

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022 AT 7.00 PM AT 95 HIGH STREET, KINVER**

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Present: Councillors: S Charlesworth -Jones (Chairman), Ms E Lord (Vice Chairman), D McGirr, , Mrs S Harris, J K Hall (Ex-Officio), S Anderson, K Hosell, Mrs C Allen.

Also present: Clerk Miss J Cree, Cllr G Sisley and Gavin Pearce

1. To receive and note apologies for absence

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor P Wooddisse and and co-opted member D Tibbetts.

2. To record Declarations of interest regarding items on the agenda.

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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

4. To receive a presentation from Gavin Pearce the Arboricultural Officer from SSDC (inc TPO discussions)

Mr Gavin Pearce addressed the Council and the following points were discussed following:-

- Took over from S Dores last summer.
- Kinver are engaged with trees and it makes life a little easier.
- Local help fourth coming is a necessity for his job as we are in the Parish eyes and ears on the ground.
- The consultation process – Parish Council responses to the applications sometimes need clarification. He has restrictions that stop him going as far as the Parish would like with conditions, but any decision he makes he is always happy to explain.
- There are 2 types of applications TPO / Conservation order– and this does cause confusion. Levels of protection are different. With TPO is a legal order – if it covers no work can be undertaken without permission, unless there is an exemption in law. If works are agreed they can go ahead with conditions such as repeat pruning, or if a tree is removed a new tree can be planted. In a conservation area any tree works an application on any tree, if it needs a TPO this is then put on the tree during the 6 weeks period, then this can be stopped from works.
- The conservation area notifications when a tree has been removed, we would like a tree replaced, he cannot say a new tree to be planted unless he applies a TPO to the tree.

- The fines for both types of application are the same, if permission is not sought or followed there is a fine or 6 months in prison.
- PC input invaluable is local knowledge and giving the community a voice.
- The trees at Dark Lane – he approved the removal of the trees due to their condition. The trees were cobra braced to keep them together. This shows that the tree is weak. A condition has been put on this site to replant 4 trees, within 6 months – members can help by checking if these have been planted.
- He works with tree surgeons, and they should be accredited.
- A tree that was TPO'd 40 years ago may not be good now and vice versa.
- A TPO review is required, and he is working on it. He would appreciate help in identifying trees that could be identified as a good tree for TPO's, essentially get details of the tree. Photos etc. and pass these to him. He has a high bench-mark for protecting a tree so may not always agree with the ones put forward.
- The Council requested a list of Kinver TPO's to update the maps that we have.
- Location is important if it can be seen from a Highway it is easier to TPO. But if it can't be seen and is still a good specimen this can still have a TPO put on them.
- Sometimes a tree can be average but in a good location, this can be looked at still.
- TEMPO check list is used to assign scores to the tree to see if it should be protected.
- Replacement trees are specifically agreed, and stock type is very important. Container grown is always requested. Size selected standard is approx. 2m and these trees have a greater survival rate.
- Hedgerows are under his remit and a removal notice has to be submitted. They do have lots of exemptions. Any works wanted to have an application submitted.
- Blocks of trees attracting a TPO order can be agreed as an area order. Also, woodland TPO's and group TPO like 10 trees.
- Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in Kinver, the new White Hill site has got planning permission and we would like to retain the hedge and enhance it. Raise any concerns in the planning application with the Parish recommendations.

Members thanked Mr Pearce for attending the meeting and they all found it very informative.

## 5. Future Projects

### (a) Update on Verges being used for wild- flowers – S Harris

There have been great successes and failures with the planting, 6 sites planted, Edgeview Walk has been strimmed. Bobs Bank – thriving late cut the end of the summer and will be replanted with more yellow rattle, hels hill – 2 cuts have taken place. Library – growing well, Church Hill still awaited to be looked at, Dunsley also growing. Seeds have been funded from Severn Trent and they have enough seeds for next year. Whittington Hall Lane – planted.

A map has been sent to SSDC and SCC to ask them not to cut the grass in the highlighted areas. It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that a letter sent to SCC and SSDC not to mow in May. This was agreed.

### (b) Park and stride – S Harris

This will be looked at in September with the new school intake.

(C) Information Boards / noticeboards – P Wooddisse

The Clerk has contacted the newssheet editor to ask for businesses to forward any leaflets / posters for the business noticeboard. She also circulated the existing information board sheets to Cllrs Ms E Lord and K Hosell.

Cllr K Hosell reported on the Information boards – he has found a company that do a vandal resistant and 10 years UV life board. The costs are approx. £2000 metal legs – wooden ones are £1200. Design cost is for A1 is £350. Cllrs K Hosell and D McGirr to walk the proposed area and report back with an idea of quantities.

Costs for a Stewpony noticeboard replacement – an agenda item for the next meeting.

(D) Trees – S Harris

For information purposes Kinver Eco Collective – they are asking people to photograph their favorite tree and send pictures into them.

Kinver is missing fruit trees, and a letter has been to the various authorities to ask for permission to plant trees in various locations around the Parish.

(E) Visit Kinver website update

The Clerk has purchased the visitkinver domain names as agreed at the last meeting, funded from the Chairmans allowance.

Cllr Ms E Lord has spoken to company that has worked on several interactive websites that looked good. Setting up a website ballpark is £1200, servicing per week is approximately 10 hours per week, this is funded from the business that advertise on it.

Visit Staffordshire is being put to tender to be re-developed. The deadline for the website needs to be next year for tourism.

Members to look at various sites and bring back to the next meeting with ideas. Cllr Ms E Lord to lead on this project.

(F) Solar projects for Kinver (Climate and low carbon Initiative)

Members discussed the possibilities of identifying businesses / nursing homes etc to look at solar energy and look at providing them with a companies that can provide. It was felt that businesses could contact companies directly and use the app to work out savings directly.

Cllr Ms E Lord reported that Heath Field school have gone with a company for solar panels that they lease the panels, and the new schemes are better than previous ones.

It was agreed to look at the Parish offices / spaces and have an agenda item as a Climate and low carbon initiative.

6. To receive an update on the 20's plenty group and discuss next actions

Papers were circulated to members prior to the meeting. The '20 is Plenty ' working group have assessed local evidence and local opinions on speed and road safety. The main areas of concern were Enville Road, Potters Cross but areas throughout the village were mentioned by residents. Local speed data from Ordnance Survey and from Kinver's SID cameras showed that while average speeds were generally under 30mph, a few cars were travelling much faster. National research showed that 20 mph speed limits were effective in reducing speeds and accidents. The majority of respondents to the local questionnaire felt it would be helpful to reduce the speeds.

The group felt that it should now develop more detailed options for local people to consider, which would include:-

Do nothing?

A small 20 mph area extending outwards from the High Street, ?

A larger area, covering most of Kinver village; and

An area covering Hyperion Road.

It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council to write to the 20's plenty group to ask them to come forward with proposals and costs for the scheme for the Parish. To enable the Parish Council to make a decision on this topic

7. To discuss a possible new initiative from Cllr Mrs V Wilson – Kindliness in Kinver

Members were given the following information:-

As per our recent conversation, I would like to introduce a new initiative named 'Kindliness in Kinver' or similar. We would ask members within the parish to nominate somebody they know who has really gone above and beyond for their local community, via an official application form. We would look at every nomination as a group or a panel, and then we would award gold silver and bronze, for example, and host an evening award ceremony where we could award certificates and prizes, perhaps donated by local businesses. I think it would be sensible for the parish council to facilitate this event if you are agreeable.

Would you be able to run this past your L and A committee members, and let me know what you think? I would love to work with you on this - perhaps we could put together a working group to establish best practise.

It felt it was a great idea but would be difficult to implement and it was agreed not to take this any further at this time.

8. Members reports on PROW Matters

The permissive footpath along the A449 from Whittington Hall Farm, the fence has fallen and barb wire is on the floor and the fence needs clearing to allow the path to be cut. The Clerk will write to the tenant farmer to ask them to undertake the work.

9. To receive an update on the Community Use agreement for Kinver High School

Cllr S Charlesworth-Jones and Ms E Lord reported an update on the CUA. A response has been sent back to the queries raised. But the school are waiting for further responses from their survey. The gym is the priority for access, and this needs to be implemented as no prices have been issued to date. Family rates, over 65's monthly rates, pay as you go etc needs to be agreed. This is part of a legal agreement re pricing and access.

The Chairman will draft an email to the Headteacher and the admin assistant relating to pricing, and report back.

10. To agree to add an additional co-opted member to the Committee

It was resolved to Recommend to the Parish Council that Gregg Spruce is invited to be a co-opted member of the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

11. Communication / correspondence to the Chairman

None was reported.

12. Items for the next agenda - S106 list to be added to; Recycling Plant; Jubilee Trees (July); Secure Archive; Wildflower area on Danesford Gardens.

13. Recommendations to the Parish Council

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

- Gregg Spruce is invited to be a co-opted member of the Leisure and Amenities Committee.
- a letter sent to SCC and SSDC not to mow in May
- to write to the 20's plenty group to come forward with proposals and costs for the scheme for the Parish. To enable the Parish Council to make a decision on this topic.

14. Date of Next Meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022