

MINUTES OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2022 AT 95 HIGH STREET, KINVER

PRESENT: Councillors, Mrs C Allen (Vice Chairman), D Light, IG Sadler, Ms E Lord, G Sisley, H Williams, S Anderson, D McGirr, E Simons, P Wooddisse, K Slade, K Hosell, S Charlesworth-Jones and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson

Also present: Miss J Cree – Clerk and Mrs M Fullwood – Assistant Clerk, Mrs B Owen

188/22. Apologies for Absence.

Councillors JK Hall (Chairman) and Mrs S Harris sent their apologies.

189/22. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

None were declared.

190/22. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th August 2022.

The minutes of the meetings held on the above date, were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting, with the following exception:-

Item 177/22 – the word fined should be fine.

191/22. To receive a report from the PCSO's relating to Kinver

The report from the Police was circulated to all members and noted. We have a new Chief Inspector that has been appointed and he will be invited to attend a future meeting (possibly November meeting) It was noted that Cllr G Sisley has a meeting with him on the 1st November to discuss the problems in the area, and if there are any additional items to let Cllr G Sisley know in advance. There is also a Teams meeting on the 18th October at 6pm to put questions to him which Cllr D McGirr will be attending.

192/22. Public Participation

Standing orders were raised to enable members of the public to speak.

Mrs B Owen raised the following points:-

The issue of the police first, there are meetings 12th October at Wombourne, for the public to attend, but how do you get there on public transport?

Update on Kinver Bus was requested from prior to the meeting from County Councillor Mrs V Wilson, Mrs Owen said the service is running well, the correspondence from Councillor Mrs V Wilson included a response from the Baroness, which stated that she requested support for County bus services and funding. At the moment Kinver Bus service will continue and has had a reprieve.

She has looked at the N Plan documents and noted the part relating to the need for public transport.

In the past a list of organisations had been circulated to all residents via the CA Magazine, as a centre pull out. However, there is an updated list on the website of all local organisations and contact details, along with useful information and can be downloaded or a copy can be printed copy collected.

Standing orders were reinstated.

193/22. To receive an update on the Community use agreement and make any decisions as required.

The CUA amended agreement has been received and circulated to all members of the council.

Cllr C Charlesworth-Jones reported on this matter, he felt that the revised document was much improved, and noted that discount negotiation may be available for local organisations to get a better rate.

The CUA does state that to use the fitness suit you have to book 7 days prior to wanting to use it, a more proactive system would be better for the Community. He would like the opportunity (with the Clerk) to ask the school direct how this will work, before it is accepted. This was agreed.

A response is required from the Parish Council as they are a statutory consultee. It was felt that the Parish Council could work with the school to support the launch of the agreement and use of the leisure centre by local people.

The Review Committee needs to include representatives from the user community; and should not be dominated by school members. The booking system is less user-friendly than other local leisure centres, given that often one has to email and await a reply before knowing if one has a booking. It was suggested the school could look at how other centres manage their bookings.

As reported at the Leisure and Amenities Committee user bookings for local groups at other school amenities, is of concern but a negotiation on discounted rates may help to encourage local groups back.

It was agreed to have this as an agenda item for next meeting, and when it is received as a valid planning application this should be a recommendation to the Parish Council not sent straight to SSDC.

194/22. To discuss the Church Wall at St Peters

A meeting is scheduled for the 10th October at Codsall at 11am, for the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr E Simons, Cllr G Sisley, Mr Middleton and Clerk will attend via Teams. This was noted.

195/22. To discuss the Parish Council response to climate change following NALC event – Cllr Ms E Lord

Cllr Ms E Lord attended a seminar on Climate change recently, and has forwarded documents to all members .

The NALC event was held to help councils work out what they could contribute to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The Clerk has made an excellent start by reviewing and acting on the parish council's own activities. It would be good to publish this to start to lead the way.

The monthly market provides an excellent venue for engagement with local people on issues such as home insulation to save energy; solar energy; etc., providing relevant information and exchanging experience.

It was proposed by Cllr S Anderson and seconded by Cllr G Sisley to agree to set up a small working party to look at this topic, and report back to the council with members and terms of reference for the working party.

In addition from that we have been prepared to show what practical decisions Parish Council's can make. The Clerk has prepared where the Parish Council is in relation to this and this is set out as appendix 1 to these minutes.

196/22. To discuss the repair to the Clock Shelter

This item was referred for discussion at the meeting. The Clerk has been unable to get any further quotes apart from the original quote from a local oak company and she has contacted local builders, oak companies etc.

Cllr Mrs C Allen has spoken to a local company who have suggested granite saddle stones, which will need to be at least a metre high due to the erosion of the existing legs.

The original company have held the quote and earliest repair date would be December, however depending on the work required planning permission may need to be sought also.

It was proposed by Cllr S Anderson and seconded by Cllr K Hosell to accept the quote from the local supplier, funding of the project to be put into the budget for 2023/24. The Clerk to request drawings for the work and submit a planning application for the works as it is believed Planning Permission will be required as it is in the Conservation Area. On a vote this was agreed.

197/22. To discuss the Christmas Lights

The Clerk has spoken again to our installation contractor he still has not booked onto a course for getting the required HERS qualifications, so she contacted over 20 local HERS registered companies (within a 30 mile radius of Kinver) and has managed to get a company from Birmingham to come on the 25th November at a cost of £290 + VAT to check the lights are plugged in correctly. R H Electrical will erect the lights etc as normal. Therefore she has submitted this applications to EON and the County Council.

The Christmas light switch on and market road traffic management is booked.

A discussion took place about possible funding for the Big Tree in the village, it was noted that the Parish Council cannot give funds to individuals, they have to be a community organisation with a bank account , accounts etc.

198/22. To discuss a warm room location for the village

At the end of the Finance meeting this was briefly raised. The Library was a possible location in the village for this to be a warm room facility. Cllr P Wooddisse reported on this matter, and the opening hours for the library are not conducive to this.

Cllr Mrs V Wilson reported that there are over 40 libraries in the County, and they have looked at using them for warm rooms. But as reported above the opening times are not helpful.

The District will be emailing the Parish Councils to ask for the Council to identify areas within the Parish that could be used as a warm room as they have the local knowledge. The Parish Council suggested possible locations such as the Senior Citizens rooms could be used, the burgesses, the KSCA, local pubs etc.

It was agreed that the Clerk forward to the District Council, the Parish Council's idea, when asked for them.

199/22. Update from the 20 mph Working Group

Cllr Ms E Lord reported that options for the speed limit reduction have been prepared and they are in the process of getting opinions from local residents on these proposals. The options are to do the main artery to extend the 20mph from High Street to Potters Cross, do all the village or do nothing. It was noted that this is within the remit of the County Council, but the Parish Council do not have any powers to enforce this. It was noted that the Parish will wait for the report on the consultation and discuss at that time.

County Cllr Mrs V Wilson reported that at SCC received a petition which was submitted to have 20's plenty type scheme in a village in the north of the County, which had 5000 signatures on it, and the scheme was still turned down.

200/22. To discuss traffic issues at near the school on Enville Road

County Councillor Mrs V Wilson reported that there has been in discussions with a local resident to discuss parking by the school, she had prepared a list of the issues raised from the site visit (which was circulated to all members prior to the meeting) at school time.

She has asked if the Parish Council will be asked if the SID sign can be placed by the school gates once more, for a period of time. She explained the issues in detail that she has looked into. One of the areas discussed was to make the grassed area at the bottom of Brindley Heath Junior School into a carpark, but this is a nonstarter as the school have the land allocated and there may be Health and Safety issues relating to the access.

Community Speed Watch could help and the school site is an approved location, however we need to get volunteers to come forward.

It was suggested that the Community Support Officers help, they come down at School times to talk to the people parking, this could be raised as a question to the new Superintendent.

201/22. To receive the minutes and any recommendations from the following Committee meetings:-

Leisure and amenities Committee

28th September 2022

The above meeting minutes were noted and it was agreed to Recommend to the Parish Council:-

- to request that a budget sum is allocated of £4000 for the purchase of Noticeboards, this was referred to the Finance Committee, it was noted that the KSCA might want to share a board on Jubilee Gardens.
- to adopt the project of a Kinver Website and request that a specification is sent out to get costings for a Visit Kinver Website and the ongoing daily running costs to keep the website up and fresh.

The above recommendations were agreed.

Planning and Development Committee

1st September 2022

The above meeting minutes were noted all recommendations were made to the District Council.

An update on the Regulation 14 for the Neighbourhood Plan was presented by the Chairman and this was noted. It was proposed by Cllr S Charlesworth-Jones and seconded by Cllr S Anderson to propose a relaunch of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation, for an additional 6 weeks, starting on October 11th, to include an updated Plan and to include some Statutory Consultees who did not receive their required notification. On a vote this was agreed.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

21st September 2022

The above meeting minutes were noted and the following recommendations were made to the Council:-

- the accounts up to 31st August 2022 as set as Appendix 2 to these minutes be accepted.

These were agreed.

202/22. County / District Councillor to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

County Councillor Mrs V Wilson reported that:-

- Climate change is being discussed at SSDC and they are working towards in 2050 to be Carbon Neutral. The Officers working in this area will attend a meeting if we need help / advice.
- The Bus service has had a reprieve merging the school and normal passengers has saved the service, new Transport Officer is not in post as yet as recruitment is challenging at the moment. In 18 months the services will be reviewed again.
- She has driven around the Cabinet Member for roads in this area to show them how bad the rural roads are. He was particularly interested in the Holloway with regard to this road being changed to be access only and pedestrianised.
- In Wombourne / Lower Penn, the pavements are being dug up, by Zoom and City Fibre, she reported that she has pavements in desperate need in the Parishes, but because of these companies the County will not be undertaking any pavement works. Cllr G Sisley reported that Kinver should see progress from Open Reach at the end of the year to start to connect to Fibre, and the Telephone Exchange will not be required after this time.

District Councillor G Sisley

- The Appeal for Rose Meadow Farm Application has been postponed.
- Has a meeting booked with the Chief Inspector on the 1st November.
- He wants to reach out to landlords of empty shops in the High Street to try to get them open and traders in.
- Van is due to be delivered w/c 10th October, the old van will then be sold for the best price. It was proposed by Cllr S Anderson to give authority for the Clerk to sell the old van once the new van is up and working, this was seconded by Cllr P Wooddisse and on a vote this was agreed.

District Councillor H Williams reported that he is attending a meeting at Codsall at the 10th October re the Church Wall.

203/22. Report of the Chairman

There was no report.

204/22. To receive and note the report from the Clerk including Burial Ground Superintendents report.

Clerks report

Office damp – contractor has been in and a report is awaited.

Beacon – quotes are being sought for a price for a gas beacon.

Event cancelled for “be a councillor” from SSDC new date awaited.

Grants for organisations that support ethnic minorities – SCC

Star Council awards online ceremony 13th October 2022

Locality Forum 22nd September cancelled

Parish Summit 20th October 2022

Community Safety Partnership forum – 18th October 2022 Forest of Mercia “trees for climate” initiative

Burial Ground Superintendents report.

There have been 4 headstone applications and installations.

Several headstones have had to be refitted as the installer used the wrong size concrete base slab.

There has been 1 interment of ashes and 1 burial this month.

205/22. Reports from Members sitting on Outside Bodies for the Parish Council.

Cllr P Wooddisse and Cllr S Charlesworth-Jones has attended a meeting of Kinver Exhibition Foundation and the Foundation has approved families applications for school uniform they get a cheque and if the applications are for schools transport this is paid directly to the school.

206/22. To receive the accounts for payment since the last meeting.

The accounts for payment as set out as appendix 1 to these minutes were accepted.

207/22. Items for future Meetings

To be with the Clerk on the 25th October . Clock Shelter update in December.

208/22. Dates of Next Meetings

Planning and Development Committee	12 th October 2022
Leisure and amenities Committee	26 th October 2022
Parish Council meeting	2 nd November 2022
Finance and General Purposes Committee	23 rd November 2022

Summary of report by NALC on what local councils can do (are doing) on Climate Change:

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/our-work/climate-change/3598-what-can-local-councils-do-on-climate-change-2021/file>

Q10) What carbon-reducing measures are your council working on within their own operations?

SWITCHING THE COUNCIL VEHICLES TO ELECTRIC	NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE ARRIVING MID OCTOBER
HOME WORKING OPTIONS FOR STAFF WHERE POSSIBLE	TECHNICIANS CANNOT WORK FROM HOME, THEREFORE OFFICE WOULD BE OPEN SO STAFF MAY AS WELL BE IN THE OFFICE
ENCOURAGING ACTIVE TRAVEL	2 MEMBERS OF STAFF LIVE IN THE VILLAGE AND WALK TO WORK EACH DAY
ENCOURAGING USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT	1 MEMBER OF STAFF LIVES IN WOLVERLEY AND HAS NO ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT
CAR SHARING SCHEME	INSUFFICIENT STAFF TO DO THIS AS ONLY 1 DRIVES TO WORK
DIVESTING TO SUSTAINABLE BANKING	PARISH COUNCIL ALREADY BANK WITH CO-OPERATIVE BANK
FAVOURING LOCALLY SOURCED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES	ALL SUPPLIERS ARE WITHIN A 5 MILE RADIUS OF KINVER, FUEL STATION (WALLHEATH), OCL (SWINDON), STATIONARY SUPPLIER (WOMBOURNE), ETC. THE PARISH ALWAYS TRY TO EMPLOY LOCAL CONTRACTORS TO UNDERTAKE WORK – ELECTRICIANS, PLUMBERS, REPAIRS TO EQUIPMENT.
IMPROVING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE BUILDING	THIS NEEDS TO BE LOOKED AT, THE LOFT IS INSULATED. WE HAVE NO CAVITY WALLS DUE TO THE AGE OF THE BUILDING, DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOWS, BOILER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A MORE MODERN OPTION. LIGHTS THROUGHOUT BUILDING NEED TO BE CHANGED TO LED'S
SWITCHING COUNCIL BUILDINGS TO A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SUPPLIER	THIS NEEDS TO BE REVIEWED CURRENT SUPPLIER UTILITY WAREHOUSE
CREATING YOUR OWN RENEWABLE ENERGY	WOULD NEED TO BE INVESTIGATED
USING LAND TO DRAW DOWN CARBON (EG TREE PLANTING AND REWILDING)	WE HAVE MANY AREAS OF LAND OWNED BY THE COUNCIL THAT ARE NATURAL AND PLANTED WITH TREES; COMBER RIDE, DANESFORD GARDENS, JUBILEE GARDENS. NEW TREES BEING PLANTED AT THE KSCA FOR THE JUBILEE. PARISH GARDEN IS TO BE PLANTED WITH WILDFLOWERS AND IS LEFT IN A NATURAL STATE WITH MANY TREES GROWING.
SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT	WHERE POSSIBLE WE TRY TO BUY LOCAL TO REDUCE TRANSPORT MILES FOR ITEMS AS OPPOSED TO LARGE COMPANIES

■ Switching the council fleet to electric	8%
■ Home working options for staff where possible	43%
■ Encouraging active travel (walking and bicycles)	27%
■ Encouraging use of public transport	11%
■ Car sharing scheme	6%
■ Divesting to sustainable banking	8%
■ Favouring locally sourced products and services	31%
■ Improving the energy efficiency of council buildings	30%
■ Switching council buildings to a sustainable energy supplier	23%
■ Generating your own renewable energy	15%
■ Using land to draw down carbon (e.g. tree planting and rewilding)	38%
■ Sustainable procurement	15%
■ Don't know	9%
■ Other (please specify)	27%

For info, here are some of the measures local councils were taking in the community:

Q9) What carbon-reducing measures are you working on in the community?

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINTS	2 INSTALLED FOR PUBLIC USE FOR RESIDENTS THAT HAVE NO DRIVES TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO PURCHASE AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE. ALSO, FOR VISITORS TO THE PARISH TO CHARGE THEIR VEHICLES
CAR SHARING SCHEME	KINVER ECO COLLECTIVE?
ENCOURAGE ACTIVE TRAVEL	KINVER ECO COLLECTIVE HAVE SET UP A PARK AND STRIDE SCHEME TO ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO WALK CHILDREN TO SCHOOL
EXPANDING NETWORK OF BICYCLE LANES AND FOOTPATHS	KINVER HAS 100 PROW, GOOD FOOTPATH ACCESS TO STOURBRIDGE EITHER WALKING ALONG ROADS OR USING THE CANAL NETWORK.
SUPPORTING PUBLIC TRANSPORT	KINVER HAS A BASIC BUS SERVICE THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL IS TRYING TO FIGHT TO KEEP FOR RESIDENTS. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE 2 MINIBUSSES, ONE SPECIFICALLY FOR THE ELDERLEY THAT IS USED FOR RESIDENTS TO GET TO CHURCH OR EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE. THE OTHER RUNS 3 TIMES PER WEEK AND HAS A BUS SCHEDULE TO PICK UP PEOPLE FROM HOME / BUS STOPS (AND GOES TO COOKLEY AND ENVILLE) TO BRING THEM TO THE VILLAGE FOR SHOPPING AND

	SOCIALISING.
INCENTIVES FOR SWITCHING TO A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SUPPLIER	
GENERATING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY	
ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES (EG INSULATION)	
TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING	KINVER ECO COLLECTIVE?
REWILDING / WILDLIFE FRIENDLY PLANNING (FROM VERGES TO LARGER AREAS)	KINVER ECO COLLECTIVE?
CUTTING USE OF PESTICIDES	THE PARISH COUNCIL NO LONGER USES PESTICIDES IN THE PARISH, THE ONLY AREA THEY ARE USED IS AT COMBER RIDGE ON THE GRAVEL CAR PARK.
BUY LOCAL INCENTIVES	KINVER MARKET / SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
LOCAL PRODUCT MARKETS	KINVER MARKET
WORKING WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES	KINVER MARKET / PC CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ETC?
COMMUNITY FRIDGE	
SKILLS AND TRAINING (EG TRAINING PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY TO DO RETROFITS / ENERGY EFFICIENT MEASURES)	

■ Electric Vehicle charging points	35%
■ Car sharing scheme	4%
■ Encouraging active travel	23%
■ Expanding network of bicycle lanes and footpaths	34%
■ Supporting public transport (e.g. subsidising rural bus service)	14%
■ Incentives for switching to a sustainable energy supplier	11%
■ Generating sustainable energy	17%
■ Energy efficiency incentives (e.g. insulation)	13%
■ Tree and shrub planting	64%
■ Rewilding/wildlife friendly planning (from verges to larger areas)	56%
■ Working with local landowners to manage land for wildlife	19%
■ Cutting the use of pesticides	22%
■ 'Buy local' incentives	28%
■ Local produce markets	17%
■ Working with local businesses	25%
■ Community fridge	5%
■ Skills and training (e.g. training people in the community to do retrofits/energy efficient measures)	6%
■ Don't know	4%
■ Other (please specify)	27%

Accounts for payment for September meeting 2022

Accounts for payment	Description	Total
Barclays Bank	monthly charges x 2	16.00
Christmas Direct	2 x sets of tree lights	56.97
ESPO	Supplies	65.20
Emerald Roofing	Repair to coping stones	500.00
Nplan	Domain name charges	14.39
Greenacre Services	Contractor work for part August (inc grass cutting x 2 months and September)	1500.00
Gif Gaf	Sim for CCTV at garage	6.00
ICO	Annual Charge	40.00
HMRC	October	1245.07
J R K	Supplies	116.28
Kinver Edge Farm Shop	Toilet opening August	120.00
Kinver Youth Café	Grant	576.00
Mazars	Audit costs	480.00
Morrisons	Fuel	120.00
OCL	Supplies	28.51
Sharp	Staples for copier	117.31
Screwfix	Supplies	193.52
SCC pensions	October	1777.73
Trees Direct	Jubilee Trees	201.00
Urban Vision	Nplan Charges	945.00
Viking Direct	Supplies (part Nplan for reg 14 mailing)	366.10
Zoom	Nplan renewal	143.88
		8628.96
List of Monthly Direct Debits		
Tax for van	September	25.43
Salaries	October	4506.80
SSDC	Rates for Comber Ridge	99.00
IONOS	Web charges	1.20
Utility Warehouse	ev point August	165.81
Utility Warehouse	Kinver Edge Toilet August	18.70
Utility Warehouse	95 High Street August	179.48
Utility Warehouse	95 High Street September%	189.81
Utility Warehouse	EV Point September	215.69
Utility Warehouse	Kinver Edge toilets September	18.70
Utility Warehouse	Garage September	15.62
	Total	5436.24
	Total Expenditure	14065.20
Receipts		
Burial Fees		800.00
Vat Return		5229.34
Vendelectric	August / September	275.18
Market	3 x months	440.00
	Total Income	6744.52