

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE,
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2022**

Present: Cllr Philip Cole (Chairman)
Cllr Anne Balkwill
Cllr Barrie Fishman
Cllr Steve Mammatt
Cllr Graham Price
Cllr Adam Sherring
Cllr Paul Vann
Cllr Julia Wingate

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

22/65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Martina Edmonds, Mike Jennings, Chris Povey, Danielle Rawstron and Mel Rollinson.

Public Open Forum

Members of public made the statements at Annex A.

Three members of public left the Council Chamber

**22/66 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

66.1 Sgt Peter Shotton had provided a Kingsbridge Neighbourhood Police report for October 2022 which had been forwarded to all Town Council (KTC) Members. There had been 37 reported crimes including 6 offences of Criminal Damage relating to damage to vehicles, a shop front and within a domestic setting. Four offences of Violence without injury which related to a domestic setting, an assault on a Police officer and an assault between 2 males in a pub. Violence with injury related to 2 offences in a domestic setting and a further 2 involved dog bites. Three Public Order offences related to road rage type incidents. Two offences of Burglary Dwelling regarded an unknown person entering a property and theft of keys to a vehicle and another was an attempt involving an unknown person trying door handles to a property. Finally, there had been 2 Rape offences where the suspect was known to the victim. Members would arrange to meet with the new Sergeant shortly.

66.2 County Cllr Brazil reported that Devon County Council (DCC) had approved a temporary road closure at Frogmore. Modbury high street would close for 3 months in the New Year, the main road through Loddiswell would close for 6 days in late November and the A381 at Hallwell would close 24 to 25 November. He had

received a representation from the Kingsbridge Area Foodbank querying why the charity had not been included in the Kingsbridge, West Alvington & Churchstow Neighbourhood Plan (KWAC Plan). The Chairman responded that KTC would provide information, and liaise with the planning consultant, to enable a response to be provided. There was a DCC Cabinet meeting the following day to include budget monitoring given an anticipated large overspend within the current financial year. The meeting would also discuss a proposed change in highways' hierarchy to make pedestrians and cyclists the priority ahead of vehicular traffic.

66.3 District Cllr Jackson reported that unfortunately the contractor for the provision of EV panels at the district's leisure centres had pulled out and therefore this was likely to mean a 6 month delay. It was noted that some leisure centres around the country were struggling however, Quayside Leisure Centre's footfall had almost bounced back to pre-Covid levels. However, the café remained close due to legal issues in assigning a contract for a new tenant. Members had noted the request for a youth facility during the Public Open Forum and considered a natural location would be at the leisure centre; KTC was willing to liaise with the centre manager on such matters.

66.4 District Cllr O'Callaghan reported that she was arranging a meeting with the Quayside Leisure Centre manager which could discuss facilities for young people e.g. Friday youth nights, swim and roller discos. She had also been contacted by the Foodbank regarding its exclusion from the KWAC Plan. South Hams District Council's (SHDC) waste management service was running satisfactorily with a subsequent green waste service earmarked from spring 2023 at £49 per annum. Over 1,000 households had already subscribed to the service at a maximum of 2 bins per household (which would attract 2 fees). Current brown bins were not required to be returned to SHDC however, SHDC would collect them if requested to do so. At present 3 in number waste collection services were running and the ambition was to combine them into a single service from June 2023 which may be unrealistic given the geography and dynamics of the South Hams. EV charging points had been installed at Quay and Fore Street car parks but were cordoned off at present. They were anticipated to come into service by the end of the year. She had requested a further update on the longstanding closure of Church Steps Passageway, due to a dangerous wall, and the Head of Assets and Executive lead Member had been informed. There had been a change of consultant which had delayed matters. Local residents had contacted her regarding the closure of Public Footpath No.6 at the K4/Lock's Hill development site and DCC Public Rights of Way had been informed. The next court proceedings regarding site matters for SHDC and the developer would take place on 2 December in Bristol. New skatepark funding at £25k had been allocated from historical Tesco retail store S106 funding and a bid for capital funds at £20k would be made however, it was hoped to increase this to £25k to reach a SHDC total at £50k thereby matching KTC's own funding commitment. She was aware that the Bowcombe viewing platform was closed off and this had been identified to the Assets team.

All 3 DCC and SHDC Ward Members would attend KTC's pop up shop during Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas on Saturday 3 December.

DCC & SHDC Ward Members left the Council Chamber

22/67 URGENT BUSINESS

None.

22/68 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

22/69 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 11 October 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman again emphasised the huge success of Kingsbridge In Bloom and the outstanding presence it had in the town.

22/70 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 18 October 2022.

It was agreed to review SHDC policies for felling TPO trees and replacement planting.

22/71 FINANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Finance Committee, public session, held on 25 October 2022.

22/72 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

72.1 Storm damage overnight 31 October/1 November. At Quay House grounds a large limb had snapped off the Horse Chestnut. At Trebblepark Allotments a tree fallen over a couple of plots. There had been minor flooding in Mill Street. At Norden Lane, West Alvington Hill, a fallen tree had completely blocked Public Footpath No.2 and similarly along the permissive footpath at the rear of the allotment site.

On 7 November, KTC's Facebook page had alerted local residents to a combination of a Met Office yellow warning for rain and high tides however, no flooding incidents had been reported.

72.2 Assets business. Local residents and Staff were continually clearing rubbish from St Edmunds Churchyard. Advisory signage had been positioned. Recent graffiti had been cleaned off or overpainted in the Memorial Shelter, Saffron Park and Western Backway. It was brought up that a bespoke graffiti wall should be considered. The Bandstand had been covered in flour during Halloween to the extent that it had to be professionally cleaned; Police had requested CCTV footage following potential anti-social behaviour at the Bus Station on the night. A raft of

actions from the recent Property & Recreation Committee (adopted at October's council meeting) were progressing e.g. application for variation of the Premises Licence for the Bandstand, cycle stands ordered for Bridge Street, cast iron litter bins ordered, new Christmas Lights for Bridge Street ordered alongside DCC permission and SSE Lighting installation of timers/sockets.

72.3 Remembrance Sunday 13 November. Cllrs Sherring and Wingate agreed to assist Staff with road closures. Other Members were requested to muster in the Town Square at 10.30 a.m. Anthony Mangnall MP would march alongside KTC to the War Memorial at 10.45 a.m. for the Silence and Service from 11.00 a.m.

72.4 KTC pop-up shop. Organised by Cllr Wingate on 3 December at 27 Fore Street (former Norsworthy Photography). Shop window dressing, information and hospitality to be arranged.

72.5 Tree planting. The anticipated Urban Tree Challenge Fund stage 2 tree planting project for winter 2022/23 was progressing for Trebblepark, Rack Park amenity space and Wallingford Road play area. The latter 2 areas would be community orchards and liaison was taking place with SHDC's contractor ParkLife.

72.6 Boundary Commission Review of England's Constituencies. A current consultation, deadline 5 December, was noted which proposed to change the geography of the Totnes constituency, earmarked to increase in size to the west and to change its name to become South Devon. Members did not consider that the proposals impacted strongly on Kingsbridge and it was agreed that KTC did not need to consider a response.

22/73 NATURE AND CLIMATE DECLARATION

Members received Zero Hour's invitation to support a Declaration for the UK to proceed further and faster in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in restoring the natural world. It was **RESOLVED** for KTC to sign the Nature and Climate Declaration.

22/74 REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES

74.1 KTC/community groups public art meeting 17 October 2022. The Director of Harbour House had kindly agreed to produce a draft Public Art Strategy for the town.

74.2 KTC/community groups DCC Connecting You Fund meeting 24 October 2022. KTC had invited various groups associated with age groups 16-24 and 55 plus to make them aware of the Fund which wished to tackle loneliness via transport projects as the Kingsbridge area had been highlighted. The aim was to make groups aware of the Fund, encourage bids, ascertain if there was potential for a

collaborative bid, find out 'who was doing what' and provide KTC support to said bids. Five local groups had attended.

74.3 KTC/SHDC/Kingsbridge Community Tennis meeting 3 November 2022.

The meeting had discussed a proposed licence between SHDC and Community Tennis alongside the condition of the playing surface at the courts. It was agreed to seek a roundtable meeting with SHDC officers.

74.4 KTC/SHDC S.106 contributions meeting 8 November 2022. Members were updated on the availability of Open Space, Sport & Recreation funds allocated to Kingsbridge.

74.5 Town Marketing meeting. Cllrs Rawstron and Wingate had contacted 3 marketing companies and subsequently met recently with a local professional to discuss a 6 month social and print media plan. The principle for the project had previously been agreed with an available budget within the current financial year 2022/23. It was agreed to further liaise with Members and to progress the plan to completion.

Members also discussed a Town Diary to showcase town events and entertainment, the good works and ongoing need for the Information Centre, and the historic Destination Kingsbridge forum where various groups came together to share information and which was mooted to be restored. It was noted that the Food & Music Festival would not take place in 2023.

74.6 Bus Station photo exhibition. Cllr Fishman had met with a local bus enthusiast and they were working up a photo exhibition to celebrate the history of the Bus Station.

22/75 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 8 November 2022. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £20,041.77 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

22/76 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN

None.

22/77 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None.

The meeting closed at 9.07 p.m.

..... Presiding ChairmanDate

Annex:

A. Public Open Forum.

Public Open Forum

1. Genny Madeira and Melanie were local parents who stated their wishes to:
 - provide a community hub and safe space for young people to hang out,
 - to showcase events and progress life experiences,
 - particularly to focus on the circa 14 to 16 year age group from all walks of life,
 - to enable DJing, arts and similar interests,
 - it should be inspirational but also focus on mental health awareness,
 - they knew a network of parents would be willing to get behind such a scheme to volunteer and mentor,
 - they were very aware that a suitable venue and funding were required, and
 - sought KTC backing and support.

The Chairman thanked Genny and Melanie for their statements and replied that he was aware that outside organised sports there was little in town for teenagers to do. He advised that the DCC managed Horizons/Tresilian building in upper Fore Street may have scope for such a project. Cllr Sherring offered to act as Genny and Melanie's guide at KTC.

2. Adriaan Maxwell, of Kingsbridge Cricket Club, stated that the club:
 - had ambitions to totally refit its clubhouse and changing rooms which was supported by the Devon Cricket association,
 - he would leave architect drawings which were anticipated to be submitted shortly as a planning application to SHDC,
 - said plans included a disabled ramp, new internal layout, doors and windows,
 - the club considered that it should benefit from available S106 developer contribution funds already assigned to Kingsbridge from new housing developments,
 - the club required £80k to £100k,
 - England Cricket would contribute £10k alongside S106 funds from West Alvington at circa £17k,
 - the club had 50 adult members and 50 to 100 children.

The Chairman thanked Adriaan for his statement and reported that KTC would review its Open Space, Sport & Recreation plan and include the cricket club in future meetings alongside other key sports clubs in town.