

MINUTES OF THE KINVER ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY 1st MARCH 2017

PRESENT Councillors: Henry Williams, Lin Hingley, Virginia Webb, Christine Allen, Dudley Light, Paul Wooddisse, Denise Geohegan & Ian Sadler* arrived during item 2 Minutes of APM 2016).

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs J Spaul - Clerk, Mrs M Fullwood

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT Margaret Rogers

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Marilyn Beattie of Kinver Volunteer Bureau, John Sharkey of Kinver Edge Committee (National Trust), Councillors Gary Mander & John Cutler.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 2nd MARCH 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr Dudley Light & seconded by Cllr Lin Hingley to accept the minutes.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES OF 2nd MARCH 2016

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Summary of Chairman's report for March Annual Parish Meeting

April 2016

A message from the National Trust has been received to ask to discuss what is happening re publicity etc. for the lighting of the Beacon. The time suggested is 8.30pm now due to the number of beacons being lit in honour of the Queen. The date for the lighting is the 21st April. There will be a church service before the lighting of the Beacon at 8.00pm.

The Chairman is planning to meet them next week to discuss the publication of the event. Obviously it will go on Noticeboards and the website and will be sent to the press.

The lighting is at 8.30pm by the Wardens Lodge. Standard Bearers will be there also. The Chairman is away for this event, but the Vice Chairman has agreed to coordinate everything.

The Chairman also attended an evening with the Twinning Association on Sunday at St Peters Church.

May 2016

The Chairman reported his thanks to those attending the lighting of the Beacon, as he had been unable to attend. It was noted that letters of thanks have been sent to the National Trust and Rev'd Karen Stanton for their help on the night.

He attended the KSCA meeting, where they are looking at Franchising the bar.

The Bowling Club have contacted the Clerk to ask if they will do a letter of support for their planning application, members agreed that the Clerk send a letter to the Bowling Club as follows:-

"The Parish Council met last night, and I raised with them the Bowling Clubs request for support to submit a planning application to enhance the facilities at the Bowling Green.

As Custodian Trustees the Parish Council has no objection to a planning application being submitted to South Staffordshire District Council for this project."

June 2016

Councillor HH Williams reported that:-

- He attended a Service at St Peters on the 29th May, there is a further service to be held on the 3rd July at 9.30.
- There is a Masterclass at Codsall on the 28th June at 10.30-12.30.
- Armed Forces day is on the 20th June at Codsall at 10.30am, Councillor N Other to attend to carry the Standard for Kinver Parish Council.
- On the 26th June he will be attending an event to mark the end of Armed Forces week at Himley Hall.
- On the 10th July is Civic Sunday for the District Council to be held at Cheslyn Hay.

July 2017

Councillor H Williams reported that:-

- He attended the school liaison meeting with Councillor D Light, the head-teacher from Kinver High stated that the school could not cope with doing any further competitions, but would distribute a questionnaire for the Council if required.
- He attended the Airport Consultative Committee meeting on the 15th June, the building to the left as you go onto the site is being changed into an Antique Centre and the hanger which housed the Police helicopter has been re-let.
- He has with Councillor Mrs L Hingley given out the prizes for the Poster competitions for the schools.
- He attended the services at St Marys and St Peters Church (and at the War Memorial) in remembrance of the Battle of the Somme.
- Armed Forces day he and Councillor N Other attended the service at Codsall.
- At the Armed forces day it was noted that the Parish Council standard does not confirm, as the Parish Council has printed the name and crest on the Union Jack. Therefore he proposed that the Council replace the standard with a new one. A draft design was shown to members and he asked if the Councillors could bring their ideas to the next meeting.

September

Councillor H Williams reported that he had (for the British Legion) been in the parade at Sundays Country Fayre and the day appeared to have been very successful.

October

The Chairman reported that he had attended on the 25th September a presentation at Bobbington Airport, and the Goodlife events at Codsall on the 2nd October.

November

The Chairman reported that, the last school meeting had been cancelled as there was not anything pressing to be discussed. This will now be left unless a meeting is required for a specific issue.

As members have not come back with any ideas, he has prepared a proposed Standard for Kinver, members agreed that he should take this forward and get a grant from a local organisation to pay for it.

The poppy appeal has been launched, and he was at the County launch on the 28th October 2016 at the JCB Academy.

December

The Chairman has attended the KSCA AGM, the Parish Summit meetings and the Remembrance Day Service at Kinver.

January

The Chairman has attended the funeral of former Parish and District Councillor Mrs BK Fletcher, he also attended the Wolverhampton Airport Consultative Committee.

February

The Chairman reported he attended with the Clerk the opening of the new library.

5 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Prior to each Committee Chairman presenting his/her report, the Chairman of the Council explained that following each such presentation there would be a period for members of the public present to seek clarification on any points covered by the presentation.

5.1 CLLR MRS CHRISTING ALLEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE THEN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST YEAR -

The last 12 months have been a busy time for planning. The numbers of plans received have increase by more than 15% and do not include the any permissive developments.

THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS WE SEE AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS WERE:

Accepted	66
Refused	25
Accepted with conditions (included in the figures above)	43
Other	11
Applications withdrawn	5
Referred to Steve Does	18 (re trees)

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE BY DISTRICT

Accepted	57
Refused	10
Other	4

THERE WERE 8 APPEALS MADE TO PLANNING DECISIONS

The old British Legion site	- Agreed - 6 terrace houses
The Grey House	- Agreed - 10 properties
105 Hyperian Road	- Agreed - 1 Garage
Astles Rock	- Dismissed - 1 Property
Bridge House	- Dismissed - Removal of 106 conditions
1 Larch Close	- Dismissed - 1 Property
Auraveda	- No decisions made
Four Oakes, Iverley	- No decision made

The food recycling plant owned by Severn Trent & Agrivert is developing well. A few councillors are hoping to visit the site soon.

Site Allocation Document - We are now in the second consultation period. The residual allocation for Kinver in the Site Allocations is a minimum of 48 dwellings

THE SITES CHOSEN BY SOUTH STAFFS COUNCIL ARE:

270 Land off Hyde Lane East - Allocation 30 Houses

274a Land south of White Hill - Allocation 30 Houses

Site 274b is to be classed as 'Safeguarded Land'. It is hoped that by 2028, when the other sites listed above have been built on, other more favourable sites, especially away from Potters Cross, will be found to be developed.

The meeting in September was cancelled due to a lack of planning applications. Parish planning meetings are now being held once per month, just prior to our Parish Council meetings and the District planning meetings. This is so that any recommendations made at the Parish planning meetings may be discussed and amended if needs be at the Parish Council meetings, before the recommendations are sent off to District.

My thanks go to our Clerk Jenny and her assistant Marita for all their help during the last year and to my fellow councillors and vice chairman for their support.

5.2 **CLLR MRS LIN HINGLEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BURIAL GROUND COMMITTEE, THEN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST YEAR 2016/17.**

This will be the last report given by a Chairman of the Burial Ground Committee because the Parish Council voted to disband the committee as most of the project work over the years have now been finished and it is mainly maintenance work to be done by the Parish workman.

I believe the brains behind the new burial ground was by the Late Cllr. Sam Harris who in the late 1970's realised that St Peter's Church yard was getting very full, and if land was not found Kinver people could not be buried in the Parish. He had many conversations with Major Webb the land owner of many fields near the Church. After much discussion with the Parish Council and all the parties involved, land was secured. It was an old underground reservoir that for many years supplied Kinver with their water but had become redundant.

The Parish Council under the guidance of Cllr. Harris set about clearing the land and it was with gratitude that John Grieves Smith, an architect, agreed to draw up plans for the new burial ground. Under the watchful eye of John and the Parish Council the first part of the ground was planned and, with a lot of hard work from the councillors themselves, Comber Ridge Burial Ground was ready for the first burial.

Some years later the Parish Council became aware that they required more land to accommodate future burial requirements. Cllr. Martin Allen, who was the Parish Council Chairman at the time, talked with the land owner of the adjoining land to Comber Ridge to see if it could be acquired. An agreement was reached and the extra land was purchased by the Parish Council. We now have enough land to intern and bury resident of Kinver for many, many years to come.

I would like to thank the past Chairmen, Vice Chairmen, committee members, co-opted members, Superintendents and maintenance men who from the beginning have worked very hard to make Comber Ridge Burial Ground a most tranquil, peaceful and beautiful final resting place.

The Parish Council will continue to keep it this way.

5.3 CLLR D LIGHT, CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, THEN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST YEAR - 2016/2017

I am once again able to report that the 2016/2017 Parish Council budget will be delivered according to plan with no overspend. This has been achieved due to the professional way in which the Clerk and all the staff have worked together with the Finance and General purposes committee and the whole Parish Council. My grateful thanks and appreciation goes to them all.

The year has presented us with a few challenges. We have lost the grant given to us by the District Council to help with the upkeep of the public toilet facilities. The Parish Council decided to continue providing this service to the public and meet the full cost from its own budget. The biggest challenge has been to meet the cost and inconvenience of vandalism that has occurred. The toilets in the centre of the village have been targeted and far more seriously and more costly has been two deliberate pieces of vandalism at the children's play area. In addition, one of the signs at the entry to Kinver has been stolen. These acts have cost the council almost £19000. We are insured but each claim has attracted an excess payment on the policy. This cost has had to be met out of your precept payments.

We have been able to make grants to Kinver Community Library, Citizens Advice Bureau and National Trust.

The Parish Council has also this year financed the following projects,

- A CCTV system has been installed at the KSCA to cover the car park and the children's play area
- The KSCA car park has been marked out to create 83 parking spaces and a 3 year leasing agreement confirmed for a shoppers/village car park.
- All the wooden path edgings have been replaced with stone ones at Comber Ridge.
- A new Chenevare leaflet has been produced for visitors to the village
- Defibulator purchased and sited on Enville Road near to Kinver High School.
- The garage project to replace the old one which was sited in Willow Road has been completed at Comber Road

The total cost for these projects has amounted to a little under £40000

There are still a few more projects to complete before the financial year ends

I am pleased to confirm that for the 9th year running Kinver Parish Council will not be requesting a rise in the Precept charge for 2017/2018

6 REPORTS FROM PARISH ORGANISATIONS

6.1 BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2017.

Last year we once again won the Best Kept Village in South Staffordshire, we would like to win again in 2017, but we urgently need your help to weed, litter pick and other tidying up in the village.

In February we will start to look at areas for cleaning up. Volunteers are needed to help. Judges will be arriving on the 1st of May and we need to be ready. Please, Please help us. Contact Lin on number 01384872958.

6.2 COMMUNITY ACTION. C A

Community Action (originally called Christian Action) was formed by its benefactor Sam Harris in 1972 and has had representation on Parish Council since 1974. C A has continued to work for the Parish to improve the

life of the village and contributed funding towards a wide range of projects in past years and helped set up or instigated many organisations and facilities in the village.

As with any organisation, the members change through moving, age, new interests or passing on. Many of our stalwarts such as Joan Hoste, Joan Barlow, Keith Rumley, and Malcolm Waldron Derek Hemming MBE and Helen Macdonald are now gone. Many serving on Kinver Parish Council for a number of years. Kath Fletcher a member of CA for a time also passed away just prior to Christmas a very dedicated lady for our parish.

Sue Parkes is to be congratulated on the magnificent display for the Best Kept House Frontages and was given the Community Action Glass Paper weight to hold for a year and a cheque for £40 which she donated to the Kinver old Peoples Welfare.

The Newsheet

Community Action, (which was formed 45 years ago as Christian Action due to its links with St Peter's Church) continues to produce the News-sheet four times a year, the next edition, will be number 161. The Newsheet is funded through adverts, but with the increased pages from 24 to 28 during 2015/16 and moving into digital colour finances are stretch. We have around 60 volunteer, who make it possible to get the newsheet across the Parish from Iverley to Lawnswood, now delivering to 3200 dwellings with our ever-increasing housing developments and of course Lowestone Court.

Copies are also sent electronically to people out of easy reach or those who have moved away but like to keep in touch with parish news. Volunteers are the key to our distribution. News-sheets arrive with Ena and ourselves in boxes of 150 and are then split into delivery areas and taken to those who do the house to house deliveries for us.

Residents find the newsheet a good source of local news and adverts provide a great directory of trade people.

Community Action Dorothy Round

The Bursary and the Kinver Flag Fund was the brain child of Derek Hemming MBE Derek and myself set up the Dorothy Round Bursary in 2001 in memory of Dorothy Round a famous tennis player who lived in Kinver for a while and attended the Methodist Church. A statue was erected in Dudley in her memory.

The funds is not being administered at present and I hope to reinstate it when we can meet with PE teachers at Kinver High School and go into school to get the word across to new applicants. Two references are required for any applicant one being from a P.E teacher or coach. The applicants accompanied by an adult were judged by two independent P.E teachers from schools outside the village and a member of C.A. A presentation evening was then arranged where Nigel Round (Dorothy Round's nephew) would award the bursary prizes of £100 each on behalf of C.A along with a certificates. Three Bursaries were given on each occasion.

Community Action - Kinver Flag Fund "FLYING THE FLAG" the brain child of Derek Hemming MBE is administered very capably by Marita Fullwood & assisted by Sarah Sparkes (see separate report).

Report from Margaret Rogers Secretary and Treasurer and Newsheet Editor

6.3 KINVER ACTION GROUP KAG

Another year on and KAG continues to look at the needs of the youth of our community and engaging with them and listening to what they want by way of recreation. At our AGM in November, officers were re-elected: John Fallon Chairman and Treasurer. Val Davis is Vice-Chairman and Minute Secretary, with myself,

Margaret Rogers, dealing with Funding, Press and Media. Harry Rogers is also on the committee and Ray Jones came back to us in November.

We currently have no youth co-ordinator as Gary's work now takes him all over the country, so something we need to address.

We have not applied for any grants this year and have been sustainable by using our funds to have the bike track refurbished as constant use damages the surface.

The group's main achievement in 2016 was the resurfacing and remodelling of the bike track by Ricky Crompton, of Dirtworks BMX. This was completed late autumn as Ricky had been overseas for most of the year. Ricky had done a good job, and had been impressed with the condition of it, saying that there was not the damage and mess that he found on many other tracks

We have a maintenance programme in place and John often meets with the construction people to look at topping up areas and cutting back the grass, which impinges on the track itself. Our biggest expense is finding the insurance each year for the Skate Park and Bike Track and we will have to look for grants this year to support this major item, as we have to keep the provisions insured.

Our only outgoings for the year 2015/16 year were £3662.61 insurance and £3,825.60 for the renovation of the bike track

We have an ongoing ambition to hold onto our youth management groups but they grow up, find new interests, start driving and even become car owners or move away to colleges or uni. This is something that all village youth organisations experience so nothing new.

If we can get a new youth co-ordinator who also has IT knowledge this would be a start: a volunteer post with little or no reward other than helping others.

We did not put on an event in 2016 but this is something we may look at later this year. The track and skate park are so widely used on Saturday and Sunday it would mean making them out of bounds for a day, whilst professionals are on site teaching, demonstrating and so on. People have got so used to the provision being available this would cause some disruption and users come from a wide area as well as youngsters being brought down by parent/grandparents from neighbouring authorities

Kinver Action Group meets KSCA

Report from the Press, Media and Fundraising Officer Margaret Rogers

6.4 KINVER ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (KAA)

Our Motto is "Sharing with others what has been shared with us"

The Kinver Allotment Association held its AGM in January 2017 and the following members now comprise its Management Committee,

Mike Hails, Mick Ford, Paul Roche, Margaret Rogers, Roy Carrier, Mick Gadd, Graham Thompson, and Sue Edmunds.

At its first management meeting of the year, the following officers were re-elected:

Mike Hails (Chairman), Mick Ford (Vice Chairman), Margaret Rogers (President and Fundraising Officer), Paul Roche (Treasurer), with the addition of Roy Carrier (Secretary).

The past year has again proved to be somewhat challenging for plot holders. The unsettled weather and the increase in squirrels, mice and voles plus the ever-present badger population on the site have required our members to invent ingenious methods to maintain a successful harvest.

The continued success of the Association (which was formed on 12th November 2009) is partly due to the advice and support, and sometimes practical help, given by members to one another. This is of particular value to our new members who do not have to rely on trial and error to identify the best growing methods.

Another factor contributing to our success has been the ongoing support and encouragement that we receive from Roger Pauli of Stourton Farm who made the land available to us in order to establish the allotments.

The Association with the help of Marie and Brian Roberts developed the Community Garden and attracted more people from the wider community to take advantage of it. We are also hoping to organise more events this year to showcase our site.

Since moving onto the site in March 2010 our fundraising officer Margaret Rogers has attract almost £20,000 in grants to improve and enhance it for everyone visitors and plot holders alike. We received from the National Lottery and other charities and organisations The Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity. The Anthony & Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charity. The County Council Local Members Scheme (via Councillor Brian Edwards), Kinver Parish Council, Kinver Country Fayre and donation from Roger Pauli himself.

Our own fundraising efforts have made us self sufficient so we have not had to seek grants for over 12 months.

One of the great strengths of the Association is the sharing of good practice between members. There is no rivalry between members and they are only too willing to share the secrets of their successful methods with other members. This is particularly helpful to new members who may have little or no experience of growing produce.

We currently have 29½ plots being cultivated with 4 ½ plots available to let. Many of our members are so successful that they rarely have to buy vegetables or fruit during the year.

Our contacts details are

Plot availability Mick Ford plot 07790933426

General enquiries Mike Hails Chairman 01384/ 873081

Fundraising only Margaret Rogers 01384/872073

6.5 KINVER CIVIC SOCIETY REPORT FOR THIS YEARS PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Following the AGM in March 2016 Mike Copper stepped down as Chairman and we thank him for his hard work over the past three years. Mike has offered to take on the Treasures role at this years AGM on 20th March as Brian Dimmock is retiring from office.

Officer re-elected back in March 2016 were as follows David Bills Hon President, Brian Dimmock Treasurer, Maureen Smith Secretary, Mary Middleton and Dr Paul Edwin. With the additions of Margaret Rogers Chairman and Harry Rogers Vice Chairman.

The committee meet every other month for business meetings and the Civic Society itself meet the third Monday in each month other than January.

Following on from our Commendation Award Evening in 2015, where Kinver Fire Station had the award, the 2016 Commendation award went to Jane Bills one of the village unsung heroes (Heroine) who has single handily raise around £55,000 for the RNLI and other projects including the defibrillator on the wall at the

doctors surgery in the high street. Her love of growing, (as you will have read in the recent news-sheet) took on a new lease of life after one open day and she now runs several a year.

The fire officer attended the 2016 Commendation evening to hand back the award which is held for one year, along with may invited guest including the Chairman of District Council Mr B Williams, County Councillor Brian Edwards and Distrcit Councillor Mrs Lin Hingley and Sue Wright Chairman of the National Trust with members from the Kinver Edge Committee.

The Civic Society evolved from the Kinver Residents Association in 1972 and its aims are

- *To care about our surroundings, where we live and work.
- * To improve the fabric of the area for present and future generations.
- * To safeguard the heritage and character of Kinver.
- * To set and encourage high standards of design and sustainability.

At our Commendation Evenings, the history and aims of the society are read out along with a citation relating to the person/ building being award the Commendation Award.

In December, Kinver Civic Society (with permission of Parish Council) paid a sign to be made and erected at the Vine on the Parish Council Notice Board saying "Village Centre & Shops"

Our programme for 2016/17 had many interesting speaker, which included:

Music in the Movies, British Heart Foundations, British Bird Life, The Red Cross, Jenny Rhodes District Council Environmental Officers and a talk on Ernest Shackleton by Mike Cooper.

Speakers either charge or are given a donation for a good cause.

Last August our outing took us to Bristol and a tour round SS Britannia, a great day out.

We have a full programme arranged for 2017/18 where members can bring along a guest for a specific evening of interest for £2. We also introduced tea and coffee this past year at the start of our meetings were members can have a chat before we start..

The programme for 2017/18 is as follows

24th	April	Maggie Quinn SSC Community Safety (note date change from 17th)
15th	May	Chris Dyche Staffordshire & Worcester Canals
19th	June	Alan Hill a talk on King Coal (as in fuel coal)
17th	July	Guided tour to the Rock House followed by tea and coffee
21st	Aug	Annual outing one of Brian Drapers tour 14 Thames Valley from the source to Abingdon. Tickets will be available shortly.
18th	Sept	Roy Peacock's Talk on Ernest & Mary Stevens
16th	Oct	Commendation Evening
20th	Nov.	Ian Bott Black Country Murders
18th	Dec	Christmas Party with entertainment and quiz
19th	Feb	2018 Mike COOPER talk TBA
19th	March	2018 AGM

All meetings are held at Kinver Senior Citizens rooms, doors open 7pm with hot drinks available until 7.30pm

Report from the Chairman Margaret Rogers.

6.6 KINVER COMMUNITY BUS LTD

Report from the Secretary and Treasurer and Bus Operator Margaret Rogers

Little has changed in 12 months since my last report other than our Insurers are now allowing our own drivers to continue after the age of 70 year as without the extra £350 excess on top of the £150 we would

pay in an accident situation. We have to supply our Insurers with a download copy of the drivers details from the DVLA site and drivers can continue providing they have not surrendered their D1 and D2, which is required as fare paying passenger-carrying vehicle.

It is 31st year since the idea was developed which was due to the lack of local of transport in the parish especially on the estates at either end of the village high street. A public meeting was called by Sam Harris from Community Action, where he and several of us got together to form the committee. On 21st April 1988 we launched our first bus outside the White Harte Annex. We have provided a three-day service ever since that time with volunteer drivers operating the service. Our current bus a 17 seater Fiat Ducato was bought totally from our own funds and has been on the road since March 2014. The Kinver Scouts still have our green Mercedes Sprinter.

I am privileged to be the only remaining member from still serving from our original committee. In December we lost one of our last original members Kath Fletcher.

The bus runs on a timetable, stopping at bus stops but can do house calls. Our voluntary drivers are still mainly from the West Midlands Conurbation. Tuesday and Friday it visits Enville twice, Westley Court on Tuesday and on Wednesday the Oval As well as its normal village timetable. Numbers have picked up at the Oval as more people give up driving

We are supported yearly by donation from Kinver Rotary £200, Angela De-las Casus £100 (Mr Ron Marsh's daughter) and Enville Parish Council £300. This has helped with running cost to provide a voluntary service, which is registered with the Department for Transport, and Staffordshire County Council and has a Road Transport Permit to carry passengers. Also a big thank you to Tony Felton who donated his Best Kept House Frontage prize money of £20 to the Kinver Community Bus

At our AGM in October all officers were re-elected these being: Ian Lowe is Chairman, Julie Rogers Fuel and passenger records. I deal with the day to day running of the bus as the bus operator, transferring passenger numbers to County and the fuel figures to the DfT. Dealing with the yearly fuel and accounts audits and have been Treasurer since 1990 and secretary for almost as long. Other members of the committee are Dawn Carter and Robert Kay. John Oxley who had served on the committee for many years and vice chairman decide to retire last October. Robert Kay is now the Vice Chairman. The directors have invited Mary Middleton and Elizabeth Kay to join the committee.

Recognised parish organisations, (with a constitution and bank account in the clubs name) can hire the bus. Hiring's are dealt with by myself, hire charges are £25 for the first 25 mile plus 50p for all extra miles and 20% VAT, hire charges have not risen in many years. Terms and conditions have to be agreed, with only those over 25 and under 70 years with a clean driving license for 5 years and driving for a minimum of 5 years. All hiring's must have a letter of authority from the club or groups Chairman and anyone driving has a trial run Some organisations are taking advantage of this and are getting out and about quite often.

6.7 KINVER EDGE COMMITTEE (NATIONAL TRUST)

The Kinver Edge Committee continues to work closely alongside the National Trust to conserve and manage this fantastic property. The Committee has forged an excellent working relationship with the new National Trust team, led by General Manager Marcus Halliwell. The property goes from strength to strength. The highly successful 2015 season was surpassed in 2016 with a record 27,000 visitors to the Rock Houses. The new season at the property opens in February 2017 and this year the property will continue to have extended opening hours, opening 7 days per week during the school holidays.

People from the local area are passionate about Kinver Edge and the property relies very much on the support of volunteers. A number of new recruits have joined our extensive list of indoor and outdoor volunteers. Committee members are heavily involved in recruiting and training volunteers. There are now in excess of 120 volunteers supporting the National Trust in the day to day running of the property.

Kinver Edge became a National Trust property in 1917 when the Lee Family bought 200 acres from the Webb Family and immediately donated it to the National Trust. 2017 will mark the centenary of this historic date and the Committee has organised a range of events, some of which will celebrate this important milestone and some will be devoted to fund raising for the Centenary Appeal to help fund a major new footpath. This path will link important areas of the existing property to the new land that the National Trust is in the process of acquiring from Worcestershire County Council. The Parish Council has been instrumental in supporting our fund raising. In 2015 the Parish Council grant helped to fund hedge and footpath improvements. This year the Parish Council have provided a further grant of £700 which has been used to fund replacement gates into the grazing scheme on the escarpment, as part of the footpath improvements. The Committee and National Trust are most appreciative of the continued support of the Parish Council in our Centenary Appeal.

We have a number of exciting centenary events planned for 2017. The committee have worked in collaboration with Kinver Historical Society and will welcome Dame Helen Ghosh, Director General of the National Trust, to speak at Kinver High School on the 2nd February. "An Evening with Nick Owen" has been organised for the 10th March and will be a major fund raising event, as will a Comedy Evening organised by Kinver Rotary two weeks later on March 24th.

Kinver Country Fayre Committee will be making our centenary a key focus and feature for this summer. The theme of the Country Fayre is likely to be "Kinver - 100 Years", reflecting the significance of the legacy of the property.

In the summer there will be a Centenary Dinner at Dunsley Hall, an open day at "John's Garden" at Ashwood Nursery and a performance at Holy Austin Rock Houses by the New Kinver Players, entitled "Spirits of Holy Austin Rock". Our celebrations and fund raising will culminate in a major celebration, involving different groups of stakeholders, on Kinver Edge on the 30th September.

The Committee are very excited by the forthcoming events, proud of their fund raising contributions to the Centenary Appeal, but most of all, encouraged by way that the Parish Council, community groups and local businesses have come together to join in and support the centenary celebrations.

If you require further information about the work of the Committee or you would like give your views on current or future developments on the property, please contact the Committee through the email addresses given below.

Mick Grove (Communications Officer) m.grove928@btinternet.com

John Sharkey (Secretary) jsharkeyuk@hotmail.com

6.8 KINVER AND ENVILLE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2016 REPORT.

Another successful Poppy Appeal. The collection was a little less than last year at £12,408.18. But still another splendid amount. Many other branches were down this year also. My thanks must go to all who helped with the making up of the Poppy Boxes, Poppy collecting and at the Poppy count. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the schools, shops, businesses, pubs for having our Poppy Boxes. Many people also gave private donations which is always appreciated. Remembrance Sunday which was held at St Peters Church was very well attended, and also the reception at the Constitutional club. Both were appreciated. On a sad note

John Saddler who always helped with patrolling the traffic on this occasion has passed away. We will always appreciate his hard work and time to help Tony and Ken on this important day. Our condolences to the family.

Report from Lin Hingley Poppy Appeal Organiser for Kinver and Enville Royal British Legion.

6.9 KINVER FLAG FUND

To Fly the Flag, please contact me on 01384-878208 (ideally with at least two weeks' notice), a minimum donation of £3 per flying is requested though more is never refused and is much appreciated. Cheques should be made payable to "Kinver Flag Fund".

We are happy to personalise posters with a photograph etc., a copy can be made for you (SAE required) and will discuss this with you when you call me, not forgetting that dates can also be block-booked for the year ahead to save you time and ensure you don't forget a date. Give me a call, I'm looking forward to hearing from you during the coming year with your celebration **Kinver Flag Fund** bookings.

I took over the Kinver Flag Fund in 2012 in memory of my late Neighbour Joan Barlow whom I was in regular contact with to fly the flag for my own special family occasions; I was saddened when she passed away and offered my administration services to CA to produce and be a contact point for future flag flyings.

Well it has been quite a busy year with Celebrations from Christenings, special birthdays 18th, 50th, 65th and 70th as well as Royal birthdays for Princess Charlottes 1st to her Gt Grandmother Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday; Weddings, 25th, 40th and 60th Wedding Anniversaries. We had a wedding that was kept secret with a cryptic poster for flying the Flag then announced and celebrated the following week. The celebration of a first Christmas & New Year in the UK for a grandchild visiting from USA. Whatever the reason, get the Flag flying and make it special. Some prestigious awards Cllr Brian Edwards MBE and Professor `TIL' Hillary Margaret Wykes who was invested as DAME of the British Empire. We have also flown in memory of loved ones who are no longer with us to say goodbye.

MARCH 2016

1st St Davids Day
 10th Prince Edward Birthday
 10th David Taylor 65th Birthday
 11th Brian Edwards congratulations on his MBE
 17th Anne Hammersley Birthday
 17th St Patrick's Day
 18th Katie Round (nee Evitts) 40th Birthday
 23rd Princess Eugenie Birthday
 24th Nathan Fullwood Birthday
 26th Margaret & Harry Rogers Golden Wedding Anniversary
 26th & 27th Wedding day that was a well kept secret
 Martin Wright & Gail Whettall
 31st John & Joyce Glover Diamond Anniversary
 Married St Peter's Kinver 31/3/1956

APRIL 2016

1st John & Joyce Glover 60th Anniversary Married
 St Peter's Kinver 31/3/1956
 2nd & 3rd Acknowledgement of marriage last week
 for Martin Wright to Gail Whettall
 3rd Polly Willshire Birthday
 5th Joseph Lister born 1827
 6th Nicholas Willshire Birthday
 7th Theo Tott of Hayling Island where the idea of Flying
 the Flag originated - Birthday
 8th Dean Ellis - Birthday

16th Katie Lane & Edward Hughes D'aeth
 17th George Robert - Christening day
 21st HRH Queen Elizabeth II born 1926 - 90th Birthday
 21st Marita Fullwood special Birthday
 23rd St George's Day
 23rd Shakespeare's Birthday

MAY 2016

1st Susan & Michael Cushley - Ruby Wedding
 Anniversary
 2nd Charlotte Elizabeth Diana - Princess Charlotte of
 Cambridge 1st Birthday
 4th Rita Orton - 2nd Anniversary in Remembrance
 5th Chris & Debbie Baker - Silver Wedding Ann
 6th Annabelle Rose Elcock - 18th Birthday
 8th Victory in Europe Day
 11th Bev Fellows - 4th Anniversary in Remembrance
 12th John William Griffin - in Remembrance
 12th In memory of John Flavell
 13th Professor `TIL' Hillary Margaret Wykes - Invested
 as DAME of British Empire
 14th Doreen Fellows - Birthday Wishes
 15th Zara Anne Elizabeth Phillips MBE - Birthday
 15th Peter Sprague - 70th Birthday
 17th Edward Jenner born 1749
 20th Andrew Hawkins - Remembering a Special Birthday
 24th Georgette Guest (Nee Powell) - 65th Birthday
 25th Robert & Marita Fullwood Silver Wedding Ann

- 29th Celebration of the Marriage of Sandra Charnock to Clive Hamilton
- 31st Elizabeth Blackwell - died 1910

JUNE 2016

- 2nd HM Queen Elizabeth II Coronation 1953
- 4th Mary & Graham Gough - 50th Wedding Anniversary also birthday of their grandson James Mander on the same day
- 5th Richard Willshire - Birthday
- 6th D Day Landings 1944
- 10th Marriage of Jonathan Cutler to Lisa Richards
- 10th Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh born 1921
- 11th Harriet Hemming-Keen - Birthday
- 14th Karl Landsteiner born 1868 Medical research
- 15th Julie & Gary Rogers 25th Wedding Anniversary
- 16th June Walker Jones - 83rd Birthday
- 19th Kinver Country Fayre
- 19th John Ridgeway - In Memory
- 19th Sue & Nigel Hemming
- 19th John William Griffin & Bev Fellows Fathers Day
- 21st Prince William - born 1982
- 21st Arabella Violet Amy - Born today daughter of Charlotte Wood and Jonathan Stew
- 25th Deborah & Richard Willshire - Wedding Ann
- 25th Tom & Polly Willshire - Wedding Anniversary
- 26th Norman Heath `Pops` Happy Birthday
- 28th Pauline Chapman - 70th Birthday
- 29th June Walker Jones - Passed away

JULY 2016

- 1st Arron Tonks - Happy 21st Birthday
- 11th June Walker Jones - (Funeral) - Celebration of life
- 13th Ken Randle - Birthday Remembrance
- 18th John William Griffin - 93rd Birthday remembered
- 21st Neil Armstrong first steps on the moon 1969
- 22nd Prince George of Cambridge 3rd Birthday
- 25th Carissa Fullwood 19th Birthday
- 28th Johann Sebastian Bach d1750
- 31st Judy Stevens 7th Anniversary of gift of kidney to husband David
- 31st Lauren - 21st Birthday wishes

AUGUST 2016

- 1st Battle of the Nile 1798
- 2nd Alexander Graham Bell d1922
- 3rd Kinver wins 1st prize - South Staffordshire Best Kept Village
- 4th Kay Marshall - Visiting from America and celebrating her Birthday
- 8th Tom Willshire - Birthday
- 8th Princess Beatrice of York Birthday
- 12th George Stephenson d1848
- 13th Rob Fullwood Birthday & Hannah Harrison Bdays
- 14th Millie aka Mrs Mert - 3rd Birthday
- 15th Princess Royal - Birthday
- 16th Kelise - 12th Birthday
- 26th Battle of Crecy 1346
- 26th Goodbye to Gill Hands - Taken too soon
- 30th Joanne Edwards Birthday
- 30th Lord Rutherford b1871
- 30th Doreen Roberts - 80th Birthday
- 31st Beth & Dean Ellis

SEPTEMBER 2016

- 3rd Start of WWII 1939
- 9th Nathan Fullwood & Hannah Harrison Wedding
- 14th Rita Orton born 1946 70th Birthday in memory
- 15th Prince Henry of Wales b1984 (aka Prince Harry)
- 17th Rosemary Pope - 70th Birthday
- 18th Sue Hemming - Birthday
- 18th Samuel Johnson b1709
- 20th Queen & Duke of Edinburgh Married 1947
- 21st H G Wells b 1866
- 23rd Nicholas Willshire & Joanne Edwards Wedding Day
- 25th Rob & Marita Blessing at Sea for 25th Ann

OCTOBER 2016

- 4th Thankyou from the `Bills` Family for Kindness & good wishes during David's stay in hospital & post operative recuperation.
- 7th Elizabeth & Robin's Wedding Day
- 13th Pat Sprague 70th Birthday
- 13th Nath & Hannah one month since Wedding Blessing in Las Vegas
- 13th Deborah Willshire Birthday
- 14th Pamela Bache Much loved
- October continued ...
- 14th Battle of Hastings
- 16th William T G Morton Dentist
- 21st Battle of Trafalgar 1805
- 25th John Morgan Birthday memories
- 25th Battle of Agincourt 1415
- 27th Maureen Crutchley Funeral Day remembering

NOVEMBER 2016

- 1st Margaret Rogers - 70th Birthday
- 1st Violet Tranter Funeral
- 4th Jack Westwood Birthday memories
- 5th Guy Fawkes
- 8th Lady Louise Windsor - born 2003
- 10th Jamie Hemming Birthday
- 11th Armistice Day
- 13th Remembrance Sunday
- 14th Prince Charles Birthday
- 15th Peter Philips born 1977
- 16th Doreen Heath In Memory
- 18th Jean Stokes Birthday
- 19th Jamie Hemming Birthday
- 20th Robyn Margaret Baptism
- 24th Stuart Birthday
- 30th Sir Winston Churchill born 1874
- 30th St Andrew's Day

DECEMBER 2016

- 2nd Thomas Langstone 21st Birthday
- 5th Jayden Asher Yarnold 1st Birthday (Florida USA)
- 7th Natalie Heathcock & Sean Cunningham - Celebration of Marriage
- 8th Pamela Bache - born 1946 sadly missed
- 15th Yvonne - Retirement Congratulations
- 17th James Viscount Severn born 2007
- 19th - 23rd Jayden Asher Yarnold first Christmas in England
- 23rd Stuart Hill Memories
- 24th - 25th Ken Randle 12 years
- 25th Bev Fellows Memories at Christmas
- 28th - 30th Gill & David Tibbetts Seasons greetings & Happy New Year

31st Dec Jayden Asher Yarnold 1st New Year's Eve in England

9th Catherine Duchess of Cornwall born 1982

JANUARY 2017

14th Beth Ellis-Hemming Birthday

1st to 6th Jan Jayden Asher Yarnold first New Year
in England

21st Bev Fellows 80th Birthday in remembrance

24th Sir Winston Churchill died 1965

5th Betty Glover - remembered from afar from Alex

31st John Morgan in memory

We last supported Potters Cross Pre-school Playgroup and Kinver Fitness collective with grants in December 2014, and are pleased to confirm that our funds have again been distributed between the following local concerns: Kinver Pre-school Playgroup, Peter Pan Preschool Playgroup, Kinver Beavers/Cubs/Scouts Group and First Kinver Rainbows/ Brownies/ Guides.

Please keep "Flying The Flag" so we can continue redistributing within our local community. Our funds are not huge, but if you are a local organisation, charity etc., with a specific project or goal in mind let us know so we can consider a contribution in support to help you on your way.

Finally can we offer our thanks to David & John Bills who hoist the Flag and display the posters whatever the weather, whenever the date, without their commitment we wouldn't get to see the flag raised in the High Street, your help is much appreciated. A big thank you to each and every one of you for your continued support and sponsoring the Flag to be Flown for your special occasions.

Thank you and congratulations to everybody on your special, memorable occasions.
Marita Fullwood - Administration for Kinver Flag Fund

6.10 KINVER OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE

Each year we distribute vouchers on the first Friday in December, which last year was 2nd December. It was again a resounding success as we gave out almost 900 vouchers. Whilst collecting vouchers even more people stayed to enjoyed a cuppa, and catch up with friends.

Due to our ever-increasing population of ladies 60 and over and men 65 year and over, so many people arriving at one time so the past three years we have put on three stations where people can collect vouchers. Six ladies sit from 9.30am to 1.30pm checking details of those who qualify and writing the names on the vouchers. As usual, the ladies in the kitchen were kept busy making hot drinks throughout the morning.

Vouchers were again £7, each that put around £6300 in the high street shop from 2nd December 2014 and January 2015.

Once issued, I visit the businesses on a regular basis to hand over a cheque to the value of the vouchers. On returning home, all vouchers collected are ticked of the distribution list. Most shops participate but a few will not accept the vouchers, but there is still plenty of choice where people can spend their vouchers.

The committee really appreciate the shops supporting the scheme, and thank them for accepting the voucher each year. I phone Prestwood, the Coach House and The Lodge to find who is residing there who have lived in the parish of Kinver and after buying gifts to the value of the voucher Harry and myself deliver then complete with festive wrap and a card just days before Christmas. The gifts are greatly appreciated and I get letters and phone calls from people thanking the Welfare Committee for providing them.

The Voucher distribution would not be possible without the yearly support. This past year saw us receive £220 from the Monday Bingo Players at The White Harte, £238 from Kinver darts Club, and £40 from Sue Parkes as her prize money from Community Action for the Best Kept Frontage and £200 from the Members Fund at The Kinver Constitutional Club and £6000 from the Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity. So an exceptionally good year for grants and donations.

We continue our work in the community, and make note at our meetings of those who are sick and anyone who needed advice and we have pointed people in the right direction for help and assistance. Committee members re-elected in 2016 were Cllr Lin Hingley Chairman, Pam Perry Vice Chairman, Val Davis, Minute Secretary, myself Margaret Rogers as treasurer, Adrienne Spaul (who attends meeting when back in Kinver) and the Parish Council Representative Councillor Christine Allen. With this year behind us now and everyone paid out I will be starting to look for grants and donations to support the 2017 voucher distribution on Friday 1st December.

Report from Margaret Rogers Treasurer and Press officer

6.11 KINVER ROTARY CLUB

Links between Kinver Rotary Club and schools in the area reached unprecedented levels in 2016, with co-operation with infants, primary and secondary schools in Kinver, Wollaston, and Brierley Hill to be extended to Wombourne in 2017.

A total of 27 entries in a photography competition not only produced winners in three categories among pupils in Kinver High School and St James School Wollaston, two of the entries won certificates and prizes at Rotary District level which involves more than 60 clubs across the west and north Midlands.

A writing competition drew 56 entries from Kinver High, Brierley Hill and Brindley Heath Schools with a Brierley Hill entry not only winning the junior category locally, but going on to take the district prize and second place in the subsequent national competition.

Rotary/school co-operation is to be extended into Wombourne following the third place success of a team from Kinver High School in the local round of the Youth Speaks competition

We continued to support the £500 bursary scheme at Kinver High together with their mock interview event and their community events which include pupils being part of the entertainment provided at the club's annual Senior Citizens Party.

Other ongoing activities included support of the visit to St James School, Wollaston of the life education caravan and the provision of dictionaries to upper class leavers at Brindley Heath, The Ridge and St James Schools - a feature which this year included Brierley Hill school for the first time. This took the total number of individually names dictionaries and Rotary book marks given out in 2016 to 168, at a cost of £588.

The Kinver club's Youth Services committee funds this work through special events such as murder mystery evenings, whiskey tasting sessions, a garden party and was awarded a grant from Kinver Country Fayre, which is being used to support a three-year growth plan.

A raffle which ran in conjunction with the Kinver Music Festival raised £1,877 for the Mary Stevens Hospice and Acorn Children's Hospice. The club added £123 from its charity funds to enable cheques for £1,000 to be presented to the two organisations.

Ian Maddock took over as President of the club in July, only the third member to hold the office twice. One of his first activities came on a very warm evening in August the club's Christmas sleigh made its way slowly up a residential road in Kidderminster with lights ablaze, carols resounding out and Ian on board as Santa. The club had been asked by Kemp Hospice in Kidderminster to provide the sleigh as part of an early Christmas treat for a terminally ill young patient who in fact has sadly subsequently died.

Charities in and around Kinver together with carefully selected projects overseas shared in almost £4,000 raised in an afternoon garden party held in the grounds of a friend of the club. It was attended by more than 230 people who enjoyed live music, a buffet lunch and patronised a bar to such an extent that helpers needed to dash out for additional supplies from Enville Ales and local stores!

The highly successful afternoon followed the club's increased participation at the Enville Show a week earlier which added a further £695 to the club's charity account bank balance.

Dudley-based charity Action Heart received more than £5,000 from the most successful 10k run and associated 2k family fun run ever to be organised by the club. The event, renamed the Sheepwalks Shocker to reflect the severity of the multi terrain course, attracted more than 300 runners while 257 took part in the fun run organised in conjunction with Kinver Fitness Collective.

As all overheads associated with the organisation of the races, which started and finished at Enville Hall, had already been met by main sponsor BodyKraft, of Pensnett, and associated supporters, the £4,560 entry fees paid by competitors went directly to the charity. This figure was topped up by those runners who gained sponsorship for their efforts.

Staffordshire Police gave their approval for the Club's Christmas sleigh to be brought to the village to support the local traders on their late night shopping evening without a road closure and there was further support for the traders when the sleigh was integrated into a grotto created as part of the national Small Traders support day.

A few weeks later the generous people of Kinver, Enville, Wollaston, Wall Heath and Kingswinford who gave more than £7,200 to the sleigh collection, smashing all previous totals.

Not only did the nine nights of house to house collections, donations from schools and support from customers in the village's pubs and restaurants take the total through the £7,000 barrier, it also reflected a 10% increase on last year's figure and 7% more than the previous record of 2014.

During the year a road in a new housing development in the Worcestershire town of Pershore was named after Clive Corbett, a member of our club since 2009 and currently the club's first vice president. He retires later this year after 25 years as head teacher at Pershore High School where the Town Council decided to name five streets on the development, opposite the school, after the five men who have held the post of head teacher since the school was founded in 1932.

We have enjoyed excellent fellowship not only at club meetings with some excellent speakers, but also district conference, our annual harvest auction, participation in the Best Kept Village competition, crocus planting, and maintenance of canal picnic area.

On the international scene, clean water is now flowing into a village in Uganda thanks to the fund raising efforts of the. Members have donated half of the £7,000 needed to construct a bore hole which is delivering clean water to the village of Kititi in south-east Uganda where villagers, until now, have had to walk long distances to fetch filthy unhygienic water that carried risk of serious disease.

Following additional donations from Bewdley Rotary Club and a grant from the clubs' district body the project was completed by professional civil engineers and has been officially inaugurated by the country's Vice President, Edward Ssekadw, It will be operated by the Planting for Hope Uganda project in Kititi.

6.12 KINVER VOLUNTEER BUREAU

We have had another interesting, busy and successful year.

We have done 216 jobs done this year, this number is down on last year as we are no longer allowed to issue Hearing Aid batteries .Of all the jobs we do the vast majority are still driving jobs mainly to Hospitals, Doctors ,Dentists and Opticians .We are increasingly being asked now to take people to Birmingham Hospitals so more pressure for our Drivers

We now have 38 Volunteers, 15 of these are drivers.

Many thanks to all our Drivers for the sterling work they do also all the people who man the desk From Monday - Friday 10-12 am

I believe we continue to give a good service to people within the village. and we manage to fulfill most of our requests

LUNCHEON CLUB

Luncheon Club has been cancelled due to the caterer at the Constitutional club no longer wishing to do it. However now there are new Caterers we may look at re-instating it in the spring

We will be having our annual get-together at the Bureau on Friday 12th May this year please do try to join us for a nice lunch and meet up with everyone to enable names to be put to faces .

Once again my thanks to all the people who help the Volunteer Bureau continue To run smoothly

Marilyn Beattie - KVB Organiser

6.13 KSCA MANAGEMENT REPORT for Parish Meeting March 1st 2017

We have had a very busy year with several improvements to the facilities which will hopefully attract more usage from residents and visitors. This has all been made possible by our energetic and committed volunteers who give their time freely to help us to update the building. Also it would not be possible without the grants that we have received from various sources and the cooperation of the Parish Council and the Police Commissioner.

.Recent Improvements to the building include brightening up of the ladies toilets to make it more welcoming and hygienic. Also the refurbished kitchen will soon be completed on our next volunteer day organised by Ann Becke. The foyer and hall will be redecorated... walls and woodwork painted and new curtains hung. A projector and large screen are also in the pipeline as is the redecorating of the gent's toilet. CCTV is being installed in the building to cover the foyer, bar and hall, and external cameras to cover the back door, barrier and carpark.

We are pleased to have cooperated with the Parish Council to make our carpark available for shoppers from 8.30-6.00 pm Monday to Friday. We hope that this will help to ease the parking problem in the High Street. To this end they have paid for the marking out of the carpark and will pay the KSCA an annual rent in the future.

Also Parish Council has provided some external CCTV cameras to help to cover the play area and parts of the car park, which will augment the equipment provided by a grant from the Police Commissioner and cameras supplied by ourselves.

The Social club was closed in August as it had not been viable for some time. Karen Fray has taken over the running of the bar for all events that require a bar.

We are in the process of agreeing to changes to the number of trustees on the Management Committee as we have been advised that the present system from 1988 is no longer fit for purpose. It is considered that there are too many trustees making it difficult to manage efficiently. This will require a change to the Constitution and referral to the Charity Commission.

Grants received since April 2016

Cllr B Edwards £400 for toilet refurbishment

Police Commissioner Fund £1000 towards the CCTV system

U3A with thanks to Brian Quaintance and Liz Roberts.... £5150...Donations collected from the following sources... NKP £2000: U3A £1500: Film Society £1000: Rotary £500: McCarthy Stone £250: Nigel Licket Charity £200:U3A members £200: to be used for the redecoration of the hall and foyer.

New Year's Eve Party £1000 with thanks to Nina Andrews and Sally Brookes, to be used towards new curtains for the hall

Wrigley Trust £5000 for Architect fees for revised plans. /costings

South Staffs District Council £127.95 last payment for football equipment

B Quaintance £165.00 cost for laying committee room carpet

Rachel Davis - KSCA Chairman

6.14 LIVING SPRINGS REPORT FOR KINVER PCC MARCH 2017

Years have come and gone since our beginnings in 1985. Each year was different and brought different opportunities and challenges. 2016 was a quieter year in comparison to some and we celebrated Easter and Christmas with our usual events for the families and due to generous giving we were able to give residents days out, such as the Sealife Centre. Christmas for All was successful due substantially to the lovely weather and having new additions to the programme - donkeys, hot pork baps, new stall holders and face painting etc. plus some old favourites: a massive tombola/raffle, Santa in his larger, warmer grotto and the very popular pony rides. Thank you to all who came and helped support us.

During the year we worked with 16 families - 24 adults and 17 children. Some families have done really well and engaged fully into the different programmes we offer and through this have been able to move back into the community and work towards full independence. We were very privileged to have the help of two groups of volunteers from businesses. One group valiantly tried to upgrade the play equipment but was beaten to some degree by the weather. The other group was able to help us prepare for the Christmas for All. Both groups we sincerely thank for their efforts.

Due to societal changes, the Pregnancy Support Centre no longer operates in Stourbridge, but through our network we still provide contact information for those who need some help or advice. We also provide practical support and help for mums in the community, such as the four young women who each emailed us in need of assistance. Having a baby is expensive and can be an emotionally demanding time - knowing that they can have access to some of the essential items like clothes, cot and car seats / buggies really helps reduce the stress of low, or sometimes, no income mums and families. We have and do provide this support with baby items and clothing from surplus provisions stored here. This is only possible thanks to the generous donations from people in the local community. We came to the rescue of another pregnancy back in the summer! A pregnant grass snake got trapped in the netting around the strawberry patch in the allotment - she didn't use the internet to contact us but also got all the help she needed, and slithered away quite happily.

Thank you for all you kind thoughts, prayers, financial and practical support. Whether it's coming to an event, donating financially, bringing us clothes, items and furniture or knitting jumpers and blankets for the children, it all helps some of the more vulnerable families in our society and contributes to helping make our residents feel valued as we aim to provide the hope and support they need.

Jan Brown - Living Springs

6.15 PETER PAN PRE-SCHOOL - STOURTON

Peter Pan has operated at Stourton Village Hall since its inception in early 1969 as the hall opened in the February 1969. It is a private voluntary and independent group registered with Early Years and OFSTED

It offers child care places for 2 to 5 year olds. The term after the child's 3rd birthday. Children receive the Nursery Education Funding for 15 hours free child care each week for 38 weeks each year. This is broken down into terms and funding is drip fed into settings, a little at a time throughout the year.

Some families on lower income can claim the Think 2 and forms are available for parent carers to discuss their finances in confidence with the County Council's Early Years Team

"Whilst funding has helped families, it has become more complicated when parent carers move their provisions, as funding (although budgeted for) needs transferring back."

Each year we have children moving into full time school, some only 4 years old, days before the school year starts in September. Movement between the areas is very limited as fuel costs increase and bus fares are expensive for parent carers, travelling back and forth and some are not on a bus route.

We have our OFSTED every four years and a visit from Early Years once a year

Staff renewed their continual personal development training during 2016 with Safeguarding, Safe Moving and Handling, Fire Safety, Health & Safety at Work Level 2, Food Safety Level 2, and Paediatric First Aid. All have to be renewed every 3 years as a requirement especially the Paediatric First Aid or settings can be closed as the papers highlighted late 2016. Some provisions were closed due to lack of First Aid Qualified staff. This is now for all staff not just a leader or deputy which is how many settings operated before.

Our staff renewed their Paediatric First Aid Certificates in September 2016 and this was made possible by £400 from Kinver Rotary Club. Staff from Kinver Wrap Around and Potters Cross Pre-school, also benefitted from the grant. Foley Infant School, St John's Primary Swindon and four individual people paid for their places so 16 people took part covering the course cost of £1000 including room hire.

Applications for other grants were unsuccessful as although we are private and voluntary setting people still see us as a business.

Training is still as far as Leek, Uttoxeter or Stafford and all has to be paid for. Some local training is possible at £99 per student with a minimum of 12 students.

Staff give many voluntary hours and as they are already qualified some distance learning courses via the Internet are possible but at a cost.

Again a wide range of topics are undertaken throughout each year, with something different each week, extending children's knowledge and understanding, whilst they enjoy learning through play in a spacious hall with outdoor facilities with one to one tuition being provided.

This past year they included In the Air Babies, Growing, in the Kitchen and Health and Hygiene. Topics link to the A - Z this current one is Africa, Black Country, Counting Rhymes, Discoveries, Energy and Festivals of Spring, starting back after half term with Going Places.

The Flag Fund also supported the pre-school with a generous donation of £250 towards child development and resources.

"Visitors are welcome by APPOINTMENT ONLY, as we place great value on our security & Safeguarding we also have CCTV in place"

6.16 SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY on Saturday 3rd of December 2016.

From the feed back off the traders in the village. The day was hailed as a success.

Our grateful thanks go to St Peters Church Choir, The U3A choir and Ukulele Group, The Kingsfare Singers Choir and Katie Collins Irish Dancing Pair. Through out the day they entertained our shoppers and visitors who were shopping in the village. From ten o'clock that morning, in the Mews Bev Jackson was also singing an Elvis Tribute through out the day. Grannies Attic organised a children's competition and in the afternoon Kinver Rotary brought Santa on their sleigh to the New Deli where Liz and Ellen had decorated a beautiful Grotto for the children. Added to that we were delighted to have a visit from our very busy MP.

RT.Honourable Gavin Williamson CBE

Where did he took the time to visit our shops and speak to the people. Our County Councillor Brian Edwards, Parish Chairman Cllr. Henry Williams and Parish Councillors were also visiting through out the day. We were so lucky with the weather, dry but cool. I think we will be repeating this day again if I can have the support of so many people. Thank you.

Cllr. Lin Hingley.

Representing South Staffordshire small business Saturday initiative.

6.17 STOURTON VILLAGE HALL

Another busy year of bookings has passed by and we have now been open 48 years since 9th February 1969.

Two of our original hirers the Peter Pan Pre--school and Stouton W.I. have been with the hall since it opened. The Monday Bridge Group has been with us 31 years through its various owners. These along with our other regular weekly hirers (all on yearly contracts) give us sound secure budget to work with each year.

The hall is let every weekday morning, every Monday afternoon and some other afternoons, and every weekday evening other than Friday. Friday evenings and most of Saturday are available for hire.

Activities throughout the week cater for a wide age range Pre-school 2 -5 years, Little Kickers 5 -7 year old. A Bridge Group (where 100 people play each week), Junior Taekwondo 7- 13 years old and classes for 13's upwards. We have a Yoga for Beginners, Stretch and Strike. Private fitness and yoga sessions for less able.

The Village Hall is the base for the Woman Institute who have two Wednesdays plus using the hall for other events an "All day bridge fundraising event", group walks and hosting other W.I's in the Hereford and Worcester Federation. We have Martial arts or Black Belt training for exams and a TaekwonDo and Fitness for all ages. Peter Pan uses the hall for their training needs and often have training events on a Saturday morning into afternoon as well as the Table Top Sales.

We have 12 dedicated trustees including our officers with the booking secretary and management secretary being available at all times by phone and in person to assist people with viewing and enquiries.

We have a wish list and look at a major project each year through either our own funds or being assisted by grants.

In August 2016 we were busy getting work done around our hiring's with support from County Councillor Brian Edwards Local Members Scheme, The Anthony and Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charity and The Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity. All the exterior timbers were treated with best quality materials and the main hall ceilings and walls painted.

All other painting is done in house, as are repairs unless something major occurs. We are responsible for the car park and drive lighting, the car park, driveway and grounds which are private.

6.18 ST PETER'S CHURCH REPORT TO 2017 KPC

St Peter's is the Parish Church serving all residents of Kinver. We work closely with St Mary's Enville and Kinver Methodist Church in the Christian service of our village communities. 2016 proved to be yet another very busy year.

We are constantly looking at our pattern of services to offer new ways to worship and say "thank you" to God. We continued to grow our monthly Saturday morning quiet Communion service and have altered the pattern of our 6:30 pm Sunday services to include the more informal and interactive "Welcome, Worship and Word" series. Sunday morning however remains the focus of our worship with our weekly 8:00 am and 9:30 am services and monthly 11:30 am "messy church" service for children. For the big festivals of the church, at Christmas in particular, St Peter's is often full, sometimes with standing room only.

Our involvement with local families often starts with requests for Baptism (Christening) of children and increasingly we are asked to Baptise adults too. During the year our Baptisms team of lay and ordained people helped 41 sets of parents and godparents prepare for their Baptism service to make it as joyful and meaningful as possible. This was a large increase from 28 the previous year. In May, we welcomed the entire Brindley Junior School, year group by year group, to walk up to church and "Experience Pentecost". Volunteers from St Peter's and the Methodist Church took the children through a series of specially made "stations" to re-enact the Biblical story of how God sent His Holy Spirit to strengthen and inspire his followers. For the first time, the Infant and Junior schools filled the church for a solemn and very moving Remembrance Service of their own, supported by the British Legion. In August, we again welcomed students from Kinver High School on their community service week. They worked with volunteers to tidy up the churchyards and make them attractive and tidy places for the continuing flow of people who come to visit family graves. These events were supported by our Youth Pastor, Jon Pedley who regularly visits the village schools to take assemblies, meet pupils in small groups and to run the Sunday night "Alive and Kicking" youth club.

During 2016, we hosted 19 weddings, an increase from 14 in the previous year. All the couples had been prepared for their big days by our Café Church Weddings Team, learning together in groups about marriage and its meaning and enjoying the hospitality of Nick and Lynn Other as they did so.

Not all church occasions are so happy, but it was our privilege to host 23 funeral services in church. Our wonderful, sacred and peaceful building was available for relatives and friends to come together and share their grief and happy memories and to pray for God's strength in difficult times.

Parish churches such as St Peter's receive no state or local government funding. Indeed, we need to pay Lichfield Diocese over £58,000 every year to fund, amongst other things, clergy salaries, pensions and training. In 2016 we launched our new "Friends of St Peters" scheme to offer people a practical way to support the church financially and to become more involved in its life. This is proving to be very popular. The parish share in part supports the training of members of our own congregation for lay and ordained ministry. During the year, we had the great joy of the licensing at Lichfield Cathedral of Steve Lounds as an Authorised Lay Minister.

During 2016, we also received the great news that our growth in Christian ministry had been recognised by the Diocese in a very special way. We now look forward with excitement to receiving Deborah Walton as St Peter's first ever Curate (trainee priest) in July to assist Rector Karen Stanton in her many and growing duties.

Mark Middleton
St Peter's Church, Kinver

6.19 **ANGLO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION / SISTER CITIES, PARK RIDGE, USA**

I enclose our report for the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 1st March .Please accept my apology for not being able to attend the meeting.
Jane Perrins.

Ten of us enjoyed a wonderful visit to Park Ridge, USA in September 2016 and we were also joined by 2 couples from Mer, France, making 14 in all. We were hosted in the homes of our American friends for the week.

Our hosts laid on a full programme of events, the main one being tickets for an open air screening of the Wizard of Oz in Chicago's Ravinia Park along with picnic. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra played live alongside the film. We even had the appearance of a rainbow to add to the atmosphere! We also visited the Botanical Gardens, the Frank Lloyd Wright House and Museum, a baseball game played by the Chicago White Sox, a tour of the Art Deco Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge and a bus tour. The highlight of sightseeing in Chicago was a visit to the top of the Willis Tower. Meals were enjoyed out at brew pubs along with tastings of local real beers .Other events filled the week and we were sad to leave. Most of us journeyed on to other destinations the following week to do our own chosen things. We had a great time.

Mrs Betty Henneman, City Clerk presented the group with a lovely framed print to give to our Parish Council which we duly did. Since our visit Betty has been in hospital but has now returned home and is making wonderful progress.

Our Park Ridge friends are due to visit in 2018, so we are already making plans for their visit.

Anyone interested in hosting or being involved with the next visit should contact Domenic Toni on, Kinver 872058 or Jane Perrins on Kinver 877357.

7. **ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

No members of the public who were present wished to speak.