



Kingsbridge Matters

Kingsbridge Town Council Newsletter
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Concerts on the Quay 2009

"Bigger and Better" was the enjoyable aim of this year's free Concerts on the Quay at the Bandstand sponsored by the Town Council. Five themed concerts from May to August provided a wide variety of entertainment to suit every taste. "Local Vocal" in May started the concert season in pouring rain but set a fantastic musical standard for the series. It featured a selection of talented local singing groups with choirs from the Primary School and Community College. Also appearing were the Alvington Singers, Iowa 4, Musaica and KATS Chorus. The emphasis changed to theatre for "Things Theatrical" in June which targeted a younger audience. Performances came from Stiltskin who performed a play based on local legend Gogmagog. They were supported by playlets from the Community College, Salcombe Primary School and a variety of street entertainers.

In July, an afternoon of traditional song and dance from local singers and musicians was showcased in "Firstly Folk". The following day's "Just Jazz" featured John Shillito's Select Six, Newton Ferrers Ukulele Band, Ivybridge Community College Jazz Band and Sound Escape. Finally "World Music" in August saw Scotland and the Plymouth City Pipe Band give way to Spain and the flamenco of Fuse followed by the transatlantic flavour of Jallion and ended with the American bluegrass of the Carrivick Sisters. The blend of professional and amateur local talent was enjoyed by audiences of 70, in the pouring rain, to over 200 – suffice to say, it was an amazing summer season. Thank you to the Concerts Committee and all those who helped.



South Hams District Council grants £400,000 towards a Community Centre

The Town Council has been awarded £400,000 from the District Council's "Investment in the Community" Initiative Grant scheme towards the development of a Community Centre in the town. The Town Council has committed £150,000 towards the centre and the total cost of phase one of the project is £3.1 million.

The centre will be a 'community hub', providing meeting rooms, a function room, a 250 seat auditorium with performance area, an enterprise unit which will include incubator units for start-up businesses and social enterprises, and a reception, interview rooms and hot-desk facilities for outreach services. The proposed site for the centre is on the southern end of the Cattle Market car park in Ropewalk, adjacent to the rear of Quayside Leisure Centre. Currently Kingsbridge has no large community venue and existing facilities are not fit for purpose.

Philip Yates, town mayor, said: "This is really great news for Kingsbridge. We are very grateful to South Hams District Council for their support. It's the first 'building block' in our ambition to provide a community centre for the town and its hinterland. We have other funding applications in the pipeline and this grant will give confidence to other funding bodies to commit monies to our project. I can assure townspeople that the Town Council will continue to pursue the building of a community centre in Kingsbridge with vigour."

Kingsbridge Feoffees Build Affordable Homes

The Town Council is delighted that Kingsbridge Feoffees who purchased the Town Council's former allotment land off Derby Road are in the midst of developing the site for affordable housing. It is planned to build two 3 bedroom and one 4 bedroom houses which will be completed by late summer 2010. The Feoffees were successful in attracting a capital grant of £82,500 towards the project from the District Council; this money had been received from a company which had completed a previous housing development in the town. The Feoffees, a registered charity, own a number of other properties which are let out at affordable rents to local people. The houses at Derby Road will also be made available for rent to Kingsbridge people on the South Hams Housing Register.

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Serious About Play in the Recreation Ground

Kingsbridge Playspaces Group has been awarded £45,000 to deliver a new ambitious play area in the Recreation Ground. The County Council had invited bids from across Devon for its Playbuilder fund which was promoted under the headline "Serious About Play" to create exciting, high quality and accessible play projects for children and young people.



The Group, of around 20 active members, was formed in January 2008 from local parents, grandparents and childminders who had concerns about the state of play areas in Kingsbridge. It has the support of youth workers, Police, schools, scout and guide leaders and the Town Council.

Lots of discussions were held with children and young people to establish what play opportunities they were looking for. From this an undeveloped steep slope in the Recreation Ground was highlighted as an ideal place for an adventurous and challenging play area for 8 to 13 year olds. Currently the area is vastly underused with only a set of steps in the middle of a lightly wooded slope. It is now intended for it to be developed to provide a wide slide, basket swing, wooden ramp, wave slide, tyre climb, tube slide, look out deck, rope pull, large webnet, clatter bridge, tyre swing, climbing rocks, ladder, natural wooden structures and a ramp to give wheelchair and pushchair access to the lower levels. In a word: Wow!!

Kingsbridge in Bloom – Growing Pride In Our Town

They've done it again. For a second in year in succession the marvellous Kingsbridge In Bloom team won a Silver Gilt award in the Royal Horticultural Society's South West In Bloom competition.

The community led team, all volunteers, worked tirelessly through last winter and spring to plan, raise and tend the plants for the many baskets and floral displays which provided such glowing colour throughout the summer. Help came from the project's many sponsors, the District Council's Green Spaces team and students from local schools.

This year the team were determined to improve on the displays of 2008 and filled the flower beds with more vibrant plants and added features such as the 'gallows' hanging basket posts in Fore Street and around the Town Square. Other new developments were the railway bridge renovation project on the Plymouth Road, the lime kiln on the Quay, and Brittons Field off Embankment Road. The latter area, with its wonderful views of the estuary and natural wildlife habitat, is intended to be once again a stunning asset for the town after some years of neglect.

Plans are now under way for another spectacular display for 2010. If you want to get involved please contact Graham Price on 01548.854488.

New Skate Park for Kingsbridge

A planning application for a new skate park at the end of Quay Car Park, adjacent to the Slipway, has been approved by the District Council.

The application raised a number of objections from local residents however, the Town Council, alongside our partners in the Skate Park Working Group, remain confident that their concerns about noise and vandalism have been met. The skate park will be enclosed by a perimeter fence, with sound barriers built at either end, and landscaping around the site to enhance the whole area. It will open daily between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. and will be locked outside these hours. Moreover, Quay Car Park is proposed to be monitored by the Town Council's CCTV system.

It is anticipated for the skate park to be built over the winter and to open in Spring 2010. This should prove to be an excellent facility for the town's skateboarders who have waited very patiently for the opportunity to show off their skills.

Kingsbridge Town Council

Opening hours: 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Monday to Friday

Obtain advice & information on council services • Report problems • View planning applications • Buy kitchen caddy liners
• Pick up a Bus Pass Application • Book for Citizens Advice Bureau • Receive community news • And lots more!

The town council meets in Quay House on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.00 p.m. (except during August). All council meetings are open to the public and commence with an opportunity for townspeople to ask questions or make statements. Minutes of all council and committee meetings are available at Quay House and on the council's website.

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