

KSM COMMUNITY PLAN STEERING GROUP NEWSLETTER

Message from Ray Stokes, Chair
KSM Parish Council

It is a year since the Community Plan Steering Group (CPSG) came together, and we have come a long way. The results of the **Household Survey** are now available in a report prepared by the Community Council for Somerset (CCS). At the public meeting on 20th October we outlined the results:

- What the survey showed
- Your comments and
- How we intend to follow up on each topic.

The report and slides from the public meeting are available on the KSM website www.kstm.uk

Can you help us?

We are now setting up teams to work on each aspect of the plan, **and are seeking more volunteers to look into the following specific issues:**

Topic	Focus	Led by:
Living in the Parish	Maintaining separation from Taunton.	Cllr Jacqui Marsh
Traffic Speed & Volume	Controlling speed/volume of traffic through the village and surrounds. Provision of pavements through the village.	David Taylor
Transport - Buses, community transport	Minimising the threat of losing the bus service.	Sarah Hancock
Transport - Cycling & pedestrian safety	Provision of an off-road cycle and pedestrian route to N Taunton and safe cycle routes around the parish.	Cllr Sharon Farnham
Facilities	Work with the Playing Field and Village Hall committees for improving our outdoor and indoor facilities. Look at the feasibility of a shop and/or a café.	Cllr Sharon Farnham
Broadband & Business	Mapping reception around the Parish to identify areas of poor reception. Facilitate a digital village.	Paolo van der Steenhoven
	Better broadband and mobile phone reception. Local communal office space. Space for local businesses to rent. Investigate business support needs.	David Stripp
Environment	Bringing the community together in tackling issues such as litter and fly-tipping, which have an adverse effect on everyone who lives here. Look into the feasibility of a community orchard.	Tony Serjeant
Housing	55% of respondents feel the parish needs more affordable housing, specifically for local people who can't afford to buy/rent on the open market 95% feel that the amount of luxury housing is about right or too much already.	David Stripp; Cllr Jacqui Marsh
Community Assistance	The working group will consider: - the value of a bank of volunteers - signposting other sources of support - ways to ensure good community relations	Nicky Perry
Young People	Establish the activities and facilities young people in the parish would like to see, and to bring them together in a social environment.	Cllr Natasha Bradshaw; Sarah Hancock Evie King

"Would you please pass my thanks to the CPSG team for a superb presentation yesterday evening.

Having played a role in compiling the last Parish Plan I appreciate the time and effort that goes into the process.

It is good to see the evident enthusiasm of the team in tackling their various tasks and to hear that some of the aims, particularly in meeting the wishes of the youth group, are having success already.

No doubt you will encounter residents saying "We tried it before and didn't get anywhere " as an excuse for doing nothing. Please don't be discouraged.

Regulations which in the past were used to block various measures are constantly changing - as are mind sets. No matter how impossible the wish list may appear, it is always worth giving it another go.

The community may not always express gratitude - but they owe the CPSG team a huge vote of thanks."
21.10.16

Highlights so far:

Youth Group...exciting times!

There is currently no organised activity for the young people aged 11-15 in the parish, so a Youth group has formed to address this. Their activity includes:

- Holding two free pizza evenings to establish the activities and facilities young people in the parish would like to see, and to bring them together in a social environment;
- Working closely with Somerset County Council's Youth & Community Service to establish ongoing activities;
- Connecting with students at Taunton School International Middle School (the Grange) for joint activities with local young people
- The new owner of the Kingston Club has offered to give part of the building for young people to meet and treat as their own.

Broadband Working Group

- Mapping exercise: It was clear from the public meeting in June that Broadband reception is a real issue in KSM, so we made a start mapping reception across the parish in order to identify areas with poor speeds, and with the intention of using the data to put pressure to bring these areas up to speed. Please test your speed if you haven't already.
- Articles in Link Up and still on the KSM website, **kstm.uk**:

Maximising your connection: Andy Perry explained how to test and maximise the connection you have – it's still on the website if you missed it.

Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS): Ray Stokes wrote an article on grants available from CDS where speeds are less than 2 mbps. The scheme offers a temporary fix to give an uplift to an average of 10Mbps through approved suppliers.

TA2 6PJ	TA2 8HJ	TA2 8JD
TA2 6PL	TA2 8HL	TA2 8JE
TA2 8AB	TA2 8HN	TA2 8JF
TA2 8AD	TA2 8HP	TA2 8JG
TA2 8AH	TA2 8HS	TA2 8JH
TA2 8AJ	TA2 8HT	TA2 8JJ
TA2 8AL	TA2 8HX	TA2 8JL
TA2 8AN	TA2 8HY	TA2 8JQ
TA2 8AQ	TA2 8HZ	TA5 2ET
TA2 8AT	TA2 8JA	
TA2 8AW	TA2 8JB	

This is a list of postcodes we have not yet had a test result from. If you have one of these codes we ask you to go the KSM website, kstm.uk to test your speed and record the result



Slow broadband? Test your connections

Slow broadband speed has been widely reported as a problem in Kingston St Mary. There are various factors that determine your broadband speed.

One of them is your home telephone wiring and router. We have written a short guide on how to check if your connection is in good working order.

[Read more »](#)

What next?

Following further research, the working parties' findings and suggestions will be combined to form the **Community Plan**, with a target release date of late spring 2017.

Do you have the passion, interest or skills in one or more of these topic areas to help create and present the Plan, and then bring it to life? Join us and make things happen!

To sign-up to any of the working groups please email us at **cp@kstm.uk**

Or contact: or David Stripp on 451455
Jacqui Marsh on 451557