

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Tuesday 29th September 2020 at 7.30 pm
(Via Teleconferencing)**

- PRESENT** Councillors Jonathan Owen (Chair), Eamonn Hennessy (Vice Chair), Giles Archibald, Susanne Long, Shirley Evans, Jonathan Cornthwaite, Kate Simpson and Chris Rowley
- APOLOGIES** Councillor Dunlop
- OFFICERS** Helen Moriarty (Project Manager) and Hazel Belshaw (Temporary Council Secretary)
- 285/20/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- Friends of The Lake District Officer Jack Ellerby for agenda item 6 - Cumbria Dark Skies Project (CDSP) – Saving Our Night Skies
Jane Willis for agenda item 7 - Cycle Track Presentation
- 286/20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 287/20/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JULY**
- The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July which had been approved by full Council on 3rd August.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 13th July be accepted as a correct record.
- 288/20/21 MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)**
None
- 289/20/21 TABLE OF RESOLVED ACTIONS**
- The Chair presented the table of resolved actions which had been previously circulated. Members noted the actions and no comments were made.
- 290/20/21 CUMBRIA DARK SKIES PROJECT (CDSP) - SAVING OUR NIGHT SKIES - JACK ELLERBY**
- Jack Ellerby from Friends of the Lake District explained that he was seeking £2,000 funding towards the commission of a lighting engineering consultant(s) to produce a Lighting Audit and Action Plan. After the audit there are plans to run workshops so people can get involved in the project. He advised that he would also approach SLDC for some funding. The funds would be needed for December/January time with a report being available in March 2021. Cllr Archibald confirmed the Locally Important Project (LIP) fund is still open with SLDC. Jack advised he will apply to this fund. Cllr Evans is very supportive of the project. Cllr Rowley asked if there had been any discussions with the police regarding security lighting. Jack confirmed he has spoken with the four

crime prevention officers. There was a discussion by Members on star gazing opportunities at Kendal Castle and also what impact this may have on businesses with existing external lighting. Members then discussed where the money could come from in the budget. Cllr Hennessy suggested the biodiversity pot as they are linked. Cllr Archibald advised that SLDC also have a biodiversity fund so they could be approached for £1,000 if KTC funded the other £1,000. It was proposed by Cllr Archibald to agree to support the project. This was seconded by Cllr Hennessy and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree funding of £1,000 towards the commission of a lighting engineering consultant(s) to produce a Lighting Audit and Action Plan

291/20/21**CYCLE TRACK PRESENTATION - JANE WILLIS**

Jane Willis who lives on Fountain Brow in Kendal advised Members that the 70 steps from Fountain Brow to Fellside had proved popular with youths on bikes. She is worried of the dangers this could cause but is also aware that there is nowhere else that is as exciting to ride bikes in the town. She had spoken with some of the youths recently who agreed that there is a shortage of anywhere to cycle with the same thrills. She asked Members if there was any scope to incorporate some cycle routes around the hills in Kendal that would be safe for the riders and pedestrians. One suggestion could be Kendal Castle. It was agreed that involving Kendal Cycle Club and the schools in discussions around how this may work would be useful. Cllr Owen will speak to Kendal Cycle Club and Cllr Cornthwaite will speak to the Environment Agency as there could be a way of connecting this to the cycle routes along the river.

RESOLVED

To explore the possibility of developing cycle tracks around Kendal Castle

292/20/21**KENDAL CITIZENS JURY**

Cllr Rowley updated Members on the work of the Citizens Jury. It had been very successful to date with regular attendance at the meetings and presentations from national experts. He thanked Helen and Stacy for their excellent support along with the Torchlight team who had used the climate change theme for the 2020 Torchlight. There is a support group involved in the evaluation and they are currently undertaking a survey, which can be found online. There is also a support group involved in creative engagement. They are now looking for support from KTC to reallocate the current 'New Infrastructure' budget of £3,500 toward the Jury to extend Stacy's contract for 12 weeks to continue working with the support groups to develop and deliver the initiatives. They are also looking to reopen the Crowdfunder and develop additional funding options to raise the required funds for a facilitated launch event with Shared Futures and further public engagement and finally endorse the placement of a Lancaster MSc Student to review and evaluate the Citizens Jury process.

There was then a discussion around the role of the Town Council and how to make this clear. Cllr Evans, Cornthwaite and Hennessy raised concerns that it would use all the money from the new infrastructure budget. Cllr Evans suggested using £2,000 of the budget leaving £1,500 in place. It was proposed by Cllr Owen to relaunch the Crowd Funder, extend Stacy's contract for 12 weeks and endorse the Lancaster student on the understanding that the role of KTC is clear. This was seconded by Cllr Rowley and carried with one abstention.

RESOLVED

That the Environment & Highways Committee agree to:

1. Reallocate £2,000 of the 'New Infrastructure' budget towards the Jury to extend Stacy Hurly's contract for 12 weeks.
2. Endorse the reopening of the Crowdfunder and development of additional funding options to raise the required funds for a launch event and further public engagement.
3. Endorse the placement of a Lancaster MSc Student to review and evaluate the Citizens Jury process.

293/20/21**BIODIVERSITY GRANTS**

The Chair presented the Biodiversity Grants paper which had been previously circulated. The idea is to make financial grants which help local communities to implement biodiversity projects which support Kendal Town Council's response to its declaration of a Climate emergency. Members discussed using an article in the KTC newsletter as a launch for the grants but they must agree a deadline for applications.

RESOLVED

That the launch of the Biodiversity Grants will be published in the KTC newsletter and a corresponding application form is created.

294/20/21**REQUEST FOR FUNDING BY THE KTC FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Cornthwaite advised Members that the group are moving to the next stage to enhance the cycle routes down the river corridor and are looking for engagement with all three tiers. Cllr Owen advised it had been agreed at the last meeting that up to £1,500 be allocated from areas identified within the budget as having spare monies, subject to Councillor Cornthwaite submitting a costed proposal. He suggested putting something forward for project funding.

RECOMMENDATION

That full Council assign £1,500 of the Castle signage underspend towards Cllr Cornthwaite's flood recovery group.

295/20/21**KENDAL LEAFLETS**

The Project Manager advised the current leaflet budget is £7,785 and needs to release £4,228 to:

1. Print an additional 30,000 new Welcome to Kendal leaflets
2. Extend Aha distribution contract for another 2 years to distribute leaflets
3. Pay Cactus Creative for amends

She would also be looking to:

4. Allocate future funding request of £5000 to support leaflet distribution and production in 2020/21

She further advised that due to a 30% reduction in leaflet display opportunities, Aha are currently trailing an online Tourist Information website which will be promoted at the traditional leaflet outlets. A QR code will direct visitors to an online leaflet hub where information can be downloaded and the relevant links followed. The Visit Kendal website is listed together with the Visit Kendal leaflets. In January Aha will report the success of this trail and a monthly contract arrangement will be discussed.

RESOLVED

That this spend decision is referred to the Management Committee.

296/20/21

IVY SCREENING

The Project Manager explained that three potential locations for a pilot project had been found and the costs are outlined in the paper, which had been previously circulated. There was a discussion on the proposed sites. Cllr Rowley asked why the area outside the Citizens Advice Bureau had not been considered. Cllrs Evans and Hennessey are worried about the line of sight at the Longpool location. Cllr Rowley proposed that the Project Manager seek advice on whether the area outside the Citizens Advice Bureau would be suitable and if this was not then the bus stop opposite would be the preferred site and that an Air Quality Monitor be purchased. This was seconded by Cllr Owen and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

The Project Manager will seek advice on whether the area outside the Citizens Advice Bureau would be a suitable location for the ivy screening and if this was not then the bus stop opposite would be the preferred location and that an Air Quality Monitor be purchased.

297/20/21

BT PROPOSAL

The Project Manager advised this item was for information. BT are seeking views on whether to remove or adopt 46 BT telephone kiosks around South Lakeland. Cllr Hennessey will register the interest of KTC.

RESOLVED

Cllr Hennessey will register the interest of KTC.

At this point Cllr Long left the meeting.

298/20/21

UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Project Manager presented the Terms of Reference which had been previously circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Rowley to accept the updated terms of reference. This was seconded by Cllr Archibald and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the updated Terms of Reference be accepted.

299/20/21**AIKRIGG SIGNAGE**

Cllr Owen advised this item was now to be raised under ward business and he will bring it back to Committee if needed.

300/20/21**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

The Project Manager advised she has enough content for the next newsletter with the main feature being festivals.

301/20/21**REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2020/21**

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

- Line numbers to be added to enable easier reading.
- Cllr Hennessy advised that the funding for Fletcher Park is no longer needed but it would need to remain ring fenced at this stage.
- The Blackhall Road bus shelter is now complete so can be moved over.

Cllr Archibald proposed that £1,000 of the £6,600 in the biodiversity fund be allocated to the Cumbria Dark Skies Project. This was seconded by Cllr Hennessy and carried unanimously. Cllr Owen further suggested the Project Manager to write to Simon Blyth on his behalf for the further £1,000 required for the project.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowley to spend £2,000 from the New Infrastructure budget to employ Stacy for a further 12 weeks to continue the work with the Citizens Jury and develop the proposals. This was seconded by Cllr Owen and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to:

1. Pay £1,000 of the £6,600 in the biodiversity fund be allocated to the Cumbria Dark Skies Project.
2. Pay £2,000 from the New Infrastructure budget to employ Stacy for a further 12 weeks to continue the work with the Citizens Jury and develop the proposals.

302/20/21**2021/22 BUDGET - REVIEW OF BUDGET REQUIREMENTS AND PROPOSALS FOR ONE-OFF DEVELOPMENT FUND BIDS**

The Project Manager presented the 2021/22 budget from the Treasurer. Due to time restraints it was suggested to discuss this at a separate meeting at the end of October.

RESOLVED

That the Project Manager sets up an E&H budget meeting for the end of October.

303/20/21

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Ladhams advised Members that she had been approached by residents in her ward over concerns with the burning of garden rubbish, which had increased during lockdown. She asks that the Committee add this as an agenda item to the next meeting to see how this can be tackled. Cllr Hennessy advised SLDC are putting together a white paper on this and wondered if this was something that KTC could do. Cllr Ladhams advised that the Planning Committee had done something similar and it was being presented at the next Full Council Meeting.

RESOLVED

That an agenda item on the burning of garden rubbish be added to the next E&H agenda.

304/20/21

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

30th November

The meeting closed at 9.58pm

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
290	Cumbria Dark Skies Project	RES	That the Committee agree funding of £1,000 towards the commission of a lighting engineering consultant(s) to produce a Lighting Audit and Action Plan
291	Cycle Track Presentation	RES	To explore the possibility of developing cycle tracks around Kendal Castle
292	Kendal Citizens Jury	RES	That the Environment & Highways Committee agree to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reallocate £2,000 of the 'New Infrastructure' budget towards the Jury to extend Stacy Hurly's contract for 12 weeks. 2. Endorse the reopening of the Crowdfunder and development of additional funding options to raise the required funds for a launch event and further public engagement. 3. Endorse the placement of a Lancaster MSc Student to review and evaluate the Citizens Jury process.
293	Biodiversity Grants	RES	That the launch of the Biodiversity Grants will be published in the KTC newsletter and a corresponding application form is created
294	Request for Funding by KTC Flood Relief Scheme Working Group	REC	That full Council assign £1,500 of the Castle signage underspend towards Cllr Cornthwaite's flood recovery group.
295	Kendal Leaflets	RES	That this spend decision is referred to the Management Committee.
296	Ivy Screening	RES	The Project Manager will seek advice on whether the area outside the Citizens Advice Bureau would be a suitable location for the ivy screening and if this was not then the bus stop opposite would be the preferred location and that an Air Quality Monitor be purchased.
297	BT Proposal	RES	Cllr Hennessy will register the interest of KTC.
298	Updated Terms of Reference	RES	That the updated Terms of Reference be accepted.

301	Review of Spend Against Budget 2020/21	RES	That the Committee agree to: 1. Pay £1,000 of the £6,600 in the biodiversity fund be allocated to the Cumbria Dark Skies Project. 2. Pay £2,000 from the New Infrastructure budget to employ Stacy for a further 12 weeks to continue the work with the Citizens Jury and develop the proposals.
302	2021/22 Budget	RES	That the Project Manager sets up an E&H budget meeting for the end of October.
303	AOB – Burning of Garden Rubbish	RES	That an agenda item on the burning of garden rubbish be added to the next E&H agenda.