

KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment & Sustainability Committee held on
Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7pm in Keynsham Town Council Office, Temple Street, Keynsham.

PRESENT: Councillors E Cannon, C Davis, A Greenfield, H Macfie
and Cllr Wait (BANES)

NOT PRESENT: Cllr S Alenshasy

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

James Boxall-Clasby (JBC) – Keynsham Active Travel
Philippa Paget – Keynsham Businesses

Ruth Cole – Member of the public

IN ATTENDANCE: Dawn Drury – Town Clerk

26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Alenshasy, Leonard and Brennan. Also, Ros Durrant.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hal MacFie declared an interest in respect of Christmas tree give away.

28. DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

29. RECORD OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee meeting held on 11th July 2023 be received and noted.

30. ROOFTOP REVOLUTION

Keynsham Community Energy's (KCE) current plan for installing solar PV on the roof tops of both Riverside buildings is still very much what they would like to do, however there have been a number of hurdles which still need to be overcome and things could be made more complicated if they need to get permission from all the residents of Riverside to agree to use

of the roof space. From a recent letter that they have received, ADL and BANES are still very keen on this idea moving forward and alongside this KCE still feel this is a viable project.

In addition to the Riverside roof, it has also come to light that the Leisure Centre roof may also be suitable for solar PV. An initial look at the roof space suggests at least a 93kW system could be installed and a review of any potential shading suggests that this won't cause an issue. The distance between buildings and direction of the sun suggests this could be a feasible option. It is likely this will be an easier option than the Riverside to use the leisure center's own roof.

A meeting is to be held shortly and then KCE will understand the next steps and hope to progress things in a timely manner.

Cllr Wait confirmed that he took this matter to the BANES Climate and Emergency Scrutiny Panel, they are all in agreement that this is a viable project and unsure how to proceed. Confirmed that KCE would pay for the project, they would charge the Leisure Centre for the power, but this would be cheaper than the grid.

Cllr Cannon feels that there should be more investigation into who made the mistake that has led to this situation, so that lessons can be learned from this for future projects. Cllr Wait agreed to ask at the next Scrutiny Panel and KTC will write to BANES to ask for an explanation.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note the response KTC received from Renewable Energy Programme Manager in B&NES
DTC to write to enquire where the mistake was made that has led us to this situation.*
- ii) To note a written update (summary above) from Mark Penny of Keynsham Community Energy which was read out by the Town Clerk.*

31. BRISTOL EAST FRINGE CYCLE AND WALKING PATHS

Cllr Wait confirmed that this working party meets regularly to clear the paths on the Willsbridge Road.

Noted that the communication list for this BEFCW needs updated as some members aren't receiving updates.

James BC said he would ask KAT for volunteers.

RESOLVED:

That the update information above be received and noted.

32. CONNECTING CYCLE AND FOOTPATHS (CROSS COUNTY BORDERS)

James Boxall-Clasby gave an update as follows:

Facebook group is up and running with over 200 members. Making good head way talking to various Councils.

Still the main focus is the top of Charlton Road to be made safer with a junction re-design.

RESOLVED:

That the information be received and noted.

33. TREE PLANTING

Discussed that all tree planting needs to seek permission from landowner, for example BANES or Curo, then consultation with residents and confirmation of the right tree for the right location – this would be decided by the landowner.

Councillors were reminded that any trees that are planted and needing to be maintained by KTC comes at a cost. An example of the 3 trees in the cemetery that needed felling cost £10,000.

RESOLVED:

- i) *To note that the meeting with Curo has had to be postponed and an update will be brought to the next meeting.*
- ii) *That the trees that the Town Council have in stock be distributed to Somerdale Educate Together, Two Rivers and Wellsway.*
- iii) *KTC to speak to BANES about more trees to be planted by the play area at Manor Road to provide shade.*

34. ECO FESTIVAL – KEYNSHAM RE-LOVED

Plans are going well, still need models. 5 charity shops involved and local businesses specializing in upcycling and repurposing goods.

This is in conjunction with the Eco Festival

RESOLVED:

That the brief verbal update given by the Town Clerk

35. BULB GIVEAWAY

RESOLVED

That the update given be received and noted.

36. WILDFLOWER PLANTING

RESOLVED:

The Ward Councillors take suggested wildflower planting locations to B&NES Council.

37. URBAN TREE MAPS

RESOLVED:

That the tree map designer be contacted to produce a set of Keynsham/Saltford tree trail maps.

38. SLOW WAYS NATIONAL WALKING NETWORK

RESOLVED:

- i) That the project be supported and the organisation be notified of this.*
- ii) TC to promote through Walkers Are Welcome. DTC to promote local routes through social media.*

39. BUDGETS FOR E&S FOR 2024-2025

Community Events	£2500
Tree Planting	£1000
Marketing and Communications	£500
Virtual Energy Conference (change to Energy Conference)	£1000
Ashton Way Toilets	£1650
Wildflower Planting	£600
New Code item	
E&S Sundries (hedgehog highways/bee hotels)	£500
Grants – Environmental	£17,500

RECOMMENDED:

That the above budget items be presented to Town Council for approval for 2024-25 financial year.

40. KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT PLAN

RESOLVED:

To receive a verbal update on the draft Environment and Sustainability Project Plan.

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) That the draft Environment and Sustainability Project Plan be presented by Cllrs Greenfield and Leonard at the full Council for approval*
- (ii) That a request be made to Council that Councillors interests in working on the project plan be given permission to work in small groups on individual E & S project packages.*

41. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

*That the next meeting of this Committee will be held on **TUESDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2023** at 7.00 p.m. in Keynsham Town Council office.*

The meeting ended at 8.27 p.m.

SIGNED:..... (Chairman) Dated:.....