MINUTES OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL 2026 AT 95 HIGH STREET, KINVER

PRESENT: E Simons (Chairman), A Calloway (Vice Chairman), Mrs C Allen, K Davies, Ms E Lord, P Wooddisse, P Harrison, Mrs J Godbehere, IG Sadler, JK Hall, A Hughes, G Sisley, Mrs V Wilson.

Also present: Mrs J Cree – Clerk, Assistant Clerk Mrs M Fullwood, County Councillor Mrs V Wilson and 1 member of the public until item 58/26.

53/26. Apologies for Absence and fill the casual vacancies

All members of the Council were present.

It was noted that Cllr D McGirr had resigned from the Council and the vacancy had been advertised, no election had been called, therefore there are 2 vacant seats.

It was proposed by Cllr JK Hall and seconded by Cllr G Sisley to nominate Adrian Griffiths to fill the vacant seats on the Council. On a vote this was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Cllr A Calloway and seconded by Cllr K Davies to ask the second applicant if he would like to attend 2 meetings as per the co-option policy, and if he is still interested in joining the Parish Council the Parish Council will consider his application again. The seat remains open.

54/26. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

None were declared.

55/26. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th March 2026.

The minutes of the meeting held on the above date, were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

56/26. To receive any information relating to Police matters in Kinver

The following information had been received from the PCSO's:-

Police Reports - We have been asked to pass on the below information from our Command Team at South Staffs - it appears there are some Parish Councils who have not been made aware of the changes -

1. We will no longer provide reports to Parish Councils – all crime information is available at Police.co.uk which can be accessed via the Staffordshire Police webpage.
2. If PCSOs wish to attend Parish Council Meetings when they are on duty they may however there is no requirement to do so.

Lee Walker - T/Chief Inspector, Cannock and South Staffs Commander sent the following information on changes in PCSO Shift patterns:-

"I would like to update you on a number of operational changes that will be implemented across South Staffordshire in the coming weeks. These adjustments are designed to enhance our ability

to respond to calls for service promptly and to ensure we maintain an effective policing footprint across the district.

To improve coverage and reduce response times, frontline officers will now be distributed more evenly across South Staffordshire. At present, response officers begin their tour of duty at Codsall Police Station, and, following briefing with their Sergeant, are deployed by the Force Control Room to incidents across the area.

However, given the extensive geography of our district, operating from a single parade location can result in longer travel times to certain incidents. To address this, we will begin parading response officers from both **Codsall Police Station** and **Wombourne Police Station**. This is a positive and necessary step that will reduce travel time, improve efficiency, and support our commitment to providing timely and effective service to victims and communities.

In addition, we are establishing designated **deployment zones** across all areas of South Staffordshire. Officers will be allocated to a specific zone at the start of their duty and will remain within that area to respond to calls for service and carry out proactive patrol activity.

Please note that these changes relate solely to our **response policing model**. **Neighbourhood Policing remains unchanged.** "

The above was noted and it was agreed that the Chairman sends a strongly worded letter again to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Inspector with the concerns of the impact of the above changes.

57/26. Public Participation

Standing orders were raised to enable members of the public to speak.

Graham Smith – President of Kinver Rotary addressed the Parish Council re the Christmas event, he ran through the details from last year.

They have the agreement of the manager of the White Harte to have the use of their frontage if an event takes place this year (as they did last year).

He was invited to come to the L & A Meeting where the details of the event are to be discussed in more detail.

Standing orders were reinstated.

58/26. County / District Councillor to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

County Councillor Mrs V Wilson addressed the Council on the following points:-

- As the weather improves, more pot holes can now be repaired.
- The County Council's large funding items improvements will not be happening in this area this year, the nearest place for any works is Perton.
- The Government grant money received each year (which is normally spent on additional works, such as gully cleansing etc) is being used for pot hole repairs only.
- She has a Divisional Highways meeting coming up, and she has been allocated again this year £7000 for her division which is 10 parishes, but her focus is to get Kinver High Street Gullies cleared with the main bulk of the money.
- EV Charging – she has followed this up with the resident that raised this at the last meeting.

- Wombourne recycling Centre update was requested – in May last year, there were 3 options that were to be brought forward for a decision by the cabinet. This has not happened, so its continuing to run at limited capacity.

District Councillor P Harrison sent the following report to the Council on the following points:-

- Alcohol license application has been approved for Hydeaway Edge, with a number of conditions. Events were reduced in number and they have to inform neighbours and the Parish of any events.
- Hyde Lane development has been approved.
- Community Asset transfer - an update session happened last week. There will not be any recommendations until the summer. To take over any assets the Parish Council would have to have a good business case to run it, good governance and a local consultation should take place before this could happen.
- There is still some S106 funds to be spent at Brockleys Walk Park, as there is some bio diversity fund from the Burgesses development, he would like to work with Friends of Kinver Open Spaces Society. Cllr P Wooddisse will organise a meeting with them and Cllr P Harrison.
- The rubbish outside the empty restaurants in the High Street was raised, the occupants have been given a tidy up notice.
- It was sadly noted that there are 3 large properties in Kinver that have fences around and have not been developed. He did show the Chief Executive around the Parish and highlighted these areas, but there is little that can be done to improve the situation.

59/26. To receive an update on the Climate Change group inc. Climate Action Plan

Cllr Ms E Lord reported the following below and she had circulated a draft Climate Action Plan to all members prior to the meeting.

The Kinver Parish Climate Action Plan has been put before councillors. Kinver has declared a Climate Emergency, in line with County and District. The draft Plan is essentially a framework of actions which would fit the intention to take positive steps to cut our carbon footprint, energy use and other contributors to climate change. It looks at both PC-level actions and actions where we can influence the wider community. It sits alongside the overall Parish Plan. If accepted, it will require a steering group to manage and progress it. It was agreed to hold a pre meeting before a Council meeting to organise a working party to manage this moving forward.

Kinver has just been selected as one of half a dozen places in Staffordshire, for a pilot project: “Staffordshire Energetic Communities”. The project, funded through the Energy Redress fund, is led by Sustainable Staffs and Staffs Community Energy. The objective is to work with local people to develop a Local Energy Plan. This will set out actions which could be taken to reduce energy use and also fuel poverty; assess feasibility; and outline steps to implementation and follow-up. Having such a plan could be a great help in seeking funding, especially given local government reorganisation, and changes to energy legislation. KPC will be contacted, along with other local organisations. This is a tight timetable and should complete the transition by October. She is going to get an example of a successful scheme. More information was requested and a possible meeting.

In other news: our redundant electricals collection has started up again (‘Re-Fuse and re-use’), at the Edward Marsh Centre car park, last Saturday of the month, 10 til 1. We had a record attendance on Saturday – over 100 items including 9 working tellies; filling 2 ½ cars/vans. Clearly the publicity worked!

60/26. To discuss the Methodist Church Car Park rental

We have been asked for the renewal at a cost of £675.00 an increase of £75 from the last year.

It was proposed by Cllr A Calloway and seconded by Cllr I Sadler, that the car park is paid for a maximum sum and to try to fix the rate for 3 – 5 years.

61/26. To receive the minutes and any recommendations from the following Committee meetings:-

Planning and Development Committee 11th March 2026

Leisure and Amenities Committee 18th March 2026

The above meeting minutes were noted and there were no recommendations to the Council.

However, the Christmas event discussion was deferred for the full council to discuss and make a decision on it at this point on the agenda.

Cllr A Calloway has put a call out on Facebook for volunteers to help with the event, this form is open, he will approach people that have contacted him, and arrange a meeting with the potential volunteers on the 13th April at the Parish Council offices at 7pm and report back to the L & A Meeting on the 15th.

62/26. Report of the Chairman

The Chairman reported that that the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed, we need to address having a PA System for future years and ensure that refreshments are available.

63/26. To receive and note the report from the Clerk including Burial Ground Superintendents report.

The following items were noted:-
Complaint re works to Jubilee gardens from 2 residents
SPCA response to LGR
20's plenty for Staffordshire zoom meeting - Friday 24 April 2026
Community Governance Review

64/26. Reports from Members sitting on Outside Bodies for the Parish Council.

Cllr Mrs J Godbehere reported that the Easter event is on Saturday. The next Kin in Kinver meeting is the 23rd April.

65/26. To receive the accounts for payment since the last meeting.

The accounts for payment as detailed as appendix 1 were accepted.

66/26. Items for future Council Meetings .

To be with the Clerk by the 28th April. Invite Severn Trent Flood Officer to a meeting in June. Parish Assembly with a guest speaker and perhaps at Swindon ASAP.

67/26. Dates of Next Meetings

Planning Committee	8th April 2026
L & A Committee	15th April 2026
Finance Committee	29th April 2026
Parish Council Meeting	6th May 2026

68/26. Exclusion of the Press and the Public

The Press and the public were excluded on the grounds that the business to be transacted was of a confidential nature.

69/26. To discuss a confidential item raised by the Chairman

The Chairman reported an update on the Scout camp and possibilities for the future.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Appendix 1 to the minutes of Kinver Parish Council held on the 1st April 2026

Accounts for payment for April 2026 meeting

Accounts for payment	Description	Total
Andy Read Services Ltd	Contractor work	£ 372.60
Andy Read Services Ltd	Grass Cutting and fuel	£ 600.00
ASDA	Fuel for equipment	£ 40.00
CMT Group	New SID	£ 3,474.00
EDF	Gas bill	£ 93.45
ESPO	cleaning supplies	£ 245.70
Gif Gaf	Sim for CCTV at garage and tracker and market phone	£ 24.00
Inland Revenue	April	£ 2,074.31
J R K	Supplies	£ 56.28
Kinver Edge Farn Shop	February	£ 96.00
Hedge Cutting		£ 243.00
McVeigh Parker & Co	Supplies	£ 43.76
Salaries	April	£ 4,603.25
SCC pensions	April	£ 2,156.71
Screwfix	Supplies	£ 26.28
Severn Tree Management	Works to Jubilee Gardens	£ 9,000.00
Utility Warehouse	mobile phones	£ 28.90
Van wash and supplies		£ 17.00
Viking Direct		-£ 23.95
YGS	Office electricity	£ 66.47
YGS	Comber Ridge electricity	£ 128.85
YGS	High Street toilets	£ 176.22
YGS	Toilet Block Kinver Edge	£ 37.65
	Total Expenditure	**£ 23,580.48**
Receipts		
Burial Fees		£ 2,600.00
Office rent	March	£ 541.66
Office electricity usage	March	£ 196.47
EV		£ 144.39
	Total Income	**£ 3,482.52**