

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE,  
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Present:** Cllr Mike Jennings (Chairman)  
Cllr Martina Edmonds  
Cllr Barrie Fishman  
Cllr Robin Griffin  
Cllr Irene Jeeninga  
Cllr Chris Povey

**In Attendance:** County Cllr Julian Brazil  
District Cllr Keith Wingate  
Sgt David Green  
Sam Acourt, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette  
Two Members of Public  
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

**18/53 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs David Baisie, Anne Balkwill, Dena Bex, Philip Cole, Samantha Dennis, John Gall and Graham Price; and District Cllr Rufus Gilbert.

**Public Open Forum**

There were no statements from members of public.

**18/54 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

**54.1** Sgt Green presented the Police report for July and August 2018. A total of 66 crimes had been committed; 55 crimes had been recorded during the same period in 2017 and 49 in 2016. Crimes had included: 18 assaults (12 minor injury, 6 no injury), 11 criminal damage, 8 threats/abusive behaviour, 7 thefts, 5 sex offences, 4 frauds, 2 drugs offences, 2 dogs out of control, 2 drink driving, 1 dwelling burglary, 1 arson, 1 shoplifting, 1 offensive weapon, 1 blackmail, 1 poisoning and 1 assault on a police officer.

Fair Week had been successful from a policing perspective and Specials from as far afield as Barnstaple had assisted. There had been a series of rural burglaries targeted at houses, sheds and homes under renovation which had totalled 15 since mid-August. Items such as power tools and lawnmowers had been stolen. The recorded burglary in town was likely to be linked. Operation Minuet had been planned to tackle drug use through enforcement, safeguarding vulnerable adults in the community and educating young people. There was no specific drugs problem in Kingsbridge and the operation was to ensure this was sustained. Finally, it had been a busy summer for the local Police team due to a large influx of tourists.

*Sgt Green left the Council Chamber*

**54.2** County Cllr Brazil noted the Town Council's (KTC) concerns at the last meeting regarding traders' dispensation permits, which were shared by Salcombe Town Council, and he had requested extra enforcement. If such permits were being abused then they would be taken away however, such matters usually took time to action. He had received requests for residents' parking in Waterloo Place, Duncombe Street, and proposed that KTC Members, local highways officer and himself met to discuss. There was a potential Devon County Council (DCC) Traffic Regulation Order item in Embankment Road to provide access to the highway from a new development. Finally, the Slapton Line (A379) would be open by the end of October following storm damage repairs. He had made a site visit during the previous week and works were progressing well.

**54.3** District Cllr Wingate reported that South Hams District Council (SHDC) was busy. There was a huge financial deficit at £645k which would grow to over £1m the following year. Therefore the authority was seeking income generation schemes to come forward; some proposals could be beneficial but a greater consensus of support would be required to deliver them. He had attended a recent Police & Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Panel which had discussed a potential Devon & Cornwall merger with the Dorset force. Another meeting would take place shortly when a business case would be received. Executive and Harbour Board meetings were coming up. Church Steps passageway had been closed to protect the public from a heavily leaning wall which was dangerous; Devon Building Control were involved however, the landowner could not be identified. Finally, repairs to the harbour wall at the head of the estuary would commence in October with a likely finish in February.

*County Cllr Brazil and District Cllr Wingate left the Council Chamber*

**18/55 URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**18/56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Edmonds and Jennings declared non-pecuniary interests in agenda item 18/58; sub-agenda item 18/34.1 (planning application 2434/18/ARM).

**18/57 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 10 July 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**18/58 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 17 July 2018, 14 August 2018 and 4 September 2018.

It was further **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendation for Refusal of planning application 2434/18/ARM and to forward the consultation findings to SHDC Development Management.

KTC had held a worthwhile meeting with Salcombe Town Council on 29 August to discuss matters of mutual interest.

#### **18/59 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 24 July 2018.

#### **18/60 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 July 2018.

#### **18/61 POLICY COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Policy Committee held on 31 July 2018.

#### **18/62 FORE STREET PUBLIC TOILETS – PAY ON ENTRY**

SHDC had proposed to introduce pay-on-entry to Fore Street public toilets in October 2018 similar to the Quay toilets. SHDC officers had met with Cllrs Edmonds, Fishman and Price the previous day to discuss and all Members' representations had been presented. SHDC's decision would not be re-considered and had to dovetail with pan-district policy. Contactless payments would be accepted. Four options were available: pay-on-entry, KTC to pay SHDC's estimated income in lieu, KTC to take on the management/costs of the toilets or closure. It was **RESOLVED** to pay SHDC £1,000 to enable Fore Street public toilets to remain free-of-charge; this would be an annual commitment and a fixed fee for 10 years would be requested.

#### **18/63 NEW LITTER BINS FOR DUNCOMBE PARK AND THE RECREATION GROUND**

At the previous meeting Members had deferred a decision for stainless steel litter bins. The project would require a TAP Fund grant at £3,500 and S.106 monies (developer contributions) at circa £5,090. Both had been agreed in principle by SHDC however, disposal of the current bins in situ may incur an additional fee. SHDC was content with the design and emptying the bins. The Town Centre Task Force group had considered and supported the proposal at a recent meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase and install 10 in number stainless steel litter bins in Duncombe Park and the Recreation Ground via the TAP Fund and S.106 monies held for Kingsbridge.

#### **18/64 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

**64.1 Annual dispensation permits for contractors.** DCC had replied to Members' request for a blanket ban on such permits 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. in Fore Street (alongside related matters). A ban was not considered to be appropriate as different rules between locations in Devon would not work. However, DCC

acknowledged the importance of parking and footfall for high streets, invited concerns to be reported to the authority and accepted that there were current issues in Fore Street, Kingsbridge and Salcombe.

**64.2 Kingsbridge Welfare Forum.** Members had received an invitation to the Forum at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 3 October in the Council Chamber; Cllr Fishman would attend.

**64.3 Central Government Consultations.** Let Communities Decide Devon had alerted councillors across the region to the following public consultations ending 25 October:

1. Permitted development for shale gas exploration, and
2. Inclusion of shale gas production projects in the nationally significant infrastructure project regime.

Members agreed that KTC should not support either proposal, which would enable the planning process to be eased for fracking, and to circulate the information to all Members for their consideration.

**64.4 CCTV – Visit to Exeter Control Room for local councils.** The Town Clerk had been unable to attend due to other work matters however, a briefing would be forwarded.

**64.5 Insurance Renewal.** Renewal had been confirmed via WPS with Aviva for 12 months from 1 September. The Schedule had been considered and amendments earmarked which were likely to incur an additional charge.

**64.6 Cemetery – Tree Surgery.** A large limb from a mature Holm Oak had toppled on 27 August which made the remainder of the tree high risk and required the whole tree to be felled over a 3 day period 4-6 September. Wood had to be cut-up and collected from the cemetery, 4 historic gravestones had been damaged and a forthcoming Property Committee would consider the remaining 5 in number Holm Oaks adjacent to the A379.

**64.7 Thank yous.** Received from:

- Cancer Research UK for use of the Bandstand; their stall raised £413 and a street collection in Fore Street raised £444.
- Kingsbridge Fair Week for use of Quay House, car park and for Members' general support through the week.

**64.8 Highways matters.** DCC neighbourhood highways officer would visit on 19 September to discuss several topical matters.

**64.9 Town Crier.** Roger Pinder had enjoyed recent successes: 1<sup>st</sup> Newton Abbot, Dawlish & Yeovil and 2<sup>nd</sup> Topsham. He was the Devon Champion 2018 and a press release with photo would be arranged shortly.

