

## Kingsbridge Town Council

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2014 AT 6.30 P.M. IN QUAY HOUSE

**Present:** Cllr Wayne Grills (Chairman)  
Cllr Anne Balkwill  
Cllr Robin Griffin  
Cllr Irene Jeeninga  
Cllr Steve Sidney

**In attendance:** Martin Johnson (Secretary)

#### **13/33 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Matt Farrand and Jax Williams.

#### **Public Open Forum**

There were no members of public present.

#### **13/34 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **13/35 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 5 November 2013 were approved as a correct record.

#### **13/36 REVIEW OF PRIORITIES FOR 2011-2015**

Members were in receipt of the town council's (KTC) designated Priorities for 2011-2015 and agreed that many items had been completed. The listing had recently been considered by the Finance Committee as a precursor to setting the budget for financial year 2014/15. It was **RECOMMENDED** to progress the revised Priorities at Annex A.

Cllr Grills presented suggestions for promoting facilities, business and improving the streetscape of Kingsbridge. Regarding a post-mounted banner system it was noted that street lights were a Devon County Council (DCC) asset and permission would be required to use them; advertising regulations would require investigation via South Hams District Council (SHDC). It was **RECOMMENDED** to pursue suggestions to promote/improve the streetscape at Annex B.

#### **13/36.1 CONTINENTAL MARKET**

KTC had been requested to comment on an application made to SHDC to hold a continental market in the town square on 9 & 10 May, 11 & 12 July and 22 & 23 August 2014. A full discussion took place with the following comments:

- bi-monthly Farmers Markets were already held in the town square
- Food & Music Festival will be held 30 May-1 June
- while above are not wholly Kingsbridge traders it is local Devon produce

- other local events planned for town square e.g. Classic Car Rally
- continental markets do not contribute to the local economy/job creation
- have nil overheads, nil rates, take profits home
- in direct competition with local shops which require support
- earmarked for 3 busy summer weekends including a bank holiday
- 2/3rds of market stalls identified as takeaway food
- conversations held with shop keepers who do not support the proposal
- Chamber of Commerce did not support the proposal
- curious that the applicant had not held exploratory discussions with KTC or Chamber of Commerce
- Kingsbridge had historical issues with French/Normandy market (prices, quality, presentation) and Destination Kingsbridge group has not supported its return
- Kingsbridge is proud of its numerous independent shops and is a destination in its own right rather than reliance on an imported attraction
- acknowledge a potential buzz on the day however, disadvantages far outweigh the advantages

It was **RECOMMENDED** to respond to SHDC that a continental market was not supported as it was contrary to KTC's shop local policy.

### **13/36.2 FORE STREET PAVEMENT**

Members commented that the pavement was uneven at several locations in Fore Street and matters were compounded by vehicles driving up and onto the pavement on the east side. DCC had reported that monthly inspections were carried out in the designated Primary Walking Route of Fore Street (upto Duncombe Street junction), Duke Street, Bridge Street and The Promenade which increased to bi-monthly inspections in June, July and August. It was **RECOMMENDED** to arrange a town walkabout with DCC's Neighbourhood Highways Officer.

### **13/37 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 4 March 2014 at 6.30 p.m.

Annexes:

- A. KTC revised Priorities for 2011-2015.
- B. Suggestions to promote the town centre and improve the streetscape.

*The meeting closed at 8.28 p.m.*