**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th JANUARY 2019 AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES AT 95 HIGH STREET, KINVER**

PRESENT: Councillor H Williams (Chairman), Miss V Webb (Vice-Chairman),

Councillors: P Wooddisse, E Simons, BR Edwards, D Light, N Other, Mrs L Hingley, JK Hall, Mrs C Allen, J Cutler, DH Hadlington, Mrs D Geoghegan, IG Sadler

1/19. Apologies for Absence.

Councillors G Mander and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson sent their apologies for the meeting.

2/19. Declarations of Councillors’ Interest.

Councillor Mrs L Hingley declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to any matters relating to the Greenbelt / Conservation area.

Councillors BR Edwards, H Williams and Mrs L Hingley as being serving District Councillors took no part in the decisions / recommendation relating to the planning applications under item 11/19.

Councillor E Simons declared a pecuniary interest to both items relating to the Pony Paddock 10/19 and 11/19, he left the room for both items.

3/19. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th December 2018 (copy attached).

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2018, having been circulated in advance of the current meeting, were approved and signed as a true record of the proceedings at that meeting.

4/19. Matters arising from Previous Minutes.

None were reported.

5/19. Public Participation – Standing Orders will be suspended for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow members of the public to address the Council.

For note: The public participation is for the public to address the Parish Council on matters that they wish to. The Parish Council cannot comment or resolve action on any points raised at this time. If the item requires information being sent from the Council, the Clerk will do this following the meeting. If it is a matter for further discussion it may be added to a future agenda.

It was noted that all meetings are recorded and any member of the public not wishing to be recorded when they speak should inform the Clerk prior to addressing the Council.

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

Mrs M Rogers addressed the council to inform them that the Old Peoples Welfare voucher scheme issued £6000 worth of vouchers for spending in the village shops.

Miss Patsy Parr addressed the Parish Council in relation to the planning application and the Community Asset application for land at the Pony Paddock, The Compa.

 She gave a brief back ground into the history of the site and what the proposed application consists of. She mentioned that she has liaised with Foley Infant School to use the land for a Forest School.

She highlighted some of the issues she has been receiving via social media and with local neighbours to the site that block access.

The leaflet that has been sent to local residents relating to the planning application and to the Community Asset application, is flawed with mistakes and she confirmed that the Greenspace will not be lost (neither will any of the trees be removed) as she has no intentions of changing the area surrounding the proposed building.

She has held community open days showing the plans and personally visited all the neighbouring properties to tell them of the proposed plans.

She thanked the Council for their time in letting her speak.

Standing orders were reinstated.

6/19. Police to address the Council on relevant matters and any relevant matter relating to ASB in the village and outstanding police matters of concern (including receiving information from Chris Lang from the Safer Neighbourhood Panel for Locality 5 and Police attending a future meeting)

Email received from Chris Lang:-

“For the attention of Kinver Parish Council

On behalf of the South Staffordshire Safer Neighbourhood Panel (SNP), which meets with the local police commander, Chief Inspector Mark Ward quarterly, I'd like to inform you that our next formal meeting with him is in mid-February 2019.

A fortnight in advance of each formal meeting the SNP meets to review recent crime data and to coordinate any policing concerns raised within their localities.

Questions raised from a review of that crime data along with any locality concerns are then passed to the Chief Inspector, in order for him to prepare his responses for the formal meeting a fortnight later.

My reason for contacting you?

In addition to introducing myself as the Locality 5 representative, if Kinver Parish Council have any general policing concerns please could you let me have them by the end of January 2019.

My email is as follows:

w.lang1@btopenworld.com.

Finally, here is a short summary of last week's meeting with Chief Inspector Ward.

South Staffordshire SNP held their formal meeting with their local Staffordshire Police commander, Chief Inspector Ward on Monday evening 12th November at the South Staffordshire Council Offices in Codsall.

The Chief Inspector reported on the new operating model, including increased police officer numbers in the Local Policing Team (LPT), as well as the new graded response times for reported incidents.

Here's a more detailed link which appears on the Staffordshire Police website:

[New Policing Model - Staffordshire Police](https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/article/9326/New-Policing-Model)

The Chief Inspector also provided a comprehensive analysis of major policing issues, such as the recent successful policing of the Himley Bonfire.

Police have noted an increase in burglary crimes, with a noticeable targeting of remote locations such as Gailey Sailing Club and Perton Golf Club.

The main focus for the LPT is on vehicle-related crime. Drug-related crime is down.

The panel thanked the Chief Inspector for an encouraging report.

Regards,

Geraint Lang

Chairman, South Staffordshire Safer Neighbourhood Panel”

Cllr D Hadlington proposed the following response to Mr Lang:-

“Cycle safety to Chris Lang Jan 2019

Three years ago your PCC, Matt Ellis, came to our Meeting having been specifically asked to address cycle safety on our roads. I met with him some months later and found him to be a wonderful orator, but, as for getting anything done in regard to cyclist’s safety we are still waiting. I now receive the same e-mails, except for the date, saying we are updating our IT, we will shortly be changing x / y / z. This is totally unacceptable. I have asked him and many area inspectors and sergeants what can be done NOW. ? All I get is negatives, no, can't (but they mean wont) don't, funds! What about lives? In 2015 3500 cyclists lost their lives or were seriously injured. Your latest figures in allegiance, with Safer Roads Staffordshire and BRAKE, state a figure for 2018 as.. 9700!

In the same leaflets bold boasts of what SS Police are doing and will be doing to make our roads the safest are made. It is total fabrication. You do nothing and don't care. Every other surrounding force has a ''close pass'' policy and the ability to send in dash cam / cycle cam footage to assist in educating all road users. Three years on and we are still being killed while we wait. SS police star on a TV show, Dash cams 'R' Us (or something like that) boasting of the time they save using dashcams and boby cams. Calling off dangerous pursuits because they have footage. Spotting drug dealers, mobile phone users etc. They urge the public to send in their footage as this can so often add weight to prosecutions. But as a member of the public it is damn near impossible to do this on your 101 number. I was hit on my bike 3 times in September, I was finally spoken to in January, the 3rd, to be told they can’t do anything!! (They mean wont as I know surrounding forces have and do prosecute and send drivers on courses and fine motorists).Even though I use the same equipment the police use. Our police won’t take action on close passes, mobile phone use, red light jumping, in fact any road offence which the public send in on video footage, primarily because the 101 system takes more than the statutory 2 weeks. The police are lying to us and seriously letting us down in this area. We are 5 years behind. Some forces also operate horse cam footage operations, we are a rural area and we DONT. Appalling.

 I ask again. What can you do NOW. ?..What can you do in the interim period before you get up to speed? I do NOT wish to hear the negatives, we need someone to be proactive , look forward to a solution, not just kick it into the long grass and say ' we can't ', because YOU CAN, like other forces..

 I'm not expecting every case to be prosecuted, however. In line with your boasts in your safer road partnership leaflets, there are at least 4 things which can be done. Ask PC's Andy Clifford and Alex Rathbone!! ) They have a letter / leaflet... (One which certain Inspectors deny even exists!!) AIEP. (APE) Advice, Information, Education, Prosecution. Figures show that in 15 minutes it is possible to send AIEP to drivers, it used to take 5 hours. 15 mins... simple, Scrape another body off our roads or educate our drivers. Let us not forget the figures also in the above mentioned leaflets..

99.4% of all road deaths are caused by motorists.

94% of all cyclist KISI's are '' '' ''

86% of cyclists are also motorists There are many more damning figures.

 One last point. During Road Safety Awareness Week (late last year) it was reported at our Parish Council that a ''speed campaign'' was run... 4 people were spoken to!!! I may have those figures slightly wrong, it was from memory. But the figure was still certainly extremely low.”

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs C Allen and seconded by Councillor N Other to send a letter based on the above information to Mr Chris Lang. On a vote it was carried with 9 votes for, 2 against and 3 abstentions.

7/19. Car Parking in the High Street- update from Cllr P Wooddisse

Councillor P Wooddisse reported he had spoken to the new secretary at the Constitutional Club, they are not prepared to change their position re parking. As recently the barriers have broken, the cars returned and started to park all day and abuse this facility. It was noted that Constitutional Club members can park on this car park free of charge for 2 hours any time.

Several emails have been received from a local business asking what the Parish Council can do to help with the parking problems.

The Clerk has supplied all of the minutes relating to this item and also explained the back ground on this matter.

It was agreed that the Clerk will write to all of the Business owners on the High Street and ask if they could encourage their staff to park at the KSCA so as to free spaces in the High Street car parks for shoppers.

Councillor J Cutler reminded members that he had undertaken a survey some time ago and 50% of spaces on the main car parks are taken all day by the same vehicles. It was agreed to send a letter to all the High Street business and ask them to speak with their staff to change from parking in the High Street car parks to the KSCA to improve the amount of spaces available in the day time.

It was suggested that we make some of the car parks short stay and change the signage accordingly. The car parks are owned by the District Council and their policy is not to restrict car parking times, therefore this cannot be changed and neither can the signage.

Councillor BR Edwards agreed that a sign for highlighting the KSCA car park can be located on the side wall of the entrance to the Berkley car park.

Councillor Mrs V Webb reported that she had recently used a local tourist information point website and they had a link on their for car parks, and other local facilities, this would be a useful addition for Kinver. It was agreed to discuss this at the next Leisure and Amenities Committee.

8/19. Removal of Post Box update

Email received 18th December:-

**“From:** Post Box [mailto:post.box@livemore.co.uk]
**Sent:** 18 December 2018 10:40
**To:** Jenny Spaull <kinverparish@btconnect.com>
**Subject:** RE: Post Box outside 118 High Street Kinver WO No. 2525201

Good Morning Jenny,

Apologies for not getting back to you sooner. Land Registry records indicated that the land was publicly owned however we are now in the process of double checking the ownership to ensure all necessary consents are obtained before the box is re-installed.

Kind Regards,”

This was noted.

9/19. Staffordshire County Council – works potentially funded by Parish Council

This item was deferred until Councillor Mrs V Wilson is in attendance.

Councillor E Simons left the meeting at this point.

10/19. The Pony Paddock, Asset Register Consultation

The following email has been received from South Staffs District Council and circulated to all members of the Council prior to this meeting:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| “Sent by email | **Please ask for:** | Becky Hill |
| **Direct Dial:** | (01902) 696147 |
| **Direct Fax:** | (01902) 696149 |
| **Email:** | r.hill@sstaffs.gov.uk |

11 February 2019

Dear Councillor

**Localism Act 2011 - Asset Register**

Included in the Localism Act 2011 is the Community Right to Bid which requires us as a District Council to maintain a list of assets of community value. Assets are nominated by the local community who feel that if the asset was to close down it would be a real loss to the community.

If a nomination is successful the asset will be listed on the register for 5 years, if the owner of the asset decides to sell, the register will be updated, and the Community Group who made the nomination will be notified. A six week interim moratorium period then begins in which a Community Group can consider placing a bid and must inform the Council.

If a Community Group is interested in placing a bid a 6 month full moratorium period begins which will give the Community Group time to prepare a business plan and find the finances for the take over the asset. At the end of the moratorium period the owner of the asset considers all the bids but can ultimately sell to whoever they choose.

We have received a nomination to the asset register for the land on the south-east side of Comber Road, Kinver, Nr Stourbridge, a plan is attached for reference. The land has been nominated by a local Community Group as an asset to the community as it provides a range of social and environmental benefits including improved mental health, community cohesion, sense of belonging and enhanced opportunities for wildlife and is a focal point.

As you are the Ward/Parish Councillor for Kinver we would like to know if you feel the land is an asset to the community and the reasons for your decision. A determination in light of all representations received will be made at the end of the consultation period.

I would appreciate if you could email your comments regarding the nomination by Wednesday 02 January 2019 to r.hill@sstaffs.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Becky

**Becky Hill**

**Legal & Democratic Services”**

Members discussed this matter at great length and it was proposed that we vote on whether we support this application of the land being made a community asset, on a vote there were 2 votes for, 5 against and 6 abstentions, therefore the decision by the Parish Council is not to support the land being made into a Community Asset and the Clerk will write accordingly.

11/19. To receive the Minutes of the following Committee meetings and to consider adoption of any recommendations therein -

Planning and Development Committee 12th December 2018

The following recommendations were put to the Parish Council that

* the planning recommendations as set out in agenda item 5 are sent to the District Council.
* The letter re the Burgesses is sent to all District Councillors, Planning Officers, Legal Officers and the MP Gavin Williamson.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs C Allen and seconded by Councillor N Other and on a vote was carried with 7 votes for and 2 against, with 5 abstentions.

To include discussing planning applications:-

As the Chairman of the Parish Council had declared an interest in the following 2 items, he formally handed the Chair to the Vice Chairman to deal with the following 2 items Councillor Miss V Webb.

18/00960/FUL Little Gem, The Compa,. Kinver for the erection of a single storey oak dwelling in place of redundant tack room, stables and hay store - Response by 23rd January.

It was proposed by Councillor N Other and seconded by Councillor J Cutler to Recommend Approval for this application, on a vote there 2 votes for and 7 against with 4 abstentions.

Therefore as the motion failed the recommendation forwarded to South Staffordshire District Council is that:-

**Recommend Refusal on the Grounds that the existing stables are not suitable for a conversion and this would be a totally new building within the Greenbelt, it also is contrary to Greenbelt Policy (GB1) and is with the conservation area. There are no special circumstances as large developments will be starting in Kinver shortly with affordable housing as per the SAD documents.**

Councillor E Simons returned to the meeting at this point.

18/00988/FUL Forresters Lodge Stables, Stourton for erection of a 2 bedroom bungalow - Response date is 3rd January.

Councillor BR Edwards clarified that the initial applications to split the site in 2 with the stables being converted to a dwelling and the second half of the site was the ménage and land. The subsequent applications were all refused by the District Council and allowed under appeal.

**Recommend Refusal on the grounds that the proposed position of this dwelling would change the openness of the Greenbelt and the street scene and this development is contry to GB1, ENV 7 and 8.**

**If this application is approved by either the District Council or the Planning Inspectorate. The location of the proposed dwelling is totally unacceptable as it is on the most prominent location on the site and should be located nearer to the new brick stable which is already developed and would have less impact on the openness of the Greenbelt. On a vote there were 11 for the motion proposed and 3 abstained.**

Councillor H Williams returned to chairing the meeting.

12/19. County / District Councillors to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

Councillor BR Edwards reported that:-

* The section 106 agreement for the Burgesses has been agreed.
* The Government have now started to ask that Local Authorities look to recycling food waste. This in the past (when previously trialled by the District) was quite expensive, but it was noted that locally we have a food recycling plant and also there is one built in Cannock, so the costs may not be so prohibitive this time.
* The woods at Lawnswood, are causing quite a worry to local residents of the area, it was clarified again that there is no development agreed or in the pipeline for development of this ancient woodland. The Forestry Commission have had a licence to manage the woods and fell certain trees which is the only work that has been undertaken.

Councillor Mrs L Hingley reported that the Connect Bus is now operating and she is hopeful in the future it will come to Kinver.

13/19. Report of the Chairman

Councillor H Williams reported that he had attended the Airport Consultative Meeting, and they revealed they are looking at building 800 homes on the site.

14/19. Report from the Clerk.

Safer Roads Grant – Application has not been successful.

Lock for external toilet at the KSCA - The cost to purchase a coin operated lock is TBC. The Clerk has found a different type of lock that works on your debit card, there are some located in Bridgenorth. She is also investigating the costs as these may be a viable alternative to the coin locks in the High Street.

Bank charges – Barclays bank have contacted the Parish Council to say that we have exceeded the income turnover limit for a community account and therefore will be charged per transaction. This has started from the middle of November. She has contacted the bank to ask why we were not notified and she is still awaiting a response, the first months charges are £26.

We still have a live account with the Co-Op bank and can return to using this account immediately I have confirmed that there are no charges relating to using this account, we have 6 signatories that are current councillors and all the relevant cheque books etc….

It was agreed to agenda this item at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

Burial Ground Superintendent

2 x tablet permits

1 x burial

1 x reopening of a burial

Signs have been erected advertising the impeding headstone testing which will take place in February.

15/19. Reports from Members on Outside Bodies.

None were reported.

16/19. Accounts for Payment.

The accounts as detailed in Appendix 1 to these minutes were accepted.

17/19. Items for future Meetings

Staffordshire County Council – works potentially funded by Parish Council

18/19. Dates of Next Meetings –

Leisure and Amenities Committee 16th January 2019

Planning and Development Committee 30th January 2019

Parish Council 6th February 2019

Finance and General Purposes Committee 20th February 2019

All meetings to start at 7.00 pm

19/19. Exclusion of the press and public

The press and the public were excluded on the grounds that the business to be transacted related to staffing matters.

20/19. Update on the Staffing issues

The Clerk updated members on the long term absence of the Maintenance Technician. It was noted that a Personnel Meeting has been called on January 14th at 9am.

Appendix 1 to the minutes of the 9th January 2019

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Accounts for payment 9th January 2019** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Chq No** | **Ratification** |  |  |
|   |   |   |   |
| 101212 | SWOPS | Fuel for November | 78.32 |
| 101213 | Staffordshire County Council | Van Lease for November | 349.38 |
| 101214 | OCL | Supplies | 62.20 |
| 101215 | R H Electrical | Christmas lights | 2859.60 |
| 101216 | Kinver Edge Farm Shop | Hedge cutting | 90.00 |
| SO | Contractor Payment |  | 171.00 |
| SO | L Neal | Payment Dec Holiday Cover | 36.00 |
| So | Wix | Domain charge | 22.32 |
|  |  | **Total** | **3668.82** |
| **Chq No** | **Accounts for payment** |  |  |
|  |   |   |   |
| 101217 | ESPO | Supplies | 51.88 |
| 101218 | JRK | Stationary | 10.51 |
| 101219 | SCC | Pensions | 1720.40 |
| 101220 | SCC | Van Lease for December | 338.11 |
| 101221 | SWOPS | Fuel for December |   |
| 101222 | Kinver Edge Farm Shop | January opening | 90.00 |
|   |   |   | **2210.90** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **List of Monthly Direct Debits** |  |
| DD | SSDC | Rates | 42.00 |
| DD | Inland Revenue | December | 1052.31 |
| DD | Utility Warehouse | Garage electricity  |   |
| DD | Utility Warehouse | 95 High Street Gas and electricity and mobile phone | 243.38 |
| DD | Utility Warehouse | Kinver Edge Toilets | 10.06 |
| DD | Utility Warehouse | High Street Toilets | 73.33 |
| DD | Salaries | January | 4838.99 |
| DD | Screwfix | Supplies due for payment 31/12/18 | 38.95 |
| DD | Pure Shine Windows |   | 20.00 |
|   |   |   |   |
|   |  | **Total** | **6319.02** |
|  |  | **Total Expenditure** | **12198.74** |
|  | **Receipts** |  |  |
|  |   |   |   |
|  | Burial Fees |   | 1265.00 |
|  | Toilet income |  | 0.00 |
|  |   |  |   |
|  |  | **Total Income** | **1265.00** |