



## **KINGSTEIGNTON TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 November 2021 AT THE COMMUNITY HALL, RYDON ROAD, KINGSTEIGNTON AT 7.00 pm**

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Peart

Deputy Mayor: Councillor Scagell

Councillors: Austen, Bovey, Field, Jones, Ripping, Plummer, Stacey, Thorne

Ms Hanna Dolling – Wildlife Warden

Town Clerk: Mrs C Lakin

Deputy Town Clerk: Mrs M Lewis-Clarke

#### **Presentation by Hanna Dolling – Kingsteignton Wildlife Trail Proposal**

Cllr Peart welcomed Hanna Dolling to the meeting to give a presentation on the proposed Wildlife Trail for Kingsteignton.

Ms Dolling said that she was working on this project with Samantha Croxall and Mel Knight and talked through the proposed route for the trail from Rydon Primary School to St Michaels School, including Clifford Park, Oakford Lawn and Hackney Marshes. She said that this route was approximately 1.5 miles long.

Ms Dolling described what they would like to place along this walk:

- Wildflower planting
- Bird Boxes
- Bug Hotels
- Notice Boards
- Rubbing Posts

Ms Dolling said she would like to publicise the scheme and perhaps issue a monthly Environmental Newsletter, organise weekend sessions where things could be made and to work with the local schools.

She spoke of avenues available for funding i.e. Viridor Landfill Community Funds; Tesco Community Grants; Co-op Community Fund; Devon Environment Foundation; Lottery Fund and South West Water Community Fund, which would help cover the purchase of equipment, signage, rubbings, wildflower seeds etc.

Other councils that have a similar scheme in existence are Exminster Green Spaces trail, East Budleigh nature trail and Chudleigh Wild, which is in development. Councillors were invited to ask questions:

- How much funding would be required? At this present time this is unsure
- This is considered a great idea and could be an inspiration to the town. The Town Council would be happy to help where it can. How much time do you have to put



towards this project? Ms Dolling said that she was very busy but could find perhaps a couple of hours a month

- How much support would you require from the Town Council?
- What would be needed from the Town Council?
- Do we think that the third school should be included?
- Concerns were raised about the proposed route. It was suggested that the Leat on Crossley Moor Road and Berry Lane would be of interest.

Cllr Peart thanked Ms Dolling for attending the meeting and said that the Clerk would let her know if the Council were interested in joining in this project.

## **Police Report**

The following report was received from PCSO Pike:

### **October Police Report**

Theft from motor vehicle 1

Theft of a motor vehicle 2

Criminal Damage 8

Theft of a pedal cycle 1

Burglary 2

Theft 1

Drink Drive 1

Theft from Shop 2

Possession/ Drugs 1

The Parks have been causing the main issues this month, extra patrols have been carried out by officers in marked and unmarked vehicles. From Oakford PCSO's recovered a Bong and a Grinder from a group of youths in the history garden. On another occasion, through the help of CCTV operators a male was arrested for being in possession of Class B drugs.

Reported damage to Clifford and Oakford, enquiries on going . (Officer in charge PC 17111 Anderson.)

There are extra resources covering Halloween , including the Neighbourhood Team.

The Police were holding a meeting to discuss the ongoing problems in Kingsteignton and once an update is received this will be forwarded to councillors for their information.

## **Public Participation**

There were no public present at the meeting.

## **County Councillor R Peart's Report**

Current works on the A380

The works encompass repairs and surfacing to 6 bridge decks with no works taking place in between. This may give the impression that there is little work happening, as work will be concentrated on the bridge decks. In order to safely get traffic away from work sites a



contraflow system has been installed to move traffic from one side of the dual carriageway to the other you need to reduce the length of traffic management as much as possible. The work to the bridge decks requires specialist contractors and it is both more cost effective and quicker to cover a larger area once, rather than a shorter area over a longer period of time. It is our opinion that the general public would prefer us to get the works achieved as quickly as possible to reduce the amount of disruption. The type of work being carried out to bridge decks is highly weather dependent. We hope to maximise periods of good weather by working at multiple locations within the length of the contraflow.

One of the main reasons this current work could not be carried out alongside previous resurfacing work earlier in the year was due to the presence of bats. The underside of bridges are potential roosting location for bats that are a protected species, and as such surveys were required to be undertaken by an ecologist after the hibernation period, to ensure that our work did not interfere with their roosts. It is understood that road works do cause large inconvenience unfortunately there is no painless way of carrying out vital works on such a strategic route.

## **District Councillors' Reports**

### **Councillor B Austen**

The subject of sewage is once again public concern. This has been a subject of discussion over the years since the time that sewage was released into the Teignmouth Harbour on high tide many years ago. Following the building of the new sewage works on the river bank the objections have subsided. We are asked to send any comments we have to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee by 5 November if there are concerns now with regard to the efficiency of the existing system.

Councillors are asked, following the recent murder of a Member of Parliament to communicate with the Local Government Association if there are incidences of abuse and intimidation through the personal experience of councillors. This is to support and highlight good practice and encourage the police to consider their role following his tragic death.

Teignbridge has noted that more 50 to 64 year olds have retired early than in the past which means that this affects the economy as local spending declines. Also local businesses will be unable to attract people with the required skills to work for them. Actions such as automating more processes, offering better pay rates (Teignbridge rates are low compared to other areas) and considering shorter working hours are possibly an aid to dealing with this situation. Training and re-skilling are important.

Following objections to the use of the race course for full council meetings the next meeting has been re-allocated to a local community facility so that it can benefit from the income arising from use of larger premises than the Council Chamber. Concerns are still being expressed with regard to face to face meetings which are now usual for all meetings.

The need for a crossing at Ware Cross is being mentioned now that the number of children walking from the new estate to schools is increasing because of the 146 new houses built and proposed. When mentioned at the planning stage it was considered to be too costly.



## **Councillor R Peart**

Tackling substandard private rented properties.

A successful bid for funding has been made by Teignbridge to support its efforts to clamp down on landlords renting homes with the worst performing energy efficiency ratings. The Council has won a share of a multi-million government funding package designed to enforce the requirement introduced last year for all private rental properties to have a minimum E' energy efficiency rating. Poorly insulated properties often have tenants struggling to keep warm and with higher energy bills, Teignbridge estimates that 16% of private rented households live in fuel poverty. The Government believes that enforcing the minimum standards could reduce the average bill of these households by £180 and reduce carbon emissions.

Landlords who don't meet the minimum standards introduced last year can be fined up to £5,000 per property, breach

With the £39,000 funding it is to receive, Teignbridge aims to secure improvements in 300 properties before the end of the financial year. The goal of the Council is to ensure that landlords know where they can access funding streams such as the Green Homes Grants. The next change in standards which is expected in 2025 rented properties will need to have a C' energy efficiency rating.

## **Councillor D Rollason**

I attended the following meetings:

27<sup>th</sup> October chaired Audit Scrutiny Committee as the Chair was on leave.

20<sup>th</sup> October attend the Full licencing and Regulatory Committee

The External Audit is on track although it is over running its original time frame as this has been a difficult year for both Auditors and Councils due to the staffing and financial impacts of CV19, However, the prediction is TDC will have its accounts approved and unqualified. The TDC Full Council on 30th November will receive the Committees recommendations so the agenda pack will have all the information.

The main subject for the Licencing and Regulatory Committee was the review and renewal of the Statement of Principles for the implementation of the Gambling Act. This is a very thorough document and was rightly approved for recommendation to the Council.

The agendas and minutes are available on TDC website, and I always recommend Councillors visit the site as it is a helpful source of information.

I'm sorry I can't be with you to deliver my report in person please call or email me if you have any questions. Thanks



## **Councillor B Thorne**

October turned out to be quite a quiet month for meetings and only the Audit Scrutiny Committee met face to face late in the month. The accounts were on the agenda along with the audit which will be passed onto the full meeting at the end of November for final acceptance.

Casework has taken up quite a lot of time of late with many enquiries regarding trees and planning.

Essentially the services delivered by TDC are holding firm despite incredible odds in some cases and I record my personal thanks here which I have passed to the staff at TDC for their incredible efforts to maintain services in the face of financial and pandemic concerns.

## **MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL, RYDON ROAD, KINGSTEIGNTON ON WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.25 pm**

### **116/2021 Apologies**

**Resolved:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Brotherton.

### **117/2021 To receive any declarations of interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllrs Field and Stacey read and signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office. They will sit on the following committees:

Cllr Field – Finance, Recreation/Community Hall Committee and Works, Services & Planning Committee

Cllr Stacey – Finance and Recreation/Community Hall Committee

### **118/2021 To accept resignation received from Mr David Rollason, 4 October 2021**

**Resolved:** that resignation be accepted, and letter of thanks be sent to Mr Rollason thanking him for his contribution over his time in office. This vacancy has been advertised with a closing date of 5 November 2021.

### **119/2021 To receive the Mayor's Report**

My wife and I were invited to Newton Abbot Civic Service by the Mayor of Newton Abbot, Councillor Mike Joyce. This was held on Sunday 10 October 2021 at St Paul's Church, Devon Square at 3 pm. The event was well attended by other town mayors and chairs and our local MP Anne Morris. The service started with the Welcome by the Mayor's Chaplain



Rev'd Ben Maynard followed by hymns. Choir 86 performed Whistle Down the Wind and Human. Reading Isaiah v 28-31 – Mayor Mike Joyce; Reading Philippians 4 v 4-9 by Mayoress Mrs Sue Joyce. The Address by the Mayor's Chaplain Rev'd Ben Maynard, Prayers and Blessing by Mayor's Chaplain Rev'd Ben Maynard followed by the National Anthem.

There was a collection for the Mayor's Charity, Horsemanship for Health and we then went into the Church Hall for refreshments of tea and coffee and many cakes and cream teas. It was good to speak to other Mayors

#### **120/2021 To receive and approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 6 October 2021**

The Mayor presented the minutes of the meetings held on 6 October 2021.

**Resolved:** Minutes adopted

#### **121/2021 To receive the Clerk's Report**

- I would like to welcome our two new councillors, Martin Field and John Stacey and look forward to working with them in the coming months.
- We still have a vacancy on the Council with a closing date for applications of 5 November 2021 and have been informed by Teignbridge District Council that we can proceed with the co-option as no call has been made for an election. We have received one application for this position.
- As requested at the last Community Hall/Recreation meeting the benches have been removed from the History Garden, Oakford Lawn.
- We have received notification from Teignbridge District Council of a CIL payment of £50,084.25
- Councillors are reminded that the Remembrance Parade from the Royal British Legion to St Michaels Church will take place on Sunday 14 November 2021, leaving the RBL at approx..10 am. Councillors were asked if anyone was able to volunteer to help with the road closure required for the parade to take place. Cllrs Field and Bovey volunteered to assist. Cllr Peart will be leading the Parade and Cllr Scagell will attend the Church Service.
- The funding application towards the cost of updating Clifford Park has been submitted to Viridor and got through the first stage of the application

#### **122/2021 To receive the minutes of the following Committees:**

**Community Hall/Recreation Committee** – Councillor Scagell presented the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2021. **Approved**

**Works, Services & Planning Committee** – Councillor Peart presented the minutes of the meetings held on 6 & 20 October 2021. **Approved.**



## 123/2021 Representative Reports

**Climate Emergency** - Cllr Thorne reported that he was expecting the ACT Wildlife Wardens report of proposals for Kingsteignton. Trees maintenance at Clifford Park handled by relevant Committee and assisted by Ex Councillor, Alex Khan – awaiting results from November replacement plantings. Looking for opportunities to plant further trees and work with other agencies and businesses in Kingsteignton. Continuing to look for further opportunities to spread the word and hopefully communicate good results from COP 26 shortly. Maintaining close communication directly with various ACT committees, DLNP (Devon Local Nature Partnerships) for various webinars and to engage with others around Devon to try to put together something we can do as a council which will make a difference. Suggestions welcome.

**PCC Advocates** – Cllr Thorne said that he had attending to normal biweekly meetings which are informative, however it would seem not to be delivering visible results regarding the graffiti and some ASB problems. Nevertheless the crime figures locally comprise a high percentage of our reported crimes in Kingsteignton and this is beginning to show in the seriousness of the Police response to events. Great interest has been generated from the Oakford Park bench removals and closure which some feel a little heavy handed especially with poor weather likely to cause reduction in events soon but I have reminded the group that it has to stop before drugs and knife crimes get more prevalent. Various invisible services have been brought to bear on likely offenders which should bring results over time – more serious crimes are dealt with visibly and with the seriousness you would expect when identification of offenders is successful. Other crimes such as car vandalism I Exeter Road and a nearby estate was mentioned but not always reports to the police are made correctly. Please use the most convenient way for you to report events from the Police.uk website. Facebook is no substitute.

We are currently getting good help from Newton Abbot Security Trust with regard to CCTV operator support.

**Stover Advisory Board** - nothing new to report but please keep visiting and promoting how wonderful a visit to the park can be with the over wintering birds arriving.

**Viridor** – the Clerk has circulated recent activities at the site and should there be any smell issues as a result please take the time to report to the Environment Agency on **0800 807060** - sadly few reports means that Viridor do not know you are being affected.

**Swimming Pool Association** - A letter has been received from Ms Jan Collins informing us that she is resigning as Chairman and Committee Member of Kingsteignton Swimming Pool and Recreational Association Ltd. The Swimming Pool have a meeting coming up when it will look to fill this vacancy on the Committee. A thank you letter will be sent to Ms Collins for all the work and dedication she has given to the Swimming Pool over the years.

## 124/2021 Nature Trail Proposal

Following the presentation at the beginning of the meeting from Hanna Dolling it was





**Resolved:** that the Town Council consider this an excellent project and that it should proceed and that Hanna Dolling should be asked for a short write up on this project to be included in the Newsletter.

#### **125/2021      Kingsteignton Town Signs**

**Resolved:** that Cllrs Jones, Austen, Bovey, Ripping, Thorne and Peart should form a Working Party to consider the signage for the gateways to the Town and bring their suggestions back to council for their approval.

#### **126/2021      Road Warden Scheme**

Discussion took place and it was

**Resolved:** that an article should be placed in the Newsletter asking if people would like to volunteer to join the Road Warden Scheme to help fill potholes and generally make the town look clean and tidy.

#### **127/2021      Community Safety Watch**

Discussion took place and Cllr Peart said that he would check with DCC Officers on what approval is needed by the Town Council to place a SID on the Old Exeter Road.

**Resolved:** that Cllr Thorne liaise with Newton Abbot Town Council to borrow their Speed Indication Device to be temporarily sited on a lamppost on Old Exeter Road to help stop speeding motorists.

#### **128/2021      Community Fridge/Larder**

Cllr Thorne explained how a Community Fridge/Larder would be used and asked for permission to research as to whether there is a need for this in Kingsteignton.

**Resolved:** that Cllr Thorne should speak with Chudleigh Town Council to find out how this works and to research into whether there is a need for this in Kingsteignton.

#### **129/2021      Correspondence**

An email was received from Cllr Bovey concerning safety at Council Meetings for both Councillors and Staff. He provided statistics and proposed that Masks should be worn at all times in the meeting apart from when somebody was speaking.

**Resolved:** that following a vote, five for and five against, with Cllr Peart having the casting vote it was agreed that masks should be worn when people were walking around, but did not need to be worn when they were sat down.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm pm

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



