

KINLET PARISH COUNCIL

Bio-Diversity Statement.

In its boundaries Kinlet has most of the Shropshire part of the Wyre Forest, one of the prime historical native woodlands in the country. The combination of varied and beautiful scenery, interesting wildlife and a comprehensive public rights-of-way network and bridleways offers recreational opportunities of rare quality. Three national trails run within the parish: a small section of the Jack Myton bridleway from the Welsh border and the Severn Way footpath between Shrewsbury and Gloucester and a length of the National Cycle Route 45 which passes through the village of Button Oak and a wide sweep of the Wyre Forest.

Members of the Parish Council form part of the Countryside Group who, before the last year, met regularly to replace stiles, maintain footpaths and generally deal with similar problems. The Parish Council have supported them with donations towards materials to enable them to carry out this work.

During 2021 we have been carrying out a 'bulb survey' around Kinlet village with a view to planting bulbs in the Autumn, where there is space, to provide a colourful display in Spring time.

We have a councillor who has regularly organises a litter pick up along the roadside in her area (Button Oak) aided with 'picking' equipment we obtained from Shropshire Council We have noticed an increase in the amount of litter deposited along the roadside and on the verges since lockdown and we have arranged to hold a more general litter pick at the end of April with volunteers joining members of the Parish Council.

We have a good relationship with the Forestry Commission, who are responsible for the maintenance of the Wyre Forest, and in the past have enjoyed Ranger led walks in the forest and learnt more about the many species of flowers and trees growing in the forest and how they are managed.

Members of the Parish Council have taken part annually in the Garden Bird Watch and also this year in the Game Wildlife Conservation Trust Big Farmland Bird Count.

For the future we are looking into providing bird boxes around the area combined possibly with the formation of a bird group and also investigating grants which maybe available to Parish Councils and the Community to further our bio-diversity interests.

April 2021