

**Minutes of the Kingsteignton Town Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 6th November 2024 at 7:00pm
The Community Hall, Rydon Road, Kingsteignton**

Present:

Mayor:	R Peart
Councillors:	J Scagell (Deputy Mayor), M Field, J Gordon, A Tillson-Hawke, B Thorne, M Eggar, S Danks & T Dempster
Locum Town Clerk:	Mrs R Avery (FSLCC)
Asst to the Clerk/Events Officer:	Miss B Hooper

Council not in formal session

Public Participation:

Prayers by Reverend Jessica Ashcroft-Townsley

Jo Rice, Senior Case Worker for Martin Wrigley MP attended the meeting to explain the roles within the MP's Office and how help can be provided. Cllr Peart thanked Jo for attending.

Police Report:

- Report of an out of Force area racially aggravated public order offence, where the victim lives in this area.
- Report received where two school children have been verbally abusive to a member of the public on their way home from school, constituting a public order offence. Currently under investigation.
- There has been a series of burglaries across South Devon, where entry has been gained to homes overnight and keys stolen to motor vehicles. There have been two confirmed thefts of motor vehicles in Kingsteignton this month, and another two attempts. This is actively under investigation by CID and have arrested three individuals involved with this. Residents are urged to ensure their properties are secure and keys are not left on display. Further report of youths attacking another youth on the way home from school. Currently under investigation.
- A further report of burglary was reported, where a rear door was broken and entry gained, with money stolen from a purse. Currently under investigation.
- A report was received from Border Force for someone from Kingsteignton attempting to import controlled drugs. The drugs were seized and destroyed by Border Force.
- Two offences of drugs possession were identified by Officers. Two public order offences were also reported.
- A small amount of graffiti damage was caused to the rear of Kingsteignton Retail Park. Currently under investigation.
- A Police vehicle was damaged, causing a broken wing mirror following an individual throwing an item at a passing Police vehicle. Unfortunately, no suspect was identified.

Current focussed work by PC 7201 Will Heather:

- Work with schools for early safeguarding concerns through the first part of the school year.

- Development surrounding drug supply and the impact on the local community. Any information can be submitted to the Police anonymously through CrimeStoppers.

County Councillor Report:

Cllr R Peart

No report.

District Councillors Report:

Cllr R Peart

No report.

Cllr B Thorne

Changes to scrutiny at TDC

Relevant to Overview and Scrutiny

Currently, I have been very involved at the District Council with the delivery of effective scrutiny through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee along with the various working groups, some referred to as Task and Finish groups and some as Informal meetings of the O and S Committee enabling greater selectivity over the O and S agenda.

The only task and finish group operating previously was the Medium Term Financial Plan Task and Finish group, of which I am the chair. It was looking at the ways the Council could make additional savings or increase income to reduce the expected shortfall in the budget likely in financial year 2026/2027 when the reserves, which are covering the current shortfalls, are exhausted. Following their recently accepted recommendations regarding savings and income increasing suggestions to the Executive the group is now in temporary hiatus.

Now, we have 3 more active T and F groups looking at Planning, Leisure provision and Housing which all will feed conclusions into the MTFP T and F group besides the O and S committee to assist them in making in making further recommendations to the Executive according to the eagerly awaited Council Strategy which is being consulted on currently.

It would seem the alterations to the scrutiny function at the Council which is a recommended design coming from the recognised Centre for Governance and Scrutiny should be of great assistance in improving the depth of understanding of the various selected business areas and lead to even greater creativity and accuracy with the recommendations produced by the groups.

Relevant to Audit Scrutiny

At the last Full Council meeting it has been decided that the Audit Scrutiny Committee will now be the committee that formally approves the various Financial Statements, the Annual Governance Statement and the Council Tax Base with the proviso that any member will be able to actively participate in the process simply by attending the relevant meeting.

Cllr K Gearon

No report received

Cllr D Rollason:

No report received

Council in formal session

FC108/2024 Apologies

To receive, note and where requested approve and accept any apologies for absence.

Resolved: Apologies received and accepted from:

Cllr J Gregson (Annual Leave)

Cllr D Ripping (Personal Reasons)

Cllr K Jones (Personal Reasons)

Cllr L Goodall (Work Commitments)

FC109/2024 To receive any declarations of interest and consider requests or Dispensation(s):

- a) in accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 members to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on this agenda:
- b) Clerk to report any written request for dispensation in respect of items on this agenda, made in advance of the meeting.

None declared.

FC110/2024 To receive the Mayor's Report

No report.

FC111/2024 To receive and approve the minutes of this following meetings, to be signed by this meeting Chair:

Full Council meeting held on 2nd October 2024

Cllr Peart presented the minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd October 2024.

Proposed: Cllr Scagell

Seconded: Cllr Thorne

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that these both minutes be adopted and signed by the Chair.

FC112/2024 To receive and ratify the approved minutes of the following committees:

Works, Services & Planning held 2nd October 2024 – Cllr Peart

Proposed: Cllr Peart

Seconded: Cllr Field

Resolved: The approved minutes presented above were ratified.

FC113/2024 To receive and note Representative Reports /Brief update

1. Community Speedwatch – Cllr Tillson-Hawke

This month we have undertaken 4 speedwatch sessions and I have attended the annual Devon and Cornwall Police Community Speedwatch Conference at Westpoint with another volunteer.

95 speeders have been reported to the police, 3 people have been reported as repeat offenders, the highest recorded speed was 48mph in a 30mph limit.

The two areas where speeding is most prevalent is on Strap Lane and on the B3195 Exeter Road.

The conference was an informative morning. Following a welcome message from Alison Hernandez there were talks from representatives from Devon and Somerset Fire Service informing of their new approach to engagement with new and young drivers; a talk from a representative from Devon and Cornwall Mobility regarding engagement with older drivers and their scheme to make older drivers safer on our roads; a session on motorcycle engagement followed by an interactive question and answer plenary.

At the networking lunch we linked up with the new team from Ipplepen. We have arranged to work with them when possible and we have already undertaken one session with a member of their group on Strap Lane.

We still need more volunteers. To look at what is involved, how the scheme operates and how to take part can be found online at communityspeedwatch.org

FC114/2024 Appointment of Proper Officer

To formally approve the appointment of Rachel Avery as Proper Officer for this meeting.

Resolved: All were in favour.

Proposed: Cllr Peart

Seconded: Cllr Thorne

FC115/2024 Public Toilet Provision

To receive the correspondence from TDC regarding the future provision of public toilets and to consider any further action.

Members noted the full consultation is yet to be published by TDC. When full details are available, this matter will be brought back for further consideration.

FC116/2024 Meeting Dates:

To receive and approve the 2025 meeting schedule.

Resolved: Councillors noted the 2025 meeting schedule and noted Officers will provide electronic diary invites for all the meetings.

Proposed: Cllr Eggar

Seconded: Cllr Thorne

FC117/2024 Town Council Events

- a. To review the 2023/24 Events Expenditure

Item deferred

- b. To approve the 2024/25 Events Budget

Resolved: Councillors reviewed the proposed 2024/25 Events Budget and agreed all figures as detailed in the circulated paper except for that of the Town Crier's Competition which will be set at £1000.

Proposed: Cllr Eggar

Seconded: Cllr Dempster

FC118/2024 DCC Footpath Barrier Removal

To receive the report regarding the removal of a footpath barrier and to consider the recommendations therein.

Resolved: Councillors agreed to the removal of the footpath barrier being undertaken by Devon County Council.

Proposed: Cllr Tillson-Hawke

Seconded: Cllr Danks

FC119/2024 New Bus Shelter Request

To consider the request from a member of the public requesting a new bus shelter at the top of Greenhill Way.

Resolved: Councillors agreed to the request. Officers to undertake work to gain approval from landowner and engage recent company to provide another bus shelter.

Proposed: Cllr Peart

Seconded: Cllr Field

FC120/2024 Facilities Maintenance Officers (FMOs)

To receive the Town Clerk's report regarding the responsibilities FMOs and to consider the recommendations therein.

Resolved: The report was received and the recommendations approved therein. Further details of the process of recording will be provided by the Town Clerk at the Extra Ordinary meeting on 20th November 2024.

Proposed: Cllr Peart

Seconded: Cllr Thorne

FC121/2024 Teignbridge Archaeological Society

To receive and note correspondence.

Resolved: Members noted the details of the new society and agreed for a piece to be placed within

the next Town Council newsletter to help with promotion.
Proposed: Cllr Eggar
Seconded: Cllr Tillson-Hawke

FC122/2024 Next Meeting Date:
To note the date of the next Full Council meeting – Wednesday 4th December 2024.

FC123/2024 Part II
To resolve that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information

Resolved: Members unanimously agreed to move into Part II.
Proposed: Cllr Peart
Seconded: Cllr Thorne

FC124/2024 Legal
To receive the Town Clerk's report regarding a lease and to consider recommendations therein.

Resolved: The report was received and the recommendations approved therein.
Proposed: Cllr Field
Seconded: Cllr Tillson-Hawke

FC125/2024 Legal
To receive the Town Clerk's report regarding a play area and to note the contents.

Members noted the contents of the report supplied and the elements pertaining to duty within it.

FC126/2024 Staffing
To receive the Town Clerk's report regarding staffing and to consider the recommendations therein.

Resolved: To pay the locum rate at 8 hours per week as required and to hold an Extra Ordinary meeting on Wednesday 20th November at 1pm to resolve further recommendations.
Proposed: Cllr Peart
Seconded: Cllr Tillson-Hawke

Meeting closed at 8:52pm.

Signed:

Dated: