

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

Present: Cllr Chris Povey (Chairman)
Cllr David Baisie
Cllr Anne Balkwill
Cllr Dena Bex
Cllr Philip Cole
Cllr Samantha Dennis
Cllr Martina Edmonds
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr Robin Griffin
Cllr Mike Jennings
Cllr Graham Price

In Attendance: County Cllr Julian Brazil
District Cllr Rufus Gilbert
District Cllr Keith Wingate
Sgt David Green
Charley Adams, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette
3 Members of Public
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

17/103 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Irene Jeeninga and Jim Romanos.

Public Open Forum

A member of public made the statement at Annex A.

**17/104 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

104.1 Sgt Green presented the Police report for October 2017. A total of 15 crimes had been committed; 26 crimes had been recorded during the same period in 2016 and 16 in 2015. Crimes had included: 3 assaults, 2 burglaries (dwelling and non-dwelling), 4 criminal damages, 5 thefts and 1 possession of cannabis. He was aware of recent anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents around town which had affected Kingsbridge In Bloom amongst others. PCSO Hawkes had investigated and it was likely for John Ward, South Hams District Council's (SHDC) ASB officer, to write to known offenders, or their parents, to report that such behaviour may result in a fixed penalty fine.

The annual Have Your Say survey held the previous day had been very successful and he thanked Cllrs Baisie, Cole, Fishman and Griffin for taking part. The survey was conducted by the Neighbourhood Police team, Town Council (KTC), Plymouth University students, SHDC's locality officer and Police & Crime Commissioner's (PCC) link officer. Survey locations were Fore Street, Mill Street, Quay area,

Morrisons, Tesco and business parks in order to collect the views of local people about how safe they felt living and working in the area and what public service issues affected them the most. A total of 499 local people had been surveyed and 97% felt either very safe or fairly safe with 28% having no issues whatsoever (up from 17% previously). Headline issues raised were to at least maintain the current level of visible Police presence, poor street lighting in specific areas and lack/cost of off-road parking. The full results had been shared with all agencies involved.

Cllr Povey thanked Sgt Green for organising the survey and Members supported a thank you letter for the Plymouth University students involved.

Sgt Green left the Chamber

104.2 County Cllr Brazil reported that a final government settlement for education had resulted in an extra £7.5m for Devon however, this did not even cover inflation costs. While the extra funding was welcomed Devon County Council (DCC) would continue to lobby central government as the number of high needs' children had increased and it left Devon at £268 per pupil worse off than the national average. On 16 November an all-day Highways Conference would take place at Rattery Village Hall. He was not supportive of the Road Warden Scheme as funding for independent projects was a better option; for example Stokenham had repaired unmetalled roads. On 23 November a meeting would take place at Tumbly Hill Day Centre; he was fearful that the centre may be earmarked for closure despite a crucial need for its services. He would feedback to KTC with further information.

104.3 District Cllr Wingate reported that he was pleased with the outcome of South Hams District Council's (SHDC) Executive meeting which had considered the Quayside/K2 development masterplan and KTC had played its part. He noted with interest Sgt Green's feedback from the Have Your Say survey as he represented SHDC on the PCC Panel.

104.4 District Cllr Gilbert supported Cllr Wingate's comments that the Quayside concept was a good example of Ward Members and KTC Members working together and SHDC had listened to local concerns. Repairs to a 50m stretch of the harbour wall at the head of the estuary would cost circa £400k from the coastal budget; the design was progressing and likely to be the same specification as a previous repair with tender documentation to follow. The result of the proposed SHDC and West Devon Borough Council merger had been interesting. Finally, Bus Station improvements had not been forgotten and the project was moving forward. He then answered Members' questions: personally he considered that while the One Council project had ended changes would take place and he was unaware if any trees would need to be felled in order to repair the harbour wall. He had noticed however, that roots of a Plane tree in the Town Square were lifting adjacent paving slabs and was potentially a hazard; Cllr Price offered to inspect and feedback to SHDC. A circular wooden seat around the tree could look attractive and he would be willing to assist from his locality budget.

County Cllr Brazil and District Cllrs Gilbert & Wingate left the Chamber

17/105 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

17/106 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17/107 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Fishman reported that the Bus Station improvements would be constructed by SHDC rather than an external agency.

A Neighbourhood Plan presentation by Devon Communities Together had been arranged for 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 6 December. All local residents who had expressed an interest in recent Quayside masterplan/housing matters had been invited and Members agreed a press release to include a holistic community invitation. Studies conducted in 2003, 2004 and 2011 would be forwarded to Members as background reading.

17/108 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 17 October 2017 and 7 November 2017.

It was noted that the developer on land off Culver Park Close had proposed a street name of Long Lane; KTC had objected as it was neither long nor a lane and had recommended an alternative of Culver Rise. Subsequently, the developer had provided a second proposal of Warren Park Drive. After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to support the original recommendation for Culver Rise and to forward the findings to SHDC.

17/109 FINANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 24 October 2017.

17/110 POLICY COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Policy Committee held on 24 October 2017.

Members received notes from the Town Centre Task Force working group held on 7 November, which were discussed, and noted that Members intended to meet regularly. It was anticipated to produce a project plan which aimed to invigorate and provide improvements to the heart of the town. The next meeting would take place at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday 21 November at Mangetout.

Members received notes from the Council Chamber Upgrade working group held on 31 October, which were discussed, and noted a Solar Farm community benefit grant at £4,100 was available. Members acknowledged the project was a work in progress. The next meeting would take place on a Tuesday morning (date/time to be confirmed) with an invitation to all Members.

17/111 PARKS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee held on 27 October 2017.

It was agreed:

- That the Tree Trail was much enjoyed however, the leaflets funded via a grant had ran out and it was a specialist task to reprint therefore costs for new Tree Trail leaflets would be worked-up, and
- Cllrs Griffin and Price would review the Open Space, Sport & Recreation plan's project listing to assess priorities.

17/112 TOWN AND PARISH (TAP) FUND

Members noted that applications for the TAP Fund 2017/18 had to be submitted to SHDC by 15 December. It was **RESOLVED** to provide information to all Members and for suggestions/feedback to be costed in order to make proposals to the next full council meeting on 12 December.

17/113 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

113.1 Police & Crime Commissioner letter dated 18 October/Councillor Advocate Scheme. Following Alison Hernandez's presentation at the previous council meeting, she had encouraged all Members to consider joining the Councillor Advocate Scheme.

113.2 Public Space Protection Orders. SHDC's Executive 19 October adopted PSPOs in accordance with KTC recommendations (full council meeting 11 July) to include exclusion of ball games in the Town Square/Quay House grounds and anti-social driving in Quay Car Park. However, a KTC and Kingsbridge Neighbourhood Police request for the Kingsbridge no-alcohol zone to be enlarged, e.g. to include the parks, was not supported because there were no current licensing reasons to make changes. Next review likely to take place in 3 years' time.

113.3 Adoption of Red Telephone Box. BT Payphones contract had been completed and returned with £1.00 payment. Members would be required to consider potential uses in due course.

113.4 Licensees Meeting. Held at The Seven Stars on 2 November and notes were available. The next meeting would take place at The Crabshell Inn on 3 May.

113.5 Town & Parish Council Event. DCC & SHDC Leaders would provide updates on draft budgets for the next financial year, current hot topics and matters of relevance for local councils at 6.30 p.m. on Monday 27 November in the Cary Room, Follaton House, Totnes.

113.6 Rural Tourism Funding. European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development rural tourism funding opportunities were available for rural businesses, farmers, landowners, charities and public bodies for capital grants from £35k. The deadline for expressions of interest was 31 January. Members suggested exploration of the required skills to manage a Kingsbridge project/bid.

113.7 Encounter Arts – Invitation. Cllrs Cole and Povey had received an invitation to attend the launch on 22 November of Chrysalis a new mobile arts, culture and learning space for South Devon.

113.8 Property Business. Trebblepark Allotments new fencing had been completed and the table tennis table had been installed at the Recreation Ground. The Cemetery wall repairs and damaged pole/sign on access to Quay House would both be sorted shortly. Indeed, a range of property business would take place before financial year end in March arising from decisions at the last Property Committee.

17/114 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES

114.1 Cllr Fishman reported that a proposal for a revised electronic bus indicator at the Bus Station was progressing and he had forwarded relevant information to SHDC. Following the previous meeting, he had written to Stagecoach regarding the introduction of a new timetable and single decker operation for Route 3 and had received feedback. The company may re-instate double decker buses during summer. Single decker bus capacity was 80 persons (37 seated and 43 standing) and he was aware that by the time buses reached Elburton people were being turned away.

114.2 Cllr Griffin reported that the Remembrance Sunday service at the War Memorial had been very well attended.

114.3 Cllrs Balkwill and Jennings commented that there were vacancies for representation on the Cookworthy Museum Management Committee and Kingsbridge Community College Trust. The Town Clerk would request nominations for the posts.

17/115 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 14 November 2017. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £26,388.57 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

17/116

BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was no urgent business.

17/117

QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

Members queried and noted the following:

- KTC's Christmas coffee/mince pies would take place 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday 20 December,
- Cllr Edmonds had booked a table at the Seven Stars on Tuesday 5 December (following the Planning Committee) for Members/Officers farewell for Cllr Romanos, and
- Kingsbridge Primary School was willing to provide a design for the Town Mayor's Christmas card and the Information Centre also had a design. The Reception team would liaise accordingly to produce a card.

The meeting closed at 9.27 p.m.

..... Presiding ChairmanDate

Annex:

Public Open Forum.

Annex to KTC minutes dated 14 November 2017

Public Open Forum

Brian Webster of Montagu Road stated that he had made a video recording of the Remembrance Sunday service at the War Memorial on 12 November and requested permission for acknowledgement of the recording by the Town Council, alongside the Royal British Legion, which Members agreed. He had made various copies of the DVD and had gifted one to the Town Mayor.

Cllr Povey thanked Brian for his enthusiasm and Cllr Price took his contact details as Kingsbridge In Bloom was keen to produce a recording of its projects.