



Keynsham Town Council;
representing Keynsham
residents at a local level



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Andy Wait
Chair
Keynsham Town Council

Following elections in May 2019, Keynsham has a new town council. I would like to thank previous chair, Clive Fricker, who is still serving as a councillor, for all his work for the council. Thank you also to the nine town councillors who resigned from council. I would like to note the passing of former chair, Roy Stadden, a great character and champion of young people, and former Councillor Pat Hogg.

I want this council to be inclusive, one that is ready to listen. It is important to hear from residents so that the Town Council will genuinely represent the people of Keynsham.

One of our first actions was to declare a Climate Emergency and every decision we make has to reflect that status; we'll encourage local groups to work towards a zero-emissions town and oppose the Bristol Airport Expansion; we have added £10,000 to our grants budget, specifically for activities to reduce carbon emissions; we have a working group promoting green activities in the town.

The council office hasn't been available to us since June 2019. The staff have been camped out in the Civic Centre and I would like to thank them for maintaining their high standards during this time.

Keynsham in Bloom had another gold winning year. This organisation is well respected and important to the town, in no small part to long time chair, Denise James, who died suddenly in the summer. She is sadly missed by everyone who knew her.

One wonderful innovation for 2020 is the emergence of Keynsham's community radio, KTCRfm. It broadcasts on 105.8fm and is fast becoming the prime source of information for us all.

Finally, the two pillars of the Keynsham calendar; the amazing Music Festival once again astounded us by offering more, as it has done every year since 1997; originally a one-day event it now lasts for a week with events all over the town. The short but spectacular Winter Festival started the Christmas season with a bang.

We are very lucky to live in a town where so many people are prepared to volunteer and help the community to prosper. There are many opportunities to get involved in activities in the town. Make the most of them and in this way, we will remain strong.

I want this council to be inclusive, one that is ready to listen. It is important to hear from residents so that the Town Council will genuinely represent the people of Keynsham

EVENTS, ARTS, TOURISM & HERITAGE



Dave Biddleston

Chair
EATH Committee

In October 2019, following a review of all Committees, the Town Council created a new Events, Arts, Tourism and Heritage (EATH) Committee to better reflect the Town Council's 4-year action plan and the exciting developments in the town.

The new Committee will take on the previous functions of the Winter Festival and Arts Joint Committees but will also be managing budgets for other events and the Council marketing strategy and Council publications which will include a new website, meeting statutory accessibility standards and a rebranding of the Town Council.

The Committee will also be overseeing initiatives and projects to reinvigorate the town centre including the Phase 2 project with B&NES to improve the High Street as a Heritage Action zone, organising cultural and other activities to attract residents into the centre and promoting the town as a tourist destination.

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WINTER FESTIVAL



Dave Biddleston

Chair
EATH Committee

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We had an excellent evening's entertainment at the Winter Festival this year. Our 'Greatest Showman & Circus' theme was interpreted excellently by our local groups and the shop window displays and we are extremely grateful for all of their wonderful efforts.

Although no official measures are taken, it seemed to many of us that there were more attending than ever before, partly thanks to the lack of rain and wintry blasts, but also because there was more to enjoy; from street entertainment to food, games, rides and gifts.

As well as the main stage, on the High Street's junction with Charlton Road, The Space, the Library, St. John's Church, the Methodist and Baptist Churches, the Fear Institute and the Key Centre all hosted events, entertainment and activities. We are blessed with having so many wonderful children in our community that are willing to design, create, sing and dance for the benefit of us all; such talented individuals.

As always our local entertainers began our Christmas celebrations in style and many of our local businesses joined in by working late into the evening.

Finally, it was great to see Chuffy the train and Father Christmas back again with St John's singers kicking off the entire event.

We are looking forward to the privilege of doing it all again next year. See you there.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



Tony Crouch
Chair
Planning Committee

In the past year, the Town Council Planning and Development Committee has been very busy considering and commenting on planning applications in Keynsham. Between April 2019 and the end of February 2020, our Committee has considered 143 applications; slightly fewer than the previous period. At each meeting, the committee considers each application and decide to either support, object or just comment. The Keynsham Town Council decision is then sent to B&NES Council who considers all comments and makes a final decision to approve or refuse the application.

The Planning and Development Committee members, due to the increased number of contentious and new dwelling applications, make site visits (where possible) to help inform their decisions.

In the past year, the Committee reviewed one enforcement matter and three appeals. Nine tree notifications were noted, and these were referred to B&NES arboricultural staff for resolution.

Currently, 24 applications are pending a final decision by B&NES Council and over the year, 11 applications were withdrawn after the Committee had made its decision. In total, the Committee objected to 39 of the 143 applications that were considered and 81 % of the Town Council's decisions agreed with the decision reached in finality by B&NES Council.

The Town Council Planning and Development meetings are open to the public and those attending may address the Committee, on any one item on the agenda for a maximum of 2 minutes, before the meeting, anyone wishing to speak should contact the Deputy Town Clerk on 0117 9868683. Dates of the Committee meetings can be found on the Town Council website.

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YOUTH SERVICE



Carrie Ford
Senior Youth Worker
Keynsham Town Council

The youth service has a purpose-built youth club called TimeOut, that has many facilities including a music studio, pool table and cooking area

Keynsham Youth Service offers young people across Keynsham the opportunity to engage with positive activities and learn new skills through youth club sessions, detached sessions and outreach.

The youth service has a purpose-built youth club called TimeOut, that has many facilities including a music studio, pool table and cooking area. TimeOut youth club can be found on Bath Hill and our centre-based sessions run on Tuesday and Thursday nights plus the second Saturday of every month. The team run a varied programme throughout the year including;

- ▶ Themed Cooking Nights
- ▶ Arts & Crafts – felting, graffiti, holiday-themed
- ▶ Film & Freakshake Nights
- ▶ Issue-based Sessions – Mental Health, Alcohol Awareness, Sex and Relationships
- ▶ Learning Sign Language (BSL)
- ▶ Sports & Outdoor games
- ▶ Careers & Education – support and guidance
- ▶ Music Studio Sessions
- ▶ Games & Quiz Nights
- ▶ Workshop at ShakeExpress

Tuesday night sessions are for young people in year groups 6 to 8 (Ages 10 – 13) and Thursday night sessions are for young people in year groups 9 to 13 (Ages 13 – 19). Sessions are open from 7pm until 9:30pm and Saturday sessions run 12 – 2:30pm for all year groups.

Outreach work will continue across Keynsham, with the team on foot Friday evenings talking to young people from Keynsham who may be interested in starting a detached project.

We have a current Detached project called Cook & Chill at Community at 67 on Friday afternoons that teaches basic cooking skills.

During 2019 the team held some outdoor summer activities, hosting a climbing wall and 'Art in the Park' sessions. The youth team hope to run more activities during the spring and summer months.

If you would like more information about the Youth Service, follow us at facebook.com/timeoutktc or email youthworker@keynsham-tc.gov.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Clive Fricker
Chair
NDP Steering Group

Keynsham is now one of 69 high streets across England to be selected as a Heritage Action Zone and will receive a share of the £95 million funding

Keynsham's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) was launched in April 2016. Over the past 4 years, five key working groups, made up of members of the public, and the NDP Steering Group, made up of the five groups' chairs and vice chairs, meet regularly to keep plan preparation on track and develop policies which will go into the finished plan.

Considerable work has gone into developing the Keynsham Plan to date, and collecting evidence to support developing policies is already reaping benefits with some significant projects to be delivered jointly by KTC and B&NES. Keynsham is now one of 69 high streets across England to be selected as a Heritage Action Zone and will receive a share of the £95 million funding announced last year by Historic England. Evidence to support the bid was provided by the results of an NDP Resident's consultation, input from the Heritage Topic Group and early engagement, by its Chair Ric Davison, with Historic England.

The results of the Children's Play Area survey have been used to inform the refurbishment specification of the Kelston Park play area. The Town Council is now working with B&NES to develop a Green and Open Spaces joint strategy, based on last summer's Recreational Spaces Survey, for the protection/development of recreational facilities in Keynsham. The recent survey for local Business will now inform the policies in the plan on economic development and future provision for business in Keynsham.

External developments like the declaration of a climate emergency and the withdrawal of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan mean we will require a revisiting of policies before we can finalise the draft document. The plan will need to include climate considerations, especially in regards to Keynsham's public transport infrastructure, which will be the subject of a large NDP survey this coming year.

Finally, I would like to extend a big thank you to all those who have worked resolutely on our plan preparation since the outset. This includes Steering Group members past and present, B&NES Officers and our invaluable staff led by the Town Clerk and her Deputy.

GRANTS



Dave Biddleston

Chair
Grants Committee

We're very lucky to have so many wonderful charities working for the people of Keynsham and it was a privilege to provide them with some much-needed financial support in the past year. We are also very grateful to St. Monica Trust and to Taylor Wimpey for providing funds for gifts to reward the workers themselves with a 'thank you' from a grateful community.

In 2019, the Town Council managed to benefit these groups by £20,000.60 from general grants funding. In total, we helped thirty-nine groups seeking assistance and we were pleased to consider all applications which served people in Keynsham.

Grants awards for 2019/2020

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1st Keynsham Scout Group	£500
3rd Keynsham Girls Brigade	£350
Age UK Bath and North East Somerset	£500
Avon Wildlife Trust (Keynsham Branch)	£10
Bath and North East Somerset Carers Centre	£250
Bath Play Area Project	£400
Butterflies Haven	£750
Chandag Infant School	£250
Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford	£800
Citizens Advice Bureau B&NES	£610
Clean Slate Training and Equipment	£500
Combe Down Holiday Trust	£800
Family Counselling Trust B&NES	£500
Focus Counselling	£500
Friends of Manor Road Community Woodland	£500



Friends of Somerdale Educate Together	£300
Fry's Bowling Club	£250
Golden Oldies Charity	£500
Keynsham Action Network	£750
Keynsham & District Mencap Society	£1000
Keynsham and Saltford Dementia Alliance	£500
Keynsham Bowling Club	£500
Keynsham Community Fridge	£1000
Keynsham Cricket Club	£500
Keynsham Explorer Scouts	£500
Keynsham Hockey Club	£500
Keynsham Life Saving Club	£570
Keynsham Methodist Church	£130.60
Keynsham Phoenix Youth Theatre & KLOGS	£400
Keynsham Town Community Radio	£780
Keynsham Walkers Are Welcome	£600
Keynsham Wombles	£600
Queens Road Church Pre-School	£300
Somerdale Community Shed	£500
Southside Family Project	£300
Swan Advice	£800
The Keynsham Orchestra	£1000
The West of England MS Therapy Centre	£500

ALLOTMENTS



Andy McGuinness

Chair
Allotments Committee

In my first year as a Councillor, I have enjoyed meetings between the Allotments Association and the Town Council through the Allotments Committee. Although the Town Council rents the land, it is the Association who run the allotments for the benefit of the residents. There was a high turn out at the Annual General Meeting of the Association with some lively discussion from an enthusiastic community of growers.

The Association are dedicated and committed to keeping an orderly site and healthy finance.

Climate awareness is at the forefront of their planning; there is a dedicated recycling area and water butt usage is encouraged by plot holders.

I wish the Association a successful, green and productive year.

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Services

Keynsham Town Council currently provides the following activities and services:



- ▶ Children's Play Areas: Upper Memorial Park, Lower Memorial Park, Park Road, Downfield, Kelston Road, Teviot Road, Holmoak Road, Manor Road.
- ▶ Basket Ball Facilities: Teviot Road, Holmoak Road.
- ▶ Football Pitches & Pavillion: Manor Road.
- ▶ Multi Sports Facility & Skate Park: Memorial Park



There is a certain amount of resource dedicated to running the Town Council including:

- ▶ Democratic Services
- ▶ Financial Management
- ▶ Human Resources
- ▶ Town Council Offices & Equipment
- ▶ Information for members of the public

Keynsham Town Council liaise with B&NES Council on a regular basis on matters related to the Town.



- ▶ Grants for Voluntary/Community Groups
- ▶ Keynsham Winter Festival
- ▶ Christmas Lights Display
- ▶ Youth Service inc. TimeOut Youth Centre
- ▶ Support to Keynsham Music Festival
- ▶ Community Arts Development
- ▶ Keynsham Farmers Market
- ▶ Keynsham/South West In Bloom
- ▶ Keynsham Good Citizen Awards
- ▶ Bandstand Events
- ▶ Keynsham Business Forum
- ▶ Neighbourhood Development Programme



- ▶ Cemetery and Chapel at Durley Hill
- ▶ Bus Shelters (some)
- ▶ Roadside seats/litter bins
- ▶ Public Notice Boards
- ▶ Maintenance of footpaths within Keynsham

Council Staff

<p>Dr Cheryl Scott Town Clerk townclerk@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	<p>Dawn Drury Deputy Town Clerk deputytownclerk@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>
<p>Vivienne McDonnell Administrative Officer vivienne@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	<p>David Amesbury Marketing & Communications Assistant david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>
<p>Jackie Sydenham Administrative Assistant reception@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	<p>Lisa Edwards Administrative Assistant admin@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>
<p>Carrie Ford Professional Youth Worker youthworker@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	<p>Kelly Low Youth Support Worker kelly@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>
<p>Michael Frison Assistant Youth Support Worker michael@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	<p>Daniel Morgan Assistant Youth Support Worker daniel@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>
<p>Kelvin Bush Grounds Maintenance Supervisor groundsmaintenance@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	<p>Chris Champion Cemetery Attendant cemeteryattendant@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>
<p>Allen Richards Groundsman groundsmen2@keynsham-tc.gov.uk</p>	

Get in touch

Any questions about the services offered by Keynsham Town Council can be addressed to: **The Town Clerk, Keynsham Town Council, 15-17 Temple Street, Keynsham, Bristol, BS31 1HF**

✉ townclerk@keynsham-tc.gov.uk

☎ 0117 986 8683

📠 0117 986 6359

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