

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE,
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2021**

Present: Cllr Philip Cole (Chairman)
Cllr Anne Balkwill
Cllr Martina Edmonds
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr Steve Mammatt
Cllr Graham Price
Cllr Danielle Rawstron
Cllr Mel Rollinson
Cllr Adam Sherring
Cllr Paul Vann
Cllr Julia Wingate

In Attendance: County Cllr Julian Brazil
District Cllr Susan Jackson
District Cllr Denise O'Callaghan
Two Members of Public
Martin Johnson (Secretary)

21/98 COUNCILLOR VACANCY – CO-OPTION

It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Adam Sherring to fill the councillor vacancy in Kingsbridge North Ward and to receive his Declaration of Office.

21/99 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Mike Jennings, Cllr Chris Povey and Sgt James Timmis.

Public Open Forum

There were no statements from members of public.

**21/100 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

100.1 Sgt Timmis had provided a written report in his absence. There had been 31 offences reported in November 2021 which was on par with previous months. Crime occurred in homes, some affected retail premises and others happened in the public domain. However, there were no particular crimes which stood out or caused immediate concerns for the Kingsbridge community. Members could contact Sgt Timmis direct if they wished to do so.

100.2 County Cllr Brazil reported that Landmarc had carried out works on the Slapton Line (A379); picking up large boulders and returning them to the highway. Natural England had stated that nil further works could take place which was disappointing. Devon County Council (DCC) had submitted a funding bid to central

government to improve bus services across the county. Covid-19 infection rates had increased in Devon however, hospital admissions remained low. Quayside Leisure Centre had hosted a recent walk in Covid-19 vaccination clinic. Finally, he noted that Members were keen on a community composting facility and agreed that a suitable site location was pivotal.

100.3 District Cllr Jackson supported the requirement for a community composting site in the town. She was delighted that an enhanced skatepark in Quay Car Park had been supported by South Hams District Council (SHDC) via the use of extra car parking spaces and some adjacent tree works. A meeting had been arranged for 24 December to discuss housing matters with SHDC officers. Finally, she complimented the Town Council (KTC) on the Christmas Lights.

100.4 District Cllr O'Callaghan, and Cllr Jackson, had funds remaining from their locality budgets for climate change projects which could be provided to administer KTC's household survey. She was pleased that KTC had been successful in its joint bid with SHDC to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund; circa 600 mature trees would be planted in the district. The household support fund was still running. A Task and Finish Group had been set-up to consider SHDC's declaration of a Housing Crisis; she hoped to be a member of the group which would consider best practice elsewhere. Finally, she was keeping alert to the Lock's Hill housing development.

County Cllr Brazil left the meeting

21/101 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman agreed to take one item of Urgent Business at agenda item 21/112: Lateral Flow Tests – Council/Committee Meetings.

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

21/112 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD: LATERAL FLOW TESTS – COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to advise all Members to take a lateral flow test prior to attending either council or committee meetings.

21/102 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/103 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 9 November 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

21/104 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 November 2021 and 7 December 2021.

It was noted that Cllrs Cole, Edmonds and Rollinson, alongside SHDC officers, were due to discuss the operation of Community Land Trusts with Middlemarch at a remote meeting on 17 December and would feedback with their findings to the Planning Committee.

District Cllrs Jackson and O'Callaghan left the meeting

21/105 FINANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 23 November 2021.

During discussion, Members agreed to make the following amendments to the preliminary draft budget:

- Deletion of the Fair Week civic reception for community groups at £500 (to allow Members to become more involved in the country dancing in Fore Street and the Town Square).
- Transfer a £4k allocation for a trampoline in one of the parks to £2k for new skatepark surveys and £2k for Treblepark basketball court (a joint project with South Hams Area Wellbeing and SHDC). Said trampoline to be funded from circa £10k S106 funds (developer contributions) earmarked for Duncombe Park.
- Retention of new benches and litter bins around the head of the estuary at £27.5k (plus a further £27.5k from Capital Receipts).
- Retention of Movies on the Square at £5.6k (outdoor film screenings in the Town Square).
- Inclusion of £1,650 for a town marketing strategy.
- Inclusion of £5k for more community events in 2022/23.
- Deletion of sinking fund projects: electric vehicle charging point at Quay House and free parking for Saturday Christmas shopping in December 2022.

The draft budget to be considered again by the Finance Committee on 6 January 2022 and finally by the council meeting on 11 January 2022.

21/106 ENVIRONMENT & RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Environment and Resilience Committee held on 30 November 2021.

21/107 KINGSBRIDGE, WEST ALVINGTON & CHURCHSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It was **RESOLVED** to submit the Regulation 15 version of the Kingsbridge, West Alvington and Churchstow Neighbourhood Development Plan (the Plan) to South Hams District Council (on behalf of KTC, West Alvington Parish Council and Churchstow Parish Council) to include a Basic Conditions Statement and Consultation Statement. All the documents and supporting evidence could be viewed at: <https://kingsbridge.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/> and SHDC would be requested to progress the Plan to Regulation 16 independent examination.

It was **RESOLVED** to respond to the current public consultation on the South Hams and West Devon Playing Pitch Strategy document and Action Plan as follows:

- The draft Strategy and Action Plan for Kingsbridge dovetailed with the ambitions of the Kingsbridge and Surrounding Area Sports Forum and the Kingsbridge Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan 2018-2028 (available at <https://kingsbridge.gov.uk/council/open-spaces-sports-recreation-plan/>).
- However, a recommendation for a reduced size 9v9 floodlit 3G football turf pitch with shock pad for rugby compliance at the existing pitch or adjoining land at Kingsbridge Community College was not supported as it should be upgraded to an 11v11 size pitch in order to allow older youth and adult teams to also be accommodated.

109.1 Devon Wildlife Trust. The group was content to make a presentation on their local work at a forthcoming Public Open Forum.

109.2 DCC Autumn briefing with South Hams parishes. DCC Leader Cllr John Hart would provide his briefing at a remote meeting to be held at 5.30 p.m. on the following day 15 December.

109.3 Recreation Ground – OSSR project. SHDC had recently approved S106 funding (developer contributions) for a 'mini-refit' in the Recreation Ground. The funds were available for a 12 month period and the following works would be actioned in spring 2022: 2 new springers in the children's play area, balance beam and stepping pods in the teenzone area, resurfacing of the boules pitch, cleaning and oiling of all seating, and painting of the low red wall (in orange) and woodwork (pale blue again) in the teenzone.

109.4 Christmas Tree – vandalism. Damage had been caused to the picket fence surrounding the Christmas Tree on 25 November. The incident had been captured by CCTV and immediate investigation by the Neighbourhood Police Team identified the person responsible. A Community Resolution Order was agreed by KTC, Police, parents and a young person leading to a 2 hour litter pick on Sunday morning 28 November. A letter of apology had been received.

109.5 New street furniture. An update had been forwarded to all Members. The new Santa & Cole large benches had been installed in the footway adjacent to Peacocks store to be followed by Escofet individual seats, Esfet benches and Urbe planters with Silver Birch trees in the New Year.

21/110 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES

110.1 Remembrance Sunday 14 November 2021. The commemorative event had been well attended and Cllr Jennings had laid a single wreath alongside the President of the Royal British Legion.

110.2 Visit to South Brent community composting site 18 November 2021. Cllr Cole, District Cllr O'Callaghan, Gary Jolliffe and Alan Denbigh had represented Kingsbridge.

110.3 Kingsbridge Sports Forum 29 November 2021. The Town Clerk had attended and the meeting had reviewed the Playing Pitch Strategy (agenda item 21/108).

110.4 Kingsbridge Licensees' meeting 30 November 2021. Cllrs Cole and Fishman had attended; notes had been circulated.

110.5 Skatepark meeting 6 November 2021. Cllrs Sherring and Wingate had attended a meeting with SHDC. The New Skatepark for Kingsbridge group should be formally constituted, use of a further 11 parking spaces in Quay Car Park had been supported by SHDC to increase the current footprint, some adjacent tree works had been agreed to mitigate the current leaf fall and debris (but would only be actioned as part of a fully funded/planning approved project and not independently), concept drawings to be produced via local consultation with skaters, KTC budget at circa £2k would be helpful for initial studies (agenda item 21/105) and overall costs would be around £200k.

110.6 Urban Tree Challenge Fund meeting 6 November 2021. Cllr Price had attended a meeting with SHDC. KTC's contribution to the project to deliver 127 mature trees at several locations in town would be £12.7k i.e. £100 per tree for supply, ancillaries, planting and watering/management for 3 years.

110.7 SHDC grounds maintenance meeting 6 November 2021. Cllr Price had attended a meeting with SHDC. KTC supported SHDC's proposals for its new grounds maintenance schedule.

110.8 Trebblepark play area meeting 6 November 2021. The Town Clerk had attended an on-site meeting with SHDC and South Hams Area Wellbeing; a project would be worked up to install a second basketball hoop to be jointly funded by all 3 parties (see agenda item 21/105).

110.9 KTC breakfast meeting 10 November 2021. Several Members had attended the meeting which considered KTC's aims, ambitions and projects for 2022/23 and which had fed into the draft budget considerations (see agenda item 21/105).

21/111 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 9 November 2021. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £22,605.44 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

21/113 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

..... Presiding Chairman Date