

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE,
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2018**

Present: Cllr Anne Balkwill (Chairman)
Cllr Dena Bex
Cllr Philip Cole
Cllr Samantha Dennis
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr John Gall
Cllr Robin Griffin
Cllr Irene Jeeninga
Cllr Mike Jennings
Cllr Chris Povey
Cllr Graham Price

In Attendance: County Cllr Julian Brazil
District Cllr Rufus Gilbert
District Cllr Keith Wingate
Sgt David Green
Seven Members of Public
Martin Johnson, Town Clerk

18/71 MOMENT OF REFLECTION

The Chairman invited all present to observe a moment of reflection in memory of Councillor David Baisie while his favourite song "Drift Away" was played. David's funeral would take place at 1.15 p.m. at Efford Crematorium on Friday 19 October and a wake would be held from 6.00 p.m. that evening at The Hermitage Inn when a plaque would be unveiled in his honour.

The Chairman then congratulated Kingsbridge In Bloom for winning a Royal Horticultural Society Gold in the Champion of Champions category at the South West In Bloom awards event held in Yeovil on 4 October. This was richly deserved, highlighted the incredible efforts of the KIB volunteers and was a great success for the town.

18/72 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Martina Edmonds.

Public Open Forum

Members of public made the statements at Annex A.

**18/73 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

73.1 Sgt Green offered his condolences to David Baisie who would be a great loss.

He then presented the Police report for September 2018. A total of 32 crimes had been committed; 34 crimes had been recorded during the same period in 2017 and 17 in 2016. Crimes had included: 1 common assault, 9 actual bodily harm (several related to the same incident), 1 sexual offence, 4 threats/public order, 1 fraud, 1 dwelling burglary, 1 non-dwelling burglary, 2 shoplifting, 4 criminal damages, 6 drugs offences, 1 dangerous dog and 1 counterfeit currency. A Junior Life Skills event would take place on 12 October for Kingsbridge school children; Police input would include child online exploitation and internet safety delivered in an age appropriate manner. Annual reviews of summer policing for Fair Week and Coast night club had considered what went well/what should be changed in order to make the events safer and even more trouble free.

Sgt Green left the Council Chamber

73.2 County Cllr Brazil reported that the official re-opening of the Slapton road would take place on 25 October but in reality it should be open beforehand. Ash dieback disease could affect 90-99% of Ash trees in Devon. This was likely to have a devastating impact as 20% of all trees in the county were Ash. The disease was an airborne fungus and trees did not recover. Devon County Council's (DCC) concerns related to trees overhanging the highway. The Woodland Trust had gained a Lottery grant and may be able to replace some of the trees.

73.3 District Cllr Wingate reported that South Hams District Council (SHDC) had agreed a Commercial Property Strategy to either acquire or develop property within the South Hams. A total investment at £60m with an earmarked net yield had been targeted however, in some circumstances where the focus was on community benefit a lower return was anticipated. The medium term financial strategy to 2023/24 was challenging with a forecast budget gap around £650k for next financial year 2019/20 and future years. Members held concerns that community benefit schemes may not be prioritised in order to meet the required yield, suggested that a set percentage of such projects should be identified, questioned whether SHDC had the in-house expertise to manage a £60m portfolio and wished to know which assets already held by SHDC in Kingsbridge had been identified as development opportunities. Cllr Wingate replied that he understood the concerns and could not provide absolute assurances at present however, he reiterated that investment would take place within the South Hams rather than elsewhere and the aim was to sustain service delivery. Cllr Balkwill informed Members that an invitation had been received that evening from SHDC to meet with KTC in late October when such matters could be discussed.

Cllr Wingate answered a question that SHDC had agreed to introduce electric car charging points for some off-street car parks including Kingsbridge however, Cllr Gilbert commented that schemes elsewhere had encountered issues.

73.4 District Cllr Gilbert reported that a waste review was in progress which was anticipated to be received by SHDC's Executive in late 2018. The Town Council's (KTC) decision had been received to fund the estimated income at Fore Street car park's public toilets rather than introducing pay-on-entry. The consultation with local

councils was progressing and some had requested management to be transferred. He was unable to attend all KTC meetings as Modbury and Ringmore parish council meetings also took place on Tuesday evenings alongside his DCC business; he gave his apologies for the next meeting. The road through West Alvington had been re-surfaced. The Bus Station continued to improve with the introduction of new bollards and railings. The Quay wall replacement works project had commenced. Finally, a proposal to erect a structure at the head of the estuary to mark the RNLI's 150th anniversary was progressing.

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

18/74 URGENT BUSINESS

None.

18/75 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr Fishman declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 18/77; sub agenda item 18/48.1.
- Cllrs Edmonds & Jennings declared non-pecuniary interests in agenda item 18/77; sub agenda item 18/49.1.
- Cllrs Cole and Gall declared non-pecuniary interests in agenda item 18/77; sub agenda item 18/55.5.

18/76 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 11 September 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

18/77 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 18 September 2018 and 2 October 2018. It was further **RESOLVED**:

- to request from SHDC Development Management the latest date for KTC feedback regarding planning application 2749/18/OPA (outline planning application for a housing development at Hospital Field), and
- to re-consider a recommendation at sub agenda item 18/56.1 regarding parking limitations at Fore Street Car Park.

18/78 FLOOD & WINTER RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Flood & Winter Resilience Committee held on 18 September 2018.

18/79 PROPERTY COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Property Committee held on 25 September 2018.

18/80 LAND OFF COOKWORTHY ROAD – OPEN SPACE/AMENITY AREA

Members discussed potential use of a strip of land off Cookworthy Road between Plymouth Road and Cookworthy Court for an open space/amenity area. It was noted that the locale may be designated as a potential attenuation area given flooding and it was **RESOLVED** to contact the Environment Agency to ascertain land use in the locale.

18/81 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

81.1 Casual Vacancy. The current vacancy had been advertised from 5 October 2018 to provide North Ward electors the opportunity to hold a by-election. Should a by-election not be called by 25 October 2018 it would fall to Members to consider the co-option of a new Member.

81.2 Devon Resilience Forum. The next event would take place on Thursday 22 November at Broadclyst Victory Hall with a focus on planning for, responding to and recovering from civil emergencies.

81.3 Highways Matters. The Town Clerk had met with the DCC neighbourhood highways officer on 19 September to discuss a range of topical issues. In particular, several requests had been received for the next Traffic Regulation Order round 2019/20 including residents parking schemes which would require careful considerations in due course.

81.4 Town Centre Public Realm Design Guidelines. Further to the last meeting, Cllrs Cole, Dennis & Povey had arranged to hold an initial meeting with Meiloci landscape architects on 15 October in Quay House.

81.5 New litter bins for Duncombe Park and the Recreation Ground. Further to the last meeting S.106 monies had been agreed, SHDC would dispose of the current/install the new bins and the stainless steel bins had been ordered with delivery anticipated late November.

81.6 Consultations – Shale Gas Exploration. Further to the last meeting, Members had supported KTC to strongly object to 2 central government consultations regarding shale gas exploration.

81.7 Communities Together Fund. The revised fund (formerly Town And Parish Fund) was introduced at the Policy Committee meeting on 31 July. Local councils, registered charities, voluntary groups etc. could all apply for Southern Cluster funding at circa £17k by the deadline of 14 December. Members agreed for KTC to work up an application for a Kingsbridge-Salcombe cycle track feasibility study.

18/82 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES

82.1 Cllr Dennis reported that the Kingsbridge & Salcombe Chamber of Commerce now included Modbury and 132 members in June had now rose to 150. Attendance at events had doubled since 2011 and a recent Business Club event at Burgh Island had sold out. The Chamber had taken over the Youth & Business Achievement Awards. Each town council was represented at committee meetings which discussed topical matters e.g. dispensation permits for traders' parking.

Next year was significant for Kingsbridge: 800th anniversary of the market, 50th anniversary of Fair Week and 150th anniversary of the lifeboat and KTC may wish to consider supporting such celebrations.

82.2 Cllr Fishman had attended the Kingsbridge Welfare Forum on 3 October which received a presentation on Universal Credit. South Hams Area Wellbeing would attend the November council meeting to provide a briefing on the project.

82.3 Cllr Fishman reported that discussions were ongoing with SHDC regarding further improvements to the Bus Station.

18/83 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 9 October 2018. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £15,248.02 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

18/84 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN

None.

18/85 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None.

18/86 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was **RESOLVED** that in view of the nature of the business about to be take place that it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded.

18/87 EMBANKMENT ROAD CEMETERY – TREE SURGERY

Members received a costs estimate for tree surgery in the cemetery and it was **RESOLVED** to gain 5 quotations to fell 5 in number Holm Oaks to be received and considered at the next council meeting on 13 November 2018

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

..... Presiding ChairmanDate

Annex: Public Open Forum.

Public Open Forum

- 1.** Leon Locke, Chairman of the Kingsbridge & District Royal British Legion, stated that this year marked the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1. The large poppies display at Quay roundabout had received much praise throughout summer and he thanked Kingsbridge In Bloom for their assistance. The Poppy Appeal would be launched at St Edmunds Church at 10.00 a.m. on 28 October, there would be a Remembrance service at Dodbrooke Church with a time/date to be confirmed and on completion of the Remembrance service at the War Memorial on Sunday 11 November all Members were welcome to attend the Mill Club for a buffet lunch.
- 2.** Becky Bristow, Kingsbridge Dementia Friendly Community, briefed Members on the project to date. The group aimed to improve the lives of people living with dementia, their families and carers living in Kingsbridge and surrounding villages. Presentations had been made to several local organisations and businesses. A website www.kingsbridgedementia.co.uk provided information and promoted events e.g. Time For Tea held on the last Friday of each month 2-4 p.m. at Kingsbridge Age Concern. Leaflets and post cards were distributed to Members which covered a range of matters including: how the local community could help, action to take if someone was missing and appointing an attorney.
- 3.** Lawrence Townsend, local resident, stated that he was unaware of a recent Flood & Winter Resilience Committee meeting. Lawrence was informed that the next meeting would be held in February 2019 and he was welcome to attend.

Cllr Balkwill thanked Leon, Becky and Lawrence for their statements.