

# Civil Parish of Kendal

## Annual Assembly of Electors

12 May 2023

You are invited to attend the annual meeting of the electors of the Civil Parish of Kendal, at 7pm on **Monday 22 May, 2023**. The meeting will take place in the Town Hall, Kendal and will address the following business.



**Chris Bagshaw, Town Clerk**

### Agenda

**1. Opening Remarks from the Mayor of Kendal**

The Mayor of Kendal, Cllr Julia Dunlop will open the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

To receive any apologies from people who are unable to attend.

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

To receive the minutes of the last meeting of the electors of the civil parish of Kendal and to affirm them as a true record.

**4. Annual Report of the Town Council**

The Mayor will present an Annual Report of the Town Council for the year 2022-2023.

**5. Town Council Plan**

To receive a report on the Town Council's Plan for Kendal.

**6. Matters affecting the Civil Parish of Kendal**

To consider any questions from electors on matters relating to the Council or the Town generally.

**7. Closing Remarks from the Mayor of Kendal**

## **Minutes of the proceedings at the Annual Town Assembly held on Monday, 4 April 2022 at 7pm in the Town Hall, Kendal.**

### **PRESENT**

Cllrs G Archibald, A Blackman, G Cook, J Cornthwaite, J Dunlop, A Finch, E Hennessy, C Hogg, H Ladhams, S Long, D Miles, D Rathbone, R Sutton, G Tirvengadam, G Vincent.

### **OFFICERS**

Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and Simon Unsworth (Mayor's Attendant)

### **1 OPENING REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR OF KENDAL**

The Mayor opened the meeting, commenting that it had been another difficult year but that it was good to be able to meet face to face again.

### **2 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Brook, S Coleman, A Edwards, S Evans, P Gibson, R Hogg, T Perkins, C Rowley, K Simpson and K Teasdale

### **3 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

The Town Clerk gave an introduction to Kendal Town Council and presented the 2021-22 Annual Report.

### **04 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Each Committee Chair gave a short presentation. In addition to the reports in the town Annual Report, the following points were made:

#### **Allotments Committee – Councillor A Finch**

Councillor Finch said that it had been another strange year, with bird flu meaning chickens had to be kept under cover, but that allotments had given people a way of coping with the pandemic.

The waiting list for allotments is around 3 years but new plots are in development on Canal Head which may help lessen this. Cllr Finch thanks Janine and Pierre for their continued work to support the allotments.

#### **Audit, Grants & Charities Committee – Councillor J Dunlop**

Councillor Dunlop explained that a great deal of work had been undertaken to streamline the process of applying for a Kendal Town Council grant. There was now in place a clear expectation on recipients that they would provide feedback on the use of the grant and, if appropriate, be involved in publicising the council's support (e.g. via a Mayor's visit and photo opportunity).

#### **Kendal in Bloom Committee – Councillor A Blackman**

This year's report opens with an aspirational statement that sets out the future of the Kendal In Bloom activities. The competition has still been impacted by the pandemic and pandemic, although local groups still entered the competition with some success. Kendal was set to represent Cumbria in Britain in Bloom but that is unlikely to happen now because of the Flood Defence Works, although it is hoped that the opportunity will arise again in the future.

Particular thanks went to Janine Holt, Council Services Officer, for her tremendous support throughout the year.

#### **Christmas Lights & Festivals Committee – Councillor H Ladhams**

Another difficult year with many festivals still being presented virtually.

Particular thanks to everyone involved in the response to Storm Arwen, despite the disappointment of not being able to have a light's switch-on event.

The Council Services Officer was thanked for all her hard work during the year.

### **Environment & Highways Committee – Councillor A Hennessy**

The scope of the committee's work has changed and expanded over the past 3 or 4 years, with climate change and biodiversity now central priorities.

The Dark Skies Initiative has been a particular success.

The next four years are key and it is hoped that the next council will continue to be brave and progressive.

### **Planning Committee – Councillor D Rathbone**

The committee has continued to meet every two weeks, and is still the reporting and decision-making committee for the Flood Relief Group. This year it has made representations to the government regarding biodiversity in addition to the other work it has undertaken.

Councillor Rathbone thanked all Committee members for their work.

### **Management Committee – Councillor G Cooke**

The role of the committee has been enhanced to support the move to bi-monthly full council meetings. It continues to oversee the council's work, staffing etc.

### **Mayoralty and Arts**

Things are opening up again which is good news. Work has started on the asset register.

## **5 QUESTIONS**

No questions were raised.

Cllr Cornthwaite asked that the documentation be amended to reflect that he represents SLDC in Kendal North, not Strickland.

## **6 CLOSING REMARKS**

Councillor Rathbone closed the Annual Town Assembly by thanking all Councillors for their work. He hopes that going forward that the council will continue to be robust and open, that face to face meetings continue and that the councillors continue to work together. He reminded councillors that they can attend any committee meeting and get involved and he urged them to do so.

The meeting closed at 19.20.