

KINLET PARISH COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.
Year ending 31/3/2019.

We have held regular monthly meetings throughout the year on the second Monday of the month with 15 minutes time at the commencement of the meetings for parishioners to raise any matters of concern or just to express an opinion.

Mr. Peter Kirton was re-elected Chairman in May with Mr Simon Harris continuing as Vice Chairman and we have continued to provide representatives on the Village Hall Committee (Mr David Haywood and Mr Peter Horsfall) with Mr Simon Harris continuing his representation on the Area Committee and Mr. David Haywood continuing to act as representative for the Local Joint Committee and Cleobury Youth Partnership.

During the year we have given careful consideration to 17 planning applications and sent our recommendations to Shropshire Council in the hope that our local knowledge will be taken into account when they make their decisions. Once again it should be stressed that we are only to make recommendations but not the actual decision, although we do hope that we able to influence this.

As always a large amount of time has been expended on highway matters and in July Mr. Andy Wilde (Interim Head of Operations for Shropshire Council Highways) attended prior to our meeting when we were able to discuss with him various important outstanding highway matters and hear from him some of the difficulties which the department had faced and were still facing. Whilst we do appreciate the financial constraints upon all departments at the Council are currently operating, it is disappointing to note that at the end of March there were a minimum of 16 important highway matters still outstanding - either for completion or for a start date to be given for the work.

Many other matters have been considered during the year particularly relating to rubbish collection, fly tipping, drain clearance and unblocking, damaged road signs, road signage re-positioning and re-erection, flooding matters, speeding to name a few. Our lengthsman has willingly undertaken the varying tasks we have referred to him and we look forward to our continued partnership.

We shall also be having a face to face meeting with representatives from Shropshire Council, Worcestershire Council and Rock Parish Council in an endeavour to try and find a solution to the matter of Rudds Bridge, which is a cross border pedestrian bridge, and whose closure is causing such inconvenience.

We have made as number of donations during the year namely £500.00 towards the new defibrillator at The Woodlands, £250.00 to the proposed Cleobury Mortimer Men's 'Shed' and also purchased a 'Silhouette' sign and 2 poppy wreaths for the Armistice Day Commemorations together with a donation of £50.00 towards the provision of refreshments for the Village Hall gathering afterwards. Other donations have been made to Shropshire Crucial Crew/Kinlet School/Severn Hospice and

Severn Hospice at Home and Highley Community First Responders all in the sum of £50.00. Also £200.00 was donated to West Midlands Air Ambulance and St. Mary's Youth Partnership and £100.00 to the Cleobury Mortimer Youth Partnership.

It is pleasing to note that a number of additional properties now have access to faster broadband speeds but are aware that is frustrating for the areas which at the present time do not have this facility but hopefully this can be rectified shortly.

We are currently moving forward with the updating our Parish Plan and also involved in the updating of the Cleobury Mortimer Place Plan which includes our parish with various suggestions having been sent for inclusion in the new draft coming out shortly.

We have arranged for the repair to one of our bus shelters after it was damaged and they have all been inspected and received maintenance work as appropriate.

Behind the scenes we have also worked hard making sure that we have all the necessary documents and statements in place to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations which are now in force.

No summary of our year's activities would be complete without expressing thanks to Mrs Madge Shingleton and Mr. Gwilym Butler – our County Councillors – who are happy to share their wealth of knowledge and experience with us and attend as many of our meetings as their other commitments allow.

In closing, once again we would like to emphasise that the Parish Council is here to serve the members of the parish and we hope that everyone will feel able to speak of one of our councillors, contact the clerk or attend the specially allocated parishioners' time at the commencement of our meetings to raise any matters concerning them.