

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OF COUNCILLORS

Kinlet Parish Council acknowledges the important role in communities Parish Councils play with the widening scope of activity, the context in which local councils operate, the diversity of organisations we work with and the changing needs and expectations of our citizens, which all present new challenges and opportunities.

For these reasons Kinlet Parish Council recognises that it is vital that we continue to adapt, to learn and to innovate and they support councillors (and the clerk) in providing the opportunities for them to develop their knowledge of local government and the law relating to parish councils, and to learn new skills.

The majority of training courses offered locally are by Shropshire Association of Local Councils and prior to the recent 'lockdowns' these have generally taken place at Shirehall, Shrewsbury.

As a rural Parish on the boundary south of the county this means nearly 2 hours travelling to attend any course, which with the majority of our councillors being employed has presented quite a problem timewise.

During lockdown courses have been held by the Zoom facility and this has given a wider opportunity to join the courses without the necessity to travel, although the same problem for those councillors working still applies.

However, whichever scenario exists in the future, the Parish Council will always encourage councillors to take advantage of the opportunities to play a significant part in democracy and understand their roles and responsibilities – we do of course meet the costs of attending such courses and make re-imburement of expenses when travelling outside the parish boundary.

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