

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Wednesday 6th March 2024 at 5.45pm in Quay House, Kingsbridge



1. Welcome & Apologies

Present:	James Spencer John Gardner Scot Baston Nicola Coulson Georgie Leonard Alex Robertson Sarah Burnett Cllr Sam Dennis	Chair Pebbles Group Treasurer Vice-Chair, Kingsbridge Cornerstone Photography Secretary Committee Member, Bochinelli Committee Member, IT Workhouse Associate Committee Member, KCC Salcombe Info Centre Associate Committee Member, SHDC
Apologies:	Kim Willis Jane Tyler Cllr Mark Goodey Catherine Gillen Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Mark Long Cllr Philip Cole Cllr Sarah Wyatt	Committee Member, Marketing Manager Committee Member, The Winking Prawn Group Associate Committee Member, Salc. Town Council, Mayor Committee Member, The Brownston Gallery Associate Committee Member, Devon County Council Associate Committee Member, SHDC (esp. Planning) & Salcombe Harbour Committee Associate Committee Member, Kingsbr. Town Council, Mayor Associate Committee Member, Modbury Parish Council
Absent:	Dawn Blundell Cllr Jasper Evans	Associate Committee Member, Kingsbridge Info Centre Associate Committee Member, Salc. Town Council

2. Minutes & Actions

Minutes from 6 March 2024 approved.

Actions outstanding previously and ongoing

Action #1:	To add Harbour Board to agenda ongoing - <i>done</i>	NC
Action #2:	To invite Salcombe Harbour Master to a future committee meeting - <i>done</i>	NC
Action #3:	To write to Cllr Gilbert re impact of Kingsbridge flooding on economy - <i>outstanding</i>	

3. Treasurer's Report

JG reported that:

- Expenditure exceeded income. The refunds for the postponed event incurred Stripe charges.

Donations

Kingsbridge Easter Treasure Hunt

- Cost £163 in the end - JG bought them himself in Morrisons with a discount.

Banking | Savings

- JG suggested that the Chamber has a debit card.
- There has been an ongoing issue with HSBC transferring the primary user, so JG met with Peter Richardson to resolve the matter.
- JG raised the issue of whether HSBC is the best bank for the Chamber.
- He has also been considering where to entrust any savings. As a Not for Profit, we cannot have a business account as we're not registered with Companies House. JG will continue to research how can we improve on our financial situation.
- SD suggested a local lending to businesses facility and wondered if there is a model for local investment.

Future payments

- A discussion ensued about the future of donations. Moving forward, do we suspend the payments and invest in things that directly benefit South Hams? Or rather than proactively seeking applications, do we wait for approaches and decide on a case-by-case basis, as per Julia Wingate's easter egg request?
- SB said that accountability was important, and any approach will need a business justification.
- JS confirmed that he and KW have been working together to approach those who benefitted from funds.
- AR asked if we have a policy on the website; we do not. He therefore suggested we put a footnote on the website outlining funding criteria.
- JS referred to a destination Kingsbridge board to support our year-round strategy, if economic success lies in out of season events.
- JG confirmed that there is a funding pot. He asked if there's an appetite to invest funds into events, and if so, suggested that we also offer Business Clubs as a platform to promote upcoming events and sponsorship opportunities.
- We discussed promoting local 3rd party events on the website Events page on the website.

Action #1: To discuss at business club.

JS/NC

To create a Google form with simple format for people to apply

Report dated 29 February 2024

Financial Statements

1. Account Balances

Current Account balance	£16,262.33	
(Modbury funds)	(£5,090.13)	
(Kingsbridge Traders)	(£2,670.00)	
Current Account Net Total	£8,502.20	
Deposit Account	£3,214.21	
Total Balance	£11,716.41	(January balance = £12,213.65)

Monthly Income/Expenditure Statement - as previously circulated.

4. Council reports

District & County: South Hams District Council | Devon County Council

South Hams District Council - SD

South Hams Visitor Economy Survey 2005-22

- SD spoke about the newly released survey and gave a couple of headlines:

Day visits Risen from 2,280,000 in 2005 to 3,073,000 in 2022 (64% year-on-year rise)

Day visitor spend Risen from £88,233,000 in 2005 to £113,589,000 in 2022 (85% year-on-year rise)

2022 Total value of tourism £245,985,400

2022 % of all employment 11% (tourism employment as a % of all employment in area).

Bigbury Car Park

- Bigbury on Sea car park, leased by SHDC since 1997, has changed hands. The landowner has entered into an agreement with operator, RCP Parking Ltd, who took on the full management of both the car park and toilets on 25th March.
-

Action #2: To distribute Visitor Survey to committee

NC

Devon County Council - email update from RG

General Roads

- Devon has 8,500 miles of roads and 426 Parish Councils
 - To put Devon's roads back to something reasonable would require about £1.2 billion.
-

-
- Wettest year for 130 years and the system can't cope and was not designed to do so under these conditions.
 - Highways will do their best to catch up in the summer.
 - Residents are advised to keep reporting the potholes/flooding etc www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/

Devolution

- This is progressing well and for further information please visit: www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk

DIY Waste & Recycling

- For information please visit: www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling

Mobile Libraries

- Sadly, this service has had to be discontinued due to lack of patronage and costs.
- No static libraries have been closed.
- Residents are advised to contact their local library for information on books delivery.

Locality Funding

- Most of RG's parishes have been given some funding, which he hopes has been helpful.

General

- RG has attended to many varied enquiries and matters of concern across all his 16 parishes and towns, not least the SWW road closure in Modbury this year.

Town: Salcombe | Kingsbridge | Modbury

Kingsbridge Town Council (KTC) - email update from PC

Skate Park

- This has now opened and has been a huge success, with users and residents of Kingsbridge alike.
- Thanks are particularly due to Adam Sherring (owner of Habit Clothing on Fore Street) who has pushed this project through and had managed to keep Kingsbridge Town Council, South Hams District Council and Sport England onside throughout the design and build process. A BIG success story for Kingsbridge.

Flooding issues

- South West Water (SWW) have now identified a broken pipe in West Alvington which was allowing much surface water to enter the sewage network. This has now been fixed and the tankers have been removed from site.
- They are continuing to seek further damage to the local pipes and will report back with further information soon.
- However the flooding issues in Mill Street, Bridge Street etc continue to give concern and KTC is seeking to escalate the issue to Devon Council and our MP.
- KTC (Philip Cole, Martin Johnson and Cllr. Barrie Fishman) attended a flood awareness seminar in Exeter arranged by Devon Communities Together - at which the Flooding in Kingsbridge leaflet (produced by KTC) was circulated and was considered an exemplar of good practice by the other delegates. We don't have all the answers but are working hard to resolve as many of them as we can.

Salcombe Town Council (STC) - SB / SD

D-Day 80th Anniversary

- Fish & chips offer - businesses are being encouraged to put fish & chips on menus and donate 10% of takings to Royal Navy. SD to forward details to circulate.
- There will be a full programme printed (and online <https://salcombetowncouncil.gov.uk/dday80/>)

Salcombe Brochure

- SB distributed the new 2024 Salcombe Brochure (Edition 2). 15k are being distributed.
-

-
- JS praised the brochure and the contributions from volunteers that have made it possible. He also noted an encouraging increase in big brand advertisers.

Field of Light

- SHDC approved the planning application on 15th March for temporary change of use of land to host this event in East Portlemouth, from August 2024 to January 2025.

Park & Ride

- The service is up and running as follows:

Easter	Thursday 28th March - Sunday 14 April
Crabfest	Friday 3rd - Monday 6th May
Half Term	Friday 24th - Sunday 2nd June
School hols	Friday 28th June - Sunday 8th September 2024

Community Economic Plan

- It was noted that Salcombe's CEP meeting clashed with the Chamber's monthly meeting. JS asked whether the Chamber should be included, and it was agreed to liaise with Laura Eames on projected dates for future meetings.

Action #3: NC to contact Laura Eames re Chamber involvement, then SD to follow up NC/SD

Kingsbridge Town Council (KTC) - email update from PC

Skate Park

- This has now opened and has been a huge success, with users and residents of Kingsbridge alike.
- Thanks are particularly due to Adam Sherring (owner of Habit Clothing on Fore Street) who has pushed this project through and had managed to keep Kingsbridge Town Council, South Hams District Council and Sport England onside throughout the design and build process. A BIG success story for Kingsbridge.

Flooding issues

- South West Water (SWW) have now identified a broken pipe in West Alvington which was allowing much surface water to enter the sewage network. This has now been fixed and the tankers have been removed from site.
- They are continuing to seek further damage to the local pipes and will report back with further information soon.
- However the flooding issues in Mill Street, Bridge Street etc continue to give concern and KTC is seeking to escalate the issue to Devon Council and our MP.
- KTC (Philip Cole, Martin Johnson and Cllr. Barrie Fishman) attended a flood awareness seminar in Exeter arranged by Devon Communities Together - at which the Flooding in Kingsbridge leaflet (produced by KTC) was circulated and was considered an exemplar of good practice by the other delegates. We don't have all the answers but are working hard to resolve as many of them as we can.

Modbury Parish Council (MPC) - email update from CG

Roadworks - follow up

- CG wanted to acknowledge the role of the Chamber in the success of the Modbury works:
"... it should be recorded what a great success the Modbury roadworks were and how much that was supported by the Chamber and in particular James and Nicola. Without their input and perseverance, it could have been a very different story. It was a template for how the chamber can lobby effectively on behalf of its members and is very much a success story."

Action #4: Positive news story - to be fed to Richard Harding, Gazette KW

5. Business Clubs

JS talked about postponement of last event and rescheduling for the beginning of May (The Crabshell is on hold on Thursday 9th May).

Follow up

- The theme was going to be the benefits of KCC and local businesses working more closely, and ticket sales demonstrated that there was an appetite for this event.
- A discussion ensued about follow up after the postponement - it was agreed that, in the event of a future postponement, we should update members rather than simply delete the event.

Contingency planning

- JS raised the question of how we ensure that we don't have future postponements by having a contingency in place.

Next steps

- It was agreed to re-invite Tina Graham, KCC Principal, on the 9th May.
- Additional potential speakers were discussed, including former KCC students who have succeeded in a particular career, eg:
 - Elliot Myatt and Guy Heynes from **The Play Company**, an established international soft play design, manufacturer, installer and maintainer, with clients all over the world, including the USA, UAE and all over Europe. Elliot and Guy were winners of the *16-24 Work Club Kingsbridge Youth & Business Achievement Awards 2018* and winners of the *16-24 Entrepreneur of the Year 2016*.
 - Luke Adams* from **Luke Adams Lighting**, event lighting specialists throughout the South West.
 - Emma Tolley* and Amy Freeman from **AVÉ Collective**, who offer a one-stop shop for business's creative needs, including photography, styling, visual merchandising, editing, retouching and design. Emma is a former KCC student.

**Luke Adams and Emma Tolley received Chamber grants.*

- Inviting entrepreneurial former students would also promote local success stories.
- We could talk about the roots of the relationship between KCC and the Chamber and what we have collectively done to promote success, which would link into the jobs board.

Hotspots

- Steve Mammatt - **Kingsbridge Food & Music Festival** - Friday 31st May-Sunday 2nd June 2024
- Karl-Morgan Hough - **e-Xplore Devon** - would like to promote their Cycle to Work Schemes.

Action #5: NC to re-invite Tina Graham and research potential speakers

NC

6. Ongoing Projects

Chamber Rebrand

Deferred to May meeting

Field of Light

See Salcombe Town Council, above

Impactful Info Panels project

No update

Collaboration with KCC / Digital Careers Board

- KCC Board is not yet live, although the code is done, and access is set up. We await KCC's steer on who will be administering from their end. Once this is agreed, SBa will do an instructional video so KCC can access the system.
- We also need live data (jobs and work experience) so it's not blank.
- SB said it was key to get ownership from KCC and ensure the right person is administering from their end.

AR suggested the A Level IT department could possibly get a student administrator. AT to approach Head of IT, Rob Cortese.

KW/JS to compose a communication to Tina Graham re the suggestion of getting a student on board.

JG suggested Ms Emily Fairclough-Kay, KCC's Careers Lead, take overall ownership.

Action #6: AR to approach Rob Cortese (as above)
KW/JS to write to Tina Graham (as above)

AR
JS/KW

7. SHDC's Economic Plans for Kingsbridge / Salcombe

See Salcombe Town Council, above

8. AOB

- i. Donations and Subscriptions
 - ii. To review Chamber offering
-

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st May 2024
