

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020

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Present: Councillors: P Wooddisse (Chairman), T Talbot-Webb (Vice Chairman), J K Hall (Ex-Officio), S Anderson, Mrs C Allen, G Sisley.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Co-opted member J Glover sent his apologies for the meeting.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

## 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meetings of the Leisure and Amenities Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, having been circulated previously, were approved and signed as a true record of the proceedings.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

No update has been received with regard the trees falling on the canal / river at Dunsley – the Clerk to progress.

Councillor Mrs C Allen to forward additional photographs of the bulbs to the Clerk for future reference.

## 5. UPDATE FROM KINVER ECO-COLLECTIVE (Green Village )

Report attached as appendix 1 to these minutes. It was agreed to invite the group to the next physical meeting. Members following receipt of the groups activities were keen to help support them where possible.

## 6. FUTURE PROJECTS

### **Update on walks**

Although the library is closed the group have been walking and reporting defects on the paths to the Clerk. The Technicians are back at work and working through the strimming of the paths and repairs.

Councillor P Wooddisse reported that he is also walking the Staffordshire Way at the present time, and again forwarding any issues found to the County Council.

### **Canals and Rivers Trust**

Deferred to a future meeting

*Representatives will be attending the next meeting, to discuss local issues with the members. If anyone has any questions, could they let the Clerk know and she will forward them so the discussion can be as meaningful as possible.*

Questions:-

- *Do the Trust have powers to make boats be tidied up?*
- *Concern over the Beech Trees on the bend of the canal near Dunsley as 2 have fallen down and we would ask that the trees are surveyed as they look in a dangerous condition. If trees do fail could others be planted in their place?*

### **Discuss sponsorship of areas in the village by businesses**

The Clerk following the January meeting circulated information to the business on sponsorship, but did not receive a single response.

Members discussed the areas of concern particularly the corner of Church Hill.

A representative of the National Trust has contacted the Parish Office and Councillor Mrs V Wilson with regard to taking over / tidying up areas in the village. Also Kinver Eco Collective are looking at planting in the village to improve its appearance particularly on Meddins Lane.

Councillor Mrs V Wilson agreed to set up a meeting with the National Trust, Highways and Parish Council to look at how this area can be improved by possibly planting wild flower plugs.

### **Christmas 2020**

Councillors P Wooddisse and S Anderson have attended traders meetings in the village (before lockdown). There does not seem to be support for a community event as previously organised by the Big Tree Group. At one of the meetings the Police attended and confirmed that if there was an opening night for the lights being switched on then a road closure is required. Councillor Mrs V Wilson stated that Mark Keeling had kindly agreed not to charge for a road closure if it was required. Members thanked her for this kind offer.

With regard to siting a permanent tree in the village, members agreed to Recommend to the Parish Council that a tree is sited for a maximum of 10 years (due to height it will grow), and costs and full details of locations to be available prior to the Council meeting.

## **7. MEMBERS REPORTS ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS ONLY**

*Previous minute - It was suggested that its investigated, the possible use of a system to burn the fp numbers onto the posts. The Clerk will look into this. This has been purchased with a stencil also.*

Members are still very concerned over FP3 and it was agreed that Councillor P Wooddisse write to Paul Rochfort to explain the concerns over firing over the footpath and the extended firing area that is now covered.

The newly installed stile by the land owner of the former Yew Tree Farm, needs an additional step as the steps are very high.

The Clerk will circulate an updated list of paths that have been worked on by the Technicians.

8. COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHAIRMAN

None has been received.

9. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Items for a future agenda –  
Presentation from Canals and Rivers Trust.  
Giants Well  
Kinver Eco Group presentation  
Bulbs

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (following the Planning Committee meeting).

11. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

The following recommendation was made to the Council that the Parish Council arrange and fund a permanent Christmas tree (for a maximum of 10 years due to height it will grow), and costs and full details of locations to be available prior to the Council meeting.

Appendix 1 to the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020  
Kinver Eco Collective  
Report for Kinver Parish Council Leisure Meeting  
18<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.

Good Evening Councillors and Staff of the Parish Council

We are Kinver Eco Collective a new group in Kinver and the first of our monthly meetings was held in September 2019. We are a group of around a dozen regular members of the community who have come together through our shared interest in the well being of our planet and our wish to make a difference and create a more sustainable village.

Our ethos is outlined in the Aims stated within our Constitution as follows:

- to help Kinver step towards a more sustainable village
- to support and encourage residents of all ages and abilities to reuse, reduce and recycle
- to support businesses to become plastic free
- to support schools and organisations to be more sustainable
- to inform and encourage younger generations to think about their planet
- to always listen to, respect and positively encourage the views of others
- to share the skills of the community to positive effect
- to foster community spirit, creating opportunities to meet and share

At our initial meeting we found that there were several areas of interest or concern to people, these being:

- **Plastic** usage and the desire to encourage alternative eco friendly products and packaging plus recycling opportunities for packaging currently not included in the Council's waste management facilities
- **Transport** – concerns about levels of traffic at the Kinver High and Brindley Schools at drop off and pick up times impacting upon safety for pedestrians, vehicles and air quality
- **Biodiversity** – the plight of bees, insects and wildlife in relation to current methods employed in weed control, management and use of land and nature strips which could be improved and enhanced to the benefit of the village and it's community
- **Energy** – the desire to explore and provide more information and support for community building projects and individuals wishing to follow the track of reducing the dependence on fossil fuel derived materials in favour of a more earth friendly approach to meeting our energy needs
- **Community** - to get schools, Council, organisations, businesses and residents on board to work together to make improvements where ever possible and lead the way to a better more thoughtful and sustainable Kinver for generations to come

We are in the early developmental stages of our organisation but so far we have achieved the following:

- set up a Facebook page where the community can discuss and find out information about current eco concerns and solutions
- written and passed our Constitution
- met and worked with the KSCA in November 19 to put on a very successful Eco Day offering displays and demonstrations of reusing, re-purposing, recycling/up-cycling and showing alternative eco friendly products for home and personal use
- Winnie and Olive's have increased their stock to include Eco friendly products and set up

bins outside their shop for the collection of crisp packets which are being sent to the Terracycle company for recycling into mostly garden items and play equipment

- divided into sub groups/teams to work on particular projects
- prioritised our interests for 2020 based on capacity and these will be Plastic Free, Schools and Transport, with Energy currently represented with an Eco Collective member now joining the KSCA Committee and contributing ideas to the new extensions and refurbishments there
- opened a Community Bank Account
- joined Plastic Free Communities, an initiative from SAS (Surfers Against Sewage), now a nationwide organisation providing support for communities across the country who wish to play a more active role in reducing discarded plastics which are playing havoc with our rivers, oceans, land and landfill
- become a Leader for Plastic Free Communities and making plans for achieving accreditation for our village
- currently working on a presentation that can be used to introduce the concepts of Plastic Free Communities to other organisations

**In the (near) future** and given the restrictions posed by the event of the Corona Virus, we hope to be contacting Council, Businesses, Schools and other organisations locally to gain your support with our endeavours.

We will be planning educational and community events throughout the year to stimulate interest and recruit further members to achieve our aims, and start to bring the community together in a mutual interest that affects us all.

We believe that the benefits of such a movement in the village will make Kinver more competitive with other villages and towns in the area who are also embarking on Plastic Free Communities. (Stourbridge, Kidderminster, Bridgnorth and Bewdley are also working towards accreditation).

We also think that it shows Kinver to be a caring, well informed and responsible village doing everything it can to set a higher standard in regard to the care of our planet.

We think it will have a positive effect on business and discerning visitors to the Edge who are steadily becoming a more informed population in general thanks to the event of Sir David Attenborough's Blue Planet documentary which, for the first time, highlighted the scale of plastic pollution to the wider public.

We hope we have provided something of an introduction to our new group with this first report and look forward to meeting with you in person at a subsequent meeting where we hope to share our new presentation.

With kind regards and best wishes for a safe few weeks or months ahead.

Kinver Eco Collective

Chair: Jane Meyrick

Treasurers: Marion Taylor and Sally Harris

Secretary: Sue Watson

NB Please see and read more about Plastic Free Communities at [www.sas.org.uk](http://www.sas.org.uk)