



## Kingston must retain its character as a Living country village

### Kingston Community Action Plan

#### **Introduction**

This community action plan (CAP) has been developed from responses to questionnaires; and “Drop In” sessions, including led sessions for students 11 – 18; banners, signs and, notice boards. It reflects Parishioner wishes and aspirations, which are not covered by the Neighbourhood Plan itself. The CAP will be owned and managed by Kingston Parish Council (KPC) with the involvement of residents and other relevant bodies and may be added to over time. National Planning guidance makes clear that community actions and objectives cannot form part of the Neighbourhood Plan itself because they are not planning policies and, therefore, are not part of the statutory development plan.

#### **Overall policy approach**

- To safeguard, promote, protect and extend community amenities and activities in the Parish and to widen engagement in these processes including participation across all ages.
- To maintain, develop and retain the range, vibrancy and vitality of village and wider Parish community, subject to national and local strategic policies, other policies of Kingston Neighbourhood Plan and the legal requirements and/or constraints of other agencies. CAP actions are primarily issues within the control of the KPC Parish Council and residents the of the community.
- New amenities will respond to parishioner wishes and changing needs; foster the attachment of children and young people to the village by increasing their sense of belonging; attracting young families to the village and using the skills, experience and enthusiasm of parishioners to develop and manage new events and activities. It is recognised that some aspirations cannot be met (*for example: - provision of a village post office as this does not align with Post Office rules; non-viability of a village shop; onerous demands of Disclosure and Barring requirements; the wishes of young people for regular transport to town/city shopping and activities, which is outside the gift of the Parish*)

#### **Current amenities**

St James the Less Church and grounds.

Reading Room; Allotments, Recreation Ground; Dolphin Inn; Fire Station; Green spaces. Access to South West Coast Path and Wonwell estuary

#### **Current regular activities**

Some 20 regular events take place in the Reading Room, almost exclusively managed by the village community. These provide interest, informal education, activity and entertainment across all ages. There is also a range of societies and clubs.

**Plan 1. To address parking and speeding problems.**

Containment of parking throughout the Parish, particularly in the narrow residential streets; to ensure that the Dolphin car park is used for those using the 'pub' ; and to ensure that entrances to homes/home driveways are not blocked by parked cars.

**Plan 2. To improve Parish wide social and general communication**

Maintain the Parish Website, Newsletter and Notice boards and KEG (Kingston Events Group) as the main sources of community events news and communication. Support improved take up of super-fast Broad Band.

**Plan 3. To reduce fly tipping, litter and dog fouling**, this throughout the Parish including in the parking and bathing areas at Wonwell Beach.

**Plan 4. To develop a wider range of activities and clubs for young people.** This to include provision of extended play/exercise equipment, including those which parents and children can enjoy jointly.

**Plan 5. To develop shopping facilities for basic necessities, and items for children.**

Consider encouraging expanding range of products available at the Tuesday Market.

**Plan 6. To seek provision of additional bus services.** This is outside Parish control but KPC may be able to exert influence, possibly in consultation with other local villages. A local volunteer run service might be achievable as in other Devon Communities, but this would need a viable business plan based on credible assessed usage statistics.

**Plan 7: Biodiversity:** KPC to work with the Kingston Tree Warden and residents to develop a planning and management plan to support increased tree cover, biodiversity and the regeneration of hedges in the Parish. **Context:-** Average woodland cover for the UK is between 10-20%. The South Hams has one of the lowest national scores at 9%, although total canopy cover will be slightly higher than this as many of our trees are outside woodlands. In order to address the climate and biodiversity crisis increasing tree abundance both within and outside woodlands is crucial. KPC, in conjunction with the Parish Tree Warden, will: -

- Allow regeneration of hedges and encourage wildlife by working alongside our farmers to encourage agreement not to flail every year any hedgerows that are not immediately adjacent to a road.
- Encourage planting of new in-field trees and nurture new hedgerow trees by protecting them from cutting and flailing.
- Liaise with farmers to mark up locations for any new native tree planting on their land.
- Agree a "3/2/1 system": **three new trees** planted for loss of a large tree, **two** for loss of a medium tree and **one** for a small tree. This to include Ash trees.
- Encourage residents to plant native trees in gardens.
- Always adopt the principle of ***the right tree, in the right place with the best aftercare.***

**Plan 8: Conservation Area:** To press SHDC for a review of the Conservation Areas of Kingston with a view to encouraging the expansion of the two existing Areas and/or the addition of one or more areas.