

# Kendal Town Council

Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal LA9 4ED  
www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk



**Minutes of a meeting of Kendal Town Council held in the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal, on Monday, 6 June 2022, at 7.30 p.m.**

G Archibald	Present	A Blackman	Present
K Blamire	Present	S Blunden	Present
J Brook	Apologies	D Brown	Present
A Campbell	Apologies	S Coleman	Present
J Cornthwaite	Present	J Dunlop (Deputy Mayor)	Present
L Edwards	Present	D Evans	Present
A Finch	Apologies	C Hardy	Apologies
M Helme	Present	L Hendry	Present
E Hennessy	Present	H Ladhams	Present
S Long	Present	D Miles	Present
T Perkins	Present	D Rathbone (Mayor)	Present
C Russell	Present	M Severn	Present
K Simpson	Present	R Sutton	Present
P Thornton	Present	G Tirvengadam	Present

**In attendance:** Chris Bagshaw, Town Clerk, and Inge Booth, Democratic Services Assistant.

## Public Participation

There were no items brought before the Council.

## Police Report

The Town Clerk reported that Cumbria Constabulary had been unable to send a representative to this meeting of the Council, however, that they had indicated that a representative would be in attendance at a subsequent meeting. He further advised that he had recently received a report from the Police which he would shortly circulate to all Members.

## 11/2022 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted from Cllrs J Brook, A Campbell, M Helme and C Hardy.

## 12/2022 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were raised under this item.

## 13/2022 Exclusion of Press and Public

There were no excluded items on the agenda.

## 14/2022 Minutes of Last Council Meeting

**Resolved:** To receive and accept the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 16 May 2022 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record.

## **15/2022 Mayor's Communications and Announcements**

The Mayor was pleased to report that events were now on the increase and that he was happy at last to be out and about meeting people face to face.

## **16/2022 Minutes from Committees**

The Council was presented with the minutes from recent meetings of the Council's standing committees.

The Town Clerk drew attention to the fact that he had unfortunately been unable as yet to circulate the minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 30 May 2022. Cllr S Coleman, Chairman of the Management Committee, informed Members, however, about engagement between some Town Council Members and Ukrainian refugees (and other refugee families) and the fact that the Management Committee was seeking delegation from Council to the Management Committee and himself to approve any formal communication in this regard (a copy of such a draft letter from Cllr M Helme had been circulated to Members at the start of the meeting).

**Resolved:** To receive the minutes of the following meetings:-

- (1) Planning Committee – 23 May 2022; and
- (2) Christmas Lights and Festivals – 31 March 2022.

A number of questions were raised in relation to the minutes of the Planning Committee. Cllr S Coleman questioned whether the Town Council's objections and comments in relation to planning applications in the Kendal area were always taken into account by South Lakeland District Council and raised the need for tracking of decisions in order to assess this. The Town Clerk explained that no such report was received back from South Lakeland District Council, however, suggested that it may be possible to ask for a weekly list. A suggestion was raised by a Member for the need for the Town Council to provide input to the Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority as regards how the future Planning regime should work. A further suggestion was raised for an additional column to be included within the list of planning applications submitted to the Planning Committee to indicate in which ward each individual application was located.

## **17/2022 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022**

The Town Clerk presented the report explaining that the Council's External Audit had been returned with an "except for" note observing that the AGAR for 2021 had been submitted late by seven days in contravention of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, no allowance for Covid having been made for the return in 2021. The Annual Governance Statement had not, unfortunately, been amended to reflect this late submission, which meant that the first statement in the submission had been incorrect. As a result, the Audit, Grants and Charities Committee had set out a timetable for the AGAR in 2022 which allowed for the specified periods and statements to be completed within the required timescale.

**Resolved:** To note the timetable set out by the Audit, Grants and Charities Committee and be satisfied that the "except fors" reported by the External Auditor have been dealt with correctly (this forms a part of the Council's audit submission for 2021/22).

**Resolved:** To agree with the statements in Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 (page 25 of the Agenda) and to authorise the Chairman to sign the Annual Governance Statement.

**Resolved:** To note the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 and objectives of internal

control and the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the authority (page 24 of the Agenda).

### **18/2022      CALC Membership**

The Town Clerk asked Members to review the Council's membership of Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) for the forthcoming year. The subscription was made up of two payments, one CALC and one to the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and, for 2022/23, the fee was £2,260.33. Members' attention was drawn to the benefits of CALC membership.

Whilst Members felt that membership of both associations was of value, discussion took place on NALC's high subscription fee and to the potential for a Kendal Town Council to join the NALC Larger Councils Committee.

**Resolved:** To continue Kendal Town Council's membership of CALC/NALC for 2022/23.

**Resolved:** That the Management Committee give consideration to put forward to Council a suitable Member to sit on the NALC Larger Councils Committee, the appointment to be formally considered by Council at a future meeting.

### **19/2022      Reports from Representatives**

Cllr G Tirvengadam provided a verbal update on the Kendal Unity Festival, outlining the work carried out and festivals held in past years, as well as forthcoming events due to be held in 2022. He reported that the Organisation was grateful for the support offered by Kendal Town Council each year and asked Members for their continued support and to recommend residents within their individual wards to attend. He undertook to ensure that Members were provided with dates and details on forthcoming events and pointed out that information was available on the Cumbria Community Website. Discussion took place on the need for inclusion of refugees within the area.

Cllr R Sutton presented a written report on the work of the Kendal Integrated Care Community Group. He referred to forthcoming South Lakeland Dementia Hub meetings in June and July, details of which he would provide, as well as information relating to the Primary Care Network and also on the need to revitalise the Kendal Resilience Group. He further undertook to obtain more information in relation to the Health Inequalities Project and the research which had been carried out by Manchester University.

### **20/2022      Schedule of Payments**

Council gave consideration to the April 2022 Payments Schedule and the Town Clerk answered queries raised by Members.

**Resolved:** To note the April 2022 Schedule of Payments.

The meeting closed at 8.29 p.m.