

The Kingsdon Chronicle

Issue 49

31st August 2011

Recreation Field Wall Repairs

Work has started on repairs to the recreation field boundary dry stone wall along Frog Lane. The wall was probably built in the early 19th Century, at about the same time as the village pub. Over time, repairs have been made to different parts of the wall, although it has now fallen into disrepair.

The Parish Council have contracted Groundwork South West, an environmental regeneration charity, to reconstruct the wall using traditional methods and restore it to its former glory. The plan is to deconstruct and rebuild a section of the wall at a time. The work will be carried out by young people who are studying for an Apprenticeship in Environmental Conservation.

Originally it was hoped to complete this work within a few weeks, but the wall turned out to be in a much worse state than first thought, with parts of it falling down as vegetation was removed. A change of tactic was required and it has now been agreed that Groundwork South West will adopt the wall as a training site. This means that different groups of young people will be taught wall restoration techniques in Kingsdon throughout the year until it is completed. This will slow down the work, but it will be completed to a high standard and there will be no further cost. The next group of trainees are expected around the end of September.

Gary Alleyne, supervisor of the works, has asked us to say thank you to everyone who has made the workers feel so welcome in the village, and a special thank you for the refreshments (you know who you are!).



Painting of the Village Hall

In two hours on Saturday 6th August, 7 volunteers were able to paint the whole of the front of the village hall and a little of the side. There is still plenty to do but they have broken the back of it.

Our thanks go to :- David Thomson and friend from Manchester, Ian Dibben, Marilyn St Clair, Antony and Marie Colton and Martin Singleton.

Martin has since done more work.

Once again the village hall is looking very smart.



Planners look after our Wildlife

Bats, Owls and other wildlife are included in the planning conditions for the conversion of disused former barn at Langlands Farm. (See page 15 for more details)

Kingsdon Primary School

'A valuable asset to the village and should be for the benefit of the residents. Once it's gone, it's gone for good.'

Who is the current owner and what are their disposal intentions?

In order to pin down facts we asked some Freedom of Information questions. Replies confirm that the owner of Kingsdon Primary School is Somerset County Council (SCC) and that they have *'commissioned feasibility work to look into what options are available'* (Surveyors were seen measuring the premises; suggesting that detailed particulars are being drawn up).

We asked if other educational use was possible and SCC replied that this was considered *'but the location and size do not make it conducive to other education provision'*.

They also told us that the SCC *'needs to apply for the Secretary of State to dispose of the playing field. To date an application for section 77 disposal has not been made.'*

Apart from that we learnt that *'currently no decisions have been made'* and a confirmation that *'if the community wish to be considered as one of the options for disposal a business case would need to be submitted'*.

Kingsdon Community Centre Committee (KCCC) have made it clear to SCC that Kingsdon village is interested in taking ownership of the school (and playing field in Mow Barton Road) for community use. Support has been pledged both by Jimmy Zouche our County Councillor (who has provided some useful advice) and David Heath our MP (who met members of the KCCC outside the school premises on 5th August).

The school was Grade 2 listed in 1987. Both the school and the separate toilet block are listed (the latter being *'included for the completeness of the relatively unspoilt complex'*). The cast iron pump and handle are also protected.

Kingsdon Community Centre Committee: Structure, Business Case, Next Steps:

The KCCC was formed following the annual parish meeting held in April 2011 at which it was agreed that a separate committee was needed to look into the school issue. Their first task was to establish ownership of the school and to send letters stating the village interest.

The KCCC is a sub-committee of the Parish Council with two members of the KCCC also serving on the Parish Council. A report on progress will be made at each Parish Council meeting. The KCCC membership also has representatives from the Village Hall committee, Ladies Club and a letter of support has been received from Kingsdon Parochial Church Council. Over the next few months the KCCC will actively seek information from all village community groups, but if your group would like to express an early collective opinion please get in touch with KCCC Chairman Patrick Leahy.

Other members of the KCCC are Nigel Stone, Marilyn Elliott, Phil Winsor, Antony Colton, Angie Parkinson, Gerard Goessen, Elaine Owen.

Making a Business Case: To take over a Heritage Asset both SCC and English Heritage have to be assured that the community can raise the funds needed to purchase, convert and maintain the premises. Creating a business case requires the SCC to provide a range of information including the price they are prepared to accept for it, a building condition report and information about previous running costs. **Local Authorities are allowed to transfer land and buildings at less than market value, whether on a lease or freehold basis, where it *'promotes social, economic and environmental well-being'*.**

While the KCCC waits for the Council to respond, members have been delving through a plethora of information about potential sources of grants and loans to see what might apply in our particular circumstances.

Many villages have successfully converted all manner of buildings into thriving local hubs for their community. The KCCC is aware of some that have particular similarities with our situation, and will be making personal contact with them to draw on their expertise.

Next Steps: We are at the very beginning of what might be a long journey, but the KCCC is learning fast and organising itself to be ready to meet the challenges as they arise. Some urgent points currently exercising your committee are:

- * What sort of organisation should run the former school? Some structures are better placed than others to attract funding. Options include creating an organisation with charitable status.

- * We need to continue to use the grounds of the school as a car park for congregations attending larger church services and for community events. Cars cannot park in Top Street as this obstructs the bus route, and there is nowhere else with an all weather surface.

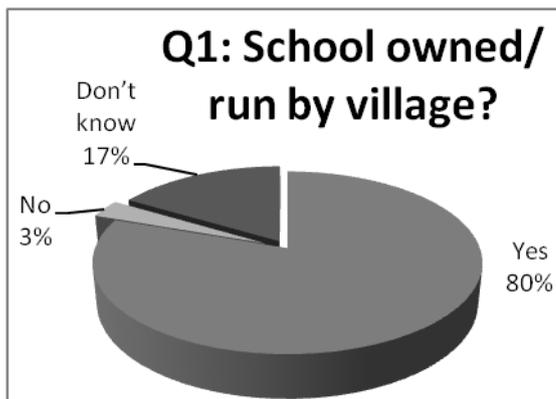
- * The school is empty. What should happen to it while negotiations take place?

Kingsdon Primary School Questionnaire Results

The first step for communities interested in adopting a Heritage Asset is to establish what range of uses would be both appropriate and viable. An early invitation to Kingsdon villagers to submit ideas for using the school generated some interesting options, and we realised that we needed a more detailed consultation exercise. We wanted to make sure that we involved as many residents as possible and that everyone had the chance to make their voice heard.

Thank you to everyone who has completed their questionnaire so far. We have had an impressive response rate of 158 returns representing 63% of residents (a level that politicians can only dream of at election time!). This is important in order for the KCCC to be able to say that the views expressed on the questionnaire are those of the village as a whole.

Question 1: Do you agree that Kingsdon Primary School and grounds should be owned and run by the village for community use?



Over 80%, the vast majority of people, agreed with the proposal that the school should be owned and run by the village for community use.

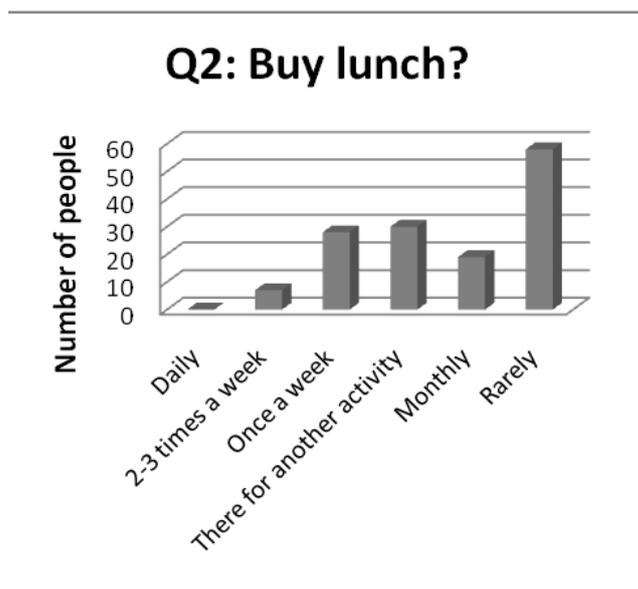
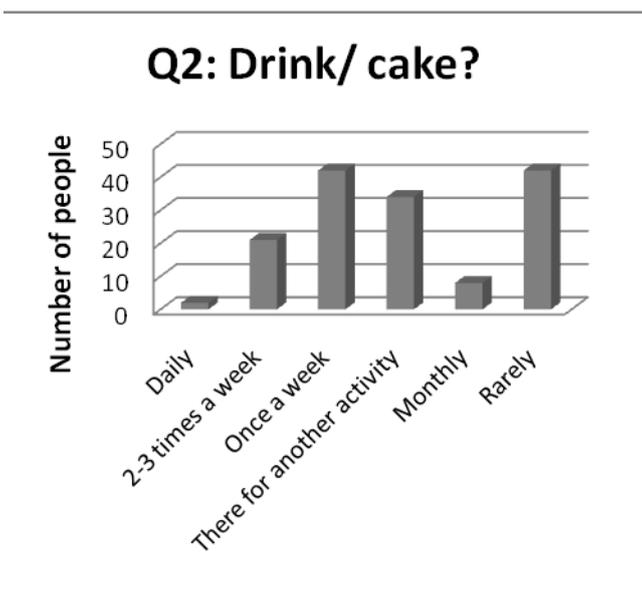
Of the 17% who replied Don't Know, more than half also said that they would be willing to volunteer some time to serve in a village café, should it go ahead (which indicates that they are not against the idea). Those who replied Don't Know and made additional comments, mainly expressed reservations about affordability.

'My main concern is regarding costs - the initial costs of purchasing the site(s) and the maintenance costs.'

Of the few who replied No (3%), comments were again around cost, viability and impact on the Village Hall.

Question 2: The most popular suggestion is to include a coffee shop/café (which would still allow many other community activities to take place) Assuming we served quality hot drinks / cakes / light lunches, how often do you think you personally might:

Your answers here are particularly valuable and will allow us to work out the approximate demand for a café. More work needs to be done (in particular to assess potential demand from visitors to the village), but your responses are encouraging enough for us to continue to pursue this idea further.



We also asked if you would be

likely to **meet your friends** there from outside the village and 68 individuals said YES.

We also asked if there was any interest in **making cakes / preserves** for sale in a café and an amazing 44 individuals said YES. A talented community!

We asked if you would be prepared to **volunteer** any unpaid hours to serve in a café and 53 of you said YES. This is a fantastic response. (Community ventures usually have at least one paid member of staff, supported by volunteers.)

Question 3: If the school was sold by the council and converted into a private dwelling house, how many additional houses do you think it would be reasonable to build on the entire school site - 0,1,2,3 4 or more?

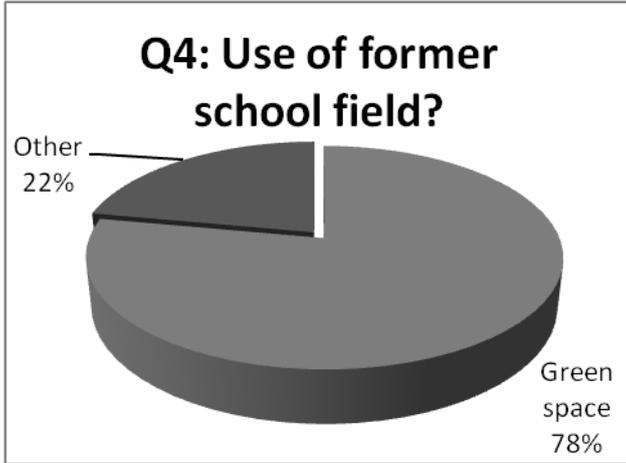
It is difficult to give an exact numerical result here due to the different ways in which the question was answered. The overall sentiment from the village is that you would prefer not to see new building and a number of you made comments expressing a wish for *'maintaining open feel to centre of village.'* and an end to *'wall to wall infilling'* A quarter of you were adamant that even if the school itself was sold for conversion into housing by SCC that you would not want to see ANY extra new houses built in the grounds.

Should you be forced to accept additional housing, responses were heavily weighted towards restricting building to one or two houses. Here many comments were about wanting to influence the type of housing you saw as acceptable and still wanting to preserve the historic *'space'*.

Question 4: What do you think the former school playing field in Mow Barton Road should be used for?

Many people ticked more than one option so we made a simple count of all responses. 78% of all responses wanted to keep it as a green space. And 86% were against any building on the field. The field is outside of the Development Area of the village, a point that several of you raised.

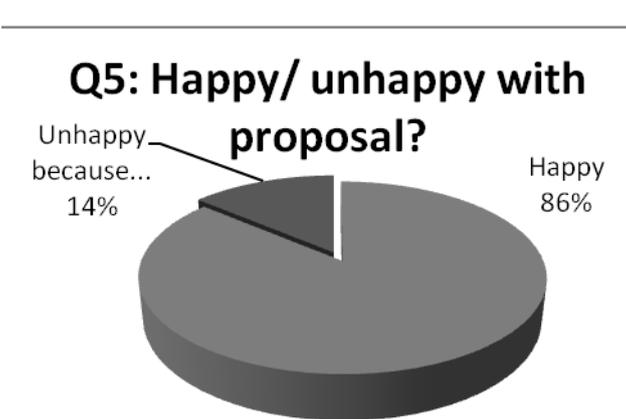
Emphatic NO to housing on sports field!



As indicated in the reply from SCC to our Freedom of Information questions, school playing fields are subject to special protection. We also have to remember that the recreation field (opposite the pub) is rented on a relatively short lease and not owned by the village (neither is it flat). The school playing field in Mow Barton Road is the only area properly suitable for village sport and there is a considerable history of it being used for this purpose. Taking all of these factors together retaining this area for sports and recreation is the only option that the KCCC feels able to support at the present time.

However a number of very important issues were raised in your comments relating to this question. The Parish Council will need to take these forward into wider future planning for Kingsdon. (Please see section L of the Further Information, right at the end of this report).

Question 5: asked you to consider whether the village hall and a future community centre should be run as a single facility and if you were Happy or Unhappy with this.



Most of you (86%) have no problem with the basic concept of running the two sites as one organisation, but as the village hall is an existing charity there would be a number of bridges to cross before that could be possible. (See also Further Information section K.)

Some comments included in the unhappy category included concerns about *'danger of conflict of interest'* and *'risk of making the village hall less profitable'* to concerns that *'the village does not have enough resources to keep two facilities.'*

Question 6: listed the ideas received so far and asked you for any more ideas, and gave space for further comments. Here are a few more of your thoughts.

'Why are some of these activities not taking place at present in the village hall?'

'Concerned about being able to sustain both facilities, would hope to be proved wrong.'

'Space for childcare for working parents in village.'

'Reopen school for pupils with learning difficulties or a nursery.'

'Listed building is high maintenance.'

'Village green open area enhanced with shrub borders and benches.'

'child based activities, as we seem to have more children in the village.'

'think more widely than just Kingsdon residents for example we get parties of walkers.'

'interested in 'starter homes' for young local families'

'No more large houses please'

'particularly occasional post office counter'

'We should hold an open day at the school for a few hours, sell tea and coffee and let people look around to gather some thoughts and generate some ideas'

Further Information

A. I did not get/fill in a questionnaire. Is it too late?

It is not too late, but we will make our final analysis based on questionnaires received by 15th September 2011 so you do need to hurry. If you need a questionnaire please call at Innes House (or phone 01935 841120). Sincere apologies if you were unintentionally missed out!

B. What was your definition of the number of residents?

The Electoral Roll lists 255 residents over the age of 18. We added in under 18's who chose to fill in the questionnaire and subtracted a few who were too frail to attempt it. Some residents had moved away and some new people had arrived. We ended up with a total number of residents, who were both present and able to complete the form, of 252 – nearly the same as the Electoral Roll!

C. What did the under 18's say?

The questionnaire was completed by 9 residents aged under 18. They were just as enthusiastic about keeping the school for community use. Suggestions included:

- Books / DVD / CD swap or library*
- Big screen / mini cinema*
- Dance class*
- Use of school playground for netball and meeting friends*

They generally agreed that the field should be kept as green space. Other creative ideas included a swimming pool or energy generation from solar or wind.

D. How long had the respondents lived here?

11% of respondents had lived in Kingsdon for less than one year and a total 31% of you had lived here less than five years. At the other end of the scale 54% of you had lived here longer 11 years or longer, (27% for more than 20 years). So we have a good cross section of both recent and established residents completing the questionnaire.

E. How many people live in Kingsdon, and how many residents will we have in future?

Understanding the future size of our village is important in terms of assessing the viability of our community facilities. The 2011 Census figures are not yet available, but we estimate that there are about 290 people in the village altogether (including all under 18's).

About a dozen properties were empty during this period. Only one or two will not be occupied fairly soon, so we can reasonably expect numbers to rise to around 310.

The 2001 Census listed 363 persons. This figure was high because Kingsdon Manor School was in operation with pupils and staff resident on site. This was sold in 2010, without planning permission. As well as the Grade 2 listed house, the estate included 5 houses plus other buildings. Until planning permission is applied for we will not know its future, but if converted to dwellings then a significant number of new residents will be joining us.

In summary, the 2011 census figures will be a low point for our population. Numbers could grow by a quarter, from around 290 in 2011 to about 360, by 2017, taking into account the potential development on the Kingsdon Manor School site.

Year	Population	Number of Dwellings
1624	216	
1791	450	
1801	455	
1831	610	
1901	252	
1951	313	
1961	312	
1981 (census)	366	120
1991 (census)	338	139
2001 (census)	363	140
2011 (our estimate)	290	160
2012 (our estimate)	310	161
2017 (our estimate)	360	

Years from:
Histo-
Coun-
set:

prior to 1981
'Parishes:
Kingsdon', A
ry of the
ty of Somer-
Volume 3

(1974), pp. 111-120.

(google 'British history online Kingsdon' to find it)

F. Does Kingsdon have an aging population?

Well none of us are getting any younger! Apart from asking if respondents were under 18 we did not ask you to put your age on the questionnaire, so we will have to wait for the 2011 census results to be able to know more about our age profile. A number of families with young children have joined the village relatively recently so we are continuing to attract a mixture of new residents in both younger and older age groups.

G. Have you put my personal details into a computer system?

No. In order to comply with the Data Protection Act your names and addresses were not entered into the computer spreadsheet that we needed to create to analyse the results.

H. What will happen to the questionnaires?

The paper questionnaires will be stored, in case we are challenged to prove our statistics are genuine. (This was why we asked you to sign them). Then they will be shredded.

I. I gave you my email address, what are you going to do with that?

If you asked us to keep your email address private (or did not indicate) then the KCCC will only use it to contact you about the school.

If you said you were happy for the email to go to the village directory then we have passed it to Wally Elliott who keeps the list used to send out village news. (If you would like to receive email alerts about bad weather, local police alerts and other useful news and information please consider giving him your email address – very many villagers already have).

J. I ticked some volunteering options to help the KCCC, what will you ask me to do?

Thank you to the (90 plus!) people who have offered us additional help. It means a lot to the KCCC to know that there are many people that we can ask to join in with this campaign. We have contacted a few of you already who have specialist skills that are useful at this stage, and will contact more of you when we need particular things done. We are very grateful to all of you as it shows that the village as a whole is supportive of the KCCC's efforts so far and willing to help in many different ways.

K. Why would you want to join the Village Hall and Kingsdon Community Centre together?

If the village was to take over the running of the school there would be a number of advantages to registering it as a charity. Before setting up a new charity the Charity Commission advises that you should "*think about offering your services to, or combining with, an existing charity if there is a possibility of duplicating existing charitable work*". They go on to say "*These arrangements can relate to any aspect of a charity's activities including administration, fundraising, campaigning and service delivery and can result in cost savings and better services for those the charity seeks to help. In some cases, charities may merge, that is come together to form one organisation.*"

L. What are the wider village planning implications arising from this consultation?

New residents, in particular, may not be aware that we have a Kingsdon Village Design Statement. This was adopted in 2007. It is now available online at www.ukvillages.co.uk and there is a loan copy in the Village Hall which anyone is welcome to browse or borrow. The Parish Council is looking at updating this document.

A number of themes have emerged from this consultation that have wider implications for the village than the future of the primary school and school playing field. These issues will be taken forward into the revision of the Kingsdon Village Design Statement. As part of the revision process there has to be a village consultation before any new Village Design Statement can be adopted, so you will get further opportunities to comment on the below.

- * There is a waiting list for allotments and the number of residents is expanding, so it seems clear that we don't have enough. Allotment holders from further afield need somewhere to park.
- * Topical suggestions include an area to be set aside for a '*Queen's Jubilee community garden*' providing a tranquil social space for the village.
- * There is considerable support for a community orchard project.
- * There remains a concern that houses in the village are too expensive.
- * There is significant support for maintaining biodiversity within the village

Report compiled by Elaine Owen on behalf of KCCC.

Seaside Quiz

In aid of Kingsdon's 2012 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Fund

First Prize - £40

**Kingsdon Inn voucher
Quiz Sheets - £1**

Available from Kingsdon Stores/Kingsdon Inn
& 4 Manor Close from 1st August

**Find the names of 120 Seaside venues
of GB & N.I. from the clues provided**

Example:-

Clue - 'Dark Puddle (9)'

Answer - 'Blackpool'

Seaside Quiz

It has been brought to my attention that I have stupidly duplicated the answer to the following questions in the latest quiz

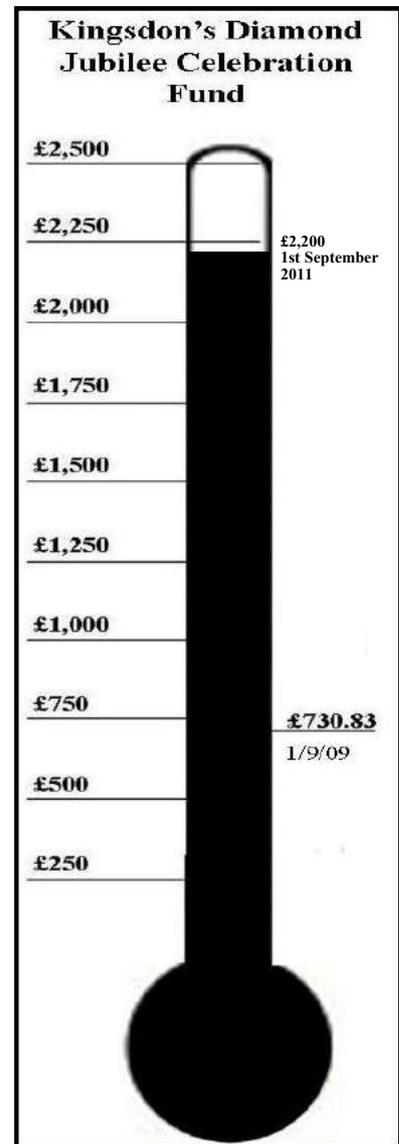
Q 6 and Q 86 have the same answer

Q 7 and Q 108 have the same answer

Q 12 and Q 59 have the same answer

I hope this hasn't caused you too much stress and anguish. *(Wally)*

Kingsdon Jubilee Fund



At time go-to

the of ing

press, 56 residents of Kingsdon have signed up as members of the fund. If you would like to find out more about the fund then come along to the 'Bacon Butty' morning on 1st October when all will be explained. Phone 01935 841444 for application forms. There is a nominal charge of 20p for joining.

TEA & CHAT



COME & ENJOY THE COMPANY OF OTHERS
ENJOY TEA WITH SANDWICHES & CAKES
DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE
MEET NEW FRIENDS

Do you know someone who lives alone or is housebound?

Ring Wendy on 01458 224087

Tuesday 27th September at 3pm at the Parsonage

Wednesday 12th October at 3pm at Fox Hollow Barn



Phone 101 - The new police non-emergency number from 19th September in Somerset

101 is the number to call when you want to contact your local police - when it's less urgent than a 999 call. 101 will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from 19th September.

When to call 101?

You should call 101 to report less urgent crime and disorder or to speak to your local officers.

For example, you should call 101 if:

- your car has been stolen
- your property has been damaged
- you suspect drug use or dealing in your neighbourhood

Or to:

- report a minor traffic collision
- give the police information about crime in your area
- speak to the police about a general enquiry

101 is being introduced as part of the government's wider work to improve access to the police, ease pressure on 999, and help to efficiently and effectively tackle crime and disorder.

What is the difference between 101 and 999? - You should continue to call 999 when it is an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress, when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.

What does it cost to call 101? - Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day you call, or how long you are on the phone.

Everyone calling the police for non-emergency matters will now know exactly how much a call will cost them, and can be assured of equal access whether they are on a pay-as-you-go mobile or a home landline.

Who will answer my 101 call? - Calls to 101 are answered by police call handlers in the control room of the local police force. This ensures that staff with local knowledge can answer and deal with the calls and respond appropriately. You will not be put through to a large national call centre.

When you call 101, the system will determine your location and connect you to the police force covering that area. You will hear a recorded message announcing the police force you are being connected to. If you are on a boundary between two or more forces, the recorded message will give you a choice of which force to be connected to.

I am deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, can I call 101? - Yes, you can textphone 18001 101.

Before 19th September use our existing 0845 number. There will be a 3-month period when both numbers will be available.

What about reporting general nuisance or environmental issues? - You should continue to call your local council for things like:

- reporting graffiti
- dog fouling
- abandoned vehicles
- dumping and fly tipping
- vandalism



Planned return visit to Pat's Field Garden in Dorset

Pat Bowcock, one of Margaret Bowcock's daughters, bought an empty water meadow ten years ago, and with the help of family and many volunteers has created a most interesting project.

There are 3 main parts of interest:

1. The water system for watering the garden & polytunnel with sluice gates and solar power.
2. The garden with the polytunnel, 42 raised beds, fruit trees and bushes and a woodland area.
3. Pat's way of life in her field which takes one back to the old days without mains water or electricity.

There has been much interest in this project from many parts of the world including the Worldwide Fund for Nature.

There has been changes & developments since our last visit, the large bath or as Pat calls it, her hot tub, outside of course, and excitement for her is more hot water plus changes in the garden.

The charge for this tour, lasting about one to one & a half hours, plus sandwiches, cakes and tea is £6 per head.

Please give your names to Margaret on 01935 841179 or at Ladies or Seniors club meetings to arrange transport.

The dates for the visits are Sunday 11th September and Saturday 17th September - Anybody welcome.

Kingsdon All Saints Church

present

'It's that Bacon Butty time again'

Saturday 1st October 10.30am - 2pm Kingsdon Village Hall



**Your lunch in a bun
with a cuppa**

also

Project Linus Meeting

and

**Kingsdon Jubilee Celebrations
Planning Meeting**



Come along and see the progress of our knitters with their Project Linus. It will also be an opportunity to see the latest plans for our Queen's Jubilee Celebrations here in Kingsdon, and also have your say as to what you would like to see included during the four days, 2nd - 5th June 2012, set aside for the celebrations. All this and a Bacon Butty.

First twins to be born to a Kingsdon resident in living memory



On 3rd August, Kate and Richard Hatt of Bluebell House, Mow Barton Road, became the proud parents of twins. Kate gave birth at Yeovil Hospital to Thomas Adam, weighing in at 6lb 5.5oz. and Bethany Eve who arrived just two and half oz. lighter at 6lb 3oz. Mother and twins are doing well.

Richard and Kate would like to express their thanks to everyone who have made them feel so welcome following their move to Kingsdon at the end of October 2010. It took them a year hunting around before they found the perfect home here in Kingsdon.

Their thanks also go to David Glover, the developer and builder of their house on the Park Farm site, who they say has gone out of his way, far more than one would expect, in providing them with a home of such high standards.

Harvest Supper

Sunday 2nd October at 7pm in Kingsdon Village Hall

Adults £3.50 Children £2.50

Get your tickets from Jackie Ellis Tel: 840344 or Ann Leahy Tel: 840502

Available from Monday 19th September

Please do come and support this annual event

THE WALNUT AVENUE
by Peter Crowter

'Quite close to Kingsdon Manor Percy Gamblin had a field,
And it contained a feature that to village boys appealed,
An avenue of walnut trees the like you've never seen
Big old trees with holes in, where some branches must have been.

Some furry creatures sheltered in the hollows in the trees,
They must have huddled close together like a swarm of bees,
A daytime roost for horseshoe bats there was one special tree,
We used to tap the trunk and watch more than one hundred flee.

Now when the walnuts ripened and were scattered all about
T'was tempting to sneak in there but t'was safer to stay out,
Cause Percy sold his walnuts and he didn't want them nicked,
And if he caught you in there, then out you would be kicked.

But out of season when there were no walnuts to be found,
He let us wander in there to climb trees and play around,
To search the hollows in the trunks was really why we went,
To gather speckled jackdaw's eggs, that was the main event.

The jackdaws were our enemies because they robbed the nests,
Of smaller birds, took eggs and young, to us they were all pests,
And so we took the jackdaws eggs, sometimes three score or more,
To help protect the songbirds and to level up the score.

There are cousins of the jackdaw that are also known as pests
But nowadays it is a crime to take eggs from their nests
To kill a crow or magpie is a criminal offence
There isn't any leeway for a bit of common sense.

For Sale - Ladies Apollo Envy cycle only £25

Very good condition. 26" wheels / 17" aluminium frame, 21 gears (Shimano) with Gel seat for that extra bit of comfort.

Contact John Barker, 7 Cary Way, Kingsdon. Tel 01935 840489

Email: john@chrysanthemum.me.uk



Staff Wanted at The Kingsdon Inn

Weekend Bar Staff

Contact Algy at the Inn for more details
Tel: 01935 840543 Email: enquiries@kingsdoninn.co.uk

**Kingsdon Cricket Club
Results**

6th July - Home
Crewkerne 123
Kingsdon 127 - 2 (J. Russon 40, K. Morgan 33, J. Schofield 21 n.o.)

17th July - Home
Ditchat 125 - 9 (J.Schofield 3 - 3, N.Price 3 - 9)
Kingsdon113 (N.Price 57)

24th July - Away
Kingsdon 139 (J. Brock 47)
Huish & Langport 142 - 3

7th August Away
Pitney 123 (N. Price 3 - 13)
Kingsdon 110

21st August Away
Crewkerne 103 (R. Waters 3- 17)
Kingsdon 107 - 3 (N. Price 60n.o.)

28th August Home
Dinder

**News from Somerset Waste Partnership
Views sought on recycling sites**

Somerset residents are being asked for their views on a range of issues about the future of the county's 18 recycling sites.

The short Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) survey is asking how often people use the sites, on which days of the week they would prefer to close, whether opening hours should change, and if people are willing to pay – and how much – to ensure recycling sites stay open for longer.

The survey results will be fed into the September meeting of the SWP's governing Somerset Waste Board as it reviews the first few months of the changes in hours, entry fees and charges for certain materials that were introduced in April.

The survey will be available from 22 August. It can be completed online until 7 September and survey forms will be available at all recycling sites until 5 September. Anyone who needs the survey form in large print or another language or assistance to complete the survey should call us on 01823 625700.

Late August Bank Holiday

The 29th August Bank Holiday Monday means all that week's recycling and rubbish collections will be one day later. In Kingsdon our recycling and wheelie bins will be collected on Wednesday 31st

Wheelie Bins in September will be collected on 13th and 27th

National Trust Lytes Cary Manor

Opening Hours for House, Garden, Shop & Catering from 12th March - 30th October
11am - 5pm or at dusk if earlier (Closed on Thursdays) Open Good Friday and Bank Holiday Mondays.

Last admission 30 minutes before closing

Estate Walks open all year round from dawn till dusk

Tel: 01458 224471 Email: lytescarymanor@nationaltrust.org.uk

Forthcoming Events for September

3rd – Birds, bugs and beastsies

Learn how to maintain bio diversity in your garden. Come and make a wildlife habitat including bug, bat and bird boxes and take away tips on how to attract more wildlife into your garden. Workshops at 12:00 and 2.30pm. £15 per person including refreshments. Booking essential.

10th and 11th –Herbal Weekend

Take part in a variety of activities that celebrate the Lytes Cary plant directory 'Lytes Herbal' including talks with our garden team and house volunteers. There will also be workshops available that allow you to make your own herbal ointments to take away. Workshops at 2:00-4:30pm. £15.00 per person (charges apply to herbal ointment workshops only). Booking essential. Normal admission charges apply.

25th - End of Season Plant Sale

Come along and take advantage of our plant sale and pick up some seasonal hints and tips from our garden team and Avon Bulbs. Admission to the plant sale is free, normal admission applies to the House and Garden.

Help Wanted at Lytes Cary

Lytes Cary Manor is always in need of volunteers to help support this special place and get involved with the day to day running of the property. We have many roles on offer including working in the house as a room guide, volunteering in the garden, helping in the shop and selling raffle tickets. Once you have volunteered for 50 hours you will be given a volunteer card that entitles you to free entry to NT properties in addition to a 20% discount in NT shops and catering outlets. There are many other benefits to volunteering including meeting new people, volunteer outings and property socials. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please contact the Lytes Cary office on 01458 224471

BRUSH STROKES LADY Decorator & Cleaning Services



Friendly & Reliable
Free Quotes & Estimates Given

Call Gail Sinclair

Tel 01458 448548

Mobile 0796 7048426

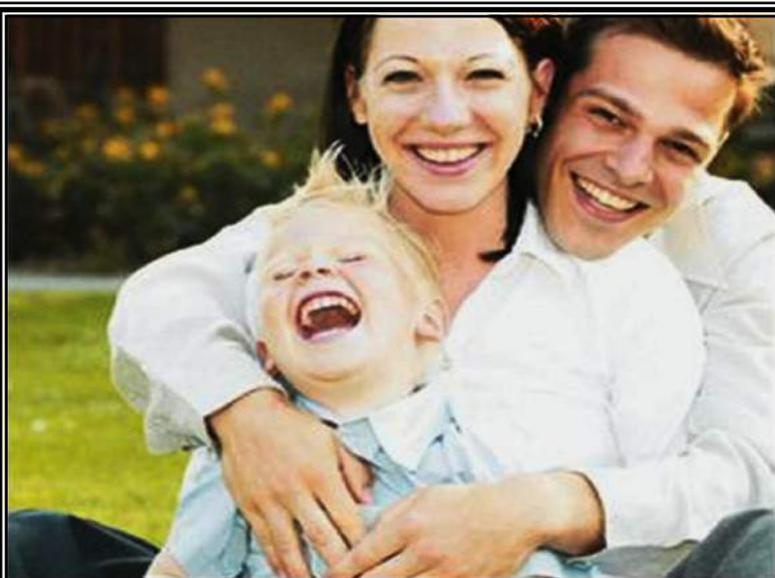


Help wanted to trace relatives

Margaret White, an Australian from Melbourne, recently visited Kingsdon trying to track down information about her great great grandfather Henry Lee who was born in Kingsdon in 1818. He is buried in St Andrews Churchyard in High Ham and his son James Lee was born in Curry Rivel. Another family name at the time was Loaders.

If anyone has any information of knowledge about Lees or Loaders in the area, Margaret would be delighted to hear. Her email address is:

margaretwhite77@hotmail.com



 Apex
dental group

Now registering
new NHS patients

In Somerton tel: 01458 272813

In Street tel: 01458 445538

Call today to arrange an appointment

Sense of Freshness....

A short while ago a new supermarket opened in Yeovil. It has an automatic water mister to keep the produce fresh. Just before it goes on, you hear the sound of distant thunder and the smell of fresh rain. When you pass the milk section, you hear cows mooing and you experience the scent of fresh mowed hay. In the meat department there is the aroma of charcoal grilled steaks with onions. When you approach the egg department, you hear hens cluck and cackle, and the air is filled with the pleasing aroma of bacon and eggs frying.

The bread department features the tantalizing smell of fresh baked bread and biscuits.

I don't buy my toilet paper there anymore.

A man is at work one day when he notices that his co-worker is wearing an earring. This man knows his co-worker to be a normally conservative fellow, and is curious about his sudden change in "fashion sense." The man walks up to him and says, "I didn't know you were into earrings."

"Don't make a big deal, it's only an earring," he replies sheepishly. His friend falls silent for a few minutes, but then his curiosity prods him to say, "So, how long have you been wearing one?" "Ever since my wife found it in my car"

I took my dad to the shopping mall the other day to buy some new shoes (he is 67). We decided to grab a bite to eat in the food court. As we ate I noticed he was watching a teenager sitting next to him. The teenager had spiked hair in all different colors - green, red, orange, and blue. My dad kept staring at her.

The teenager kept looking and would find my dad staring every time. When the teenager had had enough, she sarcastically asked:

"What's the matter old man, never done anything wild in your life?"

Knowing my Dad, I quickly swallowed my food so that I would not choke on his response; I knew he would have a good one!

In classic style he responded without batting an eyelid "Got stoned once and made love with a parrot. I was just wondering if you might be my kid."

Little Johnny comes downstairs crying. His mother asked, "What's the matter now?"

"Dad was hanging pictures, and just hit his thumb with hammer," said little Johnny through his tears.

"That's not so serious," soothed his mother. "I know you are upset, but a big boy like you shouldn't cry at something like that. Why didn't you just laugh?"

"I did!" sobbed Johnny.

A major steel company feeling it was time for a shake-up, hired a new CEO. The new boss was determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the CEO noticed a man leaning against a wall. The room was full of workers and he wanted to let them know that he meant business. He asked the man, "How much money do you make a week?"

A little surprised, the young man looked at him and said, "I make £300 a week. Why?"

The CEO said, "Wait right here." He walked back to his office, came back in two minutes, and handed the man £1200 in cash and said, "Here's four weeks' pay. Now GET OUT and don't come back."

Feeling pretty good about himself the CEO looked around the room and asked, "Does anyone want to tell me what that lay-about did here?"

From across the room a voice said, "Pizza delivery man from Domino's."

Seamus says to Mick, "Christmas is on a Friday this year" Mick says "Let's hope it's not the 13th."

Seamus and Mick find three grenades, so they take them to a police station.

Mick says, "What if one explodes before we get there?" Seamus: "We'll lie and say we only found two."

Mick's in the bathroom and Murphy shouts to him. "Did you find the shampoo?"

Mick says, "yes but it's for dry hair and I've just wet mine."

A teacher asked little Johnny if he knows his 1 to 10 well. "Yes! Of course! My pop taught me...even more than 10"

"Good. What comes after three?" "Four," answers the boy.

"What comes after six?" "Seven" he replied.

"Very good," says the teacher. "Your dad did a good job. Now...so what comes after.....lets say ten?"

"A jack"

Waiting in Doncaster, to catch speeding drivers, a Police Officer sees a car pattering along at 22 MPH. Says he to himself: "This driver is just as dangerous as a speeder!" So he turns on his lights and pulls the driver over. Approaching the car, he notices that there are five old ladies, two in the front seats and three in the back...wide eyed and white as ghosts. The driver, obviously confused, says to him "Officer, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit! What seems to be the problem?"

"Ma'am," the officer replies, "you weren't speeding, but you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers."

"Slower than the speed limit? No sir, I was doing the speed limit exactly...Twenty-two miles an hour!"the old woman says a bit proudly. The Police officer, trying to contain a chuckle explains to her that A22 is the road number, not the speed limit. A bit embarrassed, the woman grins and thanks the officer for pointing out her error.

"But before I let you go, Ma'am, I have to ask....Is everyone in this car OK? These women seem awfully shaken, and they haven't made a sound this whole time," the officer asks.

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute officer. We've just come off the A120."

CLASSIFIED

Electrician Winslow Bassham

17th Edition Inspecting & Testing, Part P Qualified
Domestic - Commercial - Industrial. Free Estimates & Advice
37 Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LN
Tel: 01935 840190 mobile: 07786838940
Email: winslow.bassham@gmail.com

DC Computer Repair Alan Hayward

Spyware / Virus removal. Broadband installation. Tuition & Advice
No repair, No charge. Free local collection available 6 days a week
Telephone: 01458 272924 Mobile: 07887572418

Plastering - JB Plastering

Jamie Brown @ 5 Magna Close, Yeovil. BA21 5RS
Tel: 07525185582

Ground Work & Garden Work LCL Ltd

All types of Ground work and garden work undertaken
Tel: Les - 07925327353 Email: les.lampert@hotmail.co.uk
Steve - 07795313489 Email: steve.boulter@hotmail.co.uk

T R Carpentry and Joinery

Kitchen fitting - Doors & Windows fitting - Flooring of all types -
Decking - Skirtings and Architraves - Shelving
Built in Wardrobes.
For all your Carpentry and Joinery needs

Tom Reed

Tel: 01458 241910 mobile 07729 187293

OSBORNES of Kingsdon Ltd

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

Our service includes...
Carpet and upholstery, Rugs, Mattresses,
Hard Floors, Domestic and commercial
Tel- mob. 07951 067872 01935 841137 -
freephone 0800 955 4388
www.somertoncarpetcleaners.co.uk
Delimara, Pitts Lane, Kingsdon, Somerton,
Somerset. TA11 7LL

H&C Building Solutions

Tel 01935 410137 mobile 07758078438
Email: hcbuildingsolutions@aol.co.uk

Plumbing

Andy Hainsworth

Tel: 01458 273391 mobile 07711379351

AK Tyre Services

Andrew White @ Bancombe Court,
Bancombe Rd. Trading Estate, Somerton.
TA11 6SB Tel: 01458 2747800

Compost

40 litre Organic Multi-Purpose (not suitable for seed) £2.50 each or 3 for only £6
10 litre Multi-Purpose (suitable for seed) £1
40 litre Multi Purpose (suitable for seed) £3
30 litre Ericaceous £3 each
70 litre ornamental bark £4.50
33 litre Grow Bags £1.25

Why struggle with heavy bags, let Paul take the strain. Buy local Save your fuel -Free local delivery

Contact Paul Attwell

Tel 07906 018082. Orders also taken by Angela at Kingsdon Stores

Visit Paul's new shop 'Bargain Basement' in West Street, Somerton, next to the railway bridge.

Babysitting / Child Minding in Kingsdon

Do you need the services of a Babysitter / Child Minder? Contact Kelly Osborne at Delimara, Pitts Lane, Kingsdon, Tel: mobile 07921161088, Home: 01935 840337 or e-mail kellyosborne@hotmail.co.uk
Kelly works in a school. She has plenty of experience and is the holder of an up-to date CRB reference. She is available most evenings, some weekends and school holidays (apart from the summer).



Beautiful vintage china and accessories for hire...
Bring the magic of old English afternoon tea
to your wedding breakfast...



e: lydia@eclecticbliss.co.uk w: eclecticbliss.co.uk t: 01935 841195

Kingsdon Parish Councillors and their specific topics

Tony Masters: Chairman - Jacaranda, Lotment Hill, Kingsdon, TA11 7LG Tel 01935 840801
Email: armasters@btinternet.com

Angela Saunders: Vice-Chairman - School Governor - Chatsworth, Top Street, Kingsdon, TA11 7JU
Tel 01935 840130 Email: angiesaunders@btinternet.com

Mel Clode: Dog fouling and related items, Litter, Graffiti, Fly tipping, Fly posting, Damaged bins & Abandoned vehicles and related items - 3 Underwood Rd, Kingsdon, TA11 7LQ Tel 01935 840293 Email: melclode273@btinternet.com

Antony Colton: Highways - 30 Underwood Road, Kingsdon, TA11 7LQ Tel 07894954449 Email: anmaria50@gmail.com

Richard Hollaway: Village Hall & facilities - Kingsdon Court, Rocky Hill, Kingsdon, TA11 7LB
Tel 01935 840628 Email: richard.hollaway@tiscali.co.uk

Dave Morris: Footpaths & Trees - Stithians Cottage, North Town, Kingsdon, TA11 7LQ.

Elaine Owen: Recreation Field. - Innes House, Lower Road, Kingsdon, TA11 7LL Tel 01 935 841120
Email: owen.somerset@btinternet.com

John Calvert District Councillor (Northstone Ward) Peacock Cottage, High St. Queen Camel. BA22 7NQ
Tel 01935 850458 Email: john.calvert@southsomerset.gov.uk

Jimmy Zouche (The Lord Zouche) County Councillor (Somerton Division) The Abbey, Charlton Adam, Somerton, Somerset. TA11 7BE Tel 01458 223253 Email: jimmyzouche@hotmail.com

David Heath MP Constituency Office - 14 Catherine Hill, Frome, Somerset, BA11 1BZ Tel: 01373 473618
Fax: 01373 455152 Claire Hudson: head of office - email: hudsoncl@parliament.uk

Sally Smith Clerk to Kingsdon Parish Council, The Old Coach House, Top Street, Kingsdon..
TA11 7JU Tel 01935 842094 Mobile 07729 301207 Email sally@tradewindspr.co.uk

Kingsdon Parish Council

Notes of the Planning Meeting held on Friday 26th August 2011 at 7pm in Kingsdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Tony Masters (Chairman), Antony Colton, Richard Hollaway, Elaine Owen & Angela Saunders.

Apologies received from Cllr Mel Code. Sally Smith (Clerk) and 8 parishioners

The minutes of the previous planning meeting held on 29th July were read and approved with no matters arising.

Application No 11/03076/FUL

Location: Kingsdon Cricket Club, Frog Lane, Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset.

Proposal: The erection of a new cricket pavilion (GR 351729/125937)

This application was discussed and received approval, there was 3 for and 1 abstention. The Chairman moved a vote of thanks to Ben Carlisle for his work in moving this project forward.

South Somerset District Council

Planning Applications Received and Decisions made

Application No 11/01930/FUL.

Location: 25 North Town, Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LE

Proposal: Replacement of existing single storey structure to side of dwellinghouse with a two storey extension, replacement of existing windows and doors and creation of new window openings to existing gable wall and rear elevation (GR: 351767/126293)

Decision: Application Permitted with Conditions

Application No 11/01930/FUL.

Location: Park Farm House, Lower Road, Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LL

Proposal: Refurbishment of stable block to provide ancillary accommodation for the residents of Park Farm.

Decision: Application Permitted with Conditions

Application No 11/03076/FUL

Location: Kingsdon Cricket Club, Frog Lane, Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset.

Proposal: The erection of a new cricket pavilion (GR 351729/125937)

Decision: Pending Consideration

Application No 11/02254/FUL

Location: Langlands Farm, Frog Lane, Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LL

Proposal: Application for a new planning permission to replace extant planning permission 08/02614/FUL for the conversion of disused former barn into a dwelling and the erection of a garage.

Decision: Application Permitted with Conditions. (See page 15)

Part of the conditions for the development of the barn at Langlands Farm. Application No. 11/02254/FUL

14. The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced unless there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, details for the provision **of bat roosting features and owl nest boxes**. The details shall include the design, dimensions and proposed locations and shall be informed by professional ecological advice to ensure optimum potential to fulfil their intended function. The nest boxes and roost features shall be provided in full accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: For the conservation and protection of legally protected species of recognised nature conservation importance in accordance with Policy ECS of the South Somerset Local Plan 2006.

15. No wall cavities shall be filled in unless the full extent of the cavity is visible and bats proved not to be present. Where the full extent of wall cavities cannot be seen they shall be inspected by a licensed bat worker, if necessary by use of an endoscope or an approved exclusion method, and if clear of bats, shall on the same day as the inspection be either permanently filled or temporarily blocked to prevent access by bats.

Reason: For the conservation and protection of legally protected species of recognised nature conservation importance in accordance with Policy ECS of the South Somerset Local Plan 2006, and to ensure compliance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Habitats Regulations 2010.

16. If the development hereby approved, does not commence within the period of 1 year from the date of the most recent wildlife survey, then a further survey shall be undertaken to ascertain any changes in protected species presence or activity before work commences. Such surveys shall be submitted to the local planning authority and approved in writing before work commences along with any further mitigation and compensation proposals that may be necessary as a result of any significant changes in protected species presence or activity. Any amended mitigation measures shall thereafter be implemented as agreed.

Reason: For the conservation and protection of legally protected species of recognised nature conservation importance in accordance with Policy ECS of the South Somerset Local Plan 2006.

Informatives:

The applicant and contractors should be aware that bats could be encountered during works. Should this happen, work should cease immediately and advice should be sought from a licensed bat consultant or the Government's advisers on wildlife, Natural England (tel. Batline 0870 833 9210). Failure to do so could result in committing an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or the Habitats Regulations 2010 which covers bats, their roosts and resting places. The discovery of a bat is unlikely to jeopardise the planned development but in some cases may require some simple measures to help safeguard the bat(s) or their roosts.

When working on the property, special care should be taken when roof tiles or slates are removed (advise removing by hand and checking underside for bats before stacking, particularly the ones over the gable ends and ridge tiles.) Eaves, external cladding and flashing around chimneys may also provide roost opportunities for bats and should be disturbed with care. As a further precaution, undertaking roof work during the months of March to May, or September to November, will avoid the main hibernation and breeding seasons when bats are most sensitive to disturbance. Bats should preferably not be handled (and not unless with gloves) but should be left in place, gently covered, until advice is obtained.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 makes it an offence to disturb a nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or in the process of being built. It would be advisable not to commence development during the main nesting season of 1st March to 31st August inclusive, unless a prior check by a competent person has confirmed the absence of nesting birds.

The applicant is advised that the land the subject of this application may be affected by radon gas and further advice can be obtained from the Environmental Health Officer at The Council Offices and/or the National Radiological Protection Board

**Kingsdon Parish Council - Next Bi-monthly Meeting
Thursday 8th September at 7pm - In Kingsdon Village Hall**

This is an open meeting for all to attend

All Saints Church

Priest in Charge

Revd Alan Symonds Tel/Fax 01458 272029 (For arrangement of Baptisms, Weddings and other occasional services)

Assistant Priest

Revd Wendy Griffith Tel 01458 224087

Curate

Revd Bruce Faulkner Tel 01458 270902

Church Wardens

David Beswick. Tel 01935 840795

Parochial Church Council

Secretary Sir Donald Limon Tel 01935 840450

Treasurer Alan Carnall Tel 01935 840692

Tower Captain

Jackie Ellis Tel 01935 840344

Church Services for September

Sunday 4th 11am Family Service
Sunday 11th 11am Benefice Holy Communion Charlton Mackrell
Sunday 18th 11am Holy Communion 6pm Evensong
Sunday 25th 9.30am Holy Communion

Church Rotas for September

Brass: Jackie Ellis & Sarah Steele-Perkins

Flowers: Sally Clapperton & Babs Conway

Kingsdon Village Hall

For all information (except bookings) contact: - Martin Singleton, Mountsandel Lodge, Mow Barton Rd. Kingsdon. TA11 7LG
Tel. 01935 841162

For bookings contact Marilyn Elliott, 4 Manor Close, Kingsdon, TA11 7LW Tel 01935 841444

Email marilyn.elliott@hotmail.co.uk

Bookings for September 2011

Short Mat Bowls

Mondays 7pm - 9pm, Tuesdays 10am - 12noon

Table Tennis Club

Tuesdays at 7.30pm (not 13th)

Yeovil District Canine Soc.

Wednesdays & Thursdays @8pm

Art Club

Thursdays 10am - 12 (Term time)

Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 8th 7pm

Ladies Club

Tuesday 13th 7pm

Private Function

Saturday 17th All day

Practical Study Group

Wednesday 21st 10am - 3pm

Kingsdon Table Tennis Club

The Table Tennis Club play in the Village Hall on Tuesday evenings (apart from the 2nd Tuesday in the month) between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. If you are interested then please contact Shirley or Martin Singleton on 841162 or just come along.

Kingsdon Cricket Club

Secretary: Kathy Jamison

'The Swallows' 43 Kingsdon Tel 01935 841049

President: Wally Elliott, 4 Manor Close, Kingsdon,
Somerton, TA11 7LW Tel 01935 841444

Chairman: Ian Birrell, Watersmeet, Huish Episcopi,
Langport TA10 9HE Tel 01458 250246

Fixtures for September

4th September	Sunday	Cotham Porter Stores	Away
11th September	Sunday		
18th September	Sunday	Presidents IX v Chairs IX	Home

Kingsdon Seniors Club

The Seniors Club meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 3pm in the Village Hall. New members are always welcome.

For information contact Club Secretary Marilyn Elliott, 4 Manor Close, Kingsdon.

Tel 01935 841444

email: marilyn.elliott@hotmail.co.uk

Kingsdon Ladies Club

The Ladies Club meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members and visitors are always welcome.

For information contact Club President Lynne Davies, Holly House, Frog Lane, Kingsdon. TA11 7LL Tel 01935 840660 or

Club Secretary Jackie Ellis, Hill House, Rocky Hill, Kingsdon. TA11 7LB

Tel 01935 840344

Letters in The Kingsdon Chronicle

The Kingsdon Chronicle welcomes correspondence from its readers. Name and address must be supplied but may be withheld from publication on request.. The Kingsdon Chronicle reserves the right to edit items for publication.

Contributed letters and articles printed in The Kingsdon Chronicle do not necessarily reflect the views of The Kingsdon Chronicle production team.

Editor: Wallace Elliott, 4 Manor Close, Kingsdon. TA11 7LW Tel 01935 841444, Mobile 07899 734049,

email: wallyelliott@hotmail.com <http://www.ukvillages.co.uk/UserNews/39269/The+Kingsdon+Chronicle>