

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of
Kendal Town Council
held on Monday, 4th November 2019 at 7.30 p.m.
in the Town Council Chamber, the Town Hall, Kendal**

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

APOLOGIES Councillors S Coleman, M Severn, G Tirvengadam, C Hardy, C Hogg, R
Hogg and R Sutton

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

522/19/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

523/19/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

524/19/20 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2019

Members considered the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on
7TH October 2019.

Councillor Blackman referred to minute 439/19/20 regarding Cumbria in
Bloom feedback and advised that an invitation to enter the 2020 Britain in
Bloom competition had subsequently been received. Entry will be
submitted subject to budget availability.

Councillor Owen 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 7th October 2019 be
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

525/19/20 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor presented his engagements that had been previously
circulated.

Councillor Blackman asked the Mayor whether he would be attending
any Mountain Festival events given our grant to this festival. The Mayor
replied that we had made contact with them and were awaiting a
response.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Rathbone, for
attending an event held by South Cumbria Heroes, commenting that it

had been a good event. Congratulations were passed on to Councillor Edwards' wife who had been awarded a prize.

The Mayor highlighted the Mayor's Charity Concert in conjunction with K-Shoes Male Voice Choir which will be held on Friday 13th December at 7.30pm at St Thomas' Church. Posters were available and the Mayor requested Councillors help to publicise the event.

The Mayor reported that the date for the Morrisons bag packing event for his charities has been changed to Sunday 15th December from 10am to 4pm. He will send out an email and requested Councillors give their availability to help.

The Mayor highlighted the Mayor's Coffee Morning which this year will be held on Saturday 21st December. Volunteers and raffle prizes are needed.

The Mayor reported that the Christmas dinner for Councillors, staff and partners will now be in in held in January 2020.

526/19/20

CROWDFUNDING PROPOSAL FOR CITIZEN'S JURY PROJECT – CLLR ROWLEY

Councillor Rowley put forward a proposal for crowdfunding to raise the remaining funds needed for the Citizens Jury. KTC declared a Climate Emergency in April and, following on from that, the Environment & Highways Committee subgroup proposed to hold a Citizens Jury in Kendal to recommend ways forward for the town. Councillor Rowley reminded Members of the background and advised that £11,000 had been raised out of the £20,000 needed to hold a Citizens Jury.

Members of the Environment & Highways subgroup include people who are seen as national experts on the subject of climate change; Pete Bryant, Mike Berners Lee (Climate Scientist) and Rebecca Willis (independent researcher in climate change policy and practice). Rebecca Willis is also involved in a national move to evaluate Jurys and bring together the results. Councillor Rowley advised that members of the group attended the Cumbria Climate Emergency summit recently and met with other Cumbrian towns going through the process. He commented that many towns are looking to Kendal's lead and the results will have implications for all Cumbrian districts.

Councillor Rowley explained that Crowdfunder have experience of working with local authorities as well as charities. They would collect pledges and pass these on to KTC once the fundraising campaign was complete. Various local businesses have already expressed a desire to support the process. Members were informed that there was a choice to select an "all or nothing" or "keep what you raise" format. If "all or nothing" is chosen pledges are only received if the target is reached. If "keep what we raise" is chosen all pledges are kept whether the project hits target or not.

Councillor Rowley proposed that Council accept a crowdfunding campaign over approximately 2 months. The motion was seconded by Councillor Owen.

A detailed discussion then ensued with differing opinions expressed by Councillors. Councillor Brook raised a question regarding the procurement process and whether this would apply to a crowdfunding campaign. The Town Clerk commented that she had no experience of crowdfunding and it would be prudent to liaise with CALC and NALC for advice.

Councillor Long asked who is expected to fund into the crowdfunding pot. Councillor Rowley explained this would be small employers who would be giving relatively small sums of money and the only way to manage those sums would be through Crowdfunder which would act as a mechanism for collecting monies, rather than a way to persuade people.

Councillor Brook then proposed an amendment to the proposal put forward by Councillor Rowley to accept crowdfunding. The amendment suggested was that any proposal made be subject to investigation of the process and advice received by the Town Clerk.

Councillor Archibald made a further proposal that the Town Clerk investigate the legality behind crowdfunding proposals and accountancy matters. Subject to that, the final decision should be made by the subgroup rather than coming back to Council. Councillor Owen seconded this proposal and asked that the matter be treated with urgency. A general discussion then ensued regarding whether the decision to proceed or not should be made by the subgroup or full Council with various viewpoints expressed. Members voted with 14 in favour, 4 against and 2 abstentions. The proposal was carried.

Members then voted on the substantive motion to support crowdfunding to raise the remaining funding needed for a Citizens Jury which had been previously proposed by Councillor Rowley and seconded by Councillor Owen. There were 16 Members in favour, 2 against and 2 abstentions therefore the motion was carried.

RESOLVED

1. That the Town Clerk investigate the legality behind crowdfunding proposals and accountancy matters. Subject to that, the final decision on whether to accept crowdfunding should be made by the subgroup.
2. To support crowdfunding to raise the remaining funding needed for a Citizens Jury.

527/19/20**OUTSIDE BODIES – RINTELN TOWN TWINNING ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE**

Members were informed that Councillor Dunlop wished to step down as a representative to the Kendal-RintelN Association. Councillor Brook had volunteered to become the new representative. This was proposed by Councillor Cornthwaite, seconded by Councillor Rathbone and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Brook replace Councillor Dunlop as a representative to the Kendal-RintelN Association.

528/19/20**ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 23rd September 2019 were presented by Councillor Finch who proposed that

they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Archibald and carried unanimously.

Councillor Gibson queried the process for dealing with neglected plots. She was concerned about the “neat and tidy” approach for allotments as this did not support the encouragement of wildlife and biodiversity. Councillor Finch remarked that the Allotments Committee are keen to encourage biodiversity, their concern lies where plots are allowed to become very neglected for some period of time. He explained the various steps and communication undertaken when dealing with such cases.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 23rd September 2019 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Councillor Finch then presented the following recommendations of the Committee:

529/19/20 Annual Rent Review (Ref Minute 392/19/20)

That the rent be frozen for this year.

Councillors Finch and Rowley declared an interest in this item as allotment holders. They would not be voting in respect of this item.

Last year the Allotments Committee made a recommendation to Council for a three year rent review as follows:

Year 1 – increase rent by 1p

Year 2 – freeze rent

Year 3 – increase rent by 1p

Members of the Allotments Committee had reviewed the previous recommendation at their last meeting and agreed the rent should be frozen for this year (year 2).

Council were asked to consider the recommendation put forward and a general discussion ensued. It was noted that the 1p increase was per square metre. Councillor Archibald observed that over the 3 year period the rise would be in line with inflation.

Councillor Archibald proposed that the rent be frozen for this year. This was seconded by Councillor M Miles and carried with 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED That the Allotment rent be frozen for this year.

530/19/20 ENVIRONMENT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 30th September 2019 were presented by Councillor Owen who proposed that they be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Environment & Highways Committee meeting held on 30th September 2019 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

531/19/20 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 7th and 21st October 2019 were presented by Councillor Rathbone who asked Council to receive these minutes.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 7th and 21st October 2019 be received.

532/19/20 OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Kendal Integrated Care Delivery Group – Cllr Sutton

In the absence of Councillor Sutton, the Town Clerk presented a report following a meeting of the Kendal Integrated Care Delivery Group. Members noted the report. No questions were raised.

Councillor Finch said he had attended a recent event held by the group at the Leisure Centre. He commented that it was a great event with lots of stalls and information relating to health and wellbeing.

533/19/20 FINANCIAL MATTERS

534/19/20 (a) Bank Payments Schedule: September 2019

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

RESOLVED That the Bank Payments Schedule for September 2019 be approved.

535/19/20 (b) Invoices over £3,000

The Town Clerk reported that there were no invoices over £3,000 which required approval.

The meeting ended at 8.43pm.

Signature

Date