



Kesgrave Town Council

Ferguson Way, Kesgrave, Ipswich, IP5 2FZ

Telephone: (01473) 625179

Email: enquiry@kesgravetowncouncil.org.uk

Website: www.kesgravetowncouncil.org.uk

ATM 2019 Chairman's Report

Kesgrave's Councillors were elected (Uncontested) on the 2nd of May and officially took office 7 days ago.

We have 11 Councillors in post giving the Town Council the ability to obtain the Power of Competence, we are also in the process of obtaining quality Council accreditation.

We currently have 5 vacancies for Councillors.

The Town Council office in Ferguson Way, Kesgrave, is run by the newly appointed Clerk, Mrs Joanna Abbott, who was promoted to the position earlier this year, following the interview process which included candidates from as far afield as Brussels!.

I would like to welcome Mrs Abbott to her first Annual Town Meeting as Clerk.

Jennie Catling-Green is our Service Development Co-ordinator Jennies has worked in local government and brings a wealth of experience.

Angela Dougall is our RFO who was appointed in 2018, having a background in commercial finance and education. Welcome.

This new team looks after the services and events the Council provides along with the Towns support staff and external service providers.

Including –

In the last year we have restructured the Youth Clubs offering services from specialist service providers on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Working with the KWMCC we have provided a new play area for younger children on the playing field with access from Twelve Acer Approach. I would like to thank KWMCC and Spark for their continued Support in funding sporting facilities in Kesgrave.

The Town Council continues to financially support Kesgrave Library, to providing additional opening hours.

Kesgrave jointly with Rushmere, fully fund a dedicated PCSO, giving continuity and a direct link with an officer who is located in the Town and understands the community.

The Community and Recreation Committee are working to provide services including adopting further open space and play areas and many other community initiatives including rejuvenating the planter at the Rupert Fison Centre.

Planning and Development are talking with the County and District Councils about the possibility of undertaking maintenance work on the highways and pavements, potholes, lines and signage. We will investigate the possibility and viability of the Town providing a service.



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The Council organises and supports a number of events during the year aimed at bringing the community, of all ages, together. These include:

Community Litter Picks.

Fun Day – a free to enter event that showcases the clubs and community groups that Kesgrave has to offer as well as providing a day to bring the community together.

Kesgrave Market – a monthly event at the Scout Hall on the Rupert Fison Centre.

Senior Citizens Outing – the annual trip out, this year a return visit to Felixstowe for fish and chips on the prom.

Community Engagement Events – a chance for Councillors to meet face to face with residents and discuss requirements and issues. These normally happen alongside the Market.

Fireworks – this event which was resurrected and successfully run by Debbie McCullum will this year be co-ordinated by the Town Council.

Remembrance Service – in Conjunction with the Royal British Legion this service is open to all but provides information aimed at the School age children that attend.

Battles over Tribute – the Council installed in 2018 a beacon which was used to join in with the national commemoration to mark the end of the great war. The Beacon is a permanent fixture and will be able to be used for future events.

Christmas Lights – these are put up at the Town Centre at the end of November and a switching on ceremony marks the start of the festive season.

Ice Skating – this extremely popular 2-day event has now been booked for its 3rd year and will be held on the same weekend at the Christmas lights will be turned on.

And the Evening of Refection – a time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us. An evening where memory stars can be hung on the Cedar tree at All Saints Church.

Also

Special thanks go to Debbie McCullum for her community events which are part of Kesgrave but only happen due to her hard work and dedication.

They are;

Easter Egg Hunt

5K Fun Run – around the Town were almost 500 runners took part this year.

And the St Georges Day Bike Show

Thank you Debbie.



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Town Councillors are the first tier of local government, the grass roots.

Kesgrave's County and District Councillors are a vital link between tiers of local government, and I would like to thank them all for their continued support. Also, to thank Sue Mower for her committed support for Kesgrave over the years as well as congratulating Councillors McCullum, Lawson and Lynch on their recent re-election to East Suffolk Council.

As this is a new administration, I would like to thank all the Town Councillors that have been elected this year for volunteering their time for the next 4 years also to thank those who served over the past 4 years;

Rob Bridgeman
Steph Fairbrother
Stuart Lawson
Ian Wallace
Gavin Hamilton
Becky Patten
Chris Marsh
David Issacs
Greg Thomas
Geraint Derrick
Nikki Goodchild

And finally

Special Thanks to Pat Mills and Robin Spittle who have both been Councillors for many years and have served the community, Pat served for many years as Chair of Planning and Development Committee. Robin was Vice Chair of the Town Council for many years.

A big thank you for all the time you have given to serve Kesgrave, I am sure this would not be the Town it is today without their dedication.

THANK YOU

Neal Beecroft-Smith
Chairman