

KENILWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the

ENGLISH HERITAGE LIAISON GROUP

held in the Council Chamber, Jubilee House
on 13 October 2022, at 2.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor A G Chalmers (Chair, from EH.80).

Councillors: A M Dearing, P J Jones, A J Kennedy

M Bulford, D Chandler and K McDonald (English Heritage).

Town Clerk: Miss M S Field.

Deputy Town Clerk: N Eaton.

EH.77 **INTRODUCTIONS**

All present introduced themselves.

EH.78 **SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

P J Jones for M F Coker

EH.79 **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

It was proposed, seconded :

RESOLVED that Councillor M F Coker be Chair for the Council year.

EH.80 **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

It was proposed, seconded :

RESOLVED that Councillor A G Chalmers be Vice Chair for the Council year.

EH.81 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

EH.82 **APOLOGIES**

Councillors: M F Coker, K S Dickson

EH.83 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the English Heritage (EH) Liaison Working Party Meeting held on 24 March 2022, which were approved by the Town Council on 09 June 2022 were NOTED.

MATTERS ARISING

EH.84 GENERAL EH UPDATES INCLUDING CHANGES TO STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

Dean Chandler reported on a full and successful event programme, both completed and forthcoming. Visitor numbers were back to pre pandemic levels.

Some discussion took place on CJ Events “Eats and Beats” evening in August. This was a trial and had a number of issues. Matt Bulford confirmed these would need sorting prior to any future event, not least due to the reputational risks involved.

Dean Chandler is due to take up a secondment opportunity, with English Heritage advertising for a fixed term replacement.

These updates were NOTED.

EH.85 ESTATE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Dean Chandler reported on maintenance in hand, including works due to start on replacement of the Strong Tower staircase.

This update was NOTED.

EH.86 CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN AND CASTLE MASTERPLAN

Matt Bulford reported that detailed internal consultation had taken place. External stakeholders, including KTC now need to engage. A Masterplan workshop is envisaged. Any invitation will be sent to this Committee, who will take it forward as appropriate.

Matt Bulford pointed out the many opportunities a 5-10 year holistic view brought. These included fund raising opportunities, better exhibitions and interpretation, learn through play and an increased educational experience, enhanced biodiversity, pedestrian access to the site and visitor experience outside the Castle walls.

Members were keen to explore such potential and how this could integrate with KTC initiatives, including Wayfinding and Cycle routes

This update was NOTED.

EH.87 REVIEW OF CASTLE PASS SCHEME

Dean Chandler reported that the new Castle Pass scheme was very good and had been well received. It was agreed that free generic passes for Care Homes in Kenilworth would be a good initiative.

This update was NOTED.

EH.88 TOURISM IN KENILWORTH

Councillor Alix Dearing gave an update report on the work of the Tourism Working Group. Councillor James Kennedy further reported that a tender process had been completed for the Wayfinding Project, which would now be considered at the next Town Council.

This update was NOTED.

NEW MATTERS

EH.89 BOXING DAY 2022

Maggie Field reported that liaison was taking place with Dean Chandler. In addition to usual entertainment, a “dog parade” will take place this year.

Dean confirmed that no tickets will be needed. The Castle will remain open in the afternoon, with charging for entrance from midday.

This update was NOTED.

EH.90 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed. Provisionally March 2023.

The meeting concluded at 4.15 pm.

After completion of the meeting Dean Chandler reported on recent anti social behaviour issues. The Safer Neighbourhoods Team had been updated and remained involved.

Signed

Dated

Distribution:

External: Mr M Bulford and Mr D Chandler, Kenilworth Castle. *(By email)*.

Internal: Councillors Alan Chalmers, Michael Coker, Alix Dearing, Kate Dickson, James Kennedy.
Mayor