Kendal Town Council

Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal LA9 4ED

www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk

**Minutes of the Meeting of Kendal Town Council held on Monday, 6 September 2021 at 7.30pm at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.**

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| G Archibald | Present | C Hogg | Present |
| A Blackman | Present | R Hogg | Apologies |
| J Brook | Present | H Ladhams | Present |
| S Coleman | Apologies | S Long | Present |
| G Cook | Present | D Miles | Apologies |
| J Cornthwaite | Apologies | T Perkins | Present |
| J Dunlop | Present | D Rathbone (Mayor) | Present |
| A Edwards | Apologies | C Rowley | Apologies |
| S Evans | Present | M Severn | Present |
| A Finch | Apologies | K Simpson | Present |
| P Gibson | Apologies | R Sutton | Present |
| C Hardy | Present | K Teasdale (from item 6) | Present |
| E Hennessy | Present | G Tirvengadum | Present |
|  |  | G Vincent | Present |

**In attendance:** Town Clerk (Chris Bagshaw) and Democratic Services Assistant (Ian Gordon). Prospective Councillors Kathleen Teasdale and Fiona Atkinson

Point of order.

* A Councillor asked if masks were required during the meeting given the SLDC signage at the entrance to the building which requesting it. The Clerk would seek clarification from SLDC but understands masks are recommended when travelling through the building but not whilst in attendance at a meeting.
* Mayor asked the Clerk to write to SLDC asking them to refrain from using single use plastic bottles for meetings.

**26/21/22 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Coleman, Cornthwaite, Edwards, Finch, Gibson, R Hogg, Miles and Rowley.

**27/21/22 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**28/21/22 Exclusion of Press and Public**

Item 5 and 9 may require and exclusion of press and public. .

**Resolved:** To take items 5 and 9 as Part 2 items.

**29/21/22 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Council received the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2021. A Councillor pointed out an error in minutes of the Management Committee, page 7 under E&H (f), correcting ‘Music for Youths’ which should be ‘Kendal Youth Zone’.

**Resolved:** To accept them as a true record.

**30/21/22 Co-option of a Councillor for Kirkland Ward**

There were two proposals to fill the vacancy for the Kirkland Ward, Kath Teasdale and Fiona Atkinson. Both candidates gave a three minute presentation followed by a ballot. The result of the ballot was Kath Teasdale has been elected as a co-opted member for Kirkland.

Councillor Teasdale joined the meeting at this point. The Mayor thanked Fiona Atkinson for her interest and nomination for the Town Council.

**31/21/22 Chair and member of Environment & Highways Committee**

1. A proposal was made to elect Councillor **Hennessy** as Chair of the Environment & Highways Committee.

**Resolved**: To elect Councillor Hennessy as Chair of Environment & Highways.

1. A proposal was made to elect Councillor **Archibald** as Vice Chair of the Environment & Highways Committee.

**Resolved**: To elect Councillor Archibald as Vice Chair of the Environment & Highways Committee.

1. A proposal was made to elect Councillor **Simpson** as a member of the Environment & Highways Committee.

**Resolved**: To elect Councillor Simpson as member of the Environment & Highways Committee.

1. It was proposed that Councillor **Edwards** be elected as the representative of Kendal Town Council on the Kendal Lads & Girls Club.

**Resolved**: To elect Councillor Edwards as representative of Kendal Town Council to the Kendal Lads & Girls Club

**32/21/22 Member of Planning Committee**

It was proposed that Councillor **Teasdale** be elected as member of the Planning Committee.

**Resolved**: To elect Councillor Teasdale as member of the Planning Committee

**33/21/22 Member of Mayoralty and Arts Committee**

It was proposed that Councillor **Teasdale** be appointed as a member of the Mayoralty and Arts Committee.

**Resolved**: To elect Councillor Teasdale as member of the Mayoralty and Arts Committee.

**34/21/22 Face to Face Meetings**

The committee considered the background information on virtual or face to face meetings. At the annual meeting in May 2021, the committee agreed to review the hybrid arrangement based on the ongoing risk of covid, any updated government legislation/advice and in any case review and if appropriate continue the current arrangement for a further period. The Chair pointed out there is a need to record the council’s wishes. A councillor also asked for clarification about absenteeism. The Clerk reported that the presence of a councillor at a meeting that is virtual is unclear. The definition is quite wide and the clerks view is that attendance in a virtual meeting is as though it was at a face to face meeting.

Debate included a discussion on covid which is still very much with us. A councillor maintained it was beholden upon the Town Council to be extra vigil and cautious as there are people who are vulnerable especially as the vaccine has been shown to dwindle with time.

Another councillor feels the Town Council must not be over protective and it is important that the public have access to the democratic process via face to face meetings.

There was wide support for a time limit on any extension. It was proposed to continue with online meetings and review in March 2022.

**Resolved**: To extend the provision of online meetings as a precaution against covid infection until March 2022 and review at full council.

**35/21/22 Minutes from Committees**

The Council considered and received the following minutes:

1. Management Committee meeting on 2 August
2. Planning Committee meetings on 5 July, 19 July, 2 August and 16 August
3. Environment and Highways Committee on 12 July
4. Audit Grants and Charities Committee on 26 July
5. Christmas Lights and Festivals Committee on 9 August
6. Kendal in Bloom Committee on 28 June

**Resolved**: That the minutes be accepted. A councillor asked if there are any action items that require approval by full committee. The Clerk confirmed there were none.

Clarification was sought regarding the Management Committee meeting of 2 August related to the provision of toilets (M16/21/22 (f) c.). A councillor feels the Community Toilet Scheme was very effective and provided a much better service. Another councillor responded about several complaints related to Gooseholme and lack of toilets. In that context Town Council felt it should consider provision in this area and pointed out that the community toilet scheme didn’t extend to Gooseholme

A councillor felt the Town Council should look at the provision of toilets as an important contribution to the town. It was proposed that this item should be referred to the E&H Committee. Several councillors were concerned that there are significant costs associated with provision of a toilet.

**Resolved**: To refer the debate considering additional provision/access to toilets to the E&H committee.

**36/21/22 Representation on Outside Bodies**

The Council received reports from Cllr R Sutton as representative on the following. Cllr Sutton spoke to his report reinforcing a number of points on the future of the Brewery Arts Centre.

Cllr Sutton also spoke to his report for Kendal ICC and reinforced his request for meal on wheels where there is a shortage of volunteers.

1. Brewery Arts on 19 August
2. Kendal Integrated Care Community Delivery Group on 26 May, 28 July.

**Resolved:** To receive both reports.

**37/21/22 Schedule of Payments**

The Council received the Schedule of Payments for July 2021.

**Resolved:** The Clerk clarified a number of individual payments 6 July SLDC footway lighting. Still trying to clarify with SLDC.

**Resolved**: To accept the schedule of payments for July 2021

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The meeting closed at 8.37pm