

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUAY HOUSE,  
AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2022**

**Present:** Cllr Philip Cole (Chairman)  
Cllr Anne Balkwill  
Cllr Martina Edmonds  
Cllr Barrie Fishman  
Cllr Mike Jennings  
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 Denise O'Callaghan  
One Member of Public  
Martin Johnson (Town Clerk)

**22/78 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Chris Povey, District Cllr Susan Jackson and Sgt Peter Shotton.

**Public Open Forum**

A member of public made the statement at Annex A.

**22/79 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL AND  
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

**79.1** Sgt Peter Shotton had reported that a new system for recording crimes had been introduced however, crime statistics had not been made available to date but should be rectified for the next meeting.

**79.2** County Cllr Brazil reported that he had attended a Devon County Council (DCC) recent full council meeting and the Cabinet would meet on the following day. A motion to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists ahead of vehicular traffic had not been successful however, there was potential for DCC to work with town and parish councils who may have the budget and resources to fund 20mph traffic schemes and related highways solutions. A protocol would be worked up for the same. There had been several local road closures recently which had disrupted traffic flow, including Frogmore and Loddiswell, and Modbury high street/A379 would be closed from 9 January for a period of 3 months. He was aware that KTC and local residents had requested a replacement Ornamental Pear tree to be planted in lower Fore Street and for the footway surface to be inspected. Finally, he wished the Town Council (KTC) a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

**79.3** District Cllr O’Callaghan had enjoyed the “Meet Your Councillors” pop-up shop in Fore Street during Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas on Saturday 3 December. She had attended a worthwhile Kingsbridge Park Community Tennis (KPCT) meeting alongside KTC and South Hams District Council (SHDC) officers on 30 November; the latter would bid internally for part-funding of the resurfacing of the courts. It was anticipated that a long lease between SHDC and the tennis group would be achieved. The Development Management Committee would meet on the following day when KTC, South Hams Society and herself would speak to a planning application which proposed a housing development at the Dennings site in Wallingford Road. The manager of Quayside Leisure Centre was keen for the re-introduction of youth nights. The Share Shed was up and running which SHDC funded at £20k. It visited the Town Square on Fridays from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. A Repair Café would be launched in January 2023. The Expressions of Interest for affordable-led housing developments at SHDC owned sites in Ropewalk had commenced with a deadline of 29 January. A Home Visiting Service had been agreed to aid vulnerable people struggling to access SHDC services. The Bowcombe bird viewing platform had been scheduled for repairs but there was no timescale at present. There had been no further progress regarding the wall repairs in Church Steps Passageway due to a change of contractor and the footway remained closed. Finally, the unsatisfactory condition of the Recreation Ground cottage/Park Bowling Club’s clubhouse had been brought to the attention of SHDC officers.

*DCC Ward Member and a member of public left the meeting*

**22/80            URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**22/81            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**22/82            MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 8 November 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**22/83            PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Resolutions in the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 15 November 2022 and 6 December 2022.

**22/84            FINANCE COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and adopt the Recommendations in the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 22 November 2022.

Topical matters were reported upon:

- The Integrated Urban Drainage Management (IUDM) Study for Kingsbridge was awaited following a meeting with Pell Frischman, DCC, SHDC, Environment Agency (EA) and South West Water on 20 September. The next meeting was scheduled for 21 February when it was anticipated to receive a final report for consideration. The next Environment & Resilience Committee would be held afterwards.
- DCC's flood risk management report dated 18 November had considered the Kingsbridge flood event on 4 June when 13 properties had experienced internal flooding. The event had been attributed to surface water as the intensity of the rainfall had exceeded the capacity and ability to enter the drainage system causing it to be overwhelmed and for flooding to occur. A range of Recommendations included SHDC, EA and DCC to encourage sustainable drainage practices for new developments.
- KTC's Climate And Nature Emergency (CANE) plan required to be updated and explain its aims for the next few years.
- Kingsbridge Climate Action was working-up a project, alongside South Dartmoor Community Energy, to identify Kingsbridge properties with low Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) ratings of E, F and G whereby advice could then be provided to make homes more energy efficient. It was estimated that circa 20% of the town's properties were likely to fall into these categories. KTC held circa £150 from SHDC Ward Members' sponsorship of the recent climate change household survey which was supported by Members to part-fund the EPC project.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the above environment and resilience reports.

**86.1 Movies on the Square.** "It's A Wonderful Life" at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday 18 December however, the current weather forecast was for torrential rain therefore, the event may need to be cancelled or brought forward to the Saturday if possible. A decision was required before close of play on the following day.

**86.2 Carol singing.** At 6.00 p.m. on Friday 16 December in the Town Square at the Christmas Tree.

**86.3 Damaged Ornamental Pear tree in Fore Street.** Located in the wide footway outside the Peacocks store would be replaced shortly. The current tree retained some value and it had been suggested to re-plant it in the Wild About Kingsbridge managed green space to the rear of Devon Square.

**86.4 Christmas Lights.** The display had operated without concern to date. The displays would be switched off on Tuesday 3 January and actually taken down on Sunday 8 January.

**86.5 Basketball court.** The newly enhanced court at Trebblepark play area, joint funded by SHDC, KTC and South Hams Area Wellbeing, had experienced some teething issues during construction. SHDC and the contractor would meet on-site shortly to explore matters.

**86.6 Staffing/Council Offices' opening hours.** Monday 26 to Tuesday 27 December and Monday 2 January would be taken as Bank Holidays and the Council Offices would be closed. There would be reduced staffing in the Council Offices for the period between Christmas and New Year i.e. Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 December due to annual leave.

*District Cllr O'Callaghan left the meeting*

## **22/87               REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES**

**87.1 Kingsbridge Area Sustainability meetings 11 November & 2 December 2022.** Several climate change projects were ongoing.

**87.2 Remembrance Sunday service 13 November 2022.** The annual parade and service at the War Memorial had been well received by a large crowd.

**87.3 Sgt Shotton/KTC meeting 14 November 2022.** Bullet-point notes had been circulated to all Members.

**87.4 KWAC Neighbourhood Plan Referendum 24 November 2022.** The local community had voted in favour of the Plan.

**87.5 Insp Shardlow KINS remote meeting 25 November 2022.** There had been a spate of catalytic converter thefts from vehicles. Operation Tinsel would combat drink driving over the festive season. A request had been made to re-open the enquiry office at Kingsbridge Police Station which remained intact.

**87.6 KPCT/SHDC/KTC meeting 30 November 2022.** See 79.3 above.

**87.7 KCCollege/Sgt Shotton/KTC meeting 1 December 2022.** A worthwhile meeting had been held with the Principal of Kingsbridge Community College.

**87.8 DCC/SHDC/KTC pop up shop Fore Street 3 December 2022.** DCC/SHDC Ward Members and KTC Members had held numerous conversations with local residents. A thank you letter had been sent to the landlord of the shop. Members supported the pop-up to be an annual event, alongside the Annual Town Meeting, to engage with the community.

**87.9 Kingsbridge Sports Forum 12 December 2022.** A worthwhile meeting had been held with various sports clubs to receive their aspirations, a 3G pitch was under investigation and KTC would lead on a follow-up meeting.

**87.10 Bus Station photo exhibition.** Further to the previous meeting, the photos would be printed on vinyl and professionally mounted on the rear elevation of the bus shelter which faced the Town Square.

**87.11 Chamber of Commerce.** The Chairman had updated the meeting on various KTC/local government matters affecting the town.

**87.12 Youth provision.** The Chairman had met with 2 local residents who had attended the previous council meeting. The key matter was to locate a suitable space to operate from.

**87.13 Skatepark.** Members thanked Cllr Sherring for his various meetings and work to date on the New Skatepark For Kingsbridge project. The Crowdfunder scheme was promoted to raise funds.

## **22/88 FINANCE – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Members received a schedule of payments due to date 13 December 2022. It was **RESOLVED** that the payments amounting to £25,016.31 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

*Cllr Price left the meeting*

## **22/89 BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN**

None.

## **22/90 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN**

None.

*The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.*

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

Annex:

A. Public Open Forum.

## **Public Open Forum**

Lee Bonham thanked Cllr Cole and District Cllr O'Callaghan for arranging a meeting with SHDC officers to discuss Kingsbridge Park Community Tennis' lease of the courts in the Recreation Ground. He was also pleased that KTC and SHDC had objected to a recent planning application at the Lock's Hill/K4 housing development off Derby Road. Local residents were concerned that the developer had destroyed a bank to create a new entrance to the site which did not appear to have planning permission.

Cllr Cole thanked Lee for his comments.