

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, 2 October 2023, at 7.30 p.m.

Councillors

G Archibald	Present	A Blackman	Present
S Blunden	Present	J Brook	Present
D Brown	Present	A Campbell	Present
S Coleman	Present	J Cornthwaite	Present
J Dunlop	Present	L Edwards	Present
R 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	Apologies
D Rathbone	Present	C Russell	Present
M Severn	Absent	K Simpson	Present
G Supka	Present	R Sutton	Present
P Thornton	Present	G Tirvengadam	Present

In attendance: Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and Simon Unsworth (Heritage Officer)

Public Participation

No items were brought forward by the public.

46/2023 Apologies

Accepted were received from Cllrs A Finch, C Hardy and D Miles.

47/2023 Declarations of Interest

No additional declarations of interest were made

48/2023 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No items needed excluding.

49/2023 Minutes of Last Meeting

Resolved: To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5 June 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

50/2023 Minute Action Sheet

The Council considered the Minute Action Sheet and the following issues were highlighted: Item 8 The importance of highlighting with the public the need to identify *vespa mandarinia*, the Asian or Northern Giant Hornet, was stressed to protect local bee populations.

Item 10 The Town Clerk was asked what progress had been made towards assisting the Council with its understanding of the issues surrounding language in the context of LGBTQ+. He confirmed that this was still work in progress with dialogue with appropriate bodies such as Stonewall.

Item 13 The Town Clerk was asked what progress was being made on publicity for the Council's work on footpaths around Kendal. He suggested this would be addressed imminently with some press coverage for Vicarage Drive. A general point was made that the councils communication with the public and internally needs to improve. The importance of using the post-meeting press releases was stressed and the Clerk confirmed that additional resources may be required to ensure this.

Resolved: To note the Minute Action Sheet.

51/2023 Mayor's Communications and Announcements

The Council received a report on the Mayor's activities. The Mayor highlighted the success of the Torchlight event and complimented everyone involved from both the council and the Torchlight committee and volunteers, the Unity and Pride festival which created a real sense of community in the town and the 80th anniversary of the Midday Concert Club.

Resolved: To note the report.

52/2023 Reports and Minutes from Committees

Minutes were received en bloc with notes and queries as follows:

- (a) Environment and Highways Committee on 17 July and 11 September 2023
Environment and Highways Committee is now called the Environment Committee. It was confirmed that highways are still covered by this committee. Cllr Thornton also confirmed that the recent government announcements on 20mph do not directly affect Kendal's plans.
- (b) Kendal in Bloom on 25 July 2023
- (c) Management Committee on 4 September 2023
- (d) Planning Committee on 31 July, 14 August, 4 September and 18 September 2023
A councillor asked whether there was a simple way of monitoring the long-term effectiveness of the Planning Committee's recommendations? It was confirmed that there is no automated method to do this, but that it can be addressed. It was confirmed that a change in guidance means there is no requirement for planning permission for solar panels. It was noted that W&FC planning committee appears to be committed to encouraging local input into committees and listening to local opinion and that this is to be welcomed.

In the light of recent events in Northumberland, the Clerk was asked if there was enough protection for local trees and whether there was an easy way to find this information. He confirmed that this information is not published by the planning authority for Kendal, but that this will hopefully improve as harmonisation occurs across the W&FC area. A question was asked about the ownership of the damaged bus stop by the Westmorland Shopping centre. It was confirmed that this was a stop managed by W&FC.

Resolved: To note the Minutes.

53/2023 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Council received the following reports:

- (a) Integrated Care Community Meeting (a written report from Cllr R Sutton)
- (b) Integrated Care Community Extra Meeting (a written report from Cllr R Sutton)
- (c) Lancaster Canal Regeneration Project Executive Meeting (a written report from Cllr L Hendry)

Resolved: To note the reports.

54/2023 Schedule of Payments

The Clerk confirmed that the payment to Meraki HR is to cover HR services and that Meraki are based in the Kendal Business Hub, close to the Town Council offices.

Resolved: To receive the Schedule of Payments.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm