

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE, AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 10 JULY 2018

Present: Cllr Mike Jennings (Chairman)
Cllr David Baisie
Cllr Philip Cole
Cllr Samantha Dennis
Cllr Martina Edmonds
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr John Gall
Cllr Robin Griffin
Cllr Irene Jeeninga
Cllr Chris Povey
Cllr Graham Price

In Attendance: District Cllr Rufus Gilbert
District Cllr Keith Wingate
Sgt David Green
Sam Acourt, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette
Three Members of Public
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

18/38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anne Balkwill & Dena Bex and County Cllr Julian Brazil (via email he reported that the Slapton Line A379 repairs had commenced with completion anticipated in October).

Public Open Forum

Members of public made the statements at Annex A.

18/39 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

39.1 Sgt Green presented the Police report for June 2018. A total of 28 crimes had been committed; 43 crimes had been recorded during the same period in 2017 and 18 in 2016. Crimes had included: 6 assaults all involving minor injury, 3 harassment/public order offences, 4 sex offences, 7 criminal damage, 1 threat to commit criminal damage, 1 shoplifting, 1 fraud, 2 drugs offences, 1 arson, 1 air weapons offence and 1 drink drive.

The busy period was approaching which included Fair Week; there was a normal increase in policing incidents throughout the summer months indeed, the previous Saturday had been recorded as the 2nd busiest day ever for Devon & Cornwall Police. Mutual aid with other forces had also increased e.g. President Trump visit and chemical poisoning in Wiltshire. Finally, a public consultation was underway for a proposal to merge Devon & Cornwall Police with Dorset Police and the on-line survey was open until 27 August. He commented that the proposed merger sought efficiencies.

Sgt Green then answered Members questions:

- There were no guarantees that PCSOs would continue to be deployed as existing.
- At a local level strategic changes did not normally make a difference and operations remained stable.
- The PCC was trying hard to improve the 101 non-emergency service and had introduced a 101 email system.
- A 101 reply of “lack of resources” to evidence nil response to an incident was unsatisfactory.

Sgt Green left the Council Chamber

39.2 District Cllr Wingate reported that he was a member of the Police & Crime Commissioner’s Scrutiny Panel and had delivered a joint message from South Hams District Council (SHDC) and the Town Council (KTC) for the retention of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). Moreover, there would have to be clear financial benefit for a Devon & Cornwall and Dorset police force merger. A compulsory spending review was coming up which would consider tri-service blue light services. The MV Egremont may or may not return to Salcombe and would be discussed by the Harbour Authority shortly. However, no business plan had been sighted to date for its operation which was required. The Egremont company ran the Rivermaid Ferry. There were no set timeframes to introduce electric car charging points in SHDC car parks. He acknowledged that the large security gate at the pontoon was unattractive but it was a standard fit for such amenities and deemed fit for purpose.

39.3 District Cllr Gilbert reported that SHDC would be taking a tougher stance on persons who flouted Dog Orders. The authority was busy at this time of year as demand was placed on public toilets, litter bins etc. Bottle banks had been filling up due to the hot weather, World Cup and Wimbledon however, the authority was coping. A decision on whether to change the waste collection service would be made shortly. Finally, he would follow-up on Devon County Council’s (DCC) agreement to investigate parking dispensation permits for traders.

Cllr Dennis reported that there had been some issues with car boot sellers not clearing up and leaving litter which she anticipated would be resolved.

District Cllrs Gilbert & Wingate left the Council Chamber

18/40 URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr Jennings agreed to take one item of urgent business at agenda item 18/51: Stainless Steel Litter Bins for Duncombe Park and the Recreation Ground.

18/41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Fishman declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 18/47.

18/42 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 12 June 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

18/43 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 3 July 2018.

It was further **RESOLVED** to write to the Development Management Lead at SHDC to report KTC's frustrations that an external business had been allowed to continue trading within the grounds of the Tesco retail store contrary to planning permission.

18/44 PROPERTY COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Property Committee held on 26 June 2018.

18/45 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – DESIGNATION OF PLAN AREA

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had liaised with neighbouring parish councils to ascertain whether they wished to join Kingsbridge to produce a joint Neighbourhood Plan. It was **RESOLVED** to apply to SHDC for a Kingsbridge, Churchstow and West Alvington Neighbourhood Plan and for the designation area to be their parish boundaries.

18/46 CAR PARKING – ANNUAL DISPENSATION PERMITS

Members were mindful of comments made during the Public Open Forum and received views from the Kingsbridge, Salcombe and Modbury Chamber of Commerce and a Fore Street retailer. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to write to the Chief Officer for Highways at DCC to report the adverse effect permit parking was having on the local economy and to:

- request a blanket ban on traders' dispensation permits 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- suggest the application system for the permits required review and tightening up,
- suggest a review of the terms and conditions e.g. traders should identify their actual place of work when using a permit, and
- suggest the £40 fee was too low.

Cllr Price left the Chamber

18/47 LAND AT DERBY ROAD

Members received a request from Kingsbridge Feoffees for an extension to their Option Agreement to purchase KTC's remaining land at Derby Road and noted the Trustees had submitted a planning application for a residential development on the land. It was **RESOLVED** to provide a 14 week extension to Kingsbridge Feoffee's

Option Agreement for the land at Derby Road from the current end of the option period at 12 August 2018 to 18 November 2018.

Cllr Griffin left the Chamber

18/48 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

48.1 Mayors & Clerks Meeting – 18 June. KTC agenda items: planning decisions versus target dates and enforcement powers for buildings in poor condition were discussed. Feedback from SHDC: Leader's annual report, aspirations for towns, investment & development options, budget & final accounts, Joint Local Plan & Neighbourhood Plans, general service update and corporate peer review.

48.2 Potential Traffic Regulation Order for Kingsbridge.

(a) The majority of items from the TRO which came into force April 2018 needed to be actioned on the ground i.e. only new double yellow lines (DYL) at mouth of Northville Park/Archery Close had been completed to date.

(b) DCC South Hams HATOC 6 July 2018 had received the following for consideration this FY 18/19:

- Extend DYL: Montagu Close
- DYL to disabled bay: Montagu Road
- New DYL at an access location: Waverley Road

(c) Recent representations received by KTC would be carried forward for consideration in FY 19/20:

- New DYL: either side of Estuary Edge, Embankment Road.
- New disabled parking bay: La Ranchera, Church Street.
- New DYL: Hurrell Road north.

There were likely to be other representations further to the above. Cllr Fishman suggested:

- New single yellow line (SYL) restriction 1000-1500 Monday to Saturday on one side: Henacre Road from junction Coronation Road to junction Ilton Way possible extension to Kenwith Drive.
- New SYL restriction 1000-1500 Monday to Saturday on north side: Belle Cross Road in the vicinity of Kingsbridge Primary School.

48.3 Invitation for Members. Kingsbridge Fair Week invited Members to join them at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 22 July in St Edmunds Church. The service would celebrate the beginning of Fair Week and dedicate the new Fair Queen and Princesses.

48.4 Red telephone box & "World's Smallest Night Club". Update:

- Running for 5 weeks.

- Spend to date £1,017.74 (local electrics, external set-up and new mirror ball).
- Income to date £333.00 (at 2 July) for a local charity.
- Maintenance, cleaning and locking was being actioned by Members/Staff.
- New press release/social media drive was required to keep the momentum going.

Members suggest a dedicated Facebook page be investigated, the music could be changed and a local sponsor may come forward.

48.5 VAS. A press release had been issued to promote KTC's supply and management of the speed limit alert sign. The VAS had been transferred to its final location in Cookworthy Road recently.

48.6 Bunting. Liaison had taken place with a local builder, tree surgeon, firefighters and a window cleaner to install the bunting but no persons had come forward.

48.7 Neighbourhood Plan. The next Steering Group meeting would be held at 6.00 p.m. on Monday 30 July in Quay House.

18/49 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES

49.1 Cllr Fishman provided an update on Kingsbridge Foodbank which currently had 106 clients; a change to universal credit in September 2018 was anticipated to increase demand on the project.

49.2 Cllr Fishman provided an update on Bus Station improvements; seats had been ordered for the 2 new shelters, bollards/railings had been ordered, the main bus shelter had been deep cleaned by KTC, an estimate was anticipated shortly for KTC to manage painting of the 2 rear walls in the main shelter and supply of new posts/flags would be progressed with DCC/SHDC.

49.3 Cllr Baisie reported that a new locking mechanism for the red telephone box/'world's smallest night club' was being progressed. He was also investigating voltage optimisation to save energy usage in Quay House.

49.4 Cllr Jennings had attended the 70th anniversary of Kingsbridge Hospital during the previous week.

18/50 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 10 July 2018. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £18,216.97 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**18/51 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN:
STAINLESS STEEL LITTER BINS FOR DUNCOMBE PARK AND
THE RECREATION GROUND**

Members noted that KTC had been awarded a Town & Parish Fund grant at £3,500 to replace the time-worn, rusty litter bins in the parks with 9 new stainless steel litter bins. Dependent on design choice an additional circa £3,500-£7,000 was required to deliver the project. However, SHDC held S.106 monies (developer contributions) at £8,411 which could be requested as the project was included in the adopted Kingsbridge Open Space, Sport & Recreation plan. After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to further consider the project for stainless steel litter bins with an aim to make a decision on the way forward at September's full council meeting.

18/52 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

..... Presiding ChairmanDate

Annex:

- A. Public Open Forum.

Public Open Forum

1. Julia Wingate stated that changes were required for the administration of Devon County Council's (DCC) dispensation permit scheme for traders' car parking. She considered that the current scheme could be being abused and suggested that a blanket ban on dispensations between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. in Fore Street should be considered. Her rationale was that the scheme was difficult to enforce and parking spaces must be available to allow a throughput of shoppers which the town centre relied upon. Chiefly, it was about footfall and turnover and while vans/workmen had to gain access the scheme was having a negative impact on every town.

District Cllr Gilbert had attended South Hams Highways & Traffic Orders Committee held on 6 July when the matter had been raised. DCC officers had accepted that there may be an issue and had agreed to investigate but preferred initially to follow up on specific incidents rather than impose blanket bans which could affect the majority of permit holders within the scheme.

Cllr Jennings thanked Julia for her comments and reported the subject was an agenda item at the meeting.

2. Lawrence Townsend stated that an area of land between Cookworthy Road and Lower Union Road to the rear of Devon Square had been cut of vegetation and trees had been felled. He had written to DCC to suggest that persons on work experience could assist in landscaping and maintenance of the area and requested the Town Council's thoughts.

Cllr Fishman replied that such action may be inappropriate and Cllr Price reported that Kingsbridge In Bloom hosted 13 in number "It's Your Neighbourhood" schemes in town for volunteer led community gardening projects focussed on cleaning/greening up local areas and he may wish to consider this route.

Cllr Jennings thanked Lawrence for his statement.