

KINLET PARISH COUNCIL.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**held on Monday 12th May 2025 in the Parish Hall
commencing at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:- Mr P. Kirton (chairman) Mr D. Haywood, Mr. P. Horsfall, Mr C. Lloyd, Mr.P. Robinson, Mr K. Shepherd Mrs J. Rowley and Mrs J. Burgess (Clerk)

Also in attendance - 1 Parishioner.

1. APOLOGIES were received from Mr R. Crawford and a representative from the Playgroup.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2024. These had been proposed, seconded and unanimously approved in June 2024.

3. MATTERS ARISING. A donation of £250.00 had been made to the Cleobury Mortimer Men's Shed in June last year.

4. ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL REPORT 2025. This had been circulated to all councillors and taken as read.

5. ORGANISATIONS REPORTS.

a. Women's Institute. There had been various highlights during the past year ranging from a talk re the survival of a violin from the Holocaust, a talk by local drag racing enthusiasts, collecting Shropshire and National certificates for Kinlet's WI's 75th anniversary to coming 4th at the Burwarton Show in the 'Best of British' competition with a rose entry. In May this year they provided cakes for VE Day anniversary celebrations all made to the same recipe – the official W.I. VE day cake. Bad weather at the end of the year disrupted meetings. Whilst membership had fallen a little they just 'Kept Calm and Carried On' as the highlights and achievements had shown and Kinlet felt would not be the same without its W.I.

b. Kinlet Village Hall. It was reported that the Hall was being well used with 2 new regular groups. They had had 3 new committee members with younger outlooks. The financial situation was satisfactory

c. School. The School reported that they currently had forty pupils on roll split between two classes. They employed two full time teachers and one part time teacher so that the key stage two class could be split for core subject teaching. They took an active part in festivals at Lacon Childe and pupils were currently having swimming lessons at Highley outdoor pool. They visited St. John the Baptist Church for services and to support learning in the curriculum. They were currently investigating the possibility of working with Jackfields – the Tile Museum at Ironbridge – to create a piece of artwork based on the school's core values and to represent the beautiful landmarks surrounding the school. Hopefully this would be installed outside the school.

d. Playgroup. They had been re-rated as 'Good' after an Ofsted inspection. They currently employed 8 members of staff from the local area. They were saving and fund raising for a proposed extension to the playground with a large sand pit and a new large climbing frame. Attendance had continued to grow and their mornings were completely full (20 children) with 35 children on roll which was a record. 14 children would be going to 'Big School' in September.

e. Neighbourhood Watch. Mr R. Crawford's report advised that Kinlet continued to be a low crime Parish and they continued to highlight potential problems with awareness campaigns and A4 posters were available for notice boards and bus shelters. These brought focus to various concerns and also made the casual visitor aware that Kinlet had an active Neighbourhood Watch. There were now 8 co-ordinators. Smartwater was in operation throughout the Parish and the Parish Council were thanked for their continued support.

f. St. John the Baptist Church. The report from the churchwardens was a lengthy 11 pages and to summarise the Church continued to face four main threats – No evidence of increased attendance from any age group/Income shortfall – being reliant on so very few people for donations towards church maintenance/Unfilled vacancies on the PCC and an ageing congregation.

g. Bridge Club. Meetings continued fortnightly and they had lost 3 members in the past year with no new ones replacing them. It was not necessary to go with a partner which should be an incentive for bridge players to come along.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. No matters were raised.

7. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS. Mr. Kirton thanked everyone for their efforts and commitment during the year. The meeting closed at approximately 8.25 p.m.