee request an update from SLDC and express their wish to be involved.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to circulate Kendal Town Council's Action Plan to new Councillors. Market update to be requested from SLDC and advise of KTC wish to be involved.

Woolpack Yard Progress

There had been a delay to bin screening works due to slope complications in the design process. The Project Manager was working with SLDC to put pressure on nearby businesses to carry out improvement works.

Once the neglected building had been repaired a future project would be to look at signage improvements, similar to the new signage at New Shambles.

Members agreed similar work at other yards should be considered once this project was complete.

Lowther Street Green Wall

The Project Manager advised that she had met with SLDC and a Greenwall contractor. The contractor had suggested creating a wrap-around green wall. Water supply would be via an integrated system connected to the SLDC water supply. KTC would be responsible for maintaining the flow of the main supply. Ongoing maintenance would include the removal of dead plants. Concern was raised regarding the potential for wind damage.

Once permission has been obtained from SLDC for installation, a Kendal Town Council tender will be released. Maintenance cost will need to be considered by the Committee going forwards.

Heritage Street Sign

Various streets have missing heritage signs. The Project Manager advised that SLDC have ordered and paid for new sign plates in a heritage style. She has been chasing permissions from businesses for installation of the signs. Once all permissions are obtained the contractor will be instructed to install the required signs.

Tree Tub Update

The Project Manager asked which committee was responsible for the cladding of tubs. This was confirmed as the Kendal in Bloom Committee.

Building Requests

While gaining permission from business owners for the installation of heritage street signs, the Project Manager had received several requests for KTC to put pressure on certain businesses who don't appear to be taking pride of their premises.

Members discussed the matter and it was agreed the Project Manager would liaise with Kendal BID and write to the businesses concerned. Councillor Edwards suggested this matter be linked to other clean-up projects around town.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to liaise with Kendal BID and write to businesses not maintaining their premises.

Stramongate School

The previous telephone exchange area is run down and in need of improvement. The possibility of using an area of green space in front of the building to provide a green screen from the road was discussed. Ownership needs to be established, however Stramongate School have expressed an interest in getting involved. Open Reach are willing to adopt the area.

Councillor Evans suggested liaising with the Civic Society. Councillor Edwards further suggested the involvement of the Peoples Café nearby.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager make contact with the building owner to establish a way forward.

Fletcher Park Trees

This matter had previously been discussed under the SLDC Green Spaces Update.

Grot Spot Newsletter

The Project Manager advised that a request had been placed in the KTC newsletter for suggestions of grot spots residents would like tackling. She was awaiting response and would present at the next Committee meeting.

Beast Banks & Stoney Lane Railings

The Project Manager requested clarification of the location of railways on Beast Banks. Councillor Archibald advised the railings were from the steps from Beast Banks leading up to High Fellside. Project Manager to obtain quotations for railings at Beast Banks and Stoney Lane at the same time.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to obtain quotations for railings at Beast Banks and Stoney Lane

153/18/19**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

Councillor Archibald suggested an article regarding what KTC was doing to address climate change and a call for further ideas. It was agreed the chair would draft a statement for inclusion.

Green gardening tips (best practice for sustainable gardening) to be included in the Spring edition. Councillor Rowley suggested approaching businesses, for example B&Q, for a discount on peat on presentation of a voucher.

The Project Manager commented that KTC had no recycling facility in the kitchen. She suggested that KTC work with SLDC to improve their own procedures and encourage officers to think proactively about reducing their own carbon footprint. Councillor Archibald proposed that this suggestion be taken forwards. This was seconded by Councillor Owen and carried unanimously.

Members discussed the printing of paper copies of agendas and supporting papers. It was agreed that Councillors should be required to 'opt in' if they required paper copies.

Councillor Cornthwaite suggested a reminder about picking up dog mess be included in the newsletter. Councillor Archibald thought there were stencils available from SLDC for marking dog mess left on the ground.

RESOLVED

1. Councillor Owen to draft a statement regarding climate change action for inclusion in the KTC newsletter.
2. Project Manager to liaise with SLDC regarding kitchen recycling facility and encourage officers to think proactively about reducing their own carbon footprint.

154/18/19**REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET**

Councillor Archibald queried budget of £2,000 for Lakes Line Feasibility Study. It was thought to be ring fenced monies for an historic promise of funding. Members agreed the Project Manager should seek clarification of the details.

Councillor Archibald noted budget of £32,629 for Market Place enhancement works. The Project Manager commented that this probably related to monies yet to be claimed but would seek clarification.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to seek clarification of the budget of £2,000 for Lakes Line Feasibility Study and £32,629 for Market Place enhancement works.

155/18/19**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**Terms of Reference

Members considered the Terms of Reference for the Committee. The Project Manager suggested that reference to 'Clerk' be amended to 'Appointed Officer'.

The Chair proposed that the Terms of Reference be accepted subject to the amendment suggested. This was seconded by Councillor Cornthwaite and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Terms of Reference be accepted subject to the amendment suggested.

Frequency of Committee Meetings

Due to workload of the Committee, the Project Manager suggested meetings should be more frequent. Following discussion members agreed meetings should be held every two months in future.

RESOLVED

That future Committee meetings be held every two months rather than quarterly.

Railings

Councillor Archibald advised that he was awaiting a quotation from Chaplows for railings and would present this at the next meeting.

156/18/19**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was scheduled for Monday 29th October 2018 at 7pm, however following earlier discussion the Project Manager would bring this forward to September (date to be advised).

The meeting closed at 9.39pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
140	KTC Asset Plotting Proposal	RES	That the Project Manager check whether the plotting assets exercise is included on the project list presented to the Management Committee.
146	Longpool Painting	RES	That the wall at Longpool be painted, subject to a second quotation being obtained.
147	Unity Sculpture Enhancement	RES	That work to the hand sculpture at Hawesmead Park to represent one dark skin and the other light be approved, subject to further information regarding ownership/permission and proposed finish.
148	Financial Recommendations to Approve	REC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Move £704 from Signage, Interpretation and Public Realm Improvements to Signage Improvements (and discard Signage, Interpretation and Public Realm Improvements). 2. Add BID and Kendal Futures Contribution to leaflet funding to reflect total budget of £9872. 3. Add £10,000 Greenwall funding to reflect LIP contribution (actual budget is £21,000).
149	Dockray Wall	RES	That the Project Manager contact the Land Registry to establish ownership, that removal of the fencing be proposed to the business owner and KTC to adopt the bench as an asset for future improvement (location to be confirmed). Wainwright Court ownership issue to be raised with the Land Registry also.
150	Bus Shelter Statement	RES	That the position statement regarding new shelters be revised as discussed.
151	SLDC Green Spaces Update	RES	That the Project Manager seek further information regarding the zip wire at Hallgarth play area.
152	Verbal Updates – Sainsbury 106 Agreement	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project Manager to invite CCC Highways to attend a future meeting. 2. Project Manager to formally request SLDC to negotiate with Morbane to allow money to be used for an active travel route from Sainsburys and also include Shap Road.

	Shap Road Issues	RES	Include item with resolution relating to Sainsbury's 106 Agreement. Project Manager to Chase SLDC regarding mowing confirmation and organise a walkabout to include Councillors Evans and Edwards.
	Kendal Market	RES	Project Manager to circulate Kendal Town Council's Action Plan to new Councillors. Market update to be requested from SLDC and advise of KTC wish to be involved.
	Building Requests	RES	Project Manager to liaise with Kendal BID and write to businesses not maintaining their premises.
	Stramongate School	RES	That the Project Manager make contact with the building owner to establish a way forward.
	Beast Banks & Stoney Lane Railings	RES	Project Manager to obtain quotations for railings at Beast Banks and Stoney Lane
153	Items for the Newsletter	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillor Owen to draft a statement regarding climate change action for inclusion in the KTC newsletter. 2. Project Manager to liaise with SLDC regarding kitchen recycling facility and encourage officers to think proactively about reducing their own carbon footprint.
154	Review of Spend Against Budget	RES	Project Manager to seek clarification of the budget of £2,000 for Lakes Line Feasibility Study and £32,629 for Market Place enhancement works.
155	AOB – Terms of Reference	RES	That the Terms of Reference be accepted subject to the amendment suggested.
	Frequency of Committee Meetings	RES	That future Committee meetings be held every two months rather than quarterly.