



Community Governance Review

On 1st May, all parishioners will have the opportunity to express their opinion concerning a possible boundary change of this civil parish. The question being placed before every voter in the parish is this, with a simple Yes / No reply:

“Should the Habberley Road development be transferred from the parish of Kidderminster Foreign to the town of Kidderminster?”

As previously detailed on our website, and in this newsletter, this would involve moving the parish boundary from the current Habberley Road to the hedgerow adjoining the development, towards the village of Low Habberley. The housing development would then be taken into the area of Kidderminster Town Council. Everyone will have the opportunity to vote to give their opinion on this proposed boundary change. (Please remember to take photo ID to vote!).

Severn Trent works in the Parish



As work in our Parish in connection with the new Chelmarsh –Trimpley pipeline is drawing to a close, your Parish Council are working closely with Severn Trent to ensure that restorative works are undertaken to local areas, to put right any damage which has been an unfortunate consequence of this necessary planned improvement to water supplies in the area.

One of the items which will be included in our discussions will be any road/verge and hedgerow damage caused by the heavy plant and equipment which has been used in the parish area.

For example, we have drawn this road damage to the County Council's attention, which has been caused by the passage of large vehicles in the lanes. We have been in discussion with Severn Trent throughout their project here in the parish, and hope that we will be able to resolve these before their contractors finalise the works.

Promoting the Parish

We are grateful for recent grant assistance from the District Council which has enabled us to purchase a customised gazebo, to promote the work of the Parish Council. Look for this at local events, and pop along for a chat to see what we do in the parish.



Local Events for your diary

Trimpley Village Hall

Pub Nights—every 4th Friday of each month.

Bingo Night—10th May—7.30pm.

Trimpley Music Festival - Music, Food & Heavy Horse—Saturday 19th July 12pm—9pm, Holbeache House Farm.

Trimpley Vintage Rally - Sunday 3rd August—10.30am—4pm.

Verges—Low Habberley

A tidy job has been done in Low Habberley with the sweeper clearing overgrowth on kerb edges. Deserved thanks to our Chair & Cllr. Ian Hardiman for fostering an excellent working relationship which in turn is providing a quality service for Parishioners. It is hoped this will help divert water off the road surface.



Sad Farewell

It is with much sadness that we have to advise that Cllr. Ms. R. Norton has decided to leave the Parish Council.

We wish her well for the future, and thank her for her past service to our local community.

If you are interested in putting forward an application to join and serve the local community as a parish councillor, please watch for the Casual Vacancy to be advertised in due course on noticeboards and on the parish council website.

Parish Council - Please visit our website : www.kfpc.org.uk

The public are welcome to come along to any Parish Council meeting and speak and/or discuss matters with councillors in the Open Forum at the start of each meeting. Verbal contributions later in the meeting are at the discretion of the Chair.

Opposite are the dates of the next meetings, which are usually on the **3rd Monday of each calendar month**, (unless altered for special reasons) and are held in Trimpley Village Hall.

Please see agenda, posted before each meeting on the website or noticeboards, for details.

Next Meetings (starting at 7.30pm) are: 19th May (AGM), 16th June and 21st July 2025

Your Current Parish Councillors are :

Mr. B. Phillips : Tel: 07760450567 (Chair)

Mr. C. Grainger : Tel: 01299 212174

Mr. C. Holford: Tel: 07836 333030

Mr. R. Roberts: Tel: 01299 401048

Mr. S. Leigh: Tel: 07305328817

Mrs. S. Thompson : Tel: 01562 752389

Please feel free to contact them (or the Clerk (see overleaf)) on any matters of concern re life in the Parish, or come along to the **Public Open Forum** at the start of every meeting.

Parish Rate in Your Council Tax

	Precept	Taxbase	C.Tax for
	-	-	-
	2025-26	2025-26	2025-26
The Parish/Town Council of:			
Kidderminster	1,224,286.00	17,757	68.95
Upper Arley	19,547.55	366	53.41
Bewdley	318,144.00	3,774	84.30
Broome	6,930.00	208	33.32
Chaddesley Corbett	38,249.40	767	49.87
Churchill & Blakedown	52,750.00	809	65.20
Kidderminster Foreign	6,263.40	471	13.30
Ribbesford	0.00	98	0.00
Rock	61,700.00	1,332	46.32
Rushock	3,977.82	81	49.11
Stone	17,570.00	288	61.01
Stourport on Severn	527,511.00	7,256	72.70
Wolverley & Cookley	107,639.37	2,131	50.51
	2,384,568.54	35,338	67.48

Band "D" Difference
% Increase
19.4
7.0
7.4
7.2
3.9
8.5
9.8
-0.7
3.7
4.5
28.4
3.0

This table shows comparative Parish rates in the Wyre Forest area, which is also detailed on your Council Tax bill. You will note that after many years of keeping the Parish Rate low, Kidderminster Foreign is still the lowest Parish rate in the District. However it will be difficult to maintain this level over coming years, and future increases will be inevitable to cover costs.

However, Wyre Forest's average Parish Rate element in the Council Tax of just £67.48 (Kidderminster Foreign is just £13.30) still falls well below the England Average Parish rate of £85.89 (2024-25).

If you wish to check what the Parish Council rate is spent on, check out our parish website (Finance page) where we will shortly be publishing the end of year accounts, in readiness for the annual AGAR (Annual Governance and Review) (Audit) check.

Holy Trinity Church, Timpley

In January each church in the group of churches that Holy Trinity is part of held a 'Vision Day'. A summary of those events is available in church. It was good to see the various strengths and values of the individual churches, and to have Holy Trinity's hospitality and friendship recognised as well as the acknowledgement of our uniqueness in the team as a rural church, celebrating the seasons of the agricultural year. Our '**Holy Trinity Nursery**' mornings are fast becoming a popular regular village feature. The **Bulb Sale**, held at the end of January was a happy social occasion, and raised £470 for church funds. The next **Plant Sale** will be held on either **27th May or 7th June**. Surplus plants to sell are being requested. The **Rake and Cake group** restarted after the winter break on 20th March with a social afternoon, and it will be held **fortnightly on Thursdays from 4pm**. Everyone is welcome – find details on the Facebook page or www.achurchnearyou.org/Holy-Trinity-Timpley The **Mothering Sunday Service on 30th March** celebrated all things motherly and posies of locally grown flowers were handed out to share and say thank you. The **Book Exchange**, featuring up to date and interesting novels, is up and running. Our thanks to Davina Stannard. There is a wide selection of fiction to choose from. Just pop along to church and see what there is to borrow. Amazingly it is already time to be organising the **Photography Competition**: we need to receive **landscape photographs of local events and scenes for the 2026 calendar**. This closes on **12th July**. Details on the poster in the church and village Noticeboards or on the website. Everyone is welcome to Services to celebrate Easter: **Holy Week** Self-guided Prayer Stations in Holy Trinity, Mon 14th – Fri 18th church will be open between 10am – 4pm Easter Day, 20th April at 9.30am in church – Holy Communion - bring a flower to decorate the Easter cross. Living Hope leaflets detailing the services and opportunities across all the churches in the group for praying, growing and worshipping together throughout Lent and Easter, are available in church.

And Finally—a note from your Ed.

What glorious Spring weather we have been having! And on 4th April, I saw my first swallow... the earliest I can remember seeing one... But perhaps you could beat me on that. Listening out now for the cuckoo !!



Speeding & Traffic in local lanes

One of the main issues raised with the Parish Council by local people is their concern with traffic and driving in local lanes. This is why for several years now, we have been urging our local Neighbourhood Policing Team to give priority to this. You may have seen that the Police are monitoring traffic speeds in local lanes, and your Parish Council have been trying to bring about other safety measures—viz:

- **VA Speed Monitoring signs** (two in Timpley and two in Low Habberley, to remind motorists of speed limits. Our dedicated Lengthsman, Mr. C. Bunn, checks these regularly to ensure efficient working.
- **Improved road Signage**, such as the Horse/Rider cautionary sign recently erected in Crundalls Lane; thanks to local County Councillors Ian Hardiman and Dan Morehead for bringing this to fruition.



- We are currently lobbying the County Council to ask if the **local bus (297)** which serves the villages of Timpley and Low Habberley could be of a smaller size, (perhaps minibus size) more suited to Parish lanes. This is a difficult request, as it runs between two separate counties, and is a jointly subsidised route, and we do not wish to see this lifeline for some parishioners being axed.
- **Fatal Four**—we are supportive of the recent Police campaign 'Operation Spotlight' to ensure motorists are compliant with rules around **seatbelts, drink/drug driving, mobile phones and speeding**, to promote safer travel on our roads, and to reduce fatalities.

Always travel with Safety foremost in your minds.