

KINLET PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT – Year Ending 31/3/2024

At the end of another busy year we have held monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month with public participation at the commencement of the meetings.

Mr Peter Kirton continued as Chairman ably supported by Mrs Jackie Rowley as Vice Chairman. Attendance by members has been good with Mr S. Harris and Mr G. Butler attending as many of our meetings as their other commitments permit and as usual we appreciate their interest and advice. Mr David Haywood, Mr Peter Horsfall and Mr Richard Oakley have continued in their roles as our representatives on the Village Hall committee with Mr Kevin Shepherd representing us on the Area Committee.

A considerable amount of time has been devoted to Highway matters and the insistence by Shropshire Council for all matters to be included in their FixMyStreet scheme which has proved frustrating at times as their advice as to progress of such problems has been confusing in view of the phraseology used. However, we understand that Shropshire Council are aware of the scheme's short comings and are we have been advised dealing with making the system to improve it. There are still some urgent highway problems still outstanding and we are continually pressing for attention to these. We are currently looking into the possibility of a bus pull-in at the Kinlet stop to solve the dangerous situation of cars pulling out to overtake the stationary bus. Our Lengthsman (Mr Ray Ingram) assists in minor highway work for which we are grateful.

As previously mentioned, all planning applications upon which we are asked to comment are carefully considered and our recommendations put forward. We do feel with our local knowledge we can add some weight to these applications, although our brief relates only to making recommendations – we are not responsible for making the actual decisions and this rests completely with Shropshire Council. We have commented on 14 Applications this year which considerable down in numbers to previous years which are usually over 20 – perhaps a sign of the current times.

Enforcement has proved to be a disappointment in so much as there seems to be a reluctance to come out to inspect worrying aspects which we have reported but we have been advised that there are certain parameters which need to be met before such visits can happen, however on occasions we do feel that matters are not followed up as quickly as we would expect.

The amount of litter which accumulates is of great frustration to us and we have held a number of Litter Picks during the year and we have been grateful for the support and assistance given to us on these occasions by parishioners.

In May we held a successful Afternoon Tea to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles 111 and thanks go to Mrs Jackie Rowley who worked hard co-ordinating this event. Thanks are also due to the W.I. for the wide variety of cakes provided and also The Kabin for the supply of other items.

Once again we entered the Annual Charity Quiz but were not able to repeat last year's position of first place but an enjoyable evening was had by all.

We have made annual donations to Kinlet School and Kinlet Playgroup of £150.00 each, £300 to West Midlands Air Ambulance and £100 each to Severn Hospice, Severn Hospice at Home, Local First Responder scheme and S.A.R.A

The Parish Boundaries are still due for consideration and amendment and at the present time we are not aware of how this will affect Kinlet. However, we believe that it is intended to have any new arrangements in place for the 2025 elections.

There will be challenges in the year ahead but we are in a good position to deal with these effectively whatever they may be.

In conclusion it is only ever possible to briefly summarise our year's activities, but all parishioners can be assured that we work hard to protect their interests and hope that anyone who has approached us with a problem has been satisfied with the manner in which we have handled this.