

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Committee

**Monday 8th March 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 and Chris Rowley
- Also in attendance: Jason Rushworth (Newsquest Reporter) and Graham Harrison
- APOLOGIES** Councillor Adam Edwards
- OFFICERS** Helen Moriarty (Project Manager), Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)
- 655/20/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- None.
- 656/20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- None.
- 657/20/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH JANUARY 2021**
- The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2021. Councillor Hennessy proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th January 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
- 658/20/21 MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)**
- None.
- 659/20/21 TABLE OF RESOLVED ACTIONS**
- Members considered the Table of Resolved Actions. It was noted that a press release in respect of biodiversity grants had been issued.
- 660/20/21 ACTION PLAN DRAFT**
- The Project Manager presented the Draft Action Plan detailing all development project and Jury recommendation response projects for discussion. She explained the table format and delivery status column which allocated a number to each project depending on its progress.
- Councillor Archibald noted that the table does not make it clear whether a project with a delivery status of 1 (committed) is fully

funded or whether additional funding is still required. He suggested incorporating 1a and 1b to identify this. He also highlighted that KTC will not be acting as the lead on all projects and queried how such projects would be monitored. The Project Manager advised that SLDC have offered some officer support and an agenda item for a future meeting is required to discuss this further. There was a request for sight of the SLDC response to the Jury's recommendations to aid discussions in respect of project monitoring.

It was agreed to add the Draft Action Plan to the KTC website for transparency. The Project Manager will amend the draft document to identify fully funded projects and those which will require further funding.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to (a) add the Draft Action Plan to the KTC website (b) amend the draft document to identify fully funded projects and those which will require further funding and (c) share SLDC's response to the Jury's recommendations.

The Project Manager then put forward two proposed projects from the Action Plan which are currently delivery status 0 (to be approved) for Committee's consideration as follows:

661/20/21

Mobile Carbon Advice Bureau

It was a recommendation of Kendal's Climate Change Citizens' Jury to provide accessible information to make it easier for individuals to make informed decisions. The proposal presented to Committee was to create a mobile 'one stop shop' or Carbon Advice Bureau to action this recommendation.

The benefits of creating a mobile version of the recommendation were discussed. Current ideas included purchasing an E Bike and trailer and hosting family fun days in Kirkbarrow, Sandylands and Hallgarth. Funding of £4,500 was proposed from the Biodiversity budget of £11,000 as follows:

£1,000 towards an electric bike and trailer

£3,000 towards 3 family fun days

£500 towards a tablet, loud speaker and decoration of the trailer

A general discussion ensued and possible alternatives were discussed. Councillor Archibald mentioned a presentation that had taken place in Grange. An offer had been made to bring this to Kendal and he suggested this be explored further. There was a feeling that it was an ambitious project which would require a significant amount of work. Members were concerned about the level of engagement that would be achieved with residents. There were also concerns regarding the mobile element of the proposal which would require somebody's time to cycle around town etc. It would also be weather dependant. Councillor Rowley talked about the experiences of SLACC who have endeavoured to carry out a similar project with difficulties. Councillor Evans noted that Councillor Edwards, Chair of the Sandylands Residents Association, was

hoping to hold a fete at Sandylands this year which may provide a suitable event to attend.

It was agreed the Project Manager would consider the points raised and report back to Committee further at the next meeting.

RESOLVED

Project Manager to consider the points raised and report back to Committee further at the next meeting.

662/20/21

LCWIP & Your Priorities Engagement Proposal

KTC are a member of Kendal's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Group (LCWIP) led by CCC. The purpose of the LCWIP is to identify solutions to Kendal's cycling and walking infrastructure challenges.

The paper put forward by the Project Manager addressed a further recommendation of Kendal's Climate Change Citizens' Jury to improve Kendal's cycling infrastructure and to agree a vision. The proposal was to use the 'Your Priorities' platform to engage with residents in the design and decisions regarding future cycling improvements in Kendal. 'Your Priorities' is a website which highlights options and enables public participation.

The project would be developed in partnership with Andrew Marshall, Lead Infrastructure Officer at CCC.

There is no cost associated with 'Your Priorities' therefore any cost is in Officer time rather than financial. It was suggested, however, that funding of £200 would support promotion and engagement.

During the ensuing discussion several Members raised the point that walking infrastructure should be captured as well as cycling. The Project Manager confirmed that LCWIP is taking this into account.

Question was raised by Councillor Evans as to responsibility for footpaths leading to allotments. She was concerned about the footpath leading from Jenkin Crag to Sandylands allotments. The Town Clerk replied that KTC have no specific duty regarding footpaths and advised that particular area is SLDC land. He will make further investigations in this respect. Councillor Rowley highlighted a similar situation at Underley.

Councillor Rowley indicated concern re sufficient Officer time in respect of the LCWIP proposal. He added that he would like to see schools involved with the project.

It was noted that 10 jurors have volunteered to support the private screening events of the Citizens Jury film. There is a possibility they may form a constituted group to monitor the recommendations and ensure progression and momentum.

Councillor Rowley proposed that the proposal be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Evans and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the engagement of the 'Your Priorities' proposal be accepted.

663/20/21**DARK SKIES UPDATE**

Members considered a report from Jack Ellerby, Dark Skies Cumbria Project Officer.

One item highlighted related to the Cliff Terrace pilot scheme which is on track to be installed in April. The scheme will see the first genuine Dark Sky and Wildlife Friendly Heritage Lights in Kendal (and possibly Cumbria). The Town Clerk advised that he will obtain a specification from Jack Ellerby and bring to the next meeting. Committee will be required to approve to the adoption of the finished project. Councillor Archibald commented that this would be a positive news item for the Westmorland Gazette.

Councillor Long raised the interest of the Planning Committee in the Dark Skies project and suggested they be requested to consider the implication of the scheme on planning issues. It was agreed the Project Manager will liaise with Jack Ellerby to provide best practice guidance for consideration by the Planning Committee. Councillor Rowley commented that Planning Committee are aware of the scheme and have been in contact with Jack Ellerby.

It was noted that Jack Ellerby is likely to attend the next Environment & Highways Committee meeting.

RESOLVED

Town Clerk to obtain a specification of the Cliff Terrace lighting from Jack Ellerby to enable Committee to approve adoption of the finished project. He will also request best practice guidance for consideration by the Planning Committee.

664/20/21**AIKRIGG AVENUE PROPOSAL**

It was noted that residents have requested a mirror to improve visibility issues. Councillor Rowley explained that a 90 degree bend causes difficult visibility and a mirror will improve safety, particularly for cyclists.

Councillor Owen advised that the original intention was to request funding from the New Infrastructure budget, however he has successfully secured funds from the Locality Budget. The proposal is therefore for KTC to install the mirror and maintain it as an asset. Committee were informed that CCC are agreeable to KTC undertaking this item of work.

Committee were in agreement with the proposal.

RESOLVED

That Committee agree to the proposal to install a mirror at Aikrigg Avenue. To be installed and maintained as a KTC asset and funded from Councillor Owen's Locality Budget.

665/20/21**SID UPDATE**

Members considered a paper in respect of KTC's Speed Indicator Device (SID). The SID had broken in 2020 and Committee were

asked to consider whether a new one should be purchased and which locations it would serve.

The matter of cost was raised. The Project Manager advised this would depend on the preferred type. Options were either a fixed solar powered type, or one which can be rotated around arterial roads. During a general discussion the general feeling amongst Councillors was that a mobile SID would be more effective and could be helpful with the 20's Plenty project. A preference for a 'SID featuring a 'smiley face' was noted.

Councillor Rowley proposed Committee agree to the purchase of a new SID up to a maximum spend of £2,500. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried. The Project Manager will obtain costs.

RESOLVED

That Committee agree to the purchase of a new SID up to a maximum spend of £2,500.

666/20/21**VICARAGE DRIVE**

Committee discussed the poor state of footpaths and open spaces in the area around Vicarage Drive. Councillors are particularly concerned about an unsurfaced section of footpath. The Town Clerk has been in touch with CCC in this respect. Members were asked to consider what role they wished to take with improvements in the area.

Councillor Hennessy referred to his aspiration for some wild planting in the area which he has previously mentioned. He has tried without success to contact Fleetwood Housing in this respect.

A general discussion ensued. Members agreed this is a neglected area which is disappointing. The Town Clerk will pursue the matter of the footpath between Vicarage Drive and Vicarage Garth with SLDC and look into ideas for general care of the area. He will present a paper for consideration at the next Committee meeting.

A suggestion was made to contact Kendal Ramblers Association who are keen to maintain footpaths and may be able to offer some help.

RESOLVED

Town Clerk to present a paper at the next meeting re ideas for general care of the area.

667/20/21**20MPH**

Committee were informed of an invitation from Karen Johnson of the Local Area Committee to be involved in informal discussions. It was agreed Councillors Hennessy and Rowley would attend, along with the Town Clerk and Project Manager.

668/20/21**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

Items suggested for the summer edition of the KTC newsletter included:

- Audit results of the Dark Skies consultation
- Cliff Terrace lighting
- Citizens' Jury update
- LCWIP 'Your Priorities' engagement
- EA public realm improvements
- Vision for Kendal (Kendal Futures) update

669/20/21**REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2020/21**

Members noted the Budgetary Control Statement for expenditure to 31 January 2021. The following points were highlighted:

- The Project Manager advised that £10,000 of the stated budget is a LIP grant which needs to be reapplied for once the permissions for the Ivy Screening project have been obtained.
- Any budget remaining in respect of Action Plan Projects will be carried forward.
- Permission is being sought for the Nobles Rest Entrance Improvements (Civic Society led project) but is progressing. Councillor Archibald commented that, once complete, this will be a good improvement for Kendal and suggested an article be included in a future KTC newsletter.
- Councillor Evans referred to the CCTV camera on Gooseholme and asked when feedback could be expected. The Town Clerk will request Sergeant Suzanne Scott-O'Neill to attend a Council meeting and provide an update on police matters.

670/20/21**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th May 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
660	Action Plan Draft	RES	Project Manager to (a) add the Draft Action Plan to the KTC website (b) amend the draft document to identify fully funded projects and those which will require further funding and (c) share SLDC's response to the Jury's recommendations.
661	Mobile Carbon Advice Bureau	RES	Project Manager to consider the points raised and report back to Committee further at the next meeting.
662	LCWIP & Your Priorities Engagement Proposal	RES	That the engagement of the 'Your Priorities' proposal be accepted.
663	Dark Skies Update	RES	Town Clerk to obtain a specification of the Cliff Terrace lighting from Jack Ellerby to enable Committee to approve adoption of the finished project. He will also request best practice guidance for consideration by the Planning Committee.
664	Aikrigg Avenue Proposal	RES	That Committee agree to the proposal to install a mirror at Aikrigg Avenue. To be installed and maintained as a KTC asset and funded from Councillor Owen's Locality Budget.
665	SID update	RES	That Committee agree to the purchase of a new SID up to a maximum spend of £2,500.
666	Vicarage Drive	RES	Town Clerk to present a paper at the next meeting re ideas for general care of the area.