

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE,  
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2019**

**Present:** Cllr Mike Jennings (Chairman)  
Cllr Helen Cope  
Cllr Martina Edmonds  
Cllr Barrie Fishman  
Cllr Steve Mammatt  
Cllr Chris Povey  
Cllr Graham Price  
Cllr Peter Ralph  
Cllr Julia Wingate

**In Attendance:** County Cllr Julian Brazil  
District Cllr Susan Jackson  
District Cllr Denise O'Callaghan  
Tom Ladds, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette  
Four Members of Public  
Martin Johnson (Town Clerk)

**19/74 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anne Balkwill, Dena Bex, Philip Cole and Sgt David Green.

**Public Open Forum**

Members of public made the statements at Annex A.

**19/75 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND  
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

**75.1** Sgt Green's Police report for September 2019 was delivered by Cllr Jennings. A total of 22 crimes had been committed; 32 crimes had been recorded during the same period in 2018 and 35 in 2017. Crimes had included: 8 violent offences (4 common assault and 4 actual bodily harm), 4 threats/nuisance calls, 1 fraud, 1 theft, 3 shoplifting, 3 criminal damage, 1 drug offence (possession with intent to supply), and 1 dangerous dog.

On Friday 11 October, Junior Life Skills training would take place; Police input would relate to child online exploitation. The Neighbourhood Team assisted at the RNLI 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on 21 September which had been successful from a policing perspective. A keen working relationship had been established with Tina Graham, new Principal at Kingsbridge Community College, to continue the strong partnership working between the Police and school in order to safeguard young people in the community. Finally, the annual Have Your Say day would not take place in 2019 due to insufficient resources to manage the survey without the assistance of Plymouth University. All parties strongly valued the survey so he

intended to forge new links with the university's Public Services department to hopefully run again in 2020.

**75.2** County Cllr Brazil reported that Devon County Council (DCC) had declared a climate change emergency. Workshops, a citizens' assembly and action plan would be worked up to mitigate the impacts of climate change across the county. He noted DCC's Traffic Regulation Order was an agenda item and had received a representation regarding Belle Cross Road however, officers had reported that the concerns were unlikely to be upheld. He was pleased that parking was proposed to be extended from 1 to 2 hours opposite the Recreation Ground. He was aware of 5G technology matters raised during the Public Open Forum. The proposal for permitted development rights would take away any consultation with the public authorities and communities while retention of current planning regulations would require planning applications for masts and ancillaries.

**75.3** District Cllr O'Callaghan reported that she had been the spokesperson for Kingsbridge Against Masts 14 years ago and was also aware of concerns regarding 5G technology. She understood however, that the World Health Organisation was reasonably content with 5G rollout. There was by definition no long term research available relating to impacts on health but 5G should be as safe as possible and she recognised the benefits for young people. South Hams District Council (SHDC) officer feedback had been received on the Town Council's (KTC) suggested amendments for the Premier Inn public consultation survey; it was likely that the comments would be incorporated. A SHDC press release had been issued identifying the forthcoming consultation; she had offered a quotation but it had not been included in the published article. Repairs to the Kings Arms Hotel had been anticipated to commence on 25 September but there had been no action to date and she would hasten. At the last SHDC council meeting a motion to stop further public toilet closures had been defeated by one vote. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would consider the proposal for electric car charging points; £1.3m had been provided for Devon from an ERDF grant which equated to 1 or 2 points per town in the South Hams. She would provide further feedback when available. A working group would consider the performance of Fusion's leisure centre management e.g. impacts of going cashless from 1 October; Members noted that the showers had now worked for 2 weeks and although cashless the lockers required £1 coins. Further comments would be provided.

**75.4** District Cllr Jackson noted that Kingsbridge In Bloom would attend the South West In Bloom awards event in Newquay on 11 October and wished the group every success. A re-draft of the Premier Inn public consultation survey would be discussed with SHDC Members at a forthcoming meeting and the results shared with KTC.

*County Cllr Brazil and one Member of Public left the Chamber*

## **19/76 URGENT BUSINESS**

Cllr Jennings agreed to take one item of Urgent Business at agenda item 19/87: Public Realm Improvements – Quotation for Landscape Architect Work; which would require a motion to be passed to exclude the public and press.

## **19/77            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

*The following agenda item was taken early out-of-turn:*

## **19/82            DEPLOYMENT OF 5G AND EXTENSION OF MOBILE COVERAGE**

Members were mindful of statements received at the previous meeting, during the Public Open Forum and reports from DCC & SHDC Members; and received government's current consultation on the deployment of 5G. Members noted that central government and the National Association of Local Councils supported 5G rollout e.g. economic benefits however, there were some concerns amongst the scientific community about the impacts on health. After a long discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to:

- Reply to the Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport that KTC objects to the proposed reforms to permitted development rights to support the deployment of 5G, and extension of mobile coverage, and that current planning policies should be retained.
- To advise the DCMS that KTC has concerns about the potential harm of 5G radiation to humans and the environment. Therefore, it has adopted the precautionary principle and does not support 5G rollout.

## **19/78            MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 10 September 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **19/79            PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 17 September 2019 and 1 October 2019.

*District Cllrs Jackson & O'Callaghan left the Chamber*

## **19/80            FLOOD & WINTER RESILIENCE COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Flood and Winter Resilience Committee held on 19 September 2019.

## **19/81            PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Property Committee 24 September 2019.

Further to the minutes, it was **RESOLVED** to delegate the consideration of Christmas bunting to the Public Realm Improvements Working Group and to provide a £2k budget for the same. It was noted that a decision was required by early November.

## **19/83 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER**

Members received DCC's Traffic Regulation & On-Street Parking Places (South Hams) Amendment Order for the introduction of a local waiting restriction programme relating to Kingsbridge.

It was **RESOLVED** to support proposals for:

- No Waiting At Any Time in parts of Balkwill Road, Becketts Road, Belle Cross Road, Embankment Road, Higher Union Road, Highfield Drive, Hurrell Road and Saffron Park.
- No Waiting 8.30am-6.00pm in parts of Higher Union Road and Hurrell Road.
- No Loading 8.30am-5.00pm in parts of Ashleigh Road and Balkwill Road.
- Limited Waiting Mon-Sat 8.30am-6.00pm 2 hours No Return within 4 hours in parts of Embankment Road.

It was **RESOLVED** to object to the proposal for:

- No Waiting 9.30am-3pm in parts of Henacre Road. DCC's South Hams Highways and Traffic Orders Committee held on 5 April 2019 had considered and approved progression of the introduction of No Waiting at various pinch points to allow passage of the town bus service. However, the Order reported restrictions for an uninterrupted length of Henacre Road from no. 32A (north east) to its junction with Coronation Road (south west). Members recommended SYL at 2 or 3 locations only, at the above times, along Henacre Road to replace the current Order to provide passing places.

## **19/84 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

**84.1 Bio-degradable bags.** SHDC had withdrawn the supply of bio bags for kitchen caddy liners and large brown bins. Staff had liaised with SHDC's supplier, researched other bio bag companies, considered the administration, storage of bags (with use-by dates) and potential demand. It was concluded that it would be resource intensive for KTC to now offer a bio bag service independently noting that local shops and supermarkets sell such bags.

**84.2 Co-Option.** SHDC Elections Office had confirmed that an election had not been called in North Ward by the due date of 13 September. Therefore, the councillor vacancy had been advertised as best possible via website, social media and notice boards. An application form had been produced to provide feedback in a standard manner and also to address eligibility as the latter was advised as good practice. Deadline for expressions of interest was Friday 18 October.

**84.3 Proposed Premier Inn – public consultation.** Feedback on KTC's suggested amendments to the draft survey had been received from SHDC and forwarded to all Members. The draft was undergoing SHDC's internal review process and would then be reviewed by SHDC Members. KTC's comments were likely to be incorporated. Feedback would also be requested from Marketing Means. A final draft would be sent to KTC.

**84.4 Public phone kiosk, Bus Station – removal early September.** On the evidence available to date, BT had removed the phone box without authorisation and on public land KTC should have been consulted. The Information Centre had evidenced that the phone box was required particularly by young people. Members supported the return of the phone box and further liaison with BT and SHDC.

**84.5 Royal British Legion – invitations for Members.**

- 11.00 a.m. Saturday 26 October – Poppy launch coffee morning at The Mill Club.
- 10.00 a.m. Sunday 27 October – Benefice Service at Dodbrooke Church.
- 10.30 a.m. Sunday 10 November – form up in the Town Square for the Parade to the War Memorial for the Remembrance Sunday service.

**84.6 Quay Lane – proposals for enhanced drainage and lighting.** DCC had requested KTC to conduct some local consultation with occupants in the immediate location of Quay Lane. Letter to be hand delivered shortly.

**19/85            REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND  
                          AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES**

**85.1** SHDC & KTC Premier Inn consultation/survey meeting 17 September 2019. KTC comments subsequently forwarded to SHDC (see agenda item 84.3 above).

**85.2** Salcombe RNLI 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary sculpture unveiling 21 September 2019. Members considered that Cllr Balkwill's speech was excellent.

**85.3** KTC & MeiLocI public realm improvements meeting 1 October 2019. Very productive meeting (see agenda item 87.2 below).

**85.4** The tree planting in memory of Cllr David Baisie would take place at 11.00 a.m. on Saturday 12 October at the head of the estuary adjacent to the new RNLI sculpture.

**85.5** The Kingsbridge 800 celebration on Saturday 21 September had been successful, created a super atmosphere and a real buzz in the town. The free entertainment had gone down particularly well. Families and older generations were out in numbers however, there was a noticeable lack of teenagers and early 20 year olds. The event had highlighted that the Market Hall was a great asset to the town which would be fed back to the Kingsbridge Feoffees. Videos had been taken of the event which would be used on the Information Centre's website.

**19/86            FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 8 October 2019. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £16,946.47 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

*The following agenda item was taken early out-of-turn:*

**19/88 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN**

None.

**19/87.1 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

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

**19/87.2 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN:  
PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS – QUOTATION FOR  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT WORKS**

Following a meeting between the Public Realm Improvements working group and MeiLoci landscape architects a quotation had been received to progress proposals for enhancements to the town’s public realm. Phase 1 identified Fore Street enhancements for Spring 2020 to include an interpretation, signage and way-finding strategy alongside a street furniture strategy. It was **RESOLVED** to accept a quotation for Phase 1 of Fore Street public realm enhancements. A breakdown of the quotation to be requested as the Information Centre may be able to assist with graphic design and related matters.

*The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.*

..... Presiding Chairman .....Date

Annex:

A. Public Open Forum.

## Public Open Forum

1. Lawrence Townsend stated that Pizza Planet in Mill Street had applied for a licence to sell alcohol however, there were already 6 establishments in the locale which sold alcohol. He regularly had to pick up litter on a Sunday morning and questioned whether another alcohol licence in Mill Street was required.

Cllr Jennings thanked Lawrence for his statement and suggested he made his representations to SHDC.

2. John Kitson held strong concerns about 5G technology; the salient points were:

- He signposted Members to [www.5gawareness.com](http://www.5gawareness.com) and his You Tube videos.
- No government safety tests had been conducted on fifth generation network technology.
- There was the potential for health issues particularly for young children.
- Concerns by leading scientists had not been disproved.
- Central government was driving the rollout of 5G.
- Various countries had not approved 5G technology until assurances had been received that there was no harm to humans and animals.
- Other local councils had invoked a moratorium i.e. a pause by adopting the precautionary principle not to endorse the rollout of 5G and he requested KTC to consider making a similar resolution.

3. Andrea Glashier had attended the previous meeting. She took meter readings of microwave radiation from Members' mobile phones and re-iterated that there were significant concerns to human health and ecosystems from 5G radiation. She also appealed for KTC to consider adoption of the precautionary principle regarding 5G rollout.

