

Kingsbridge Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT & RESILIENCE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE, AT 6.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2026

Present: Cllr Alex McCormick
Cllr Graham Price
Cllr Julie Taylor
Cllr Paul Vann (Chairman)

In Attendance: Katharine Harrod (Town Clerk)
1 Member of public

26/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Cllr Cole and South Hams District Council Cllr Jackson.

Open Forum:

A resident advised that they had received an open invitation from Mr Patrick Whymer, Head of Development Management at South Hams District Council, to defend the standing of the existing Neighbourhood plan in respect of the five-year housing land supply.

26/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were received.

26/11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillors noted approval of the Environment, Transport & Resilience Committee minutes of 16th June 2026 by Full Council on 14th July 2026.

26/12 TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Following review, it was **RECCOMENDED** to accept the updated Terms of Reference. Proposed Cllr Price, seconded by Cllr McCormick and approved unanimously.

26/13 FLOODING, SEWAGE DISCHARGES & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

1. Kingsbridge Partnership Update: A meeting is due to be held with the Environment Agency on Friday to receive information regarding a project that they have recently awarded in respect of the town.
Councillors discussed sewage issues, attenuation, leats and maintenance in the town and the importance of knowing who is responsible for the different elements. Understanding all areas, including local watercourses will become even more important as future development takes place.
2. With regard to the recent culvert works it was noted that the works were completed in August, and the town is now open as usual with the removal of the one-way system.
3. It was **RECOMMENDED** to investigate a proposal received from a trader regarding the expansion of contacts held in connection with the Kingsbridge Town Council Emergency Plan.
Proposed Cllr McCormick, seconded Cllr Price, approved unanimously.

26/14 ENVIRONMENT

1. Cattle Market Tree Planting Proposal: Councillors agreed to obtain a quote from a contact to compare to the figures provided by South Hams District Council before making a final decision on the viability of the project.
2. Replacement trees adjacent to Boots Chemist: It was **RECOMMENDED** to recommend to Devon County Council that ornamental pears be planted adjacent to Boots to replace the ornamental pears that were removed during the culvert works. Proposed Cllr Vann, seconded Cllr Taylor, approved unanimously.

It was noted the trees along Fore Street have suffered in the recent heatwave. They will be reviewed in spring.

3. To consider options regarding the surrounds of the trees on the Market Square with a view to making a recommendation to South Hams District Council. This item was deferred until an update has been received from South West Water.
4. Concerns have been raised regarding the large eucalyptus tree at the head of the estuary by the public toilets. Options to manage the risk range from a 30% reduction in height to replacement of the tree with a native species. Councillors requested a risk assessment from the Tree Warden prior to further consideration.
5. Councillors noted the details of the Nationwide Petition for a National Briefing on the Climate and Nature Emergency (Petition 767687) which closes on 20th November 2026. This is a petition created by Chris Packham, currently showing 122,656 signatures. It states: The UK faces growing risks from climate and nature breakdown - from extreme weather to economic disruption and national security threats. Yet the public has never been given a clear national briefing on the scale of these risks. Government should hold an emergency briefing from leading experts.
6. The photovoltaic panels at Quayside Leisure have now been installed and are due to go live mid-September.

26/15 TRANSPORT

1. The following update regarding local public transport was provided by Tally Ho:
 - a. There are no imminent timetable changes to any of the Tally Ho service routes.
 - b. Fares are currently capped at £3 for single journey, this could change to £2 at the start of 2027, there will be an increase in the overall cost of the ticket in January, but the cap helps passengers to save money on using the bus.
 - c. No current route changes or (thankfully!) diversions, we do come up against issues where roads are closed suddenly with no information why, we then have to think on our feet and divert the busses, we do try to let passengers know as soon as we are aware of this.
 - d. Real time information is available through bustimes.org.

- e. Coach hire can be booked through www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk or by ringing 0300 012 0179 or emailing info@tallyhocoaches.co.uk.
 - f. Devon County Council have contacted Tally Ho regarding Zero Emmission vehicles and options re electrifying their services. We await an update.
2. The speed indicator devices are currently sited on Embankment Road and Stentiford Hill. At the time of the meeting no data had been downloaded from those sites.
Consideration will be given to moving the units in March after the next meeting. Different locations were considered, including Cookworthy Road and Hospital Hill, this will be firmed up in February.
In the meantime, checks will be made to ensure that no trees impact on the visibility of the signs at their current locations.
3. It was **RECOMMENDED** to request for a Speed Compliance Action Review Forum (SCARF) assessment for Belle Hill. Proposed Cllr Taylor, seconded Cllr Price and approved unanimously.
Furthermore, it was **RECOMMENDED** to approach Devon County Council to request guidance about the implementation of additional blanket speed restrictions. Proposed Cllr Price, seconded Cllr Vann, approved unanimously.

It was noted that the railings at Belle Cross Road have been damaged, this will be followed up.

26/16 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING - 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday 23rd February 2027

The meeting closed at 7.59 p.m.

Signed as a true record: _____

Print Name & Date: _____

Distribution List: All current Town Councillors, Kingsbridge Town Council Website.
For Information: e-circulation to: Councillor representatives - South Hams District Council and Devon County Council.