

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Monday 30th September 2019 at 7.00 pm
in The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

- PRESENT** Councillors Jonathan Owen (Chair), Eamonn Hennessy (Vice Chair), Giles Archibald, Susanne Long, Julia Dunlop, Jonathan Cornthwaite, Adam Edwards and Chris Rowley
- APOLOGIES** None
- OFFICERS** Stacy Hurley (Project Manager) and Hazel Belshaw (Temporary Council Secretary)
- 398/19/20** **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
Dawn Humble, Endmoor and District First Responders, Sue Ireland and Bell Burn from Kendal Community First Responders were present for agenda item 13 - Adoption of the BT Phone Box in Oxenholme for a Defibrillator.
- Dawn explained that the First Responders are a group of volunteers providing lifesaving care to the community. All the equipment they use is purchased and maintained by fundraising. Defibrillators are stored in different areas of the community. Currently Oxenholme Stores holds the defibrillator for Oxenholme but the store is due to close soon. A box to house the defibrillator unit will cost either £590 + vat or for a more heavy duty box £850 + vat. Electrical connection is usually £145+ vat with the company that supply the boxes. No costs were available for the notice decals that need to be put up. Ongoing costs of £15 a year for the power, a small heater and a light. Dawn went on to say that there are on average 122 call-outs from Oxenholme per year, some of which a defibrillator is required. The ongoing maintenance and care of the defibrillator would be done by the First Responders. The Chair thanked the First Responders for their time.
- 399/19/20** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 400/19/20** **ORDER OF BUSINESS**
The Chair proposed that item 13 on the agenda (Adoption of the BT Phone Box in Oxenholme for a Defibrillator) be brought forward. This was agreed.
- 401/19/20** **ADOPTION OF THE BT PHONE BOX IN OXENHOLME FOR A DEFIBRILLATOR**
Councillor Hennessy advised Members that the feedback from BT was that they are open to the idea that KTC adopt the phone box. BT would pay for the decommissioning of the phone box, replacement of the glass and 7 years of electricity. Councillor Long asked if residents had been consulted that this box would no longer run as a phone box. It was advised that if agreed the consultation would be a sticker on the phone box to inform people of the intended change directing them to a website with information. The number of calls from that box in the last 12 months were in single figures. Oxenholme Stores is due to close at the end of February

2020 and currently the other defibrillators in that area are at the train station and the Station Inn. There was some discussion by Members if the defibrillator was required in this area although it was highlighted that the funds to buy the defibrillator originally would have been raised by the residents so it would be unlikely they would want it moved to another area. A future mapping exercise may be useful to see where other defibrillators may be placed. It was decided that if there was not enough funds in the E&H budget for the Oxenholme relocation, this could be a Development Fund request. Chair suggested the Committee discuss in the later Review of Spend item.

402/19/20

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH JULY 2019

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July which had been approved by full Council on 2nd September.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 8th July be accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)

403/19/20

Minute 168/19/20 – New Bus Shelter at Valley Drive

Councillor Dunlop advised Members that she does not believe the suggestion of the new bus shelter will go ahead.

404/19/20

Minute 186/19/20 – Biodiversity & Ecology

Councillor Owen asked what progress had been made in inviting the Cumbria Wildlife Trust to present. The Project Manager reported initial interest by Cumbria Wildlife Trust and said that she has been chasing a date to meet to discuss. It is intended this will be an open meeting inviting other Committees. The Project Manager will continue to chase.

405/19/20

PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

The Project Manager presented her update which had been previously circulated. She highlighted the following points:

Kendal Castle Walkway

The signage will be installed in November/December. She has received a ballpark costing from a contractor to repair the batons on the walkway from the Ski Club to Castle. She has also spoken with SLDC to see if this may be something their contractors could quote for as an extension to the planned walkway works. However, it seems the walkway work is currently on hold. Councillor Dunlop advised that the steps were not in a dangerous state. The Project Manager highlighted that there is £2,000 remaining from the directional signage project and the £1,500 in the reserve. Funding for this repair can be discussed under the Review of Spend item.

Low Fellside

The Project Manager has now received the memorandum agreement from CCC and it will be signed under 'Any Other Business.'

Tree Planter Cladding

The latest quote for this is £1,000 each and there are 9 planters. The Project Manager advised she was still waiting on other quotes.

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£4,000 had been set aside in the budget for this so an extra £5,000 would be required to go ahead with all planters. Councillor Cornthwaite suggested looking at Community Service options for quotes e.g. Right to Work. There was a general discussion by Members on how long they would last and if £9,000 was value for money. It was suggested doing one planter to see what it looks like and get opinions from people.

RESOLVED

The Committee will go ahead with one planter at a maximum cost of £1,000. The Project Manager to contact community services.

406/19/20

OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE OF EXPLORE KENDAL SIGNS

The Project Manager advised Members that SLDC have made a request that KTC adopt the Explore Kendal signs, which are currently owned and maintained by SLDC. She advised that the biggest cost is updating them (£2,000-£3,000), although this has just been done and prior to that they had not been updated for 5 years. SLDC have also tried to make them futureproof with the latest update. The maintenance is a clean twice a year and cleaning graffiti as and when it occurs. The Townscape Manager has been supporting with this recently. Insurance for the signs will need to be considered. Councillor Dunlop agreed that it made sense for these to be under the KTC remit.

At this point Councillor Archibald joined the meeting.

Councillor Rowley proposed that the ownership and maintenance of the Explore Kendal signs be accepted following enquiries with our insurers. This was seconded by Councillor Cornthwaite and carried with four abstentions - Councillors Owen, Hennessy, Archibald and Long who are all SLDC Councillors.

RESOLVED

That KTC will adopt the Explore Kendal signs and maintain them.

407/19/20

RE-INVIGORATING THE 20'S PLENTY INITIATIVE

Councillor Rowley advised Members that there is interest in re-invigorating the 20's Plenty initiative. He referred to a survey that took place in 2015. Councillor Archibald had been involved in the original survey and remembers that the only reason it did not go ahead at the time was due to the Councillor leading the initiative stepping down. After the presentation at the last meeting by Paul Holdsworth the Active Travel Group discussed the initiative and felt that reducing speed would not only reduce accidents but would encourage more people to walk or cycle and in turn reduce pollution. Members agreed that it was a good time to resurrect with the Kendal Vision in place. There was a discussion on whether it would apply to residential areas only or the whole town and expert advice would need to be sought and a cost analysis completed. Councillor Archibald proposed that the Committee ask for £12,000 from the FY 2020/21 Development Fund. This was seconded by Councillor Long and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Environment and Highways Committee request £12,000 from the FY 2020/21 Development Fund for the 20's Plenty initiative.

IVY SCREENING PILOT PROJECT

The Project Manager presented the information for the Ivy Screening Project which has been previously circulated. The railings on Windermere Road had been highlighted as an example of the type of location the ivy screens could be installed. This was for the purposes of gathering costs and logistical advice only at this stage. She advised that she had spoken with CCC Highways Department who would consider on a case-by-case basis and do a site visit to check there are no issues with the line of sight. They would also do a consultation with any residents affected. She has also spoken with a company that grows the screens and a design and installation contractor to get some examples of what they would look like. They can be free standing or attached to railings.

There was a discussion by Members on the upkeep of the screens and an idea to ask residents to water during the summer months was an option. For a stretch of 20-30m to be placed on the Windermere Road railings it would cost £11,000, which is half the price of the Green Wall for a much greater area. Members discussed other areas that would be suitable for the screens and also that discussions with the Environment Agency would be appropriate for the flood walls. There was some concerns raised on the amount of money they will cost. The Project Manager has a detailed document which highlights all the benefits which she will circulate to Members. In principle the Committee agree that it is a good idea. It was suggested that the Project Manager clarify some of their questions and report back at the next meeting with what could be achieved for £5,000-£6,000. Councillors would consider alternative locations. Councillor Cornthwaite to speak to the EA regarding something similar in place on the flood walls. Councillor Rowley thanked the Project Manager for all her work on this project.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager will seek answers to some of the points raised by Members and report back at the next meeting. Councillor Cornthwaite will consult with the Environment Agency. Members to consider alternative locations.

409/19/20

GOOSEHOLME FOOTBRIDGE FOOTPATH MODIFICATION

The Chair highlighted the correspondence from CCC regarding the proposed diversions of public footpaths. The deadline for comments is 11th October. Members noted the letter and will respond individually with any comments.

410/19/20

HANDRAIL PAINTING AT FOUNTAIN BROW

Councillor Archibald asked Members to consider a request to repaint the handrail at Fountain Brow for £191.48 and also the handrail at Undercliff for the same price. It was proposed by Councillor Hennessy to agree the cost of £191.48 each for the repainting of the handrail at Fountain Brow and Undercliff. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to pay £191.48 each for the repainting on the handrail at Fountain Brow and Undercliff.

411/19/20

PURCHASE OF SPEED GUN BACK-UP BATTERY

Members reviewed the request from Councillor Coleman to purchase a back-up battery for the speed gun at the cost of £195

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+ vat. It was proposed by Councillor Archibald to approve the purchase of a back-up battery for the speed gun. This was seconded by Councillor Cornthwaite and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to purchase a back-up battery for the speed gun.

412/19/20

MAINTENANCE AND INSURANCE OF WW1 MEMORIAL PLAQUE ON STRICKLANDGATE

The Project Manager presented a request via the Management Committee, to seek an agreement in principle for the insurance and maintenance of a WW1 memorial installation currently being proposed. She explained that following on from the 2018 Remembrance Trail, an unconstituted group (including representatives from Kendal Civic Society, Kendal Library and The British Legion, as well as individuals such as the Mayor and Ward Councillors) are currently raising funds to install a freestanding WW1 memorial on Stricklandgate, opposite the Library.

There was a discussion by Members regarding insurance implications on which the Project Manager advised she would seek clarity. Members agreed they are supportive in principle once there is clarity regarding the insurance.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree in principle to maintain and insure the WW1 installation on Stricklandgate.

413/19/20

PEACE POLE INTERPRETATION BOARD

The Project Manager advised that this agenda item was brought back from the previous meeting (Minute no. 180/19/20). The original request was from Councillors Blackman and Coleman for an interpretation board to detail the significance of and the symbolism used at the Peace Garden in Abbot Hall. She advised that there are two budgets that could possibly be used, Woolpack Yard or Kendal Castle directional signage.

Councillor Hennessy advised that he has noticed damage to the pole and questioned the longevity. Councillor Archibald asked who is determining the wording. Councillor Edwards suggested it could be included in the walking guide. Members expressed that there was interest but not overwhelming support for the project and suggested that Councillors Blackman and Coleman produce a detailed paper for this request.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Blackman and Coleman produce a paper for this request.

414/19/20

ASSET PLAQUES

The Project Manager advised Members that she had looked into plaques for KTC owned assets at requested at the last meeting. The assets in need of the plaques are the benches, which there are approx. 90 in total. She has a quote from Sun Signs for the KTC logo to be printed on vinyl backed plastic. She has suggested doing ten to start at a cost of £16 each. If it was decided to go ahead with the further 80 benches the cost would be reduced to £8 per plaque. Project Manager has also gained quotes for vinyls to be put on bus shelters and planters. There was a discussion by Members if it was necessary to have the KTC logo on the assets. Councillor Archibald

felt it was a good idea for people to see where their money was being spent. It was proposed by Councillor Owen to approve the cost of £207 for ten plaques to be produced for the KTC benches plus vinyl stickers to be purchased for bus shelters and planters as required. This was seconded by Councillor Hennessy and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee approve ten KTC plaques to be produced for KTC benches and vinyl stickers to be purchased for bus shelters and planters.

415/19/20**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chair suggested that item 19 on the agenda (Active Travel) is a duplicate of item 17 (Active Travel Sub-Committee Update) so he proposed that these items be discussed together under item 17 followed by item 18 (Carbon Neutrality Sub-Committee Update) and item 16 (Green Wall Project Funding). This was agreed.

416/19/20**ACTIVE TRAVEL SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Councillors Owen and Rowley advised Members that a sub-committee has been formed with Paul Holdsworth and Karen Gee from Kendal Cycle Club, as mentioned earlier. Part of the discussion at the last meeting was to get in touch with all the cycling and walking groups in Kendal to collaborate their approach. Cllr Archibald encouraged the sub-group to draw up a map of ambitions for cycle routes in Kendal. Councillor Long reminded Cllrs that the EA want our aspirations so it is important we feedback to them. Cllr Owen told Members that the group were also highlighting issues with the Shap Road route with CCC Councillor Peter Thornton. The Project Manager was asked to check if the confidential cycle map received from CCC can be shown at the sub-group meetings for discussion.

RESOLVED

That Project Manager check the confidential cycle map can be shared at the Active Travel sub-group meeting.

417/19/20**CARBON NEUTRALITY SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Councillor Archibald advised the Committee that KTC had allocated £5K in their budget for the Citizens Jury Project. A further £15K would be required. SLDC have allocated £5K, Councillor Owen has volunteered his £1K SLDC Member Locality Budget and CCC Councillor Nick Cotton has asked for a full request to be submitted to the Strategic Planning Working Group. Councillor Hennessy suggested approaching Friends of the Lake District and Mark Cropper. Councillor Rowley advised that Mark Cropper had been approached without success and he was preparing a submission to Friends of the Lake District. Councillor Cornthwaite suggested speaking to local hotels about a levy. Councillor Rowley will have a stand at the Kendal Vision workshop this weekend to promote. Crowd Funding is planned for the later stages of fundraising. Councillor Archibald suggested communication be made with CCC as they haven't announced a date for being Carbon Neutral yet.

418/19/20**GREEN WALL PROJECT FUNDING**

Members discussed the various projects that could benefit from the Green Wall budget and deliver similar results including 20's Plenty Initiative and the Ivy Screening Pilot Project. Members suggested

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the Ivy Screen Pilot Project come out of the LIP fund for the green wall and asked the Project Manager to confirm if this is possible. The intention would be to use £3k from the Green Wall KTC funding and £3k from the LIP Funding.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager seek approval for £3k of LIP funding to be used to match fund the Ivy Screening Pilot.

419/19/20

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

There were several suggestions for the newsletter including a biodiversity article (focussing on peat free compost etc), the purchase of the speed gun battery and a push on community speed watch. Councillor Archibald suggested an article to highlight the hidden crisis of poverty and what work is being done around this including Credit Union, Councillor work, CAB and universal credit. Other items suggested include Castle Walkway and the First Responders call for volunteers.

420/19/20

REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2019/20

The Committee reviewed the spend against the current budget. The Project Manager highlighted the following points:

- £450 underspend for signage improvements
- £1,063 underspend for the bus shelter improvements

As the bus shelter was a joint project with the shortfall being covered by SLDC, Councillor Archibald suggested the Project Manager write to CCC and SLDC regarding the underspend, letting them know we intend to use it to benefit the community by holding it as a starter fund for the Welcome to Kendal Signs if they are in agreement.

Members approved the £450 signage improvement underspend to be spent on the Castle Walkway repairs with the remaining coming from the Environment Reserve (up to £1,000).

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Project Manager write to CCC and SLDC regarding the Blackhall Road Buss Shelter underspend, letting them know we intend to use it to benefit the community by holding it as a starter fund for the Welcome to Kendal Signs if they are in agreement.
- (ii) That the £450 signage improvement underspend be spent on the Castle Walkway repairs with the remaining coming from the Environment Reserve (up to £1,000).

421/19/20

2020/21 BUDGET – REVIEW OF BUDGET REQUIREMENTS AND PROPOSALS FOR ONE-OFF DEVELOPMENT FUND BIDS

The Committee discussed the budget requirements for FY 2020/21 and Development Fund project bids.

Councillor Cornthwaite suggested the Flood Relief Scheme working group would be looking for funding in the near future to include more glass for the flood walls on Aynam Road. He advised he has approached the EA for 1% of their budget into a kitty. It was decided that the costs associated with the glass walls were beyond the Development Fund and would need to come from elsewhere.

Councillor Archibald talked about a fund to help improve biodiversity in the town in the region of £12,000. This would be used to fund E&H Committee projects or support third parties with biodiversity plans.

Councillor Rowley raised the ideas presented by Lana at the EA update meeting as part of the Public Realm and Art Strategy. Members discussed the longevity of some of the suggested installations and Councillor Rowley suggested that other projects such as cycle route will last longer than art installations. It was agreed a £12,000 budget would be bid for to assist the development of riverside corridor environment projects.

Councillor Archibald suggested that £12,000 should also be bid for to reinvigorate the 20's plenty initiative to include scoping out the price of delivering a residential roads only versus a town-wide initiative (as discussed earlier).

The Project Manager asked if there was still an appetite to continue with the print and distribution of the Kendal Leaflet Series. It was agreed that £3,000 would be bid for this to continue.

RESOLVED

That the following bids be put forward for the Development Fund for FY 2020/21 - £12k for biodiversity projects; £12k for riverside corridor environment projects; £12k for re-invigorating the 20's plenty initiative and £3k for the continuation of the Kendal Leaflet series.

422/19/20**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Project Manager asked Councillors Owen and Hennessey to sign the memorandum agreement for the installation of the Low Fell Side Handrails.

423/19/20**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 26th November at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 10.19pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
405	Tree Planter Cladding	RES	The Committee will go ahead with one planter at a maximum cost of £1,000. The Project Manager to contact community services.
406	Explore Kendal Signs	RES	That KTC will adopt the Explore Kendal signs and maintain them
407	20's Plenty Initiative	RES	That the Environment and Highways Committee request £12,000 from the FY 2020/21 Development Fund for the 20's Plenty initiative.
408	Ivy Screening Pilot Project	RES	That the Project Manager will seek answers to some of the points raised by Members and report back at the next meeting. Councillor Cornthwaite will consult with the Environment Agency. Members to consider alternative locations.
410	Handrail Painting at Fountain Brow	RES	That the Committee agree to pay £191.48 each for the repainting on the handrail at Fountain Brow and Undercliff.
411	Speed Gun Back-up Battery	RES	That the Committee agree to purchase a back-up battery for the speed gun.
412	WW1 Memorial Plaque on Stricklandgate	RES	That the Committee agree in principle to maintain and insure the WW1 installation on Stricklandgate.
413	Peace Pole Interpretation Board	RES	That Councillor Blackman and Coleman produce a paper for this request.
414	Asset Plaques	RES	That the Committee approve ten KTC plaques to be produced for KTC benches and vinyl stickers to be purchased for bus shelters and planters.
416	Active Travel Sub-Committee Update	RES	That Project Manager check the confidential cycle map can be shared at the Active Travel sub-group meeting.
418	Green Wall Project Funding	RES	That the Project Manager seek approval for £3k of LIP funding to be used to match fund the Ivy Screening Pilot.
420	Review of Spend Against Budget 2019/20	RES	(1) That the Project Manager write to CCC and SLDC regarding the Blackhall Road Buss Shelter underspend, letting them know we intend to use it to benefit the community by holding it as a starter fund for the Welcome to Kendal Signs if they are in agreement.

			(2) That the £450 signage improvement underspend be spent on the Castle Walkway repairs with the remaining coming from the Environment Reserve (up to £1,000).
421	2020/21 Budget	RES	That the following bids be put forward for the Development Fund for FY 2020/21 - £12k for biodiversity projects; £12k for riverside corridor environment projects; £12k for re-invigorating the 20's plenty initiative and £3k for the continuation of the Kendal Leaflet series.