



**KINGSTEIGNTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 July
2020 VIA ZOOM AT 18.00**

Present:

Mayor: Councillor D Rollason

Deputy Mayor: Councillor B Austen

Councillors: Bovey, Dempster, Jones, Khan, Laws, Peart, Plummer, Ripping, Thorne

Town Clerk: Mrs C Lakin

Finance Officer – Mr P Banner

VM89/2020 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Scagell and Cllr Austen.

VM90/2020 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Rollason declared an interest in agenda item **VM100/2020** KingsCare Mental Health Support

VM91/2020 The Mayor presented the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2020.

Cllr Thorne said that under **VM69/2020** should read Sgt Dingle and not PC Dingle

Minutes adopted.

VM92/2020 County Councillor Report

Cllr Peart reported that New Bridge on Clay Lane over the River Teign has suffered damage to the stone apron that protects its foundations. The damage was found to have increased following storm events earlier in the year. Urgent repairs are required to protect the foundations of the bridge. It is necessary to undertake these works during times of low flow in the Teign and before the winter. Work will start on 10 August 2020 for a period of three weeks and be completed before 1 October 2020. The bridge will be closed to all traffic including pedestrians and cyclists with a diversion routed via the A38 between Drumbridges and Chudleigh and B3193 Clay Pits Road.

Cllr Thorne said that he had visited New Bridge and had spoken to the Surveyor who was there. This bridge is very strong, but if you look over the left-hand side of the bridge going towards Chudleigh you can see where the concrete is splitting away. There is also a problem with Japanese Knotweed, and this is going to be removed from near the bridge by Sibelco. Cllr Thorne said that the work to install traffic lights on this bridge cannot be carried out at the same time as this repair work, but work will be carried out to put some of the conduits in place.

VM93/2020 District Councillors Reports

Cllr Austen The Government has announced a support package to help councils respond to the present situation amounting to £500million. Exactly what this will mean to Teignbridge or the method of calculation is not known but details will be made known when



the council is updated on the details.

Play parks will be opened in a phased approach when each place is considered safe to be used.

Teignbridge has been allocated £120,000 to develop an action plan for reopening the local economy and to ensure that reopening can be managed successfully and safely.

Teignbridge's role in the event of a local outbreak is critical in ensuring that businesses and residents across the district know what is happening and what plans are in place to keep everybody safe. Key staff are involved in shaping a local plan and looking at local data to ensure a timely response as the situation emerges.

Very few meetings have been held with the zoom facility but Councillors are kept updated through daily emails.

Cllr Peart - The Town Council have received approval from the Church Faculty for the CCTV receiver to be installed on St Michael's Church Tower. We can now contact Sound and Visual Systems and ask them to proceed with this work to help protect our parks and Fountain area against crime. The cost of this work will be met from CIL funds taken from developers by Teignbridge District Council and provided for us to use in our town. Cllr Thorne asked that Sound and Visual be made aware that there are swifts nesting at the top of the tower.

After minute: The office have contacted Sound and Visual to let them know that we are now able to proceed with the installation of the receiver on St Michaels Church Tower and once we have a date for this work councillors will be advised.

Cllr Rollason I can say little more than continues to be widely circulated. There will be an Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 14 July 2020 and there should be news to report from that. I will also attend a Licencing Committee on 20 July 2020 to review policy followed by a Licencing sub committee for an application that concerns Shaldon.

Cllr Thorne We are preparing for an Overview and Scrutiny meeting on 14 July 2020, Annual Council meeting on 28 July 2020 and then it would seem an Audit Scrutiny meeting at the end of August.

There has been a Government announcement about financial help for the councils that are suffering from dramatic loss of income from car parking and many other income streams last week, where 75p in the £1 is likely to be covered, however, there is some confusion whether it is limited to £500m total for just Principal Councils, all councils or they will honour the claims as submitted? Hopefully, it is the latter because the former might mean a minuscule sum like in the first award of £50,000 approximately.

I am trying to get information about how the economic revival will be handled by Teignbridge District Council for which the Executive have decided no councillor input is required in the early days, but in my mind there is already a massive LEP linked Devon plan being produced allegedly including the Districts developing on the web. I will report when I have found some of the actual ideas as the detail, I have located so far is only conceptual, however we all realise how important it is to get this right.



My personal ward involvement of late has been planning based, following the repairs to the Clay Lane bridge, checking how things are going on the Landfill site, no complaints so far.

VM94/2020 Police Report

PCSO Pike provided the following report for June 2020:

- 1 x burglary
- 3 x Criminal damage
- 3 x drink/drug drive (2 of the incidents were in Teigngrace)
- 4 x theft from shop
- 1 x theft from motor vehicle
- 2 x theft of property

All in all, not a bad month.

The parks were monitored and two lots of youths were spoken to and made to leave during lockdown. We received several complaints regarding groups of males offering garden services around Kingsteignton. We have been working closely with Trading Standards and would advise our residents not to agree to gardening services from cold callers.

The Neighbourhood Team are continuing their focus on drugs/supply and have been very successful over the past few weeks.

We have travellers on the Homebase Car Park. We are monitoring this and liaising with Homebase.

VM95/2020 Clerk's Report

- Letter sent to Ian Perry, TDC concerning the provision of 7 allotments on the Linden Homes Site, Penns Mount. We have asked for confirmation that the 7 allotments will still be being provided as per the planning application
- Letter sent to Economy and Assets asking if TDC have been able to look at the Transfer of Premises application forms submitted by the Town Council for Eagle Farm and grass areas at Sandygate Mill.
- Mr Turner and Cllr Jones are making Perspex screens for the office desks and for the counter in the main office.
- Work is ongoing on the development of the new Website for the Town Council. I am liaising with the company working on this.
- I am liaising with Ian Avery, St Michaels Church concerning the Licence from the Diocese for the installation of a receiver on the Church Tower.



- The Annual Meeting of the Town Council is to be held on **Wednesday 29 July 2020**. Anyone wishing to stand as Mayor or Deputy Mayor are asked to send the clerk an email giving information on themselves and why they would like to stand for these positions.
- Since our last meeting Clifford Park has been reopened with signs in place advising users that the equipment has not been sanitised and guidelines for them to follow.
- We are actively working towards reopening the Community Hall in line with the guidelines provided by government. Questionnaires have been forwarded to hirers of the hall together with a copy of our Risk Assessment and asking them to let us have a copy of their Risk Assessment. We are sourcing the necessary PPE equipment for staff and the relevant signage and once this is all in place, we will consider slowing opening to approved groups.

VM96/2020 Update on COVID 19 (including information from the Government Website)

There was nothing to report

VM97/2020 Finance Report

Mr Banner, Finance Officer, produced bank balance movements for the period 25 June to 8 July 2020, which were passed to members prior to the meeting.

- Council had approved that funds should be divested between banks why had not this happened. Mr Banner said that this was work in progress
- Gas and Electricity remains the same at approximately £40 per week
- SWW have been out on two occasions to repair the water meter. The first time the council were left with a leak and we have now been left with no meter.

Members were asked to consider a grant request received from WBB Football Club. The Club have been running for over 40 years and is a great family club. A grant was requested towards the cost of providing a new referees room as at present the current referee changes in his car as the Club only have two changing rooms. The funding would also help to maintain the changing rooms.

Resolved: that a letter should be sent to the Club asking for them to provide the following information:

- How much do the Club have towards the provision of a changing room for the referee?
- How much will the cost of providing a changing room be

Once this information has been received the matter will be discussed further at the next meeting on 29 July 2020.



VM98/2020 List of Representatives to outside Organisations

Climate Emergency – Cllr Khan reported:

Trees: the following are in progress:

- Application from Kingsteignton Town Council has been approved. 400 whips will arrive at KTC in November 2020
- Applications from Schools and the Cub Scouts are in progress. We await the outcome with anticipation.
- Grant application for £1350 towards the cost of 2000 environmentally friendly tree-guards and stakes has been made to the 'Branching Out' fund being managed by the Tree Council

Aspirations to arrange the planting as a community event are somewhat hampered by the Public Health Situation. This may have to be re-thought - to be done by a small group of volunteers.

There is a task to identify additional partners and locations for Tree Planting. Could councillors liaise with their partner organisations to canvas for any interest. Kingsteignton Town Council can provide help with the application and planting.

Wild Flowers:

Kingsteignton Town Council still await a response from the following land-owners for permission to plant-up the following areas.

- New Claypits Lane (roundabout and verges) Devon County Council - [Ron Peart to liaise]
- Greenhill Way / Hackney Lane triangle Teignbridge District Council - [Bill Thorn to liaise]
- Greenhill Way verge - who is the landowner here?

Solar Panels:

Keen to understand progress with Solar Panels on the roof of the Kingsteignton Town Council Offices/Community Hall. What is the progress and likely timescales with this please? The Clerk informed the meeting that this is work in progress but has been delayed due to the present Pandemic

Electric Vehicle Chargers:

Keen to understand progress with this investigation. What is the progress and likely timescales with this please? The Clerk confirmed that Cllrs Thorne and Khan were attending a forum meeting on this matter.

Cycle-lanes / 20mph speed limit:



Disappointed that Kingsteignton Town Council was not selected in the latest DCC action plan - despite making a strong case in the application process. Interesting to see that Exeter Cycle lobby have widely adopted the '20 is plenty' [optional] speed reduction in certain areas. Would be interested to know if KTC have any appetite for the same?

Resolved: that councillors agreed with the “20 is Plenty” and would forward suggestions of where this may be considered to Cllr Khan.

Kingsteignton Youth Centre - Cllr Rollason said that the Youth Centre had received funding from Cllr Peart’s Devon County Council Fund to purchase new plastic chairs to enable groups to be able to return to the Youth Centre as and when approved.

PCC - Cllr Thorne reported there was quite a lot of activity in preparation for the partial emergence from Lockdown and the likely public excesses. A £500,000 fund has been created to support 20 Towns - excluding Kingsteignton but including Newton Abbot. Money is to be used to fund community leaders’ ideas such as street Marshall’s, street pastors, toilets etc. Sadly, little concrete answers to what have they planned for ‘Independents night’ (for which £60,000 has been allocated to the Towns selected) and the rest over subsequent weekends. I was concerned that we have the Chief Constable saying we will manage by prioritising events to react to and then we are recruiting a private enforcement team for the busy times. What will this look like in these Towns.

Other issues are recruitment where it seems there is an acute shortage of applicants. The concept of recruiting 17-year olds, not completing their training until 18 and appointment when successfully trained at 18 is now being used. Personally, I cannot believe a graduate going through Police Now, the official channel, and becoming a detective in weeks would be that unattractive.

The Police Commissioners Scrutiny Panel sat on 3 July 2020 but sadly I was unable to watch it all but no great news from it yet. However, there were some searching questions which I will summarise next time.

Viridor – Cllr Thorne said he had no further reports from Viridor and more importantly no complaints from residents

Rydon Primary School – Cllr Ripping said that Rydon School continue to grow in numbers with the return of more children. We currently average around 130 children each day. Unfortunately, we are unable to have all year groups back in school at the present time. We are currently digesting the recent government guidance which will hopefully make things clearer as now the guidance is very vague.

Twinning Association - Cllr Khan said that the October 2020 visit to England by the Orbec has been cancelled. The committee tried to consider all options to host the French, but with the current public health situation, we have had to withdraw our offer to host the French visit. Instead, KOTA have asked the French to come to the UK in 2021 instead. This is the first interruption to the exchange for over 40 years so is especially upsetting for the committed member of the group.

The Scarecrow competition was also postponed until 2021.



The grant cheque from Kingsteignton Town Council for £500 has been returned to the council without being cashed.

KingsCare as you can see from the Agenda report there is a growing demand for mental health support, a trend that this council has encountered through various reports in recent months and, of course, in local and national news, most recently from BMA.

Following the Old Rydon's plans to end their community meals programme, KingsCare will be winding up its involvement in this service as well. Beneficiaries mostly report that they will not require a replacement service, those that do can be accommodated.

COVID-19 Mutual Aid - as previously reported they intend to continue for the longer term and are in the process of becoming a Community Benefit Organisation registered with the Charity Commission.

Demand for services, phone support, prescription and food parcel delivery continue to remain strong and is expected to increase as inquiries are coming in from those set to lose the government food parcel service.

They are in the process of drafting an application to the Council for funding, which we can expect at our next meeting.

VM99/2020 Teignbridge District Council Local Plan Consultation – to discuss comments to be submitted

Members were passed a draft copy of comments to be submitted to TDC on the Local Plan Consultation.

Resolved: that the comments from the Town Council should be submitted to Teignbridge District Council.

VM100/2020 KingsCare Mental Health Support – to consider request for funding

Members were passed a copy of a letter received from KingsCare to ask for funding to enable an increase in working hours to support people in need of mental health support. The rate of pay for such a post is £12.50 per hour and KingsCare are asking for funding to cover 4 hours per week for 26 weeks. Total funding requested £1,300

Resolved: that a grant of £1300 be paid to KingsCare to cover additional mental health support.

VM101/200 A C Landscapes – to discuss sponsorship of Five Lanes or Longford Lane roundabout

A request has been received from A C Landscapes asking to sponsor either the roundabout at Five Lanes or end of Longford Lane. They have said that the staff have all the necessary roadside certificates to enable them to plant the areas. The Town Council would only need to agree the design and signage.

Resolved: this agenda item was deferred to obtain more information as:



- Rotary Club have expressed an interest in working on a flowerbed/roundabout
- Newcross RFC have offered help where needed.
- All those who have kindly offered should be asked to confirm that any site that they may sponsor will be tended and watered to keep in a good state
- The Town Council should provide clear guidance on what they expect of sponsored sites
- Confirmation should be received that there will be no charge to the Council for the planting of areas approved and looking after the sites
- It was agreed that other sites for planting should be considered and brought to the next meeting.

VM102/2020 Nominated Charity Trustee for Kingsteignton Youth Centre

Resolved: that Mrs Michelle Lewis-Clarke should be re-appointed as Nominated Charity Trustee for a further term of office. Kingsteignton Youth Centre to be advised.

VM103/2020 Date of next meeting

The Town Council Annual meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 July 2020 at 6pm via Zoom. This meeting will be open for members of the public to attend.

The meeting closed at 19.16

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