



Kington Town Council

Members of the Environment Committee of Kington Town Council
you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of

The Environment Committee

On **Monday 19th June 2023 at 6.30 pm** or on conclusion of the
Planning Committee meeting, whichever is later

At

The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

Committee Members: Mayor E. Banks, Deputy Mayor Cllr. P.Sell, Cllrs T. Bounds, J. Cooke, N. Cornish,
M. Fitton, J. Gardner, and R. Warne

Agenda

1. To elect a Chair of the committee for the forthcoming year
2. To receive apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation
3. To elect a Vice Chair of the committee for the forthcoming year
4. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on [20th March 2023](#)
5. To consider Terms of Reference for the Committee for the forthcoming year
6. To note resolution of Full Council dated 6th February regarding Effective Implementation of the Town Council's Ethical and Environmental Policy and agree a way forward
7. To note report from Cllr. Fitton on training attended on Climate change measures and agree an action plan, if appropriate
8. Standing items for discussion
 - 8.1 Health & Safety
 - 8.2 Town Centre
 - 8.3 Kington in Bloom
 - 8.4 Allotments
 - 8.5 Recycling
 - 8.6 Churchyard
 - To consider future management of the site
 - To consider tree safety survey
 - To consider quotations for work for urgent tree work
 - 8.7 Community Energy
 - 8.8 Economic Development
 - 8.9 Footpath & Highway matters
 - 8.10 War Memorial
 - To consider provisional quotation for cleaning of the war memorial
 - 8.11 KLEEN – Update on activities
9. Date of next meeting and Items for the next agenda

Issued on 12.6.2023 by:

Liz Kelso

Clerk, Kington Town Council, The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington HR5 3DP
Tel: 01544 239 098 or 07483 914 485 Email: clerk@kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Environment Committee and may, at the discretion of the Chairman speak on some agenda items. For further information on council procedures, please speak to the Clerk whose contact details are above.



Kington Town Council

Email: clerk@kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk
Web site: www.kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

held on Monday 20th March 2023
at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

PRESENT

In attendance

Cllr. J. Cooke (chair)

Cllr. E. Banks

Cllr. P. Sell

Cllr. R. Warne

Liz Kelso – Town Clerk

Agenda item

- Env 006-23 1 **APOLOGIES, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
Apologies were noted from Cllrs. D. Redmayne, R. Widdowson, T. Bounds, M. Fitton, J. Gardner and I. Spencer. Cllr. P. Sell declared a personal interest in the agenda item on the Churchyard as a member of St. Mary's PCC. There were no requests for dispensation.
- Env 007-23 2 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th JANUARY 2023**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2023, which had been previously circulated, were agreed and the Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.
- Env 008-23 3 **STANDING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
- 1) **Health and Safety**
There was nothing to report under this agenda item at this time.
 - 2) **Town Centre**
It was noted that the new pedestrian crossing is due to be installed shortly opposite the Primary School.
 - 3) **Kington in Bloom**
There was nothing to note under this agenda item.
 - 4) **Allotments**
It was reported that recent activity at the allotments included a trimming of boundary hedges and the creation of new compost bins.

5) Recycling

It was reported that the new recycling bins for residents have not yet been received and it was suggested that recent press reports suggested that the introduction might have been delayed. This will be investigated further.

6) Churchyard

- **Future management of the churchyard**

Members noted that now the Community Payback Team are no longer working on the Churchyard, arrangements need to be made to undertake general clearing of debris, cutting back of shrubs etc. It was agreed to seek quotes from contractors for this work with an estimated half to one day required every two weeks. This will be considered further at the next meeting.

- **Refurbishment of the compost bins**

It was agreed to recommend to full council that a quotation for repairs to the compost bins at the churchyard for a total estimated cost £640 to include hire of a skip for disposal of the bin contents and repairs to the lids of the compost bins. On reflection, members noted that moving the contents of the bins might require the hire of equipment and it was agreed to review this with the contractors involved before placing final orders.

7) Community Energy

There was nothing to note under this agenda item.

8) Economic Development

There was nothing to report under this agenda item at this time although members were pleased to note a new business opening up on the High Street.

9) Footpaths and Highway matters

There was nothing further to note on this agenda item.

10) War Memorial

Quotations are being obtained for the cleaning of the war memorial.

11) Trees

There was nothing to report under this agenda item at this time.

12) KLEEN

It was noted that the car share club is being separated from Malvern Car Club and currently there are 6 drivers enrolled in the club. It was also noted that a litter pick will take place on April 16th. Finally it was noted that KLEEN members are to be trained to undertake home energy surveys for local residents.

Env 009-23

5. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

The date and time for the next meeting is to be confirmed. There were no items raised for the next agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Signed
Chair of Environment Committee

Date



Kington Town Council Environment Committee

The Environment Committee is a committee of Kington Town Council and shall operate within the terms of reference set by the full Council.

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the Environment Committee will be *a minimum of 7 (seven) Councillors*, including ex officio the Mayor and Deputy Mayors, and with 4 (four) other members to be appointed annually.
2. The quorum for the Committee will be 4 (four).
3. The Chair will be elected at the first meeting of the Committee after Kington Town Council annual meeting.
4. All Councillors may attend and contribute to the meeting, but only those members appointed to the Committee by the Council may vote on resolutions.

OPERATIONS

5. The Environment Committee will act in accordance with the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations adopted annually at the Kington Town Council Annual Meeting.
6. All committee decisions will have regard to the Ethical and Environmental Policy adopted by the Town Council *as amended from time to time*
7. The Environment Committee will meet every other month, or at such other times as may be required to discuss and recommend to the Council on urgent items of business within its remit.
8. The Clerk will be responsible for servicing the committee and will undertake any correspondence required.
9. The agenda will be published, with items to be discussed listed, 3 clear working days in advance of the meeting.

10. Minutes will be taken and distributed with Kington Town Council (KTC) papers and agreed at the next Committee meeting.
11. Only members of the Committee may vote on resolutions put to the committee.
12. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public, except that the Committee may resolve to exclude the press and the public to deal with confidential items as permitted by legislation. *For the avoidance of doubt, councillors who attend Environment committee meetings but are not members of the committee are considered to be members of the public and must leave the meeting in the event that the meeting resolves to exclude the press and public for any agenda item.*

DELEGATED POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

13. The Environment Committee will have such delegated powers as are conferred by resolution of the full Town Council
14. The Committee is authorised to liaise with and discuss with relevant and appropriate outside bodies such issues as arise within its remit with the proviso that such discussions are reported to the Town Council, do not include commitments on behalf of the Town Council unless specifically authorised to do so by resolution of the Town Council and such discussions pay due regard to any confidentiality issues identified by the Town Council.
15. In relation to the Council's designated and statutory responsibilities, the Committee's delegated powers are:
 - *Make recommendations to Full Council with regard to the application of the Ethical and Environmental Policy to Town Council business*
 - *Make recommendations to Full council with regard to the furtherance of the Declaration of Climate Emergency*
 - Maintain oversight of the Churchyard, recommending to the Town Council such works as are required and liaising with appropriate persons from the Church in relation to this responsibility, and the expenditure of its budget.
 - Monitor the provision and condition of street furniture in the town and make recommendations to the Council for expenditure on items including bins, bus shelter, seats and war memorial (i.e items owned by KTC)
 - Monitor highway matters, including the condition of highways, pavements, lighting, signs and street names. The Committee will ensure that matters of concern are reported to Herefordshire Council.
 - Monitor the provision of floral decorations; manage the Kington in Bloom competition (if applicable) and the expenditure of its budget

- *Oversee* the provision of allotments in the Town and ensuring that such allotment provision as is made is well-managed, receiving such reports as may from time to time be appropriate.

These items will be standing items on the agenda for the Committee.

16. The Committee will also undertake a general review and discussion role, reporting as appropriate to the Town Council on the following issues:

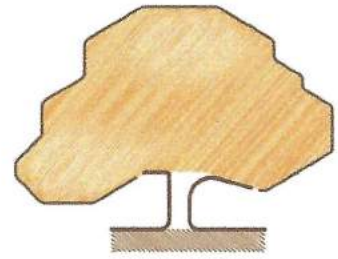
- Kington Town Centre
- Recycling and waste management
- Community Energy Provision
- Markets and the use of the Market Hall
- General economic development

These items will be standing items on the agenda for the Committee.

TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

The Committee may set up such task and finish groups as it deems necessary and to co-opt such members as it feels appropriate including non councillors. Such Task and Finish Groups will report in writing to the Committee which will then decide and recommend any actions to the Town Council, except where it is able to act under delegated powers.

Ruth Robinson
Kington Town Council
Market Hall Street
Kington
HR5 3DP



JOHN CROMAR'S
ARBORICULTURAL
COMPANY LTD

www.treescan.co.uk
admin@treescan.co.uk

01582 808020
07860453072

Our ref: S1000-J2-LSF-1

14th April 2023

Dear Ms Robinson,

Re: St Marys Church, Kington, HR5 3AG

Thank you for your instructions to attend and inspect in connection with the above.

Instructions were received by e-mail dated 06/03/2023.

BACKGROUND

I last inspected the cohort of trees in October 2017. Recommendations made in that survey are still valid. This tree safety survey is not an exhaustive inventory. Trees less than 150mm in trunk diameter at 1.2m above ground level are typically not surveyed. The trees are typically not tagged or numbered on site.

The selected trees are indicated by number on the plan appended S1000-J2/P, showing approximate tree positions (red dots), and the trees are listed by name and number in the table below.

THE REPORT

The table outlines required work in sufficient detail to allow for proper discussion by the Council and for contractors to provide quotations.

John Cromar, Dip. Arb. (RFS), F.Arbor A.



SITE VISIT

I attended to inspect on 14th April, 2023. The deciduous trees were mainly not in leaf.

APPRAISAL.

As previously, the treescape here is I think well provided-for. There is clearly a history of regular tree planting, most of which has thrived.

TREE DATA

Tree number	Tree type	Height (m)	Stem diameters (mm)	Comments	Age class	Condition summary	Heritage assessment	Landscape contribution	Spot	Urgency
1	item			The area below the red-barked birches has been used informally for parking for many years; the surface roots are starting to suffer (see photo below) and I recommend that consideration is given to protecting this zone with a product such as 'Bodpave'. This could be laid over the existing substrate with a little preparation, raising the grades slightly. The change in gradient off the drive could be achieved with a little reworking of the tarmac edge of the drive. If carefully carried out (I can provide a more detailed method statement in due course) this would prevent further damage to the roots and will work in favour of the longevity of the trees.					none	medium

Tree number	Tree type	Height (m)	Stem diameters (mm)	Comments	Age class	Condition summary	Heritage assessment	Landscape contribution	Spot	Urgency
2	stump of red-barked birch	0.1	400	This has not been removed following felling of the tree. The stump should be ground or excavated out to prevent spread of honey fungus.					none	medium
3	false acacia	5	1000	Reduced heavily. Of very low vitality; no action required currently.					none	
4	horse chestnut	25	1341	A number of cavities were noted; some are clearly extensive enough for bird nesting. I should emphasize that elderly horse chestnuts do have a propensity to drop large limbs. This tree has been reduced in the past but a start should be made to progressive reduction of the tree so that the risk of failure can be managed and the tree retained into its advanced maturity. Reduce to around 19m in height and 12-15m in spread.	mature	fair	high	high	none	high

URGENCY RATING:

"very high" - immediate, "high" - within 2 months, "medium" - within 12 months, "low" - within 24 months

If I can be of further assistance, or any point needs clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me. For a brief overview of our small company, please visit www.treescan.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Cromar". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

John C. M. Cromar

Enc

PHOTOS

PLAN

SCHEDULE

Works to trees at St Marys Church, Kington, HR5 3AG.

Please read in conjunction with plan S1000-J2-P, appended.

Tree number	Tree type	Height (m)	Stem diameters (mm)	Comments
2	stump of red-barked birch	0.1	400	Grind stump or excavate out to prevent spread of honey fungus.
4	horse chestnut	25	1341	Reduce to around 19m in height and 12-15m in spread. A maximum pruning cut size of 120mm diameter should be observed. Where possible, prune to suitable side branches at least one third of the diameter of the parent branch. Crown clean.

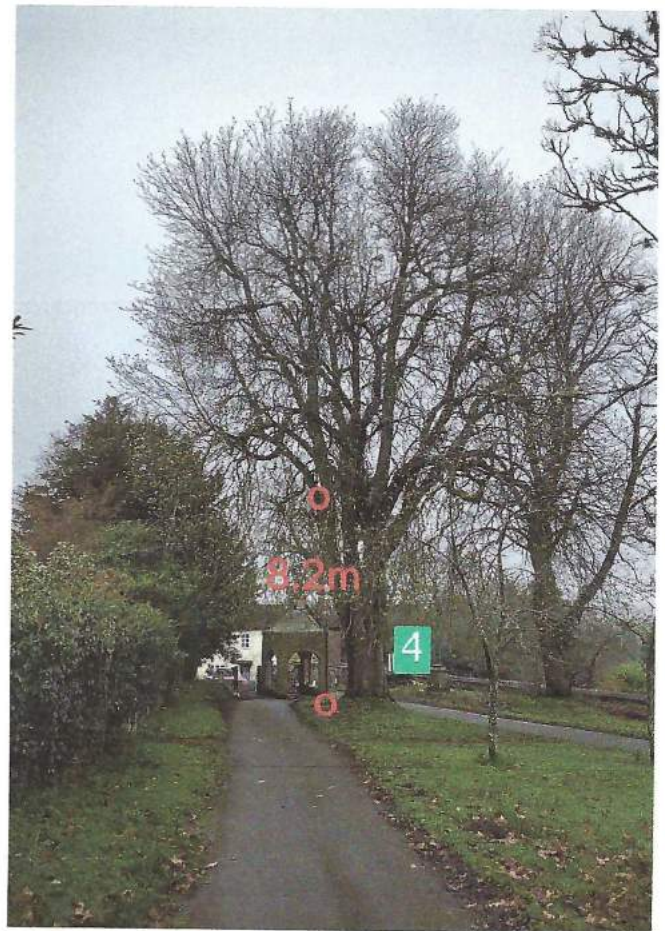
NOTES:

All tree work should be carried out to BS 3998 : 2010 'Tree Work - Recommendations'. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 protects with certain exceptions all birds and their nests. It is an offence to destroy such nests or take or injure such birds in the course of tree works operations. If a tree is a bat-roost, a licence to work on the tree must first be obtained from the relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Organization (in England : Natural England 0845 601 4523.) Acting without a licence is likely to be justifiable only in acute emergencies threatening human life and where all other legally available option such as footpath diversion, fencing and warning signs cannot be applied.

'Crown cleaning' - an umbrella term now covered by several separate sections in BS3998:2010 - should be understood to mean: removal of foreign objects (section 7.13),; removal of ivy to the extent needed to facilitate inspection (section 7.12), typically trimming back (e.g. with a hedge cutter or secateurs) to near the line of the trunk or branches, and/or removing selected stems so that the structure of the tree can be seen sufficiently. Dead wood can be an important ecological feature. Treatment of dead wood under 'crown cleaning' shall mean (section 7.3.2) shorten and retain if safe to do so, thus retaining some resource for invertebrates, etc.



red arrows show roots that have been abraded by vehicle tyres



John Cromar's
Arboricultural Co.Ltd.
14th April 2023

Trees at St.Mary's Church,
Kington,
Herefs.
April 2023
N.T.S.
ref S1000-J2/P

