

OUR VILLAGE



Higher Kinnerton
Community Council

Your Monthly Higher Kinnerton Community Newsletter



Higher Kinnerton Community Council Precept 2022-2023

Community Councils are funded principally by an annual precept. The precept for Higher Kinnerton Community Council is included in your council tax and shown on your annual council tax bill. The Community Council's activities are predominately funded by the precept with other limited forms of funding being ringfenced for specific projects such as play area and open space improvements.

For the financial year 2022-2023 the precept increased by 20.5 % from £31,378 to £38,006 resulting in an additional annual payment of £7.29 for a Band D property. The Community Council prepares a comprehensive annual budget which is monitored throughout the financial year. Following detailed budget preparations and robust consideration, the 2022/23 budget was agreed at the December 2021 meeting and can be accessed via the following link: <https://higherkinnerton.org.uk/app/uploads/2022/01/Budget-22-23-approved-08.12.21.pdf>

Key initiatives and items proposed in the financial year 2022-23 include:

- Christmas lighting upgrades and improvements
- Creation of a Village Heritage Trail to create a circular 4-kilometre recreational route and provide information about village heritage and describe historical and geographical aspects of the village.

Additional or increased key items of expenditure included in 2022-23 as compared to the previous year include:

- Potential costs of a contested election in May 2022
- A budget to tackle dog-fouling issues
- A budget to undertake any necessary tree surgery works on Main Road Recreation Ground
- An increased budget for additional IT equipment and licences to ensure the Community Council can function

In addition to the above, the Community Council is responsible for addressing local issues raised by residents, delivering a wide range of services, for the provision and upkeep of local amenities and generally for community enhancement.

In recent years, Community Councils have faced several challenges in the form of County Councils cutting back on traditional services to local communities, changes to the role Community Councils are expected to perform and increasingly demanding audit and governance regimes all of which have budgetary implications.

Further information regarding the Community Council financial and governance arrangements can be found on the Higher Kinnerton Community Council website.

The Big Jubilee Lunch

You will, we are sure, be aware that 2022 is HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee year, celebrating her 70 years on the throne. To commemorate this landmark celebrations are anticipated across the nation. One such is the Big Jubilee Lunch which is being promoted by the Eden Project. They are supporting communities wishing to come together and celebrate over the Jubilee weekend (June 2-5), whether it be simply enjoying a cuppa with a neighbour or a full on street party. To help communities they are offering a free starter pack full of ideas, inspiration and tips to get you started with planning your Big Lunch and turning it into a reality. Registration for the Big Jubilee Lunch is encouraged for groups and can be done at <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch>



Higher Kinnerton Senior Members of the Community Club

Following the article in the March newsletter a number of residents have expressed an interest in establishing a club for retired or senior members of the community. Suggestions included regular lunches at the Royal Oak, social events and talks, movies and outings.

A further update will be included in the May newsletter so watch this space!

If you've not already contacted us and would be interested in taking part, please contact Jane Liddle on 07401369062 or via jane@higherkinnerton.org.uk

Kinnerton WI

After our break due to Covid Kinnerton WI are back in business. At our next meeting, on April 7th, our guest speaker will be North Star Distillery. Matt will be talking about gin and he will bring samples.

So far this year we have had a hot pot supper along with a very interesting talk on Mike Rounds visits to climb Kilimanjaro. In March we had a visit from the Blood Bikes, a fantastic organisation, talking about the work they do in delivering blood to save lives.

This year Kinnerton WI, established back in 1952, is celebrating 70 years. Up until quite recently we still had founding members who are sadly no longer with us.

The WI is open for girls and ladies over age of 18. We are looking for new members to join us. We meet once a month, at 7pm on the first Thursday, in the Village Hall.

For further details contact Hazel Cooper on 01244 660751

Kinnerton Cricket Club

The yearly plea - We need some additional players for the upcoming season. We have kept KCC as a village team but as time moves forward age is catching up and new blood is required.

In 2015 KCC decided to stop playing friendly matches and joined the Chester & District Midweek League in Division 6.

This coming season we will be playing in Division 3 and our home matches will be on the picturesque ground of Northop Cricket Club on Tuesday evenings.

The games are Twenty20 format with restrictions on overs bowled and a 50 maximum run score.

The other teams in the league will be - Abergele CC : Buckley CC : HGWCC : Manor Athletic : Shotton CC : West Cheshire College : Wirral CC

We have net practice on the MRRG on Sunday mornings and everyone will welcome so just turn up or call Jim 660548 or Mike 660974 or just reply here.

Ukraine Crisis Appeal - School Donations

POWER OF KINDNESS

Thank you so much to the pupils and parents who supported Derwen school appeal to help refugees from the war in Ukraine.



We have been overwhelmed with your generous donations of countless sleeping bags, survival blankets, warm clothes & toiletries just to name a few.

The sorting warehouses were inundated with donations from across the region.

Some of the donations made it onto the convoy which left for Poland at the start of last week and the remaining items will be delivered to the warehouse in time for the next convoy.

Once again a big thank you to everyone who donated both time and items.

R Jones, Headmaster

Please also be aware that cash donations, however small make a big difference. Please visit oxfam.org.uk for the DEC appeal.

1st Kinnerton Scout Group

The weather is getting warmer and Spring is on its way, which means that it is time to start thinking about the garden.

In this newsletter you should find a printed order form for bedding plants from the Scout Group. Our grower is again providing us with a range of plants – we have been working with him for over 20 years now, and his plants are excellent.

The order forms give details of who is collecting orders in your area of the village, so either pop it through their letterbox or give them a call. We do ask for money with order, but you have several ways to pay – by cash, cheque or bank transfer.

Return your order form by 20th April, and your plants will be delivered to your door on Sunday 15th May.

To any one new to the village, this is the Scout Group's big fundraising event of the year. Please give our plants a try for your planters and borders, and support the young people of the village to gain the skills for life and fulfil their potential.

If your form is missing or you have any queries, please get in touch with Lesley on 660579, or lesley@chrisandlesholden.co.uk

Thank you.

Walking in the Clwyds

An occasional series which explores the hills on our doorstep
by Martin King

6. Bryn Alyn

This latest article takes us to the delightful slopes of Bryn Alyn which lies to the east of the Clwyd Gate road between Mold and Ruthin. Whilst modest in height Bryn Alyn packs a punch and also provides a wonderful geological feature, its very own limestone pavement which in my view is a match for anything the Yorkshire Dales has to offer. There are a number of routes to the top but this one starts and finishes from the large layby to the south of Llanferres on the A494. An information board next to a stile at the Llanferres end of the layby marks the start of the walk (OS Grid Ref: SJ 18718 59836). The walk is in the region of 6km long with about 300m of ascent, including one steep section through woods, which can be muddy. On the whole the paths are good, though stout boots are always to be recommended on mountain terrain. On a clear day the views from the summit are extensive, with Snowdon easily visible. As with all these walks the OS Explorer map 265 of the area is indispensable.



The walk starts gently enough, crossing the infant Afon Alyn and heading east through a couple of fields which you might occasionally have to share with livestock, so caution should be exercised. As the path approaches the woodland you pass through a gate and cross stepping stones onto a path which passes a number of springs before continuing gently up through woodland passing a distinctive limestone outcrop favoured by climbers. In spring this path is home to wild orchids which give way to wild garlic later in the season, and large copper beeches line the slopes on your left. After passing through another gate the path winds around a couple of houses and meets a larger bridleway by a ramshackle shed.

The circular nature of this route means you can choose to go in either direction here, but our walk continues in an anti-clockwise direction by turning right and heading uphill past the two houses to a stile on your left with a signed footpath winding steeply up through silver birch woodland. The next section of the walk is uncomfortably the hardest with a strenuous climb up through lovely woodland. On occasions we have seen green woodpeckers here as well as buzzards circling high overhead. Looking back, views across the Alyn valley reveal the slopes of Moel Famau and Foel Fenlli through the treetops. Care should be exercised as this stretch can be slippery following rain, I find a trekking pole useful here. Eventually the gradient eases slightly and the path emerges from the trees to cross a rickety fence onto a wide grassy path. Bear left and continue upwards into the heart of Bryn Alyn's complex summit area.

After another hundred metres or so a narrow path bears off to the right and heads towards Bryn Alyn's western summit, slightly lower at 403m but with spectacular views west over the Clwydian range and Denbigh Moors to distant Snowdonia. On a clear day I find this is a splendid place to sit awhile on the limestone outcrops with a flask and a pair of binoculars, useful for both bird and peak spotting!



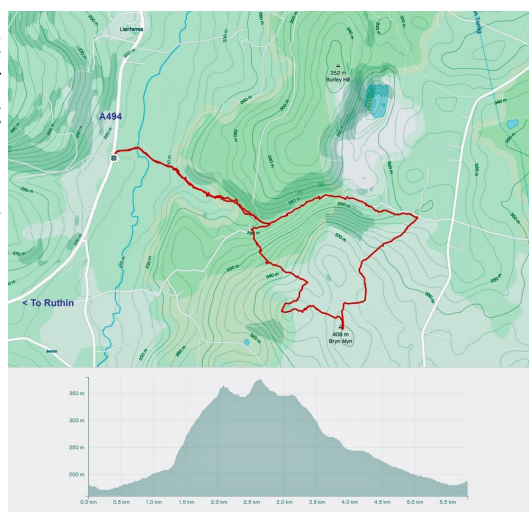
Having enjoyed the rest (and the view) collect yourself and turn east to head for the main summit a few hundred metres away across mainly grassy slopes. As you follow the path over a rise the unexpected and



amazing sight of Bryn Alyn's limestone pavement is suddenly revealed, with the path threading a way through the clints and grikes. If time permits it can be fascinating to spend time here at a macro level examining the amazing variety of flora which inhabits this special habitat. The path leads to a wider track winding up the slopes ahead to a broad col between two high points. To the right a short walk across grass will take you to the higher summit (at 408m), whilst left takes you to a craggy summit (slightly lower at 403m) both of which offer fine views over the limestone pavement as well as

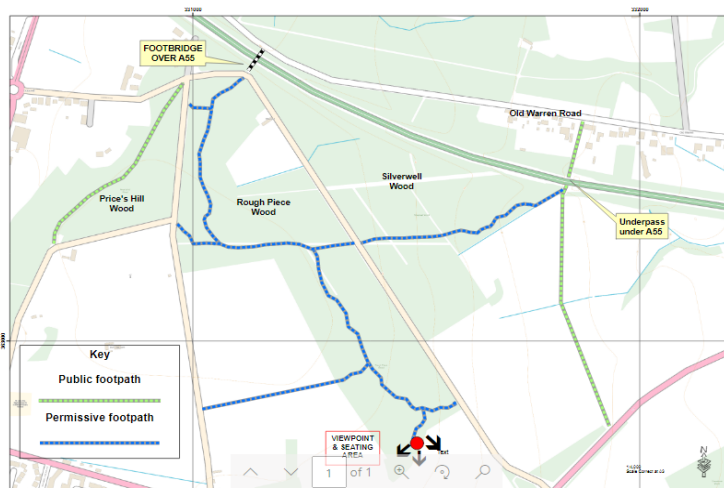
views in all directions, including as far as the Wirral and distant Liverpool.

Returning to the main track, pass through the gate and bear left across grass (often accompanied by grazing sheep) to another gate where the path now curves to the right and heads north-east down a steep slope to farm buildings at Pant Du where we cross a stile onto a road opposite the buildings. It's downhill all the way now, turning left and then immediately bearing left along a narrow track through trees and bush which emerges seemingly in someone's garden. Here the path skirts downhill past the grounds to join a rough track ahead. Ignore the signed footpath to Bryn Alyn at a stile on the left and continue on the broad track through more copper beech woods, magnificent when the sun is shining through the canopy. After some 500m we reach the junction to rejoin our outward path by the two houses and turn right to head back to the start.



Rough Hill Walk (Gladstones)

Several people have recently asked about places to walk on our Facebook pages. In addition to those walks previously discussed in recent newsletters, HKCC has asked the Gladstone Estate about permit access for resident to the woods between The Warren and Tinkersdale. Whilst our request has been refused, it was pointed out that some areas of the Gladstone Estate have recently been opened up to public access. The attached map, which was kindly provided by the Gladstone Estate, describes as blue lines, the new routes that are now available.



All Saints Church

Church Services:

Sunday 27th March, 10.00 am – Mothering Sunday Service

Sunday 3rd April, 9.30am – Morning Worship

Sunday 10th April, 9.30am – Palm Sunday, Holy Communion

Good Friday, 15th April, – 2.30pm at St. Mary's Church, Dodleston, TBC

Easter Sunday 17th April, 9.30am - Holy Communion

Sunday 24th April, 9.30am - Holy Communion



Easter Gardens

Last year we had a lovely display of Easter gardens at All Saints Church. Why not join in with the Easter Celebrations and make your own gardens so we can have an even bigger display, outside the church, this year.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to donate towards the Easter Lilies, to be displayed in the church, please put your donation in an envelope and pass it on to Elaine Davies, Margaret Smith or Mike Allport.

Coffee Mornings

3rd Wednesday of each month, 10.30am-12.00noon

'Beetle Drive' with Kinnerton Scout Group.

Friday 25th March, Scout Headquarters, Doors open at 6.15pm.

Food Bank Collection – Sunday 3rd April, 10.30-12.00noon.

Items needed include : Easter treats- eggs, chocolates, biscuits, cakes, etc: Tinned custard, UHT semi-skimmed milk, orange juice, shampoo, tinned vegetables.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Afternoon Tea - Sunday 5th June, at All Saints Church

Have you met the Queen? Have you any photos, documents, letters, etc to tell of your experiences? We would love to borrow items to display in the church over the Jubilee Weekend, 3rd-6th June.

Contact Pam Andrews, 07816611370

Easter nests and chicks for sale, carefully knitted by our Kinnerton Crafters, all proceeds towards Church Funds.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH 100 CLUB

If you would like to join the 100 Club for a payment of just £12 a year, please contact Helen Francis 01244 660588

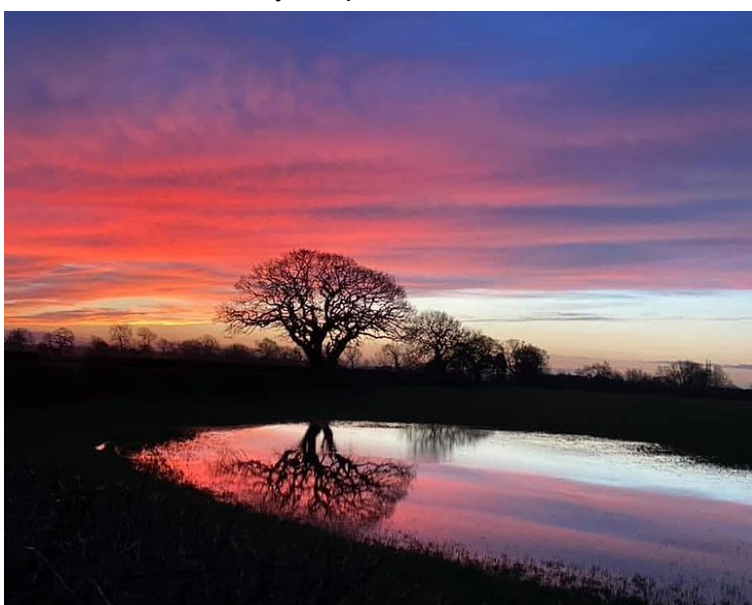
Soft Plastic Recycling at Tescos

Recently we highlighted the fact that many Co-op stores now provide a facility to recycle all your soft plastic which seems to be proving a successful initiative. Large Tesco stores are also offering this service, which includes the superstore in Broughton Retail Park. They have a sizeable in-store collection point, just inside the entrance. Tescos say that they expect to recycle more than 1000 tonnes of soft plastics annually, a staggering amount. Since county councils (including Flintshire) generally do not collect soft plastics this initiative by Tescos and the Co-op is helping to reduce waste and make it easier for all of us to help the environment.

Photo of the Month (sponsored by Walter's Coffee House)

Send us your photos for the newsletter for your chance to win a coffee and cake from Walters Coffee House!

Please do send in your photos for us to showcase in the village newsletter, it is



always nice to see them. If your photo is featured as **Photo of the Month** in the newsletter, you can enjoy a free coffee and a cake, courtesy of Walters.

You can submit them to us by email at newsletter@higherkinnerton.org.uk. Thank you so much, please keep them coming. Please note that the Photo of Month will include a reference to your name if your photo is featured in the newsletter.

Thank you to Rae Woody for this month's submission, a wonderfully colourful sunrise seen over the fields in Moor Lane



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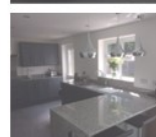


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A Note from the Newsletter Team:

Entries to the newsletter can be made by emailing newsletter@higherkinnerton.org.uk by the **third Friday of the month**. The newsletter is produced by Higher Kinnerton Community Council (HKCC) on behalf of the community. HKCC reserves the right to amend submissions to ensure best fit. All content provided in this newsletter is for informational purposes only and HKCC makes no representations as to the accuracy of any information contained herein.