

"Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana"

KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

Due to the corona virus restrictions we have been unable to carry out the usual management of the wildlife area since the middle of March. The flora and fauna have been unaffected and birdsong was particularly noticeable during the early quiet weeks. Following the easing of the lockdown we carried out the newt survey for this year, led by Richard from Stroud Valleys Project who is currently furloughed and kindly came in a volunteering capacity. He was assisted by his son and one or two volunteers. Although there were less newts than found in previous years there are still a good population of both smooth and great crested newts. The reduction in numbers could be due to the delay in the survey, the early warm weather or the current low water levels in the ponds. Sightings of newts in the large pond before lockdown were very high. We were pleased to find both types of newts in the newer pond next to the allotments, together with lots of frogs and froglets and enormous water beetles. We hope to be able to resume working with social distancing before the end of July. In the meantime arrangements have been made for the paths to be cut when possible to enable villagers to enjoy the area. When we do return there will be lots of catching up to be done so anyone who is finding themselves with time on their hands would be very welcome to join us on Monday mornings from 10.30.

We hope you have all been enjoying the area in recent weeks and that in coming weeks there will be many butterflies to spot in amongst the grass areas.

KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mary Leonard Tel: 01453844659, clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

Coronavirus- Kingswood Parish Council is working with other community Groups and agencies to try to support those who are vulnerable during this crisis. Please look out for your neighbour and let us know if you have any concerns over anyone in the village. Please check for information on <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Parish Council operations during the Coronavirus - The parish council is operating normally through the Clerk and meeting via a publicly accessible conference meeting as necessary. Full details of meetings will be advertised on the KPC website and social media pages with details of how the public can join the meeting.

Playing field - The playing field remains open for use. Members of the community are asked to follow the most up to date government guidance on social distancing. The play equipment remains closed. Please do not allow your children to use the equipment as we cannot maintain the hygiene of it. Please can we remind the community that there are only two entrances to the Playing field. A pedestrian access via the footbridge from Boundary Close and the vehicle access from Wickwar Road. Please do not come through the hedge line from Boundary Close. The car park is for users of the facilities only. **Toilets** - The toilets are being updated with new sanitaryware. Sadly, we also have another leak at the toilets so they will remain closed until this can be fixed. **Planning** - We have been informed by **Persimmon** that they have submitted a planning application for 50 houses on **Wickwar Road** to run in conjunction with the Local Plan review. This application will not be determined until the Local Plan is updated. KPC has objected to the inclusion of the Persimmon site in the Local Plan. It remains to be seen if it will be included. However, the application is a separate process which KPC and the community will need to respond to. Once we have the details of the application, we will inform the community via the website and Facebook. We intend to hold a public meeting with Persimmon via Zoom. Details of when the meeting will take place and how to join will be made public. We have also been informed by **Gladman** that they have submitted an application for 50 houses on **Charfield Road**. Once we have the details of the application, we will inform the community via the website and Facebook. We intend to hold a public meeting with Gladman via Zoom. Details of when the meeting will take place and how to join will be made public. **Speeding** - The cameras are picking up more vehicles speeding through the village. Please can all members of the community observe the speed limit.

Litter and Dog fouling -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 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 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Contact: Rod Alexander, rodplume@gmail.com

Covid-19 has been a boon to the scammers, adding opportunities to their repertoire. They have caught one or two astute villagers in their net. Thankfully, the police keep us fully informed of the latest frauds as well as thefts and burglaries. If you would like this information as added protection Kingswood Neighbourhood Watch will be happy to pass on the police alerts to you. Just let Rod Alexander know.

TUBBS TURF multi sports courts

Contact: membership@tubbsturf.co.uk

We are delighted that we have been able to partially open Tubbs Turf and hope to expand this opening further as soon as government covid rules permit. We are currently only open to members (sadly not guests) and only for tennis. We will update members once further sports are permitted and manageable. The school will be using the top court during the week and therefore this is only available to members at weekends. The lower tennis court is available with the key code lock with members being asked to ensure the current hygiene rules are followed, so please bring sanitising hand gel and antibacterial spray and cloths to wipe down touched surfaces i.e. gates, noticeboards, locks. In addition to sign up for courts members need to bring their own pen. Sadly the pavilion is not available at the moment as LTA rules require it to be fully cleaned after each use which as a charity facility is not possible. Rates for the courts are very reasonable and for juniors in the village start from £5 per year (please contact us if you have any queries about this). If you would like to join please email for further details. Membership forms are also available on our website: tubbsturf.co.uk

KINGSWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Contact: Stella Green stellagreen80@btinternet.com

Just to let all our members know we are still out there! We don't know if we will be able to hold the AGM in November, with John Putley, due to Covid 19 restrictions - to be confirmed. If anyone has any ideas for socially-distanced events for the future or items of interest, or just wants to keep in touch, please feel free to contact the Secretary, Stella Green

KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)

Contact: Jennie 07934 070167 or jennieamesbury@btinternet.com

We are currently holding zoom services on a Sunday morning. If you would like to join in please email robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk We would love to share our services with you and you would get a warm welcome. We want to take this time to let you know that we are praying for our village as well as the wider county and the world as a whole. You can also contact us via our Facebook page or www.kingswoodcongregational.org.uk

"We all want quiet. We all want beauty..... We all need space. Unless we have it, we cannot reach that sense of quiet in which whispers of better things come to us gently"

Octavia Hill - Co founder of The National Trust

For an entry please email Grapevine: kingswoodgrapevine@googlemail.com The Village Diary can be viewed on the Grapevine website.

web page: www.kingswoodgrapevine.btck.co.uk

