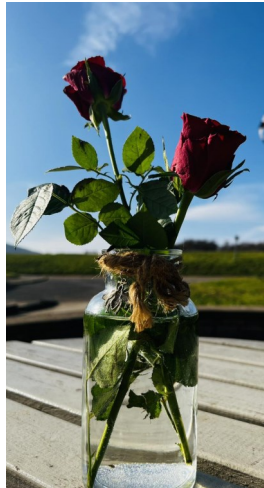




Kewstoke Parish Council Newsletter 2023



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To keep up with news, views and events, join the village page on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Kewstoke/>



Editorial team:

Karen Jenkins and Nancy Whyte

Message from the Chairman

In some ways it could be thought that 2023 has been a quiet one for Kewstoke Parish Council, but behind the scenes there has been lots going on throughout the parish.

The grass cutting around the village got done, although we left the grass on the bank until August for its first cut. This brought about swathes of bright colours as the wild flowers were allowed to blossom instead of being cut back earlier in the year. To be honest this was not by design, but due to wet weather when the first cut would normally have been made, making cutting impossible. The Parish Council have had a lot of positive feedback concerning this but I know that not everyone was of the

same opinion. It hasn't yet been decided as to what will happen next year. The Parish Council will take horticultural advice before deciding what to do.

Work around the Parish continued throughout the year. You may have noticed the arrival of a boat filled with plants in the bus Terminus car park. This is through Ken Harper and his team of volunteers. A fencing chicane was erected in the woods just before the car park. This was to slow down and deter bike riders racing down the trail and entering the car park airborne. I know that the youngsters are not thanking us now, but if it prevents one of them injuring themselves or someone else, it will

have been worthwhile.

We had an uncontested Parish Election in May. This means that there were a less or equal number of people putting themselves up for election than the number of places available. There now have two vacancies on the Parish Council to bring the numbers up to our maximum number of 11 councillors. We are going to start interviewing prospective candidates for these positions early in the new year. (more detail inside the newsletter).

The Kewstoke Community Group put on another splendid Coronation bash at the village Hall this year. Coming soon after the

Message from the Chairman

Jubilee event last year, they did very well to get this organised and I know that it was a well supported event and enjoyed by us all. Thank you to them for their efforts.

The school and its new roof saga was something that residents of and those using Kewstoke Road had to contend with from the start of the summer holidays. I think that I can be fair in saying that it wasn't the slickest bit of local works and traffic management by the local authority that has come to Kewstoke in recent years. Intervention by concerned residents backed by the Parish Council and our local District councillor were required to make public bodies start talking to each

other and to make the one way system that is in place fit for purpose. This we are told is going to remain in place until March next year as there have been delays in the replacing of the school roof.

Kewstoke Road is also to be the first of possibly three sites in Kewstoke for the Parish Community Speed watch. Volunteers have come forward to get the first one rolling but more will be required if we are to get other areas covered as well (more detail inside Newsletter). Headed up by Councillor Rose Cunningham the Parish Council have applied to have the New Inn registered as a Community asset. This is at the original request of a resident

(more detail inside)

Coming up next is our precept meeting where the Parish Council looks at future spending and managing its budget for the year ahead. The rising cost of electricity for street lighting has been the Parish Council's biggest concern this year, along with increased costs of almost everything else.

So, whilst I said it appears to have been a quiet year, there has been lots for the Parish Council and its councillors, wardens and volunteers to be getting on with and on behalf of the Parish I thank them all for their hard work.

Jim MacDonald
Chairman Kewstoke
Parish Council.

Vacancies for Parish Councillors

A community the size of Kewstoke is allowed to have 11 Parish Councillors. Due to two recent departures there are now vacancies for Parish Councillors. These places don't have to be filled and can remain vacant. However it is better if they can be filled with willing and active members of the community joining the team.

Here are a few answers to questions frequently asked:

Is the Parish Council political?

NO there is no political allegiance to any political party.

Is this paid? NO

Do Parish Councillors get expenses as District councillors do?
NO

How will I know what

to do? *There are a number of rules that a Parish Council have to follow. The Parish Council is the lowest tier of government in the country.*

Do I need any training?

The successful candidate(s) will be given training in the form of a new councillor's course. They will also be supported and advised by other councillors on procedures, terminology and rules to follow when making decisions.

So its just one meeting on the first Monday in the month in the Committee Room at the Village Hall, Yes?

In theory yes but to be honest NO. Here's a few reasons why:

As an employer the Parish Council has to follow all of the rules

applicable to employing people. Public works have to be carried out in compliance with regulations concerning Health & Safety, Public safety etc. Detailed topics such as Finance & Planning.

Equipment and property owned by the Parish Council has to be maintained to preset standards. i.e.: The Play equipment on the village green is regularly inspected by a third party and has to comply to safety standards. T

he toilets have to be maintained. To bring such detailed topics to a monthly meeting to be discussed in detail would not be the best use of Councillor's time.

These topics and others are brought to committees on which

Worlebury Tots

councillors who have a particular interest go into detail sit, they make informed decisions and take their recommendations to the main council for ratification.

These are the hidden vital jobs that no one outside the Parish Council see. Those who can, put in many unpaid hours repairing play equipment, clearing sand from the paths and carrying out small works, that if left to a contractor would cost the Parish Council and of course us all as residents.

We are looking to fill the current vacancies with like minded residents with a sense of public duty that will fit in with our team to make it stronger.

We are aware that none of us are getting any younger and it would be good to get

an injection of younger blood to carry our work on into the future.

If you are interested in attending an interview, Please keep an eye on the Parish Council Website: <https://www.kewstokevillage.com> or email or call Mike the Parish Clerk expressing an interest parishclerkkewstoke@gmail.com

Tel: 07836 386244



Worlebury tots

Worlebury Tots is a group that meets at St Pauls school at Worlebury every Thursday morning during Term time.

It is run by the Vicar

Gail and has several helpers.

It is for under school age children and their carers, to meet up over coffee and cakes, to chat and for the children to have fun.!

Somewhere the children can socialise, sing, listen to a story and make crafts. We start at 10am and finish at 11.30am.

Everyone under school age child is welcome, although they must bring an adult with them.

Everyone likes coffee and cake.

Come along and try it out.

More info contact the Rev Gail or just pop in for a chat.

St Paul's Church

Dear Friends,

As we come to the end of our period of Remembering in the church calendar we enter a period of hope, of expectation as we prepare ourselves once again for the celebration of the birth of Christ.

This year we are invited by the Church of England to 'join the song' in the build up to Christmas. What does this mean – whose song are we joining?

Perhaps we might be joining the song of Zechariah, who sang a song of faith when he heard of the miracle birth to him and his elderly wife, Elizabeth, Mary's cousin. A song which sang of the one for whom his son would prepare the way.

We might also join with the song of the angel

who appeared to the shepherds, the lowliest of the low, who said that he had come to bring good news to all people, starting at the bottom! This angel was then joined by a throng of angels singing Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Or we might sing with Mary who on meeting Elizabeth cannot contain her joy any longer and sings 'my soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

Join us in our church this Christmas as we sing the songs of faith, glory and joy that have stood the test of time.

With every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.



Reverend Gail Thomas
Vicar of Kewstoke &
Wick St Lawrence
Tel: 0774 6050607

 A festive poster for Christmas services at St Paul's Church, Kewstoke. The background is yellow with white stars and snowflakes. At the top, it says 'Follow The Star Join The Song' with a star and musical notes. Below that, it lists the services: Sunday 3rd December (5pm Church@5 Advent Service), Sunday 10th December (10am Christingle), Sunday 17th December (4pm Carol Service), Christmas Eve (4pm Crib Service, 11.30pm Midnight Mass), and Christmas Day (9.30am Holy Communion). The bottom features stylized green and blue Christmas trees and a circular logo for the Diocese of Exeter.

Follow The Star
Join The Song

Christmas Services
St Paul's Church, Kewstoke

Sunday 3rd December
5pm Church@5 Advent Service

Sunday 10th December
10am Christingle

Sunday 17th December
4pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve
4pm Crib Service
11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
9.30am Holy Communion

The Repair Cafe



The Repair Cafe in the village is going from strength to strength after Annie, Kira and Gail worked together to launch it in July.



It now has ten volunteer repairers who offer to mend small electrical items, jewellery, clothing, wooden items, advice on computer programming and mobile phones intact having a go at fixing

the majority of things that come through the door!

The Repair Cafe started after the Kings Coronation celebrations in May.



It was agreed to do something long term in the village that King Charles is passionate about, the planet and its sustainability. The cafe does just that by sustaining the use of everyday items that are broken and need repairing rather than them being thrown away into landfill.

In October the Repair Cafe fixed over 20 items and the hall was buzzing with enthusiasm so if you have anything that

could be given a second life why not get in touch so we can be ready to fix it at our future Cafes.

Running every 1st Sunday in the month at St Pauls Church Hall (just next to the church on Kewstoke Road) on the 3rd December, 7th January, 4th February, 3rd March, 7th April and the 5th May 2024.

From 2-3.30pm.

Contact details: 07882 474692 / kira.thorpe@hotmail.com

Free refreshments, donations welcome but not necessary for items fixed.

Thank you to Kewstoke Parish Council and the Church in supporting the village Repair Cafe. Kira, Annie and Gail.



Kewstoke Coronation Weekend 2023



Once again, Kewstoke came up trumps! We never thought that the Coronation would be so near our last big event the Platinum Jubilee.

This time, it was slightly easier organising the event,

as we knew the pitfalls from the Platinum Jubilee event.

However, there was still a huge amount of work put in by the Committee and helpers. The Scouts once again were an invaluable help.

During the Coronation weekend which was Friday 5th May to Monday 8th May, we started off with a fabulous evening with The Super Troupers Abba Tribute Band. Dennis Demille was also well supported. On the Saturday afternoon we had a Right Royal



Kewstoke Coronation Weekend 2023

Village Picnic with live music from Ken Lintern. In the evening High Impact and Dark Horses drew large crowds.



Moving forward into 2024 Kewfest will be our next big 2 day event, dates are 14th and 15th June so get these dates in your calendar now.

We had the usual Bar, Prosecco Bar and Snacks supported by Chris, Adele, Emily and helpers from the Fish and Chip Shop. A huge thanks to

Family Sports Day and Family Disco with A Night at the Races in the evening.



On the Monday we had a display of Village History and a Dance Exhibition, along with our annual Fete in the afternoon. We also had the Repair Cafe Launch, which there is more information in the Newsletter.



This will include on the 14th Supersonic Queen with a disco, main Bar and Prosecco Bar. On Saturday 15th there will be various activities going on to include, Fete, Sports Day, Tug of War plus many other events.

everyone who sponsored our events, too many to mention here, but we could not do this without your support! Big thanks to the Parish Council for providing the large Marquee.

We had our Church Service on Sunday morning and the



Thank you all once again for your continued support it certainly brought the Village together.

Nancy Whyte
Parish Councillor

Kewstoke Scarecrow Trail 2023

Well done Kewstoke!
Yet again we managed to organise a fantastic Scarecrow Trail displaying the many talents of our residents and what fun we had.

This years theme was **'Under the Sea'** and everyone had great fun in making a variety of sea creatures.

The weather was kind and the event was well attended and we also attracted additional visitors with the table top sales allowing people to grab their hands on a bargain.

Well done to all who participated. and put in so much effort with their displays.



Kewstoke Scarecrow Trail 2023



KEWSTOKE SCARECROW TRAIL 2024

Want to join in the fun next year?

**Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th
July 2024**

Theme



The event is free of charge, open to all ages, organised by the community for the community and to make people smile and laugh!

Let's show off your creativity and fun.

Follow the Facebook page for more details next year!
Contact Annie on
overtones103@gmail.com

Community Asset

At the annual general meeting of the Parish Council, we were asked by a member of the village, if it was possible to register the New Inn as a Community Asset

Since, I had some previous knowledge of this, I also thought it would be a good idea. Especially since at that time, the Pub was closed.

To register a building/space as a Community Asset an application must be made in writing to North Somerset Council.

This takes some time to process before it is granted.

What is a Community Asset?

Well, it is an order that basically protects any building/land being sold on the open

Market without prior knowledge to the Parish Council.

It gives the Parish Council a grace of six months, to assess, who would purchase the building if the owners Admiral Taverns ever put it on the market for sale.

It allows time that perhaps a group of Villagers may wish to get together to purchase the pub or any individuals.

It is **NOT** an application or order that the Parish Council will ever buy the New Inn, but allows opportunity for others to do so, in the six months grace period.

We have put the application into North Somerset Council to register the Pub and the adjacent Car Park, both of which are on the registry.

Again, I must stress that it only a process to allow time, without the building or car park being sold without our prior knowledge.

THIS IS NOT HAPPENING IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

Admiral Taverns have no inclination to sell at the present time .

The Parish council is only trying to protect this asset for our village for generations to come.

Rose Cunningham

Would you like to advertise your business on the Parish Council website at a nominal cost of £50 per year ?

Contact the Parish Clerk, Mike Hardwick, for details at:
parishclerkkewstoke@gmail.com

The Grumpy Farmer

Hello once more with my small piece about farming life from my farm just off Beach Road.

A mate of mine said the other day “you’re in your own little bubble here.” I must agree, I suppose some might not agree, having to be up early every morning to feed and clean out the animals in all winds and weathers. It does have benefits, animals don’t answer back and the view from the farm to Woodspring and the hill, I never tire of.

I’m creating a high vantage point this autumn as I was unable to spread last years manure on the fields due to the very wet weather. So every day now the heap just gets higher. Its going to be very high by the end of the winter. We might get a dry spell before the spring to allow the ground to dry out a little and get some manure out. Who knows with global warming, anything could happen. I guess it could all get

washed away.

Back to getting up early every day, although I must be truthful, not as early as when I was milking, which stopped in 2015. The little Massey 35X needs a sniff of Easystart in the winter to get going, as it is 60 years old now. I also need a sniff now to get going. My eyesight is deteriorating, joints aching and muscles getting weak. It seems I spend a lot of time repairing gate posts and concrete block walls having reversed into them. My neck has become very stiff, so I can’t turn my head around as I did, so have to judge things with a lot of misjudgements, I must admit.

I had a nice bunch of calves born this spring which are the offspring of the young bull that I bought to replace Loxton Commander which like the new bull was also a Simmental. The weather this year has been a hot dry spring and early

summer, then a wet unsettled July and August with a short dry spell in September, then wet again. I was quite lucky as I pulled all the stops out and made all of my silage and hay in June. Some farms had to wait until July before cutting their crops as they were part of a Countryside Stewardship scheme whereby they receive payment to leave cutting until July for the benefit of the wildlife. Like them I apologise for the muddy local roads when harvesting the maize. There were many comments on Social Media wondering why it hadn’t been done sooner: It wasn’t ripe. Also when one uses contractors, they can’t be in two places at once. There was also a few accidents with trailers on their sides. The main cause I believe is young and inexperienced drivers. Wages in agriculture are not the best, so they move on to better paid jobs, so you rarely get more experienced drivers. An old saying is that if you

Recipes

want to become a millionaire farmer, start with 2 million and work like buggery.

Big changes are coming regards farm subsidies. The old system is being phased out. These were flat rate payments. So for every hectare you farmed, a fixed amount was paid. This was very simple but things never stay the same. Now payments are being more environmentally driven. Getting payments are now for using no fertilisers and not cutting your hay or silage or trees and hedgerows early.

I was told the other day that a farmer can get a good sum for doing nothing for five years. What it would be like after five years of doing nothing the Lord only knows.

Anyway let's hope this weather gets better and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and see you around in the New Year.

Cereal Loaf



Ingredients

2 cups self raising flour
1 cup sugar
1 cup milk
1 egg
1 cup cereal e.g.. Cheerios, bran flakes, porridge oats, anything you have lying around needing used up.

Method

1. Mix all of the ingredients together.
2. Bake 1 hour in loaf tin at 180 degrees.

Very quick and easy to make.

This recipe was provided by Jackie Hill who lives in the village and has been supplying the Church coffee mornings with this cake, on a regular basis. Always a treat especially as Jackie supplies the butter to go in the warm loaf!



Kewstoke Parish Council

Kewstoke Parish Council

First Monday of each month—7.00pm at the Village Hall

General public are welcome to attend and there is a 15 minute public participation slot at the beginning of each meeting.

Kewstoke Parish Councillors

Mr Jim MacDonald	01934 642053	Chairman
Mr Tony Morris	01934 414654	Vice Chairman
Mr Russell Adams	01934 645657	Planning Chairman
Mr Mike Hardwick	07836 386244	Council Clerk

Mr Tony Horry	01934 628383	Councillor
Mr Ken Harper	01934 419331	Councillor
Miss Karen Jenkins	01934 221521	Councillor
Mrs Nancy Whyte	01934 516212	Councillor
Mr Glen Vearncombe	01934 622495	Councillor
Mrs Rose Cunningham	01934 629512	Councillor

District Councillors

CLlr Lisa Pilgrim	01934 261557 / 07935 282129
CLlr Martin Williams	07955289538

Unless explicitly stated, opinions and comments produced in this magazine, are those of the contributor and not of Kewstoke Parish Council as a collective body.

Community Speed Watch

Earlier in the year the Parish Council promoted a Community Speed Watch to be carried out initially on Kewstoke Road. This was on the back of speed surveys carried out by and on the recommendation of North Somerset Council. The Scheme was promoted on the Facebook Page and on the Parish Council Website and a number of volunteers came forward. Working with the local PCSOs a plan was made, however after these efforts, things drifted and no further progress was made.

Later in the year the Parish Council again advertised for volunteers to come forward and a meeting was held with the Local PCSOs. A volunteer coordinator came forward and the names of the new batch of local volunteers was forwarded to the Police.

The current position at the time of writing is that the organisers have advised that the PNC process is now in progress to vet the applicants. When this is complete, the Speedwatch Campaign can commence. They also advised that this work is being carried out by a sole Road Safety Support officer and she is currently snowed under with work. So things are moving forward, albeit slowly.



Kewstoke Parish Council

Keep up to date with all the latest news and information regarding the Village.

<https://www.kewstokevillage.com/>

MERRY
Christmas