

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Monday 11th January 2021 at 7.30 pm
(Via Zoom)**

- PRESENT** Councillors Jonathan Owen (Chair), Eamonn Hennessy (Vice Chair), Giles Archibald, Susanne Long, Shirley Evans, Julia Dunlop, Jonathan Cornthwaite, Adam Edwards and Chris Rowley
- Also in attendance: Graham Harrison and Jason Rushworth (Newsquest Reporter)
- APOLOGIES** None
- OFFICERS** Helen Moriarty (Project Manager), Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)
- 530/20/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- None.
- 531/20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- None.
- 532/20/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER 2020**
- The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 30th November 2020, which had been approved by full Council on 4th January 2021.
- One amendment was highlighted towards the bottom of page 4 of the minutes. The word 'Liverpool' to be deleted.
- Councillor Archibald proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 30th November 2020 be accepted as a correct record.
- MATTERS ARISING** (Not on Agenda)
- None.
- 533/20/21 TABLE OF RESOLVED ACTIONS**
- The Project Manager raised the ivy screening project. CCC had previously mentioned the requirement for a permit and requested KTC obtain approval from SLDC and Stagecoach for the proposed works. The Project Manager advised they are happy with the proposal and she is due to meet on site with Victoria Upton to confirm the length and visibility of the screening. An agreement will then be drawn up for signature.

The monitoring of air pollution before and after installation of the ivy screening was discussed. The Project Manager asked whether this should go ahead given the current lockdown and reduction in traffic. Following a general discussion the general consensus of Members was to postpone air pollution monitoring for the time being.

RESOLVED

To postpone air pollution monitoring for the time being.

534/20/21**BIODIVERSITY GRANT UPDATE**

The Project Manager had met with Councillors Hennessy and Dunlop to consider the three applications received. It was reported that two were agreed relating to the composting project and planting trees at Nobles Rest. Both were good applications and met the criteria. One further application from Appleby Road was also considered and further information has been requested. It was noted that Belmont Garden and Somervell would also benefit from the grant.

In total £4,700 has been allocated, with £900 remaining in the budget.

Councillor Archibald asked how it was proposed to make people aware of the grants. The Town Clerk will arrange a press release and there will also be a feature in the KTC newsletter.

RESOLVED

The Town Clerk will arrange a press release in respect of Biodiversity Grants.

535/20/21**20MPH**

Councillor Owen said it was fantastic to be able to move this project forward following the Full Council meeting held last week. There has been a lot of media interest since that meeting. He commented that there is scope to make Kendal even better in the future and thanked Councillors for their support at the Council meeting.

Councillor Owen advised Members that a way forward has been suggested by Peter Thornton who has stressed the importance of engaging SLDC to ensure all three tiers are working together. He has suggested the next step should be to hold an informal meeting between Officers of all three tiers.

A suggestion was put forward by Councillor Hennessy that KTC present a motion to SLDC in order to gain political support. Councillor Archibald commented that he could see no reason why this should not be done. He expressed his concern in respect of costings, specifically the difference between £44k and £850k. Councillor Owen commented that there was scope to ask Officers to explore how far they are willing to take the DfE guidance and value for money.

Councillor Rowley pointed out that £850k was very much a "Rolls Royce" figure. A lot of assumptions have been made about the amount of traffic calming there would need to be.

The impact on Sandylands was raised by Councillor Edwards, who suggested a meeting/discussions with residents may raise support for the scheme. Councillor Owen commented that Ward Councillors can act as they see fit in liaising with residents.

The Town Clerk mentioned that speed indicators had been discussed at an earlier staff meeting and it is hoped to bring an item to the Management meeting in March for discussion. He suggested that trial runs of various speeds be requested during discussions with CCC. It was noted that there is a significant amount of work required at Ward level to win support for the scheme.

Councillor Hennessy suggested contacting schools to gauge the level of support in that sector.

The matter of budget was raised. The Town Clerk advised there is £4,200 remaining in budget currently. Councillor Archibald proposed the budget allocation be topped up to £10k for the purposes of consulting fees, consultation with multi-tier organisations, experimental speed limits etc. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and carried unanimously.

Councillor Long asked whether it would be possible to speak to other towns, such as Portsmouth, that have implemented 20mph to seek their experiences. The Project Manager will raise this suggestion at the next task force meeting.

Councillor Archibald queried whether there is sufficient resources/Officer time to carry out next steps of the project. The Town Clerk replied this would be part of a conversation held at a meeting of the Management Committee next week.

RESOLVED

1. That the budget allocation be topped up to £10k for the purposes of consulting fees, consultation with multi-tier organisations, experimental speed limits etc.
2. Project Manager to raise the suggestion of contacting other towns that have implemented 20mph to seek their experiences at the next task force meeting.

536/20/21

CITIZENS' JURY UPDATE

The Project Manager has been working on a short film to promote the work of the Jury and the recommendations put forward. It will also be used as a tool to commence conversations with other organisations There has been a great response from Jury members to come along to private screening events.

A meeting between CCC, SLDC, the Green Party and the Labour Party has been arranged. A suggested date of Tuesday 26th January at 7.30pm was put forward for a KTC meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the recommendations and ask Councillors to take them back to their committees to work out which can be actioned. This will then be reported back to the recommendation panel which will meet in June.

Resources and Officer capacity was raised by Councillor Owen. He commented that no Officer capacity has been costed in at all and this will need to be put to Council.

Councillor Cornthwaite highlighted the work of the Kendal Flood Relief Scheme Working Group, which he has been chairing for the past two years. He expressed his frustration that the project has received no Officer support and said he would be looking to secure Officer time in order to progress the project.

A general discussion ensued regarding Officer capacity. It was suggested by Councillor Archibald that one day per week be allocated to the Citizens' Jury project as a minimum. The Town Clerk advised there was no need to attach a financial amount to the request as it would be factored into the total Officer capacity requirement for the next year. The recommendation of the Town Clerk would then be considered by the Management Committee.

Councillor Cornthwaite was advised to liaise with the Town Clerk in respect of Officer capacity for the Kendal Flood Relief Scheme. Councillor Hennessy remarked that the group had reached a point where some support was needed if it was to reach its aims. The request for support was also backed by Councillor Evans, who commented that Councillor Cornthwaite had worked extremely hard on this project.

537/20/21**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

The Project Manager has sufficient content for an 8 page spring edition of the KTC newsletter. Articles from this Committee include burning rubbish, biodiversity grants, Citizens' Jury update, 20mph and the Kendal Flood Relief Scheme.

The ivy screening project will be included in the summer edition.

Councillor Hennessy requested that a link to the 20mph Markides consultation document be posted on the KTC website. The Project Manager will organise.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to include a link to the 20mph Markides consultation document on the KTC website.

538/20/21**REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2020/21**

The Town Clerk referred to the CCTV cameras at Gooseholme and queried where this item should sit in the budget. He was advised that it originated from Full Council. The Town Clerk will resolve the accounting issue accordingly.

RESOLVED

Town Clerk to resolve the accounting issue in respect of CCTV cameras at Gooseholme.

539/20/21

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

It was noted that if elections take place in May, it might be necessary to reschedule the Environment & Highways Committee meeting currently scheduled for 4th May.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
533	Ivy Screening project – monitoring of air pollution	RES	To postpone air pollution monitoring for the time being.
534	Biodiversity grant update	RES	The Town Clerk will arrange a press release in respect of Biodiversity Grants.
535	20mph	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the budget allocation be topped up to £10k for the purposes of consulting fees, consultation with multi-tier organisations, experimental speed limits etc. 2. Project Manager to raise the suggestion of contacting other towns that have implemented 20mph to seek their experiences at the next task force meeting.
537	Markides Consultation	RES	Project Manager to include a link to the 20mph Markides consultation document on the KTC website.
538	Review of spend against budget 2021/21	RES	Town Clerk to resolve the accounting issue in respect of CCTV cameras at Gooseholme.