

MINUTES OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2023 AT 95 HIGH STREET, KINVER

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs C Allen (Vice Chairman), IG Sadler, Ms E Lord, G Sisley, H Williams, S Anderson, D McGirr, K Slade, Mrs S Harris.

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

19/23. Apologies for Absence.

Councillors sent their apologies JK Hall (Chairman), E Simons, D Light, P Wooddisse, K Hosell, S Charlesworth-Jones and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson.

20/23. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

None were declared.

21/23. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th January 2023.

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

22/23. To receive a report from the PCSO's relating to Kinver

The report from the Police was circulated prior to the meeting. PCSO Philip Millichap was in attendance and ran through his report. With regard to the ASB in the village, he has been making enquiries and has 6 youths have been identified, and several have been spoken to with their parents. He will look into mobile CCTV in the village and discuss this with Maggie Quinn to see if they have a unit that can be temporarily placed in the area.

He has been and spoken to the builders working on Stone Lane, and they have been requested to move their vehicles off the double yellow lines, and it was noted that some had received parking tickets.

Following a discussion with the Police, it was discussed the CCTV system that can be provided by the District Council, the costs are circa £4000, with maintenance and annual costs for a 5g sim. Access to the data is for the Data Controller (SSDC) and the Police only. Cllr S Anderson will research this further with Mrs Quinn to work out the exact procedures of how it works and exact costs and report back to the next meeting.

Chris Cotton will be attending a future meeting of the Council.

23/23. To discuss and receive any further information in relation to the 242s bus service

Following the last meeting the Clerk emailed, as below:-

Good Morning,

At our meeting in January, we again had the matter raised with us by a member of the public in relation to the 242s school bus service.

The service is called the 242s although this bus route is not the normal route of the standard 242 bus service which only runs from Kinver to Stourbridge bus station and back.

Can you please explain to us why if the 242s does not allow pedestrians on and does not run the 242 route to Kinver. Why for those reasons alone this is not a designated school bus and therefore the bus should have seatbelts.

Can you explain to us please what the rationale behind the decision is and proof that this 242s service is anything other than a school bus service.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to a response by return.

Jennifer Cree
Clerk to the Council

The response received is detailed below:-

Hi Jennifer

The 242S is a closed-door service for school pupils only. It is registered as a local service for school pupils only so does not require seatbelts.

Kind regards

John Mitcheson | Interim Senior Transport Coordinator

Further email sent following this response being received:-

Thank you for your response, but I have been asked to clarify, if a dedicated school bus has to have seat belts, how is this different? If only school children can use and it's a closed door service. What is the legislation / rule that you are adhering to for this?

Thanks

Jenny

His response is below:-

Hi Jenny

The difference is that the service is registered, so can carry fare paying students (a closed door contract cannot carry additional fare paying students, only those with named passes). Under these rules, the vehicle needs to be DDA compliant. As its original construction and use was as a service bus permitting standees, then there is no requirement for the vehicle to be fitted with standees.

Kind regards

John

This was noted.

A meeting with Select Bus Company has also been requested to discuss the standard 242 service. The future of the bus service is still not known for the future at this time.

24/23. Public Participation

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

Mrs B Owen reported on the following issues:-

- The bus service has been a bit hit and miss, due to breakdowns and diversions. She is concerned over its future and the route should be extended to cover more areas to increase revenue for the bus company. She watched the select committee on rural connectivity, and this raised the issue of rural transport, if an elderly person in the area raised uses a bus pass, the bus company gets £1.80 where as a normal paying passenger they get £13. They reported that many services are being cancelled altogether.
- She clarified the section for transport in the Regulation 16 consultation so she can comment to support the plan, and she will do this as soon as possible.
- The MP should be contacting the Parish on the bus service but has not done so to date.

Standing orders were reinstated.

25/23. To receive an update on the Community use agreement and make any decisions as required including correspondence re use of the lecture theatre.

Correspondence has been received re the make up of the review committee, and it has been suggested that this is clarified at the first meeting. SSDC has been contacted to ask for further information and a meeting for the interested CUA members should be arranged for 2 weeks time. The Clerk to try to organise a meeting as soon as practicable.

26/23. To discuss the Church Wall at St Peters

Many members of the Community have been putting in FOI requests to the District Council, there is a meeting booked in February on the 17th at Codsall, for Cllrs G Sisley, JK Hall, MP Gavin Williamson (who will chair), PCC and SSDC Officers.

27/23. To discuss the Parish Council Climate Action Group update

The inaugural meeting of the Action Group was held on 23 January, and was open to all. Several members of the public expressed a wish to join, at the meeting or by message. Ideas on the scope and most useful actions of the group was discussed.

The grant to purchase an IR camera has been approved. Members of the group will be talking to South Staffordshire staff about the potential for grant moneys and support, tomorrow, with the priority being to find ways to reduce energy bills for local people. We are also meeting the Housing Association to talk about insulation of their properties.

28/23. To receive an update on meeting with the Edward Marsh Centre (KSCA) in relation to land transfer and Car Park lease and take any actions required

A meeting took place at the Edward Marsh Centre, with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr S Charlesworth-Jones, the Clerk, Mr Vendy and Mr Middleton of the KSCA.

The following issues were discussed:-

Car Park lease:-

At the meeting it was discussed that the Parish Council had set their budgets for the year 2023/24 so there were no additional funds for any increase in the rent. The EMC agreed that if the council would pay for some relining of the car park and the balance in rent up to £875 this would be a great help. The cost to reline the car park partially is £450.

It was proposed by Cllr H Williams and seconded by Cllr K Slade to agree to the relining of the partial relining of the car park is organised when the new budget starts on the 1st April, and the balance will be paid in rent to the same fee as this year to £875. Years 2 and 3 will be discussed later following a meeting with the KSCA trustees to make a further offer to the Council.

It was agreed that the EMC will repair the pot holes in the car park themselves.

Land Transfer:-

A lease is required (similar to the KAG lease) for the Parish Councils play area and gym equipment. This is in the process of being prepared, when this is completed and agreed the land can then be signed over to the new CIO. The Chairman suggested a peppercorn rent figure of £25-£50 maximum, this to be finalised at the next Management Committee at the KSCA.

Children's Play Area:-

Mr Vendy said that there were over hanging trees on the play area that the youths gathered under at night. The Clerk and the Chairman had a look after the meeting there are no trees in the play area that were causing a problem, the trees were around the outer edge and are the responsibility of the Model Engineers. This is also linked to a letter from the Bowling Club that want these trees trimmed back, so the Clerk has written to the EMC and the Bowling Club suggesting the 3 interested parties meet and resolve the issue of the trees between them.

29/23. To discuss the Methodist Church Car Park Lease

The lease was circulated from previous years and it was noted that this is due for renewal shortly and will be an agenda item for the future when that comes forward.

30/23. To discuss the Warm Hubs in the Parish

It was noted that GP's can prescribe heating for certain medical conditions. However, concern was expressed that those that are vulnerable may not know about Warm Hubs. It was suggested if required that a leaflet drop could take place to ensure people know about the warm hubs and use local volunteers to deliver, or at the very least a poster in the volunteer busses may be useful.

Next winter it would be ideal to use the CA News-sheet to let people know about these facilities if it's still an issue.

It was agreed that a leaflet / poster could be dropped at the Senior Citizens club, and the volunteer bus services.

Cllr Mrs S Harris will contact Kinver Volunteer Bureau and the Church to discuss spreading the word.

31/23. To discuss having a Kinver Mascot and a competition to design one

Following the traders meeting it was suggested that we should look into having Kinver Mascot and a competition to design the mascot. Any prize fund for the competition would have to be referred to the next Finance Committee. This was noted.

32/23. Update on Fibreboard band for Kinver Parish

Cllr Mrs C Allen reported that she has spoken to the Fibre Company, have said the only viable area is the A458, but if we can get support they may be able to include Hyperion Road, the Stewpony properties etc. The funding is slightly different using vouchers. Cllr Mrs C Allen has offered to distribute information to promote interest in the scheme to enable the whole area to be viable. A meeting with the Fibre Company is being organised to discuss the options for the Stourton area.

It was noted that when copper is removed within 2 years and older phones won't work, and residents will have to have an adaptor to make them work. It was agreed to ask if the Fibre Company could supply these adaptors to the area.

33/23. To receive the minutes and any recommendations from the following Committee meetings:-

Planning and Development Committee 11th January 2023

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

The Reg 16 Consultation on Monday 23 January closing on Monday 6 March at 5pm. We have identified an indicative timetable for the progress of the plan as follows:

Examination – March/April 2023 the group have chosen their examiner. At this stage it begins to have legal force.
Post Examination Publication – May 2023 (following the Local Elections on 4 May)
Referendum – July 2023.

Leisure and Amenities Committee 18th January 2023

The above meeting minutes were noted and the following recommendation to the Parish Council was made:-

to enter the BKV competition for 2023, the area to be included for judging will be from the Burgesses to Jubilee Gardens and included in this the Best frontages competition for Businesses / residents in the High Street. There is no cost to the Parish Council for the entry fee as the Chairman will pay the entry fee of £27.50, but there will be a small financial cost for prizes for the poster competition and the High Street Frontages. This was agreed and funding or any prizes to be discussed at Finance when appropriate. There will be a presentation to the L & A Committee to give information on judging etc.

34/23. County / District Councillor to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

District Councillor G Sisley reported that photo ID is required to vote in the May elections and if you don't have photo ID you can apply quite simply online for this in advance of the elections.

Cllr H Williams reported that there will be an increase of circa £5 per month for Council Tax for the Parish from SSDC.

35/23. Report of the Chairman

The Vice Chairman reported she attended the inaugural induction of the Reverend Richard Clarkson.

36/23. To receive and note the report from the Clerk including Burial Ground Superintendents report.

Correspondence received
Kings Coronation from SSDC - Maggie Quinn

Insurance claim submitted for damaged piece of equipment on the park and the noticeboard at Stag Meadow, both have been paid out and repairs ordered from Wicksteed and the new noticeboard has been ordered.

20's plenty Group meeting information

37/23. Reports from Members sitting on Outside Bodies for the Parish Council.

Traders meeting - Cllr S Anderson reported following the traders meeting, they raised the Coronation Event on the 29th April 2023. As on the actual weekend there may be less people around as people will be watching the coronation or using the long weekend for a holiday.

A working party needs to be set up to look at this and Kinver Country Fayre are looking at putting on a small event also.

The Fibre company had offered to help with a community event, so the Clerk will contact him and ask if they are able to help. Plenty of bunting is required, they could perhaps fund this. It was agreed to have a meeting of the L & A Committee on the 15th February to discuss primarily the plans for the Coronation event and report back to the 1st March Council meeting.

Cllr D McGirr reported that the Edward Marsh Centre had a recent meeting, and the plans for the Sterrymere project were issued, he will forward copies to the members of the Council.

38/23. 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.

39/23. Items for future Meetings

To be with the Clerk for the 22nd February 2023. Coronation event.

40/23. Dates of Next Meetings

Planning and Development Committee	8 th February 2023
Leisure and Amenities Committee (TBC)	15 th February 2023
Finance and General Purposes Committee	22 nd February 2023
Annual Parish Council meeting (6pm)	1 st March 2023
Parish Council meeting (7pm)	1 st March 2023
Planning and Development Committee	8 th March 2023
Leisure and Amenities Committee	15 th March 2023

Accounts for payment for February meeting 2023

Accounts for payment	Description	Total
Barclays	Monthly charges	8.00
Barriers Direct	Replacement noticeboard (insurance)	1322.52
BT	quarterly	371.74
Bullfinch	Beacon	594.00
CPRE	Annual Subscription	36.00
DG2	Posters for Xmas event (paid by grant received)	384.00
ESPO	Supplies for toilets and maintenance	457.39
Greenacre Services	Work for Part December and January and grass cutting	1160.00
Gif Gaf	Sim for CCTV at garage and tracker	12.00
HMRC	February	1398.38
Kinver Edge Farm Shop	Toilet opening	135.00
OCL	Supplies	48.00
Power Equipment	Repairs and servicing to machinery	985.90
Pure Shine Windows	Cleaning windows	56.00
R H Electrical	Christmas Lights	1620.00
Screwfix	Supplies	18.20
SCC pensions	February	1937.57
The Green Stamp	Parish Stamp	24.50
Urban Vision	Nplan Invoice	630.00
Viking Direct	Stamps for NPLAN	38.35
Viking Direct	Supplies	43.15
Water Plus	Rates for Comber Ridge refund from SSDC	47.80
		11328.50
List of Monthly Direct Debits		
Salaries	February	4857.31
SSDC	Rates for Comber Ridge refund from SSDC	-256.96
IONOS	Web charges	1.20
Utility Warehouse	Kinver Edge Toilet	22.83
Utility Warehouse	95 High Street (Bill checked against last years bill usage is less for Gas and Electricity but rates)	775.16
Utility Warehouse	EV Point / water pipe heater	590.34
Utility Warehouse	Garage	107.60
	Total	6097.48
	Total Expenditure	17425.98
Receipts		
Burial Fees		2840.00
Vendelectric	January	200.90
Aviva	Payment for noticeboard	944.00
Bath Building Society	Interest for the year	156.31
Barclays	Loyalty Reward	0.06
SCC pensions	Grant	450.00
	Total Income	4591.27