



KINGSTEIGNTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2021 AT THE COMMUNITY HALL, RYDON ROAD, KINGSTEIGNTON AT 7.15 PM

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Peart

Deputy Mayor: Councillor Scagell

Councillors: Austen, Jones, Ripping, Thorne

Inspector Hammond

Town Clerk: Mrs C Lakin

Deputy Town Clerk: Mrs M Lewis-Clarke

Police Report

Cllr Peart welcomed Inspector Hammond to the meeting.

Cllr Peart said that the Town Council had invested in CCTV to help the police, which is monitored by Newton Abbot Security Trust, but the Council feel that there is a lack of police presence at present. He said that PCSO Pike had done a great job, but when attending meetings at Ideford and Bishopsteignton Parish Council's he hears that they have a PCSO and Police Officer.

Cllr Peart said that pictures have been provided of criminal damage caused but little appears to have been done to stop this. He asked why we were not getting backing?

Inspector Hammond said that Newton Abbot/Kingsteignton do not have individual officers and that PCSO's and Neighbourhood Beat Officers do not cover dedicated areas. At present he has a small team of three Officers and has put in a bid for additional officers. He said that they are a pro-active team and that Kingsteignton has a low level of crime but work has been carried out with young people by a dedicated PC.

Inspector Hammond said:

- Graffiti issue – It is difficult for them to get good quality CCTV from the History Garden, therefore cannot get identification
- It is no good the CCTV Operators knowing who the youths are as cannot be presented as evidence.
- Earlier racist graffiti on Skate ramp – Inspector Hammond said there is no sign of an issue in Kingsteignton it was just inappropriate and stupid behaviour
- Two of the girls, who were not involved were spoken to and the Youth Intervention Officer is working with them.
- If someone is caught causing damage they will be dealt with
- They will work with the schools and look at behavioural issues
- He suggested making it more difficult in the History Garden for graffiti by moving the bench closer to the CCTV, or taking the bench away for a while, as the benches are not being used by the right people.



- Those who have not been in trouble before are issued with a Community Resolution. He said that some of the children have complex lives and it is a case of working with them to change their view point.

Cllr Peart said that the cameras could be tweaked and that it is frustrating for the Town Council that the youths involved cannot be identified. Inspector Hammond suggested larger signage advertising that there is CCTV in the area. He also said that the figures for the past three years show that criminal damage in Kingsteignton has stayed consistent.

Cllr Ripping said that parking on Crossley Moor Road causes a bottleneck is there anything that can be done about the safety aspect. Inspector Hammond said that the Civil Enforcement Officer deals with parking issues, the police only deal with obstructions. He also said that parked vehicles help to slow down the traffic.

Cllr Thorne said that the Old Exeter Road is like a race track and asked if the police could share statistics with the Council re: speed checks on this stretch of road.

Cllr Peart thanked Inspector Hammond for attending the meeting.

Public Participation

There were no public present at the meeting.

County Councillor R Peart's Report

Cllr Peart had no report as he has been on annual leave

District Councillors' Reports

Councillor B Austen

I attended the Full Council of the District at the Race Course last week.

The meeting was the subject of unfortunate behaviour by a NASN member which has been widely reported. It is anticipated that this matter will be dealt with further by the appropriate committee.

Members of the Council have been directed not to attend the Council Offices except when attending meetings to maintain security of health for staff and also to wear masks until seated. There has been discussion from some of the 47 councillors about having visual meetings extended due to the highest level of cases last week in Teignbridge, Exeter, and East Devon.

Teignbridge landlords are being offered free training to help them fully understand the complex business of letting property. Contact Teignbridge for a place.



October 1st is the day from which dogs can now be exercised on beaches in the district. The dog regulations regarding other matters are currently being reviewed.

Due to safety concerns traffic lights are being installed at Newbridge in Chudleigh Knighton starting on Sunday 10th October to be completed by 6th November. Diversions will be in place.

There has been some reaction to the decision to give staff an extra day's leave as a thank you for work added to their tasks because of Covid at an estimated cost of £50k. The Chairman of the Council has been writing letters of thanks to people in the district who have given help to others during the difficult period of the pandemic.

Councillor R Peart

No report

Councillor D Rollason

No report

Councillor B Thorne

I have attended:

Full Council meeting TDC - lots of accusations and ideas about procedures but I made my contribution as a member of the Procedures Cttee. Everything went through as expected. Whether there are details for the Council to answer regarding procedures adopted in the past I still have no idea.

All a matter of record on the You Tube and probably the actual meeting will be ignored except for the 'who grabbed who' which quite honestly passes me by and attributed to showboating.

Waste PH and Environmental Health meetings attended when possible - I attend as the Shadow Portfolio Holder for waste and Environmental Health - that is Alastair Dewhirst's PF. It is interesting and there are matters of some concern coming up on a regular basis which includes collection delays, driver recruitment and now replacement of some other operatives and an Officer. Essentially the operations have been maintained well throughout the problems and keeping a handle on the costs as well.

LCWIP (Local cycle and walking improvement plan) - I attended one of the presentations and the drop in meeting and questioned Modal Filters and the change of behaviour required for the plan to work in Kingsteignton. As it was an infrastructure-based presentation/ Q & A I lent heavily on what I see as a totally inadequate crossing of the Old



Exeter Road. A refuge island crossing has been planned for which is as I understand it 'ok - clear run to the island - stop for a breather and ok - clear run to the other side!' There is no stopping of traffic unless by gratuity which leads to uncertainty - inappropriate for young and disabled residents especially after the Police speed checks are never without results in the vicinity of the proposed crossing.

Case work

Complaints about speed, noise and driving outside the Redrow Estate since fence removed. Appeals for increased speed management by design and Police monitoring. Worries about the road crossing to join the Stover cycle route over the new cycle and pedestrian bridge over the Teign.

Further concerns over the environmental problems likely to be caused by industrial site at **Sands Copse**. Case now likely to going to November Planning meeting

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99/2021 Apologies

Resolved: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Bovey, Dempster, Brotherton and Plummer

100/2021 To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

101/2021 To accept resignation received from Mrs Imogen Law on 10 August 2021

Resolved: that resignation be accepted, and letter of thanks be sent to Mrs Law thanking her for her contribution over her time in office. This vacancy has been advertised and filled.

We have also received a letter of resignation from Mr Dave Rollason.

Resolved: that resignation be accepted and a letter of thanks be sent thanking Mr Rollason for his contribution over his time in office. This vacancy has been advertised.

102/2021 To receive the Mayor's Report.

Cllr Scagell attended the Dawlish Civic Service on my behalf as I was on annual leave.



103/2021 To receive and approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14 & 21 July 2021

The mayor presented the minutes of the meetings held on 14 & 21 July 2021.

Resolved: Minutes adopted

104/2021 To receive the Clerk's Report

- As you all know we have received Dave Rollason's resignation. Dave has been a very active councillor during his time in office and I am sure you will agree that he will be greatly missed. The vacancy will be advertised in this week's Mid Devon Advertiser, on Facebook and on our website. Cathy Ruelens, Teignbridge District Council has also been advised of this vacancy
- Jason Lewis, Assistant Caretaker, has completed his 6 months probationary period. We have held a meeting with him and he is very happy in his role of Assistant Caretaker and has no concerns. As we have no concerns with him and his work, he has now been given a permanent contract.
- Community Hall bookings are increasing, and many users have returned. The hall is fully booked every weekend leading up to Christmas and we are now taking bookings for children's parties at weekends in 2022. The Caretakers are working hard with thorough cleaning between all bookings.
- Mr Turner and Mr Lewis have cleared the Leat at the end of Longford Park/Longford Lane to ensure that the water is able to flow freely to stop any risks of flooding.
- We are at present working with one member of staff on sick leave. Mrs Simmons has been signed off sick from 1 September 2021 and we are unsure when she will be well enough to return to work, but envisage it may not be until the new year. Training for the website has been carried out and Mrs Lowe, Mrs Lewis-Clarke and I are able to upload documents, so the website will be kept up to date. I have asked Mrs Simmons if she can forward me photos taken of Kingsteignton in Bloom so that I can try and get a Newsletter out before the end of the year.
- I have again chased Teignbridge District Council for a response on our Community Asset Transfer request for land at Sandygate Mill and Steepfields. To-date I have received no response.
- Over the summer months the following training has been carried out:
 - **First Aid Training** - Mr Turner, Mr Lewis, Mrs Lewis-Clarke and myself have updated our First Aid Training
 - **Strimming Course** – Mr Turner and Mr Lewis have attended this course
 - **Chapter 8** - Mr Turner and Mr Lewis have completed and passed their Chapter 8 training.
- Work is due to be carried out on replacing the gate into Clifford Park from Strawberry Terrace, as agreed via email. 7 councillors in favour 4 abstained or no reply. This work should be completed within the next month or two.



- **Clifford Park** – the spring closure on the new gate into the children's play area has been replaced by the contractors, due to the first one not being suitable for the job.
- The WI will be putting up their Poppy Display again at The Fountain over the Remembrance Day period.
- As you all aware Beating the Bounds was cancelled this year and will be rearranged for 2022
- I have received an email from St Michaels Primary School who are celebrating Harvest by raising funds for Send a Cow and a food collection for Hitts Food Bank in Torquay. They have set up a Just Giving Page for funds to be raised on line and the children are preparing activities such as art work, fancy dress and assemblies with the whole day being organised by their Rights Ambassadors (children from across the school are working towards the UNICEF Gold Rights Respecting Award. Part of the goal for achieving the award is to boost awareness of children's rights and their Christian School status in the community.
- A letter has been received from a resident requesting a new dog/litter bin in Football Lane. This request has been passed to the Works, Services and Planning meeting for discussion.
- I have reported over several weeks the amount of anti-social behaviour and vandalism that we have been seeing in Kingsteignton. All of this has been reported to the Police and crime numbers have been received. When damage is noticed contact is made with Tom Hirst, Newton Abbot Security Trust and he has been able to find footage of all events that have occurred in Clifford Park and Oakford Lawn. Acknowledgement from Devon & Cornwall Police has been received re: incidents that have been given a crime no.
- An email has been received from a resident asking for the council to consider placing a road crossing on Longford Lane near the pathway from Tarrs Avenue. This item will be placed on the Works, Services and Planning Agenda for discussion.
- A new Flagpole has been installed outside the Community Hall, as the old one was rotten
- A replacement printer has been purchased for the Clerk's Office. During a recent powercut the board on the present printer was blown and was too costly to be repaired

105/2021 To receive the minutes of the following Committees:

Finance Committee: Cllr Thorne presented the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2021.
Approved

Community Hall/Recreation Committee – Councillor Scagell presented the minutes of the meeting held on 4 August 2021. **Approved**

Works, Services & Planning Committee – Councillor Peart presented the minutes of the meetings held on 5 May, 21 July, & 4 August 2021. **Approved.**



106/2021 **Representative Reports**

Police advocates meeting: Cllr Thorne reported that he is maintaining a presence at the table for Kingsteignton and trying to ensure suitable allocation of resources to Kingsteignton problems. Currently expecting some positive results over the graffiti problems and also to get further sites risk assessed for the CSW efforts in the Town.

Stover Park Advisory Board meeting and social event to see the site at Stover School

Cllr Thorne said he had attended a very useful site visit to start to imagine the enormity of the plan with the involvement of Stover School grounds and artefacts. It is a truly amazing plan, and it still seems to be on course to attempt to deliver the whole of the plan. The Hidden stables and the Temple really add a dimension to the plans which link up the Park as we know it currently with the extension towards the school including a Serpentine Lake and a fallen soldiers memory area. Currently the plans are to dredge the lake and manage the 20000 tonnes of sludge somewhere and somehow particularly environmentally friendly along with agreeing plans and legal agreements required to extend, develop but yet protect the park for everyone to enjoy.

As you can imagine this is the most fabulous wildlife area, green space and well-being area for the whole of Kingsteignton's residents (along with other Teignbridge residents apparently) to take advantage of and I believe for us to be part of the park and to help it to succeed through significant contribution towards it's massive capital (£) need for match funding would be a tremendous idea educating our students young and old, providing a quality environment to enjoy nature and providing a thoroughly individual experience for well-being and overall health of our residents.

Viridor Liaison Meeting

At the last meeting there was a big focus on the landscaping and habitat creation which has, it seems, been ignored for the last 5 years. As you can imagine I had a few questions of how exactly their 'cut and burn' work fits in against the Heathland creation but really to remove the last 5 years growth in some areas is the only way to get back on the track to the essential Heathland so desperately needed locally. The plan seems good, but it is up to the Liaison Group to try to keep the pace of work going well enough to get ready for the ceasing of operations and restoration required by 2023.

Garden Community workshop

Full credit to Cllr Dempster, Mrs Lakin and Mrs Lewis-Clarke for turning up to the workshop along with myself they suggested some superb ideas however in my mind the facilitator or perhaps we did not really scratch the surface of the opportunity offered by the workshop. The marvellous ideas which I recall added into the project were:

Giving Kingsteignton a Heart - developing a physical and spiritual heart to the Town where social and community needs can be developed into a sense of belonging throughout the Town



Working with various organisations to bring the Landfill Site back into a community use for green space and well-being.

Trying to make the Town more able to satisfy residents needs even though the housing continues to be built - through greening areas and making open space more effective for even more people to enjoy.

It was suggested to consider going across the A380 to bring that more into the Town where suitable green space may be available for various projects before something huge removes it from consideration.

To consider raising the game of Kingsteignton to work with larger players and have visionary ideas for the needs of the Town going forward - probably Sibelco controls much of what is and isn't possible in Kingsteignton certainly to the West, the Clifford Estate to the North but who to the East and South? So, it was suggested to build on good relationships and suggest what our residents would like to see and getting behind these ideas for everyone's future before someone alien to Kingsteignton suggests it for us!

Kingsteignton Youth Centre – Cllr Austen reported that Free Friday youth club sessions for 11–17-year-olds re-opened after the summer break on September 3rd and although attendance numbers are not high in this older group at around 10 young people, some of the young people coming are very much in need our services. For example a young person who has additional needs and finds making friends more difficult says that he feels welcome and part of the group at KYC. Another young person has been getting into some trouble, including with the police, and has been well behaved at KYC and has started volunteering as a helper during the younger session.

KYC youth club sessions for 8- to 11-year-olds reopened on Thursday 9th September and are proving popular, after the first week back attendance doubled despite the introduction of £2 subs.

Activities in the youth club - Depending on their age and inclination youth club members enjoy craft activities such as candle modelling, making keyrings, tie dye, cooking, challenge nights, designing and making cutlery, as well as engaging in physical activities in the sports hall such as table tennis, football, and basketball. This term a kid's radio station has visited KYC and has been helping young people to make professional podcasts on subjects that they are interested in. Sexual health, mental health, rights, and responsibilities are some of the areas that young people want to talk about in sessions. KYC youth leader is trained to provide information on sexual health and mental health, staff do not however give personal advice or guidance, their role is to help young people gain reliable factual information and to signpost to appropriate services and sources of support.

Supervision in the youth club - The youth centre employs two staff to run KYC youth club and young and adult volunteers also attend to ensure essential levels of supervision are maintained across a number of rooms. Volunteers aged 16 years and over must have a clear DBS record before they are allowed to supervise children. Many of our experienced young volunteers have recently moved on to college and/or jobs, and their absence is keenly felt, but as young people attending Friday sessions mature, they will be offered the opportunity to train as a young volunteer and will then be able to help at the Thursday youth .



The youth club currently has a good number of adult volunteers, despite this it was not possible to open last week due to staffing issues caused by Covid isolations and other illness hitting staff and volunteers, which was very disappointing. We expect to return to normal this week.

Stover Canal Trust – Cllr Ripping reported that on Sunday 19th September, he was invited to attend the unveiling of a replica crane and granite trolley at Ventiford. The ceremony was attended by Members, Trustees and Councillors from the district. The crane cost almost £20,000 to manufacture and install.

Members and volunteers have continued to clear and repair the canal footpath and remove Japanese Knotweed from the canal. A number of decayed and fallen trees have also been removed.

Swimming Pool Association - Cllr Scagell past to Councillors a report that she had received from Jan Collins, Kingsteignton Swimming Pool.

Opening date Saturday 24th April - Closing date Saturday 11th September 2021

Summary

Booking. All bookings and payments online with Book when in advance. Commission taken for each transaction with PayPal. Each session = 1 hour, this includes the time taken to enter the pool area, change, swim and change back after the swim. A whistle is blown 10 minutes before the end of each session to ensure that there is no overlap of people leaving and entering the pool. We purchased a Samsung tablet to allow staff to check each visitor on to the premises.

Arrive 'pool ready'. At the beginning of the season both male and female internal changing areas were closed. We opened the changing rooms only in June.

Shower at home. The showers were not made available at the pool during the season.

Maximum numbers. We had to change the numbers in the pool as and when the restrictions changed and depending on what session was on. A maximum of 8 people in each of the 3 lanes, and up to maximum of 30 or 40 for pool hire and open sessions to allow for social distancing.

A one-way system was implemented to avoid cross over of people attending the pool. The undercover area was used for changing as well as a gazebo erected at the other end to allow more space.

Staff were provided with facemasks and face shields. Hand sanitiser in reception and on tables poolside and by the external side exit gate. QR code on external notice board and in reception.

No kiosk revenue – Helpers not willing to return.



We struggled for staff this season and had our fair share of injuries/illness (not Covid related) We closed the pool in August for 3 days when either the staff had Covid or were isolating.

Major expense on repairs/replacement parts throughout the season in the plant room as the boilers/pumps and filters not been used since 2019.

July/August saw a shortage of chlorine and acid. This was due to the demand in hygiene products with Covi and pool deemed non-essential. Some pools in the area had to close as not stock, we were fortunate to have a good relationship with our local supplier to ensure we could operate. The price increased from £9.99 a barrel to £19.99 a barrel.

None of our own fundraising since March 2020.

Finances – Year end 30th September 2021. At this stage I do not have the exact figures as awaiting final invoices...we may just have broken even.

Speed Watch - Cllr Thorne reported that the Speed Watch team had been out and caught two speeding vehicles. They would like to carry out more visits to Old Exeter Road, Broadway Road, Chudleigh Road and Longford Lane.

107/2021 Audit Commission – Completion of Audit 2020/2021

The Audit for 2020/2021 has been completed:

Except for the matters reported below on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The smaller authority failed to approve the AGAR in time to publish it before 1 July 2021, the date required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, and did not disclose this by answering 'No' to Section 1, Box 1.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority: We note that the smaller authority did not comply with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as it failed to make proper provision during the year 2021/22 for the exercise of public rights, since the approval date was after the start of the period for the exercise of public rights. As a result, the smaller authority must answer 'No' to Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 and ensure that it makes proper provision for the exercise of public rights during 2022/23. In the completion of the Annual Internal Audit Report, the internal auditor has drawn attention to significant weaknesses in relation to the review of risks. The smaller authority confirmed that a risk assessment was carried out on 14 July 2021. The smaller authority has confirmed that it has not complied with the governance assertion in Section 1, Box 5, but it has provided the appointed auditor with an adequate explanation for non-compliance and details of the actions necessary to address weaknesses identified.

108/2021 Kingsteignton Community Plan/Give the Town a Heart Plan



Cllr Thorne reported that whilst preparing for the Garden Community Workshop he thought it would be a the good opportunity for the Council to discuss planning for Kingsteignton in the future. He said if the Town Council do not suggest anything that the Town will be missing an opportunity to introduce things they consider would be good for Kingsteignton. He said that two plans have been done in the past, Kingsteignton Community Plan and Give the Town a Heart, but at the present have no plans for improving our town.

Cllr Thorne suggested that now would be a good time for these documents to be replaced with something more UpToDate.

109/2021 Grass Verge outside Devonshire Homes development, Vicarage Hill

A complaint about the state of the grass verge outside the Devonshire Homes development on Vicarage Hill had been received from a resident. Members discussed what they would like to see happen on this verge.

Resolved: that Paul Cary should be asked to cut this verge and that the Council will consider planting wildflowers on this verge in the future.

110/2021 Clifford Park update

Members were advised that two further quotes had been requested from other Play Companies to accompany the quote received from Proludic to be submitted with the Grant Application to Viridor at the end of October.

Funding available through S106, Teignbridge District Council, total £129,525.

111/2021 Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Thorne said that he would like to get a feel from residents on their views or Neighbourhood Watch. He would like to call on residents to find out if this is something they would be interested in and ask if those interested would complete a form.

Resolved: that the office print off 50 copies of the form for Cllr Thorne to issue to residents.

112/2021 Queens Platinum Jubilee

Resolved: that one or two Weeping Willows be planted in the Community Hall grounds. Cllr Scagell to liaise with Cllr Brotherton regarding this and for quotes to be obtained and brought back to Community Hall/Recreation Committee for further discussion and approval.

113/2021 Pathways

A member of the public has been walking our pathways for us and was awarded an annual honorarium of £100. He is now unable to continue this. Philip Banner has offered to take over the role of walking our pathways.

Resolved: that an honorarium of £100 per year be awarded to Philip Banner for walking the town pathways.



114/2021 Beating the Bounds update

Deferred to November Full Council meeting.

115/2021 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed:..... Dated:.....