

Kendal Town Council

Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal LA9 4ED

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Minutes of a meeting of the Culture and Communities Committee held on Monday, 10 June 2024, at 7.40 p.m.*, in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.

Cllr L Edwards (Vice-Chair)	Present	Cllr M Helme	Apologies
Cllr H Ladhams (Chair)	Present	Cllr S Long	Present
Cllr C Russell	Present	Cllr K Simpson	Present
Cllr R Sutton	Present	Cllr P Thornton	Apologies

In attendance: Town Clerk (Chris Bagshaw).

Also present: Cllr J Cornthwaite, Cllr L Hendry

* The meeting began late due to the overrun of a previous briefing from Westmorland and Furness Highways.

CC1/2024 Apologies

Resolved: To receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllrs M Helme and P Thornton

CC2/2024 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Ladhams and Russell drew the Committee's attention to their interests in Kendal Torchlight. Both councillors left the room for the duration of this item.

CC3/2024 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

There were no excluded items on the agenda.

CC4/2024 Minutes from the Last Meeting

Resolved: To receive the minutes of meeting of the Committee held on 15 April 2024 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a correct record.

CC5/2024 Minute Action Sheet

The Committee considered a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings. There was a query about the progress made with the Town Team on the redevelopment of the markets. The Chair reported that the Town Team still awaited the report from Consultants on the matter. It was noted that matters relating to the infrastructure of the Birdcage properly belonged with the Environment Committee, under whose Terms of Reference it fell.

It was noted that the Grants Criteria working group had not yet met a second time.

Resolved: To note the actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings of the Culture and Communities Committee.

Resolved: The Clerk to set up a Doodle Poll to establish availability and arrange a date for a meeting of the Grants Criteria working group.

CC6/2024 Budget Monitoring

The Committee considered its 2024-25 budget as at 3 June 2024.

Resolved: To note the report.

CC7/2024 Community Grant Applications

The Committee considered the following application for a Community Grant:

- *Heron Hill Primary School - £1,500 - To pay for a community artist to assist in the creation of a legacy artwork celebrating 50 years of education at Heron Hill School.*

The Committee noted that this was in alignment with the Council's Plan to support people and community wellbeing.

Resolved: To offer a grant of £1,500.

CC8/2024 Festival Grant Applications

The Committee considered the following applications for Festival Grants and how they aligned with the Town Council plan, how many people could take part and how much of the festival was in Kendal.

- (a) *Kendal Torchlight Festival - £10,000 - To contribute to the delivery of the Torchlight Festival. This would require the approval of Full Council if offered in full.*

Resolved: To offer a grant of £5,000 initially, with a second tranche of £5,000 to be put to a meeting of the Full Council in July, as it did last year. It was requested that Torchlight be asked to present to the Council.

- (b) Youth Fest - £5,000 - To assist in the delivery of the Festival.

Resolved: To offer a grant of £3,000.

- (c) Cumbria Opera Group - £5,000 - To assist in the delivery of the Festival.

Resolved: To offer a grant of £2,500.

CC9/2024 Christmas Lighting 2024

Consideration was given to a recommendation from the Christmas Lighting Working Group on the selection of a contractor for the Christmas lighting display in 2024. The Chair reported that, after considering the tender documentation, the working group was recommending that the contract be offered to Christmas Plus.

Resolved: To accept the recommendation of the Working Group.

CC10/2024 Grants and Funding Criteria

The Committee gave consideration to what further actions were required from the Grants and Funding Criteria working group to develop the Council's Grants and Funding criteria. It was noted that the group had not met a second time, but was required to, to complete their task.

Resolved: As above (CC5/2024) to arrange a poll and meeting.

CC11/2024 Visit Kendal

The Committee considered a report reviewing Tourist Information provision for Kendal and the performance of the Visit Kendal Website. Members acknowledged that the website was performing well, but noted that there was still considerable demand from various sources for tourist information to have a physical presence in the town.

Resolved: To establish a tourism development working group including Cllrs Ladhams, Long, Cornthwaite and Russell, and to include Kendal BID, Westmorland and Furness Council and other stakeholders as required. The Clerk will send out a Doodle poll for the Town Councillor group to establish the initial scope of the Working Group.

CC12/2024 Community Resilience

The Town Clerk provided a brief verbal report on the progress of Community Resilience planning. Funding had been secured from Cumbria Community Foundation, but this was contingent on the Council's Safeguarding procedures being finalised.

Resolved: To note the report.

CC13/2024 Newsletter and Publicity

The Committee considered which items would be included in a press release and items for the next edition of the Council's Newsletter.

Items suggested included a What's On Guide, Torchlight and the Mayoralty, with a particular suggestion being some form of mention for the Mayor's Charities.

Resolved: To include these matters in the next newsletter.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.