

KINLET PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT – Year Ending 31/3/2023.

As another busy year closes it has been good for life to return to normal after the Covid restrictions with all the twelve meetings being held in the Village Hall again on the second Monday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

Attendance by members has been good with Mr. S. Harris and M G. Butler attending as many of our meetings as their other commitments allow and as usual we have been grateful for their continuing interest and advice.

At our Annual Meeting in May Mr. P. Kirton was elected Chairman for another year of office and Mrs. J. Rowley continued in her supporting role of Vice Chairman. Mr D Haywood, Mr P. Horsfall and Mr R. Oakley are our representatives on the Village Hall and Mr. P. Robinson our representative on the Area Committee until December when Mr. K. Shepherd took over this position.

We were all saddened when in October our Councillor Mrs. Mary Quick passed away having fought a cancer battle bravely for some time and there was a good representation from the Council at her funeral. The vacancy left by this event is being filled by Mr. Rodney Crawford also from Button Oak.

Once again we have disappointedly struggled to get all the necessary road repairs carried out by Shropshire Council and the chasing up of these matters involves a lot of time and effort. Progress is very slow but we do put this matter high on our list of priorities

In relation to Planning Applications, during the year we have made recommendations on twenty two planning applications. These recommendations - and our remit is only to recommend not actually approve – are always made after careful consideration and discussion.

The Countryside Group has not re-formed after the Covid epidemic meant that work had to cease and has not yet re-formed although it is hoped this will happen soon. We have held 3 litter picks around the Parish during the year collecting a vast number of rubbish sacks and we have been grateful to the members of the community who have come along to help. However, it is disappointing that almost as soon as we finish this work, the litter starts to re-appear.

We did hold very successful events which took place to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and similar social events are planned to take place for the King's Coronation in May and we have purchased a Union Jack flag for the village hall flag pole for such occasions.

We again entered a team in the Charity Quiz night held in October and were delighted to come first – a great achievement.

There is a consultation ongoing at present in relation to the boundaries for local Councils and once the constituencies ones are settled, there will be a move on to consider Parish boundaries – it is anticipated that these will finalised in time for the 2025 elections. How these will affect us is not clear at present but there are likely to be some changes in both directions.

We have paid for a new notice board for the Village Hall which was provided by the Men's Shed from Cleobury Mortimer and we subsequently made a donation of £250.00 towards their funds. We have also made annual donations to Kinlet School and Playgroup of £150.00 each/£300 to the West Midlands Air Ambulance and £100.00 each to Severn Hospice and Severn Hospice at Home/Bridgnorth First Responders and S.A.R.A..

In February our clerk celebrated 40 years working for the Parish Council and we were pleased to present her with a plaque as a memento in recognition of this achievement.

It is never easy to cover a whole year's activities in one report but hope that this summaries the most salient of our activities and that we have been able to help everyone satisfactorily who has approached us with a concern over the year. We do have 15 mins. Parishioners' time at the beginning of each of our meetings for any matters to be raised with us and do urge anyone with a problem to make use of this opportunity.

We look forward to the forthcoming year with optimism and assure all our parishioners that we will continue to work hard on their behalf.