

# KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of  
Kendal Town Council  
held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 at 7.30 p.m.  
in the SLDC Council Chamber, the Town Hall, Kendal**

**PRESENT** The Mayor (Councillor A Finch) in the Chair;  
Councillors G Cook, P Bramham, J Brook, G Archibald, S Coleman, S Evans, A Blackman, C Hogg, R Hogg, J Owen, D Rathbone (Deputy Mayor), J Cornthwaite, A Edwards, P Gibson, E Hennessy, H Ladhams, S Long, D Miles, M Miles, C Rowley and T Becker

**APOLOGIES** Councillors G Vincent, G Tirvengadam, C Hardy, R Sutton and J Dunlop

**OFFICERS** L Richardson (Town Clerk) and N King (Council Secretary)

**297/19/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**298/19/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**299/19/20 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2019**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on 5<sup>TH</sup> August 2019.

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**300/19/20 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor presented his engagements that had been previously circulated.

**301/19/20 FUNDING OF TWO ADDITIONAL CCTV'S FOR KENDAL**

The possibility of installing two new CCTV cameras in Kendal was discussed at the June Council meeting. Council had indicated support in principle subject to further details.

The Town Clerk advised that an invitation had since been received from the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) to submit a bid for part funding of new CCTV cameras. The deadline for submission of the bid is 30<sup>th</sup> September. PC Suzanne Scott-O'Neil has been working on completing the application form. There are two preferred locations for new cameras, first choice being Gooseholme (with the camera in the vicinity of the Bridge Hotel) and the second choice being at the bottom end of Kirkland

in the vicinity of Gillinggate and Dowker Lane junctions. It is recognised that funding for one camera only may be received dependant on the number of applications received by the PCC.

The cost of each camera including installation is £8k. The grant offer is for £3k, therefore KTC would need to budget for £5k per camera. For two cameras this would be a total of £10k to come from the 2020/21 Development Fund. Ongoing maintenance is also required and there is an annual maintenance package at £1.5k per camera per year. For two cameras this would require an ongoing commitment of £3k.

It was noted that the existing Constabulary CCTV contract expires in December 2022. At this time they are unable to guarantee continuation of the CCTV system past the contract date of December 2022.

Council were asked to discuss whether they wished to bid for zero, one or two CCTV cameras.

Councillor Coleman proposed that KTC go ahead with the two additional cameras. He felt this was essential following feedback from the police regarding the need for additional CCTV in Kendal.

A general discussion then ensued with various viewpoints raised. Many Councillors felt there were pros and cons to the proposal. Several Councillors expressed concern about continuation of the CCTV system past the contract expiry in December 2022 and that possibly the cameras would only be operational for a few years. There were also reservations about committing to the ongoing maintenance costs of either £1.5k or £3k per year, depending on whether one or two cameras were installed.

Councillor C Hogg highlighted the potential need to raise the precept if KTC committed future spending on this project. He was of the opinion that it was not KTC's remit to provide these services and the contribution from the PCC should be higher. Councillor Archibald advised it was likely there will be some monies available from SLDC to help town and parish councils with the costs, but could at this stage make no commitment as to value.

Councillor Evans said that although she could recognise the need for the cameras, she felt that had social workers, voluntary groups etc been given more funding to work with youth this might not be necessary. This view was shared by several Councillors and there was a feeling that investment in people rather than cameras might be a better way forward.

The effectiveness of CCTV cameras as a deterrent against crime was raised by Councillor Cornthwaite. Councillor Hennessy said statistics suggest cameras do not have any effect on violent crime or crimes of a sexual nature. Councillor Archibald commented that evidence does exist to suggest that CCTV cameras can help to reduce other types of crime.

Councillor Rowley expressed his concern that by focusing on the town centre, there is a potential to move crime outwards into the estates. Councillor Edwards remarked that the PCSO for the Sandylands area now had an extended area to cover due to lack of staffing in the police force. He shared Councillor Rowley's concern that the presence of a camera in one place might simply move the problem to another area.

As a result of the discussion, Councillor Coleman amended his earlier proposal. He proposed an initial sum of £5k be set aside to purchase one camera, however should SLDC match that amount, KTC would purchase 2 cameras. This was seconded by Councillor Cornthwaite. Members voted with 5 in favour, 14 against and 3 abstentions.

Therefore, the proposal was not passed and no application will be submitted to the Police & Crime Commissioner.

**RESOLVED** That KTC do not submit a bid for part funding for additional CCTV cameras to the Police & Crime Commissioner.

**302/19/20 NATURAL HERITAGE PROJECT**

Councillor Blackman presented a paper prepared by the Assistant to the Town Clerk. He explained that the Kendal in Bloom Committee have been supporting the development of a Natural Heritage Trail (formerly known as the Fern Project) since October 2018. The project uses mainly native plants to tell the story of how and why our local landscape has changed and continues to do so. The trail will eventually connect residents and visitors with the history, heritage and natural environment of the town.

In July 2019 members of the KIB Committee attended a meeting to review and discuss the future of the project. Several recommendations were put forward at that meeting, including a recommendation for funding support up to £950 for this year from the existing KIB Community Budget.

Councillor Blackman explained that the next meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee will be too late for the purchase and installation of the plants. He proposed that Council agree support funding of up to £950 for this year to expand the project. This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried unanimously.

Councillor Blackman, on behalf of the Kendal in Bloom Committee, invited all Councillors to the Kendal in Bloom Awards evening on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.

**RESOLVED** That Council agree to support funding of up to £950.00 for this year to expand the Natural Heritage Project from the existing KIB Community Budget.

**303/19/20 KENDAL VISION**

Councillor Long introduced the 'Kendal Vision' initiative which will help shape a vision for the future of the town to ensure young people come to Kendal to live and work. The Vision will build on the good to meet the challenges the town faces, including flooding, traffic, affordability of housing and low numbers of the young to fill jobs and schools.

Kendal Futures and large employers such as Croppers are involved and have supported the initiative with funding. Consultants are managing the process. Councillor Long talked about ways KTC could support Kendal Vision, including raising awareness and attending specific sessions for Councillors which will provide an opportunity to raise views received from

residents. Details of the Councillor sessions will follow but she highlighted the following general sessions:

Launch: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 12.30pm - 2.00pm

Local business drop-in: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 5pm-7.30pm

Community participation workshops and exhibition: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1.45pm-5.30pm and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 11am—4pm.

Report back presentation: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 6.45pm-8.30pm.

Councillor Rowley expressed some reservations, commenting that any vision should be based on knowledge and facts. He was concerned that the initiative would be running alongside the Citizens Jury currently being organised by the Climate Emergency Group. He suggested that an urgent meeting is required with Kendal Futures to discuss how best to move forward.

Councillor Archibald remarked that he viewed the Citizens Jury and Kendal Vision as complementary initiatives. He expressed his wish to ensure work carried out by KTC on the Action Plan will be taken into consideration.

Councillor C Hogg said Kendal Futures have done a good job in the past of bringing together action plans prepared by various parties in order to look at these as a whole. Councillor Cornthwaite thought it was important to have some way of pulling everything together.

Councillor Long commented that the consultants managing the process have carried out similar projects in other areas of the country with success. She added that whilst climate change is very important, there are other important aspects to be considered for the future of the town.

Councillor Edwards said he would like to see more support for community groups, churches etc and viewed this as being very important for the future of Kendal.

It was suggested by Councillor Brook that the current KTC Action Plan be circulated to all Councillors to refresh memories.

**RESOLVED** That the Town Clerk circulate the current KTC Action Plan to all Councillors.

**304/19/20 MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2020**

The meeting calendar for 2020 was available on Councillors desks.

Councillor Archibald requested that the Management Committee consider the need for a Council meeting in August at their next meeting. Attendance is usually low and other tiers do not hold meetings in August.

**RESOLVED** That the meeting calendar for 2020 be added to the agenda of the next Management Committee meeting to consider the need for a Council meeting in August.

**305/19/20 ENVIRONMENT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were presented by Councillor Owen who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried unanimously.

Councillor Owen provided a brief update in respect of the following:

- 20's Plenty campaign – presentation by Paul Holdsworth and likely request by Cmttee for FY 2020/21 Development Fund support (previously allocated funding was re-allocated).
- Citizens Jury – SLDC match funding allocated so now £10k of the £20k required had been raised. He is in discussion with the Chair of the CCC Local Area Committee over funding.
- Active Travel – initial meeting of sub-group now held.

Members were also asked to consider a recommendation from the Environment & Highways Committee that Friends of Fletcher Park be permitted to use the £2k allocated for fencing for other works in the Park (Minute 191/19/20). Councillor Owen proposed that permission be granted. This was seconded by Councillor Edwards and carried unanimously.

Councillor Rowley highlighted the Business Case for a Citizen's Jury in Kendal which was appended to the minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting and urged Councillors to read it.

Minute 186/19/20, Biodiversity & Ecology, was brought to Members' attention by Councillor Archibald. He remarked that it was the responsibility of all levels of local government to take this issue seriously. He will be presenting a paper at the next meeting of the Allotments Committee and requested suggestions/thoughts from Councillors. He further requested that the matter be added to the agenda of the next Management Committee meeting for further consideration of how KTC could increase our role.

Councillor Brook referred to minute 176/19/20 regarding Somervell garden maintenance and requested clarification. The Town Clerk explained that £500 is budgeted annually for maintenance which is usually ample, however every few years additional funds are required for tree pruning work. She advised that there is no ask for additional money this financial year.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.
2. That Friends of Fletcher Park be permitted to use the £2k allocated for fencing for other works in the park.
3. That Biodiversity & Ecology be added to the agenda of the next Management Committee meeting.

**306/19/20 AUDIT, GRANTS & CHARITIES COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 were presented by Councillor Cook who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor

Brook and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Audit, Grants & Charities Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**307/19/20 ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were presented by Councillor Finch who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**308/19/20 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 were presented by Councillor Rathbone who asked Council to receive these minutes.

Councillor Blackman congratulated Councillor Rathbone and the Planning Committee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate to dismiss the appeal lodged in respect of land adjacent to the north side of Natland Mill Beck Lane. Councillor Rathbone replied that it was a relief to the residents of Natland Mill Beck Lane and surrounding areas, as well as the town as a whole.

Councillor Owen highlighted the proposed redevelopment of the former Kendal Magistrates' Court on Burneside Road. He advised that the developer was taking great care to engage residents and all tiers of government. He explained that the Environment & Highways Committee were looking at ways of improving the Dockray area as a whole including highways access and considered the proposed redevelopment would be an enhancement.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 be received.

**309/19/20 OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Kendal Brewery Arts Centre Trust – Cllr Sutton

In the absence of Councillor Sutton, Members noted the report and no questions were raised.

**310/19/20 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**311/19/20 (a) Bank Payments Schedule: July 2019**

The Town Clerk presented the Bank Payments Schedule for July 2019. It was proposed by Councillor Finch that the Bank Payments Schedule for July 2019 be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the Bank Payments Schedule for July 2019 be approved.

**312/19/20 (b) Invoices over £3,000**

The Town Clerk reported that there was one invoice over £3,000 which required approval as follows:

Continental Landscapes Ltd – for the supply and planting of summer planting - £9,738.00 plus £1,947.60 VAT, total £11,685.60. This was in line with the contract.

Councillor Blackman proposed that the invoice be paid. This was seconded by Councillor Hennessy and carried unanimously.

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

The meeting ended at 8.49 p.m.

Signature .....

Date .....