



Wednesday 2nd June 2010
4.30pm, County Offices, Kendal

Present:

Peter Hensman, Lake District Estates
Joanne Golton, Programme Manager
Mandy Dixon, South Lakeland LSP
Austen Robinson, Kendal Town Council
Richard Pealing, Eden & South Lakeland Forward
David Ingham, Cumbria County Council
Graham Vincent, South Lakeland District Council
Geoff Cook, South Lakeland Local Committee
Dianne Whitehead, Cumbria County Council

Bill Broekhuizen, Kendal College
Jayne Kendall, South Lakeland District Council
Jim Bland, National Farmers Union
Alison Hatcher, Eden & South Lakeland Forward
George Inchmore, Federation of Small Businesses

Apologies:

Ian Stephens, Cumbria Tourism
Derek Armstrong, Cumbria Chamber of Commerce
Stephen Ratcliff, Lake District National Park Authority

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st April were accepted as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

- Car parking - Need to show stronger business case for any new car park proposals and park and ride proposals. **J. Bland** has enquired about Park and Ride feasibility funding but budgets are currently unknown due to change in national government.
- Kendal Local Transport Plan to be reviewed in stages. Stakeholders will be consulted through to the end of the year. This will include park and ride. A joint LSP/ LTP3 event will be held in the summer.
- Replies have been sent to the Carnforth Railway Action Group regarding the reinstatement of platforms and to the LDNPA for the need for employment land.
- Invest in Kendal website will be taken forward by J Golton and D Armstrong.
- The public meeting and refresh of the KERAP will take place on Wed 14th July at 5.30pm at Kendal College. The KFB meeting will take place from 4.00-5.30pm.
- Kendal TIC expression of interest documentation is available. At a recent Cumbria Visitor Information Panel meeting clarification on SLDC funding was sought - grant funding from SLDC is finite and is available for 3 key sites in the district.

3. Eden & South Lakeland Forward Presentation

- Alison Hatcher introduced the E&SLF delivery plan. There are 3 flagship centres; Kendal, Penrith and Windermere/ Ambleside. Tourism is key to the delivery plan as the spin off to associated businesses is huge. There are 4 main work areas for E&SLF; Kendal Regeneration, Employment Sites and Premises, Windermere Waterfront and Penrith Regeneration.
- Employment sites are crucial to the economy of Kendal with 21ha identified through the LDF for the SLDC are and 9.5ha for the LDNPA, half of which is expected to be in the southeast corner. E&SLF have commented through the LDF hearings on the need to bring forward land in the Park at Kendal Fell and Boundary Bank but not Plumgarths.
- E&SLF have agreed to feed back to the relevant hearings on behalf of Kendal Futures, this presents a joined up approach. The Board supports E&SLF position to co-ordinate all opinions to planning authorities, which could lead to various bodies responding more positively.

- The SLDC allocation of land document is expected in the autumn and E&SLF expect to comment on Scroggs Wood, J36 and sites in between, along the A590/1. Businesses wanting to develop sites can take forward small schemes through the existing planning process.

4. Kendal Public Realm Framework latest

- Taylor Young has produced the 2nd draft of the KPRF. This draft will be circulated to all internal and external stakeholders for comment and a progress report will also go to SLDC cabinet and SLLC. The report will put forward the New Road design as a basis for progressing the redevelopment of the common land. SLDC cabinet meet on 9th June and it is likely that a request will be made to SLLC on 15th June to consider the impact of putting the cycle route along the highway.
- There is a need to publicise the Framework document once complete (including the 3 key designs) but firstly it has to be endorsed by the relevant bodies.
- Copies of the business consultation report and young people survey are available upon request. The outcome of this consultation work has fed into the KPRF.
- A photo shoot of the completed Kirkland Enhancement project is planned for 22nd June.

5. Trader Partnerships

- J Golton re-circulated the plan for a series of trader partnerships across geographical areas of Kendal town centre. Representatives from these groups will hopefully form a town centre improvement group to be represented on KFB and consider large-scale issues such as best practice, BIDs, funding applications etc. Action plans would then be fed into the new LAPS community plan where relevant. Support with the project could also be channelled from FSB, Chamber and the LAP.
- The board discussed a Business Improvement District for Kendal and agreed it was an appropriate time to start the process. The budget for the trader groups and establishment of a BID is £18000. **ACTION: P Hensman** to approach SLDT to discuss project development work (task and finish) to include new trader groups and establish an action plan for delivery. A sub group will be set up to oversee the task and finish project and the BIDs development. The group is J Kendall, D Armstrong, G Inchmore and J Golton.

6. Representative group updates

- **FSB** have held 2 local meetings regarding tax issues and tourism. A presentation from Kendal Futures has been requested for a subsequent meeting. **Action: J Golton** to progress.
- **Kendal Town Council** have recently held their election. There are over 20 new councillors and a presentation will be arranged to introduce the work of KFB. **Action: J Golton** to progress.
- A single community strategy is planned for Cumbria. This will be known as the Cumbria Story. Local authorities and groups have been asked to attend a workshop organised by **South Lakes LSP** on 15th July to ensure that a single strategy fully reflects the distinctiveness of the sub-region. M Dixon has stepped down as Chair from the LSP. The LSP will be asked to nominate a representative for KFB.
- The RDAs will have budget cuts of £270m, using the traditional formula this could mean a cut of £57m to the NWDA budget. The budget cuts means an overall **NWDA** budget of £250m with very little money for local projects. The RS2010 is still current but could be revisited if the NWDA remains.
- The refresh of the KERAP could help projects to the north of the town centre. **SLDC** are working closely with Kendal College to open Castle Dairy as a café and art gallery in time for Christmas. An HLF bid has been submitted to improve Kendal Museum.
- The Shopfront improvement scheme has supported 25 applications and allocated £40k in grants towards improvements. **SLDC** have recently agreed to provide another £6k of grants to enable more shops to enhance their frontages.

7. Any Other Business

- The KERAP refresh will take place on Wednesday 14th July at Kendal College. **ACTION: J Golton** to contact John Dyer (SLDC) and Dianne Whitehead (CCC) for help with meeting facilitation.

- Kendal YHA is due to close in the autumn. The Board agreed that the loss of bed spaces would be against the current KFB tourism action plan and would like to see a walker's hostel or bunk bed operator take on the building. A meeting has been set up with SLDC, CT and KFB to discuss.
- KFB have been invited to respond to the LDNPA core strategy. E&SLF will respond to include Kendal issues and circulate a copy of the letter, **ACTION: R Pealing**. SLDC spatial planning team to be invited to September meeting of KFB to update on land allocation latest.

8. Date of next meeting:

- Wed 14th July 2010 - 4.00pm, Kendal College, followed by KERAP refresh meeting
- Wed 8th Sept 2010 - 4.30pm, County Offices
- Wed 20th Oct 2010 – 4.30pm, County Offices
- Wed 1st Dec 2010 – 4.30pm, County Offices