

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of Kendal Town Council held on Monday, 12th April 2021 at 7.30 p.m. (Via Zoom)

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor A Finch) in the Chair;
Councillors G Cook, J Brook, G Archibald, S Coleman, S Evans, G
Tirvengadam, A Blackman, R Hogg, R Sutton, J Owen, D Rathbone
(Deputy Mayor), J Cornthwaite, J Dunlop, A Edwards, P Gibson, E
Hennessy, H Ladhams, S Long, C Rowley and K Simpson

Also in attendance: Jason Rushworth, Newsquest Reporter

APOLOGIES Councillors C Hogg, T Perkins, G Vincent, M Severn, C Hardy, D Miles
and M Miles

OFFICERS C Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and N King (Council Secretary)

The Mayor opened the meeting with a moment of silence in memory of
the Duke of Edinburgh.

728/20/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

729/20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**730/20/21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (PUBLIC BODIES ADMISSION
TO MEETINGS ACT 1960)**

Council agreed there were no agenda items during consideration of
which the press and public should be excluded.

731/20/21 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1ST MARCH 2021

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on
1st March 2021.

Councillor Coleman proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct
record and signed by the Chair. This was seconded by Councillor
Archibald and carried.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 1st March 2021 be
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

732/20/21 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had spoken to Craig Russell regarding the Torchlight Festival.
The Festival will be held on 24th September this year, the theme being
'Garden of Delights'. A comment from Craig Russell that it had been
good to work with KTC was passed on and thanks were extended to all
those involved in last year's parade.

733/20/21 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Dunlop explained the reason for presenting the Motion at tonight's meeting was to ensure KTC's opinion can be included in the consultation process which ends on 19th April. An amendment to the Motion was proposed by Councillor Dunlop as follows:

"On 9 October 2020 the Secretary of State invited the seven Cumbria councils to submit locally led proposals for unitary local government. The Secretary of State received four proposals from councils in Cumbria. A consultation period is now underway – taking views from the councils which made the proposals, other councils affected by the proposals and the councils in neighbouring areas which may be affected by the proposals.

It is important for the views of Kendal Town Council to be represented.

Kendal Town Council supports the creation of a new Bay Authority, combining the administrative areas of South Lakeland District Council, Barrow Borough Council and Lancaster City Council.

The Council believes that this option:

- a) Represents a credible geography*
- b) Is likely to improve local government and service delivery*
- c) Will benefit from strong strategic and local leadership.*

Amendment:

Whatever the outcome of the consultation KTC confirms its intention to work within whatever unitary authority is decided upon".

Councillor Long seconded the amendment to the proposal and it was carried with 1 abstention.

A general discussion ensued during which several Councillors expressed their views on the creation of a new Bay Authority. There were differing opinions put forward. Some Councillors considered the option would be the best for Kendal and South Lakeland, which would benefit from strong strategic and local leadership, whilst others indicated that they would not be supporting a new Bay Authority. There was a general consensus amongst Councillors, however, that the timing of the consultation was inappropriate given the current pandemic situation.

Councillors voted on the Motion (as amended) with 16 in favour, 1 against and 4 abstentions.

RESOLVED To accept the Motion to support the creation of a new Bay Authority (as amended).

734/20/21 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 15th March 2021 were presented by Councillor Coleman who proposed that they be received.

Councillor Coleman was asked to clarify that the reason for the Kendal Community Emergency Planning Group's request to become a freestanding concern related to funding. A question was also raised concerning the opportunity for input by KTC should this change be approved. It was confirmed that the Group wished to become independent of KTC's finance systems and make their own management and finance decisions. Councillor Coleman believed KTC input would remain welcome.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 15th March 2021 be received.

Councillor Coleman then presented the following recommendations of the Committee:

735/20/21 **Kendal Community Emergency Planning Group (Min 686/20/21)**
To make a recommendation to Council that KCEPG become independent of KTC's finance systems and make their own management and finance decisions as a freestanding concern.

Councillor Coleman proposed that the recommendation be approved. It was seconded by Councillor Edwards and carried.

RESOLVED That Council agree to KCEPG becoming independent of KTC's finance systems and make their own management and finance decisions.

736/20/21 **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (Min 687/20/21)**
It was resolved to recommend the changes to Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to the next meeting of the Council.

Councillor Coleman proposed that the recommendation be approved. It was seconded by Councillor Blackman and carried.

RESOLVED That Council agree to the recommended changes to Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

737/20/21 **Budget Evaluation (Min 689/20/21)**
That Council agree to appoint the Chair of the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee (or the Vice Chair if the Chair is unable to attend) to future Management Committee meetings.

Councillor Coleman proposed that the recommendation be approved. It was seconded by Councillor Sutton and carried.

RESOLVED That Council agree to appoint the Chair of the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee (or the Vice Chair if the Chair is unable to attend) to future Management Committee meetings.

738/20/21 **Annual Meeting of the Council and Mayor Making (688/20/21)**
To consider the arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the Council, Mayor Making, and other meetings (see attached report).

Councillor Coleman proposed that the recommendation be approved. It was seconded by Councillor Owen and carried.

RESOLVED That Council agree to arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the Council, Mayor Making and other meetings as per the report. The new meeting dates being:

- Tuesday 6th April at 6.30pm – Planning Committee
- Monday 12th April at 7.00pm – Annual Town Assembly
- Monday 12th April at 7.30pm – Full Council (Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting to be rearranged)
- Tuesday 4th May – Full Council
- Tuesday 4th May – Annual General Meeting/Mayor Making

739/20/21 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & FESTIVALS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee meeting held on 22nd February 2021 were presented by Councillor Evans who proposed that they be received.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee meeting held on 22nd February 2021 be received.

Councillor Evans then presented the following recommendation of the Committee:

740/20/21 Grant Applications (Minute 625/20/21)

That grants awarded for 2021/22 be maintained as per last year:

Kendal Torchlight Procession - £5,000

Comic Art - £5,000

Kendal Mountain Festival - £5,000

Mary Wakefield Festival - £500

Unity Festival - £1,500

Kendal Wool Gathering - £1,500

Christmas Tree Festival - £500

Cumbria Festival Chorus - £500

Cumbria Opera Festival - £500

Kendal Poetry Festival - £1,500

Councillor Evans proposed that the recommendation be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Owen and carried.

It was highlighted that Committee are welcoming new ideas for events and festivals. Grants of £500 are available for new events it decides to support.

RESOLVED That grants awarded for 2021/22 be maintained as per last year.

Kendal Torchlight Procession - £5,000

Comic Art - £5,000

Kendal Mountain Festival - £5,000

Mary Wakefield Festival - £500

Unity Festival - £1,500

Kendal Wool Gathering - £1,500

Christmas Tree Festival - £500

Cumbria Festival Chorus - £500

Cumbria Opera Festival - £500

Kendal Poetry Festival - £1,500

741/20/21 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st March and 15th March 2021 were presented by Councillor Rathbone who asked Council to receive these minutes.

15th March 2021 - Minute 675/20/21 – Diversion of Public Footpaths at Land North of Laurel Gardens

Councillor Cook pointed out that CCC is responsible for such diversions, not SLDC as stated in the minutes. The Town Clerk clarified that this particular application was submitted by SLDC rather than CCC.

1st March 2021 - Application SL/2021/0102 - Kendal Rugby Club – Change of use of land to allow seasonal camping

Councillor Coleman commented that it would be worthy of review after the summer period to consider how successful the change of use has been. Councillor Rathbone advised he has spoken to SLDC Planning Officers and will pass on informal comments to the appropriate KTC Officer.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st March and 15th March 2021 be received.

742/20/21 ENVIRONMENT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 8th March 2021 were presented by Councillor Owen who proposed that they be received.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 8th March 2021 be received.

743/20/21 KENDAL IN BLOOM COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting held on 17th March 2021 were presented by Councillor Blackman who proposed that they be received.

Councillor Edwards, as Chair of the Sandylands Residents Association, thanked Committee for their support in hopefully bringing the legendary landscape trail to Sandylands later this year.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Kendal in Bloom Committee meeting held on 17th March 2021 be received.

744/20/21 ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 22nd March 2021 were presented by Councillor Finch who proposed that they be received.

Minute 717/20/21- Additional Allotment Land (Work at Canal Head)

Councillor Cook wished to put on record his opinion that the extensive clearance work at Canal Head could have been better handled. Whilst he appreciated time was of the essence, he felt there could have been

greater discussion by the Allotments Committee and/or Full Council. There was no signage or prior notice of the proposed work which has led to the loss of mature trees, woodland, bats, birds and wildlife generally, much to the consternation of residents.

Several Councillors expressed their agreement with Councillor Cook's comments, having been approached by local residents concerned about the work. The Town Clerk explained the work was instigated by SLDC, not KTC. The SLDC Tree Works Department had identified two important aspects of work requiring immediate action and no prior warning was received. He remarked that everybody had been shocked at the speed of the operation.

Councillor Cornthwaite mentioned the area was being considered as a potential site for the proposed pump track. He was advised by the Town Clerk that land at Canal Head is leased as allotment land by KTC.

The Town Clerk was asked to liaise with SLDC to emphasise the importance of prior consultation for work such as that carried out at Canal Head.

- RESOLVED**
1. That the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 22nd March 2021 be received.
 2. Town Clerk to liaise with SLDC to emphasise the importance of prior consultation for work such as that carried out at Canal Head.

745/20/21 OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

A report on the Integrated Care Community was presented by Councillor Sutton following a meeting held on 25th March. The main focus of the meeting had been on mental health issues following the pandemic. The following points were highlighted:

- The acquisition of Highgate Hotel by the Well Community as a base for those with drug and alcohol problems.
- The Harri Bus will be visiting Kendal on 26/27th May.
- There is to be more face to face support available for people as lockdown is lifted.

Councillor Coleman commented that he would be interested to learn more about the work at Highgate Hotel. He thanked Councillor Sutton for his diligent work and this was seconded by Councillor Finch.

746/20/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS

747/20/21 (a) Bank Payments Schedule: February 2021

The Town Clerk presented the Bank Payments Schedule for February 2021 and this was approved.

- RESOLVED** That the Bank Payments Schedule for February 2021 be approved.

748/20/21 (b) Invoices over £3,000

The Town Clerk reported that there was one invoice over £3,000 which required approval. This related to the final payment to Shared Futures,

12.04.2020

Council

the organisers of the Climate Jury. It concludes KTC's relationship with Shared Futures at this stage. The amount for approval was £4,940 plus VAT.

Councillor Coleman proposed that payment of the invoice be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried.

RESOLVED That payment of the invoice over £3,000 be approved.

The meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.

Signature

Date