

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2016**

Present: Cllr Chris Povey (Chairman)
Cllr Anne Balkwill
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
County & District Cllr Rufus Gilbert
District Cllr Keith Wingate
Sgt David Green
Sam Acourt, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette
Thirty Members of Public
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

16/107 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

It was confirmed that a Declaration of Acceptance of Office had been received from co-opted member Cllr David Baisie.

16/108 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs David Baisie and Kate Lynn.

Public Open Forum

Members of public made the statements at Annex A.

**16/109 REPORTS FROM POLICE AND SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL
REPRESENTATIVES**

109.1 Sgt Green reported on crime for October 2016; a total of 26 crimes had been committed compared to 17 during the same period in 2015 and 15 in 2014. There had been: 2 arrests, 2 summons to court, one official caution, 2 community resolutions and others were still under investigation. Crimes included: one common assault, 2 actual bodily harm (minor injuries), one historic rape (2008), one non-dwelling burglary (nothing stolen from a farm building), 9 criminal damages, 2 arsons, one shoplifting, 2 thefts, 3 public order, 2 harassment, one blackmail and one dangerous dog. November's road safety theme was young and elderly drivers. The annual "Learn to Live" presentation at Plymouth Pavilions would take place later in the month to deliver specific road safety messages to young drivers. The Junior

Life Skills presentation on Friday 14 October at Quayside Leisure Centre had included age-specific input about on-line sexual exploitation. Kingsbridge officers had been drafted to Exeter to assist with the recent Royal Clarence Hotel fire. Kingsbridge Police would be laying wreaths at Kingsbridge, Modbury and Salcombe Remembrance ceremonies. The "Have Your Say" survey day on Monday 14 November would be carried out jointly by the Police and the Town Council (KTC) assisted by University of Plymouth public services' students. Finally, skateboarding in Ebrington Street and Quay Lane, identified as a nuisance at the last meeting, was being dealt with.

Sgt Green left the Chamber

109.2 County Cllr Brazil reported that Devon County Council (DCC) had discussed the NHS' strategic transformation plan which had earmarked Dartmouth Hospital for closure. Kingsbridge Hospital and Minor Injuries Unit had not been identified for closure and he thanked local residents for their voluntary work/input in making it such a great facility. County Cllr Gilbert and himself intended to monitor the situation very closely. He attended Dementia Friendly Kingsbridge meetings alongside various other groups to make the community more aware of dementia matters. The project was at an early stage but hoped to make a presentation to Kingsbridge Community College (KCC) students and to start its own website.

109.3 County Cllr Gilbert supported the above report that Kingsbridge Hospital was not under pressure at present. County Cllr Brazil and himself had attended a recent Green Seminar at KCC which had discussed devolution. Road repairs from Tacketwood to Gerston would be undertaken shortly.

109.4 District Cllr Gilbert reported that South Hams District Council (SHDC) had agreed for the Town Square trees to be pollarded before Christmas. He noted that SHDC's street cleansing consultation was an agenda item at the meeting.

Cllr Edmonds reported upon extreme leaf fall in West Alvington Hill and suggested that greater street cleansing was required in the locale; District Cllr Gilbert replied that he welcomed feedback on the subject.

109.5 District Cllr Wingate reported that he was a member of the steering group for the proposed Local Authority Controlled Company (LACC) which needed to clear 'red lines' including state aid and VAT. A Harbour Board Meeting was due to be held shortly and as a member of the Audit Committee he would be meeting the auditors the following week.

Cllr Romanos requested a timetable for the K2 (Quayside) masterplan and an update on the revised events policy. District Cllrs Gilbert and Wingate replied that an anticipated K2 stakeholders meeting had been delayed and the events policy would be consulted upon again.

16/110 URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr Povey agreed to take one item of urgent business at agenda item 16/123: "Trim Trail – Video by Kingsbridge Community College".

County Cllr Brazil left the Chamber

16/111 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Edmonds declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 16/113; sub agenda item 69.2 (planning application 2767/16/FUL).

16/112 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/113 PLANNING COMMITTEE

113.1 It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 18 October 2016 and 1 November 2016.

113.2 The following planning application was received from SHDC for consideration:

Reference: **2574/16/OPA**
Proposal: Outline planning application with all matters reserved for 26 new dwellings
Location: Dennings, Wallingford Road, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1NF
Applicant: South Hams Eco Developments
Case Officer: Wendy Ormsby

Members noted:

- the minutes and a recommendation from the Planning Committee held on 1 November 2016,
- new information received since the above meeting was held; namely feedback from other statutory consultees, representations from local residents and a report/revised drawings from the applicant, and
- comments made during the Public Open Forum.

A full discussion followed and it was then **RESOLVED** to **Recommend Refusal** for the following reasons:

- Access to the site is proposed to be taken from Wallingford Road where the road splits from HMPE to a private road. It is considered that an increased volume of traffic to/from the development and the awkward highways arrangement earmarked will cause road safety issues for pedestrians and schoolchildren.
- The suggested implementation of TROs will introduce parking restrictions in Wallingford Road to the detriment of current residents in the locale. Wallingford Road has historic parking issues, as evidenced by the only Residents Parking Scheme in Kingsbridge, and TRO action will compound problems already encountered.
- Drainage proposals have been objected to by South Hams District Council's Assets Engineers and Devon County Council's Flood Risk Management Team as they are insufficient in detail. Such observations are supported by the Town Council.

- The design and layout of dwellings within the development is unknown and only suggested drawings have been submitted by the applicant. No matter how the layout is configured, on a steep site, there is likely to be a loss of outlook for nearby homes leading to a detriment of residential amenity.
- Affordable housing is proposed for 7 units at circa 27%; the Planning Authority's strategic target is 50% for unallocated sites. It is considered that a sufficient level of affordable housing will not be delivered by this development.

The above decision to be forwarded to SHDC Development Management.

County/District Cllr Gilbert & District Cllr Wingate left the Chamber

16/114 FINANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept the Recommendations in the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 18 October 2016.

16/115 PARKS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept the Recommendations in the minutes of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on 4 October 2016.

16/116 DECORATIVE LIGHTS EXTENSION

Members received a situation report on the proposed extension of the festoon lights from the current end location, along the Quayside footpath, to the Memorial Shelter. It was not possible to extend the run along the edge of the harbour wall due to its condition but SHDC had agreed for new lighting columns to be installed on the opposite side of the footpath in the grass verge. Such installation would not impact on the development of the Kingsbridge light railway and indeed would light up the track. SHDC had confirmed that it was content to proceed with the works. Total costs were circa £9.4k and £4.6k had been spent to date on materials; £1.5k remained in allocated Reserves meaning that a further £3.3k would be required to complete the project. It was **RESOLVED** to extend the current festoon lights to the Memorial Shelter via installation of lighting columns in the grass verge bordering the Quayside footpath.

It was further **RESOLVED** to install a memorial plaque dedicating the new lights to Councillor Beryl Washington who had championed the existing run to be extended.

16/117 BT PAYPHONE KIOSK REMOVAL

Members had agreed to adopt the BT kiosk in Fore Street at the last meeting and to re-consider the kiosk in Redford Way following investigation. Cllr Jennings had subsequently placed a briefing leaflet/suggestion cards in the latter. Very little feedback had been received and it was noted that only 10 calls had been made in the last 12 months. It was **RESOLVED** to confirm to SHDC that KTC was content for the BT payphone kiosk in Redford Way to be removed.

16/118 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN/TAP FUND

Members had supported in principle the supply and purchase of a VAS, plus groundworks and portable column, at the last meeting. Quotations for a portable battery operated VAS/groundworks had been gleaned at circa £4k. The SHDC managed Town And Parish (TAP) Fund had also been discussed and a VAS was one of the suggested bid projects. Neighbouring local councils had been consulted but they did not wish to make a joint bid for a VAS. It was **RESOLVED** to make an application to the TAP Fund for a vehicle activated sign and associated ground works for DCC compliant locations in Kingsbridge.

16/119 STREET CLEANSING

Members were in receipt of SHDC's consultation (letter dated 2 November 2016) regarding litter collection and sweeping zones i.e. zone 1 reflecting high usage/response time of 4 hours, zone 2 at 24 hours and zone 3 at 2 weeks. The whole town had been mapped to reflect such zones. Members considered the information; litter and dog bins were also reviewed. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to feedback to SHDC with requests for:

- Western Backway, Eastern Backway, Squeezebelly Lane and all pedestrian lanes off Fore Street to the Backways e.g. White Hart Passage to be upgraded to zone 2,
- West Alvington Hill to Balkwill Road (entrance to Kingsbridge Community College) to be upgraded to zone 1,
- a new recycling litter bin to be installed next to the pontoon bridge along the Quayside footpath,
- larger capacity litter bins to be installed outside the Kings Cinema in Fore Street and at Bowcombe amenity space,
- all litter bins to be regularly washed down and maintained as many looked scruffy, and
- better litter bin design to be researched.

16/120 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

120.1 Church Street/Cookworthy Road traffic survey. Rosemary Dunstan, Church Street resident, had conducted a survey at peak morning and evening traffic times in early October. The results identified that 7.00-8.30 a.m. Church Street received a greater volume of vehicles than Cookworthy Road. It was suggested that a proposed housing development off Belle Hill would impact further. DCC had responded that inconvenience for motorists would not constitute a reason to refuse planning permission.

120.2 DCLG response (letter dated 20 October 2016) received regarding housing provision. To be forwarded to all Members.

120.3 Have Your Say Survey – Monday 14 November. The briefing would take place at the Police Station at 10.00 a.m.

120.4 Quayside Leisure Centre – Members’ briefing Spring 2017. Tim Mills, Fusion Lifestyle, was content to give a presentation to Members prior to a full council meeting in the New Year.

120.5 Town & Parish Event – Wednesday 30 November. KTC would provide apologies on this occasion.

120.6 Remembrance Sunday 13 November & Members’ invitation to RBL Mill Club on completion of St Edmunds service. Noted by Members.

120.7 Bus stop Fore Street – tactile paving & painting. To be actioned by the grounds maintenance contractor shortly.

120.8 Quay House WC conversion to disabled toilet – planning application. Submitted by Andrew Lethbridge.

120.9 Fore St pavement repairs – confirmation of funding and works March 2017. Noted by Members.

120.10 Plymouth Road – improvements in bus shelter locale. Some final vegetation clearance was required including the removal of a tree stump. A DCC safety audit needed to be completed as the proposals to introduce a short footpath were deemed to be ‘minor works adjacent to the highway’. A footpath similar to the access route to Rack Park amenity space had been suggested and it was very likely for all works to come within the allocated budget.

120.11 Christmas Lights – progress. All relevant permissions had been gained for the 2017/18 display. Lifting Gear & Safety Ltd had installed catenary wires for 2 new cross-street displays at the mouth of Bridge Street. A power supply for the latter was anticipated shortly. All other fixtures/fittings were in date for inspection. Five new street light displays and 2 new Christmas stars would be installed in the fullest display to date alongside Fore Street, Mill Street and Town Square displays. Installation would take place on Sundays 20 and 27 November ready for checks and switch-on beginning 28 November. Signs would be positioned alerting drivers to traffic delays in Fore Street and the works identified on Facebook. Cllrs Griffin and Jennings had agreed to manage traffic control. A formal switch-on would take place in the Town Square in conjunction with Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas on Saturday 3 December.

120.12 Flood & Winter Resilience Committee – postponement 1 November and rescheduling. Johnathan Hubbard, Pell Frischmann, had provided an excellent briefing on hydraulic modelling to date. He was due to visit Kingsbridge again in late November and could be available to meet Members again and District Cllr Wingate. The committee meeting itself had not taken place, and needed to be rescheduled, as the previous Planning Committee had overran.

120.13 Parking enforcement. John Ireland, DCC, would visit shortly to discuss enforcement routines with Members. Time/date to be confirmed shortly.

120.14 Essential sewer works. South West Water works were progressing to schedule. Exjet had cleared surface water gullies in The Promenade, Embankment Road and West Alvington Hill as a goodwill gesture to the local community.

It was agreed to suspend Standing Order 3w. to extend the meeting beyond a period of 2 hours and 30 minutes.

**16/121 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND
 AUTHORITIES**

To be taken at the next meeting.

16/122 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 8 November 2016. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £19,371.15 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**16/123 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN:
 TRIM TRAIL – VIDEO BY KINGSBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Cllr Gilbert reported that KCC students had made their own individual videos and suggested that they be viewed in the New Year which was supported by fellow Members.

16/124 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

There were no questions to the Chairman.

The meeting closed at 9.37 p.m.

..... Presiding Chairman Date

Annex:

A. Public Open Forum.

Public Open Forum

Barry Day, Mike McGing, Martin Pope and Reg McComish made statements regarding planning application 2574/16/OPA to be considered at the meeting. The salient points were:

- Statutory consultees did not accept the drainage proposals provided by the applicant.
- Dennings was an important dwelling which was proposed to be demolished.
- TRO restrictions would result in the loss of on-street parking for Wallingford Road residents.
- The applicant's drawings were incorrect and did not identify the full size of trees on site particularly an important Oak tree.
- Kingsbridge Feoffees did not support the proposals contrary to a report within the applicant's Design & Access Statement.
- The development would create an increased flood risk at remote locations e.g. Quay area and Duncombe Street.

Mike Derry, South Hams Eco Developments (the applicant) addressed the concerns raised:

- Work was ongoing with DCC to address flooding/drainage matters. A revised proposal had been made for surface water to discharge into an existing water course at the bottom of the valley.
- The importance of Dennings was a subjective matter.
- Car parking matters had been fully discussed at the Planning Committee held the previous week.
- Finally, the applicant team were all local people and there was no deceit taking place.