

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2016

Present: Cllr Anne Balkwill (Chairman)
Cllr Tom Coulthard
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr Robin Griffin
Cllr Wayne Grills
Cllr Irene Jeeninga
Cllr Graham Price
Cllr Jim Romanos

In Attendance: District Cllr Keith Wingate
Sgt David Green
Two Members of Public
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

16/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Martina Edmonds, Sandy Gilbert, Kate Lynn and Chris Povey; County Cllr Julian Brazil and County/District Cllr Rufus Gilbert.

Public Open Forum

There were no statements from members of public.

16/27 REPORTS FROM POLICE AND SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

27.1 Sgt Green reported on crime for May 2016; a total of 13 crimes had been committed compared to 20 crimes during the same period in 2015 and 24 in 2014. Two arrests had been made, one person had been dealt with by community resolution and others were still under investigation. Crimes included: one actual bodily harm, one common assault, 2 shopliftings (by the same person), 4 other thefts, possession of a knife and public order offence (persons arrested for both), one sexual offence and 2 criminal damage. Non-crime activity formed a significant proportion of the daily workload for local officers at 80% of the Police resource which including domestic incidents, road traffic accidents, missing persons, youth and mental health issues. June's road safety theme was drink and drug driving to coincide with national and European campaigns. The Food & Music Festival had been a success from a policing viewpoint with no significant incidents; a wash-up would take place shortly with the organisers in order to review the event and consider any required changes.

Cllr Balkwill commented that vehicles parked on a bend near the Crabshell Inn/Moorings; there were no parking restrictions but it narrowed the highway considerably. Sgt Green replied that such action did not constitute an obstruction and therefore was not Police business. Members agreed to highlight the matter to Devon County Council (DCC). Cllr Price reported there had been several minor incidents of anti-social behaviour e.g. damage to Kingsbridge In Bloom displays

which Sgt Green noted. Finally, Cllr Romanos reported that vehicles parked at the Slipway in Quay Car Park which caused noise issues. Sgt Green replied that citizens should feel empowered to challenge others regarding such matters and Cllr Coulthard stated that he would speak to the drivers concerned and request they monitor their behaviour.

Sgt Green left the Chamber

27.2 District Cllr Wingate reported that he was pleased with South Hams District Council's (SHDC) decision to refuse the planning application for a housing development at site K4 off Derby Road which was supported by Members. Part of a wall had fallen into the Western Backway leat and it had been determined as a dangerous structure. The Eastern Backway had been re-opened. A business plan for SHDC to transfer some of its service delivery to a local authority controlled company would be considered shortly. Four new members of staff would be employed by the Customer Services centre in order to provide quicker response rates to telephone calls. A business plan for Salcombe Harbour operations was anticipated shortly and he would provide further information when known. Finally, he had been elected as Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Cllr Coulthard queried whether the light railway required a licence for running along The Promenade footpath; Cllr Wingate replied that he was in close contact with the applicant and he was aware that a licence was required. Cllr Romanos asked if the Rivermaid ferry was anticipated to run shortly; Cllr Wingate replied that he wished the ferry did run more often and had spoken on a one-to-one basis to the operator on many occasions. However, it was unlikely that SHDC would advertise for another ferry operator. Cllr Jeeninga queried when new mechanical sweepers would be introduced for street sweeping; Cllr Wingate was unsure but would find out.

District Cllr Wingate left the Chamber

16/28 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to consider.

16/29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

16/30 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the annual general meeting held on 10 May 2016, and the extraordinary meeting held on 31 May 2016, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/31 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 17 May 2016 and 7 June 2016.

16/32 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept the Recommendations in the minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee held on 13 May 2016.

16/33 EVENTS POLICY

SHDC had recently consulted with local councils regarding a new Events Policy to take effect in 2017/18 providing a deadline of 29 July for feedback. Subsequent to the last meeting a Working Group had met on 2 occasions to realise specific comments for Kingsbridge and a draft policy was received and discussed by Members. It was **RESOLVED** for the Working Group to progress the draft Events Policy and to review the same at the next full council meeting.

16/34 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

34.1 Grant Aid. Thank you letters had been received from the following: Kingsbridge Twinning Association, Kingsbridge Foodbank, Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas, Age UK Devon and Kingsbridge Cricket Club.

34.2 Staffing. Some business was behind schedule due to reduced staffing over the last 2 weeks e.g. website updates. It was anticipated for normal service to be resumed from week beginning 20 June.

34.3 Quay House Car Park Management. Chain and bollards were being used to secure the car park outside Council Offices' working hours in order to stop the entry of unauthorised vehicles and negative impacts i.e. noise and litter.

34.4 Highways Matters. Following Members' consideration of potential waiting restrictions for a new Traffic Regulation Order a further request had been received. From 10 & 12 Fosse Road: a request for double yellow lines on the northern side of the road from the junction with Buckwell Road to the driveway opposite 14 Fosse Road. Members were content to forward the suggestion to DCC to be considered alongside proposals previously supported.

Members further supported investigation of parking restrictions in Embankment Road (Crabshell Inn to The Moorings area) as discussed during the Police report (agenda item 15/27.1).

34.5 KTC & Police Liaison Meeting. Cllrs Fishman and Griffin had met with Insp Tomlinson and Sgt Green on 9 June. Notes were available for Members.

34.6 Invitation – Service of Thanksgiving. St Edmunds Church had invited Members to a Service of Thanksgiving (restoration of new windows) on Sunday 3 July at 6.00 p.m.

34.7 Bunting. The bunting for Fore Street, Town Square and Church Street would be installed on Tuesday 21 June.

34.8 Christmas Lights. Installation/decommission could be adversely affected by traffic flow and parked vehicles and therefore an application for a Fore Street road closure, over 3 Sundays, had been suggested by the contractor at £800. Members agreed that the matter should be further considered.

16/35 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES

35.1 Cllr Price reported on Kingsbridge In Bloom business; the group was progressing well towards the 2016 competition to be judged early July. However, highways' weeding had not been actioned to date.

35.2 Cllr Fishman reported that DCC had carried out a vegetation cut of the footpath from the railway bridge to Old Plymouth Road.

35.3 Cllr Jeeninga had attended a meeting of Dodbrook Feoffees; the group was in good health.

35.4 Cllr Balkwill reported that Kingsbridge Feoffees had instructed architects to supply plans for a housing development on KTC's land off Derby Road which the group had an option agreement to purchase.

16/36 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 14 June 2016. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £17,813.47 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

16/37 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was no business brought forward.

16/38 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

There were no questions to the Chairman.

16/39 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was **RESOLVED** that in view of the nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest, that the public and press be temporarily excluded.

16/40 CASUAL VACANCY

SHDC had confirmed that an election had not been called for the casual vacancy in Westville Ward. It was then **RESOLVED** to invite Mike Jennings to become a co-opted town councillor for Kingsbridge Westville Ward.

Members of public and the press left the Chamber

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

..... Presiding ChairmanDate