

OUR VILLAGE



Higher Kinnerton
Community Council

Your Monthly Higher Kinnerton Community Newsletter



Introduction from the Chair

I'm privileged to have been elected as Chair of Higher Kinnerton Community Council at our Annual General Meeting in May. I look forward to working closely with our new Vice Chair Cllr Peter Cottam, and fellow councillors whose support and commitment will help us continue to serve the community effectively.

As I take on the role of Chair, I would like to express my sincere thanks to our outgoing Chair, Cllr Martin King, for his dedication and diligent leadership over the past year. His commitment to serving our community with professionalism and integrity has been greatly appreciated. On behalf of the council, I would like to thank him for the time and effort he has devoted to the role and for the valuable contribution he has made to our community.

Community councils play an important role in representing local views, supporting community projects, and working with partners on the issues that matter most to residents. On issues where responsibility sits with other organisations, such as the county council, we are well placed to actively represent residents and ensure that concerns are clearly raised and properly followed up.

As Chair, I'm keen to build on this role by making the council's work more visible and responsive. This includes improving how we communicate what's being raised on your behalf, sharing progress and outcomes more regularly, and strengthening links with the organisations responsible for delivering key services.

Just as importantly, I want residents to feel confident that when they bring an issue to the council, it will be actively progressed. We may not always be the authority that delivers the solution, but we will work to make sure your voice is heard and that issues are pursued in the right places. To keep up to date with what the community council is doing on your behalf, please follow our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HigherKinnertonCommunityCouncil>

This is a period of challenge and change for the council. We are saying thank you to a number of long-serving and dedicated councillors, as well as our Clerk, for all they have contributed to the community over the years as they move on from their roles. Their experience and commitment will be greatly missed, but it also gives us an opportunity to welcome new ideas and perspectives.

I would encourage anyone with ideas, questions, or concerns for the community to get in touch. By working together, we can continue to improve the fantastic place we all call home.

I look forward to the year ahead and to working with you all.

Cllr Joshua Swash

Chair, Higher Kinnerton Community Council



Higher Kinnerton Community Council Annual Report

Every year HKCC is required to publish its annual report which summarises what has been achieved during the last financial year. The latest report for 2025-26 has just been published and can be summarised as follows. You can find a copy of the full Annual Report on the HKCC website at <https://higherkinnerton.org.uk/app/uploads/2026/06/HKCC-Annual-Report-2025-26.pdf>.

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

During 2025-2026, HKCC have been involved in a variety of activities on behalf of residents of the village, including:

- hosting the ever popular biennial Village Day complete with live entertainment, stalls and sideshows, activities for children of all ages, and the spectacle of the traditional races and tug of war. HKCC are especially grateful to Kinnerton Scouts for hosting the barbecue and to all the local community groups involved.
- arranging for provision of the 2025 Dragon Sports summer camp by Aura Leisure, which was a great success with positive feedback and comments from parents.
- taking delivery of and installing the new Wildlife Bench on the corner of Sandy Lane/Bennetts Lane for all to enjoy.
- publishing of the monthly village newsletter which provides community news and updates. The newsletter is distributed via a dedicated network of volunteers.
- organising the annual Christmas event, with support from members of the Village Hall Committee, featuring mulled wine and mince pies together with musical performances by Ysgol Derwen School Choir and Royal Buckley Town Band.
- supporting the village volunteer group who kindly replenished the flower planters around the village and whose contribution to enhancing the village is very much appreciated.

RELATIONSHIP WITH FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

HKCC has positive working relationships with Flintshire County Council, fostered over many years. In addition HKCC has close working relationships with several community groups including the Village Hall and 1st Kinnerton Scouts, as well as engaging with community volunteers whose contribution to the village is invaluable.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW, ACCOUNTS & AUDIT

HKCC's only significant income is from the precept, based on a detailed budget agreed with Flintshire County Council. This is collected from residents on behalf of HKCC as part of their Council Tax arrangements. A full breakdown of income and expenditure is included in the Annual Accounts which are summarized within the Annual Return on HKCC's website.

HKCC's accounts and internal controls are subject to a comprehensive annual internal audit by a qualified accountancy firm and are then further examined by Audit Wales. The outcome of all our audits are published every year on HKCC's website. The latest internal audit report for 2025-26 concludes that HKCC's system of internal controls were in place, adequate for the purpose intended and effective. The full external audit for 2025-2026 by Audit Wales is pending.

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2026-2027

- To recruit a permanent Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
- To strengthen and streamline the newsletter advertising arrangements.
- To arrange for provision of a Dragon Sports summer camp for children in the village.
- To continue to support village organizations and local community groups via donations and grants, to work collaboratively with the Village Hall Committee to organize and host the village Christmas event and re-visit the hosting of the Community Evening to ensure it remains local and focused on those who contribute to our village.

SUMMARY

For a small council with a part-time Clerk, HKCC achieves a great deal on behalf of its residents including the newsletter, village events, managing the allotments, biodiversity enhancements, supporting the volunteer group and play area management, amongst others.

In May 2026 Cllr. Martin King stepped down as Chair to HKCC, the new Chair for 2026-27 is Cllr. Josh Swash. We also bade farewell to Liz Corner, our long-serving and dedicated Council Clerk who will be sorely missed.

Trussell Trust: 'How Food Banks Work'

We are over 1,400 food bank locations, supported by over 40,000 volunteers, 12,000 churches, 100,000 community groups and schools. Our aim to 'offer compassion, advice and practical support to people left without enough money to live on', Food Banks provide emergency food and practical support for these people.

- Food is donated by individuals, schools, churches and businesses donate non-perishable, in-date food to our food bank. Large collections take place as part of seasonal celebrations, e.g. Harvest and Xmas, and food is also collected regularly at designated supermarkets e.g. Tesco in Broughton and All Saints Church in Higher Kinnerton. You can also make a financial donation, so that food banks can buy specific items for what they need, or host a collection for your local food bank.
- Food is collected sorted and stored at our local Mold centre. Volunteers also sort donations to check that it's in date and then store by type ready to distribute to the satellite/collection centres, e.g. Mold, Buckley, Queensferry and Flint. More than 40,000 people give up their time to volunteer at food banks across the UK. The four volunteers in our village meet each week at the Mold Centre.
- Food banks partner with a wide range of community organisations, e.g. doctors, teachers, health visitors and social workers, to support people facing hardship and give them a food bank voucher to access emergency food. Those receiving a voucher are interviewed, for example, to determine any 'specific' needs, numbers of any siblings? special dietary needs? Diabetic? etc.
- People bring their voucher to the nearest satellite/food bank centre where it can be redeemed for three days' emergency food. Also, they are made aware of further support agencies, e.g. Citizens Advice, grants and funding opportunities...

Our vision is to end the need for food banks in the UK. No one chooses to go to a food bank, but someone is looking at their empty shelves and wondering how they'll eat today.

Food banks are struggling to keep up with current level of need.

Your support is vital to help keep our food bank going.

Together we can make a real difference!

 **Flintshire
Foodbank**
Together with Trussell

Shelves are looking very empty at the local foodbank...



All Saints Church News – July 2026

- **Sunday, 5th July at 9.30am – All Age Service** with a LEGO challenge for the children. Refreshments will be served after the service.
 - **Sunday, 5th July 2.00-4.00pm – Strawberry Tea in Church.** Come and enjoy tea, a scone with strawberries and a chat all for £6.00.
Marcus and Sue have kindly offered to bring along old photographs and information about our village before any of the new developments took place. It's another chance to look at their village memorabilia as some people missed it last year
 - **Sunday, 12th July at 9.30am – Holy Communion**
 - **Wednesday, 15th July at 10.30am – Coffee Morning** when the names of the July winners of the 100 Club will be drawn. Everyone is very welcome.
 - **Sunday, 19th July at 9.30am – Holy Communion**
 - **Sunday, 19th July From 12.30pm – Parish Picnic and Pet Blessing** at Dodleston on St. John's field, next to St. Mary's church. Bring a picnic. There will be a raffle, a cake stall and also crafts for sale.
 - **Sunday, 25th July at 9.30am – Holy Communion**
- Keep the Date**
- **Thursday, 13th August – Summer Lunch at All Saints Church.**
 More information to follow.

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME!



Fancy a free guided walk this summer?

Gwella's seasonal walking programme is already well underway, helping people get outdoors, meet others and enjoy local routes in a friendly, supported setting.

There are still free guided walks coming up, leading into their Saturday community walk at Loggerheads Country Park on 11 July.

Upcoming walks include:

- Friday 3 July: Nercwys Forest
- Friday 10 July: Pontblyddyn
- Saturday 11 July: Loggerheads Country Park

The Loggerheads walk takes place from 10am to 11.30am, with registration from 9.30am near the café area. The route is around 5 to 6K, with optional shorter and longer routes available. Families are welcome, and dogs can join but must remain on a lead. A completed health questionnaire is required before attending any walk. Paper copies will be available on the day.

The walks are open to everyone, but booking is essential. To book, call or visit your local Gwella Leisure Centre.



News from Higher Kinnerton WI

We had an interesting open meeting in June with a number of visitors swelling our numbers. John Roberts told us of more places that we may not of heard about in North Wales.

On July 2nd our speaker is Mal Ingram talking about creatures of a wildlife and beyond, this is a normal meeting open to all women.



If you are not sure if W.I. is for you, you can attend 2 meetings as a guest before joining. W.I. Is much more than a monthly meeting, we organise walks, trips and theatre visits. There are opportunities to organise sub-groups within our W.I.



Kinnerton W.I. will be celebrating 74 years in October and we could do with some new members to carry it forward. There are many young members around the country and very active groups, we would love Kinnerton to continue for many years to come.

On a wider note W.I. has many opportunities to access on line learning experiences from fitness classes to a wide choice of lectures, craft events, a course on learning British Sign

Language most of which are free to members. We also attend several events organised by our federation, Tai Chi, Quiz, meetings with top class speakers.

If you have an interest or hobby or subject you would like to tell us about please contact me on 07712439538 we are always excited to learn.

Higher Kinnerton Walking Group News

Not the best weather for walking but as someone said 'no such thing as bad weather just inappropriate clothing'. Our walk to Rhos-on-Sea was swapped to a circular walk from Honey's Cafe in Caergwle, which we all enjoyed.

In July we are going to Hilbre Island on the train from Penyffordd but on the second Thursday as the tide is not favourable for the first Thursday.

If you would like to join us, then please get in touch. Ring Brian 07983 494235.



Can you help secure the future of Kinnerton Cubs?

1st Kinnerton Cubs is looking for new people to join its volunteer team and help keep this valued local group running. Cubs gives children aged 8 to 10½ the chance to make friends, build confidence, learn practical skills and enjoy activities such as games, outdoor adventures, camps and community projects.

Our biggest need is for someone who may be willing to take on, or work towards, a leadership role. However, we also need people who can help in smaller ways. That might mean supporting a meeting once or twice a month, helping with activities, lending a hand on trips or camps, or assisting behind the scenes.

You do not need previous Scouting experience, and you would not be expected to do everything alone. Training, safeguarding checks and support from the wider Scout Group are provided.

Without new volunteers, including someone able to help lead the section, there is a real possibility that Cubs could face closure in the future. With the right support from the community, we can keep Cubs open and make sure local children continue to have a place to belong, learn and have fun.

Whether you could lead, help regularly or simply give a little time when you can, we would love to hear from you. For an informal, no-obligation chat, please contact: kinnertonscouts@gmail.com



Our enthusiastic Cubs during their recent litter-pick session around the village.

Don't give up hope if your post goes missing...

Our son Paul Edwards from Chester ordered a copy of Mother and Baby magazine while his daughter was 18 months old and his son due in 3 months time.

The parcel didn't arrive until early June. Paul was awaiting a letter from publishers about his new books and was surprised when this parcel dropped through the letterbox in a torn and battered condition 19 YEARS LATE. Attached was a message from Royal Mail apologising for any inconvenience caused".

Paul's children who are now 18 and 20 and at University think the delay is bizarre but are more interested in the social media frenzy.

Paul had put a post on X and had 1.5 million views and about 60,000 likes. The story was in most newspapers and on TV news and he gave an interview to Radio Merseyside.

A spokesman for Royal Mail said "once an item is in the postal system, then it will be delivered to the address". Paul said "common sense would say put it in the bin rather than deliver after 19 years".

By Margie Edwards



Higher Kinnerton Cinema – July Screening

Our monthly film screening this month will be **'Hoppers' [PG]** and will be shown on Wednesday 29th July 2026 in the Village Hall.

A 19-year-old animal lover uses technology that places her consciousness into a robotic beaver to uncover mysteries within the animal world beyond.

Doors open at 6.30 p.m. with the film starting at 7.00 p.m.

Tickets are available for £3 for adults and £2 for children. Cash or card accepted on the door.



94%

Tomatometer



93%

Popcornmeter



**Congratulations to
Walters Coffee House
on their recent 5-star rating!**



Higher Kinnerton Community Council

Your Community Councillors are:

- Josh Swash - Chair
- Peter Cottam - Vice Chair
- Dewi Jones - Clerk
- Mike Allport
- Martin King
- Carroll Nugent
- Joe Cooper
- Fallon Turrissi
- Klaus Armstrong-Braun

If you would like to contact the Community Council, please email contact@higherkinnerton.org.uk

BLUE JAY THEATRE SCHOOL

🎭 SUMMER DRAMA CLUB 2026 🎭

Join the ultimate holiday drama club!

📅 **Dates:** Monday 17th – Saturday 22nd August

📍 **Location:** Higher Kinnerton Scout Hut

👤 **Ages:** 8–16

💰 **Cost:** Just **£25 per day**

Boost your child's confidence while they enjoy singing, dancing, and acting in a fun, supportive environment. The week ends with a **fantastic live showcase** performance for friends and family!

FREE T-SHIRT
for every child!

Spaces are limited – Book Now!

Contact **Jordan Barnes**
Performing and Production Arts Specialist

07717 119393

Sibling discounts available

Led by
JORDAN BARNES

News from the Volunteer Group

The volunteer Group have been out and about in the village, tidying up the borders and rockery and planting summer bedding in the planters. Thank you too for all the plant donations—they really cheer up the village green spaces!



If you would like to get involved with volunteering around the village, please contact Ian Fleming on 07734 218738. There is always plenty of watering to do this time of year!!!



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**Higher Kinnerton
Community Council**

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newsletter@higherkinnerton.org.uk

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. The publication of an advertisement does not constitute endorsement by HKCC of the advertiser, its products or services.