

Annual Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report 16th May 2018

Kilve Parish Council has carried out its business over the past year in an efficient, informal and friendly way. This is in no small part due to the commitment of all the Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk and I would like to thank them all for their contributions to making our Parish Council (PC) work as well as it does.

With sadness and regret I have to report the recent death of Cllr Kevin Rogers. Kevin was a Parish Councillor for many years, also spending several of those years as Chairman. He will be remembered as a committed and well respected councillor.

Cllr Barry Whitehead continues to keep us up to date with developments involving drilling for shale oil / fracking in our area and attending local meetings.

Cllr Elizabeth Grigg continues to deal with all matters relating to the defibrillator, including organising training courses for parishioners. At present these training courses take place once a year. She also deals with all medical matters of concern to the Parish Council and is our Village Hall representative.

Cllr Peter Gill is our representative on the Watchet, Williton and Quantock Area Panel.

Unfortunately Cllr Adam Gorman had to resign in July 2017 and I would like to thank him for the time and effort he put in to his role as Parish Councillor. However, he still manages Kilve Village web site and for the present keeps an eye on our footpaths.

I am pleased to say that Mark Walton was co-opted onto the Parish Council in September 2017. Cllr Walton is now responsible for maintaining our assets, which include notice boards and the bus shelter.

As usual the A39 continues to be as a source of problems. There is always speeding, which is invariably accompanied by suicidal driving techniques. The narrow part of the road on Lagers Hill has been the site of a number of minor accidents. These have been reported to SCC Highways who have been to look at the situation. However, a fairly protracted discussion with Highways over what can be done has not amounted to anything. Oddly, any communication with Highways seems unlikely to produce a positive result.

While the PC has no objections to most planning applications within the parish the recent application concerning the building of two houses at Winters Tale did raise concerns. The PC logged a number of objections with WSDC and Cllr Walton spoke against the planning application at a meeting of the WSDC Planning Committee. The application was rejected.

The PC has continued to provide a yearly financial contribution to the Village Hall with £1,000 towards the cost of a commercial dishwasher in September 2017.

Hinkley Point workers have been using the Village Hall car park as an unofficial 'park and ride ' scheme making the car park difficult to use. Cllr Samson monitored the situation and with help from Hinkley C management the problem is under control.

Holford PC have asked us to help with their war memorial, which is a commemorative stone and group of trees in the hills just south of Holford. Cllr Gill organised a visit to the site which is in a stunningly beautiful location. Some work needs to be done. As the memorial is dedicated to the parishioners of Holford and Kilve who served in WWII, Kilve PC will be funding half of any costs involved.

Our own war memorial to the four men of Kilve who died in WWI, the lych gate at the church, is being slowly damaged by a tree growing against the churchyard wall next to the gate. Cllr Walton is working with the PCC to sort this out.

Kilve PC finances are healthy so the precept will remain unchanged for 2018/2019.

I would like to thank Pat and Brian Woolly for renovating the telephone box. This PC asset was in a very sorry state but looks splendid.

Yet again I must thank Cllrs Hugh Davies, Sue Goss and Chris Morgan for the useful advice and information that they provide at our PC meetings.

Tracy Gorman is unable to continue running the neighbourhood watch scheme in the village and I would like to thank her for having made this valuable contribution to village life.

Our representative on the Hinkley 'C' community forum is Dr Mike Dixon who continues to provide us with a very necessary and useful voice at these meetings.

Terry Williams continues as our representative on the Hinkley 'A/B' stakeholders group.

The Kilve SOS emergency help group is still active thanks to Kelly Stone and Mel Davison.

Lastly many thanks to Brian at Kilve Court who mows the permissive footpath.

Alan Keen

Chairman, Kilve Parish Council

16/05/2018