

Kendal Town Council

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



12 March 2024

To Members of the Kendal in Bloom Committee

Kendal Town Council Members	Co-optees
Cllr A Blackman (Chair)	J Cottam
Cllr D Brown	C Stuart-Smith (Horticare)
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, 19 March 2024, 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.

(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 5)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 13 February 2024 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record (see attached).

5. Minute Action Sheet (page 6)

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 7)

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

7. Kendal in Bloom 2024 (pages 8 to 11)

To approve the KIB 2024 initiative developed by the working group (see attached).

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Minutes of a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on Tuesday, 13 February 2024, at 6.00pm 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	No present	C Stuart-Smith (Horticulture)	Present
A Yates (Kendal Civic Society)	Present		

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

B20/2023 Apologies

No apologies were received.

B21/2023 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were raised under this item.

B22/2023 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

There were no excluded items on the agenda.

B23/2023 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved: To receive and accept the minutes of the previous meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on 17 October 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

B24/2023 Minute Action Sheet

The Committee considered a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings. Under item 4, the Townscape Officer reported that he had looked at some potential designs for Finkle Street/New Police Yard. It was noted that these would require various consents from property owners and Planning, so had a way to go yet. Finance would be considered later in the meeting.

Under item 5, the plug plants were still with KCV and EA were hoping to 'soft' open the new area this spring.

Under item 6, the Probation Service had replied that the work discussed was not ideally suited to their practices, but they might consider doing other tasks such as renovating bus shelters.

Under item 7 the Clerk confirmed that he was still awaiting news of the management arrangements for the 'Heart of Kendal' scheme.

Resolved: To note the report.

B25/2023 Review of Spend against Budget 2023/24

The Council Services Officer presented a review of spend against budget 2023/24 as at 29 January 2024. It was noted that there was around £14,000 yet to be spent, but a number of items which would require expenditure coming up.

Resolved: To note the Committee's spend against budget at 29 January 2024.

B26/2023 Kendal in Bloom 2024

The Council Services Officer introduced the item, asking the Committee to consider ideas for the Kendal in Bloom initiative 2024. It was noted that the Environment Committee had struggled to gain engagement with schools over a bee house project, and perhaps the Kendal in Bloom committee could use its historically more successful access to achieve this aim – and use the bee house project as a starter for a theme.

A variety of possible other themes were proposed: the river, biodiversity, unity etc. The Chair suggested the matter would best be sorted out by a sub group. Cllr Sutton, Brown and Hendry agreed to join him in this deliberation.

Resolved: That a working advisory group meets at 9.30am on Thu 22nd Feb at the Town Council offices.

B27/2023 Civic Planting

- (a) The Committee considered a report on the current maintenance schedule and the extent of the Townscape Officer's capacity. It was noted that in high season, the council had found it necessary to supplement the workforce to get ensure the watering was completed. The Committee asked about the success of the various wildflowers planting initiatives. The Townscape Officer reported that the location of the planting seemed to be critical. Somervell Garden now looked a little ragged, whereas Aynam and Kendal Green looked more promising. This was related to the relative quality of the soil and their aspect. Slugs were reported as a problem on the delphiniums on the Coronation beds. The ivy screens had proved very difficult to maintain at the right moisture level, and were looking very distressed.

It was noted that Projects passed down from elsewhere in the Council or by the principal authority often lacked cohesive or realistic maintenance plans. The Clerk explained that it was not sufficient for others to assume that Kendal in Bloom could pick up the ongoing maintenance of geographically and horticulturally diverse sites around town without any contribution to their long term upkeep. Several examples were cited, where the presence of a Town Council crest implied an expectation from the public that was not matched with funding from the Project originators.

Resolved: Future projects would require a great deal more thought prior to any adoption. Memoranda of Understanding would be required from third parties, explaining the terms under which any future management would be taken by the Town Council, and the likely ongoing cost.

- (b) The Council Services Officer reported that she had received costs from suppliers for a review of the Council's Planting and Maintenance Strategy, with a view to creating a more sustainable model of civic planting.

The Townscape Officer reported that a new display structure on Finkle Street could be built and installed for around £1,600. It was noted that this would be subject to legal and planning permissions, which may also incur costs.

The Townscape Officer requested £180 to improve the promenade planter by the station.

Resolved: To allocate around £6,000 to generate the report and management plan

Resolved: To allocate £1,600 plus reasonable legal costs for an installation on Finkle Street/ Police Yard.

Resolved: To allocate £180 for promenade planters.

B28/2023 Date of Next Meeting

Consideration was given the date of the next meeting of the Committee which was currently scheduled to take place 19 March 2024.

Resolved: To hold the next meeting of the Committee as scheduled.

The meeting closed at 19.24.

Kendal-in-Bloom Committee - Minute Action Sheet - as at 12-03-24

Ref. No.	Meeting Date	Minute No.	Title	Action (Resolution)	Officer Responsible	Deadline, if any	Date Actioned	Comments
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	The Council Services Officer is awaiting a reply from the independent specialist.
4	17/10/2023	B19/2023	Police Yard Installation	To explore the installation of a metal display arch ensuring costings are included.	PL		Ongoing	To speak with W&F colleagues re: permission and planning consent.
5	17/10/2023	B19/2023	Civic Planting Maintenance	The Town Clerk to liaise with the Environment Agency on the planting at Beeson Fields.	CB		Completed	The Town Clerk will provide feedback to the Committee as and when appropriate.
7	17/10/2023	B19/2023	Civic Planting Maintenance	The Town Clerk to act as the link the Committee and the wider Market Place development group.	CB		Completed	The Town Clerk will provide feedback to the Committee as and when appropriate.
8	13/02/2024	B27/2023	Civic Planting	Future projects would require a great deal more thought prior to any adoption. Memoranda of Understanding would be required from third parties, explaining the terms under which any future management would be taken by the Town Council, and the likely ongoing cost.	JH		Completed	

08:24
Kendal Town Council
Annual Budget - By Centre (Actual YTD Month 12)
Note: Full Budget Statement

		<u>22/23</u>				<u>23/24</u>				<u>24/25</u>		
		Budget	Actual	Brought Forward	Net Virement	Agreed	EMR	Total	Actual YTD	Agreed	EMR	Carried Forward
440	<u>Kendal In Bloom</u>											
4900	KIB Floral Displays	21,500	21,444	0	0	26,500	0	26,500	18,040	30,000	0	0
4905	KIB Projects & Grants	8,700	8,114	0	0	8,500	0	8,500	2,561	6,000	0	0
4910	Other Expenses	0	322	0	0	0	0	0	84	0	0	0
	Overhead Expenditure	30,200	29,880	0	0	35,000	0	35,000	20,685	36,000	0	0
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(30,200)	(29,880)			(35,000)		(35,000)	(20,685)	(36,000)		
	Total Budget Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Expenditure	30,200	29,880	0	0	35,000	0	35,000	20,685	36,000	0	0
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(30,200)	(29,880)			(35,000)		(35,000)	(20,685)	(36,000)		

Pride in Your Community

Kendal Town Council's Bloom Committee are tremendously proud of the horticultural efforts of individuals and community groups across Kendal which led to Silver Gilt Awards in Cumbria-in-Bloom 2023 and Britain-in-Bloom 2023. Attached is our 2023 Portfolio which showcases many of the brilliant, but often unseen, projects across Kendal.

The portfolio reflects the endeavors many different groups make to enhance their community through floral, horticultural and environmental projects as well as efforts to keep their locality clean and tidy. Biodiversity and the protection of wildlife are themes resonating through the portfolio as we respond to the challenges of the recommendations of Kendal's Climate Jury set up a year or two ago.

The Portfolio shows many good reasons to 'feel good' about Kendal and the range of projects featured which all contribute to community well-being.

In 2024 our challenge to you is to add to that 'feel good' factor and further enhance the sense of community well-being by creating.....

‘A Blooming Lovely Display’

.....focusing on the enjoyment of Horticultural. We are asking you, either as an individual or as part of a group, to create a display or showcase an existing feature that will bring pleasure and well-being to individuals and your community. It can be a small or a larger feature and displayed for people to enjoy.

We would like you to experiment with colour and smell, textures and design. You could use flowering or ornament plants, vegetables, fruit, grasses, and maybe even water, the only limit is your imagination. It is an opportunity to embrace your creativity and be innovative with your ideas.

We are seeking a display, to enhance Kendal with a splash of colour and creativity. Committee members are keen to view your displays and meet with you in person.

So for those interested in participating ~~(our challenge is)~~ please note the following.....

- We would like to see the displays in situ by late spring/early summer and throughout the season (if possible).
- We encourage creativity with the use of flowers, vegetables, colours, materials etc
- We encourage businesses to display their creations in a prominent position. If the display is outside, ensure it is within the premise boundary and does not obstruct the highway.
- The Chair of the Committee and Mayor of Kendal will visit participating schools to view their displays shortly before the summer term finishes.
- Members of the Committee will view community and business displays during the summer.
- Please provide digital photos of your creations which can be used on our social media and Kendal Town Council website
- The initiative will be promoted via social media, leaflet drop to businesses, direct mailing to previous participants and the Town Council website.
- All entries will receive a certificate of participation and be invited to a celebratory tea with the Mayor in November 2024.

How to Enter

We have 3 category entries:-

- Schools
- Community Group-clubs, societies, neighbourhood groups, sports and social clubs etc
- Businesses

Simply email your contact details and entry category to
office@kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk no later than the 31st May 2024.

Cumbria Wild Watch

Cumbria is an amazing place! With mountains, lakes, wooded valleys, estuaries, beaches and cliffs, as well as parks and gardens, we have a fantastic range of different habitats. Cumbria is home to many species, some of which have only been recorded here. We want to better understand what animals and plants are found in Cumbria so in 2024, we are starting an annual Cumbria Wild Watch. We are asking everyone in Cumbria, both residents and visitors, to record the wildlife you see in an hour between 27th and 30th June. Record what you see (plant and animal species), where you see it (grid reference), when you see it (date and time) and who saw it (named observer) – then send your records to us at Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre.

We are putting together lots of helpful advice on our website which we will be updating in the next few months leading up to the Cumbria Wild Watch weekend. You can download and register with the free iNaturalist app to practise recording wildlife ahead of the weekend in June.

You can also get involved by organising an event in your green space or with your community group or linking up an existing event over the Cumbria Wild Watch weekend. This could be a walk in a local park or a hands-on session exploring your school's grounds – or something else entirely! Whatever you organise, tell us about it and we will post your event on our website.

See our website or get in touch with the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre:

<https://www.cbdc.org.uk/get-involved/cumbria-wild-watch/> manager@cbdc.org.uk

What is Cumbria Wild Watch?

A wildlife survey that aims to build a better understanding of the wildlife of Cumbria. We want to find out what species are seen where and in what numbers.

Who can get involved with Cumbria Wild Watch?

Everyone and anyone. The only requirement is that you are within Cumbria on 27-30 June 2024!

What should I record?

Everything you see and that you can confidently identify. If you are not sure what you have seen, you can take a photograph and use iNaturalist to help you identify your sighting. iNaturalist can also be used to record your observations. We want you to tell us about the plants and animals that you see – everything!

How should I take part in Cumbria Wild Watch?

Spend up to an hour observing everything about you. You could be in your garden, in a park or out on a walk. You will need to collect information on what you see, where and when. If you are in a garden or park, many plants will be non-native but still record as many as you can confidently identify.

You can record your observations with a pen and paper or using your smartphone. We suggest downloading the iNaturalist app if you are new to wildlife recording: the app can help identify the species you see from photographs that you take. It can also download your location so there is no need for you to hunt around for grid references etc. For more information about Cumbria Wild Watch and to access resources, please see the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre website.

Cumbria Bee Plan



Background

Pollinators and other insects are under threat, and many are experiencing declines due to habitat

loss, pesticide exposure, disease and climate change.

- Between 1980 and 2013, a third of hoverflies and native bees in Britain experienced declines.
- A third of UK bumblebees are listed as priority species of conservation concern.
- 41% of British butterflies are listed as threatened.
- Between 1970 and 2016, 41% of moth species have decreased in abundance and 32% in distribution.

The Cumbria Local Nature Partnership has recently launched “Cumbria’s Plan Bee - A Pollinator Action Plan”. The plan urges 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. [Cumbria Plan Bee | Saving our pollinators | Cumbria Wildlife Trust](#) The plan also includes actions that can 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. Kendal Town Council have signed a pledge to support pollinating insects

Bee Houses Available

We can provide each school in Kendal with a locally made bee house along 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. If you would like more information or are interested in a bee house for your school, please contact anne-marie@kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk