

So are we in Kingston going to become, officially, a 'Dementia Friendly Community'?



We are Dementia Aware
Raising Awareness

It will not take much effort and in fact many of you have already demonstrated just how supportive you can be to those living with dementia and their families. Watch this space to find out what we need to do to become the first dementia friendly village awarded a Purple Angel.

Cllr White continued with the 2013/2014 Locality Grant allocation having been sadly reduced to £500, this will go towards the new traffic calming measures that hopefully will be introduced in the near future. As the village has no speed limit it was not easy to convince DCC that any action was needed but with intervention of Gary Streeter we have arrived at a feasible solution. Cllr White handed over to Cllr Thomas to report

06.14 **Traffic Calming/Locality Grant Report** Cllr Thomas

After prolonged consideration and discussion both within the PC and with Devon County Council a scheme for traffic calming in The Plain area has finally been agreed. KPC are grateful for the assistance of MP Gary Streeter, Will Mumford our past District Councillor and Nick Colton the Devon County Council neighbourhood Highways Officer. The agreed scheme has "slow" signs painted on the road toward Four Cross adjacent to Cherry Close and on the road to Ringmore adjacent to the Kingston road sign. Narrowing lines will be put down adjacent to Trebles House. Two sets of signs showing warnings of "pedestrians" and "road narrows" will be placed adjacent to the "slow" signs. The cost of the work is in the region of £1100.00. DCC have advised that the £500 Locality Grant can be used towards this project.

Cllr White reported William Mumford has now resigned from the County Council to pursue his private career and would like to say that as a Council he will be greatly missed because of all the advice and support he has given KPC during his time in office.

Cllr White continued that in this day and age it is a sad fact that food banks should be necessary however Kingston gives strong support to the Food Bank in Kingsbridge. Cllr White asked Cllr Kinder, who is a member of the Kingsbridge Foodbank Management Group, to report.

07.14 **Food Bank Report** Cllr Kinder

Both Dartmouth and Totnes have well established and used foodbanks. During last summer some local charities and organisations approached churches in Kingsbridge because they felt there was a need there too, which was not being met. Their response was to contact other local churches as well as parish councils and invite them, along with Rotary club members, to meet and explore possibilities.

We sent a representative to the second meeting. It was agreed that we would form a committee with the aim of establishing such a bank and an opening date at the beginning of September was proposed. The Age Concern building was decided upon as a storage and collection point. We took advice from established banks as to what goods would be most valuable for clients, and simple for us to store and keep. Kingston Parish Council devised the logo and produced posters asking for contributions and these were distributed to all local churches and councils. Collection points were established and advertised and the response from parishioners was immediate and generous.

At the same time as asking for food donations we also asked for helpers to man the distribution centre each Saturday morning when the bank would be open for two hours. At the beginning of September we published articles in local papers and produced more posters to inform people who needed the bank how it could be used. Initially we envisaged that we would be able to meet short term needs, (perhaps because of ill health, job loss or delay in benefits,) and that clients would be able to obtain three vouchers annually which would enable them to collect food. (These vouchers can be obtained from health centres, schools, churches, Surestart centres, CAB amongst others.)

However, it soon became clear that with changes in the welfare system, this would not meet the need and we have had to be more flexible and place no limit of weeks the bank could be used.

At first uptake was slow....sometimes only two or three families weekly but between 1st December and 19th Jan we were able to help 56 families.

We have received funding from various sources including SHDC locality fund, proceeds from the sale of harvest goods from a number of churches and schools, and donations from the Rotary Club and some individuals. This has enabled us to pay insurance costs, rent and printing expenses, and to allow us to keep some petty cash in hand to purchase items if we run short. Tesco's in Kingsbridge have been generous supporters and also allowed us to have a collection point in their store.

Kingston parishioners have been amongst the most generous of contributors. Many, many thanks to all who have given so generously....please continue to do so. Your gifts are much needed and greatly appreciated! I usually collect contributions from the church each week and take them to Kingsbridge. We will, and do, also collect for parishioners who

Signed.....:Chairman: Date:

need our help and cannot get to Kingsbridge; we do this in complete confidence. If you know anyone in need please let them know about us....and please continue to be as generous as you have already been....and again....thank you! Now during 2014 numbers using the foodbank have steadily increased we now provide hand-outs for between 12 and 14 families each week. We have had financial donation from some groups which allow us to purchase meat tokens. We've also approached local bakers and delicatessens and we are now given regular donations of bread (loaves left over in Friday evenings) and such items as quiches and flans which are approaching their use by date. Tesco and Morrison also give us milk, yoghurt, fruit and veg. Etc. which have to be used the same day. All these items are very well received....indeed there is often a queue for bread!

Jill Bray from S.H.D.C has visited us and given us help and advice. In an emergency we are able to top up clients gas and electricity cards and reclaim the amount from the council. We have made links with other charities that are able to provide such help as lifts to hospital, kitchen appliances and form filling for those who find this difficult. We are anxious to prevent people becoming dependant on us; Jill has also helped individuals re-assess their benefit entitlement...this has made a huge difference to some clients; after her intervention they have often proved more able to manage. One of the main problems we encounter is that clients have been forced to resort to payday loans....frequently because of delayed benefits The huge interest rates mean that high percentages of their benefits go to these companies and they are left with very little to live on. We have introduced money management courses and debt counselling which many clients welcome. Again, we are dependent on the generosity of our donors so many thanks to the good folks of Kingston for continuing to support us so whole heartedly!

08.14 **Chairman's Report:** Cllr White thanked all Councillors' for very clear and enlightening reports and continued with general annual reports

Reading Room Report The Reading Room to be Kingston's most valuable asset in that is available for everyone to use be it clubs, meetings, parties, a polling station, the Tuesday morning market to name just a few. We must thank everyone concerned with the running of the Reading Room, who do it on the Parish Councils behalf. There have been some changes in the last twelve months. There is a new chairman and their meetings altered to bimonthly which seems to be working well. Now the secretary after doing sterling work is to step down so a replacement secretary is being sought.

Recreation Ground Report
The ground is well used and is "very impressive for such a small village" to quote some very happy families. We do not intend to rest on our laurels though as plans are afoot to possibly add to the playground equipment and improve Teds Tarmac to make it suitable for playing ball games such as tennis. Speaking to some of the older children the zip wire is a firm favourite. The trees are doing well in the copse although some have slipped to the wayside as to be expected. We have been presented with an oak tree as part of Luscombe Mayes 140th anniversary year celebrations which was planted on an extremely wet and windy day in December 2013.

Weather Report
Kingston has been luckier than many other places this winter, though a few new springs have risen in unexpected places also a few trees came down in the gales but all in all we have got off lightly.
For several years there has been a problem down at Walkespool with sewage leaking across the drive and public footpath which is made very much worse when it rains so you can imagine how unpleasant that has been for all concerned. Outside Litchfield opposite the fire station the road regularly floods with drains not coping so now the drains have now been inspected with cameras to see their condition and if they are adequate and could they be contributing to the problem.
This has not yet been resolved by S W Water so now Gary Streeter has intervened and hopefully it will be sorted out soon.

Church Ramp Report
The new access ramp up to the church is nearly finished. After nearly 8 years of constant hassles with planning, permissions from several different organisations, funding and actually building it. With collaborations, consultations, tearing of hair, gnashing of teeth and a lot of patience the final result is very impressive and is blending in nicely. Now the churchyard and church are even more accessible and user friendly to everyone. The ramp is to have an official opening on 31/05/14 by the Archdeacon of Totnes the Venerable John Rawlins followed by a traditional church fete.
Also another proud moment for the church is that it has come of age in that it is now a PARISH church rather than a daughter church of Ringmore.

Library Van
Owing to the many cuts Devon County Council the library van visits are to be reduced to every two weeks but I think we are lucky that it hasn't been cancelled altogether as in other villages

Kingston Funday
KEG (Kingston Entertainment Group) have again run a successful fun day on the behalf of Kingston Parish Council with more people attending than the year before. I would like to express the councils thanks for all their hard work

Marquee
Just a brief mention in that we now have a second tent which means there is a choice of small, middle or large marquee available to hire by the parishioners of Kingston.

Signed.....:Chairman: Date:

	<p>Newsletter We mustn't forget to thank the editor, David Carter, and distributors for their continued good work. The photocopier that was bought last year is after some initial problems up and running well.</p> <p>Website Do remember that we have a very informative website. It is very easy to find on www.kingstonparishcouncil.co.uk</p>	
09.14	Any Topics Raised from the Residents: No questions were asked, however thanks was passed from the public for the very comprehensive reports.	
10.14	Closure of the Meeting: Cllr Eve White closed the meeting by thanking the public for attending the meeting	
11.14	Meeting Closed at 19.15hrs	
	<p>Signed:</p> <p>Chairman:</p> <p>Date:</p>	

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