

MINUTES OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2022 AT 95 HIGH STREET, KINVER

PRESENT: Councillors JK Hall (Chairman), Mrs C Allen (Vice Chairman), IG Sadler, Ms E Lord, G Sisley, H Williams, S Anderson, , E Simons, P Wooddisse, D McGirr and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson

Also present: Mrs J Cree – Clerk and Mrs M Fullwood – Assistant Clerk, Mrs B Owen, Mrs Thornton, Dr R Painter and Mrs Doy.

209/22. Apologies for Absence.

Councillors D Light, K Slade, K Hosell, S Charlesworth-Jones, Mrs S Harris sent their apologies.

210/22. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

None were declared.

211/22. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th October 2022 (copy attached).

The minutes of the meetings held on the above date, were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

212/22. To receive a report from the PCSO's relating to Kinver

The report from the Police was circulated to all members and noted. PCSO Paula Wilkes attended the meeting and ran over the statistics. She reported on the recent spate of car thefts.

Cllr G Sisley reported on his meeting with the new Chief Inspector: -

- ANPR cameras were raised with him, ANPR are used to follow where stolen vehicles have gone, cars that have markers on them coming to the area. Cllr S Anderson said that there is cross border co-operation, and this is improving. He suggested that the Parish / Community can do there are 5g cameras that are put up and Maggie Quinn is organising them. We can buy a camera that SSDC use and put it up as a covert camera. This is not monitored 24/7 but it's there for if there's a problem. The cost is £4000 but the Parish Council cannot access the data. The total number of officers for the area is 6 and should be 10. There are 3 CCTV poles in the High Street that are no longer used could be used for cameras.
- More policing was asked for in the Parish on the beat, but staffing levels are short. The Police will come down on the market days to reassure the residents.
- Sgt Andy Clifford is going to contact Cllr G Sisley and he may be able to forward more information.

213/22. Public Participation

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

Mrs B Owen addressed the council on the following points: -

- The bus service is running well, and the numbers of users are increasing. She noted that there is no update on the CUA, when will it be publicised to the community? She knows of groups wanting to use the facility that are now not using the school due to costs and one group that is using it.
- Local Policing Team, she is still waiting for a response to question she has raised.
- With regard to the Church Wall – she has written to MP Gavin Williamson with her concerns, and she read out her response from him.

Mrs Doy and Mrs Thornton addressed the Council in relation to the school bus service, Mrs Thornton's daughter is a new pupil in year 9 at Kinver High School and she is very concerned over the length of the bus journey, it was before 9 minutes and now takes up to an hour and a half. She wants to know why the infant school coach service cannot be used by older school children from Hyperion Road. With regard to the safety aspects, some school children have to stand on the bus as there are not enough seats for part of the journey. In a morning this is not as much of an issue but on an evening this happens. Also there are no seatbelts and the bus drives on national speed limit roads.

From the Home school travel guidance document, point 45 this service provided by the County Council does not meet this requirement.

South Staffordshire children are getting a lesser service than other children from out of the area. The day is elongated by the time that they have to travel on the bus, and when there are later finishes this again elongates their day.

The option to pay for seats on the Infant / Junior School bus service is not an option as they are told that there are no spaces on this coach service.

Dr R Painter – reported that the 242 is a public bus service, the County Councils view is that it does not need seatbelts and people can stand on busses. However, in his opinion, the 242S is a dedicated school transport service as it does not allow paying passengers onto this bus and it does not follow the normal 242 service route, and so in his opinion this bus is subject to the Home School Travel Guidance.

Standing orders were re-instated.

214/22. To discuss correspondence received re the school bus service

An email has been received from a resident of Stourton expressing her concerns over the length of time the bus takes to get the children to school, and the safety element of them having to stand on a bus that's full each day.

A response from the County Council was sent to the resident explaining that: -

“Thank you for your email regarding Service 242s to Kinver High School.
To clarify I am saying that the journey your child is allocated on home to school transport is scheduled to take 55 minutes, and the maximum number of pupils travelling per day this term has been 30 pupils on a vehicle which has the capacity to carry 54 pupils.
From the data we have available there is no evidence of 22 pupils standing or the journey taking 90 minutes.
I hope this clarifies this situation for you.
Kind Regards, Jackie Bridgen”

The County Councillor following on from Public Participation asked if there are photos of the bus over crowding then she was asked to have copies.

Cllr Mrs C Allen reported that the Foley coach was supposed to be changed to a smaller bus, this was why the situation had changed for pupils using the school coach from Stourton and them no longer being allowed to use the service. To date this has not happened, the same size coach is still running, there are spaces on this bus and the older children cannot go on it.

Cllr S Anderson stated that this has been monitored for some time and could do with an update next month with this new information on children standing on the bus.

This to be an agenda for the next meeting.

215/22. To discuss printing requirements for the members of the council due to the copier lease ending in December.

As the Photocopier lease is due to end in December, The Clerk wanted to clarify with members which way they would like to move forward. She has obtained costings to replace the copier which needs to be discussed financially at the next Finance Committee Meeting, it was noted that the Parish Office have 2 A3 capable colour inkjet printers.

Members agreed this is a climate emergency and we should go “paper light” and reduce the carbon footprint of the Council. Therefore, Cllr S Anderson proposed we use this opportunity to go paper light, and do not replace the copier at this time and return it at the end of the lease. This was seconded by Cllr D McGirr and this was carried on a majority vote.

216/22. To discuss / review the Police Office rented post

At the L & A Meeting it was discussed how to continue to store the equipment for the market. At the present time we use storage on the car park.

Members discussed the above, and agreed at this time to try to use an additional storage facility on the car park and monitor the situation for the time being.

217/22. To receive an update on the Community use agreement and make any decisions as required.

The details received to date and email trail was circulated to all members with their agenda papers. This was noted and the Clerk to request an update in time for the Planning Meeting on the amended planning application.

218/22. To discuss the Church Wall at St Peters –

A further meeting took place on the 10th October at the Council Offices at Codsall. The Chairman updated members on the meeting, there is no change to the previous meeting and the District Council do not want to change their original stance.

Cllr E Simons has had correspondence from within the Community, he has also spoken to the Historic England Inspector and they have been out and inspected the wall. They have come back after looking at the wall and it only seems to need minor works, if a faculty is applied for by the District Council for repairing the whole wall they would not get this approved with the current plan they are putting forward. The District Council have had Entrust survey the wall and the specification drawn from this and it appears this person is not qualified to prepare this specification as a Historical Architect / surveyor needs to look at it as it is the cartilage to a grade 1 listed church.

So we have grave concerns over this project to date. Residents of Kinver are concerned over the increased Council tax for them.

Cllr S Anderson and Cllr E Simons have been looking at other authorities on these type of situations and there has been 1 council found to do have undertaken this process, but the difference being they consulted before going forward with using this special power. The concerns are the lack of consultation to the people of Kinver. The concern of the Parish Council is the cost of the proposed works being £130,000 and the principal of the whole process is questionable.

The Clerk to ask for information from NALC / SPCA on a local Government solicitor to help give advice as the Parish Council use the District Councils Solicitor / legal Department and on this occasion would be a conflict of interest.

If SSDC tried to say it's a health and safety issue, if a wall is deemed unsafe SSDC would have to contact the Diocese to ask permission, this wall has been inspected and this would not be approved. The District Council would be fined if they removed the wall and be made to rebuild the wall as it was. A formal press release from SSDC would be helpful for the parishioners to know what is happening.

219/22. To discuss an update / response to the shipping containers on the Spar Car Park

We have received the following update from the Planning Enforcement:-

“Further to the above complaint, I can confirm that I have been in discussions with the owner of the containers. Initially the owner suggested that they would like to submit a retrospective planning application to retain the containers although I have since been advised that the containers will be removed by 05/11/2022.

I have requested photographic evidence to show the containers have been removed by this date, failure to comply will result in enforcement action without further notice.
I will advise as soon as I have a update.”

Photographs will be sent to the District on Monday if the containers are there or moved. Cllr G Sisley will contact SSDC on Monday to discuss if they are not removed.

220/22. To discuss / update Christmas light event

The contract has been let for the traffic management for the 25th / 26th November and a site visit will be taking place on the 3rd November with the County Council to run through the planned traffic management. The Christmas event will be as last year.

221/22. Local Plan review response from Lower Penn

Correspondence has been received from Lower Penn Parish Council in regard to the Local Plan, and the response from the District Council to this letter.

The following email has also been received:-

“I am emailing to advise you that District Council officers are hoping to deliver Local Plan documents to Parish Councils on Thursday 10th November 2022, subject to Member agreement that an upcoming Local Plan consultation will take place. These documents relate to the consultation and will need to be made publicly available should residents wish to view them. Documents will be delivered to the Parish Council clerk, to the address as published on the SSDC website: [Parish Contact Details South Staffordshire Council \(sstaffs.gov.uk\)](https://www.sstaffs.gov.uk). Please can I ask you to confirm whether someone will be available to accept delivery of the documents that day at this address, and if not, where you require the documents to be left instead?

Kind regards

Marsha Burnett

**Administration Assistant
Enterprise And Growth”**

The plan is being voted on at the District Council on the 8th November, this was noted.

222/22. County / District Councillor to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

County Councillor Mrs V Wilson reported that:-

- Staffordshire County Council – campaign for Here to Help to help cost of living pressures, asking people if they have concerns re heating their home (heat or eat). Asking people to go to website to access this information. They have community help points at the libraries, some offer free beverages.
- Communications with Highways team re the Holloway, she is being asked if the Parish Council would consider her getting a cost to make it pedestrianised and tidy it up and make it safe, with a green wall. If the Parish Council are interested they are wanting match funding and the Parish would have to consult with the public to see what they think. They need to have the Parish Councils support. She can get the costs involved for the work to make it more pedestrianised with access only for emergencies and the property on the top of the hill and the Council can look at it with more detail. The character needs to be maintained near the listed building and preserve the sand stone wall. Disabled access needs to also be taken into account.
- She is aware of the flooding in the area, and monitoring this in the area. Property flooding is the priority at this time. There is funding for this if people need some help.
- The road sweeper was out today also.
- With regard to the school bus she requires a photograph or a video evidence to show in more detail the issue.

District Councillor G Sisley

- There has been no response with regard to the owners of the empty shops in the Parish, long term emptiness of premises goes into a different a category. With a flat above this may make a difference.
- He has also asked to be involved in the flooding at White Hill and the Holloway proposals with the County Councillor.

223/22. To receive the minutes and any recommendations from the following Committee meetings:-

Leisure and amenities Committee 19th October 2022

The above meeting minutes were noted and all recommendations have been agenda items for this meeting.

Planning and Development Committee 12th October 2022

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

224/22. Report of the Chairman

He reported that he had been involved with the surgeries relating to the Church Wall held at the Parish Office. They are considering an evening session for those that could not make the 2 previous day time events. It was agreed to hold off this session until we have further information to inform the public of this.

225/22. To receive and note the report from the Clerk including Burial Ground Superintendents report.

- The trees within the ownership of the Council areas need to be professionally surveyed, there is a lot of trees at Comber Ridge that need to have work done on them, the Clerk to get a survey undertaken and report back the findings.
- The headstone for the coloured graphic is resolved.
- Update on the damp in the Parish Office – the guttering on the external wall above the damp was leaking badly, the builder thinks this may be the issue, so the gutters have been repaired and cleared and when the wall has dried the damp in the office down stairs will be monitored to see if it improves.
- There has been 1 interment of ashes and 1 full burial since the last meeting

226/22. Reports from Members sitting on Outside Bodies for the Parish Council.

The Remembrance Day event is on Sunday 13th at Enville Church.

2/11/22

Lady Dorothy Grey - Cllr P Wooddisse reported he had attended their meeting and their funds had all been distributed to children in Enville, there is £10000 surplus to be carried forward for the next year, and they are looking at including Kinver's children in the giving of grants.

227/22. To receive the accounts for payment since the last meeting.

The accounts for payment as set out as appendix 1 to these minutes were accepted. The Clerk gave an update on the Parish Van.

228/22. Items for future Meetings

To be with the Clerk on the 29th November. Clock Shelter update in December, Submission of NPlan to regulation 16 consultation, Coronation celebrations.

229/22. Dates of Next Meetings

Planning and Development Committee	9 th November 2022
Leisure and amenities Committee	16 th November 2022
Finance and General Purposes Committee	23 rd November 2022
Parish Council meeting	7 th December 2022
Planning and Development Committee	14 th December 2022

Accounts for payment for November meeting 2022

Accounts for payment	Description	Total
Amazon	Pest Control traps	16.04
British Telecom	Quarterly charge	371.11
Ebay	Van seat covers and mats	97.94
Greenacre Services	Work for October and part of September	700.00
Gif Gaf	Sim for CCTV at garage	6.00
HMRC	November	1375.80
J R K	Supplies	55.07
Kinver Edge Farm Shop	Toilet opening September	90.00
Morrisons	Fuel	200.00
NALC	Course fees for Christine	141.76
Pure Shine Windows	Windows Cleaned	56.00
ROSPA	Annual inspection	226.80
Severn Trent	Rates for 95 High Street	41.67
Sharp	Staples for copier	566.87
Screwfix	Supplies	87.95
SCC pensions	November	1865.85
Viking Direct	Supplies (part Nplan for reg 14 mailing)	211.02
Water Plus	Rates for 95 High Street	50.85
		6144.69
List of Monthly Direct Debits		
Tax for van	October	25.43
Salaries	November	4678.25
SSDC	Rates for Comber Ridge	99.00
IONOS	Web charges	1.20
Utility Warehouse	Kinver Edge Toilet	18.70
Utility Warehouse	95 High Street	18.81
Utility Warehouse	EV Point	209.75
Utility Warehouse	Garage	15.94
	Total	5067.08
	Total Expenditure	11211.77
Receipts		
Burial Fees		800.00
Gazebo Hire		100.00
Vendelectric	October	164.06
Market		200.00
	Total Income	1264.06