

# Kendal Town Council

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



10 October 2023

To Members of the Kendal in Bloom Committee

Cllr A Blackman (Chair)	J Cottam
Cllr D Brown	C Stuart-Smith (Horticulture)
Cllr L Hendry	Toni Yates (Kendal Civic Society)
Cllr R Sutton	
One Vacancy	

You are invited to a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee on Tuesday, 17 October 2023, at **6.00 p.m.**, in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal. Details of the meeting can be found on the Town Council's website. [www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk).

**(Distributed to other Members of the Council for information only.)**

Yours faithfully

Chris Bagshaw  
Town Clerk

## Public Participation

Any member of the public who wishes to ask a question, make representations or present a deputation or petition at this meeting should apply to do so before the commencement of the meeting. Information on how to make the application is available on the Council's Website - <http://www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk/kendal-town-council/statutory-information/guidance-on-public-participation-at-kendal-town-council-meetings/> or by contacting the Town Clerk on 01539 793490.

### 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 the Local Government Act 1972, S.85.

### 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 from the Last Meeting (pages 3 to 6)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 25 July 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record (see attached).

**5. Minute Action Sheet (page 7)**

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

**6. Review of Spend against Budget 2023/24 (page 8)**

To note the Committee's spend against budget (see attached).

**7. Budget Review 2024/25 (page 9)**

To consider the budget requirements for the next financial year (see attached).

**8. Kendal, Cumbria and Britain Bloom 2023 (page 10)**

To receive an update report on the bloom initiatives 2023.

**9. KIB Grant Application (pages 11 to 13)**

To consider a grant application from Kendal Green Community Group.

**10. Civic Planting Maintenance**

To review the current maintenance schedule and identify specific areas that require attention (verbal report).

## Kendal Town Council

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**Minutes of a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on Tuesday, 25 July 2023, at 6.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.**

### Kendal Town Council Members

Cllr A Blackman (Chair)	Present	Cllr D Brown	Present
Cllr L Hendry	Present	Cllr R Sutton (Vice-Chair)	Present

### Co-optees

J Cottam	Absent	C Stuart-Smith (Horticulture)	Present
A Yates (Kendal Civic Society)	Present		

**In attendance:** Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk), Inge Booth (Democratic Services Assistant), Janine Holt (Council Services Officer) and Pierre Labat (Townscape Officer).

**Note – In the absence at the commencement of the meeting of Cllr A Blackman (Chair), Cllr R Sutton (Vice-Chair) took the Chair for the entirety of the meeting.**

### B1/2023 Apologies

Whilst an apology for absence was received and accepted from Cllr A Blackman (Chair), he arrived shortly after the commencement of the meeting.

### B2/2023 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were raised.

### B3/2023 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues were considered for exclusion.

### B4/2023 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**Resolved:** To receive and accept the minutes of the previous meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on 11 April 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

### B5/2023 Minute Action Sheet

The Committee considered a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings.

*B29/2022 (Kendal in Bloom 2023)* – The Town Clerk reported that he would be writing at the end of the week to the Palace to invite King Charles to view the thrones.

*B26/2022 (Review of Spend against Budget)* – A comment was raised in relation to the planters at Stricklandgate House for which the Committee had earmarked a sum of £500 for the supply of soil, compost and plants, attention being drawn to the vast improvement in appearance.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

### **B6/2023      Review of Spend against Budget 2022/23**

The Council Services Officer presented a review of spend against budget 2022/23 as at 11 July 2023. She advised the Committee that there would be no calls on the budget at this evening's meeting.

**Resolved:** To note the Committee's spend against budget at 11 July 2023.

### **B7/2023      Location of Rotary Crocus Planting 2023**

The Council Services Officer reported that the Rotary had purchased 4,000 Ruby Giant (purple) crocuses, 4,000 Chryanthus Romance (Gold crocuses) and 500 Tete a Tete small daffodils with a grant which had been awarded by the Kendal in Bloom Committee.

The Rotary members had suggested that they plant the majority round the slope of the Coronation Garden on Kirkland. They felt that it would make a good display at the entrance to Kendal. The grass was kept quite short in this location and so the flowers would be clearly visible. Alternatively, the Rotary would be happy to split the bulbs between a couple of sites and suggestions were welcomed. Planting of bulbs usually took place in November.

Members expressed support for the planting of the majority of bulbs at the Coronation Garden. Also suggested was the potential for planting a number of bulbs at Little Aynam, with Westmorland and Furness Council first being approached for permission.

**Resolved:** Subject to the Rotary's agreement to splitting the planting, the Committee suggests that the bulbs be split equally between the Coronation Garden on Kirkland and at Little Aynam, with Westmorland and Furness Council's consent first being sought with regard to those bulbs to be planted at Little Aynam.

### **B8/2023      Development of Civic Planting Strategy**

The Council Services Officer reported that the civic planting contract had last been reviewed in 2019. This had been a light touch review, with the contract requirements having remained largely unchanged. Since then, weather patterns had changed quite considerably, and this had had a direct impact on the types of plants which thrived and the ongoing maintenance of the plants. The current planting scheme was very water intensive.

The contract was due for renewal in summer 2024. It was evident that the current requirements were outdated and were not sustainable in the long term. The contract renewal process provided the ideal opportunity to undertake a thorough review of the service and to make appropriate changes for the future.

Due to the complexity of the issue, the need for specialist input had been highlighted. The Committee was being asked to consider appointing an independent specialist who would review all the current civic planting procedures and would make recommendations for the future scheme. These recommendations would be used as the foundation for the development of a planting strategy in Kendal.

The Committee supported the proposal, acknowledging the need to put thought into the future management of civic planting. During discussion, the potential for any future sustainable scheme to be used as education for others was raised.

The Council Services Officer undertook to return to the next meeting with a firmer plan with costings.

**Resolved:** To support the proposals for the appointment of an independent specialist to undertake a review of the civic planting in Kendal, the Council Services Officer to bring a further report detailing a firmer plan with costings.

### **B9/2023      Kendal, Cumbria and Britain Bloom 2023**

The Vice-Chair in the Chair took the opportunity to comment on how well the planting throughout the Town was looking and thanked all involved for their hard work.

The Council Services Officer provided a verbal update on the bloom initiatives 2023.

She first drew attention to the Kendal in Bloom competition pointing out that there had been a huge response, with a number of businesses and schools having been involved. The schools' thrones were currently in the Town Council's care and would be brought out again for the judging of Britain in Bloom the following week. The Committee expressed thanks to Horticare for their part in caring for the flowers which formed part of the thrones. Competition certificates would be issued at a celebration around September/October time, and the Council Services Officer sought suggestions from the Committee on the type of event that should be held. It was felt that this should be one event for both schools and businesses, either on a weekend or around 5.00 p.m., to be held in the Town Council Chamber with refreshments, with information on current Town Council initiatives being on display at the event. Also raised was the potential to hold an annual throne making for the Mayor of Kendal competition. The potential of displaying the thrones in the Town Hall Foyer on Britain in Bloom judging day was raised and officers undertook to find out whether this might be possible.

The Council Services Officer referred to the recent visit by Cumbria in Bloom judges and to the useful feedback which would assist in preparation for Britain in Bloom judging day. The Cumbria in Bloom awards ceremony would take place on 17 October and would again be hosted by Kendal Town Council.

The Council Services Officer drew attention to the fact that judging for Britain in Bloom would take place on Friday, 4 August. She circulated a copy of the tour itinerary which also showed that both the Council Services Officer and Cllr L Hendry would be accompanying the judges on the tour. A lengthy discussion ensued around volunteers, photographs, display boards, and current road closures and contingencies. The Council Services Officers pointed out that there would be a littler pick on the evening before the event, with herself and the Townscape Officer due to perform and additional check early on the following morning prior to the arrival of the judges, with particular attention to be paid to Aynam Road and Nobles Rest. She stressed the need for volunteers to follow the route ten minutes before the formal entourage in order to troubleshoot and ensure that all ran smoothly on the day and to check that the volunteers were in place. She also intended to ask Westmorland and Furness to use road sweepers in a number of areas. Attention was drawn to the need to ensure that the Old Police Yard was tidied up, as this area would be included within the tour so that judges could be informed that Kendal was a working town, that this was an urban landscape and that work was being carried out to enhance such areas. The tour would commence at the Town Hall with refreshments and all Members were invited to attend lunch at the Unitarian Chapel at 12.30 p.m. at the end of the tour in order to talk with the judges. The

Council Services Officer emphasised the need for the judges to experience positivity from those people that they talked to throughout the day.

The Vice-Chair in the Chair thanked the Council Services Officer for her update.

**Resolved:** To note the verbal update.

The meeting closed at 7.48 p.m.

## Kendal-in-Bloom Committee - Minute Action Sheet - as at 10-10-23

Ref. No.	Meeting Date	Minute No.	Title	Action (Resolution)	Officer Responsible	Deadline, if any	Date Actioned	Comments
1	13/02/2022	B29/2022	Kendal in Bloom 2023	To invite King Charles, on behalf of the Committee and the Mayor of Kendal, to view the chairs at some	CB			
2	25/07/2023	B7/2023	Location of Rotary Crocus Planting 2023	Subject to the Rotary's agreement to splitting the planting, the Committee suggests that the bulbs be split equally between the Coronation Garden on Kirkland and at Little Aynam, with Westorland and Furness Council's consent first being sought with regard to those bulbs to be planted at Little Aynam	JH		Ongoing	9.10.23 contacted W&F to seek permission to plant bulbs
3	25/07/2023	B8/2023	Development of Civic Planting Strategy	To support the proposals for the appointment of an independent specialist to undertake a review of the civic planting in Kendal, the Council Services Officer to bring a further report detailing a firmer plan with costings	JH		Ongoing	During Aug 23 JH undertook a site visit with a contractor, costing to produce a detailed report have been received. A further 2 quotes will be sought.

26/09/2023

## Kendal Town Council

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## Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 01/09/2023

Month No: 6

## Cost Centre Report

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>440</u> <u>Kendal In Bloom</u>							
4900 KIB Floral Displays	21,444	14,148	26,500	12,352		12,352	
4905 KIB Projects & Grants	8,114	724	8,500	7,776	300	7,476	
4910 Other Expenses	322	0	0	0		0	
Kendal In Bloom :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>29,880</u>	<u>14,872</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>20,128</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>19,828</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<u>(29,880)</u>	<u>(14,872)</u>	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>(20,128)</u>			
Grand Totals:- Income	0	0	0	0			
Expenditure	29,880	14,872	35,000	20,128	300	19,828	
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>(29,880)</u>	<u>(14,872)</u>	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>(20,128)</u>			
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<u>(29,880)</u>	<u>(14,872)</u>					



# Kendal Town Council

## Agenda Report

Committee: Kendal in Bloom	Meeting Date: 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
From: Town Clerk	Agenda No. 7
Description: Draft Budget 2024-25	

Summary: *The committee is asked to consider the Draft Budget, amend as required and forward it the Management Committee and the full Council.*

### DRAFT Budget 2024-25

The Committee must consider its expenditure aims for the next financial year, and make recommendations to the Council. Expenditure should be in keeping with the aims of the Council Plan.

The following shows the current budget and estimated outturn. The next column shows the estimated amount required in the next financial year to complete the Council's actions. The final column shows the percentage variance on the previous year's budget.

Item	Current year	Expected outturn	Proposed 24-25	% variance
<b>Floral Displays</b>	26,500	26,500	30,000	+13.2%
<b>Projects and Grants</b>	8,500	6,000	6,000	-29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>32,500</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>+2.9%</b>

The Floral Display contract is currently up for renewal, and we anticipate a new contract will be in place for the winter of 2024, with Continental Landscapes continuing cover through their existing agreements in the summer of 2024. For this reason we feel it is necessary to give the contract value some headroom, as there is a great deal of volatility in the Grounds Maintenance market currently.

The Projects and Grants budget has been less well used in the last couple of seasons, so it seems appropriate to reduce this commensurately, bringing down the total budget to one that is effectively increased by a below-inflation amount.



# Kendal Town Council

## Agenda Report

Committee: Kendal in Bloom	Meeting Date: 17.10.23
From: Council Services Officer	Agenda No.: 8
Description: Kendal, Cumbria and Britain in Bloom initiatives	

Summary: *The committee are asked to note the report*

### Britain in Bloom

The judges visited Kendal on 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The judging tour went, the results will be announced on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. A small group consisting of the Mayor, Cllrs Blackman & Hendry and the Council Services Officer will attend the awards ceremony in London.

### Cumbria in Bloom

The awards ceremony is scheduled on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm, Kendal Town Hall. The Mayor will be present at the ceremony and has been asked to present certificates. The Cumbria in Bloom visit was a useful experience, it helps us modify the route for Britain in Bloom. The members are asked to consider participation in the CIB initiative next year.

### Kendal in Bloom

The awards ceremony and celebratory tea will be held 5.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> November. A save the date has been circulated to all participants, a formal invite will go out within the next week. The Town Hall has been provisionally booked but I am currently exploring the feasibility of using the Castle Green Hotel. The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Cornthwaite has confirmed his attendance and will present the certificates.

I would like to ask the group to consider if they wish to present vouchers as in previous years or just a certificate of participation?

I am also looking for a volunteer who will open the ceremony with a few words and bring the event to a close after the presentations.

I am hoping to keep the event informal with the celebratory tea a 'thank you' for all participants.

### Recommendation

That Committee members are asked to note the report and asked to consider whether they want to participate in the Cumbria in Bloom initiative 2024.

## “There Is No Planet B”

### A statement about the rewilding of the greens at Kirkbie Green

KGCG was established in late 2021 to act as a connecting focus for the general interests and welfare of residents. Kirkbie Green is a small estate of 40 homes built in 1998, close to Kendal town centre. KGCG is a cooperative and run successfully by a small group of volunteers. KGCG was established to help build holistic community resilience - we now wish to be more ambitious, particularly in our environmental goals.

With the support of Persimmon, we have negotiated to have the greens managed in more socially and environmentally friendly ways. The greens were originally established in the late 1990s for the benefit of Kirkbie Green residents not as public amenities; over time, there has been some neglect and partial dereliction. Since KGCG was established, residents have begun to be more active in addressing these issues. Shrubbery has been pruned, dog fouling issues have been addressed, signage has been improved and pathways have been made clearer. However, the southern green needs attention to help accelerate the rewilding of the area.

Why is this important? Because nature is our life support system and small-scale initiatives are needed to help nature heal itself and to heal us. Danger of species extinction, particularly bird, insect and amphibians, alongside catastrophic climate change threatens all life on earth. In a small but significant way, we wish to create an exemplar of rewilding ‘best practice’. We aim to do this by encouraging a positive approach to biodiversity and restoring ecosystems, some of which have inadvertently trashed.

But we do need help. Specifically, we aim to fulfil the following goals:

- Placing large tree trunks along the pathways to create ‘bug hotels’ that provide a valuable habitat for pollinators and other insects
- Installing bird boxes to encourage nesting of, for example, swifts, starlings, sparrows, redstarts, robins, wrens, various species of tits and owls
- Installing bat boxes to address the significant decline in numbers, the fewer roosting sites within buildings and the loss of suitable feeding habitats
- Conducting, with the support of RSPB, a bird, bat and hedgehog census to record the variety of species and to monitor changes over time
- Consulting with organisations such as KTC, EA, Kendal Conservation Volunteers et al, to discuss possibilities for rewilding the area incl. planting of meadow grasses, flowers and ferns
- Continuing to encourage pedestrians, dog walkers, cyclists and motor cyclists to respect the greens, use the pathways support the rewilding efforts.
- Produce new signage to indicate clearly Sustrans Route 6, paths into town + to Kendal Castle

We hope this brief statement of intent attracts positive support from of our partners, especially Persimmon, KTC, VolkerStevin + EA, in our endeavours to create a wildlife haven for the enjoyment of all. There is no planet B!

For more information contact:




~~Bob [redacted]@kirkbiegreen.co.uk~~

~~Tom [redacted]@kirkbiegreen.co.uk~~

~~[redacted]@kirkbiegreen.co.uk~~

Please use this form to apply for a Kendal in Bloom Grant from Kendal Town Council. You must complete all the boxes on the form and submit it along with the required paperwork. On receipt of this form you will be given a date when your application will be considered by the relevant committee. You can use additional pages if you require.

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Principal Contact</b>
KIRKBE GREEN COMMUNITY GROUP	BOB GIBBS
<b>Address of organisation</b>	<b>Address of contact</b>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
<b>Date of application</b>	26 March 2023
<b>Telephone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>E-mail</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Description of organisation</b>	
Residents group to improve the area	
<b>How much funding do you require in total?</b>	£1000
<b>How much funding are you requesting from the Town Council (maximum £500)</b>	£500
<b>Have you approached other funding sources? If so, please list them and the amount you have applied for.</b>	No
<b>Tell us what you will do with a grant from Kendal Town Council?</b>	
There are green spaces at each end of KG. We want to create to increase biodiversity and encourage wild life. Reduce grass cutting and plant wild flowers.	
<b>How will your activity benefit the people of Kendal?</b>	
By increasing the production of the plant life and help to improve the air quality.	

<b>How will your activity help to reduce Kendal's Carbon Footprint?</b>					
The more green space we have the more carbon we can capture					
Do you have a constitution? Please send a copy with your application					Yes/No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Bank Details – How does the name of your organisation appear on your bank account? Include your account number and sort code. This is who we will transfer funds to, should your application be successful.					
KCCO, Act No. 00238286, Sort Code 30-14-40 Name: KEEWAN					
Please include the following documents with your application					
Most recent bank statements and last audited accounts					
Constitution of group. This must include a statement on how you promote equality					
<b>Declaration</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I/we understand that grant money from Kendal Town Council must be used for the agreed purpose.</li> <li>• I/we will abide by the conditions of funding.</li> </ul>					
<b>Please note that we do require 3 signatures in order to present your application to Committee.</b>					
Signature		Name	ANNA TRAILL	Position	RESIDENT.
Signature		Name	KEITH TRAILL	Position	RESIDENT
Signature		Name	ROBERT GIBBS	Position	n

Please return completed forms by e-mail or post: Kendal Town Council, Town Hall, Kendal, LA9 4DQ. Email: [office@kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk)

Form ref KTC BG1 2022