



# Kington Town Council

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## Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

held on **15<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

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### PRESENT

### In attendance

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Cllr. J. Cooke - Chair  
Cllr. E. Banks  
Cllr. J. Gardner  
Cllr. D. Redmayne  
Cllr. I Spencer  
Cllr. R. Widdowson

Liz Kelso – Town Clerk  
Tanith Vaughan – Assistant Clerk/GSA

### Agenda item

- Env 029-21**      **1.      APOLOGIES, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**  
Apologies were noted from Cllrs. T. Bounds, P. Edwards, M. Fitton and R. MacCurrach. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.
- Env 030-21**      **2.      MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**  
The Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>TH</sup> September 2021, 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 031-21**      **3      UPDATE FROM THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY**  
The working party has not met so no update was available. Members noted that since the working party was originally set up Herefordshire Council has now published a county-wide plan and this will need to be aligned to any proposals made by this Committee. It was also noted that several members of the original working party are no longer town councillors, although the working group can invite non-councillors to the group. It was agreed to review the make up of the working group at the next meeting of this Committee.
- Env 032-21**      **4      LIGHT POLLUTION**  
Members noted that the working group formed to consider and make recommendations with regard to the impact of light pollution has not yet met. A meeting will be set up shortly and will report to the next Committee meeting.

- Env 033-21**      **5 & 6**      **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & FLOOD RISKS**  
It was agreed that Community Resilience and flood risks would be taken as a single agenda item. A meeting of the working group to consider this would be set up shortly and a report tabled at the next meeting of this Committee.
- Env 034-21**      **7**      **STANDING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
- 1) Health & Safety**  
There was nothing to report under this agenda item
  - 2) Town Centre**  
Members noted that progress on Herefordshire Council's Economic Investment Plan for the town is awaited.
  - 3) Kington in Bloom**  
Members noted that funding has been secured for additional planters, hanging baskets etc. under the Great Places to Visit fund to encourage visitors back to the High Street. It was agreed that a working group consisting of Cllrs. E. Banks, J. Cooke, J. Gardner and I. Spencer, supported by the Green Spaces Administrator would undertake a walk around the Town to identify where additional planters etc. could be placed and which existing planters should be retained or removed with a view to producing an action plan to use the funding available. A further report will be made to the next Committee meeting.
  - 4) Allotments**  
It was noted that all plots are currently taken at the Allotment site with a short waiting list.
  - 5) Recycling**  
It was reported that the results of the recycling survey undertaken by Herefordshire Council have not yet been published. In the meantime, the Green Waste Club, a private enterprise, will now collect green waste from properties in Kington at a cost of £77 p.a.  
  
Recycling bins in the Co-op car park are well used and often full.
  - 6) Churchyard**  
The Green Spaces Administrator reported on the work of the Community Payback Team in the Churchyard and the work that has recently been undertaken in the Churchyard to remove the dead trees. Although there was a commitment to remove the compost bins in the Churchyard, these are proving useful for the ivy that is being removed by the Community Payback Team. A map of the memorials in the Churchyard has been requested from the Church.
  - 7) Community Energy**  
There was nothing to report on this agenda item.
  - 8) Economic Development**  
As noted previously Herefordshire Council's draft Economic Development Plans for the Market Towns are to be considered by Herefordshire Council in due course.
  - 9) Footpaths**  
There was nothing to report under this agenda item.

10) **War Memorial**

Lights around the War Memorial have been repaired by Balfour Beatty although there is a need to repair the junction box for these lights. This has been reported.

11) **Trees: Queen's Green Canopy**

Members noted that plans are continuing for tree planting under the Queen's Green Canopy and a meeting of the working group formed to progress this item will take place towards the end of the month and will include the parishes of Huntingdon and Kington Rural as the proposal is to plant trees on Hargest Ridge, although Secretary of State approval for this might be necessary. There has also been a suggestion that a small number of trees might be planted on the school site, enabling the schools to be included in the overall project.

12) **KLEEN**

It was reported that KLEEN are working with Malvern to establish a car share club. The electric car will be based in Kington but bookings will be through the Malvern Car Club. KLEEN are also applying for funding for an electric vehicle charging point for Love Lane car park (owned by Kington United Charities). It was noted that there is also a charging point in the Mill Street car park.

Env 035-21

8. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 6.30pm or on completion of the Planning Committee, whichever is later. The following item was raised for the agenda:

- "Too Good To Go" a food waste app.

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

Signed .....

Chair of Environment Committee

Date