

# Kendal Town Council

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



**Minutes of a meeting of Kendal Town Council held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal, on Monday, 6 October 2025, at 7.30 p.m.**

## Councillors

G Archibald	Present	A Blackman	Apologies
S Blunden	Apologies	J Brook	Present
D Brown	Present	A Campbell	Apologies
S Coleman	Apologies	J Cornthwaite	Present
J Dunlop	Present	L Edwards	Present
R Edwards	Apologies	D Evans	Present
S Falshaw	Present	A Finch	Present
L Hendry	Present	E Hennessy	Present
H Ladhams	Present	S Long	Present
T Martland	Present	D Miles	Apologies
D Rathbone	Apologies	C Russell	Present
M Severn	Present	K Simpson	Present
G Supka	Apologies	R Sutton	Present
P Thornton	Present	G Tirvengadam	Present

**In attendance:** Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and Natalia Williams (Deputy Clerk and Development and Delivery Manager).

## Also present: Kendal Lions Club

Liz Axton and Alison Audsley gave a presentation to Councillors about Kendal Lions Club. They provided a brief overview of the organisation and a history of the club's presence in Kendal. They highlighted the work carried out by the organisation, in particular, the Lion Club's book shop, now situated in Wainright's Yard. The following free services were highlighted:

- The book shop as a community hub, offering second-hand books, DVDs, CDs, jigsaws etc but also an opportunity and space to chat.
- Message in a bottle – personal information is filled in and placed inside a bottle. The bottle is then placed inside the fridge, with a sticker on the outside. The bottle is recognised by Emergency Services to provide key information should a person be in need of assistance.
- Dementia resources
- Glasses collection – unused glasses are sent out to developing countries.

The Lions Club also work on the hospital garden at Westmorland General hospital, building it as a community space, growing flowers and vegetables.

The representatives answered questions from Councillors regarding the rent of their current premises. They were thanked for the great work they do and for keeping a book shop available in the town centre. The representatives highlighted that more volunteers are also welcome and that people can give as much or as little time as suits them.

**36/2025      Apologies**

**Resolved:** To receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllrs Blackman, Blunden, Campbell, Coleman, R Edwards, Miles, Rathbone and Supka.

**37/2025      Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were raised under this item.

**38/2025      Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)**

**Resolved:** Prior to consideration, to vote on moving into Part Two for consideration of Agenda Item 9 (Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies).

**39/2025      Minutes of Last Council Meeting**

**Resolved:** To receive the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 28 July 2025 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

**40/2025      Minute Action Sheet**

**Resolved:** To note the actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings of the Council.

**41/2025      Mayor's Communications and Announcements**

Council was presented with a list of recent activities carried out by both Mayor and the Deputy Mayor. He highlighted that he is meeting with local volunteers to thank them for their contributions. He is capturing interviews to publicise the great work being done and to demonstrate the range of volunteering that is being done in the town. The Mayor highlighted several upcoming events, including the Rinteln Twinning Association dinner and the Kendal Book Festival. The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for her attendance at a number of events and officers for their support.

**Resolved:** To receive the report.

**42/2025      Budget Working Group**

Council were asked to approve the proposed composition and timetable for the budget working group 2026 – 2027, acknowledging that the process has worked well in previous years.

**Resolved:** To confirm Cllr's Archibald, Ladhams and Russell to the Budget Working Group 2026 – 2027 and the proposed timetable.

**43/2025      20mph**

Council received a verbal update regarding the progress of the 20mph proposal for Kendal. The decision on whether the 20mph scheme for Kendal will progress to a formal public consultation will take place at the Westmorland and Furness South Lakeland Locality Board meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October.

**Resolved:** To note the verbal update.

## Part Two

**Members voted to exclude the Press and Public for the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the discussion.**

### **44/2025 Reports from Outside Bodies**

The Council received a verbal update on work being conducted by Kendal Futures.

**Resolved:** To note the verbal update regarding Kendal Futures.

**Resolved:** For representatives of Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership to provide an update to the next meeting.

**Members voted to come out of Part Two for the remaining items on the agenda.**

### **45/2025 Reports and Minutes from Committees**

The Council was presented with minutes from recent meetings of the Council's standing committees, details of which are provided below. Committee chairs were further provided an opportunity to provide a brief account of their committee's recent activities.

- (a) Culture and Communities Committee on 15 September 2025 (draft) – Cllr Ladhams presented the minutes. There was a discussion regarding community resilience and the recent incidents of flooding in Kendal. It was acknowledged that there was a need to clarify roles and responsibilities between Kendal Town Council and Westmorland and Furness Council, and that the public required more accurate information on how to receive help.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact Westmorland and Furness Council Officers to discuss responsibilities for flooding.

**Resolved:** To provide an update on flooding hydrosacks to the next meeting of Culture and Communities.

- (b) Audit Committee on 21 July 2025 (draft) – Cllr Russell presented the minutes. He highlighted that there will be increased access to financial management systems and that the work in this area is constantly improving and making progress. He also highlighted that the action under minute ref A12/2025 would now be presented to a subsequent meeting of the Council and as required meetings had not yet taken been completed.
- (a) Environment Committee on 14 July (final) and 8 September 2025 (draft) – Cllr Hennessy presented the minutes. He highlighted that the committee will be considering budgets at their next meeting and encouraged Councillors to share any project ideas in advance of the meeting with himself and the Deputy Town Clerk. In response to a query regarding whether the Council plans to take on the installation of new bus shelters as well as repairs and maintenance, Councillor Hennessy confirmed that this could be within a future scope of the project and that a methodology for the installation of new shelters would be brought to the next committee. Vice-Chair Cllr Archibald provided an update regarding progress of the priority footpath list, highlighting that a key meeting had taken place between Kendal Town Council and Westmorland and Furness Council to align priorities and resources. A particular update was that funding has been identified to move ahead with some aspects of the Riverside North footpath.

- (b) Management Committee on 1 September 2025 (draft) - In the absence of Cllr Coleman, Cllr Dunlop presented the minutes. She drew attention to the update on the development of the new website and noted the excitement of the committee to see the progression of the project.
- (c) Mayoralty and Heritage Committee on 22 September 2025 – Cllr Sutton presented the minutes. He drew attention to the support given to repatriate items from the Kendal Museum to the Nandi people and to the development of the Mayor’s Parlour, including display of the town charters. Cllr Hendry also shared an update of a Rinteln Twinning project, that has resulted in the production of a 2026 calendar.

**Resolved:** To amend the spelling error in the minutes referring to Councillor Brook.

- (d) Planning Committee on 28 July (final), 18 August (final), 1 September (final) and 15 September 2025 (draft). In the absence of Cllr Rathbone, Cllr Ladhams presented the minutes. The progress of the local plan was discussed and Councillors expressed the need for updates in how the process is progression.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact Westmorland and Furness Council Officers for a briefing on the local plan process in relation to Kendal.

#### **46/2025      Schedule of Payments**

The Council was presented with the schedule of payments for May and June 2025. The Town Clerk responded to queries raised by Members.

**Resolved:** To receive the schedule of payments for July and August 2025.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.