

Potholes, damaged signposts, footpaths etc report these and much more to the North Somerset Council's Area Officer at Yatton Library every Friday, 10:30 – 12:00 No appointment needed.

2017 MEETINGS

7:30pm at the Village Hall,
Kenn St, Kenn

- 3 July** – Council Meeting
- 4 September** – Council Meeting
- 6 November** – Council Meeting

Agendas will be on noticeboards
3 days before the meeting.

KENN PARISH COUNCILLORS

Sheila Naish Tel: 07808 920 962

Chairman

Stephen Brain Tel: 07773 211 394

Vice-Chairman

Wilf Bessant Tel: 01275 872 406

Jon-Paul Humberstone Tel: 07990 690 060

Cheryl Quinn Tel: 07500 048 684

Hartley Staples Tel: 01275 340 771

Robert Treble Tel: 07831 316 760

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

Jill Iles 01934 830430 / 07976 202838

Judith Hadley 01275 563640

You can speak to both at Yatton Library from
10am–12noon, fourth Saturday of each month

No meeting since the last Kenn News & Views – so a bit of info about Parish Councils in general

A Parish Council consists of members who come from within the parish, who have a responsibility to represent the affairs of that community. This is why Parish Councils are well known for being the level of local government that is nearest to the people of their area. They manage and enhance local amenities, they have an interest in concerns and representing the parish on local issues, their opinions are sought by other authorities (local/national) on matters concerning them.

Elections – Kenn has 7 councillors for the Parish. The last local council elections for North Somerset were held in 7 May 2015 that means the current Kenn Parish Council is half way through its term of 4 years.

- The next elections will be held early in May 2019 = 22mths, or 11 meetings from now.
- 1 month before, early in April, the paperwork needs to be completed to stand for the Parish Council = 21mths. For the last couple of elections Kenn has been what is known as 'uncontested.' That means either;
- exactly 7 councillors stood, therefore it was not necessary to have an election or
- less than 7 stood, so the shortage had to be advertised and councillors co-opted until the number reached 7

Councillors – By keeping an interest in local matters Councillors gain knowledge to assist them with their:

- Decision-making: by attending Council meetings with other parish councillors, they decide which activities could be supported, where local money should be spent, what services/initiatives could be delivered.
- Monitoring: making sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services.
- Getting involved: as local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards local residents and local organisations. This often depends on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available but may include: going to meetings of local organisations and other bodies that affect the wider community, such as the police, the Planning Authority, Highways Authority, local schools etc. Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public, such as making representations to the district council. Meeting with individual residents.

Parish Clerk – is usually a part-time post, working from home but is still a paid official. The main duties are; notification of meetings (issued agenda, putting these on notice boards/web), attending Parish Council meetings, recording the minutes, providing advice and carrying out duties as part of meeting administration, ie actions/decisions from these meetings. Reporting and maintaining the Parish Council's finances. Managing the day to day business of the Council; eg responding to enquiries sent to the Council 'office', corresponding with other organisations as appropriate (ie on Council decisions), advising on deadlines such as, when Council will be able to respond to enquiries etc. Maintaining and keeping historic records of the Parish Council.

More information is on the Kenn Parish Council website – in the section marked 'Parish Council'