

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

Monday, 11th January 2016 at 7.00 p.m.
in The Mayor's Parlour, The Town Hall, Kendal

PRESENT Councillors Tom Clare (Chair), Giles Archibald, Andy Blackman, Keith Bracey, Shirley Evans and Jon Robinson.

APOLOGIES None received.

OFFICERS Liz Richardson (Town Clerk) and Rose Tideswell (Temporary Secretary)
Also in attendance for agenda items 5, 6 and 7, by invitation, was South Lakeland District Council Officer Deborah Wright (Principal Community Spaces Officer). Councillor Geoff Cook was also present for the meeting.

745/15/16 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor G. Archibald declared an other registrable interest in item 6 on the agenda (Repair of Seating at Hawesmead Park).

746/15/16 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12th OCTOBER 2015**

The Chair presented the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th October 2015. Which had been approved by full Council on 2nd November 2015. Councillor K. Bracey proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor A. Blackman and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2015 be accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)

747/15/16 **Finance Statement** (Minute 460/15/16)

Councillor Blackman reported that he had followed up on the ongoing project for the Heron Hill School Wildlife Area. The Conservation Volunteers were putting up bird and bat boxes so some money had been expended. Ownership of the pond behind the school had been raised but Heron Hill School does not believe it owns the ground. It was suggested that it may belong to Kirkbie Kendal School. Cllr Clare commented that it is shown on a Cumbria County Council map as school land.

748/15/16 **Police Yard** (Minute 466/15/16)

Councillor J. Robinson reported that he had briefly spoken to Sue Scott the enforcement officer at SLDC with regard to the issue of wheelie bins. She is however currently seconded to another department so he will contact her at a later date.

RESOLVED Councillor J. Robinson will contact Sue Scott, SLDC at a later date.

749/15/16 Street Furniture and Lower Beast Banks Footpath (Minute 467/15/16)

Councillor J Robinson informed the committee that today he had drafted the letter to SLDC and sent this together with a map and photos to the Town Clerk regarding the proposed site of a footpath on Lower Beast Banks.

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk writes to SLDC for permission to site a footpath across the green area on Lower Beast Banks.

750/15/16 CHANGE FROM THE AGENDA

The Chair proposed that the agenda be changed so that Councillor G. Archibald items 11 (SLDC Car Park Review Update) and 9 (Keep Kendal Tidy Update) could be heard following Deborah Wright Item 5 (SLDC Parks Update including Abbot Hall Planting Scheme and Nobles Rest) so Deborah Wright can comment and assist on the proposals.

The Chair proposed that the agenda order be so changed.

751/15/16 SLDC PARKS UPDATE INCLUDING ABBOT HALL PLANTING SCHEME AND NOBLES REST – Deborah Wright, SLDC

The Chairman welcomed Deborah Wright, Principal Community Spaces Officer, SLDC.

Nobles Rest

Ms. Wright reported on Nobles Rest. The Masterplan had been updated with the results from the consultations. A SLDC capital bid had been submitted for the drainage work required at Nobles Rest and a decision would be made by February. Then SLDC would look at the tendering documentation with work expected over the summer.

A gardening club had been established and the volunteers are borrowing tools from The Conservation Volunteers. Ms Wright is still looking to set up a Friends of Nobles Rest Group. A planting scheme proposal for around the monument will be brought to the next meeting.

Councillor J. Robinson asked if any progress had been made on the proposal for a new entrance close to M & S: Ms Wright replied that this is still being looked at.

Abbot Hall

Ms. Wright reported that the recent floods had disrupted the time schedule through December. The meeting with the planting consultants has been delayed but still looking to plant out in April in time for Kendal in Bloom.

752/15/16 SLDC CAR PARK REVIEW UPDATE – Cllr. G. Archibald

Councillor Archibald reported that SLDC was now implementing parking tickets that are transferable throughout SLDC owned car parks and that public parking was now allowed on level 3 at South Lakeland House. Car park signage

improvement was ongoing. An electric charging point would be installed shortly at Busher Walk and it was hoped at another location in Kendal. There was a need to improve parking locations for coaches and motor homes and to source/locate further car parking areas as the Kendal grows.

The review report, which will be completed shortly, currently has 17 recommendations. SLDC would like to seek KTC views on the car park review when the recommendations have been finalised. The Chair asked if the report could be circulated to members. The next step would be to produce a prioritised list of actions to bring to the next meeting and input on this would also be welcome.

Councillor K. Bracey proposed that a small task group from across KTC is formed (ideally from Kendal Town Councillors only) to look at the issues raised. Councillor A. Blackman seconded the proposal and this was carried unanimously.

Cllr Bracey asked if all SLDC car parks could be included in the universal ticketing arrangement. Cllr Archibald replied that it was only possible to include SLDC owned car parks – not those that SLDC just collect monies on behalf of another owner eg Kendal Parish Church and the Brewery.

Cllr Clare commented that the car parking strategy needed to be part of consideration of the wider traffic flow in Kendal.

RECOMMENDED That volunteers are sought at Council to form a Car Park review task group.

RESOLVED That Councillor Archibald presents a progress report and prioritised list of actions to the next meeting.

753/15/16 REQUEST FOR REPAIR OF SEATING AT HAWESMEAD PARK – Councillor S. Emmott

The Town Clerk presented a request from Councillor Emmott for seating repairs at Hawesmead Park at a cost of no more than £750 to purchase wood to repair the 5 dilapidated seats. There is money in the current budget but the work would need to be done by end March. SLDC has agreed to pay the labour costs and the Town Handyperson will assist with the repairs. The benches are and will remain the responsibility of SLDC but partnership working would benefit Kendal in Bloom and Britain in Bloom work.

Councillor J. Robinson proposed that the repairs go ahead with ongoing maintenance to be carried out by the owners SLDC. This was seconded by Councillor Blackman and carried with two abstentions.

RESOLVED That the Town Treasure authorises the payment of up to £750 to purchase wood and materials for the repairs to the seats in Hawesmead Park.

754/15/16 PAINTING OF RAILINGS – UPDATE AND LITTLE AYNAM PROPOSALS

The Town Clerk reported that the contract had been placed for the painting of the Milnthorpe Road, putting green (Gooseholme) and Miller Bridge and work would be weather dependant but likely in the spring.

A price for the railings along Little Aynam, from the Scout Hut towards the putting green, that were left off the original quote for painting would be £1,300. However, the railings are badly damaged in places and would require repairs by SLDC before painting. It had since been suggested by Councillors and Ms Wright, SLDC that the railings be removed as they serve little purpose. SLDC do not have the funds to do this. Ms Wright had agreed to obtain quotes for removal but these had not been received.

There was general agreement that the railings would be better removed. Councillor Archibald queried why SLDC would not pay and suggested that KTC write to SLDC and ask them to remove the railings. Cllr Clare proposed that the Town Clerk writes to SLDC requesting that they remove the railings in order to facilitate improvement of the area. This was seconded by Councillor Bracey and carried unanimously.

Cllr Archibald asked to be reminded at the next meeting of other railings on the list for painting. He commented that a map and photos would be useful.

Cllr Clare asked that the concrete base left after the removal of the Ayman Road railings be removed or made safe as previously requested as they posed a trip hazard. Ms Wright agreed to look at this.

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk write to SLDC advising them of the condition of the Little Aynam railings and requesting that they remove them.

755/15/16 KEEP KENDAL TIDY UPDATE – Councillor G. Archibald

Councillor Archibald informed the committee that Councillor Blackman was elected the Chair of the Keep Kendal Tidy Group so it would be more appropriate if he gave the update.

Councillor Blackman reported that the working group's first meeting was in December and the second meeting was last week. It had been agreed that the group needed to promote awareness of the campaign. It had been decided to rename the campaign "Keeping Kendal Mint Clean" to reflect that other issues not just litter were to be addressed such as dog fouling. There will be an article in the forthcoming Newsletter and we will participate in the "Clean for the Queen" campaign in March. A webpage and articles in the Westmorland Gazette would be explored.

Local groups that would be interested in the Keeping Kendal Mint Clean campaign such as Rotary, Civic Society, Kendal & District Scouts, and Sea Cadets etc had been invited to participate. The group would like all Ward

Councillors to look for litter hot spots and whether extra litter bins are required and if so where. There is also to be an anti-litter poster competition with the local primary schools and a logo competition for the secondary schools.

Cllr Blackman requested funds for prizes for the schools competitions and for necessary equipment such as litter pickers and gloves. The next meeting is on the 27th January.

Ms Wright suggested that an event in a Kendal park perhaps for the “Clean for the Queen” event. Photographic evidence could be used for BiB. SLDC would collect any litter bags for disposal.

Councillor Archibald suggested Lakeland Radio would be useful for any campaigns. Other suggestions were to include local resident groups such as Fellside Forum and Kirkbarrow residents, fast food outlets and to check with local Councillors who will know of any other interested groups.

Councillor Archibald proposed that KTC provides £250 for prizes for the schools competitions, which would fund prizes for each school and the overall winner’s prizes, and £250 for equipment. This was seconded by Councillor J. Robinson and carried with one abstention.

RESOLVED That the Keep Kendal Tidy Group be allocated £250 for prizes for the schools competitions and £250 for equipment.

756/15/16 SANDYLANDS BUS SHELTER

The Town Clerk provided the committee with a report on the Sandylands bus shelter and adjoining litter bin which were destroyed by a fire started by vandals in November. The Town Clerk advised the committee that the shelter was insured on a like for like basis. However, following consideration it was felt that it would be better if the bus shelter panels were not made of polycarbonate but of sheet metal to deter vandals and perhaps without seats to deter future vandalism.

Councillor S. Evans reported that the residents would like to see the seating put back in the shelter, especially as a large number of elderly use it.

Councillor J. Robinson proposed that KTC takes advice from the design company about new ideas and materials to include seating and for the Town Clerk to report back to the next meeting with costings.

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk contacts the bus shelter company requesting a design that incorporates metal not polycarbonate and anti-vandal ideas, with seating as before, and comes to the next meeting with a report and costings.

757/15/16 REQUEST FOR LITTER BINS MAINTENANCE - Councillor G. Archibald

Councillor Archibald had provided the meeting with a report requesting two extra litter bins to be located in the Fellside Ward which had been requested by residents. One bin would be on High Tenterfell near the golf course and the other on Beast Banks near the green area. If KTC would fund the maintenance and

emptying of the bins, Councillor Archibald will pay for the purchase of the bins from his SLDC allowance this financial year.

Cllr Clare felt that litter bin provision should be looked at in a wider context to identify litter hotspots, as proposed through the Keeping Kendal Mint Clean campaign. The Project Manager was also devising Kendal walking trails and it may be that bins are needed along the routes.

Cllr Archibald suggested that he give his SLDC allowance

Councillor J. Robinson proposed that KTC takes on the maintenance and emptying of two new litter bins in Fellside but that the location be determined following the hot spot litter review by the working group. This was seconded by Cllr Clare and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That Councillor Archibald will provide the money from his SLDC allowance for two new litter bins on the Fellside ward, the location of which are to be decided, and that KTC will pay any ongoing maintenance and emptying costs.

758/15/16 20MPH PLENTY – NEXT STEPS - Councillor G. Archibald

Councillor Archibald had provided the meeting with a report on the 20mph Have Your Say survey. Full Council had resolved that there was clear support from the residents of Kendal for mandatory 20mph speed limits on residential roads in Kendal. Council had agreed to obtain an estimate for the cost of implementing this proposal including the cost of implementing an alternative town-wide 20mph scheme. Councillor Archibald would like the Committee to come to an agreement as to what is meant by 'residential roads in Kendal' and to have someone designated person to act as a point of contact before the start of the next financial year when the funds become available for the consultants to proceed.

One suggestion for the definition of residential was all areas except arterial roads. However, it was pointed out that stretches of arterial roads are residential.

Cllr Clare suggested that further dialogue was required with the consultant. It could be based on volume of traffic and needs to involve the Police. He proposed that the 20's plenty working group meet and look at the question of the designation of residential areas and to have them marked on maps provided by the Town Clerk and to appoint a representative to consult with the consultants.

RESOLVED That Councillor Archibald arranges for a meeting of the 20's plenty working group to look at the question of the designation of residential areas and to have them marked on maps and to appoint a representative to consult with the consultants

759/15/16 CCC HIGHWAYS URBAN TEAM – REPORT FROM MEETING – Councillor T. Clare

Cllr Clare gave a report on the meeting he had attended for Parish Councils. The arrangements CCC have in place for rural areas do not apply to Kendal and it was felt that Kendal required a separate discussion as an urban area. It was

proposed that the Town Clerk makes contact with both the Area Steward and Team Leader for Kendal to suggest a meeting.

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk contacts the Area Steward and Team Leader of the CCC Highways Kendal Urban Team to suggest a meeting.

760/15/16 ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Cllr Clare advised the committee that the next newsletter is to be published in March. Items so far are: 20's Plenty, Keeping Kendal Mint Clean, an article about the KTC element of the increase in the Council Tax bill for 16/17 and articles about KiB/BiB and allotments. Any text for the KTC newsletter needed to be with Cllr Clare by the end of January.

761/15/16 FINANCE STATEMENT

The Committee had been provided with a finance statement for the eight months ended 30 November 2015. Additional spend agreed at the meeting were £750 for the bench repairs in Hawesmead Park and £500 for the Litter campaign.

Councillor Blackman sought clarification on the Heron Hill School wildlife project and whether they should invoice KTC with their expenditure to date. The Town Clerk advised him that this was the case.

Councillor Archibald sought clarification on the Council's decision to increase the KTC part of the Council Tax by a further 2% for a flood recovery fund and how it was to be spent. The Town Clerk advised the committee that this was an item on the forthcoming Management Committee agenda. Any suggestions on spend could be sent to the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED That the financial statement for the Committee be noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

762/15/16 Removal of the redundant sign posts identified by the Town Project Officer, Helen Moriarty

The Town Clerk requested funding for the removal of redundant signposts identified by the Project Manager and discussed at January Full Council. Subject to the correct permissions work could go ahead now and be funded from the Environment & Highway budget as there was money available.

Councillor Archibald proposed that the Project Manager be allowed up to £2,000 for the removal of redundant sign posts. This was seconded by Cllr Clare and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the Project Manager be allocated up to £2,000 for the removal of redundant sign posts as identified.

763/15/16 The Town Project Officer – reports to committee

The Town Clerk advised the committee that three of the four projects to be undertaken by the Project Manager would have their budget with the committee from FY 2016/17: She asked how the committee wanted to monitor progress on these projects? Councillor Archibald proposed that a written report would be acceptable.

RESOLVED That the Project Manager compiles a written report for the Environment & Highways Committee on the trails, signage and public realm projects from FY 2016/17.

764/15/16 CCC Notification of a proposed diversion of a public footpath

The Town Clerk informed the committee that CCC had notified KTC of a proposed diversion of a public footpath at Carus Green Golf Club along the River Kent. The Town Clerk passed around a map of the proposed footpath diversion. The current path has been eroded by the River Kent and is dangerous to follow. The proposal is to redirecting it away from the river. The ward Councillors have been informed and they want the footpath redirecting quickly as it is quite dangerous.

Cllr Clare proposed that KTC would wish to see the footpath maintained and therefore support that it is redirected. This was seconded by Councillor J. Robinson and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk writes to CCC stating that KTC has no objections to the proposed redirection of the footpath.

765/15/16 Unofficial toll road off the bypass

Councillor Bracey suggested that CCC opens up the link road from the Bypass onto Greenside to alleviate traffic congestion caused by the closure of Victoria Bridge and road works at Romney Road traffic lights. At the moment it is an unofficial toll road and perhaps CCC could negotiate a right of way with the landowner.

Cllr Clare advised the committee that traffic flow around Kendal is complicated and that we should be pushing the SLDC Masterplan to consider this issue with CCC and how to address in the future.

Councillors Cook and Archibald commented that increased traffic on Greenside would be an issue and turnings into the toll road and onto the bypass would be dangerous. Residents should be advised to walk wherever possible.

The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information / Resolution / Recommendation to Council	
748	Police Yard	RES	Councillor J. Robinson will contact Sue Scott, SLDC at a later date.
749	Street Furniture and Lower Beats Banks Footpath	RES	That The Town Clerk writes to SLDC for permission to site a footpath across the green area on Lower Beast Banks.
752	SLDC Car Park Review	REC	That volunteers are sought at Council to form a Car Park review task group.
		RES	That Councillor Archibald presents a progress report and prioritised list of actions to the next meeting.
753	Request for repair of seating in Hawesmead Park	RES	That the Town Treasure authorises the payment of up to £750 to purchase wood and materials for the repairs to the seats in Hawesmead Park.
754	Painting of railings on Little Aynam	RES	That the Town Clerk write to SLDC advising them of the condition of the Little Aynam railings and requesting that they remove them.
755	Keep Kendal Tidy	RES	That the Keep Kendal Tidy Group be allocated £250 for prizes for the schools competitions and £250 for equipment.
756	Sandylands Bus Shelter	RES	That the Town Clerk contacts the bus shelter company requesting a design that incorporates metal not polycarbonate and anti-vandal ideas, with seating as before, and comes to the next meeting with a report and costings.
757	Request for Litter Bin Maintenance	RES	That Councillor Archibald will provide the money from his SLDC allowance for two new litter bins on the Fellside ward, the location of which are to be decided, and that KTC will pay any ongoing maintenance and emptying costs.
758	20MPH Plenty – Next Steps	RES	That Councillor Archibald arranges for a meeting of the 20's plenty working group to look at the question of the designation of residential areas and to have them marked on maps and to appoint a representative to consult with the consultants
759	CCC Highways Urban Team	RES	That the Town Clerk contacts the Area Steward and Team Leader of the CCC Highways Kendal Urban Team to suggest a meeting.

761	Finance Statement	RES	That the financial statement for the Committee be noted.
762	A.O.B Removal of redundant sign posts	RES	That the Project Manager be allocated up to £2,000 for the removal of redundant sign posts as identified.
763	The Town Project Officer	RES	That the Project Manager compiles a written report for the Environment & Highways Committee on the trails, signage and public realm projects from FY 2016/17.
764	CCC Notification of a proposed diversion of a public footpath	RES	That the Town Clerk writes to CCC stating that KTC has no objections to the proposed redirection of the footpath