



KINGSTEIGNTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER 2021 AT THE COMMUNITY HALL, RYDON ROAD, KINGSTEIGNTON AT 7.00 pm

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Peart

Councillors: Brotherton, Dempster, Field, Jones, Ripping, Plummer, Stacey, Thorne

Town Clerk: Mrs C Lakin

Police Report

- Criminal Damage of Property – 3
- Criminal Damage to vehicle – 4
- Theft – 1
- Burglary – 2
- Dangerous Dog – 2
- Theft of a Pedal Cycle – 1
- Driving whilst disqualified – 1
- Drink Drive – 1

We have received several complaints about the playing field behind Little Barton/Rocky Acres. Youths gathering with mopeds in Little Barton revving their bikes and smoking cannabis. On one occasion when checking the area, I spoke to a small group of youths, they informed me they were there because Oakford was shut. Whilst talking to the group a grinder was seized. We have now placed the playing field on our patrol plan and will continue to monitor.

Regarding the youths involved with the Graffiti, meetings are going ahead in the background involving Gary Wilson (Teignbridge ASB Officer) and P C Crofts (Police Youth Intervention Officer), who is liaising with the school and speaking to the students identified.

The parks are still being monitored and officers are actively speaking to youths found within them.

Bonfire night caused no issues.

Councillors were also sent a list of criminal damage that has been reported in Kingsteignton over the past weeks as compiled by the police. We have written to the police asking for further information in respect of the comment “No CCTV” and are still waiting a response.

Public Participation

There were no public present at the meeting.



County Councillor R Peart's Report

Energy from Waste

2020 stats: Plymouth facility processes 65,000 tonnes of our waste each year from the South and West of the County. Overall waste processed 261,000 tonnes. Electricity generated 201,000 MWh; steam generated 57,000 MWh.

Plant availability 88.93% (target) 91%

Co2 savings 84,000 tonnes

Landfill diversion 99.9%

Cash savings vs Landfill approx. £12 million pa

Plant availability below target almost entirely because of an outage in October of 100 hours due to an exploding gas bottle causing damage to the fire grate. Plymouth is one of the least expensive in the country and Exeter one of the most expensive in the country, but both less expensive than Landfill currently £130 per ton.

Devon won an award for the Best New Idea at a recent Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee with our Shared Savings Scheme working in partnership with five of our district councils. Over £6.8 million worth of savings have been generated over 4 years, with £3.4 million shared back with East Devon Teignbridge, Mid Devon, Torridge, and North Devon.

Afghan Refugees in Devon

We now have about 150 refugees in the county temporarily housed in hotels in Exeter and Exmouth with a number of rescued cats and dogs from the well-publicised animal sanctuary in the Tiverton area. We should be paid back monetarily by the Home Office, but staff are becoming increasingly stretched by the lack of resources.

District Councillors' Reports

Councillor B Austen

No report

Councillor R Peart

Teignbridge has the 13th highest number of Coronavirus cases in the country per 100,000 (622) with figures nationally totalling 46,000 the highest in a month and 199 deaths recorded. Some of the country's highest infection rates are in Devon. As a result, there is an increasing number of people required to self-isolate, which causes real problems for many, especially if they are unwell, live alone or have responsibilities outside the home. Devon County Council is making small to medium – size grants available to local voluntary and community groups who can give practical social or emotional support, so that people can self-isolate properly and not potentially pass on the virus to others. Not for profit voluntary, community and social enterprise sector groups, town and parish councils, charities, small groups or a combination of any of them, can apply for the funding via Devon's website.



Councillor D Rollason

No report

Councillor B Thorne

Few meetings with only Audit Scrutiny meeting and an Overview and Scrutiny 1 meeting of any note.

The Audit and Scrutiny meeting was called essentially to recommend the Accounts be sent to the Full Council for adoption subject to any significant findings from the auditors who have not completed the current years audit. This delay was caused by the increased assurance required by recent legislation.

The Overview and Scrutiny meeting was in my mind dominated by a presentation requested by cross party members regarding untreated sewage effluent release into the River Teign when weather conditions caused the sewerage system to rise above maximum capacity. Details were given of the overflowing of the major pumping stations around Teignbridge which released the untreated sewage effluent into the Teign and the number of times in 2020 when this actually happened. Of course, Kingsteignton pumping stations were sadly on the list with: Newton Road overflowing twenty-one times, Hackney Lane twice, Butts SPst (still unsure exactly where this one is but believe it to be our side of the River Teign off Greenhill Way towards the river) forty-eight times. As you can imagine there are very technical and legal details around these escapes and I cannot guarantee the accuracy of these details here nor can we rely on exactly what the frequency listed actually means, but there were overflows and to what precise effect is still to be understood by us. The pumping station at Homers Road although not directly emptying in the Teign did overflow 143 times with the same proviso as the others above.

I am searching for and requesting further information as to whether there is anything that can be done to reduce these potentially polluting events and what effects they are having on the environment locally. Of course, fellow councillors along the Teign have joined in with our search for more information which will lead to request for action from SWW when better understood what can be done.

There has been a useful release of funds by the government locally being administered by TDC - it is designed to be assistance directly to the family or individuals and can be claimed online with completion of a simple form available from <https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/householdsupportfund> everyone should be aware of this fund and claim should they require it without any worries. Indeed, the fund should feature on the KTC web site and Facebook site.

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL, RYDON ROAD, KINGSTEIGNTON ON WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.08 pm

130/2021 Apologies

Resolved: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Austen, Dempster and Scagell



131/2021 To receive any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

132/2021 To receive the Mayor's Report

My wife and I attended the Royal British Legion Remembrance Parade on Sunday 14 November 2021. The parade assembled outside the Royal British Legion at 10.15 am and all the walking route was closed to traffic. The parade was well attended with members from many organisations including some from Kingsteignton Town Council. The parade marched down Exeter Road towards The Fountain led by the Royal British Legion drummer and made our way to St Michael's Church War Memorial. We gathered there with members of the congregation who attended the Church Service.

Rev's Sandra Gill led the service with Father Mark Smith. The names of the Kingsteignton men who had gone to war and never returned were read out, this a time to reflect on their sacrifice. The Last Post was played, and I laid a wreath on behalf of Kingsteignton Town Council and a wreath on behalf of our local MP, Anne-Marie Morris, followed by representatives of other organisations who laid their wreaths. My wife and I made our way back to the royal British Legion so I could take the salute when the parade returned.

The Royal British Legion Committee invited us insider for refreshments, and we would like to thank everyone involved in organizing this year's Remembrance Service and everyone who attended this important day.

133/2021 To receive and approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 3 November 2021

The mayor presented the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2021.

Resolved: Minutes adopted

134/2021 To receive the Clerk's Report

- The Christmas tree for The Fountain is due to be delivered to The Fountain and with help from Hull Landscapes will be lifted into place. Thanks go to Mr Adrian Bunclark for donating the tree to Kingsteignton and to Julian Hull and his team for helping position the tree. **After note:** the first tree that was provided was not suitable and Mrs Lewis Clarke spent hours trying to source a new tree. Mr Bunclark offered to source a further tree, and this was delivered on 29 November 2021 and Hull Landscapes put the tree into position ready for the lights to be added on 30 November 2021. Thanks must go to Mrs Lewis-Clarke for the time she spent over the weekend 27/28 November sourcing the new tree.
- The latest Newsletter has been printed and will shortly be delivered around Kingsteignton.



- As you are all aware Cllr Bovey resigned on 8 November 2021. This vacancy has been advertised in the Mid Devon Advertiser, on our website and on Facebook. To date, we have no applications and are awaiting confirmation from TDC that no election has been called for. Closing date is 10 December 2021.
- Following the Remembrance Parade, I have met with a member from the Royal British Legion and notes have been made for next year's road closure and actions needed. Thank you to Mr Turner and Mr Lewis for working on Sunday 14 November to ensure roads were closed for the Parade to make its way to the War Memorial in Sandpath Road.
- Mr Turner and Mr Lewis have been working around the Town tackling overgrown footpaths and hedges. Photos of the work have been placed on our Facebook page and comments have been very good.
- The two lamp posts on The Fountain have had to be looked at as when they were installed, they had not been sealed properly and water had got into the electrics. Work has now been carried out and both lights are working properly now, and the units have been sealed.
- I have asked Compwiz for a quote to provide us with a new projector for use in the main hall, together with a suitable stand and a new laptop. Once the figures have been received, they will be brought to council for approval.
- The Council Office will be closing for Christmas at 12.30pm on Wednesday 22 December 2021 and will reopen on Tuesday 4 January 2022.
- I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- Councillors were asked for their help to deliver some Newsletters around the Town. Unfortunately, one of the men who usually help with the delivery was unable to do so. An email was sent to councillors and Cllr Dempster has offered to assist with the delivery in the Tarrs Avenue/Blindwell Avenue part of the town.

Information taken from NALC Legal Topic Notes – Councils' Powers to Discharge their Functions

The "Need to Know"

Councillors do not have a "need to know" all aspects of council business and cannot claim an automatic right to see all council documentation and information. In other words, councillors are not permitted a fishing expedition in respect of council documentation and information simply because they are councillors. The following may prove helpful in establishing whether a Councillor has a "need to know":

- If a councillor is a member of a committee, he has the right to inspect documents or to obtain information relating to the business of that committee
- If a councillor is not a member of a particular committee, he has to demonstrate why sight of the document(s) or receipt of the information in question is necessary to enable him to perform his duties as a councillor.



- If the Councillor's motive for seeing the documents/obtaining information is indirect, improper, or ulterior, then the documentation or information should be withheld.

With regard to motions being placed on Agendas our Standing Orders (9) very clearly state:

- a) A motion shall relate to the responsibilities of the meeting which is it tabled for and in any event shall relate to the performance of the council's statutory functions, powers and obligations r an issue which specifically affects the council's area or its residents.
- b) No motion may be moved at a meeting unless it is on the agenda and the mover has given written notice to the Proper Officer at least 3 clear days before the meeting. Clear days do not include the day of the notice or the day of the meeting.
- c) The Proper Officer may, before including a motion on the agenda received in accordance with standing order 9(b) above, correct obvious grammatical or typographical errors in the wording of the motion.
- d) If the Proper Officer considers the working of a motion received in accordance with standing order 9b above, is not clear in the meaning, the motion shall be rejected until the mover of the motion resubmits it in writing to the Proper Officer so that it can be understood at least 7 clear days before the meeting.
- e) If the wording or subject of a proposed motion is considered improper, the Proper Officer shall consult with the chairman of the forthcoming meeting, or, as the case may be, the councillors who have convened the meeting to consider whether the motions shall be included in the agenda or rejected
- f) Subject to standing order 9e above **the decision of the Proper Officer as to whether or not to include the motion on the agenda shall be final.** (Local Government Act 1972 Sch.12 p 41)

As already mentioned in an email sent to you all from Mrs Lewis-Clarke, we are both doing our best to keep all staff/Councillors safe at our face-to-face meetings.

At any meeting, whether in COVID times or in normal times, name plates on the desks for councillors should not be moved. At the present time name plates match with the names on the chairs and should remain where they have been placed.

135/2021 To receive the minutes of the following Committees:

Finance Committee - Cllr Thorne presented the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2021. **Approved**

Community Hall/Recreation Committee – Councillor Brotherton presented the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2021. **Approved**

Works, Services & Planning Committee – Councillor Peart presented the minutes of the meetings held on 3 & 17 November 2021 **Approved.**

136/2021 Representative Reports

OPCC Councillor Advocates report:



Cllr Thorne reported that although there was a Councillor Advocate conference, he felt unable to attend due to the vague and unrealistic consideration of pandemic safety it seemed to offer - although I do not doubt that their arrangements would pass any official H and S test applied however insufficient for my personal choice. Nevertheless, good publicity was received by the Newton Abbot advocate group handed to those that felt able to enter the meeting.

Locally Mrs Lewis-Clarke has been very effective in challenging local Police work and responses, so I propose we ask her to join the Newton Abbot group of which Phil Rowe, Newton Abbot Town Clerk, is already a member.

Viridor Landfill Liaison group:

Cllr Thorne said he and Cllr Peart attended a visit to the landfill site which included travelling on the tip and around it to inspect various ongoing features.

The location of the various phases and the state of opening phases and capping off others, the leachate lagoons, the gas collection system, various geographic features including some relatively steep slopes allowing the explanations of what stops them collapsing and how new space/ volume might be created should the authorities decide to extend the tip further at the end of the current land raising permit. Interestingly the currently environmental plan was explained to some extent where we saw some brush removal, we saw a dormouse box and some bat boxes recently erected and the bat cave which has apparently seen some use this year and the bat experts were due to visit to monitor some of the bat activities soon after our visit.

A tremendously useful trip which allowed us to appreciate how much good work the Viridor team are doing to keep the tip moving forward with its environmental plan to give a suitable ongoing set of habitats useful to support local wildlife when the tip possibly closes in two years' time or before if the maximum amount of waste would have been tipped before the two years has elapsed.

I publicly thank the staff for their hospitality and assistance given to us on the day.

Climate and ecological group report.

Cllr Thorne said that presumably there are adequate reports for newsletter publication of the superb work by Ex Cllr Alex Khan, his family and friends, Cllr Tony Dempster and his colleagues from the Rotary Club Newton Abbot and Hannah Dolling one of our Wildlife Wardens and her friends and family in planting new and managing the existing whips around the edge of the Clifford Park. An amazing amount of work has been completed with a promise to return another Saturday when completion to the job is expected.

I will be revisiting the suggestions from the Wildlife warden's recent presentation and try to find how and when a start might be made to the project in consultation with the wardens and revisit works and services for permission to start as appropriate.

To try to get some structural developments, wildlife protection and some policy involvement for the benefit of Kingsteignton wildlife, green areas and climate emergency I have been trying to use the Garden Community involvement to push projects hopefully enhancing the above features into the mix for funding from this Teignbridge Project. As you will see we



need to have a long list shovel ready projects both large and small understood and readily supported (with evidence of same) by the community at large as money is often available in different sized amounts and hence the need for various sized projects but claiming it successfully is always a challenge.

Projects being considered at the moment Community Larder (welfare and war against waste) and a priority list to be supplied to the Garden Community group.

Environmental Wardens

As a result of the wardens sending regular reports to the Clerk, I can see no point to being involved with this Teignbridge Service. Please remove me from this responsibility.

137/2021 To discuss increased community cohesion through considerations of existing community produced plans and any suitable review process which might include a Neighbourhood Plan

Discussion took place on the difficulties we have engaging with residents and how the council needs to find a way to attract people and see what is going on in Kingsteignton. Suggestions were put forward on how this could be achieved:

- Look at how well buildings and Industrial Sites fit in
- How the Council could communicate with residents without knocking on doors
- Develop a Town Focus Group

The question was asked does the Town need to do another Community Plan, the last one completed in 2012, or Neighbourhood Plan. It was suggested that an Open Day be held, and recognition be given to work that has been done.

138/2021 Community Safety Watch up-date

Cllr Thorne said that he had intended to deliver leaflets concerning Safety Watch but had been unable to do so.

Councillors highlighted areas where Safety Watch was already taking place in certain streets and areas, and it was suggested that this information should be collected and used perhaps to work towards a Neighbourhood Plan.

139/2021 Community Fridge/Larder up-date

Cllr Thorne said that he had made enquiries as to whether there was a need for a Community Fridge/Larder in Kingsteignton. He had visited HITS, who work out of Abbrook and prepare and provide kits to people who are moving into new accommodation, food parcels, Christmas presents for children etc. The premises are full of vegetables, tinned food and deliveries are made to those in need 24 hours a day, if needed. This is a well-funded enterprise.



Cllr Thorne said that he had visited Chud Fridge, which is run not for welfare, but food waste and receives deliveries from Coop daily and works very well. He said that there is no clear thing at the moment that says Kingsteignton needs a food larder.

Resolved: that the Council need to establish a need; consideration be given into the number of volunteers needed to run this service, 25/30, and suitable premises to store the food.

140/2021 Local Transparency Code, Organisational Chart

Resolved: that the Local Transparency Code and Organisational Chart be adopted and displayed on the Town Council website.

141/2021 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

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