



Kinwarton Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2022

Annual Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Tuesday May 3rd 2022, 7.30pm at Church House, Butter Street, Alcester. All parishoners are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

1. Introduction and welcome
2. Report on 2021/2022 from the Chairman
3. Open Forum: This is an opportunity for members of the public to speak on any subject relating to Parish matters.

Questions may submitted in advance to the Clerk before the meeting.

St Mary's Park upkeep

A great deal of work is planned for St Mary's Park this spring.

In many places, mole hills are a problem in the park, making it difficult for the field to be mown. A mole-catcher has been employed to deal with the moles and the ground conditions have now improved to allow him to start work.

Some of the play equipment is past its best and now needs upgrading. So we have sourced and purchased new sets of swings which should be installed during March.

Last season, our contractors were congratulated on their work in keeping the field in such good condition. We have every confidence that they will continue their good work.



Tree Planting and Management

In honour of the Platinum Jubilee of H.M. Queen Elizabeth, your Parish Council is planning to support the "Queen's Green Canopy" initiative by planting a small grove of trees in St Mary's Park. These will be a variety of native woodland species recommended for this site, which provide a good range of shape and colour. Great Alne and Kinwarton W.I. is also donating two trees.

A commemorative plaque will be installed at the grove.

Work has already taken place to remove dead and dangerous trees from the park, as well as some on the verge outside the park boundary. Some of these boundary trees will be replaced by rowans.

Other tree work already completed includes cutting back trees along Captains Hill to enable a better view of traffic coming down the hill, especially for drivers exiting from Throckmorton Road.

Hedges and Verges

There are a number of hedges that the Parish Council are responsible for. We endeavour to keep these cut back from the footpaths, so as not to impede pedestrians, but they can only be cut outside the avian breeding season.

Some hedges in the parish are the responsibility of Warwickshire County Council, and others are privately owned. There are also some whose ownership is disputed, but have been cut back by your Parish Council.

This year we have had the overgrown hedge along Kinwarton Road cut back particularly hard so that the verge could also be cleared, making the pavement easier to negotiate.

Pavements

Pavements in the parish are the responsibility of Warwickshire County Council. We are aware that there are a number of pavement works needing to be done across the parish, including potholes, general repairs and dropped kerbs.

Unfortunately, we have been told that WCC has a waiting list of up to 5 years for pavement repairs!

Special thanks should go to **Mr William Barnett** of Boehm Drive for weeding and clearing the pavements along both sides of Kinwarton Farm Road. His community spirited actions are much appreciated.

Kinwarton Road/Kinwarton Farm Road Junction

Concern has been expressed about the safety of the mini-roundabout, following a number of near-misses, and a recent collision involving a pupil from Alcester Academy.

Despite the road markings and signs warning motorists of the presence of a mini-roundabout, drivers approaching from Great Alne and carrying straight on into Alcester encounter no obstruction at the junction to cause them to slow them down.

The County Council response is that they can see no way of making this junction safer. However, Cllr Daniell has pledged money from his annual allowance to repaint the road markings.

Other Matters

Council Tax - Parish charges(Precept)

At a budget meeting in January, in view of the rising prices we are currently experiencing, your Parish Council has chosen not to increase its share of the Council Tax for 2022-23.

Planning

Although Stratford District Council send us details of planning applications within our parish, local communities have very little say in planning matters. We have the opportunity to support or object to what we believe to be appropriate/inappropriate plans, but decisions are made by SDC.

Planning applications can be viewed at stratford.gov.uk/planning

Lighting

We have now updated all our lamp standards and changed all the lights to LEDs.

Meetings

Although all parishioners are able to attend Parish Council meetings, this has been problematic during the pandemic. At present Alcester Academy (the only 'public' building in the parish) is still unwilling to hire out

meeting rooms. We are therefore meeting in Church House, Alcester until further notice.

Greig Hall

The Parish Council has given a donation towards the refurbishing of the Hall. It will pay for the supply and fitting of internal doors.

Bins

Your Parish Council has provided several extra bins, including dog poo and general litter bins recently. Thanks to Costcutter for providing an extra bin outside the shop too.

Rubbish

Following multiple complaints and a number of letters to the site owners, the eastern corner of the industrial estate crossroads has been cleared and wall partially built in front of Costcutters.

Contacts

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Your District Councillor - Gill Forman: Gill.Forman@stratford-dc.gov.uk
Your County Councillor - Piers Daniell: piersdaniell@warwickshire.gov.uk