

Kingsbridge Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 20 MAY 2014 AT 6.30 P.M. IN QUAY HOUSE

Present: Cllr Jax Williams (Chairman)
Cllr Anne Balkwill
Cllr Robin Griffin
Cllr Irene Jeeninga
Cllr Steve Sidney

In attendance: Cllr Philip Yates
Martin Johnson (Secretary)

14/01 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Williams was elected as the Chairman of the Policy Committee for mayoral year 2014/15.

14/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Matt Farrand and Wayne Grills.

Public Open Forum

There were no members of public present.

14/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

14/04 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 January 2014 were approved as a correct record.

14/05 BUSINESS RATES

Members were in receipt of a request from Local Works (email dated 29 April 2014) for the Town Council (KTC) to support a proposal by Sevenoaks Town Council to allow a percentage of Business Rates to be paid direct to local councils for the benefit of local economic growth. While many County Associations of Local Councils, 200 town and parish councils, and NALC had already provided support; members considered that the submission was lacking in detail and would conversely realise a reduction in services provided by principal councils. It was **RECOMMENDED** to glean further information on a proposal for funding from central government to be provided to local councils via business rates.

14/06 FORE STREET CAR PARK

06.1 Members noted the recent refurbishment of the car park's surface, access link to Fore Street, and public toilets by South Hams District Council (SHDC) and complimented the works. It was **RECOMMENDED**:

- to support Kingsbridge In Bloom's proposal for a flower planter (1500mm x 500mm) to be positioned next to the wooden bench seats at the pedestrian access off Fore Street,
- to request SHDC to varnish the wooden toilet doors (to safeguard against graffiti),
- to request SHDC to paint white hatch marking on the ground adjacent to the motor cycle parking area (in order to highlight an existing bollard on exit),
- to request SHDC to provide a new/improved directional sign to the car park (as the sign in situ, on the opposite side of Fore Street, was often hit by high vehicles, currently faced north, was invisible to motorists, and the large sign within the car park itself was effectively hidden by motor cycles),
- for KTC to provide new notice boards on the external wall adjacent to the pedestrian virtual footpath (quotation received at £120 for 3 x 15mm plywood boards to be fixed to existing),
- to note that patch repair, fungal treatment, and repaint of a large shabby section of external wall (as highlighted above) was required and that the owner should be contacted to progress a way forward.

06.2 Members noted that a proposal for a one-way system at the car park had not been progressed by SHDC due to legal matters but that it should remain a KTC ambition.

06.3 Members received from May Gurney (email dated 16 May 2014) notification of an application to Devon County Council (DCC) for a road closure in Fore Street from 18 to 22 August 2014 to complete South West Water utility works. DCC's Neighbourhood Highways Officer had already reported that the road closure would not be allowed and members discussed the time window for such works noting a similar request recently from Oakway Ltd. It was **RECOMMENDED** for KTC to:

- object to May Gurney's application for a road closure in Fore Street during a primary week of the summer holiday season, and
- to consider road closures in Fore Street during the months of January and February only given the requirement for essential works.

Cllrs Balkwill & Yates left the Chamber

14/07 GOOD IDEAS

Members reviewed suggestions received from local residents at the Community Awareness Event held on 3 April 2014 and Annual Town Meeting held on 17 May 2014. Members noted the good ideas/issues raised which are now re-produced at Annex A with brief comments.

14/08 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 2 September 2014 at 6.30 p.m.

Annex:

A. Community good ideas/concerns.

The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.