

Kingsbridge Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2020 AT 7.00 P.M. IN QUAY HOUSE

Present: Cllr Philip Cole (Chairman)
Cllr Anne Balkwill
Cllr Helen Cope
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr Chris Povey

In attendance: Shelley Castle, community artist
Michelle Farrand, mosaic artist
Jim Martins, sculptor
Martin Johnson (Secretary)

19/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dena Bex, Mike Jennings, Peter Ralph and Julia Wingate.

Public Open Forum

There were no members of public present.

19/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

19/21 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 29 October 2019 were approved as a correct record.

19/22 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders for agenda items 19/23 and 19/24 to allow local residents to take part in discussions.

19/23 PUBLIC SCULPTURE

Members reported that there was little public sculpture and art in the town however, it was much appreciated e.g. RNLI 150th anniversary sculpture at the head of the estuary, community mosaics in lower Fore Street and fish in the Recreation Ground pond. Jim Martins provided comments on sculpture and Members shared their thoughts; the salient points were:

- There were many different forms of sculpture e.g. relief and standalone.
- Finding the right location was essential. Proximity of trees, sun, rain, shade etc. were important factors.

- Land ownership, liabilities, insurance, licences, planning permission etc. all had to be considered.
- A base/plinth was often required.
- What message wished to be put across?
- Community, business and heritage matters were linked.
- Grants were available but potentially difficult to gain.
- Liaison with the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Clubs, schools etc. may be required.
- History, memories, dignity etc. all come into play.
- Kingsbridge In Bloom having achieved so much for the town over the years could be the theme.
- Location in Quay House grounds, managed by KTC, would not require external land ownership permission or licence and potentially lift related constraints.
- The pillars around the Bandstand could be enhanced.
- Research into the Glove Hanging Ceremony may reveal a theme.
- Budgets obviously needed to be explored and KTC had allocated £1,500 for a sculpture/art project in financial year 2020/21.
- Jim had carved 26 sculptures in Salcombe.

It was then **RECOMMENDED** for Members to conduct a thorough walkabout to establish 4 or 5 suitable locations for a sculpture, to explore the current sculptures in Salcombe and then to invite Jim Martins for a further discussion.

19/24 PUBLIC ART

Shelley Castle and Michelle Farrand provided comments on public art and Members provided their thoughts; the salient points were:

- Community art was about encouraging connections and engendering a sense of place.
- There were locations in town which would themselves to art e.g. Eastern and Western Backways, Squeezebelly Lane and the passageways leading off Fore Street.
- The aim should be to present images which connect with both 16 years olds and 80 year olds by using universal beautiful themes e.g. water, trees and sunsets.
- The Western Backway with its leat of flowing water and reflections was a super location.
- A survey was required to find out what people loved?
- The Backways in particular were a little unloved but still widely used. How could people of all ages be invited in to discover them?
- A Tranquillity Trail had been devised a few years ago which incorporated the Backways and was set for a re-launch in spring 2020.
- KTC has recently painted over all historic graffiti in both Backways.
- The bus shelters were identified as requiring an uplift.

Another local artist/illustrator had also contacted KTC, she specialised in hand drawn murals inspired by nature, plants, flowers, birds etc. and wished to paint the windows using acrylic paint pens which could be easily removed with soapy water when no

longer needed. An acknowledgement had been sent reporting that KTC was very interested in the concept.

Similar to the discussion on the introduction of further public sculpture, it was then **RECOMMENDED** for Members to conduct a thorough walkabout to identify suitable locations for more public art and then invite Shelley Castle and Michelle Farrand for a further discussion.

19/25 PRIORITIES & AMBITIONS FOR 2019-2023

Members received a listing of Priorities & Ambitions which was reviewed and updates were suggested. It was **RECOMMENDED** to adopt a revised listing of Priorities & Ambitions for 2019-2023 and to progress the various projects at Annex A.

It was further **RECOMMENDED** to order 2 in number Montseny individual chairs at £1,480 total to use for a forthcoming public exhibition and liaison with DCC and SHDC.

19/26 WEEKDAY MARKETS

Members received a briefing a paper from a meeting held between SHDC officers, Samantha Dennis (Information Centre), Cllr Ralph and the Town Clerk on 19 November 2019. The salient points were:

- SHDC managed the Town Square and weekday markets.
- Overall the weekday markets appeared unsatisfactory and were a poor introduction to Kingsbridge for visitors walking from Quay Car Park. Some stalls however, were successful e.g. plants.
- SHDC encouragement for more stall holders in late 2019 had not been successful.
- SHDC planned to cancel the Monday market in 2020 leaving: Tuesdays (all year) and Thursdays (March to December); this would be the ongoing programme unless changes were introduced.
- SHDC was reluctant to devolve weekday market management to KTC as the authority would lose income and was satisfied with the status quo given reduction to 2 markets in 2020.
- It was acknowledged that even if permission was granted for KTC to manage the market it could be a very challenging project with no guarantee of enhancing the market or making it a success. Further exploration with remote town councils which managed markets was required.
- Would a reduction to one market per week be better? Is no market at all better than a poor market?

It was **RECOMMENDED** to:

- Liaise further with SHDC regarding KTC taking over management of the weekday markets for a 12 month trial period, or alternatively
- Accept the retention of current SHDC managed weekday markets and for KTC to explore hiring the Town Square for occasional independent themed markets e.g. continental, vintage or collectibles.

Cllr Ralph left the Chamber

19/27 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Members considered the format of the Annual Town Meeting to take place between 1 March and 1 June 2020 which KTC had traditionally held in the Town Square as a drop-in event which countered regulations but realised much greater footfall. It was **RECOMMENDED** to hold the Annual Town Meeting 2020 on Saturday 30 May and for it to showcase KTC's ambitions for public realm improvements in the town centre; to be held in the Market Hall or Town Hall foyer (if either were available).

19/28 ANNUAL REVIEW OF CCTV

Members conducted an annual review of the CCTV system as advised by the Home Office and Information Commissioner. It was **RECOMMENDED** to maintain operations of the council managed CCTV system as existing.

19/29 LED STREET LIGHTING

Further to the last council meeting, Members received a representation from a local resident that LED street lighting had negative health effects for humans, animals and plants. Much information had been received. The Town Clerk had contacted Devon County Council and it was the authority's policy to rollout LED street lighting across the county. A health impact assessment had been actioned evidenced by the EU SCHHER report on potential risks to human health, latest EU guidance on procurement and the French public health institute report on effects on human health and the environment, fauna and flora. It was **RECOMMENDED** to reply to a local resident that KTC was unable to act on her current concerns regarding LED street lighting and to advise her to contact DCC.

19/30 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28 April 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

Annexes:

- A. Priorities/Ambitions for 2019-2023.
- B. Kingsbridge Open Space, Sport & Recreation Plan 2018-2028 – Projects Listing.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Kingsbridge Town Council – Priorities & Ambitions for 2019-2023

Reviewed and revised by the Policy Committee 28 January 2020

Explanatory/new comments in Red

Project	Ambition or Priority (S, M or L)	Comments
Community Facilities		
Large performance venue	Ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in the Open Spaces, Sport & Recreation Plan (OSSR) plan and outline Kingsbridge, West Alvington & Churchstow Neighbourhood Plan. • Venue for performing arts, conferences, weddings etc.
Heritage		
Heritage Promotion	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members agreed that heritage sites/places of interest could be incorporated into better waymarking rather than introducing a standalone Heritage Trail.
Open Spaces		
Town Square, Bandstand & Quay House grounds promotion	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better promotion required to encourage greater use of the adjoining Town Square, Bandstand & Quay House lawn e.g. commercial rental, arts, drama etc. • Regular Facebook, website and notice board updates to include pricing/photos.
Memorial Shelter	Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refit/restoration required to take in the great views.
Public art and sculpture	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of further art, murals and sculpture (locations to be determined).
Vibrant Local Economy		
Way marking for pedestrians	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waymarking signage needed to direct pedestrians to Fore Street/environs from Quay & Fore Street car parks plus probable repeater signs. • Monolith style signs very popular around UK; waymarking to include heritage sites (linked with Public Realm Design below).
Fore Street (& environs) improved street scene	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement litter bins with better design (liaison required with DCC & SHDC), better Fore Street signs (currently at Scoops & Methodist Church), • re-decoration & maintenance of shop fronts via a discounted scheme, introduction of water fountains (liaison required with SHDC environmental health), wi-fi (research required i.e. has 4G taken over?), pop-up shops for empty premises, internal vinyl window painting in empty shops, waymarking signs and liaison with SHDC to provide house-style replacement bollards in the Town Square. • KTC to clean plastic bins through Town Centre on a regular basis.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore one-way entry into Fore Street car park and exit only to Cookworthy Road (A379) alongside DCC and SHDC. Linked with public real “pocket park” project at the same location. • Red telephone box/world’s smallest nightclub working well; potential improvements anticipated mid-term.
Public Realm Design Guidelines	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MeiLoco landscape architects’ Kingsbridge Public Realm Design Guidelines adopted by KTC in January 2019 (see minutes full council 15 Jan 19 & Policy Ctte 29 Jan 19). Revisions received Jun 19. • Suggestions for a range of street scene improvements from Quay Car Park to the junction Fore Street/Duncombe Street i.e. new bins, seating planters and pocket park. • Liaison required with stakeholders i.e. DCC, SHDC, Chamber of Commerce, shopkeepers and local residents. • Cllr Povey visited MeiLoco landscape architects 23 Jan 20 to work up visualisations and explore street furniture.
Markets	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the current weekday markets in the Town Square e.g. house-style stalls/gazebos, live music and more stalls/varied goods. Current weekday markets: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mondays – May to September 2. Tuesdays – all year 3. Thursdays – March to December Nil promotion, nil signage etc. • Investigate: French Market, furniture market, collectibles market, open-air auction, events and art installations. Liaison/research with other towns required. • Support for Car Boot Sales held at the Slipway in Quay Car Park every Sunday from May to September.
Youth facilities & engagement		
New Skatepark	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research location, design, funding etc. for a new Skatepark given current facility in Quay Car Park is unsatisfactory (droppings from birds & trees, uneven ground, unexciting kit). • Consultation with skaters and site visits to regional skateparks required. • Regular cleaning of current Skatepark to enable use over summer 2020.
Transport		
Charging points for electric vehicles	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation of electric charging points approved by SHDC for Quay & Fore Street car parks. • Charging points to be supplied for electric vehicles and bicycles
Community bus service	Ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study for a Kingsbridge community bus service.

Sport & Recreation		
Open Space, Sport & Recreation Plan projects	Short, Medium & Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects' listing attached.
New multi-use path Kingsbridge to Salcombe	Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study completed and Sustrans' report received. • Meeting with Salcombe TC, Malborough PC & West Alvington PC to be arranged shortly
Environment		
Plastic Free Kingsbridge	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members & Staff to explore further plastic-free ambitions. • End single use plastic bags. • Quay House ambition to be plastic-free e.g. Fair Week Reception uses wooden cutlery.
Strategic Planning		
Kingsbridge, West Alvington & Churchstow Neighbourhood Plan	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a draft Neighbourhood Plan via a Steering Group and public engagement. • Chairmen of KTC & NP Steering Group to write a joint letter to the Leader of SHDC reporting the ambitions of the Neighbourhood Plan.
Affordable Housing		
	Ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing project managed by KTC. • Presentation by DALC. • Exploration of Community Land Trusts.

Kingsbridge Open Space, Sport & Recreation Plan 2018-2028 – Project Listing

Annual review due by Parks & Open Spaces Committee in January 2020

Explanatory/new comments in Red

Based on an assessment of relative need, and reflecting the priorities of the local community following public consultation, the following list reflects current deficiencies in provision and opportunities for enhancement resulting from S106 developer contributions in Kingsbridge:

Item no. & priority: short, medium or long	Project	Requirement and location	Cost estimate	Lead authority
1 Short	Football pitches	Provision of adult & junior pitches, changing rooms & car park at Belle Hill or West Alvington Hill (fields opposite Community College)	£0.25m-£0.5m	
2 Medium	Rugby club improvements	Provision of mini or midi 3G artificial grass pitch & highway access upgrade at High House <i>Currently earmarked from potential Belle Hill S.106 contributions £207k (planning approval Jan 20) however, a wider discussion required to establish the OSSR priorities for Kingsbridge</i>	£0.25m	
3 Short	Children's play spaces	Total refit with new play equipment at Montagu Road, Trebblepark and Duncombe Park <i>Duncombe Park & Montagu Road completed late 2019 with KTC funding at £30k</i>	£50k (Montagu Rd) £35k (Duncombe Park) £tbc (Treblepark)	

4 Medium	Park infrastructure	Public art, replacement trees & shrubs, terrace project to include disability access, 24/7 public toilets & low level lighting at Duncombe Park	£75k-£100k	
5 Medium	Park infrastructure	Derby Road entrance upgrade, pond refit, public art, teen zone improvements, 24/7 public toilets & low level lighting at the Recreation Ground	£35k-£45k	
6 Short	Bmx/dirt bike track	Provision of off-road bike track at Rack Park amenity space	£2.5k-£5k	
7 Short	Park clubhouse	New build modern community hub facility to replace the current dilapidated clubhouse <i>Awards For All grant received by Kingsbridge Community Tennis to fund a feasibility study</i>	£tbc	
8 Medium	Cricket	New artificial wicket, nets & practice facilities at The Butts, West Alvington	£25k	
9 Medium	Skatepark	Replacement of existing ramps at the Skatepark & new roofing OR new Skatepark at location to be determined	£25k-£50k £100k-£200k	
10 Medium	Waterside amenity space	Refit dinghy storage, flood preventative works & BBQ area at Bowcombe amenity space	£tbc	
11 Medium	Public slipway	Provision of dinghy racks, boat washing facilities & Slipway upgrade at Quay Car Park	£tbc	

12 Short	Civic Space	Improvements in accordance with Kingsbridge Public Realm Guidelines adopted January 2019 (report by landscape architects covering area from Quay Car Park to junction Fore Street & Duncombe Street)	£tbc	
13 Long	Cemetery	New cemetery at a location to be determined	£tbc	
14 Short	Avon Valley Cycle Route	New coast to moor cycle route from Kingsbridge to South Brent	£tbc	
15 Short	Kingsbridge to Salcombe Trail	New multi-use trail from Kingsbridge to Salcombe <i>Feasibility study actioned & report received</i>	£tbc	
16 Long	Large performance venue	New development at a location to be determined	£10m-£15m	
17 Medium	Community water sports	Facilities for paddle boarding & canoeing at the head of the estuary	£tbc	