

Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 253

June 2021

Editors: Lesley Beswick (07813908875) & Julie Devine (07709655381)

Dates For Your Diary

Mon	21st	June	Deadline for July Grapevine	6.00pm
Tue	22nd	June	Kingswood Village Hall AGM	7.30pm
Sat	4th	September	Mini Show Day - save the date!	12.00pm

Editors Note:

We are hopeful that our new website will be up and running very soon.

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### KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

As we write for this month, the confidence factor is increasing towards a better end to the year. Please keep **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September** free in your diary because we are planning, all being well, to hold a smaller scale SHOWDAY this year. All family fun at last – watch this space. The KVA are still here to help if you need it. We can help with collecting shopping, collecting prescriptions, a little garden tidying or maybe just a friendly chat. Just let us know and we will arrange for one of our friendly volunteers to help you.

If you need financial help with your grocery shopping because of the pandemic restrictions affecting your income we can help with the offer of vouchers to be used in our village SPAR shop. Please get in touch. Totally confidential. One phone number **07527 813404** or one email [jameskinson16@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jameskinson16@hotmail.co.uk) will put you in touch with Jim who will be more than pleased to help.

If you would like to donate in order to help others in need the KVA would be more than pleased to accept your offer. Just contact Rod on [rodplume@gmail.com](mailto:rodplume@gmail.com)

#### Seniors Vouchers for Dinneywicks Daytime Café

The weather is warmer and Dinneywicks daytime café is open indoors and out. If you have a voucher from New Year use it and invite some friends to join you for coffee and cake. Your voucher remains valid until at least the end of July. Don't forget to book a table on 01453 844449.

### KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

Contact: Secretary, Pat Casken: [patc@gmx.com](mailto:patc@gmx.com)

The AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee will take place at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 22nd June 2021** in the Village Hall. The committee ensures the smooth running of the hall for everyone. We need new members to bring in fresh ideas and to replace members who are stepping down after several years service. We meet about every 2 months to plan ahead, review bookings, oversee maintenance etc, so it's not a big demand on your time but worthwhile to ensure we continue to provide a facility for the village. Please come and join us for the AGM and if you want more information contact the secretary.

### KINGSWOOD ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

We have a vacant plot if anyone would like to join and grow some veg. Available to rent as a full or half plot. Please contact [clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk) for details.

### KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

There was much excitement at the second of three newt surveys in May when Great Crested newts were found in all three ponds. In the largest pond more Great Crested newts were recorded than common smooth newts. With the third survey still to go this is a clear sign that the protected great crested newt population is thriving. There will be lots of work to do in the ponds in the winter when the newts will be out of the water. Invasive New Zealand pigmyweed needs to be removed from the large pond to prevent it completely engulfing the pond. The dew pond is benefiting from the cutting back of plants on the banks which allows more light into the area. Reeds and oxygenating plants have been planted in this pond to improve the water quality. Despite the green duckweed newts are still visiting this pond to breed!

### KINGSWOOD DEFIB AWARENESS GROUP

Contact: David Owen – 01453 844463 [owen@kingswoodgl12.plus.com](mailto:owen@kingswoodgl12.plus.com)

**NEWS:** Kingswood's 7<sup>th</sup> public access Defibrillator has been installed in Weavers Close.

I am pleased to report that a new public access defibrillator has been installed in Weavers Close at the junction with Hillesley Road (sincere thanks to the home-owners involved, and to Andy Roe for fitting it).

May I ask you all to spread the word regarding this new defib, using your various networks. It is particularly important that those living in the following roads/streets are informed: Hillesley Road, Weavers Close, Crow Meadow and Abbey Mews.

Ideally, a defibrillator should be with a patient who is suffering a cardiac arrest within 5 minutes of collapse. So you can see why it is very important to have more of them in the community.

I am now starting to raise funds to meet the cost of this new defib, so if you can Gift Aid a donation, this will be hugely beneficial. Contact me and I will send a GA form. In brief the 7 defibs are at: The Shop, The Primary School (Abbey St), F+G Services Charfield Road, The Village Hall, Weavers Close, 59 Walkmill Lane, Bramley Close Flats' garage. Hopefully, the position of the new defib will shortly be added to the list and map which will be available on the new Grapevine Website soon.

**Parish Council Elections 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021** - The following people were elected to KPC unopposed. Mark Gilling, Paul Hemming, Norval Hawksworth, Howard Moore, Toby Phillips, John Shouls, Jean Simmons and Ken Wood. In the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, Cllr Wood was elected as Chairman and Cllr. Moore as Vice Chairman. The following people stood down from council David Rockey, Sue Evans and Christopher Dunn and we would like to thank them for their hard work during their time as councillors. KPC will continue to meet on the second Monday of the month and the fourth Monday as required. Members of the Public are invited to attend the meeting and all minutes, agendas and financial information are available to view on the website. Due to the end of remote meeting legislation and the continued Covid19 legislation KPC will not be meeting in June. KPC is intending to resume its meetings at the village hall from 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021. However, this is dependent on all Covid 19 restrictions being lifted. The meeting and its location will be confirmed nearer the time.

**Playing field and Play Equipment** – The new fence around the play equipment has been installed. The next stage of this project is to install more seating and tables outside of this fencing. The playing field and the play equipment remain open subject to Covid 19 legislation. Please keep your distance from others and use the hand sanitiser provided. **Tyndale View** - KPC will be installing bollards around the grass area by the play equipment to ensure the safety of pedestrians using this area. Work was delayed due to the weather and these will now be installed in July 2021. **Public Toilets** - The toilets have undergone a refurbishment. A big thank you to Sue Evans who after many years of looking after the toilets has retired. A new cleaning contractor has been engaged and it is hoped the toilets will finally be open for use in June. **ANPR Cameras** - Since the beginning of May the total number of vehicles through the village recorded by both cameras was 82,263 of which 15,716 were above the speed limit, 1/3 of which were on Wickwar Road which also recorded the highest speed at 61mph, the second highest also on Wickwar Road was 59mph this being one of 50 over speed sightings out of a total of 71 by the same vehicle. Please be aware of your speed, and be aware of this illegal and Anti-Social driving.

Please report anyone littering or not picking up after their dog to the following; **Litter or Fly Tipping:** <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-fly-tipping-dumped-litter> **Dog Fouling:** <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-dog-mess-or-fouling-problems> **Over flowing bins:** <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-an-overflowing-litter-bin>

Please report any problems at the playing field and the community areas to the Clerk of the Council **Communication** - Please visit the KPC web site on [www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk) and follow and like the parish council on the Kingswood Parish Council Facebook Page. *The Clerk Mary Leonard, PO Box 113 Wotton under Edge GL11 9BP*

**KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)**Contact: Jennie 07934 070167 or [jennieamesbury@btinternet.com](mailto:jennieamesbury@btinternet.com)

In these times of worry and isolation the Kingswood Congregational Church are holding Chapel services that incorporate people attending in person and also on line via Zoom. If you would like to be with us in person you are very welcome into our COVID safe Chapel. Alternatively join us on Zoom to listen to inspirational speakers and actually sing while in the safety of your home. For a Zoom link contact Bob on [robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk) You can also visit our Facebook page.

**SAVING ANOTHER PIECE OF KINGSWOOD HIGHWAY HISTORY**

The team that recently repaired and restored the fingerpost by the war memorial has started work on the restoration of another distressed Kingswood road sign. Until recently it hung on the wall of 11 Wotton Road and used to tell motorists coming from Wotton whether to turn right on to the B4062 for Bristol or to keep straight ahead on the B4060 for Wickwar. Unlike the finger post which remains a functioning part of Gloucestershire's highway signage this road sign has long been redundant and was painted over years before it was taken down by the new owners of No. 11. Mr Paul Helbrow of Gloucestershire Highways gave both permission and support for the fingerpost project. He is also supporting this restoration, though purely as an historic sign of value to our local community. To this end he has given permission for the restored sign to be re-erected on a tiny piece of highway land at the end of Vineyard Lane. Bill Howgego, who first spotted the sign is leading the project supported by Stewart Lloyd, Mike Rousseau and David Hatton.

**LOCAL ELECTIONS**

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone who voted for myself (Kingswood District) and Linda Cohen (Wotton-under-Edge County) in the recent local elections. We were both absolutely thrilled to be elected and can't wait to get to work! Since being elected we have attended dozens of online introduction and induction calls and look forward to the first full council meeting. We are busy contacting key council and county officers, which will enable us to serve you better over the coming years. We spoke to hundreds of residents in the run up to polling day - thanks for the warm welcome you gave us! We were not surprised to find common themes emerging around road safety in the village, especially along Wickwar Road and on the walking route to KLB. Both of us will be taking these issues forward as a top priority, and we'll keep you updated as to our progress. I am always available for local residents, whatever your concerns and I'll be visiting residents again soon to conduct our summer survey. This is your opportunity to tell us what you love about Kingswood, and what you feel we could be doing better at. My contact details are below - please let me know if there's anything you need assistance with. Thanks Rich Wilsher [cllr.rich.wilsher@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.rich.wilsher@stroud.gov.uk)

**JULY GRAPEVINE ISSUE DEADLINE:****MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE**