**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.00PM VIA ZOOM SOFTWARE**

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

Councillor Mrs S Harris was also in attendance.

1. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor T Talbot-Webb (Vice Chairman) due to work commitments and Co-opted member J Glover who is shielding.

2. TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None were declared.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meetings of the Leisure and Amenities Committee held on 24th August 2020, having been circulated previously, were approved and signed as a true record of the proceedings.

4. FUTURE PROJECTS

**Update on walks**

The chairman reported that he is still walking the South Staffordshire Way and reporting issues he finds directly to the Staffordshire County Council Rights of Way Department and County Councillor Victoria Wilson. He would like to promote the Staffordshire Way more to improve tourism in the parishes that it goes through.

**Giants Well**

*Previous minute:-*

*Councillor S Anderson proposed and Councillor Mrs C Allen that the Parish Council allocate a maximum of £2000 for the regeneration of the Giants Well and reconnect the water supply, relocate the dog bin and a plaque to show what it is. Councillor S Anderson will come forward with an idea of costs and a specification. On a vote this was carried.*

*Some objectives would include:*

* *Clear the undergrowth from the immediate vicinity*
* *Replace damaged capping stones*
* *Reconnect the water supply*
* *Re-site the bin slightly further away from the water fountain*
* *A sign of some sorts explaining what the well is/was*

*In an ideal world it would be possible and safe to get drinking water from the ‘well’ and perhaps the immediate vicinity could have a weed membrane and some chippings over it to minimise maintenance. Is this also a potential site for a bench seat (e.g. between the well and Heather Drive sign)?*

*The previous recommendation is still to be put forward to the next Parish Council meeting.*

The Parish Council asked that a more detailed costing is supplied and tenders for the work, before funding is considered.

The Maintenance Technicians have strimmed around the area to tidy it up, and the Committee asked if they could look at moving the bin further away from the brick structure.

The Clerk will try to get a cost from South Staffs Water for reinstating a water supply and also a cost of a small noticeboard to display information on the Giants Well and other Parish matters.

The Chairman will contact Councillor E Simons to see if he will prepare a few words on the topic for the information board.

**Christmas 2020**

The Chairman reported that he had contacted the land owner Staffordshire County Council and their concern relating to a tree being planted is who is responsible in the future for the tree. Therefore, he has decided it would be better for this to be a project for the library to do and then they can apply for grant funding for the tree. He is looking for suppliers of pot grown Christmas trees at the moment.

**Additional rights of way**

The deadline for submission to include paths on the definitive map is 2026. Members discussed the following paths as needing to be included:-

FP98 – Stewpony

Hyde Lane to the A458

Prestwood Drive to Woods

Hyde track to the Playing fields

Permissive paths on Severn Trent Land off A449

The Clerk to contact J Glover to ask for any paths he can think of and the Chairman will contact D Tibbetts also.

It was agreed to invite Paul Rochfort to a meeting in January to discuss various issues relating to PROW.

**Bus Service**

Councilor S Anderson suggested that an alternative bus route is considered to including more of the village, by going up Stone Lane, down Meddins Lane and then picking up the route as now down Windsor Crescent etc.,

It was agreed to Recommend to the Parish Council that the Clerk write to the County Council to discuss the idea with them.

**Plastic Free Communities**

Councillor Mrs S Harris prepared the following document for discussion:-

**Kinver Parish Council – Single-use Plastics Policy, October, 2020  (DRAFT 1 MT/KEC)**

**Introduction**

Plastic is an extremely useful material due to its versatility and availability, however, it comes with a high environmental impact.

Plastic waste does not decompose and can last for centuries in landfill, or end up as litter in the natural environment, which in turn can pollute soils, rivers and oceans, and harm the creatures that inhabit them.

Plastic is a non renewable material made mostly from fossil fuels, and has a high carbon footprint. (1) Every year approximately 13 million tonnes of plastic (2) ends up in the oceans either through deliberate littering or by escaping the waste management process.

The Government want us to leave the environment in a better condition for the next generation and have long term plans and targets for eliminating avoidable plastic and other waste. (3)

**What are single-use plastics?**

* coffee vending cups and stirrers and lids
* condiment sachets (coffee pods, milk, sauces)
* food containers and plastic bags
* plastic cutlery
* soft drink bottles
* straws/drink carton straws
* water cups
* plastic packaging
* cleaning fluids in single use bottles
* wipes
* envelopes, plastic wrapping for brochures

**The Council's ambition to become plastic free**

We, Kinver Parish Council, is committed to leading by example and will take action to minimise, and phase out where feasible, the use of non-essential single-use plastics across its operations and buildings.

**The Parish Council will commit to:-**

* Eliminating single use plastics from Council buildings and offices
* Working with Event organisers to eliminate single use plastics across events in the area
* Replace broken/unfixable items with biodegradable alternatives whenever possible
* Encouraging the use of recycled plastic where the use of plastic is unavoidable
* Educating the public through campaigns for reducing single-use plastics in conjunction with partners
* Reviewing the Policy annually to reflect national policy changes and identify further areas where the Council can make a difference to it's earth-friendly practices

Working with partners/education role:-

* Working with Kinver Eco Collective and supporting the Surfers Against Sewage - Plastic Free Communities initiative
* Supporting litter picks and other SAS campaigns and activities as agreed with Kinver Eco Collective to keep our village, parklands, river and canal free of single use plastic waste
* Providing evidence of progress towards Plastic Free Community Status, completion of Checklist and any related data for reports to SAS
* Using the Councils communication channels to share best practice and information
* Supporting schools in their journey to free their environments of single-use plastics and promote the use of sustainable materials
* Promoting the use of alternatives to single-use plastics to community groups and businesses the Council comes into contact with as appropriate
* Raising awareness among our staff and councillors and encouraging their co-operation in keeping Kinver Parish Council a plastic free environment.
* Work with the Procurement team to develop specifications that encourage minimisation non-essential single-use plastics for contractors and suppliers, and ensure that these are incorporated into new contracts.

**We will address the objectives of this Policy by:-**

Step 1 – Identify current use

Step 2 – Identify and develop alternatives to current products

Step 3 – Identify ecologically sound disposal routes for broken equipment/used products

Step 4 – Implement change – remove single-use plastic products from catalogues and Council buildings. Identify earth friendly products and phase in as replacement becomes necessary

Step 5 – Establish a time line for the eradication of single use plastics within the Parish Council

Step 6 – Keep Plastic Free Communities as a permanent Agenda item, review and document progress at Council Meetings quarterly and share achievements with Kinver Eco Collective, SAS and the Kinver Community

Review date September 2021

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(1) Dormer et al (2013), 'Carbon footprint analysis in plastic manufacturing', Journal of Cleaner Production volume 51

(2) UN Environment, June 2018

(3) Environment Bill 2020 – GOV.UK

The Parish Council has undertaken already a commitment to recycle and be greener, by recycling all paperwork; removing single use plastics such as plastic cutlery and stirrers; paper and plastic cups are recycled; using larger containers of cleaning materials and decanting into smaller re-useable bottles; using recycled envelopes, toilet tissue and where possible hand towels; changed to LED lighting and in public conveniences using automatic light switch off.

The clerk will look at checking if our energy supplier is using green energy and if not get quotes to move supplier to present to the Parish Council and Finance.

It was agreed to Recommend to the Parish Council that:-

* The Parish Council work with Kinver Eco Collective and have 2 representatives on this group from the Parish Council.
* The Parish Council strive to work towards a plastic free Kinver working with Kinver Eco Collective.

5. MEMBERS REPORTS ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS ONLY

The Chairman reported that his only concern was that FP23 needs attention, the Clerk reported that the Maintenance Technicians now the crops have been harvested will contact the farmer to ask them to help transport equipment and tools to the location for the works.

Councillor S Anderson offered to help if needed using his quad.

Details of paths cut etc. since the last meeting are attached as appendix 1 to these minutes.

6. COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHAIRMAN

None has been received.

7. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Items for a future agenda –

Presentation from Canals and Rivers Trust; Recycling plant visit; Bulbs / wild flowers (members to identify top 3 areas for planting); Walking route / circular walk from the village to Kinver Edge; Invite Paul Rochfort to a meeting in January.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting 11th November 2020 at 7pm.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

The following recommendations was made to the Council that:

* the Parish Council work with Kinver Eco Collective and have 2 representatives on this group from the Parish Council.
* the Parish Council strive to work towards a plastic free Kinver working with Kinver Eco Collective.
* the Clerk write to the County Council to discuss the idea of amending the bus route with them.

APPENDIX 1 TO THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 9TH SEPTEMBER 2020

