

KINGSKERSWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING



Meeting held on Tuesday 29th August 2023 6:30pm at The Pavilion, Kingskerswell

MINUTES

Present: Cllr J Radford (Chair), Cllr J Taylor (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Carter, Cllr W Dixon, Cllr T Elston, Cllr S Talbot, Cllr N Hayter, Cllr M Daniell, Cllr C Rowles and Cllr J Rice

Attending: Anne Marie Morris MP, Cllr A Dewhirst (DCC), Mrs J Thompson (Clerk), Ms C Hill (Admin) and five members of the public

Part One (Open to Public and Press)

3658: Welcome and apologies of absence:

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:30pm and thanked everyone for attending. Apologies were received from Sgt J Morrison.

3659: Public participation:

3659.1 There was no update or report from the Police.

3659.2 There was no update or report from the Navigators.

3659.3 Kingskerswell Responsible Dog Owners Facebook site has increased to 240 members. There has been an increase in dog poo around the perimeter of the playing fields and at Kerswell Downs. Reminder for dog walkers to report crimes. The PC have not refilled the dog poo bag dispensers following an excessive number of bags being taken.

3659.4 There was no update or report from What's on Kingskerswell.

3659.5 The Chair welcomed M Haines, previous PC Chair, Cllr and TDC Cllr, now the Chair of Kingskerswell Public Hall management committee. M Haines explained that he would be retiring as Chair and trustee of the Public Hall in November, along with two or three other members and there was suggestion that the PC could take on the roles of trustee and management. Cllrs were supportive of this idea but deferred making a decision.

Regarding the new Public Hall, Crown Estates are looking for a development partner for the building works. Libraries Unlimited and Friends of Kingskerswell Library are committed to moving to the new Public Hall. Cllr J Carter thought that the PC's contribution of £100K may increase if building hadn't started by Sept 2024. Cllr J Taylor to contact the relevant TDC planning officer to get an update on the building works.

3659.6 There was no further public participation.

3660: Declarations of Interest from members:

Cllr T Elston for item 3672.1. Cllr M Daniell for DCC Highways issues.

3661: To agree the minutes of the previous meeting:

It was proposed by Cllr J Taylor, seconded by Cllr J Carter and agreed by all to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 31st July 2023, as a true and accurate record.

3662: Devon County Councillors report:

Read by Cllr A Dewhirst - copy available on the PC website.

Cllr J Taylor stated that £3K had already been spent by DCC on replacing bollards

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along the traffic calming scheme. Cllr A Dewhirst confirmed that the road safety audit had been carried out on the traffic calming scheme. DCC to reapply for a grant for a two-way superhighway cycle path through the village. Cllr W Dixon to download data from the VAS cameras. Cllr J Taylor asked why the kerb outside the Co-op had now been raised when it was previously stated that it couldn't be. Cllr A Dewhirst replied that the kerb had only been raised along part of the pavement and to a standard height. Clerk to find out if a camera will be installed outside of the Co-op to monitor safety issues.

3663: Teignbridge District Councillors reports:

Cllr J Radford, as Shadow Executive member for Environmental Health, will be voting next week on whether to move smaller and medium sized dust carts from diesel to electric. Cllr Radford has also been busy helping residents and taking courses, including Audit & Scrutiny training.

Cllr J Taylor reported that there was no update on the request to remove the three affordable houses planned at the Barn Owl development, but TDC will be putting together a briefing to discuss issues around S106. TDC will be reviewing the issues surrounding Fore St carpark. Market Walk cinema is still waiting for a planning decision. The pedestrianisation of Queen Street was discussed – Cllr A Dewhirst said that vehicles will still have access. Cllr J Taylor, Anne Marie Morris MP and Cllr A Dewhirst are supporting residents fighting to get school transport.

3664: Chair's update:

3664.1 Discussed under 3659.5.

3664.2 It was proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr J Taylor and agreed by all to support a resident's petition for DCC to properly investigate whether Weavers Way is unadopted or maintained by DCC. The petition was also handed to Anne Marie Morris MP.

3665: Vice Chair's update:

3665.1 The CCTV consultation is ongoing, with nine positive responses received to date. Poster to be put up on notice boards and a write up planned for the Parish Magazine.

3665.2 Cllr J Taylor reminded everyone to report crime.

3666: Remaining Councillors updates:

3666.1 Cllr J Carter has been in contact with the new Church Warden to start discussions on Beating of the Bounds 2024.

3666.2 The management plan for ongoing works and projects is progressing – a further cut will be carried out at Jubilee Woods next week.

3666.3 The following issues were raised by Cllr J Carter and Cllr M Daniell with Anne Marie Morris at her constituency office on 23rd August:

- The lack of volunteers and how to encourage volunteers - including tax breaks and allowances and a recognition of how vital volunteers and community groups are for the well-being of a community. The complex system of applying for grants for projects, along with the costs involved in

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bidding for them, that exceeds the resources of a typical parish council. Anne Marie Morris MP confirmed that the Government were looking at this issue.

- The lack of commonsense with a variety of TDC depts e.g., planning for the Changing Rooms Toilets; Fore St Car Park; Charging volunteer groups for performance license fee when they are performing to raise funds for another charity and more. Anne Marie Morris MP felt that the risk of flood was not relevant to the use of the proposed Changing Places Toilets and will discuss this with TDC Planning. Anne Marie Morris MP praised Cllr J Taylor on her progress with Fore St car park issues.
- Policing and lack of powers for PCSOs, lack of capacity to deal with ASB effectively in the village and wider area, and the problems for those not online to report. A named community person was suggested – Cllr J Taylor would be the most logical choice - for people report issues in-person to.
- Lack of joined up thinking between agencies and agencies passing the buck between each other. Lack of communication from agencies and lack of feedback - especially Police. It was acknowledged that when people are not communicated with it causes concern and causes them to lose faith in the system or using it.
- The Light paper and spreading of conspiracy theories, the anonymous hatred, incitement and threats on FB and social media and how to manage this. Anne Marie Morris confirmed that this was already being looked into.
- London centric policies and why they don't work in Devon.
- The fragmentation and non-functionality of social care, along with its failure to be integrated into the NHS causing poor treatment and creating a postcode lottery.
- The decline in public services post-Covid, in particular a lack of NHS dentists and the knock-on health effects it will have down the line. Anne Marie Morris MP is pursuing this issue, along with social care.
- Edginswell Station and the re-opening Kingskerswell Station. AMM said that proposals for Edginswell were still in the design stage and she would be happy to take forward ideas for re-opening Kingskerswell Station but would need more information.
- Devolving of powers to parishes, particularly around planning and how locals' views aren't felt to be heard.

Regarding other issues raised so far during this meeting, AMM offered assistance with the speed calming problems and suggested rewriting the grant plan for the superhighway cycle path. More information is needed regarding vehicle access proposals at Queen Street. Finally, if a cinema is needed at Market Walk then providers would only offer a larger facility – not a single screen, but the commercial viability of any proposal would be assessed.

Cllr W Dixon asked what plans there were to combat graffiti in Newton Abbot – Anne Marie Morris MP said that community action was the best course to tackle graffiti – the Penn Inn Tunnels of Love project are a testament to this.

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Information on vehicles using the village as a short cut to be located and forwarded to Anne Marie Morris MP to back up concerns about users of the new Aldi site coming through the village.

3666.4 There were no further highways issues to discuss.

3666.5 Cllr J Rice has applied to be on the DALC board of directors and will attend the upcoming AGM.

Patients Practitioners group is looking for new committee members.

Cllr J Taylor announced that she is now a magistrate.

3667: Clerk and Admin report and correspondence:

3667.1 The council resolved to adopt the Legacy Policy. Proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr J Rice and agreed by all.

3667.2 The council resolved to make changes to the Internet Banking Policy by removing clause 7. Proposed by Cllr J Taylor, seconded by Cllr J Radford and agreed by all.

3667.3 The council resolved to make changes to the Grant Awarding Policy to add reference to the GPoC. Proposed by Cllr J Carter, seconded by Cllr N Hayter and agreed by all.

3667.4 A grant request from the CAB was deferred.

Further information was needed before a decision could be made on a grant request from Kingskerswell Village Hall.

3667.5 The road closure for this year's Remembrance Day has been applied for. Contact to be made with the new Church Warden to discuss details of the parade.

3668: Clerk's financial report:

3668.1 The Council resolved to accept the July bank reconciliation. Proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr W Dixon and agreed by all.

3668.2 The Council resolved to accept the payments list. Proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr W Dixon and agreed by all.

3668.3 The audit of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 has been completed with no matters for concern.

3669: Asset Management:

3669.1 There were no updates on Changing Places Toilets.

3669.2 There were no updates regarding Water Lane Toilets.

3669.3 The final site visit for the Devon Air Ambulance night landing proposal took place on 23rd August, ready for launch in a couple of weeks.

3669.4 It was agreed to relocate the bin outside the Under 10's play area.

It was agreed to look at making a compost bin for the grass cuttings opposite the Pavilion.

The Youth Committee and Churchway Lane Committee to look at the idea of a Pump Track.

3669.5 The alarm key holder list was updated.

Clerk to find out information on historical building works at the Pavilion.

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3670: Planning Committee:

3670.1 Discussed under 3659.5.

3670.2 TDC confirm that they are not aware of any correspondence in relation to the relocation of the (Jury Lane) bus stop in connection with the planning application. The approved block plan shows the bus stop being retained in its original location. Cllr A Dewhirst confirmed that the bus stop would be relocated once the certificate of completion is signed by TDC.

3670.3 Cllr J Taylor gave a brief report of comments made by the planning committee at its August meeting (minutes available to view on the PC website).

3671: Downs Committee:

3671.1 It was proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr T Elston and agreed by all to accept DevonArb's proposal for management of Ash Dieback at Kerswell Downs.

3671.2 There were no further updates from the Downs Committee.

3672: Pavilion Committee (formerly KSC):

3672.1 It was resolved to split the profits of the Kerswella café takings, 60/40, in favour of Kerswella. Proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr C Rowles and agreed by the majority (Cllr T Elston did not vote).

3672.2 It was proposed by Cllr J Taylor, seconded by Cllr W Dixon and agreed by all to employ a cleaner for 2 hrs a week. C Hill to continue deep cleaning the kitchen to keep up EH standards. Thanks to Cllr C Rowles for cleaning the Pavilion.

3672.3 To discuss and agree on keyholder responsibilities was deferred.

3672.4 The council resolved to amend the constitution and set user agreement fees at £150 per month (cricket and football) and to receive 10% of bar takings (total sales). Proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr W Dixon and agreed by all.

3672.5 A list of KSC assets has been drawn up which is nearly equal to the debts owed. This will be forwarded to the former Chair and Secretary with a proposal to draw a line under the financial position.

3672.6 There were no further reports or updates from the Pavilion Committee.

3673: Youth Services Committee:

3673.1 The Youth Services Committee held their first meeting recently and elected Cllr J Rice as Chair. Courses are being looked at and plans to hold an engagement / consultation event in September are being considered. More committee members are needed.

3673.2 There were no further updates from the Youth Services Committee.

3674: Churchway Lane Committee:

3674.1 The LEMP has been received and forwarded to TDC Planning for approval. A topography report is now needed.

3674.2 There were no further reports or updates from Churchway Lane Committee.

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3675: The Council is excluding members of the public and the press to progress a matter of a confidential nature. Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960. Local Government Act 1972, ss 100 and 102.

It was proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr J Taylor and agreed by all to hold a Part Two Meeting to discuss and agree changes to staff contracts.

3676: Date of next meeting:

Monday 2nd October 2023 at 6:30PM.
This part of the meeting ended at 8:59pm.
There was a short comfort break.

3677: Part Two Meeting (Closed to Public and Press):

It was proposed by Cllr J Radford, seconded by Cllr W Dixon and agreed by all to increase the Admin Assistant's contracted hours to 20 hrs per week.

The meeting ended at 9:14pm

Chair

Date.....