

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017**

Present: Cllr Chris Povey (Chairman)
Cllr David Baisie
Cllr Tom Coulthard
Cllr Martina Edmonds
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr Sandy Gilbert
Cllr Robin Griffin
Cllr Irene Jeeninga
Cllr Mike Jennings
Cllr Graham Price
Cllr Jim Romanos

In Attendance: County Cllr Julian Brazil
District Cllr Keith Wingate
Sam Acourt, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette
Six Members of Public
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

16/176 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anne Balkwill & Kate Lynn, County/District Cllr Rufus Gilbert and Sgt David Green.

Public Open Forum

Christine Vere and Leslie Pengelly made the statements at Annex A.

16/177 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

177.1 Sgt Green had provided a crime report for February 2017 which was read out by Cllr Povey. A total of 14 crimes had been committed; 14 crimes had also been recorded during the same period in 2016 and 15 in 2015. There had been 2 arrests, 1 caution, 1 community resolution and others were still under investigation. Crimes included 5 assaults (2 minor injury and 3 non-injury), 1 house burglary, 1 shoplifting, 3 other thefts, 3 criminal damages (all to cars) and 1 drunk and disorderly.

There had been ongoing work alongside South Hams District Council (SHDC) and the Town Council (KTC) to find a long term solution to the issue of anti-social behaviour from some drivers in Quay Car Park. A constructive joint meeting had been held the previous day with local residents following their appeal at the last full council meeting. Residents had been assured that their concerns were understood and the authorities were exploring all possible avenues to resolve the problem.

177.2 County Cllr Rufus Gilbert had provided his Devon County Council (DCC) report which was read out by Cllr Sandy Gilbert. He was pleased to confirm that after 2 years of lobbying, written confirmation had been received that the wall between Totnes Cross and the Great Wall of Halwell would be resurfaced in 2017. Additional temporary patching had been actioned to tie the road over for a bit longer. The delay had been caused due to similar funding requests from elsewhere therefore this was a huge success.

177.3 County Cllr Brazil reported that DCC's budget meeting had agreed a 4.99% increase in council tax; 1.99% overall rise and 3% earmarked for social care. There had been a £2.2m overspend for special education needs and therefore cuts were anticipated in the future. The Cabinet had agreed to fund flood defences with the Environment Agency leading rather than DCC. A new contract would mean that community composting would reduce from £50 to £25 per ton. Finally, he was awaiting legal feedback regarding the damaged flower planters in The Promenade.

Cllr Jeeninga asked if DCC could arrange for litter to be picked from the A38 verges; Cllr Brazil advised that KTC should lobby the Highways Agency.

Cllr Price commented that KTC and Kingsbridge In Bloom had received several representations regarding the damaged planters in The Promenade and the lack of action to date; Cllr Brazil replied he would do his utmost but it was likely to take time to progress an insurance claim.

Cllrs Edmonds and Povey stated that the methodology was unfair which had resulted in education budget cuts in Kingsbridge; this was supported by all Members and a letter to lobby for a fairer system should be sent to Sarah Wollaston MP.

177.4 District Cllr Wingate reported that, further to recent reports, some good ideas had come out of the working group which had considered the introduction of a Local Authority Controlled Company (LACC) at SHDC. An Events Policy had been drafted for public consultation which provided consistency across all events using SHDC assets. He then summarised the developing policy which he considered would be much better than the current version.

The Town Clerk reported that the Events Policy would be an agenda item at the next full council meeting.

County Cllr Brazil & District Cllr Wingate left the Chamber

16/178 URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr Povey agreed to take 4 items of urgent business at agenda item 16/185:

- Town Council Logo
- Land off Derby Road
- Damaged Planters – The Promenade
- Bins - Fore Street

16/179 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

16/180 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

16/181 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 21 February and 7 March 2017.

From the latter meeting Members received a Recommendation for outline planning application 0299/17/OPA to provide support with conditions. Members had also noted comments made during the Public Open Forum, further feedback from statutory consultees and further representations from local residents uploaded to SHDC's planning portal. A full discussion took place and it was then **RESOLVED** to provide the following feedback to SHDC's Development Management:

Reference: **0299/17/OPA**

Proposal: Outline application with some matters reserved for proposed residential development comprising 96 dwellings, including affordable homes, public open space and vehicular and pedestrian access.

Location: Land Off (West Of) Belle Hill, Belle Hill, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1NP

Applicant: Mr J Dodge (Westcountry Land)

Case Officer: Wendy Ormsby

KTC: **Recommend APPROVAL subject to the following conditions:**

- 1. An air and noise pollution survey to be conducted to assess the impact of the development on the locale and particularly Church Street.**
- 2. Kingsbridge Town Council to liaise with the applicant's landscape architects to devise landscaping on site (a reserved matter should the development receive outline permission).**
- 3. Devon County Council's recommended travel plan vouchers (at £300.00 per dwelling) to be shelved and the funding to be diverted to other highways matters (see 4. below).**
- 4. Highways contribution earmarked at £65,000 (planning statement dated November 2016) to be used to:**
 - work up a scheme to mitigate traffic impact in Church Street,**
 - re-introduce a school crossing patrol in Church Street, and**

- extend the current 20mph zone to commence further up Belle Hill to the north of the site access.
5. Surface water drainage off site and public foul sewerage improvements to be resolved to the satisfaction of South West Water, independent assurance provided that surface water drainage via attenuation tanks/ponds will be sufficient to cope and for an ongoing maintenance scheme to be introduced for the same.
 6. Local plans have failed to deliver affordable housing in Kingsbridge parish over the last 10 years and local pressures have arisen from this. In these exceptional circumstances, the Registered Provider developing the affordable dwellings should prioritise, up to 100%, local (Kingsbridge) applicants as defined in SHDC's Local Allocations Policy dated September 2015 paragraph 5.14 (for both affordable rent and intermediate housing). This to be achieved via a S106 agreement and a specific planning condition.
 7. A covenant/restriction applied to prevent any further development of the row of 7 detached 4 bedroom dormer bungalows in the north east of the site i.e. nil gain in height/expansion which would affect the skyline.

16/182 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

182.1 SHDC Leader/Senior Officers/Mayors & Clerks meeting. Cllr Fishman & Town Clerk had attended the meeting on 1 March which received reports on: LACC update, Joint Local Plan update, General Service update, SHDC budget 2017/18 report and devolution matters.

182.2 PCC Community Link Officers. Cllrs Baisie, Fishman, Griffin & Town Clerk had met with Nikki Long & Wendy Rowden (Police & Crime Commissioner community link officers for the South Hams) on 2 March to introduce each other's roles and discuss policing matters. The sessions were likely to be repeated.

182.3 VAS (vehicle activated speed sign). Members had agreed at the last full council meeting to make up the agreed TAP Fund monies with 50% funding from KTC at circa £1.8k. Adam Keay, DCC highways officer, and the Town Clerk had reviewed possible locations for the VAS at 5 in number SCARF sites (Embankment Road, West Alvington Hill, Cookworthy Road, Stentiford Hill & Duncombe Street). DCC feedback was awaited.

182.4 Annual Town Meeting. To be held on Saturday 1 April in the Town Square alongside the Farmers' Market. Consultation matters to include: Joint Local Plan,

Great British High Street Award and the Kingsbridge Open Space, Sport & Recreation Plan.

182.5 Bollards - Fore Street. DCC's local highways officer was content to make a funding bid for FY 2018/19 for 9 new bollards on the west side of Fore Street (from Kitchen Shop to the first bay) in order to stop vehicles parking on the pavement in the locale. Members supported the proposal.

Six current bollards had been identified as damaged and required renewal which had already been scheduled for action in FY 2018/19. Members requested early action and costs would be gleaned for repairs/repainting and replacement.

182.6 Plymouth & South West Devon Joint Local Plan. The public consultation period was 15 March to 26 April. Two consultation events with SHDC officers would be held in Kingsbridge:

Tuesday 21 March 3.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. in Room 3 at Quay House, and

Saturday 8 April 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. in the Library

KTC would receive the JLP and consider at the full council meeting on 11 April.

182.7 DCC Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund. A funding bid had made a bid made for £2,500 for a pothole repair service to be managed by KTC (£1k cold lay tarmac & £1.5k contractor costs). DCC feedback was awaited.

182.8 Falklands 35th Anniversary. The Royal British Legion had invited Members to a wreath laying ceremony at 10.30 a.m. on Friday 31 March at the War Memorial and then refreshments on completion at the Mill Club.

182.9 Kingsbridge-Salcombe Ferry. The Harbour Authority had advertised for expressions of interest to run a ferry service.

182.10 Community Housing. SHDC was content to discuss community housing with Members and a time/date for a meeting would be arranged.

16/183 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES

183.1 Cllr Gilbert had attended a NHS Acute Services Review event. A key aspect was that allocated housing for essential staff had been deleted and key health workers could not afford to live close to their place of work.

183.2 Cllr Fishman reported that the Bus Station closure, during essential sewer works, had been badly managed. On the previous Saturday the Police had been called to an incident where a van had refused to move to allow a bus to access the temporary stop in Bridge Street. Specifically there had been a lack of communication and signage from Stagecoach to its passengers and lessons should be learned.

16/184 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 14 March 2017. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £13,153.59 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

16/185 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN:

185.1 TOWN COUNCIL LOGO

Members received examples of a potential new logo for KTC produced by Cllr Gilbert and noted that any new design would need to be visible in black & white and when reduced in size. It was **RESOLVED** to consider a new KTC logo in greater detail at the Policy Committee to be held on 4 April 2017.

185.2 LAND OFF DERBY ROAD

Members received a report from Rogers & Jones Architects (letter THR/BH/1778 dated 10 March 2017) that the company had been appointed by the Trustees of Kingsbridge Feoffees to prepare design information for the submission of a detailed planning application for 6 rented properties (4 in number 3 bedroom houses & 2 in number 1 bedroom flats) at Derby Road. It was **RESOLVED** to note the intentions of Kingsbridge Feoffees at KTC owned land off Derby Road.

185.3 DAMAGED PLANTERS – THE PROMENADE

Members noted County Cllr Brazil's report that DCC's legal team may take a considerable time to feedback to KTC with the success, or otherwise, of an insurance claim for the damaged planters. The planters were a DCC asset and therefore KTC could not take any action at present; Members considered that it may be better to request the planters to be transferred to KTC. It was **RESOLVED** for Cllr Price to propose options for the restoration of the planters in The Promenade.

185.4 BINS – FORE STREET

Members received photos of bins placed on the pavement in the area of The Shambles, Fore Street by 3 adjacent businesses. DCC had confirmed that requests for the same had not been received and it was not a matter which the authority could give permission for. Discussion revealed that The Shambles and St Edmunds Church were Listed Grade II* and I respectively, the bins were poor aesthetically, businesses should operate their own waste disposal, the Church could not accommodate said bins and they should only be placed on the public highway during collection days. It was **RESOLVED** to request DCC to contact Café Bewleys, The Fat Monkey and For Your Eyes Only to action removal of the bins.

16/186 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Price asked if Members were content with Kingsbridge In Bloom providing a large entrance display at Quay Car Park circa 17ft² at 4ft in height which would take out some of the views of the estuary. Members supported the proposal.

The meeting closed at 9.37 p.m.

..... Presiding Chairman Date

Annex:

A. Public Open Forum.

Public Open Forum

1. Christine Vere of Manor Gardens, Kingsbridge referred to planning application 0299/17/OPA and stated that she had not been informed of the proposals for a large housing development off Belle Hill. A JCB had been on site cutting trenches. She considered that 96 dwellings would generate far more traffic than the application suggested and there were highways safety implications for Belle Hill and its environs. Moreover, the extra traffic would be a health concern for the residents of Church Street including her daughter and granddaughter.

2. Leslie Pengelly of Buckwell Road, Kingsbridge, stated that the site notices for planning application 0299/17/OPA were poor e.g. a notice in Buckwell Road was difficult to locate. The site notices identifying the proposals should have been positioned across a much wider area given the development's far reaching impacts.

Cllr Povey thanked Christine and Leslie for their statements.