

Kendal Town Council

Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal LA9 4ED
www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk



4 September 2023

To Members of the Environment and Highways Committee

Cllr G Archibald (Vice-Chair)	Cllr E Hennessy (Chair)
Cllr S Blunden	Cllr S Long
Cllr D Brown	Cllr C Russell
Cllr J Cornthwaite	Cllr K Simpson
Cllr M Helme	

You are summoned to a meeting of Kendal Town Council Environment and Highways Committee on Monday, 11 September 2023, at **7.00 p.m.**, in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.

Yours faithfully

Chris Bagshaw
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive and accept any apologies. If accepted, apologies will be considered to be for reasons approved by the Council under the terms of Local Government Act 1972, s85.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations by members and/or co-optees of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

To consider whether there are any agenda items during consideration of which the press and public should be excluded.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting (Pages 3 to 11)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Highways Committee held on 17 July 2023 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a correct record (see attached).

5. Minute Action Sheet (Pages 12 to 13)

To consider a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings (see attached).

6. Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies – Natural Kendal

To receive a presentation from Dan Hinton, representing Natural Kendal, regarding a potential collaboration project.

7. Project Update Report (Pages 14 to 19)

To review an update of ongoing projects and answer members' questions (see attached).

8. Environment and Highways and Development Budgets (Pages 20 to 23)

To receive a report on the Environment and Highways budget 2023-24 (see attached) and to consider any forward plans for the next Budget year (2024-25).

9. Pesticides Policy (Pages 24 to 26)

To receive a proposal regarding the use of pesticides in Kendal (see attached).

10. Dark Skies (Page 27)

To receive an update regarding investment in Dark Skies initiatives (see attached).

11. Bowling Fell (Page 28)

To consider improvement proposals (see attached).

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Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Highways Committee held on Monday, 17 July 2023, at 7.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.

Cllr G Archibald (Vice-Chair)	Absent	Cllr S Blunden	Present
Cllr D Brown	Present	Cllr J Cornthwaite	Present
Cllr M Helme	Absent	Cllr E Hennessy (Chair)	Present
Cllr S Long	Present	Cllr C Russell	Present
Cllr K Simpson	Apologies		

In attendance: Democratic Services Assistant (Inge Booth), Projects Officer (Anne-Marie Sanderson), Development Manager (Helen Watson-Moriarty) and Cllr P Thornton.

E16/2023 Apologies

An apology for absence was received and accepted from Cllr K Simpson.

E17/2023 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were raised.

E18/2023 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues were considered for exclusion.

E19/2023 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved: To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15 May 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

E20/2023 Minute Action Sheet

The Committee considered a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings. The Development Manager advised that all items included within the report had either been actioned or were included for consideration within the agenda.

E7/2023 (Project Update Report) – In response to a query regarding Bowling Fell improvements, the Development Manager advised Members that she was due to attend a meeting on site with Westmorland and Furness Council officers on the following day with a view to exploring possibilities for improvements. On being asked if Members could attend, she said that they would be welcome and that the group was due to meet outside Kendal Town Hall at 11.00 a.m. Cllr R Russell undertook to attend.

E11/2023 (Oxenholme Signage Proposal) – In response to a query on the contract sign-off process, the Development Manager explained that her contact at Avanti had not been back in touch with her for some time and so the Station Master at Oxenholme was looking into the

matter on her behalf. She had explained to Avanti that funding was in place and a design drafted, however, that permission had not yet been received from the company.

E13/2023 (Biodiversity Policy) – The Development Manager explained that she would be putting out a press release in relation to the Council's Biodiversity Policy after this evening's meeting and further drew attention to the related item on the agenda in relation to pesticides.

Resolved: To receive the report.

E21/2023 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies

Cllr C Russell provided an update on the work being carried out by Natural Kendal, reporting that the group met on a regular basis. A proposal was being put together for core funding for the organisation; the Website had been completed and was due to be launched. Conversations had taken place with experts in biodiversity within the Town and some had indicated that they were keen to become involved. The group had set up a community interest company.

Having been asked to provide more details on the organisation's brief, aims and the area to be covered, Cllr Russell explained that it would cover the whole of Kendal and the surrounding area. Major issues to be considered were in relation to connectivity and green corridors along the river and links to the wider catchment of the Kent down to the sea. In addition, consideration was being given to footpaths within the area and as to how they could be used to enhance biodiversity.

Whilst the work of a like-minded group was welcomed, attention was drawn to those areas which had already been considered by the Environment and Highways Committee and to the need to ensure that the work being carried out by Natural Kendal was not counter-productive. The need for all such groups to work alongside one another was stressed.

Resolved: To note the verbal update on the work of Natural Kendal.

E22/2023 Project Update Report

The Development Manager presented a report including an update of ongoing projects and Members were offered the opportunity to ask questions.

Finkle Street Benches – This project was on track and was due to be completed by the end of the week.

20mph – The additional data had now been gathered by Westmorland and Furness Council and the Policy was due to be reviewed in September. The Chair informed Members that Westmorland and Furness' Overview and Scrutiny Committee was due to consider the draft policy the following week, prior to the Highways and Transport Strategic Board. Consultation work could then commence and the matter brought into the public domain, with the map of Phase 1 being released following adoption of the policy. Discussion took place around publicity, the method of consultation, costs and the importance of ensuring that the project took place. Members were informed that Phase 1 would relate purely to signage, with Phase 2 potentially extending zones and installing traffic calming measures. The fact that most people did not want to break the law was raised and so it was hoped that the measures would be self-enforcing.

Mintsfeet Development – In response to a query, the Development Manager explained that there were a number of projects which required engagement with senior leadership at Westmorland and Furness Council. She informed Members that she had spoken with the

Cabinet Member for Sustainable Communities and Localities on all the projects being worked on, including footpaths. Mintsfeet was on the list and the Development Manager hoped that this would be considered in time for an application to the Shared Prosperity Fund although, she was unsure about support from Westmorland and Furness Council. Discussion took place in relation to proposals for football pitches and pump tracks at both this site and at Kendal Castle and the need to revisit this matter was raised.

Resolved: Proposals in relation to football pitches and pump tracks in the areas of Mintsfeet and Kendal Castle to be revisited by the Committee.

Solar Made Easy Kendal – Reference was made to the potential for a scheme for a group approach to solar companies, however, the Development Manager explained that this was similar to the current CAfS scheme. Cllr P Thornton undertook to pass on details regarding the group scheme to the Development Manager. Also raised was the need for clarity around planning consent in relation to installation of solar panels and also regarding people's perception of solar panels. It was suggested that Westmorland and Furness planning officers might be invited to a meeting of Kendal Town Council's Planning Committee to seek views on the installation of solar panels in the Conservation Area. It was felt that the Town Council would then have an opportunity to share its more relaxed views with the planners who strictly observed planning guidance on the matter.

Resolved: To invite planning officers from Westmorland and Furness Council to a future meeting in order to discuss the matter of installation of solar panels in the Conservation Area.

Living Roof Blackhall Road – In response to a query, the Committee was informed that no response had yet been received from BT. Living roofs on bus shelters on Blackhall Road had been deemed not to be cost-effective.

Wildflowers at Kendal Green – It was pointed out that the flowers were spectacular and that bees were loving the area.

Resolved: To note the report.

E23/2023 Environment and Highways Budget 2023/24 and Development Budget 2023/24

The Committee considered a newly-formatted report on the Environment and Highways budget for the current year.

The need for all Members of the Committee to feel confident in understanding the financial information provided and to take responsibility for this budget was stressed. To this end, it was suggested that training was necessary and further suggested that it may be helpful for the Chair to run through the budget at each meeting via slides.

Resolved: Training on interpretation of budget information to be arranged for Members of the Environment and Highways Committee.

Resolved: To note the report.

E24/2023 Cumbria Bee Plan

The Committee considered a report from the Project Officer. Pollinators and other insects were under threat, and many were experiencing declines due to habitat loss, pesticide exposure, disease and climate change.

The Cumbria Local Nature Partnership had recently launched “Cumbria’s Plan Bee - A Pollinator Action Plan”. The plan urged everyone in the county – communities, the new local authorities and other councils, farmers, landowners and businesses – to sign a pledge and take action to help Cumbria’s pollinating insects.

The plan also included actions that could be taken by local authorities to support pollinators, including raising awareness of pollinators and their habitat needs by supporting schools and increasing the number of young people who understand the value of their local pollinators.

The Committee was being asked to consider signing a pledge to support pollinating insects. Furthermore, it was being asked to allocate £360 to provide a bee house for each school in Kendal. These could be locally made and would be supplied to schools together with information on complementary actions that could be taken to support pollinators, for example, leaving some grass to grow long and planting pollinator-friendly plants. Members were advised that £5,267 remained in the Biodiversity New Projects tbc budget.

During discussion, concerns were raised with regard to the fact that honey bees were not necessarily good for the environment. This led to the suggestion for the need for a discussion with the Allotments Committee with regard to control of the number of hives being kept on Council allotments and the need to strike a balance between native and honey bees. Members, however, welcomed the proposal, also acknowledging the fact that non-native honey bees also acted as pollinators. It was further pointed out that two or three quotes should be sought in relation to the making of the bee houses.

Resolved: To sign a pledge to support pollinating insects.

Resolved: To allocate £360 from the Biodiversity New Projects budget for the provision of a bee house for each school in Kendal as outlined above, to be locally made, with two to three quotes first being sought.

E25/2023 Pesticides

The Committee considered a report from the Projects Officer which explained that there was currently a campaign, led by Pesticide Action Network (PAN UK), to create pesticide-free towns across the country. Pesticide was an umbrella term that referred to a wide range of compounds, including herbicides (designed to kill plants), insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, molluscicides and nematicides and more.

The report concerned the use of herbicides in Kendal’s public spaces.

Reasons for wishing to go pesticide-free were numerous, but included contamination of local water supplies; the potential impact of pesticides on human health, the environment, biodiversity, and pollinator populations; and public concern.

Over 80 councils across the UK had either entirely stopped using herbicides or put measures in place to significantly reduce their use.

Details of alternative methods of weed control were provided within the report, including hot foam systems; hand weeding; acetic acid dilutions; manual approaches; flame treatment; steel brushing; high pressure hot water treatment; and electronic control systems.

Kendal Town Council was currently assessing its use of pesticides in line with the Council’s Biodiversity Policy which had been adopted by Full Council on 5 June, 2023.

Westmorland and Furness Council currently used glyphosate-based herbicides on pavements and in parks.

The Committee was asked to consider drafting a formal request to Westmorland and Furness Council to phase out the use of pesticides and trial alternative options for weed control.

The Committee discussed the matter at length and, whilst Members expressed strong support, there were also a number of concerns. These were in relation to how invasive species would be dealt with, there being no other effective means of removal other than to inject them directly with pesticide. In addition, questions were raised regarding the alternative methods suggested within the report, some of which were not in keeping with the Council's Climate Change policy, as well as around additional costs.

It was pointed out that Kendal Town Council only used pesticides on the small triangle of crazy paving nearby the Duke of Cumberland, and it was, therefore, suggested that the Town Council might lead by example and cease the use of chemicals altogether. It was further suggested that the Townscape Officer might be asked to consider patch testing different methods. Another suggestion was for the Town Council to offer to carry out a trial in a Westmorland and Furness Council area.

The potential to carry out research into safer chemicals which may be more appropriate for Council use was raised. It was felt that the Town Council had more work to carry out on its stance prior to approaching Westmorland and Furness Council with a formal request to phase out the use of pesticides.

The Projects Officer emphasised the fact that there were numerous case studies which had proved that it was possible to manage public places without the use of herbicides or pesticides.

Following discussion, it was proposed that a further report be brought to the next meeting of the Environment and Highways Committee for clarity around herbicides and pesticides, examples of other Councils which had ceased to use chemicals and success rates, information on the remaining stock of weed control chemicals kept by the Town Council, etc.

Resolved: To carry out further research as outlined above, with a further report to be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.

E26/2023 Serpentine Natural Play Update

The Development Manager reported that, in January 2023, Kendal Town Council had allocated £5,000 towards creating additional play and promotion opportunities around Fellside following the closure of the small play area in Nobles Rest Park.

Councillors had agreed to fund a variety of interventions, details of which were provided.

As the project had progressed, some of the funding needed to be reallocated to achieve core aims. It was, therefore, being recommended that the Committee reconsider the reallocation of the £900 for 'Additional Natural Play Ideas' to improving the Nature Trail way markers to ensure the Nature Trail had consistent way markers and look-out posts throughout the trail to complement the leaflet.

The Development Manager provided details on, and circulated copies of, the two separate draft leaflets relating to the Alphabet Trail and the Nature Trail. She explained that it was

hoped to sign off the final drafts within the next couple of weeks, with a view to launching them in September.

Resolved: To reallocate the sum of £900 for “Additional Natural Play Ideas” to fund improvements to the Nature Trail way markers, as outlined above.

E27/2023 Divestment and Banking

The Development Manager presented a report which informed Members that Divest UK was a national grass root organisation which was calling on public and private institutions to support divestment from fossil fuels and take action to secure a safe and healthy planet for future generations.

A Divest Cumbria group had been set up and was in the process of contacting town and parish councils regarding the Cumbria Group Pension fund and its credentials.

A number of local authorities had divested their investments in accordance with their declarations on climate change and included Waltham Forest, Southward, Islington, Lambeth and Cardiff. The Committee was being asked to consider support for Divest Cumbria.

The report further explained that Barclays Bank was widely acknowledged as one of the twelve global banks which continued to invest in fossil fuel extraction, including via the Tar Sands Pipeline Project.

The Town Council currently held one of its accounts with Barclays and, in accordance with its Climate Emergency declaration, could choose to switch to an alternative ethical banking provider.

In presenting the report, the Development Manager drew attention to the fact that the item and a decision actually fell within the remit of the Management Committee. However, Climate Change fell within the remit of the Environment and Highways Committee and, therefore, it could make recommendations to the Management Committee on the issue.

Whilst Members, on the whole, expressed support for the principle of switching to an alternative banking provider, the need to maintain value for money for Council Tax payers was acknowledged. In addition, strong concerns were raised with regard to making changes that could put risk to other people's pension funds.

Resolved: To ask the Management Committee to give consideration to the matter.

E28/2023 CIL Proposals

The Development Manager reported that, at May's Environment and Highways Committee meeting, Councillors had been informed of a new process to allocate funding to New Infrastructure projects via existing Community Infrastructure Levy funding.

Councillors had subsequently been contacted via email to share project ideas. Details of the ideas received to date were provided, as follows:-

Proposer	Project	Costs
Cllr Archibald	Replacement handrail alongside Fellside Methodist Church	£3750
Cllr Archibald	New bench at Windermere Road bus stop	£750 (approx)
Cllr Blunden	Community Water Fountain (options include renovating the existing Brewery Arts fountain or installing a new (internal or external) one in the Town Centre)	£5,000 (approx)
Cllr Blunden	New access ramp at 'The Eddington'	£10,000
Cllr Hennessy	20mph contribution	£11,600
TOTAL requested		£31,100
TOTAL CIL Available		£85,000

The Committee was being asked to review the suggestions, against the criteria that the initiative was additional to the statutory services of Westmorland and Furness Council, and to decide which were to be recommended for consideration by the Management Committee.

The Development Manager explained that "The Eddington" was the former United Reform Church on Highgate which Waste into Wellbeing were exploring as a venue for a new kitchen and climate change hub.

Whilst support was expressed for a community water fountain, it was felt that this should be situated within the Town Hall and not by renovating the existing one at Brewery Arts which had lead piping and may lead to health and safety issues. Attention was also drawn to the fact that officers at the former South Lakeland District Council had indicated that refurbishment would not be permitted. Also raised was the potential for the purchase of two new units at the suggested cost of £5,000, with an additional fountain to be installed in the Market Hall.

Resolved: All of the five suggestions outlined above to be recommended for consideration by the Management Committee for Community Infrastructure Levy funding.

E29/2023 Jury Recommendations Review Working Group

The Development Manager reported that, at May's Committee, a working group to review the Jury Recommendations had been established.

The Group had met on 5 June and had focused on the Council's ability to action, its impact and affordability of the various recommendations and had noted that there was always trade-offs and tensions.

Best practice from elsewhere had been cited, including the Global Sustainable Development goals, aligning with the Lancaster Jury experience and Cornwall's decision wheel.

Alex Downes had provided an overview of the actions that Westmorland and Furness were currently progressing, such as EV charging, planning, transport, trees and creating a circular economy tool to enable the sharing of resources. He had stressed that all were

opportunities to work together on normalising best practice particularly around renewables and business support.

The group had discussed the advantages of viewing the recommendations as overarching goals for the entire town rather than recommendations Kendal Town Council had to adopt as their own objectives.

Kendal Town Council's areas of influence and activity had been discussed. The idea of matching recommendations against existing activity, it had been felt, would create better stories and therefore a larger sphere of influence to engage others in helping the Council to achieve the town-wide recommendations.

Therefore, Kendal Town Council would become an organisation that tested ideas, shared best practice and promoted sustainability to others in a positive way. The Town Council would actively consider its impacts and shout about its journey, focusing on what it could do within areas that were stable and known, for example, it would always have to water the civic planting.

Ideas had been shared around current influencing opportunities as follows:-

- Within our green spaces (Alex confirmed this is already working) via wildflower projects and biodiversity grants
- Our engagement via the newsletter, Zero Carbon Kendal FB and instagram
- Our funding and grants – we could ask for more evidence of carbon reduction in application forms and offer free sustainable advice sessions to help create carbon reduction statements and visions for each festival we support
- Our civic events – we can transform the way we feed guests, influence how they arrive to our events and ensure the content of our events conveys the messages of the Jury
- 20mph – we can demonstrate how 20mph support traffic reduction (a Jury recommendation) via supporting the consultation with positive stories / pledges from people who will switch to bikes when 20mph is introduced
- Our planting – we can plant sustainable, drought resilient plants and develop projects to harvest rainwater to water them
- Our vehicles – we can explore EV van option and potentially reduce the size of the van if harvesting rainwater is successful. We can also utilise the van as a blank canvas to celebrate what we are doing
- Our allotments – we can engage our allotment holders to reduce pesticides and donate surplus food to WIW via a volunteer led cargo bike delivery service
- Our sustainability hub – We can be an active partner in the hub developments by commissioning murals, creating a library/resource space and consistent messages about what is currently happening in Kendal and what is in development
- Our decision process – We can utilise the Cornwall decision wheel and consider how potential projects support engagement by thinking about the story it will create and who can we tell it to so KTC can become an open source of best practice

Suggested actions were as follows:-

- Integrate Cornwall's decision-making wheel and 'story making potential' into future E&H proposals
- Develop a cargo bike allotment surplus proposal
- Develop the sustainability hub with civic events in mind
- Develop a rainwater harvesting map and action proposal
- Resurrect EV vehicle conversations

- Develop a sustainable planting approach – utilise Kendal Futures board member expertise to inform tender proposal
- Include carbon reduction support and evidence in community grants criteria and grant process redevelopment
- Continue promoting and processing biodiversity grants, wildflower planting, 20mph and current engagement routes to maintain momentum and demonstrate progress

The Committee was being asked to consider the Working group action points and to confirm support or otherwise for progression in this direction. The Development Manager suggested that the Committee might wish to concentrate on what the Town Council could do to demonstrate support for the recommendations.

Members welcomed the action points and the direction being taken. A query was raised as to the potential for the Town Council to lease the former South Lakeland District Council's electric vehicle and to wrap it in the Town Council's livery.

Resolved: To look into the potential for the Town Council to lease the former South Lakeland District Council's electric vehicle.

Resolved: To confirm support for progression in the direction detailed above.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Item No.5 - Environment and Highways Committee - Minute Action Sheet - as at 04-09-23

Ref. No.	Meeting Date	Minute No.	Title	Action (Resolution)	Officer Responsible	Deadline, if any	Date Actioned	Comments
1	17/07/2023	E22/2023	Project Update Report	Proposals in relation to football pitches and pump tracks in the areas of Mintsfeet and Kendal Castle to be revisited by the	HWM	n/a	6th Sept	Included in the Strategic Partnership meetig with W&F Council to progress
2	17/07/2023	E22/2023	Project Update Report	To invite planning officers from Westmorland and Furness Council to a future meeting in order to discuss the matter of installation of solar panels in the	HWM	n/a	6th Sept	Included in the Strategic Partnership meetig with W&F Council to progress
3	17/07/2023	E23/2023	Environment and Highways Budget 2023/24 and Development Budget 2023/24	Training on interpretation of budget information to be arranged for Members of the Environment and Highways Committee.	HWM	n/a	17th July	Request for training fedback to Clerk to arrange for all Councillors
4	17/07/2023	E23/2023	Cumbria Bee Plan	To sign a pledge to support pollinating insects.	AMS	n/a	18th July	Complete
5	17/07/2023	E23/2023	Cumbria Bee Plan	To allocate £360 from the Biodiversity New Projects budget for the provision of a bee house for each school in Kendal as outlined above, to be locally made, with two to three quotes first being sought.	AMS	n/a	18th July	Funding allocated
6	17/07/2023	E25/2023	Pesticides	To carry out further research as outlined above, with a further report to be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.	AMS	n/a		see project update report

Ref. No.	Meeting Date	Minute No.	Title	Action (Resolution)	Officer Responsible	Deadline, if any	Date Actioned	Comments
7	17/07/2023	E26/2023	Serpentine Natural Play Update	To reallocate the sum of £900 for "Additional Natural Play Ideas" to fund improvements to the Nature Trail way markers, as outlined above.	HWM	n/a	18th July	complete
8	17/07/2023	E27/2023	Divestment and Banking	To ask the Management Committee to give consideration to the matter.	HWM	n/a	18th July	Complete. On Managmeent agenda.
9	17/07/2023	E28/2023	CIL Proposals	All of the five suggestions outlined above (see Minutes) to be recommended for consideration by the Management Committee for Community Infrastructure Levy funding.	HWM	n/a	18th July	Complete. On Managmeent agenda.
10	17/07/2023	E29/2023	Jury Recommendations Review Working Group	To look into the potential for the Town Council to lease the former South Lakeland District Council's electric vehicle.	HWM	n/a	18th July	Vechile is current leased on occasions, ie for the Bloom Judges however wihtout town centre watering provision its not suitable for current needs.
11	17/07/2023	E29/2023	Jury Recommendations Review Working Group	To confirm support for progression in the direction detailed above (see Minutes).	HWM	n/a	18th July	Confirmation was received by committee members.

Kendal Town Council

Agenda Item 7

Project Update Report – September 2023

E&H Budget Heading	Project title and description	Progress	Partners	Status	Additional Notes
New Infrastructure (£0 budgeted, funding available via CIL applications)	To be determined, see proposal				
Infrastructure Maintenance (£3,700 budget)	Finkle Street Benches	Site visit complete and businesses informed and supportive of improvements		Complete	
Infrastructure CIL requests	To be determined, see proposal				
Ongoing Action Plans / Projects Budget Headings	Project title	Progress	Partners	Status	Additional Notes
Climate Change	Citizens' Jury Recommendations. Monitoring progress, reunion events, newsletter updates, Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership Climate Officer Group membership.	New allotments let at canal head in response to Citizens Jury recommendation 'make it easier for people to grow their own food'.	Various	Ongoing	ZCCP meeting attendance ongoing. Jury supporter newsletter sent every three months. Zero Carbon Kendal Instagram creating engagement.

	Solar Made Easy Kendal	Kendal cluster of 44 are receiving quotes from vetted suppliers.	CAfS, residents and business owners.	In development	Planning guide completed and shared with cluster.
	Climate Hub & Café (£10,000 per year for three years agreed)	Building quotes in development.	WIW	In development	WIW are creating a Community Interest Company together with owner of united Reform Church to progress and support partnership working. Shared Prosperity Application submitted to support potential venue costs and co-ordinator role. Funding confirmation expected in September.
Biodiversity Initiatives & Grants	Dark Skies Campaign (£5000 allocated)	Lighting audit of KTC lamps conducted with Jack Ellerby (FLD) & Mike Monaghan (Light Library) complete.	Friends of the Lake District	In development	See agenda.
	Cumbria Plan Bee (£360 allocated)	Pollinator pledge signed at https://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/cumbria-plan-bee/pledge Schools engagement plan in development. Quotes in progress for bee boxes.	Schools	In development	Discussion underway with Dan Hinton (Sandgate School/Natural Kendal) re: engagement strategy, possibly to include presentation at meeting of Kendal Heads (AMS).
	Biodiversity Grants	Grants processed for Manna House and Clean River Kent Group.	Clean River Kent Group. Manna House. Kirbie Green Residents Group	Ongoing	Promotion of grants via Zero Carbon Kendal ongoing.
	Wetland planting at Canal Head	Planting advice and species	CWT, KCV	In development	KCV wildflowers have been planted.

		recommendations sought from CWT. KCV to grow wildflowers from seed to order at Dog kennel nursery & plant later in the season.			Signage installed to communicate wetland plan to public. Permanent signage in development.
	Living Roof Road Bus Shelters (£2,500 allocated)	Following research into the costs of installing at Blackhall Road, Councillors' preference is to research alternative location and consider alternative ways to green Blackhall Road.		In development	See Budget Report
	Wildflowers at Kendal Green (£1,300 allocated)	Volunteer work parties scheduled for Weds 22 nd & Weds 29 th March to prepare ground and sow seeds/lay wildflower turf. Promoted via flyer to local residents.	Continental, SLDC, residents	Complete	
20mph (£18,400 budgeted)	20mph Kendal	Additional data is currently being gathered by CCC.		In development	W&F Council to consider 20mph policy.
Cycling & Walking	Footpath Improvements (£34,814 allocated)	Prioritisation criteria of audited paths complete. See proposal.			Awaiting W&FC confirmation – included in strategic partnership meeting 6 th Sept.
	Vicarage Drive to Vicars Garth improvements £2000 allocated from Cllr Long.	Quotes in progress to improve drainage. Three site visits completed, chasing follow up information.		In development	Awaiting W&FC confirmation – included in strategic partnership meeting 6 th Sept.

	Kendal Castle Pumptrack (£2,000 remaining)	Visual complete for Kendal Castle, planning permission approved for football pitch in the same area. Search for alternative sites ongoing.	Velosolutions	In development	Awaiting W&FC confirmation – included in strategic partnership meeting 6 th Sept.
	LCRP contribution (£5000 allocated)	No proposals to allocate funding to date.	LCRP	In development	
Public Realm Improvements	Windermere Road Railings improvements	Not currently in W&FC schedule of works.	CCC	In development	W&FC Officers meeting complete to consider designs that remove the railings and incorporate cycling lane. 20mph may enable the railings to be removed – to be discussed further following 20mph policy confirmation.
	Further Ivy Screening Projects	Potential locations reviewed, Windermere Road remains the most suitable option once CCC improvements completed.	CCC	In development	See budget report.
	Woolpack Yard	New planters installed following successful Welcome Back Funding application. New trees now installed.	SLDC and Continental	Complete	
	Ivy Screenings	Ivy screenings complete at Blackhall Road & Longpool. KTC Crest stickers installed.	CCC	Complete	
	Signage from Oxenholme to Kendal (Cllr Rathbone Locality budget) (£4014 allocated)	Site Visit Complete with Councilors and Avanti completed.		In development	Awaiting permission from Avanti. Meeting arranged for 15 th September.
	Bowling Fell Improvement Project (£7000 allocated)	n/a	SLDC	In development	See agenda.

**Green Spaces
Improvements**
(£2850
unallocated)

Serpentine Woods Alphabet Trail Sculpture improvements (£1000 allocated)	Invoice from Kendal Conservation Volunteers received and processed.	Fellside Forum	Complete	
Fellside Play Provision / Serpentine Woods Promotion (£5000 allocated)	Complete	SLDC, Fellside Forum, Kendal Conservation Volunteers, National Trust	Complete	Share leaflets
Nobles Rest community growing space	SLDC currently assessing the transfer of the former play area to KTC to develop additional growing space. Action to progress with W&F.	W&FC		Awaiting W&FC confirmation – included in strategic partnership meeting 6 th Sept.
Gooseholme ASB improvements	A range of measures agreed with SLDC following completion of bridge and flood defense works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCTV signage - Toilet signage - Putting green boundary improvements (SLDC to lead) - Public Spaces Protection Order (SLDC to lead) Assess Marshall option once site is accessible and ASB levels have been reviewed.	W&FC and Cumbria Constabulary.		Unable to progress until EA Flod Scheme completed.
Mintsfeet Development (£7,500) allocated	Site visits completed.	W&FC, Millennium Field Trust, The FA, Sandgate School.	In development	Awaiting W&FC confirmation – included in strategic partnership meeting 6 th Sept.
Triangle Community Garden Entrance Improvements	Improvements requested by community gardening	Triangle Community Garden Group	Complete	

group to improve
accessibility/safety at
garden entrance.

Kendal Town Council

Agenda Report

Committee: Environment & Highways	Meeting Date: 11 th September
From: Development Manager	Agenda No: 08
Description: Budget Report	

Background

The following proposals are based on a constructive meeting with the Clerk and Finance Administrator.

Proposal

To consider approval of

- Changing the 'Development Fund / ongoing Action Plan Projects' title to 'E&H Projects Budget'. The E&H Projects Budget includes projects that are live and in progression, not aspirations which for multiple reasons can't currently progress
- Changing the E&H Budget to 'Core E&H Budget' to differentiate it from the Projects Budget which remains rolling. The core budget remains an annual allocation.
- To return the funding allocated to Ivy Screening funding of £5,500 to the reserves budget from the ear marked reserves to support the Councils aspiration to keep a healthy reserves budget. The ivy screening at Longpool is struggling and until a solution can be found its not advisable to install in additional locations.
- To return to Solar Made Easy funding of £4,65 to the reserves budget from the ear marked reserves to support the Councils aspiration to keep a healthy reserves budget. There are no more funding request from Cumbria Action for Sustainability to utilise this funding in line with the Solar Made easy Kendal initiative.

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Kendal Town Council

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 01/08/2023

Month No: 5

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available
<u>600 E - New Infrastructure/Improve</u>					
5108 E - Infrastructure Maint	1,412	3,700	2,288	90	2,198
5109 Environment Core - Misc	0	879	879		879
E - New Infrastructure/Improve :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>1,412</u>	<u>4,579</u>	<u>3,167</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>3,077</u>
Net Expenditure	<u>(1,412)</u>	<u>(4,579)</u>	<u>(3,167)</u>		
<u>630 E - SLDC Charges</u>					
5300 E - W&F Charges-Footway Light	0	4,200	4,200		4,200
5310 E - W&F Charges-Bins	2,080	3,000	920	920	0
E - SLDC Charges :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>2,080</u>	<u>7,200</u>	<u>5,120</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>4,200</u>
Net Expenditure	<u>(2,080)</u>	<u>(7,200)</u>	<u>(5,120)</u>		
Grand Totals:- Income	0	0	0		
Expenditure	3,492	11,779	8,287	1,010	7,277
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(3,492)</u>	<u>(11,779)</u>	<u>(8,287)</u>		
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(3,492)</u>				

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Kendal Town Council

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 01/08/2023

Month No: 5

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available
<u>900 Projects - Climate Change</u>					
9040 Climate Town Centre Recom.Hub	0	30,000	30,000		30,000
9060 Climate Zero Carbon Kendal	265	530	265		265
Projects - Climate Change :- Indirect Expenditure	265	30,530	30,265	0	30,265
Net Expenditure	(265)	(30,530)	(30,265)		
<u>910 Projects - Biodiversity</u>					
9120 Bio Dark Skies Campaign	0	5,000	5,000		5,000
9125 Bio 2nd Round-Biod Grants	750	2,400	1,650		1,650
9127 Bio Wildflowers Kendal Green	0	56	56		56
9129 Bio Canal Head Wetlands	0	500	500	11	489
9130 New Projects TBC	320	3,000	2,681		2,681
Projects - Biodiversity :- Indirect Expenditure	1,070	10,956	9,887	11	9,875
Net Expenditure	(1,070)	(10,956)	(9,887)		
<u>920 Projects - 20MPH</u>					
9200 20 MPH	0	18,400	18,400		18,400
Projects - 20MPH :- Indirect Expenditure	0	18,400	18,400	0	18,400
Net Expenditure	0	(18,400)	(18,400)		
<u>930 Projects -Cycling & Walking</u>					
9300 C&W Footpath Quality Audit	0	12,000	12,000		12,000
9305 C&WKirkbarrow Connections	2,538	10,114	7,576		7,576
9307 C&W Kendal Castle Pump Track	0	2,000	2,000		2,000
9308 C&W Cllrs Contributions	0	6,700	6,700		6,700
9310 C&W Signage Improvements	0	4,000	4,000		4,000
9315 C&W 22/23 LCRP Cont	0	5,000	5,000		5,000
Projects -Cycling & Walking :- Indirect Expenditure	2,538	39,814	37,276	0	37,276
Net Expenditure	(2,538)	(39,814)	(37,276)		
<u>935 River Corridor Connectivity</u>					
9600 River Corridor Connectivity	0	2,708	2,708		2,708
River Corridor Connectivity :- Indirect Expenditure	0	2,708	2,708	0	2,708
Net Expenditure	0	(2,708)	(2,708)		

Continued over page

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Kendal Town Council

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 01/08/2023

Month No: 5

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available
<u>940 Projects - Green Spaces Impro</u>					
9130 New Projects TBC	0	7,725	7,725		7,725
9400 Green Bowling Fell Project	0	7,000	7,000		7,000
9410 Green Fellside Play Provision	2,236	5,000	2,764	180	2,584
9411 Green Mintsfeet Development	0	7,500	7,500		7,500
9415 Green Fletcher Park	0	210	210		210
Projects - Green Spaces Impro :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>2,236</u>	<u>27,435</u>	<u>25,199</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>25,019</u>
Net Expenditure	<u>(2,236)</u>	<u>(27,435)</u>	<u>(25,199)</u>		
<u>950 Projects -Public Realm Enhance</u>					
9506 PR Kendal Yards	0	2,500	2,500		2,500
9507 PR Oxenholme Signage	0	4,014	4,014		4,014
Projects -Public Realm Enhance :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>6,514</u>	<u>6,514</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,514</u>
Net Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>(6,514)</u>	<u>(6,514)</u>		
Grand Totals:- Income	0	0	0		
Expenditure	6,109	136,357	130,248	191	130,057
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(6,109)</u>	<u>(136,357)</u>	<u>(130,248)</u>		
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(6,109)</u>				

Kendal Town Council

Agenda Report

Committee: Environment & Highways	Meeting Date: 11 th September
From: Development Manager	Agenda No: 09
Description: Pesticides Policy	

Background

Members considered a paper regarding the use of Pesticides at the previous committee meeting.

Officers were tasked with confirming Kendal Town Council's current use of Pesticides and drafting a policy statement accordingly to potentially enable a positive dialogue with Westmorland and Furness Council regarding their use of pesticides which includes the use of glyphosate-based herbicides on pavements and in parks.

Additionally, officers were asked to provide examples of other Councils which had ceased to use pesticides for weed control, and alternative methods adopted. This is provided on the second page of this report.

Proposal

1. To consider approval for the following Kendal Town Council Pesticides Policy statement.

As of 2018 the Town Council stopped using pesticides on empty allotment plots, at the bus station and at various step locations. The Council continued to utilise a small amount for the maintenance of the Cumberland Triangle on Longpool to manage the weeds.

As of August 2023, the Town Council no longer owns pesticides and is developing an alternative weeding solution for the Cumberland Triangle, potentially by planting Thyme densely in the cracks between paving to out-compete weeds.

All Japanese knotweed incidents are referred to Westmorland and Furness Council. If Japanese knotweed is discovered on any land owned by Kendal Town Council, we will notify W&F Council and follow their advice to address it appropriately.

Pesticide use by allotment tenants is currently allowed however it is discouraged. Tenancy agreements could be changed to ban pesticide use in the future if led and agreed by the Allotment committee.

2. To consider sharing the above statement with W&F Council to initiate discussions regarding best practice.
3. To consider approval of £150 Biodiversity funding to plant creeping thyme at the Cumberland Triangle.

Pesticide-free towns: Selection of Case Studies

Further case studies are available at: <https://www.pan-uk.org/pesticide-free-towns-success-stories/>

Council	Pesticide free since	Approach taken	Further notes
Glastonbury Town Council	2015	Using Foamstream in all public areas of the town since 2015.	Banned the use of glyphosate and moved to pesticide free methods. The first UK council to do so. Encouraging other public visitor sites and managers to switch to safe, non-toxic, treatment. See Glastonbury Charter for the Environment: https://glastonbury.gov.uk/council/
Wadebridge Town Council, Cornwall	2016	Use a self-drive powered brush weeder, gas flame, strimmer and hand weeding.	“Local support in the community has always been strong, once the public are educated and get used to seeing things different they understand and agree to the cause.” https://www.wadebridge-tc.gov.uk/wadebridge-the-town/pesticide-free-wadebridge.html
Hammersmith & Fulham Council	2016	Hot foam treatment across parks and estates, hot water treatment for roadside weeds + hand weeding where needed	https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2017/07/hf-unveils-new-chemical-free-weeding-treatments
Lewes District, East Sussex	2017	Foamstream	Reported positives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring out equipment to other authorities and landowners can generate income for council • Can also be used to remove graffiti and chewing gum • Can be used during winter when staff are less busy • Pesticide certification not required for operatives Reported negatives: Takes longer to apply, requires more applications https://www.localgov.co.uk/Getting-into-a-lather-over-weed-control/44574

Brighton and Hove City Council	Pledged in 2019 to be pesticide free by 2022	<p>3-year phase out of glyphosate following best practice recommended by Pesticide Action Network UK.</p> <p>“We will be limiting the use of glyphosate to lower footfall areas only and using other new technologies including hot foam, infra-red technology and other solutions to ensure only the minimum amount of pesticide required is used.” – Cllr Pissaridou</p> <p>https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/news/2019/council-promises-be-pesticide-free-2022</p>	<p>The phase out has taken place in tandem with a communications/education campaign on celebrating seasonal plant diversity.</p> <p>https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/news/2023/celebrating-seasonal-plant-species-you-can-see-brighton-hove</p> <p>A “Weed warrior” volunteer team also exists.</p> <p>https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-streets/streets/volunteer-weed-warrior</p>
Peterlee, Durham	2018	<p>A blanket ban on the use of glyphosate be applied within areas owned and managed by Peterlee Town Council. This being supported with a manual strimming regime, 3 times a year, April, July and October, this cycle being managed with existing team resources. This to be supported with a public information exercise letting residents know of this decision.</p>	<p>https://peterlee.parish.durham.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/37/minutes-agendas-newsletters/MinutesCE_2018-12-10.pdf</p>

Kendal Town Council

Agenda Report

Committee: Environment & Highways	Meeting Date: 11th September
From: Projects Officer	Agenda No: 10
Description: Dark Skies	

Background

Dark Skies Cumbria, a Friends of the Lake District initiative, has selected Kendal as one of the project's pilot communities. Dark Skies Cumbria aims to reduce light pollution for the benefit of human health and wellbeing, for nocturnal wildlife, and to save energy, money, and greenhouse gas emissions. This can be achieved by replacing unsuitable lighting with more efficient, targeted lighting of an appropriate colour spectrum.

KTC has previously supported the Dark Skies initiative by contributing to new dark skies compliant lighting on Cliff Terrace as well as via an awareness-raising "Switch Off" as part of the 2022 Christmas Lights Switch On event. Features in the KTC newsletter have highlighted the Cliff Terrace lighting and a case study of lighting installed by Belmont residents.

Councillors have previously allocated £5000 towards supporting Dark Skies initiatives in Kendal. KTC owns 30 footway lights, many of which require modernisation to become Dark Skies compliant.

An additional £500 has been contributed by Dark Skies Cumbria towards this initiative.

Proposal

1. To consider approval for the following Dark Skies improvements to lights owned by Kendal Town Council;
 - Supply, installation and associated project management costs to replace 5 heritage lamp heads at Cliff Brow, Stoney Lane, New Inn Yard, Gulf's Lane and Woolpack Yard with dark sky compliant lighting.

Total cost: £5491. [£5000 from Dark Skies (biodiversity) budget plus £500 contribution from Dark Skies Cumbria.]

2. To consider approval for complementary improvements to restore two heritage lighting columns on Stoney Lane and Cliff Brow at a cost of £590 from Infrastructure Maintenance budget (£2196 currently available).

Kendal Town Council

Agenda Report

Committee: Environment & Highways	Meeting Date: 11 th September
From: Development Manager	Agenda No: 11
Description: Bowling Fell	

Background

Members allocated £7000 towards improvements at Bowling Fell. Due to LGR former SLDC Officers were unable to meet and discuss potential improvements when the funding was first allocated. A meeting has now taken place and the following suggestions are supported by W&F Council Officers.

Proposal

To consider approval for the following improvements up to the allocated amount of £7000.

- Install handrail on the steep steps that lead up to Bowling Fell from Garth Heads
- Install signage on the accessible step entrances from Garth Heads
- Install an interpretation panel, in keeping with Kendal Castle interpretation, to describe the heritage of the area.