

MINUTES OF THE KINVER ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY 2nd MARCH 2016

PRESENT Councillors: Henry Williams, Lin Hingley, Jon Irving-Bell, Nick Other, Doug Hadlington, John Cutler, Dudley Light, Denise Geoghegan, Gary Mander, Ian Sadler, Christine Allen.

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs J Spaul - Clerk, Mrs M Fullwood

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC John Sharkey (Kinver Edge National Trust Volunteers).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr Julian Hall, Cllr Brian Edwards, Cllr Paul Wooddisse, Cllr Virginia Webb, Kinver Edge Committee & Anglo America Association

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 5th MARCH 2015.

These minutes, having been circulated, were signed as a true record of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 5TH March 2015.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES OF 5TH MARCH 2015

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman's Report- Cllr Henry Williams

I did not expect to be submitting this report to the parish at this time of year where has this year gone. Having accepted my chain of office from Cllr. R.Davis after having been elected to the post by my fellow Councillors I am honoured to have represent Kinver Parish Council as the Chairman of the Council for the last year.

The on-going discussions re Housing, Parking and other problems the people of the Parish of Kinver have, have made it a very busy year and most of them still not resolved such is the pace of village life. One item that will improve the life of the parish though is that the Council have managed to appoint a new technician since the previous incumbent has retired due to ill health.

I have represented the Parish at various functions in the parish and at South Staffordshire District Council accompanied by our parish Council Standard bearer Cllr John Cutler who has carried the parish Standard with pride and honour. I should like to thank my Vice-chairman Cllr. Lynn Hingley and all councillors for their support for this last year in office and wish them a successful year ahead.

My last but not least vote of thanks goes to Mrs. Jenny Spaul and Mrs Fullwood for keeping me in line within the code of practice of the rules and regulations set down by Government for the running of a Parish Council and finally our two technician for keeping the parish safe and clean.

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 CHRISTINE ALLEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE THEN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST YEAR 2015/16

Planning and Development report

The new planning year started with the departure of our past Planning and Development chairman Rachel Davis and I stepped in to her majestic shoes. Thank you Rachel for all the hard work you have put in over the last 7 years, your wealth of knowledge and support will be greatly missed.

During the past 12 months the Planning applications WE received and decisions made were:

Accepted 63

Refused 16

Referred to Steve Dores 34

Withdrawn 1

Comments made 4

(Accepted with Comments 12) - included in the Accepted figures

Districts Decisions made:

Accepted 63

Refused 9

Permitted development 3

Referred to county 2

The figures differ as there are some decisions still to be made by district. The decisions made by Steve Dores are not usually conveyed back to us.

Plans and issues from last year, a brief update: SAD application:

The number of new properties the government have stipulated we need to build in Kinver, to help with the housing shortage, started at 98 and is now down to 48, mainly thanks to the building of Lowestone Court and other new builds. The second consultation for the 'Site Allocation Development' (SAD) was held in January 2016. The two chosen sites are off Hyde lane and off the bottom of White Hill. The access for the site off Hyde lane is narrow. To resolve this, No. 56 Hyde Lane is to be demolished.

Many letters of objection have been sent to District regarding both sites, but the majority were objecting to the development off the bottom of White Hill.

LOWESTONE COURT - The development is almost complete and the first residents have recently moved in. The site will officially be opened by our Chairman Cllr Henry Williams on 5th March 2016.

THE OLD BRITISH LEGION SITE - the amended planning application to build 6 terrace cottages was received and rejected by District.

New Issues and large development plans from this year:

The GREY HOUSE - The proposed development on the land around The Grey House, Dark Lane, has proved to be very controversial and is very unpopular with councillors and neighbours alike. The access to the site has been refused by highways and byways and has therefore been rejected.

ASTLES ROCK - Planning application for the development of land off Astles Rock, was refused, the plans were amended and changed to a holiday let. This was also refused. The owners have put in an appeal.

FISHING POOLS OFF PRESTWOOD DRIVE - the grounds are starting to mature nicely. The application for a shop/café with kitchen and toilet facility was accepted and the ground work for this have now started.

SEVERN TRENT & AGRIVERT - planning application was received to build a food recycling plant to produce methane gas and fertiliser. The products will be sourced locally and sold locally. Permission was granted.

Finally, my thanks go to my vice chairman Cllr Lin Hingley and all the committee members for their help and support through the year. Special thanks go to the Clerk Jenny and her assistant Marita, for fishing out old applications so promptly and for all their work behind the scenes.

5.2 CLLR LIN HINGLEY CHAIRMAN OF THE BURIAL GROUND COMMITTEE THEN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST YEAR 2015/16

The burial ground is looking very beautiful, with snowdrops and daffodils flowering, a little early I might add. The maintenance men Mark and Lee are working hard cutting back the growth in the remembrance garden and tidying up from the winter storms.

The local farmer cut the long grass on the west side of the ground and takes it away in hay bales, which leaves the area neat and tidy. We are slowly replacing the broken edge boards that help to define the pathways. Since removing the laurel hedge on the west side it has given us room to situate benches for our people to rest on and enjoy the peace and tranquillity that we inspire to create.

Our rules and regulations confirm our strive to do this. On the car park on the west side of the ground there will be a small wooden garage and storm porch for our maintenance men to work in and put the council vehicle in. The committee agree that this will be good as the men will be there every day.

My thanks and gratitude go to the Superintendent Jenny Spull and her assistant Marita for dealing with all the Funeral Directors and parishioners, and Mark and Lee for a wonderful job they are doing at Comber Ridge, but also my thanks go to the committee members for their ideas and support to help make Comber Ridge Burial Ground a beautiful and peaceful place to have in our village.

5.3 CLLR JOHN CUTLER, CHAIRMAN OF THE LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE, THEN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING REPORT AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THAT COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST YEAR 2015/16 Report Feb 2016

Following the PC elections in May 2016 a new committee was formed under the chairmanship of John Cutler. The committee members were Mrs.L Hingley V/C and Cllrs Goeghegan, Allen, Other, Mander, Wooddisse. The co-opted members are Mr.J Glover and Mr.D Tibbetts

The committee first reviewed work already completed over recent years by the committee. These included
New surfacing for children's play area

Adult exercise equipment

Upgrade works to Danesford and Jubilee Gardens

Tree screen management to enable St Peters church to be seen from the village

Tarmacing of Legion drive

Historical noticeboards

The new committee has completed the signing on the village markers to indicate historical names of Kinver and its twinning villages. They have been well received by the villagers and visitors alike

Under guidance of John Glover the committee continues to overlook footpaths to ensure they and their signage are maintained in good order

Work on the Chenevare Leaflet update has continued and an update (coloured !) version will be issued during 2016

Flower Troughs for the village gateways are being ordered and should be in place for summer 2016

The committee has considered at length a project relating to a Bridge over the canal towpath to Brockleys Walk enabling a circular village walk to be designed. The clerk quite rightly reminded the committee that due to expenditure restraints on the council under S137 this project could not be done. However it has been discussed with friends of Kinver Open Spaces who are examining the feasibility. It was agreed that Leisure and Amenities committee would help where it could. E.g. expertise, planning application funding (subject to main council approval). The chairman agreed to liaise between the two groups

The committee is looking into the possibility of taking over some local services from SSDC. eg weed killing on pavements, hedgerow control, serious hazard repairs on pavements. The investigation into the feasibility of doing this work is ongoing

5.4 CLLR DUDLEY 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 - 2015/2016

I am once again able to report that the 2015/16 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 her staff have worked together with the full support of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Whole Parish Council.

In my report for 2014/15 I stated that the Parish Council had changed its solicitors to the Legal Department of the District Council. This has proved to be a very successful move. Earlier this financial year we had difficult staffing issues to be resolved with financial implications for the Parish Council. The advice and help we received from the solicitors and the District Council HR department enabled the matter to be resolved to the complete satisfaction of the Parish Council and the staff member concerned. Recently we have had to seek legal advice on other matters and have once again received expert help from people who fully understand Local Government law. The financial saving over using a private firm have been significant. I must at this stage offer my thanks to the clerk in the professional way she dealt with both the above mentioned.

This financial year we have managed to secure long term deals both for our grass cutting and general insurance contracts thus creating savings.

St Peters Church has received £1000 in funding to help with solving a church yard issue as well as the continuation of the Parish Council cutting the grass around the church free of charge. Other local organisations receiving support funding include CAB, Kinver High School, National Trust and the KSCA.

We have continued to carry out projects aimed at improving the quality of the facilities and environs of the local area. These include the children's play area and Comber Ridge Burial Ground.

We now have a full complement of staff again. I wish to place on record my thanks to all of them for their help and support, in particular to the Clerk and all fellow Councillors. Without their full support my job in managing the Council's finances would be much more difficult.

As with most organisations any decisions made have financial implications. With this firmly in mind I am very pleased to state that for the eighth year running the Parish Council will not be requesting any rise in the precept charge for 2016/17.

6 REPORTS FROM PARISH ORGANISATIONS

6.1 ANGLO AMERICA ASSOCIATION / SISTER CITIES

We are currently making plans for about 12 of us to visit Park Ridge near Chicago, with which Kinver is twinned or as the Americans call it our Sister City. We shall be staying with our hosts from 8th to the 15th September.

During our stay we shall be seeing many attractions in Chicago and also in and around Park Ridge. In Chicago we hope to ascend the Willis tower to see the fantastic view, see Navy Pier, the Millennium Gardens, perhaps take in The Zoo. Also some of us would like to visit the Frank Lloyd Wright museum and take a sailboat on the great lake. There is lots to see and do. Our hosts will also be arranging some evening events for us. Last time we visited a famous Chicago Brewery followed by a meal in the Pub. We

also had a function at the Library with a meal and entertainment attended by the City Clerk Mrs Betty Henneman and councillors and the Chief of Police to name but a few. On our last evening we had a BBQ at Nadja and Larry Zimmermanns house.

Our hosts always make us very welcome and make it a great visit. After the 15th we shall move on, not as a group but each doing our own thing for the next week or however long we are staying. Some have visited Niagara Falls, Indianapolis, Green County on Lake Michigan and other areas too like going by train to Boston.

Anyone interested in joining us on our trip can get more information from Jane Perrins on 01384 877357 or Dominic Toni 872058 .

6.2 BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2015.

A big thank you to all those Individuals, Organisations, Businesses, Schools, Churches and working groups who helped in any way with the Best Kept Village Competition.

This year Kinver came SECOND out of six large villages that took part in the Competition. A good achievement but we were just pipped by Wombourne. Please continue to keep Kinver Village looking beautiful by keeping down the weeds and keeping it clean and tidy with no litter.

Kinver High School did exceptionally well in the Poster, Poetry and Model Competition. Congratulations to all of you, and thank you for your time and effort. Sadly Kinver Women's Institute, who have for the past years, organised and displayed the posters through the village and chosen the Best to go forward to the Local and Staffordshire competitions have decided to retire. Our appreciation and thanks go to Shiela Harrison and her team who have given their time and support and have done a Stirling job. You will be missed.

Thank you all again for your support and I look forward to the 2016 BKV Challenge.
Lin Hingley, Best Kept Village Organiser, Kinver.

6.3 CAB - SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE SERVICE IN KINVER

The Citizens Advice Service provides free, confidential and impartial advice and campaigns on the big issues affecting people's lives. Our goal is to help everyone find a way forward, whatever problems they face, whoever they are or whatever their situation is.

South Staffordshire Citizens Advice was founded in 2000 and is a registered charity. We deliver our services across the South Staffordshire District and operate an outreach advice session in Kinver every Tuesday between 10 am and 1.00 pm at the Community Fire Station in Fairfield Drive.

People come to us with a wide range of problems. The most common issues we deal with are welfare benefits, debt and financial difficulties, family, relationship breakdown and other personal issues, employment, housing, health matters and consumer rights.

During 2015 we helped 160 different people face to face at our Kinver outlet. The workload involved in assisting them with their cases is reflected in the 280 total contacts we had with these clients including meetings, telephone calls and letters. They came to see us with almost 400 different problems between them which are broken down below:

Welfare Benefits & Tax Credits - 45%

Debt & Money problems - 20%

Legal & other matters - 14%

Relationship Breakdown, Family & Personal issues - 8%

Housing problems - 5%

Employment & work issues - 5%

Consumer matters - 3%

Welfare reform, changes to benefits, low incomes, level of financial capability or other challenging personal circumstances in people's lives are fuelling the demand for benefits and debt advice in particular for people visiting us in Kinver. It is pertinent to note that almost 40% of our Kinver clients suffer from a long term physical or mental health problem or disability which serves to emphasise the strong link which can be made between health and the receipt of advice. Stress, worry and anxiety resulting from complex problems has a detrimental effect on mental health and general feelings of well-being which in turn often causes more problems. This was one of the factors we took into consideration when we developed our floating adviser and home visiting service which many Kinver residents have benefitted from.

The floating adviser service provides access to advice on a flexible basis for clients who would otherwise struggle to visit us due to health problems, transport issues, caring responsibilities, being elderly or general vulnerability. A home visit or mutually convenient appointment can be arranged via our Kinver outlet or through health professionals, social workers, local councillors, village agents or other support workers. The case study below illustrates how the service has made a significant difference to the life of a Kinver resident:

Case Study

I care for my husband at home who has dementia. We were finding ourselves increasingly in need of support with our situation and so turned to Citizens Advice in Kinver.

We had an in depth personal appointment at home and the adviser took us through the potential benefits we may be entitled to and how we could access other support services.

My husband's eligibility for Attendance Allowance was discussed and we were advised to put in a claim. However, upon viewing the long and complicated form I realised, what a daunting task it was. I needed help!

The CAB adviser was there to fill in the forms with me and I really appreciated the patience and understanding he showed during what a challenging process was.

The outcome was that the Attendance Allowance claim was successful and my husband now happily attends a Day Care Centre we were put in touch with. We were also linked with a community support worker, a dementia adviser from the Alzheimer's Society and the new Staffordshire Carers' Hub.

The whole process has improved my emotional wellbeing tremendously and I now feel well supported with my husband's condition in what had previously felt a very lonely place.

Thank you for offering such a wonderful service.

In order to provide our advice services we rely on support from the District and County Councils and our team of dedicated volunteers who give up their time for free for the benefit of others in their local community. However, maintaining an adequate level of funding is a continual problem for charities like ourselves as we grapple with ever increasing running costs.

Our advice session in Kinver has always been strongly supported by Kinver Parish Council who donated £500 last year and Cllr Brian Edwards MBE who also gave us £500 from his Staffordshire Local Community Fund to help us meet these costs. We are very appreciative of this help and would like to take this opportunity to record our thanks to the Parish Council and Cllr Edwards.

We also rely on local community venues being willing to help us host our advice sessions in Kinver. We moved into the new Fire Station in April last year where we and our clients benefit from their new community facilities. They have been very good hosts and again we would like to record our appreciation to the Fire Service for their support. In addition, we would also like to extend a special thank you to Kinver Senior Citizens Club who were very helpful when they provided our home in Kinver for the previous 6 years.

Such positive, ongoing support has helped us to ensure that we have a strong presence in Kinver for the benefit of residents and can continue to deliver our, often, life changing advice.

Cathy Barlow - Bureau Manager - February 2016

See below further information and details of opening times

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

FREE, CONFIDENTIAL, IMPARTIAL ADVICE

OPENING HOURS

Open Door Sessions - No appointment necessary

MONDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm at Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, WOMBOURNE, WV5 9HA

TUESDAY 10.00 am - 1.00 pm at The Community Fire Station, Fairfield Drive, KINVER, DY7 6EW

WEDNESDAY 10.00am - 4.00pm at The Village Hall, Pinfold Lane, CHESLYN HAY, WS6 7HP

9.30am -4.00pm at The Community Centre, Church Road, PERTON, WV6 7PD

THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm at The Haling Dene Centre, Cannock Road, PENKRIDGE, ST19 5DT

10.00 am to 1.00 pm at Codsall Village Hall, Wolverhampton Road, CODSALL, WV8 1PW

FRIDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm at The Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, WOMBOURNE, WV5 9HA

County Wide Telephone Advice:

Staffordshire Advice Line: 03444 111 444

Opening Times : Mon 9am—5pm

Tues 9am—8pm

Wed 9am—8pm

Thurs 9am—5pm

Fri 9am—4.30pm

(Closed Bank Holidays)

South Staffordshire CAB Website: <http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/sscab.htm>

Staffordshire CAB Website: www.citizensadvicestaffordshire.co.uk

Advice on line: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

and attached leaflet which can also be found on this link:

<https://dub125.mail.live.com/mail/ViewOfficePreview.aspx?messageid=mg3ATBvULW5RG28AAhWtm6og2&folderid=flinbox&attindex=0&cp=-1&attdepth=0&n=17462581>

South Staffordshire PARTNERSHIP **The Good Life** **healthwatch**
South Staffordshire South Staffordshire Chaccopost association

Follow us online

- follow us on Twitter
Twitter.com/CitizensAdvice
- Become a fan on Facebook
Facebook.com/CitizensAdvice
- Watch our films on Youtube
Youtube.com/CitizensAdvice

Our aims

- To provide the advice people need for the problems they face.
- To improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives.

Our principles

The Citizens Advice service provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. We value diversity, promote equality and challenge discrimination.

Produced by Citizens Advice
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

May 2015
South Staffordshire Citizens Advice Bureau
Registered charity number 1118794

Need advice?

We're here to help. Whoever you are. Whatever the problem.

South Staffordshire PARTNERSHIP **The Good Life** **healthwatch**
South Staffordshire South Staffordshire Chaccopost association

South Staffordshire CAB

We've seen that the right advice can change lives.



How we can help

Our service is free, confidential and open to everyone in the community. Staff are trained to advise on virtually any issue, including:

- welfare benefits
- money and credit problems
- employment
- consumer rights
- housing
- neighbourhood disputes
- education and healthcare
- family and personal issues.

We arm you with all the facts and possible outcomes of different options. That way you can make the decision that's right for you. If needed, we can also offer practical support such as help with filling in forms, writing letters or negotiating with third parties.

Ways to get advice

- online via www.citizensadvice.org.uk
- Adviceline by phone
- via email
- face-to-face

Our contact details

South Staffordshire CAB
Civic Centre
Gravel Hill
Wombourne
WV5 9HA

email: bureau@southstaffscab.cabinet.org.uk

website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk/sscab

Telephone Advice

Staffordshire Advice Line
03444 111 444

Mon 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Tues 9.00 am - 8.00 pm
Wed 9.00 am - 8.00 pm
Thur 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Fri 9.00 am - 4.30 pm

Closed Bank Holidays

Face-to-face advice
walk in sessions at
Wombourne Civic Centre
(Council Chambers Building)

Monday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
&
Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Face-to-face advice
walk in sessions also at

Kinver
The Community Fire Station, Fairfield Drive, DY7 6EW
Tuesdays - 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

Perton
Community Centre, Church Road, WV6 7PD
Wednesdays: 9.30 am - 4.00 pm

Cheslyn Hay
Village Hall, Pinfold Lane, WS6 7HP
Wednesdays: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Penkridge
Haling Dene Centre, Cannock Road, ST19 5DT
Thursdays: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Codsall
Village Hall, Wolverhampton Road, WV8 1PW
Thursdays: 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

6.4 COMMUNITY ACTION. C A

Report from Margaret Rogers Secretary/Treasurer and Newsheet Editor and Advert Co-ordinator. Community Action (originally called Christian Action) was formed by its benefactor Sam Harris in 1972 and has had representation on Parish Council since 1974 until May 2015.

C A members have always worked to improve the life of the village and contributed funding towards a wide range of projects and helped set up or instigated many organisations and facilities in the village. This still continues today

We have lost several dedicated members in recent years Joan Hoste, Joan Barlow, Derek Hemming MBE and Helen Macdonald all of whom served on Kinver Parish Council. Adding to the list was Malcolm Waldron who although not a parish councillor gave many voluntary hours to CA.

Derek was the News-sheet editor for over 25 years and was joined by Joan Barlow in more recent years. Helen and Derek passed away just days apart in 2013. They were amongst the first members of the Footpaths and Rights of Way Committee, before it came under Parish Council.

They led Sunday afternoon walks as well as walks for CA to raise funds to support the printing of the news-sheet and many projects.

Community Action still has three strands it supports in the community, one of which is producing the Newsheet four times a year, the next edition will be number 157. The Newsheet is self-funding and the 3150 copies are distributed by a band of more than 50 volunteers who make it possible to get the newsheet across the Parish from Iverley to Lawnswood, delivering to 3150 dwellings.

With modern technology I can send copies electronically to advertisers and residents across and outside the parish. This year we have changed to colour as the news-sheet is now digitally printed. Residents find the newsheet a good source of local news and adverts provide a great directory of reliable trades people.

News-sheets arrive in boxes and are put up in bundles and distributed to our delivery people. Although retired Ena is still involved along with Harry delivering the bundles to our volunteers who distribute the news-sheet door to door. Ena deals with the larger amount for Kinver and we do Stourton and Lawnswood.

The other two strands of CA are as follows:

Community Action Dorothy Round Bursary and Kinver Flag Fund. Both the Bursary and the Kinver Flag Fund were the brain child of Derek Hemming.

Derek and myself set up the Dorothy Round Bursary in 2001. This has lain dormant for some time during Derek's ill health and death. I have been trying to reinstate this but still need to meet with PE teachers at Kinver High School. Posters are also put on the village notice-boards for those with children being educated outside the village.

Applicants, have to supply two references one being from a P.E teacher or coach. The applicants (who would be accompanied by an adult) would be judged (as before) by two independent P.E teachers from schools outside the village and a member of C.A.

A presentation evening follows where Nigel Round (Dorothy Round's nephew) awards the bursary prizes of £100 each on C.A's behalf along with a certificate. Three Bursaries were given on each occasion.

The Flag Fund "FLYING THE FLAG" which was originally administered by Derek Hemming and Betty Postings has its own report and is in the very capable hands of Marita Fullwood.

6.5 KINVER ACTION GROUP - KAG

Report from the Press, Media and Fundraising Officer Margaret Rogers

KAG is continuing to look to the needs of the youth of our community, engaging with them and listening to what they want by way of recreation.

To this end, we have provided yet another great facility in the NEW Bike Track, which opened on 9th May 2015. The Chairmen of Kinver and Wombourne Parish Councils -Councillors, Rachel Davis and Mary Bond - attended, along with our County Councillor Brian Edwards and his wife Barbara. They were joined by staff, from Kinver High School, community groups and representatives from the charities who supported the funding.

Back in 2014, new designs were sought by John Fallon to replace the bike track we built in 2009 with money from the Playbuilder Fund for the "Every Child Matters Birth to 19's" gained by KAG. John Fallon tracked down Ricky Crompton (a world-renowned cyclist) and he and his colleagues designed the new track. Rick also opened the new track for us showing off his skills

In 2014, planning permission was gained from South Staffs Planning committee. and our lease with Parish Council was extended allowing me to apply to the BIG Lottery, Awards for All for £10,000 in September 2014. This came through in a surprising time scale with money being in our account by the end of October..

We were supported by grants of £10,000 from the Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity, £1,000 from the County Local Members Scheme (courtesy of County Councillor Brian Edwards), £1,000 from the Anthony and Gwendoline Memorial Charity and £1,500 from Kinver Parish. To give it a final finish we laid turf all around the perimeter and on the slopes of the track, with much of the work done by John Fallon.

The new track has more scope for greater use whilst still catering for the inexperienced rider. In August 2015, we had the pleasure of hosting the Rt Hon. Gavin Williamson MP for South Staffordshire, as his parliamentary duties did not allow him to attend the opening on 9th May just two days after the general election.

At our AGM in November 2015, officers were re-elected John Fallon Chairman and treasurer Val Davis Vice-Chairman and minute secretary, with myself Margaret Rogers dealing with Funding, Press and Media. Gary Rogers our Youth Co-ordinator had to step back due to work commitments but agreed to stay on in his capacity for filming and covering events.

Harry Rogers joined our committee last summer and James Green joined us in November and we hope he will liaise with the youth and introduce us to more cycling professionals to add to our list of MADDgear and Rubicon which I deal with for events.

James has created a Face Book page, which he and I (myself) administer.

There are now two fantastic provisions at the Wheels Park, the skate park built in 2010 costing £120,000 of which £100,000 was gained from the BIG Lottery from the Groundwork's section of Community Open Spaces.. KAG now insures both facilities adding the bike track to our skate park policy. Obviously, this has increased the premium and some funding has been gained for this from The Anthony and Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charity of £500 and £1290 from County Councillor Brian Edwards, which left us with a shortfall of £1390.

We are still looking for youngsters to enhance our youth section but year on year they move on, grow up, start driving, (become car owners) or move away to college or Uni. This is something that all village youth organisations experience so nothing new. Gary Rogers our IT co-ordinator is still happy to promote our equipment and develop skills with the two Go Pro Cameras and Apple Mac laptop and other items of technical equipment of his own.

Although we had no big events in 2015 the bike track and skate park were well used and we had lots of people trying out their skills at our opening we hope to have an event in April or May this year.

6.6 KINVER ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (KAA)

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

Report from the President Press, Media and Fundraising Officer Margaret Rogers - The Kinver Allotment Association held its AGM in January 2016 and the following members now comprise its Management Committee, Mike Hails, Mick Ford, Marie Roberts, Paul Roche, Margaret Rogers, Bernard Sparkes, Roy Carrier, Mick Gadd and Graham Thompson.

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), Marie Roberts (Secretary) and Paul Roche (Treasurer).

As in other years in my report, I like to mention that the KAA was formed at the inaugural meeting on 12th November 2009. This followed an expression of interest by the community to Parish Council regarding allotments. The project was passed to the Councils Recreation and Environment Committee now Leisure and Amenities.

We held a public meeting at which Councillor Hingley and myself officiated and the Allotment Association was formed and I have continued to serve with the association since that time. We searched for land for some time as had the L & A Committee before us and were eventually offered land by Roger Pauli. Since moving onto the site in March 2010 I have been fortunate to raise a total around £17,000 the benefit of the site, to improve and enhance it for everyone visitors and plot holders alike. Although we do raise our own funds as you will see later in my report

Included in the £17,000 almost £8000 came from Awards for all this along with from charities and organisations as follows: The Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity. The Anthony & Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charity. County Councillors Brian Edwards Local Members Scheme, Kinver Parish Council, Kinver Country Fayre Donation and Roger Pauli for Badger stands Plus all the wonderful fundraising we have done on site. Our community garden, which was kick-started by Marie and Brian Roberts (for the benefit of the association and its visitors) has benches and tables and anyone is welcome to spend a little quiet time in

the garden. During the winter of 2014 a basic outline was put, which followed with such items as fencing, a gate, eventually put in turf to create a picnic area for children and visitors with benches and tables. The garden was supported by a grant of £250 from the Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity, which helped with fencing and turf and £250 from The Anthony and Gwendoline Memorial Charity, which paid for two benches. Working parties are on-going throughout each year and work is identified at committee meetings. The open days and weekends, have been well attended where member donated fruit and vegetables and home-made pies and cakes which have been exchanged for donations. This has helps the Association be self-sufficient along with the yearly plot holder's fees.

In the August of 2014 Rt Hon Gavin Williamson MP visited our site and stayed for a whole afternoon. The Chairman Mike Hails and members of the committee spent a very pleasant afternoon with Gavin. Unfortunately, Gavin could not attend our earlier open day but expressed a wish to still visit the allotments and see the new community garden.

The garden project through hard work has developed into a beautiful peaceful area, where not only flowers grow, but also vegetables and shrubs, creating an area of biodiversity. The Association had been successful in attracting funding for this, and other projects on site.

Open days in July 2014 raised £500 and other events have been held since. Visitors at open days can learn how to make candles, corn dollies, enjoyed hot drinks, homemade pies and cakes along with home jams, honey, and produce from the Community Garden.

As part of our own fundraising we have had harvest festivals and celebrated national events on site with everyone bring and sharing food. Each autumn members are very busy tidying up the site and clearing out the poly tunnel, ready for spring.

Our committee, chaired by Mike Hails, is going from strength to strength with officers and plot holders taking part in the working parties and other activities on site, which plays a big part in supporting the community spirit.

Policies and procedures have been in place since inception. These include a constitution, plot holders tenancy agreements, a Welcome Pack, Health and Safety policy (with a regular report at meetings) correct procedures for handling machinery and insurance.

In 2015 we looked to see if there was any advantage of become a Charity or Limited Company and met with the officers of the South Staffordshire Council for Voluntary Action. But it was felt that due to our low income and all procedure and policies were in place this would be of no advantage.

The past year has proved to be somewhat challenging for plot holders. The unsettled weather and the increase in squirrels, mice and voles plus the 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 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.

This year the Association is hoping to develop the Community Garden further and thereby attract more people from the wider community to take advantage of it. We are also hoping to organise a number of events this year to showcase our site.

Kinver Colts FC continues to provide footballing opportunities for Kinver children. For the 2015/2016 season the club is running 11 teams ranging from Under 7s to Under 15s, including three girls' teams. A training group caters for our youngest children, from age 4 until they are eligible to play matches at the age of 6. Approximately 180 children are club members, the majority of whom either live or go to school in Kinver. The team managers and coaches are volunteers drawn from parents and club supporters though the club does employ some external coaching support to help start-up new teams. Kinver Colts FC is an FA Charter Standard club, which means that its policies and procedures are regularly reviewed by the FA to ensure that they meet current standards. One key area is the training of club volunteers. All managers and coaches attend FA accredited courses in Safeguarding Children and Emergency First Aid and at least one coach per team will have, as a minimum, passed their Level 1 Coaching Award. All regular club volunteers will have had a criminal records check (DBS formerly CRB).

Kinver Colts FC is fortunate to be able to use pitches and training facilities at all three Kinver schools, the KSCA and also Stag Meadow. During the winter months some groups also make use of all-weather facilities outside the village. New members are always welcome, as also are new volunteers. The club is very grateful to all existing volunteers who put in huge amounts of their spare time to ensure that the children can play football. However, as for all similar organisations, Kinver Colts always needs 'new blood' to help spread the workload and to fill the shoes of those who move on when their children graduate to adult football or other activities.

Mick Trollope - Secretary Kinver Colts FC (01384 872837)

6.8 KINVER COMMUNITY BUS LTD

Report from the Secretary, Treasurer and Bus Operator Margaret Rogers

The idea of the Kinver Community Bus came after a public meeting called in 1986 by Sam Harris where it was noted that transport was a real issue in the Parish. From those attending 8 members were elected to become the Community Bus committee and we work for 2 years raising funds for our first bus.

Members were Sam Harris, Derek Hemming, Keith Rumley, John and Joy Baxter, Helen Macdonald, Kath Fletcher, Tony Evers and myself. After meeting with the Department for Transport and Rural Transport officers at County a set route was devised with a bus stop time-table and an agreement whereby we could hire to parish organisations (within certain restrictions and not in competitions with coach hire companies)

We launched our first bus outside the White Harte on 21st April 1988 and in March 2014 purchased our latest bus a 17 seater Fiat Ducato bought totally from our own funds

As the only remaining member of the original committee from 1986, I feel privileged to still be running the bus. Our previous bus the green Mercedes Sprinter is being used by Kinver Scouts giving them more mobility to get out and about.

The bus runs on a timetable stopping at bus stops but can do house calls and has been supported with grants from the Ken Wrigley and the Anthony and Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charities along with a yearly donation from Kinver Rotary and Angela De-las Casus (Mr Ron Marsh's daughter) Enville Parish Council. This has helped greatly 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. The bus is driven by a team of volunteer who mainly live in the West Midlands conurbation and it operates on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday every week visiting Kinver, Enville and Westley Court on Tuesday, The Oval and Kinver Village Wednesday, and Enville and Kinver Village again on Fridays.

At our AGM in October all officers were re-elected these being: Ian Lowe is Chairman, John Oxley Vice 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 I have been Treasurer since 1990 and secretary for almost as long. Other members of the committee are Dawn Carter and Robert Kay.

Our constitution allows us to hire the bus to recognised parish organisations, who themselves have a constitution and bank account in the clubs name. 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. Terms and conditions have to be adhered to, with all driver have to be over 25 and under 70 years with a clean driving license for 5 years and have been 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. The bus is also used by Kinver High School as a back up to get their pupils home to Cookley when their own buses are tied up taking children to sports matches.

6.9 KINVER COUNTRY FAYRE

Overview Kinver Country Fayre (KCF) has been an established annual event within the community for over 30 years, offering an opportunity for local organisations, charities, societies, businesses and residents to come together for a day of fun and fundraising - while encouraging visitors to the village and raising Kinver's profile in general. Since 2011, the format of the event has widened, expanding from the High Street onto Stag Meadow and adjoining fields, offering a much broader range of entertainment and attractions. The event now regularly attracts an attendance of over 10,000 people.

Structure and Finances

The Fayre Steering Group is made up of some 12 individuals who bring their respective expertise together to organise and run the event. The Group meets on a regular basis throughout the year. The overarching organisation comprises Kinver Country Fayres, a limited company (with directors drawn from the Steering Group), which holds charitable status.

The company aims to raise funds for local charities and good causes. Income is generated from stall fees, sponsorship and car park/field admission charges. Once the not inconsiderable costs of staging the event have been paid, grants are made from remaining funds to benefit the local community.

Grants paid over the last five years total nearly £50,000 - with the following breakdown:

2011	£3,890
2012	£5,283
2013	£10,260
2014	£12,061
<u>2015</u>	<u>£18,030</u>
Total:	£49,524

These grants have helped diverse good causes in many different ways. For example, in 2015 KCF contributed towards St Peter's Church renovations, purchased outdoor seating and educational aids for local schools, supported installation of the High Street defibrillator, helped sporting clubs pay for repairs and equipment, donated to Scouts, Brownies and Guides, provided support for vulnerable young people and contributed towards the elderly's Christmas meal - to name but a few! The Christmas Big Tree event is also staged and supported through KCF.

Looking Ahead

It is hoped that the Fayre can continue to raise funds of this level in future, although much depends on the support of the local community in assisting with the hard work of setting up the event. Due to lack of volunteers, the 2016 Fayre will most probably have a paid-for team working during the week prior to the event. This may well impact on the amount of funds available to assist the community through grants. The KCF Steering Group has been left with no choice, as appeals for volunteers have had a low level of response.

Nevertheless, plans for Sunday 19 June are well advanced with a high profile headline act booked: The White Helmets, the Royal Signals' motorcycle display team - acknowledged as one of the world's top teams - will be demonstrating their skills in Kinver. It is hoped that KCF will again pull in the crowds, raise money for the community and provide a great day out for its many visitors.

Jane Sadler, KCF Chairman

6.10 KINVER EDGE COMMITTEE REPORT

Kinver Edge Committee continues to work closely alongside the National Trust to conserve and manage this fantastic property. The Committee have forged an excellent working relationship with the new National Trust team, led by General Manager Marcus Halliwell. The property goes from strength to strength and the 2015 season was one of the most successful ever, with over 22,000 visitors to the Rock Houses to the end of December, an increase of 19% on the previous year. The new season at the Rock Houses opens on February 15th 2016 and this year the property will have extended opening hours, opening 7 days per week during the school holidays.

Spring 2015 saw the retirement of long-serving warden Edwin Blunt, who had worked as warden since 1986. On the afternoon of Sunday 3rd May 2015, volunteers, colleagues, family and friends met on Kinver Edge to mark Edwin's retirement. Edwin had a passion for the outdoors, loved his job and Kinver became a very special place to him and his wife Pat. Edwin will be missed by all and in particular by the team of outdoor volunteers with whom he worked tirelessly to manage and conserve this special place. Edwin has been replaced by a new Area Ranger, Ewan Chapman. He has settled in well and is very dynamic.

The Martindale Rock House project was completed in spring 2015 and received an award from Historic England. The Angel Award gave a Certificate of Recognition for the conservation work carried out, managed by Committee member Steve Anderson.

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 is in the process of organising a range of events, some of which will celebrate this important milestone and some of which will be devoted to fund raising for a Centenary Project. The project is likely to be a major new footpath linking all areas of the property.

We have a number of exciting centenary events planned for 2017, including a major celebration, involving different groups of stakeholders, to be held on Kinver Edge in September. The Committee have also met with Nick Owen, from the BBC and he has kindly offered to host "An Evening with Nick Owen" fundraising event at Kinver High School in March 2017. Further details on these and other planned events will be published in the coming months.

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 volunteers have joined our extensive list of indoor and outdoor volunteers and committee members are heavily involved in recruiting and training volunteers to support the Trust in its day to day management of the property.

The Parish Grant for 2015-16 was used on hedge and footpath improvements and the Committee appreciates and looks forward to the continued support of the Parish Council in funding future projects. 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

6.11 KINVER AND ENVILLE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL FUND 2015/16

This year the poppy appeal raised a record amount of money £13,229.36.

My thanks must go to the collectors, traders, Pubs, schools, businesses, and donors. It was a magnificent effort. The money raised will be spent on our troops and families who need our valuable help. Thank you. Lin Hingley. Honours Poppy Organiser.

6.12 KINVER FLAG FUND

Flying the Flag was a Community Action initiative and first flown in May 1992 raising £8200 for some 47 good causes; it was set up after a visit by Ruth and Derek to their friends Theo & Megan Tott on Hayling Island - who had set up a scheme to raise funds for their community.

The Flag has now been hoisted for almost 24 years raising funds to be redistributed throughout the community groups and organisations. 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 small monetary amount to help your club/organisation on their way.

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. We are happy to personalise posters with a photograph etc., a copy can be made for you (SAE required) and we will discuss this with you when you call; 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. We look forward to hearing from you during the coming year with your celebration Flag bookings.

February 2015

1st Nick Geoghegan Dryathlon challenge fundraising for Cancer Research uk
1st Jamie & Harriet Hemming-Keen 1st Wedding Anniversary
3rd Alan Elcock 70 yr membership of RBL (and 88th Birthday)
5th Jack Westwood in memory
6th Queen Elizabeth Accession to throne 1952
6th Caitlin Baker 18th Birthday
7th Ruth Hemming Birthday
9th Clarice Walters Birthday
19th Prince Andrew Birthday
21st Bev & Doreen Fellows Wedding Anniversary
25th Nigel Hemming Birthday
28th Dawn Dixon Birthday

MARCH 2015

1st St Andrews Day
10th Prince Edward Birthday
17th Anne Hammersley Birthday
17th St Patricks Day
23rd Princess Eugenie Birthday
24th Nathan Fullwood Birthday

APRIL 2015

2nd Nathan Fullwood & Hannah Harrison - Engaged at Niagara Falls (27th March)
3rd Polly Willshire - Birthday
5th Joseph Lister - b1827
6th Nicholas Willshire - Birthday
8th Dean Ellis - Birthday
9th Prince Charles & Camilla - 10th Wedding Anniversary
14th Theo Tott - Birthday (from whom the idea of Flying

the Flag started)

21st HRH Queen Elizabeth II - 89th Birthday
23rd Kathleen Carlton - 90th Birthday
23rd Shakespeare's Birthday
23rd St Georges Day
29th Prince William & Kate - Duke & Duchess of Cambridge Wedding Anniversary

MAY 2015

4th Rita Orton - 1st Anniversary in memoriam
5th Charlotte Elizabeth Diana named - HRH Princess Charlotte of Cambridge (born 2nd May)
7th Joe Willshire - Birthday
8th VE Day
11th Bev Fellows - 3rd Anniversary remembrance
12th John William Griffin - 3rd Anniversary remembrance
14th May Townsend - 94th Birthday
14th Doreen Fellows - Birthday
15th Chris Baker - 50th Birthday
15th Zara Phillips MBE - Birthday
16th Elections - District and Parish - thank you to all who voted
17th Edward Jenner - Pioneer of smallpox vaccine
19th Andrew Hand - 50th Birthday also his granddaughter Chloe-Lauren who shares her 6th Birthday with her Granddad
21st Joseph Baker - 21st Birthday
30th Damian Lyon & Vicky Curtis - Congratulations - Wedding at St Peter's Church, Kinver
31st Elizabeth Blackwell MD - d1910 - 1st woman to receive a Medical Degree in UK

JUNE 2015

2nd HM Queen Elizabeth II Coronation 1953
 5th Richard Willshire - Birthday
 6th D Day Landings 1944
 10th Prince Philip (Duke of Edinburgh) born 1921
 11th Harriet Hemming-Keen - Birthday
 12th Kiki Anderson - 18th Birthday
 14th Karl Landstienner b1868 - noted for discovering blood groups
 15th Celebration of 800th anniversary signing of the Magna Carta
 19th In Memory of John Ridgeway
 19th Nigel & Sue Hemming - Wedding Anniversary
 19th Prince Edward Wedding Anniversary Sophie Rhys-Jones 1999
 21st Father's Day memories Bev Fellows
 21st Father's Day memories John W Griffin
 21st Kinver Country Fayre
 21st Prince William - Born 1982
 25th Deborah & Richard Willshire - Wedding Anniversary
 25th Tom & Polly Willshire - Wedding Anniversary
 26th Daniel James & Krista Davis - Wedding Day

JULY 2015

13th Ken Randle - Birthday Remembrance
 18th John W Griffin - Birthday Remembrance
 21st Anniversary of Man taking first steps on the moon 1969
 22nd Prince George of Cambridge - 2nd Birthday
 25th Carissa Fullwood - 18th Birthday
 26th Jenny Lane & Rupert Littlewood - 1st Wedding Anniversary
 28th Judy & John Gibbons - 25th Wedding Anniversary
 28th Johann Sebastian Bach died 1750
 31st Judy Stevens - 6th Anniversary of Kidney donation to husband David

AUGUST 2015

1st Battle of the Nile 1798
 2nd Alexander Graham Bell - d1922
 8th Tom Willshire - Birthday
 8th Princess Beatrice of York - born 1988
 10th Best Kept Village - proud to gain 2nd Place
 12th George Stephenson - d1848
 13th Robert Fullwood - 50th Birthday
 13th Hannah Harrison - Birthday
 14th Millie Jayne Truelove - 2nd Birthday
 13th Jon Pedley & Lucy Middleton Day before their wedding
 15th Jon Pedley & Lucy Middleton - Wedding Day
 16th Jon & Lucy Pedley - beginning or married life
 15th Princess Royal born 1950
 15th VJ Day
 22nd Della Harwood & Sebastian Hargreaves - Wedding Day
 26th Battle of Crecy 1346
 30th Joanne Edwards - 30th Birthday
 30th Lord Rutherford - born 1871
 31st Beth & Dean Ellis - Wedding Anniversary

SEPTEMBER 2015

1st Start of WWII 1939
 5th Ann Mearman - 70th Birthday
 5th Catherine Ashman & Jonathan Morrow - Wedding Day
 9th Queen Elizabeth II - Longest serving British Monarch
 12th & 13th Geoff & Sylvia Sidaway - 50 years living in Kinver
 15th HRH Prince Harry 31st Birthday

16th 100 years national WI Anniversary: Kinver Village WI
 18th Sue Hemming - Birthday
 18th Samuel Johnson born 1709
 19th LUCY MILLARD - Graduation in Adult Nursing
 21st H G Wells (1866-1946)
 28th Louis Pasteur died 1895
 29th Kinver Edge was gifted to National Trust 1917

OCTOBER 2015

1st GARY MANDER - 50th Birthday
 2nd Judy & David Stevens - Golden Wedding Anniversary
 3rd William Morris - d1896
 13th Deborah Willshire - Birthday
 14th Battle of Hastings 1066
 16th William T G Morton - Demonstration of Surgical anaesthetic
 21st Battle of Trafalgar 1805
 23rd Second Battle of El Alamein
 25th John Morgan - Birthday Memories
 25th Battle of Agincourt 1415

NOVEMBER 2015

5th Guy Fawkes
 8th Remembrance Sunday
 8th Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen - X-rays
 10th Jamie Hemming - Birthday
 11th Armistice Day
 14th HRH Prince Charles b1948
 15th Peter Philips - Birthday
 19th Jamie Hemming-Keen - Birthday
 20th Queen & Duke of Edinburgh Married 1947
 24th STUART HILL Birthday Remembrance
 27th Big Tree Switch On
 30th St Andrews Day
 30th Sir Winston Churchill b1874

DECEMBER 2015

8th Iris Lane - In Memory of 90th Birthday
 17th James, Viscount Severn b2007
 18th June & John Lewis - Golden Wedding Anniversary
 23rd STUART HILL 1 year in memory
 24th Bev Fellows - In memory at Christmastime
 24 & 25 KEN RANDLE 11 years in remembrance
 29 & 20 Gill & David Tibbetts - message to Friends & Neighbours season's greetings and a Happy Healthy 2016

JANUARY 2016

1st Ron & Elaine Smith Golden Wedding Anniversary
 9th Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge Birthday
 14th Beth Ellis-Hemming Birthday
 18th Vera Davis 90th Birthday
 21st Bev Fellows Birthday
 22nd Joanne Hand 50th Birthday
 24th Sir Winston Churchill died 1965
 31st John Morgan 2 years in memory

FEBRUARY 2016

1st Jamie & Harriet Hemming-Keen Wedding Anniversary
 6th Queen Elizabeth II Accession to throne 1952
 7th Ruth Hemming Birthday
 9th Clarice Walters Birthday
 17th John Constable 70th Birthday
 19th Prince Andrew Birthday
 21st Bev & Doreen Fellows Wedding Anniversary
 25th Nigel Hemming Birthday
 26th Margaret & Harry Rogers 48 years residence in Kinver Parish
 28th Dawn Dixon Birthday

Finally can we offer our thanks to the Kinver Country Fayre for their kind donation and continued sponsorship of the Royal dates; also a reminder that again this year the Kinver Country Fayre will be held on father's day Sunday 19th June. Thank you to David & John Bills who hoist the Flag and display the posters whatever the weather, whenever the date, without their time 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.

Marita Fullwood - Administration for Kinver Flag Fund.

6.13 KINVER OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE

Report from Margaret Rogers the groups Treasurer, Press, and fundraising officer.

Ken and Rose Wrigley formed the Old Peoples Welfare over 40 years ago and Ken was our chairman for many years. Each year on the first Friday in December, we distribute Christmas vouchers, which can be exchanged in most shops in Kinver for goods

During the year I collect grants, which support the cost of the vouchers the biggest of which is from the Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity of £5000. Other contributors are the Monday Bingo Club who gives us £300 and the Kinver Darts Group who's donations this year was £258.05p and £443.50p. from Kinver Senior Activities which sadly closed due to lack of numbers

The vouchers distribution day on 4th December was as usual a resounding success and we gave out almost 900 vouchers. Whilst collecting vouchers even more people stayed to enjoyed a cuppa, and catch up with friends. Those able to collect a voucher are ladies 60 years and over and gentlemen 65 years and over. The vouchers were £7 again this year, which puts £6300 in the high street shops between 4th December 2014 and the end of January. I visit the businesses on a regular basis during that time to hand over cheques to the value of the vouchers.

The committee really appreciate the shops supporting the scheme, and thank them for accepting the voucher each year For people residing in Prestwood, and the Coach House I take gifts each year to the value of the voucher.

Once again this year we put three distribution stations on which greatly cuts down the waiting times and long queues. A big thank you to the six ladies who assisted in handing out vouchers and those making the hot drinks. (writing names on each voucher and a list which I tick of when collecting the vouchers. Committee members re-elected in 2015 were Cllr Lin Hingley Chairman, Pam Perry Vice Chairman, Cllr Val Davis, Minute Secretary, and myself Margaret Rogers as treasurer since 1996.

We have been joined by Councillor Christine Allen who is now the Parish Council representative in my place. Lin Hingley and myself are the longest serving members on the committee,

At our meetings, we share views on social care, the names of those who are sick in the community and any advocacy work we have done between meetings

6.14 KSCA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT for Parish Meeting March 2016

The Management Committee is very grateful to all the help and support that it has received this year from a variety of sources. A volunteer group led by Anne Becke and Val Davis have deep cleaned the kitchen and U3A painted the committee room. Both areas are much improved by their hard work and we appreciated their time and effort.

We are also grateful to Tony Marklew (Cleaner) and Karen Fray (Steward) for their ongoing conscientious support to the committee and for their commitment to the KSCA.

Additionally we have received financial support through grants donated by the following which includes ongoing expenses associated with the Going for Gold project. Again we appreciate the generous support and responses to our grant applications...

Wrigley Trust... £676.62 for the small barrier to improve car park security

Cllr Brian Edwards... £1000.00 towards cost of Going for Gold Surveys

Anon... £500.00 to be used as required

Country Fayre Committee... £500.00 for a new glasswasher

Kinver Parish Council... £500.00 towards cost of Going for Gold surveys.

Cllr Brian Edwards... £1000.00 towards new football equipment.

South Staffs District Council... £725.05 towards the football equipment

Cllr Lin Hingley... £200.00 towards a new cooker.

Many thanks again to all concerned

Rachel Davis (Chairman)

6.15 KINVER VOLUNTEER BUREAU

We have had an interesting, busy and successful year.

We have had 256 jobs done this year 136 of those were driving jobs of those 14% were within the village, 38% to Russell Hall, we also did 10% to Queen Elizabeth & the remaining to Hearing Aid centre, Corbett, Wombourne etc. I believe that now we do not supply Hearing Aid Batteries there will be a further demand on us for driving jobs to the Hearing aid centre at Brierley Hill

We now have 38 Volunteers, 16 of these are drivers. Our numbers of Volunteers compared with 3 years ago is down, however as we no longer do tea and coffee on Thursday or Friday that has made a loss of 8 people straight away

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

Mike Deathridge does our advertising article in the Community Action Newsletter for us, I am putting us on Kinver Online

LUNCHEON CLUB

Luncheon Club is now just held once a month on 3rd Wednesday of the month. It is well attended between 25-30 most times, the standard of food is good and most people that attend enjoy it. We subsidize the LC by £1.00 so clients pay £4.00 for a 2 course lunch, we have cut out the tea and coffee after to simplify the service so we only need one person there, which works well. We had a donation from Kinver Country Fayre £100.

We will be having our annual get-together at the Bureau on Friday 18th March 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

6.16 PETER PAN PRE-SCHOOL

Peter Pan opened at the hall in February 1969 and as the leader I has been in school almost 44 years, being its owner since 1996.

The setting has one aim to give their children the best care and education they can. Developing social and learning skills to equip them in life.

Over the past 20 year or so child care has changed greatly with new programmes for recording children's progress being introduced year on year so planning is changed and changed again.

The introduction of one tier entry in September 2004 (for any child 4 years old by 31st August) in Staffordshire and the early school start badly affected many nurseries and pre-schools across the county. Dudley MBC followed suit in 2007.

We had a good OFSTED in July 2015 (our last being May 2011). The OFSTED inspector told us that many schools are now taking children into full time care at 2 years old. This will increase even more with the introduction of 30 hours free each week for childcare for 38 weeks a year.

Children can start with us at 2 years and families on a low income can claim 15 hours free childcare on the Think 2 funding. The 3+ Nursery Education Funding Grant current provides 15 free hours but is increasing to 30 hours in some areas and is for 38 weeks each year This continues to be paid to mainstream schools until the child is 5 years old.

Children learn through the seven development areas of weekly topics and themes giving children an insight into the outside world. We are very fortunate to have visits from local Police and PCSO's. As well as Kinver Fire Brigade (complete with engine where children experience using the water hose and dressing up in fire gear), and Sue Coombes, the youth co-ordinator for the Stourbridge Branch of the RNLI. Sue Coombes is popular with children and adults alike.

Our rolling programme of four sets of A -Z Topics cover three years of interesting topics and projects This gives opportunities for visitors to take part in our setting. We have a lovely outside play area, designed by ourselves in 2010 and paid for with a grants gained from Early Years Quality and Access of £32,000.

Local training has not improved and is in Uttoxeter, Burton or Penkridge. and costly. The only way to get local training is to pay for it between £125 to £195 for 2 hours and small rural settings cannot afford the cost.

We have a Facebook page, displaying children work and our topics and is well viewed by parent carers and families. Families have a regular newsletter along with verbal feedback on children's progress. The Kinver Primary Federation (Foley Infant School) hold Steering Group meetings for staff from local childcare settings to share Early Years good practise for their reception class staff.

A variety of training has been put on at District Council, which has been idea for use in pre-school including Safeguarding, E-safety, and many other subjects. The Special Educational Needs reforms SENDs Birth to 25 was held at Codsall Council offices last summer, and was well attended with excellent speakers. Dedicated staff work many voluntary to keep our provision open.

Our main obstacle is funding to cover all the things we have to do and it would be nice to repay the staff for their dedication.

Our security is a high priority so we only allow viewing is by APPOINTMENT. We have a CCTV in place, for outdoors when school is open.

Report from the Early Years Leader Margaret Rogers

6.17 STOURTON VILLAGE HALL

Report from Margaret Rogers Premises and Business Manager and Licensee.
The Village Hall is now in its 47th year having opened in February 1969.

The original committee (which was formed a little over 50 years ago), worked tirelessly to raise money with fetes, barn dances and various other fundraising events.

Meetings were held at Stourton Café, The Stewpony and at Stourton Hall courtesy of Mr Owen Grazebrook (the owner) who also allowed the barns to be used for dances. A Management Committee was formed, and they applied for planning permission and grants. One major grant came from education sources for young children, with the assurance that a playgroup would be included in lettings once the village hall was built. Land was purchased in the mid 60's and with money raised, the village hall was built.

Over the years, the grounds and car park have taken shape. Funding was gained to tarmac the car park in two stages and the driveway was tarmaced early in the building period. For many years, we have had a rolling programme of maintenance, repairs, and improvements and are slowly working down our wish list. To help with our finances, Julie Rogers does all our decorating and looks after the gardens. Harry and Julie Rogers carry out most of the repairs and maintenance which helps keep running costs down.

We have been fortunate to obtain grants for ongoing improvements in the building and this past year had the front embankment replaced with terraces, which will be much easier to keep tidy. The cost of the embankment was covered by grants £1000 County Council Local Community Fund from County Councillor Brian Edwards and £500 from the Anthony and Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charity and £2,300 from the Ken Wrigley Memorial Charity.

The car park was made secure in 2010 with gates and a barrier and this has helped greatly to counteract antisocial behaviour and is only open when the hall is let and any cars parked illegally are locked in. The grounds have perimeter fences and gates which was made possible by grants gained by the Pre-school. We have also benefited from grants attracted by the pre-school to improve storage and outdoor provisions

The building being a 1960's flat roof timber premises has little or no insulation. We looked at internal insulation some years ago, but this would have impacted on our lettings for several weeks. We looked at solar power but the sunlight is too low behind the trees in winter months. We are still researching external installation adding panels and rough-cast. This may be the answer to retaining heat especially during the winter months. We have installed double-glazed windows and doors 10 years ago but with such a high ceiling any build up of warmth rises.

In 2011, we set up Stourton Fundraising Committee organising Table Tops sales beginning with two each year, slowly increased to five in 2014, then four last year 2015. The group supports the village hall with grants for a variety of things including the Audit Fees, winter heating bills, and re marking our car park.

Village Halls and community building have been in competition for some time with pubs, clubs, and schools who all have venue's to let. The Village Hall is a self-funding Charity so raises the money to cover all expenses and outgoings. This includes utility bills, along with the upkeep of the building, grounds, large marked car park with parking for disabled persons and our own street lighting.

At the 2015 AGM, all trustees were re-elected, and officers were re-elected at the following management meeting, these being - President John Fallon, Vice Chairmen Gloria Barnsley and Carol Groucutt, Booking Secretary Mrs Julie Rogers Booking Secretary, Voluntary Warden Harry Rogers, and myself Margaret Rogers dealing with the day to day running of the hall as business and premises manager and key holder dealing with letting's

We have a face book page to advertise our fundraising events as well as putting adverts in the local Newsheet.

6.18 ST PETER'S CHURCH, KINVER - Report to 2016 Kinver Parish Council Annual Meeting

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. This involves a lot more than organising Sunday services and 2015 proved to be yet another very busy year.

Our aim is to be there for people whenever they need us in their lives. Our involvement often starts with requests for Baptism of very young children, but increasingly we are asked to Baptise (Christen) adults too. During the year our Baptisms team of lay and ordained people helped 28 sets of parents and godparents prepare for their Baptism service to make it as joyful and meaningful as possible. In September, we welcomed the entire Brindley Junior School, year group by year group, to walk up to church and "Experience Joseph". 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 Joseph and his exile in Egypt. Before then, 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. We continue to be very grateful to the Parish Council and its contractors for the regular grass cutting which makes possible our ongoing maintenance of flower beds.

During 2015, we hosted 14 weddings including that of our own Ecumenical Youth Pastor, Jon Pedley, to Lucy Middleton. 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. It was wonderful to be able to welcome back the 2014 generation of newly-weds for a service of thanksgiving and curry supper in church.

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. Our bereavement support team continues to grow its ministry of support for bereaved people.

We have just come to the end of our first year of a five year Mission Action Plan aimed at growing the Church in Kinver. Many exciting new initiatives are involved in this plan, including new Saturday services , a new look magazine "the Rock", a re-launched website (www.stpeterskinver.org) and the growth of our ecumenical work with young people of all ages. Also growing is our series of concerts in church throughout the year, making use of the space and wonderful acoustics that the building offers. One highlight came in December when local singer/songwriter Chris Eaton and his wife Abby Scott provided "A Very Traditional Christmas" concert.

Contrary to popular belief, parish churches such as St Peter's receive no state or local government funding. Indeed, we need to pay Lichfield Diocese over £56,000 every year to fund, amongst other things, clergy salaries, pensions and training. This parish share is currently part supporting the training of four members of our own congregation for lay and ordained ministry. We continued to work hard throughout 2015 to fund church life in all its aspects, with many successful events including Kinver Krufts Dog Show and the ever-popular church hall murder mystery supper evening. We look forward to 2016 and its many challenges including renewing our old heating system and to our involvement in village life.

Mark Middleton - St Peter's Church, Kinver

6.19 ROTARY OF KINVER

During 2015 members of Kinver Rotary Club slimmed, sang, ran, walked, quizzed, helped children in India and a village in Uganda as well as local youngsters and senior citizens, partied, listened to some interesting and fascinating speakers, identified people with life threatening blood pressure, together with enjoying themselves at their annual harvest auction, ladies lunch, Charter anniversary evening, a garden party and, of course, the annual two-week outing by Santa and his sleigh.

Over a six-week period a group of Rotarians shed almost 10 stone between them, with the most successful slimmer losing 22lbs. This resulted in their sponsors, many of whom gave cash for each pound lost, paying more than £2,300, with an additional competition among members to guess the total weight lost adding a further £150 to the total raised.

The cash was used to complete the club's project to purchase a people carrier to provide transport to and from school for children living in slum areas around Rohtak a town 65 miles from Delhi, visited each year by club member Arvind Sharma. The vehicle has alleviated the need for children to walk many miles to and from school so its impact on their education will be enormous.

Members Club set up a blood pressure test centre in the White Harte in association with the Stroke Association's national blood pressure awareness day and invited shoppers and visitors inside for an on-the-spot test. Of the 96 who agreed, 27 were assessed as needing to report to their GP, with a significant number of those recording dangerously high pressure levels.

On July 1 former chief executive Roy Sanders became only the second member to become President of the Rotary Club of Kinver for a second term. Mr Sanders, of Troutbeck Drive, Lakeside, is one of just five remaining founder members of the club, which was formed 30 years ago. He was president in 1994 and has also undertaken the roles of secretary and treasurer a number of times over the three decades.

Six musical acts based in the Midlands and an acclaimed accordion duo from the Ukraine made up the Saturday Spectacular element of the three-day Kinver Music Festival to be staged from Friday July 10 to Sunday July 12 in aid of the Mary Stevens Hospice and Acorn Children's Hospice.

Following the theme of last year's successful event, free live music was played at venues throughout the village on Friday July 10 and Sunday July 12, with the Saturday Spectacular presented by the Rotary Club.

Pupils at three local schools were given the opportunity to test their writing skills against youngsters from across the Midlands following the club's association with staff at St. James School, Wollaston; The Ridge, Wollaston; and Brindley Heath Junior School in Kinver to enrol youngsters in an annual writing competition organised by Rotary district 1060 which stretches from Rugby in the east to Stourport in the west and from Tamworth in Staffs to Southam in the south of Warwickshire.

Children at The Ridge and Brindley Heath were also be offered the opportunity to join their opposite numbers at St James who already take part in a photographic competition across the district and the club links with Kinver High School where students entered Rotary's Young Citizens award. The school was already involved in the writing and photographic competitions and regularly supports the club's annual senior citizens party.

Torrential rain failed to put a damper on one of Kinver Rotary Club's most successful charity events - a party in the magnificent gardens of friends of the club who live just outside the village. More than 200 Rotarians, their wives and guests, together with guests of the host and hostess, attended the garden party to enjoy splendid food, fine wines and entertainment by a trio of first class musicians. The sale of tickets plus a raffle and donations raised £2800, a sum described by Rtn. Graham Smith, one of the organising committee as "absolutely magnificent."

Generous Rotarians, dedicated athletes and fun runners, enthusiastic quizzers and the people of Kinver, Enville, and parts of Wollaston and Wall Heath between them raised more than £16,000 for charity during the last three months of 2015.

Members and their friends dug deeply into their pockets to spend a record £2,100 on items donated to the club's charity auction while members gave their time, as opposed to cash, to organise a new-look 10k run which this year was renamed the Two Villages Run to reflect the new start and finish point in the grounds of Enville Hall, but still taking in the lanes round Kinver as well. This raised £4,500 (another record) thanks to the support of sponsors BodyKraft of Pensnett and supporting organisations.

In November a total of 160 quizzers descended on the KSCA to take part the annual Children in Need quiz hosted by Alan Dediccoat, the "Voice of the Balls". He left the event carrying £2,906 which comprised entrance fees paid by the teams, the proceeds of a bucket collection by Alan and cheque presentations from two schools

The total of £16,000 was completed by the club's annual tour of the area by Santa in his Christmas sleigh which this year raised a magnificent £6,400 for local charities.

Issued by Mike Deathridge

7. ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

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