

Good afternoon.

All you Councillors represent different wards. They may have started off as small country hamlets or been the nucleus of the ancient city. Every one of them has a history unique to them and has developed an individual character.

Keynsham is not any different. It was mentioned in the Domesday Book and with its geography, geology and natural resources overlaid by economic and political influences and domination of many centuries, has developed from a settlement at a river crossing point to the present 21st century town.

Bath and North East Somerset is the latest in line of artificial groups of such small towns, villages and conurbations to be merged into a Local Authority. It will not be the last. Naturally, in order to preside over a family of adopted ^{already} 'grown-up' communities we need an elected Council. It surely exists to extract the dues necessary to finance the needs of its population but also to support the aims and objectives of each ward within it, providing that they do not conflict with Government or Council policy nor the interests of other wards.

Keynsham has a Town Council supported by a separate precept, not a charge on B&NES. We are a democracy and the Town Council support[^] the majority view.

Naming the streets of the new development is not the first time when the public has been asked for a community view which when submitted, has been ignored. Please do not ask if you have no intention of heeding the answer! This is a complete waste of Local Authority and Town Council resources not to mention public time, ~~and~~ energy and enthusiasm. We have grown weary of 'tick-box' exercises. They only serve to create at best frustration and anger, but much worse, apathy. Beware the groundswell of apathy! The Elections are fast approaching. Our Town Councillors deserve better respect and recognition from the Local Authority for the[^] hard work on our behalf, as do our Ward Councillors.

Keynsham is proud of its history and wishes to retain its old street names. It is important to us and really of so little consequence to the Local Authority, merely after all, ^{to them, just} a postal address.
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Judi Grant