

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Monday 25th March 2019 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	None
OFFICERS	Helen Moriarty (Project Manager), Stacy Hurley (Project Manager – Maternity Cover) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)
979/18/19	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
	None.
980/18/19	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	None.
981/18/19	PRESENTATION BY SLDC GREEN SPACE OFFICERS – ABBOT HALL PLAY AREA

Polly and Nicola, SLDC Green Space Officers attended the meeting to update Committee on the refurbishment of Abbot Hall Play Area.

The project got off the ground in 2016 when a LIP grant of £20k was awarded. A group of parents subsequently formed a constituted group and have been extremely instrumental in raising funds through various fundraising activities. A total of £125k has now been raised which will enable the project to go ahead.

A questionnaire was put together during summer 2017 and a consultation was held. Unanimous feedback was that the zip line was an essential piece of equipment which people wanted to remain. It was suggested that two sides of hedging around the playground be removed and, following liaison with the Police from an anti-social behaviour point of view, this has now been removed. Polly and Nicola explained that 4 new designs have been received and the top 2 were presented to Committee.

The next step is for a preferred design to be chosen following a strict scoring system, whereby a matrix of points are awarded. It is hoped that installation will commence at the beginning of June and will take approximately 8 weeks.

It was noted that the playground designers have been informed that the area is prone to flooding and the schemes have taken this into account.

The general feeling amongst Members was that either design would be very welcome. The Chair congratulated the Green Spaces Team

and Councillor Evans extended those congratulations to the Friends of Abbot Hall group who had worked hard to find new sources of funding.

Councillor Cornthwaite asked whether CCTV would be installed. The SLDC Officers advised that this is not something that is put into park areas. In the case of problem areas, PCSO's are consulted with. It is hoped that removing the hedging will discourage anti-social behaviour at Abbot Hall as the area is now more open.

982/18/19

PRESENTATION BY WAYNE SINGLETON OF JOGGING PALS – MENTAL HEALTH WALKS

Wayne Singleton attended the meeting to talk about two projects:

Mental Health Mile

This is a monthly walk/jog/run/wheel event to promote mental health. The route starts from the Abbot Hall Community Centre and follows the riverside. 157 people attended the first event, the next one will take place Sunday 31st March. Donations are requested from participants and, after covering costs, all surplus money is given to charity (South Lakeland MIND). Members were asked to support the project in any way possible, whether financial or otherwise.

The Chair mentioned previous attempts to introduce a Park Run in Kendal but this has not been possible as there are too many limitations. He said the Mental Health Mile fits with the message that anyone can exercise. Councillor Dunlop said she had participated in the first Mental Health Mile and there had been a great atmosphere with people of all ages and abilities taking part.

Plogging

This is a new event with run leaders which sees participants litter picking on the go. There is no cost involved. Wayne Singleton explained how the project works and noted that Morrisons had been very supportive, allowing use of their recycling facilities and offering refreshments afterwards. Jogging Pals are corporate partners with Friends of the Lake District and will be taking part in the Great Cumbrian Litter Pick on 26/27th April. Health and safety matters have been given full consideration, safety briefings are given before each event and there are defined routes of varying lengths (1 mile, 2 miles etc). The event is currently being promoted through the Jogging Pals Facebook page.

The Chair asked how Committee could support the two projects. Wayne explained that financial support was required for the Mental Health Mile for use of the Community Centre and purchase of certificates, race numbers etc. Promotional assistance was being sought for the Plogging event.

Councillor Hennessy asked what admin costs would need to be covered for the Mental Health Mile if 100% of donations were to be given to charity. Exact figures were not available but Wayne

Singleton explained that 9 events were planned over a year at a cost of approximately £15 per event to cover the cost of the Community Centre (£135 per year).

The Chair thanked Wayne Singleton for his presentation and he left the meeting. A general discussion then ensued. Members were very supportive of the Mental Health Mile and agreed the project had potential for great gain for very low cost. Exercise helps mental health and participating in the events would also give a sense of community. The requirements for receiving grant monies was discussed (ie. a constituted group, via sponsorship etc) and Councillor Owen agreed to seek clarification in this respect. Committee agreed that a formal request for a grant was required, however Councillor Edwards proposed that a grant of £250 be authorised, subject to an official request being received. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried unanimously.

Councillor Evans suggested an article in the KTC newsletter to promote the projects, along with photographs of the events in action.

RESOLVED

That a grant of £250 be authorised for the Mental Health Mile project, subject to an official request for funding being received. Councillor Owen to seek clarification in respect of the requirements of recipients receiving grant monies.

983/18/19

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH JANUARY 2019

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019, which had been approved by full Council on 4th February 2019.

The Chair noted the following corrections:

Minute 763/18/19 – Bollards at Hallgarth
'PCO' should read 'PCSO'

Minute 768/18/19 – Waste Free Kendal
Councillor Owen will continue to develop the initiative via his SLACC role, alongside Councillor Hennessy.

Councillor Archibald proposed that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record, subject to the amendments highlighted. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14th January 2019 be accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)

984/18/19

Minute 763/18/19 – Bollards at Hallgarth
Councillor Rowley had met the PCSO for the Hallgarth area on site. As there have been no reported incidents recently it had been decided to leave the matter for the time being and revisit if more problems arise.

Minute 774/18/19 – Save Kendal's Trees Campaign

As a point of information Councillor Evans noted that both Kendal BID and Kendal Futures had subsequently submitted letters in support of the flood defences scheme, although BID still had reservations.

Minute 772/18/19 – Market Consultation Update

The Project Manager advised that the SLDC Cabinet decision anticipated in February had been postponed until April.

Minute 780/18/19 – Graffiti at Sandylands

Councillor Edwards advised that the area had now been painted by the Probationary Service and was looking much improved.

Minute 763/18/19 – Millennium Fields off Shap Road

Councillor Cornthwaite confirmed that a gate had been purchased for the access lane. Volunteers would be installing once weather allowed.

A new bin at the Sainsbury's junction near the traffic lights had also been installed.

985/18/19**CASTLE CRESCENT GREEN COMMUNITY GROUP**

Members considered a project report submitted by Sandra Wood, a resident of Castle Crescent and member of the Castle Street Flood Action Group. KTC had awarded a grant to aid the refurbishment plan. Castle Crescent residents expressed their thanks to KTC for their support and contribution.

986/18/19**GREENWALL PLANNING APPROVAL AND TENDER DOCUMENT**

The Project Manager advised that SLDC had now granted Planning Permission for the installation of a green wall system to Lowther Street. Committee were informed that the project was now at tender stage. Their approval was sought to progress with the project and proceed with installation.

A general discussion then ensued. The size of coverage, tender process and levels of pollution absorption were discussed. Councillor Archibald raised some concern over the overall cost of the project. It was noted that the cost of £19,000 includes a healthy maintenance budget for 4-6 years. Councillor Edwards pointed out that the main purpose of the green wall was to absorb pollution. The Project Manager advised that pollution levels could be monitored following installation. Councillor Rowley added that aesthetics are also important. The general consensus was that it was a useful project, even as a pilot. It was suggested that the tender documentation request details of the shelf life of the Greenwall from contractors.

Councillor Rowley proposed that Committee approve the installation of the green wall. This was seconded by Councillor Edwards and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That Committee approve the installation of the green wall system to Lowther Street.

987/18/19

AIR QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

Committee considered air quality data provided by SLDC. Only one site in Kendal fails to meet the Government objective of not exceeding 40 ug/m³, this is outside Burgundy's on Lowther Street. Councillor Archibald commented that whilst there was only one site exceeding the objective, there were several sites above 25-30 ug/m³ which was still not good for health. He added that this was not acceptable and there was a need to keep pushing.

Councillor Rowley mentioned that Windermere Road had previously showed levels over 40 ug/m³. He commented that particulate levels needed to be looked at more closely in SLDC's report. Councillor Archibald advised that there was a meeting of the Kendal Traffic Pollution Working Group scheduled in the near future and suggested Councillor Rowley attend that meeting to make a representation. Councillor Rowley agreed to attend. He added that he believed the greenwall plants would collect particulates as well as nitrogen dioxide. The Project Manager advised that this requirement could be included in the tender documentation.

RESOLVED That Councillor Rowley make a representation at the forthcoming meeting of the Kendal Traffic Pollution Working Group.

988/18/19

UNITY SCULPTURE

The Project Manager advised that she had spoken to SLDC regarding the unity sculpture and three options had been suggested. (1) leave alone (2) take the sculpture down (3) repaint both hands a light brown colour. It was noted that the sculpture has a limited life span remaining and cannot be stripped due to structural issues. Members discussed the preferred approach and there was a general feeling to leave alone. It was agreed that Stacy Hurley would seek the opinion of Ward Councillors in this respect.

RESOLVED That Stacy Hurley seek the opinion of Ward Councillors regarding Committee's wish to leave the unity sculpture as it is.

989/18/19

TREE TUB ENHANCEMENTS

It had previously been suggested by Councillor Cornthwaite that the Project Manager contact Kendal College to request their involvement in the design aspect of the project. Helen Moriarty advised that she had met with Steve Wilson, Head of Department at the College and he had agreed to produce a prototype for June. The recommendation was to use reclaimed wood and it was planned to include KTC and College logos. Committee were informed that there would be opportunity to comment on the prototype. Members agreed this was a good partnership project with the College.

Councillor Edwards extended thanks to all those involved in the project and proposed that Committee grant approval. This was

seconded by Councillor Cornthwaite and carried unanimously. It was suggested that Committee extend their thanks to Kendal College for their support and involvement in the project.

It was noted that the removed trees from the existing tubs have been relocated to Gooseholme. The Committee commented that this had been well managed and asked Stacy Hurley to write a formal letter of thanks to Graham Nicholson for the tree planting.

RESOLVED

1. That Committee approve the tree tub enhancement project. Thanks to be extended to Kendal College.
2. That Stacy Hurley write a formal thank you to Graham Nicholson on the Committee's behalf.

990/18/19

NOBLES REST UPDATE

At the last meeting poor drainage issues at Nobles Rest had been raised. The Project Manager confirmed that she had spoken to SLDC in this respect who advised that the recent work was only ever going to address drainage in the central area. There is a plan to plant bog plants in the outer area to improve drainage there. The new turf will settle and drainage will improve over time in the central area.

Councillor Archibald mentioned that it had not been possible to seed the area due to the extremely dry summer last year. He said the expectation was that it would continue to improve and added that the pathway was no longer flooding and the seats remained accessible. Councillor Rowley reported recent flooding to the path and Councillor Archibald requested photographs if this reoccurred.

The Chair queried progress in respect of a new entrance at Nobles Rest. It was noted that a LIP bid submitted by the Civic Society had been approved. The Civic Society are continuing to raise money in this respect. It was agreed to add this matter to the agenda of the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That an item be added to the agenda of the next meeting – Nobles Rest New Entrance.

991/18/19

CCC HIGHWAYS FEEDBACK

The Project Manager reported on feedback received from CCC on the following issues:

Electrical Signage Removals

Timescale for the removal of 9 electrical signs still to be confirmed. Date not yet available but work will be carried out in the new financial year. A date will be confirmed as soon as available.

Posters on Railings

Matter raised with CCC, along with a proposal for a collaborative approach. Feedback received was a preference for KTC to report any concerns direct to CCC via email.

Dockray Hall Road Entrance

CCC had advised that it was not appropriate to conduct a safety audit of the Dockray Hall site as this is something that is normally carried out as part of an existing scheme. The recommendation was to contact County Councillor, Peter Thornton, to champion the project. Councillors Owen and Rowley (as Ward Councillors) agreed to raise the matter with Peter Thornton.

RESOLVED

That Councillors Owen and Rowley (as Ward Councillors) raise the matter of the Dockray Hall site entrance with County Councillor, Peter Thornton.

992/18/19**KENDAL CYCLE ROUTE MAP**

It was noted that the Project Manager was still in the process of obtaining a map of Kendal cycle routes (actual, desired and proposed). Councillor Archibald shared a South Lakeland map that he had, commenting that Laura Chapman may have a digital copy which we can share. Councillor Rowley said that he had a map from 1994 which was very similar and observed that there seemed to be little progress made over the past 25 years. He suggested that a constituted sub-group may be necessary in order to drive the matter forward. It was agreed that Councillor Rowley would contact all Councillors to request volunteers to form an active travel sub-group.

Councillor Archibald reported from a recent Environment Agency meeting that confirmation had been received for a multi-use path from Sainsbury's. CCC have confirmed that they are keen to work with the EA in this respect. The proposal is for a potential cycleway from Sainsbury's to Dockray, County Hall and Gooseholme Bridge.

Referring to the Shap Road cycleway, Councillor Archibald advised that confirmation had been received that both the desired schemes could be achieved. He added that the CCC Safety Report had raised certain safety matters which needed addressing before proposals could go ahead. The Chair commented that he was keen to see as many safe active travel routes as possible.

There was a general discussion during which various concerns were raised. It was agreed that Stacy Hurley would contact Owen David to request a confidential copy (Part 2) of the CCC Safety Report. Councillor Archibald commented that this addressed several questions which had been raised.

RESOLVED

1. That Councillor Rowley contact all Councillors to request volunteers to form an active travel sub-group.
2. That Stacy Hurley contact Owen David to request a confidential copy (Part 2) of the CCC Safety Report.

993/18/19**DOCKRAY/MINTSFEEET CHANGE OF USE**

The Project Manager had spoken to CCC (Rights of Way) regarding the land at Mintsfeet which was being used as a horse paddock. Their response was that the land had been sold in 1991 with permissive access. The Environment Agency had advised that the

structure erected under the bridge does cause a flood risk and requires a permit. The matter has been passed to their Enforcement Team. Councillor Dunlop reported advice from CCC Legal Services regarding vehicle use to access the land. It was noted that no right exists to drive vehicles on the land and there is a proposal to install a bollard.

Members agreed to monitor the situation and add the matter to a future agenda for update.

RESOLVED

That the situation be monitored and an update be given at a future meeting.

994/18/19**106 MEETING FEEDBACK**

The Project Manager had attended a meeting on 23rd January to discuss project options for the 106 funding. The Project Manager, along with SLDC Economic Develop Officers and Kendal Futures had carried out a site visit around the Longpool area on 6th March. There is a long wish list which will be costed and then consideration given to which projects can be progressed. The Project Manager agreed to circulate the wish list to Members for information.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager circulate a copy of the 106 funding 'wish list' of projects to Members.

995/18/19**NEW BUS SHELTER – VALLEY DRIVE – MAINTENANCE REQUEST**

Committee considered a request received via Councillor C Hogg. The request was for funding for a bus shelter at the bus stop on Valley Drive near to where it joins Lingmoor Rise. There is £800 in a memorial account in the name of a former KTC Councillor who lived in the area which would be used towards the installation. Members were asked to consider funding the maintenance of the bus shelter should it be approved by CCC. Councillor Archibald recommended seeking the opinion of nearby residents from an aesthetic point of view. It was also suggested that it should fit with KTC policy of selecting routes that are well travelled. Councillor Archibald proposed the funding be granted, subject to these provisos. This was seconded by Councillor Hennessy and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That Committee agree to fund maintenance of the bus shelter if approved by CCC, subject to resident's opinion being sought and checking the proposal meets with KTC policy.

996/18/19**DOCKRAY RIVERSIDE FENCING/BENCH**

The Project Manager reported that she had approached CCC to secure access for the KTC van in order to remove fencing. She had been advised that Street Works Accreditation was required which the Townscape Manager does not possess. CCC are insisting that an approved contractor is used. The cost of using an external contractor will be higher than the £310 costed to carry out the work internally. Following a general discussion as to whether The Environment

Agency's flood defence would affect the wall it was decided to slow down this project.

Members expressed their support for consideration of Street Works Accreditation for in-house workforce if deemed appropriate but were mindful of HR implications.

RESOLVE

That consideration be given to in-house workforce obtaining Street Works Accreditation.

997/18/19**OUTSTANDING PAINTING PROJECTS**

It was noted that Network Rail permission for painting of the wall at Longpool had now been secured. This, along with painting of railings at Stoney lane and Beast Banks, would hopefully be carried out before the end of the financial year.

998/18/19**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**Summer edition

Himalayn Balsalm – know your enemy article.
Jogging Pals Mental Health Mile project.

999/18/19**REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET**

Committee reviewed spend against the current budget. Underspend of approximately £10k was highlighted under the Market Place Enhancement heading. The Project Manager explained that originally £15k had been budgeted towards the larger SLDC scheme. £5k had been spent on the removal of the phone box, however the remaining £10k is not now needed. The recommendation from the Town Clerk was for this to go back into the Development Fund for other projects.

Councillor Evans reported that agreement had been received to proceed to the next stage of the Strategic Transport Infrastructure Study. She noted ongoing momentum of this project.

1000/18/19**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**Carbon Neutrality

Councillor Owen provided an update in respect of the carbon neutrality initiative. The subgroup had met and advice from experts was that funds be redirected to public engagement. Peter Bryant had suggested this be via a Citizens Jury rather than a Citizens Assembly. There would be a presentation by Peter Bryant at the April Full Council meeting. Funding of £5k had previously been approved by Full Council, however Peter Bryant had advised likely costs of approximately £20k. It was proposed to seek consent from Council to pursue further funding via match funding etc.

Councillor Evans was keen to ensure the involvement of young people in the Citizens Jury. Councillor Rowley commented that it

would be nice to see younger people attending Council meetings and getting involved.

Woolpack Yard

Councillor Dunlop highlighted a former grot spot and advised that Holland & Barrett were now tackling the area. Stacy Hurley confirmed she had obtained contact details for the architect and main contact at Holland & Barrett. The next stage would be to start meeting with businesses to form a plan of action for better signage once the building project was complete.

Cyclists at Gooseholme

Councillor Cornthwaite asked whether the sign for cyclists to dismount at Gooseholme should be removed. Councillor Rowley commented that this is part of the Sustrans route. Councillor Archibald advised that the intention was to allow cycling along Gooseholme.

New railings

Councillor Archibald confirmed a quote had been obtained and requested authorisation to proceed now that monies are available. Committee granted agreement in principle.

Removal of Unused BT Property

Councillor Edwards reported a BT box next to the play area on Sandylands which was not being used and could be removed. He requested a review of BT property across town. It was agreed that Stacy Hurley would obtain a contact in order to pursue this matter. Councillor Evans has already highlighted an issue to BT regarding their assets on Sandylands and has a contact number she can provide.

RESOLVED

That Stacy Hurley request a review of BT property across town, with a view to removing unused boxes etc.

1001/18/19

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7th May 2019 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
982	Mental Health Walks	RES	That a grant of £250 be authorised for the Mental Health Mile project, subject to an official request for funding being received. Councillor Owen to seek clarification in respect of the requirements of recipients receiving grant monies.
986	Greenwall planning approval and tender	RES	That Committee approve the installation of the green wall system to Lowther Street.
987	Air quality monitoring	RES	That Councillor Rowley make a representation at the forthcoming meeting of the Kendal Traffic Pollution Working Group.
988	Unity sculpture	RES	That Stacy Hurley seek the opinion of Ward Councillors regarding Committee's wish to leave the unity sculpture as it is.
989	Tree tub enhancements	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Committee approve the tree tub enhancement project. Thanks to be extended to Kendal College. 2. That Stacy Hurley write a formal thank you to Graham Nicholson on the Committee's behalf.
990	Nobles Rest	RES	That an item be added to the agenda of the next meeting – Nobles Rest New Entrance.
991	CCC Highways feedback	RES	That Councillors Owen and Rowley (as Ward Councillors) raise the matter of the Dockray Hall site entrance with County Councillor, Peter Thornton.
992	Kendal Cycle Route map	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Councillor Rowley contact all Councillors to request volunteers to form an active travel sub-group. 2. That Stacy Hurley contact Owen David to request a confidential copy (Part 2) of the CCC Safety Report.
993	Dockray/Mintsfeet change of use	RES	That the situation be monitored and an update be given at a future meeting.
994	106 meeting feedback	RES	That the Project Manager circulate a copy of the 106 funding 'wish list' of projects to Members.
995	New bus shelter, Valley Drive, maintenance request	RES	That Committee agree to fund maintenance of the bus shelter if approved by CCC, subject to resident's

			opinion being sought and checking the proposal meets with KTC policy.
996	Dockray Riverside fencing/bench	RES	That consideration be given to in-house workforce obtaining Street Works Accreditation.
1000	Removal of unused BT property	RES	That Stacy Hurley request a review of BT property across town, with a view to removing unused boxes etc.