



# Kingsbridge Matters

Kingsbridge Town Council Newsletter  
Winter 2011  
Issue No. 28



Having had the privilege of being invited to become the Mayor of Kingsbridge I believed that there were 3 strategic tasks facing the council. The first was to consult quickly on what the community of Kingsbridge wanted and then set out priorities for the next 4 years. Recently the feedback started to become sufficiently repetitious such that we could identify what should form our priorities and now they are agreed by full council and may be viewed on our website.

The second task was to complete the ongoing projects left over from the last council period. Having recently supported the Play Spaces group to reach completion of the first phase of work in Duncombe Park, we have now turned to the upgrade of the Recreation Park and other Green Spaces. To this end we have created a committee in partnership with such key groups as Kingsbridge in Bloom, Agenda 21, The Bowls Club, SHDC and others to steer us through to obtaining a realistic vision of what we believe is needed, a costing of that vision and then after a short public consultation, a way to deliver it. We are currently progressing the public consultation and the findings will be known shortly.

The third task was to be proactive in responding to the cuts in services occasioned by the budget constraints within both District and County Councils. This we are doing in conjunction with SHDC and other parishes. I am beginning to understand however that the reality of the situation is that negotiation between the councils will take years and not the months we first thought.

Finally a number of issues have emerged which will become both high profile and no doubt involve us all in a considerable amount of debate. Firstly developers are interested in building a significant number of houses and other properties to the west of the town. These are on areas K1 and K5 of the Development Plan for Kingsbridge produced by SHDC. A consultation group has been set up by the developers and detailed proposals will shortly be made visible to us. Secondly Devon County Council has asked to set up a group to develop a Traffic Management Plan which will no doubt include discussion of Pay and Display parking proposals. We expect a lively debate! The Harbour Board is also proposing a major upgrade to facilities at Kingsbridge after feedback from the council and other groups, we understand that a full consultation will take place on the proposals. Finally the council is active with members of the Chamber of Commerce in trying to mitigate the impact of proposed works in Fore Street in the New Year. At the recent Information Day at the Market Hall we are encouraged that the contractors understood both the need to minimise the impact on trade and residents and communicate fully with us as the work develops. Indeed it could be seen as an interesting trial of the impact of the pedestrianisation of Fore Street. To quote the ancient Chinese proverb 'we live in interesting times' and I would assure you that this council is determined to do its best for the benefit of Kingsbridge. I cannot help but finish by mentioning the fantastic news that the Olympic Torch will pass through Kingsbridge, it is already down as agenda items for Destination Kingsbridge and the new Parks Committee. If you have any ideas for the day let us know.

In conclusion the council has decided this year not to hold a Civic Dinner providing subsidised meals for town and visiting councillors. Instead we are holding an event which will recognise the significant contribution many are making to the Town and also raise some money for the Mayors Charities, but more on that elsewhere. It just leaves me to wish you all a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

*John Binns*

**Town Councillors  
Kingsbridge North Ward**

Bob Freeman  
01548.854068  
rcm.freeman@uwclub.net

Rufus Gilbert  
01548.856659  
rufus@gilbert90.eclipse.co.uk

Wayne Grills  
01548.854292  
contact@wgrills.com

Irene Jeeninga (Deputy Town Mayor)  
01548.857973  
irene.w.jeeninga@btinternet.com

Keith Wingate  
01548.857513  
keithwinga@aol.com

**Kingsbridge East Ward**

Anne Balkwill  
01548.857406  
annedandridge@aol.com

Julie Barnett  
01548.853237  
julie.barnett11@btinternet.com

John Binns (Town Mayor)  
01548.856363  
binnsbinns45@aol.com

Steve Sidney  
01548. 852216  
ripplekins@aol.com

Philip Yates  
01548.853366  
pby1@btinternet.com

**Kingsbridge Westville Ward**

Robin Griffin  
01548.856460  
robinrhona@r2griffin.orangehome.co.uk

Mark Thompson  
01548.853717  
mrmarkthompson@yahoo.com

Beryl Washington  
01548.856395  
beryl.washington@btinternet.com

**Mayors Charities**

My nominated charities for this year are chosen because of the difficult times that we live in and because Kingsbridge is also fortunate in having the Chairman of SHDC who has nominated charities from within Kingsbridge as well.

Mine are the local British Legion Welfare section which provides much needed support and advice for ex and current members of the Armed Forces and the Kingsbridge Outreach section of the Citizens Advice Bureau which provides free confidential advice for anyone in need. Following my Quiz at the Crabshell Inn in late November, there is a brand new Murder/Mystery evening on 4 February 2012 and a concert by the Kingsmen on 3 March 2012 both will take place in the newly upgraded facility in St Edmunds Church.

We have also produced a commemorative charity mug which is for sale and will no doubt appear filled with something suitable as prizes. Other events are being discussed and will be published in due course. With the decision not to have a Civic Dinner we hope to use the replacement event to raise funding as well as show case the achievements of many in Kingsbridge.

I really hope you will try to support these charities because experience is already showing that demands on them are increasing.



**“Parish Notices”**

The deadline for **Grant Aid** applications for council’s final round of cash grants in the current financial year is 27 January 2012. Get your bids in!

The **Citizen of the Year Award** will be joined in 2012 by a **Young Person of the Year Award** aimed at 14 to 19 year olds which seeks to reward the very best example of achievement by a young person in Kingsbridge. The deadline for nominations for both awards is 3 February 2012. Contact us for application forms.

**Winter Weather Self-Help Initiative** Our stock of free 25kg salt bags is reducing rapidly as another severe winter is forecast. If you wish to volunteer to salt roads and footpaths in your local neighbourhood then get in touch. Basic training, hi-viz bib and salt can be collected from Quay House. Get in touch - before it’s too late.

**Kingsbridge Town Council**

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

Obtain advice & information on local government services • Report problems • View planning applications  
• Buy organic bin liners • Pick up clear & blue recycle bags • Pick up a Bus Pass application  
• Receive community news • Hire a room for your meeting • Get married!! • 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, including committee meetings, are open to the public and start with an opportunity for people to ask questions or make statements. Minutes of all council and committee meetings are available at Quay House and on the council’s website.

Quay House, Ilbert Road, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1DZ • Telephone & Fax 01548.853296

Email: reception@kingsbridge.gov.uk • Town Clerk: Martin Johnson 01548.857073

Website: www.kingsbridge.gov.uk

South Hams District Council 01803.861234 • Devon County Council 0845.1551015 • Police 101 non-emergency