



KINGSLEY
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

KINGSLEY NEWS

DECEMBER 2020



The news and voice of your village Community

Kingsley Community Association is a Registered Charity

KINGSLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS 2019/2020

Chairman	Elizabeth Batey	788788
Vice Chairman	Steve Easton	788050
Treasurer	Simon Batey	788788
Kingsley News Editor	Elizabeth Wilson	787678
Kingsley News Accounts	Julie Mort	
Secretary	Heather Hayes	788494
Booking Secretary	Heather Hayes	788494

(Available from 12.30-7.30pm)

COUNCIL MEMBERS (elected)

Carol Rowlands, Vic Wodhams

COUNCIL MEMBERS (not elected)

One representative from each of the affiliated groups and clubs (NB. This is a condition of affiliation)

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PARISH COUNCIL

Contact: The Parish Clerk
Email: parish.clerk@kingsleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Mailing address: The Boardroom, Hollow Lane, Kingsley, WA6 8EF
Mobile: 0074 3157679
The Parish Clerk will be available at the following times:
Every Friday of the month between 09.00 and 15.00

Articles for the magazine to be sent to the Editor

By email to: kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com

Tel: 01928 787678

Copy deadline is the 21st of each month

www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk

Editorial News and Views

Dear Readers,

Kingsley News is on its way back!

I last wrote an editorial for the Kingsley News in April 2011. My opening sentence then was, 'it seemed to me that March could not make up its mind whether it was in like a lion or out like a lamb this year'. Nine years later, I can say with certainty that March 2020 came in like a lion. This has been a year of living differently: a year that has presented many difficulties and challenges for us all.

The production of Kingsley News has always relied on the support of volunteers who have edited, printed, collated and distributed it, month in, month out. The manual collation of the magazine was halted by Covid-19, with many volunteers understandably cautious about the health risks of working closely together. Speaking for the KCA Committee, I thank you all most sincerely for all the work that you have done on our behalf over the years.

This issue has been produced with machinery that automates much of the production process. It is still a process that relies on volunteers, as do all of the activities organised in and around the Community Centre. This edition, and every edition, is not put together by magic. For 13 years the editor, Elizabeth Wilson, has compiled the Kingsley News that has been distributed throughout our community, be it by hard copy or online. Thank you Elizabeth.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been the backdrop to the new building work that has taken place at the Community Centre. The extension that has been built adds more space that will accommodate more activities and it also improves our ability to put on theatrical and concert productions – whether from our own (award winning) Kingsley Players, or the visiting productions we enjoy from Cheshire Rural Touring Arts and others. You will read in this issue of the progress of this enterprise, from start to finish!

KCA is a charity. It is not funded by the council, but is sustained by those volunteers in our community who help to organise and put on the events and the activities at the Centre that furnish our income. The Community Association is run by Kingsley people for Kingsley people. Will you join us? Please email me, embatey@msn.com, if you would like to become involved in our community network. Again, in April 2011 I commented that, 'Kingsley is a thriving community, friendly and welcoming'. That is as true today as ever it was. Please, get involved. You will enjoy it!

In April 2011 I ended my editorial by wishing our readers a Happy and Joyful Easter. In these uncertain times, my sincere wish is that 2021 may bring, for all of us, a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Elizabeth M. Batey

Chairman, Kingsley Community Association



Kingsley Players are Back on Stage with Two One Act Plays!

(Socially distanced auditorium seating)

After a year away due to Covid, Kingsley Players are hoping to be back on stage again in January 2021, with a double bill of two individual one act plays staged over two weeks.

Award-winning writer/director Lynn Pegler will be premiering **Alice's Quest for Wonderland: Down the Rabbit Hole with Lewis Carroll**. This new play for adults explores the fact behind the fiction of enigmatic Daresbury author, Lewis Carroll, and one of the most popular characters in English Literature. Discover more about his fascinating double life and relationship with the real Alice. Performed by James Partington, Matt Jones and Lynn Pegler **at Kingsley Community Centre, Friday 29 – Sunday 31 January 2021.**

The following week, versatile actors Neil Silcock and Sue Elliott take on 14 character roles in **TWO**, a bitter sweet comedy by Jim Cartwright. Directed by Tom Hayes, the one act play offers an insight into the 1980s working-class pub culture of northern Britain, expressing how pubs in the 80s were a powerful source of community, just as they are now! Meet your Landlord and Landlady as they guide you through an evening of antics at your local. As the lager continues to flow, the customers just keep coming in. Although as the last order bell rings, the problems underpinning our hosts' relationship are revealed...

On stage at Kingsley Community Centre, Thu 4 – Sat 6 February.

Full Covid risk assessments have taken place and all seating will be socially distanced. Limited number of pre-bookable tickets available. Each performance will last about an hour, with no interval.

For up to date information, please check website www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk.

Box office opens early January. Tel no 07724 892154.

We look forward to welcoming you back!

Pastoral Letter from Rev'd David

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends

While listening to the news these past few days it has been good to hear of recent positive steps with regard to vaccines and the possibility of vaccinations starting (slowly) over the next couple of months. Yet one of the aspects that has been quite interesting (at least to me) within this, is the issue of trust, trust in the Government, in the science and in the distribution systems. Last night reporters were inferring that the Government would be beginning a campaign shortly to encourage people to have the vaccinations, with the advertisement and information specifically endorsing the efficacy and safety of the vaccine(s) available. Across the pond in the US, and with a month having gone by since the election, President Trump earlier this week took to Facebook in a 45 minutes "speech to the people" (it cannot be considered a press conference, as the press were not invited) readdressing his claims of fraud, election rigging and a takeover of the presidency by ill gain. His comments, and the lack of denial or affirmation of these by other prominent officials within the White House staff, led to violence on the streets in the State of Georgia, and election officials to have death threats made against them. Trust is a powerful and important aspect of society, it can shift and shape community, as what we choose to trust in can have serious effects on our behaviour, and our mindset towards others. As Christians we are called to place our trust in the God who journeys with us and to recognise that trust is something held not in vain.

Advent is a time for us to remember what it is we trust in, that trust we have in the God who loved us enough to come into our world. The trust we place in the truth of the Gospel and the message of reconciliation found within it. We choose to call our trust, Faith, yet faith is that trust in something even when the evidence is slim or insubstantial. This year has been a tough year upon our faith, with the normalities of our discipleship shifting and the opportunities to reassure one another of the evidence we have of our experiences of the God love reduced too. For some of us our faith is built up around our activities, not just coming to church for worship, but the serving and living out of the Gospel we partake in. Yet, as we journey through Advent, I hope that its familiar and yet astounding stories continue to encourage us to hold on faithfully to the God who will not let us go, nor give up on us. Whether we gain through words of scripture, advent carols, though memories of years past or through a meeting of friends in passing, I pray that our faith might be strengthened this season, and the actions of our faith resonate within our communities as others glimpse the Kingdom through God's interaction with us and His world.

I am aware that I have missed a couple of significant moments recently, most notable was the golden wedding of Chris and David Critchley. We give thanks for their life and ministry together, and pray for them as they celebrate in this different time.

I am also aware of so many in our community grieving, or facing that difficult time ahead, and trust in the God who journeys with us, event in the darkest of valleys. My prayers are with you, as I know are so many others within our communities.

As always, I am profoundly grateful for the way in which you faithfully support and share the love of God with one another. Thank you for your ministry to one another, I look forward to a time when we can once again be with one another, yet until then, your supporting of one another continues that nature of fellowship we each need so very much.

With every blessing, David

KINGSLEY PARISH COUNCIL - December 2020

Like most people reading this edition of Kingsley News, it is like welcoming back a friend !!we haven't seen for nearly 12 months. The pandemic has affected us all, in our health and well being and in many cases our financial well being. We have also had to adapt our lives in so many ways and with the news at the start of December, at least there is a glimmer of light on the horizon.

In line with both Government and our advisory bodies, Kingsley Parish Council moved in May, to "virtual" monthly Parish Council meetings via Zoom, and indeed these still continue until such time it is deemed safe for us to return to a "normal" meeting. Any resident is welcome to join the meetings, please email the Parish Clerk for a Zoom link.

During this period we have seen the departure of our very experienced Parish Clerk due to personal reasons, relocation to Shropshire and significant family health issues. We wish her well in her future. Consequently, we have a vacancy for a new Parish Clerk; currently we have a Locum Clerk helping us through this period of transition. We also have a number of vacancies for Parish Councillors which remain unfilled from earlier this year, and expressions of interest and applications with a brief CV, from any interested parties should be emailed to parish.clerk@kingsleyparishcouncil.org.uk

At the November council meeting we received a brief update from Torus (the developer) and CWaC Housing Officer, on the Higher Heyes development. It would appear that the development will be complete by May / June 2021, but the properties will be actively marketed from January 2021. The first 10 weeks of marketing will be aimed solely at Kingsley and Kingsley residents, family of residents, people with connections to Kingsley including those working in Kingsley. After this time the properties will be marketed to a wider area around Kingsley and then ultimately to Cheshire as a whole. Properties will be offered as "affordable homes" i.e. shared ownership at a discount price with an initial 25% equity ownership and this can be increased to 75% ownership over agreed stages. Torus will retain 20% interest in the properties and the development will remain "affordable housing" in perpetuity. Anyone wishing to downsize, or, enter the housing market, should contact Torus or CWaC with expressions of interest. At present we were advised that there were four expressions of interest. (for more details of the process and how priority is determined see the update on the Kingsley Parish Council website)

On a more general note, those observant members of the community may have noticed our new flagpole outside the Parish Council office at the Boardroom in the cemetery grounds. It is intended to fly national flags on appropriate occasions. We are pleased to have placed a scaled down Christmas tree on the raised ground outside the school, the lights are back at The Brow and on the Co-op.

We would also like to mention our two schools who participated in virtual story telling as part of the Christmas in Frodsham virtual events. They were all excellent stories, thank you children you are wonderful ambassadors for Kingsley. And finally, we would like to congratulate Kingsley Youth Players (part of Kingsley Players) on the £500 grant awarded to them following their application to the Council under the Community Grant Scheme that was announced earlier this year.

We are looking forward to 2021 as we are sure all of you are; and may the Chair and all the Councillors wish all the residents of Kingsley a very Happy Christmas and a very Happy, Peaceful and healthy New Year.

Kingsley Parish Council

Kingsley Walkers – keeping busy during lock down

Kingsley Walkers have been meeting twice a month for more than 30 years. Every Christmas we meet for a walk followed by lunch and gentle encouragement to get people to volunteer to lead a walk at least once over the next 12 months. Generally we manage to fill the Meets Programme by January and we go on to enjoy a variety of walks researched and reccecd by members. Until 2020.

We were due to walk the day after lock down so that was cancelled. For a while everything was quiet although the footpaths around Kingsley were busy with people "taking exercise". Finally in August restrictions were lifted a bit and we set off from the Leigh Arms for a walk to Barnton along the canal, returning along the Weaver. It was great to be back. Since then we've managed to get out at least once a month, depending on the advice in force at the time. We have taken our lead from the Ramblers in deciding on what to do.

We expect that it will be a few months before we get back to a planned meets programme. Our walk on December 22nd will be across the old Runcorn bridge and along the towpath – restrictions permitting. If you'd like to join us this or any of our walks, please give me a call and I'll add you to the mailing list. Our short walks are about 2.5 hours followed by lunch in a pub and the long walks are a full day of between 7 and 9 miles with a packed lunch.

Vony Gwillim

789098

KINGSLEY NEWS

As you may have already read, this is the first edition of Kingsley News produced with our shiny new all in one printer, collator, stapler. It was also produced by two less new and shiny people who have never done anything like this before, so please be kind to our first attempt. If you have any suggestions then please get in touch. Better still if you have any expertise in this type of thing then PLEASE get in touch.

If you fancy getting involved then let us know, maybe we can improve and make changes as we produce future editions.

Thanks

Mike and Simon

Tel 788125, jenandbutty@yahoo.co.uk

St John the Evangelist (Kingsley)

Advent is a season in the church calendar when we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ child, it starts on Advent Sunday 29th November and takes us right up to Christmas Day. It's a time of preparation but also a time to watch and wait and pray for the coming of the light into the world. We long for the day when the things of darkness – selfishness and greed – suffering and oppression – shall be no more. We wait not only for a child in a manger but for the man on a mission he became.

Here in our villages of Norley, Crowton, Kingsley, Alvanley and Manley we are also preparing to welcome our new vicar Ron Iveson in the New Year. Ron sends this message for us all.

Christmas Night to the chaos of the cacophony of noise coming from the children's room, we shout out, 'I don't want to hear another word!' and slowly the children shrink beneath their covers and pretend to sleep as Christmas Eve fades into Christmas morning!

Words spoken too soon too easily become platitudes and meaningless mummings. Yet the last word of a loved one is precious beyond compare. O for one more word! Words are ever powerful pointers of emotion. Words speak to us of the deeper reality to which they point. Words make us who we are; form us before we are born in the womb; the words of the mother talking to her child has a deep impact on the psyche, and words spoken in early years harm or heal in ways that can last a lifetime.

Christmas starts with a word. St John says, 'In the beginning was.....THE WORD'. This personal word was with God and was God. This word was not just an idea or philosophy, or way of life but an event in history. And this WORD became flesh.....God the Son became a human being.

In COVID times we know the power of words, perhaps that is all we can express when we cannot be together, words of love, of longing, of desire for togetherness. The Christmas word is one of togetherness, a word that came to us, this word, who is Jesus, Immanuel, God with us. When we truly listen and hear deeply, the word of love speaks for itself. That is the WORD, the word of life, the word of love, the everlasting word, that lives today and calls us today to hear his voice, the voice that makes us his very own.

Looking forward to joining you in the New Year and sharing in life together.

Best wishes

Ron

Services

We continue to stream a service every Sunday morning at 10.15am and this can be accessed via the church website www.nck.org.uk and viewed at any time.

Christmas Day Service will be streamed from the church website at 10.15am

We hope to open our churches for Private Prayer during Advent but this will depend on the Government announcement on 2nd Dec. Please refer to the church website for up to date information

Prayer for this month

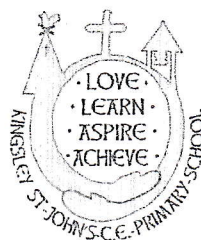
Lord, thank you for seeing us through a very strange year.
As we celebrate the birth of your son Jesus Christ,
may we strive to live at peace with each other.
May your grace shine upon us.
Give us a new revelation of your love
and help us be a light to the world. Amen

With Love and prayers

Rev'd Hilary Merrington – Associate Minister

Website: www.nck.org.uk

KINGSLEY ST JOHN'S CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL



'Believe in the light, whilst you have the light, so that you may become Children of Light.' JOHN 12:36

**Christmas wishes to all in our
community and prayers and hopes
for a positive and joyful 2021**

Places now available in Reception and Nursery. Please call to make an appointment to visit.

Call the school office on 01244 976181



We are the small school with the big heart; At the
heart of Kingsley Village.

Kingsley Bookworms in Lockdown

On March 12th, Kingsley Bookworms met to talk about Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier. It was a normal meeting, well attended with lively discussion about the book. We talked about booking a trip to see Pride and Prejudice at Grosvenor Park and wandered down to the Red Bull. Little did we know that 11 days later we would find ourselves in lock down, discovering the joys of Zoom.

Since then, we have had 8 meetings, 6 on Zoom, one in a garden and one at the Community Centre (wearing masks and sitting a long way from each other). We've also "attended" a couple of literary festivals and shared our lockdown experiences.

We've read a variety of books, some of which were chosen before lockdown, others were chosen with lockdown in mind. Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell was already on our list and turned out to be appropriate to the time. It is set in the time of the Black Death and included a remarkable passage about how the plague spread from a market in Alexandria to Warwickshire. Maggie O'Farrell was speaking at the Hay festival (virtual) so we decided to join the audience. All in all, it was a good book club experience.

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles was recommended to us because it is the story of someone under house arrest in The Metropol Hotel in Moscow, sentenced in 1922. We thoroughly enjoyed this book. It was entertaining, we loved the characterisation and, above all, the central character had a positive attitude. We was under house arrest for 32 years during which time the political scene in Moscow changed a lot.

Other books that we read included American Dirt by Jannine Cummings (controversial, thought provoking), Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver (not her best), Stoner by John Williams (good read), On Chapel Sands by Laura Cumming (over hyped?), Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (our all-time favourite), the Dutch House by Ann Pratchett (quite a story).

At our next meeting we will be talking about Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo.

We continue to meet on the second Thursday of the month. For the foreseeable future we will be meeting on Zoom. Our normal attendance of 8 to 12 people is manageable and even though it's not like being in a room together, it's great to see people faces. As ever, everyone is welcome to join in, just give me a call and I'll add you to the mailing list.

Vony Gwillim

789098

ROOM AT THE TOP

Rooms with kitchen facilities for hire at The Hurst Methodist Chapel

Ideal for children's parties etc. Moderate charges

Contact Brian Moores on 787442



CHRIST CHURCH CROWTON CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY (1871 – 2021)

Crowton's beautiful Victorian parish church will be 150 years old next year and parishioners are planning a major programme of events and fund-raising to mark the special anniversary.

In preparation the church has just been totally re-decorated and there is a plan to install new pew cushions and improve the sound system. Church organisers have also commissioned Chester textile artist Sandra Christie to work with the local community to produce a new decorative collage, inspired by the well-known hymn '*All things bright and beautiful*'.

A year of celebrations started on Sunday 22 November 2020 with a special online commemorative service and will be followed by numerous Christmas festivities and a host of events during 2021, including a pub quiz night, exhibitions, summer fete, gardens open day, school fashion show, harvest supper, choral concert by the William Byrd Singers, a hilarious "Allo Allo" evening with Kingsley Players and performance of a new play '*Alice's Quest for Wonderland: Down the Rabbit Hole with Lewis Carroll*' by local award-winning playwright Lynn Pegler. The new Bishop of Chester Mark Tanner will be guest of honour at a special harvest festival on Sunday 3 October 2021.



Celebrity stardust: Acton Bridge resident Jennifer Saunders married Adrian Edmondson at Christ Church, Crowton, in May 1985!

Dr Anne Davidson Lund, Licensed Lay Reader and vice chair of Crowton Parochial Church Council, said: "Christ Church has been home to a faithful worshipping community in the Church of England for 150 years and we hope to see it continue to fulfil that role for at least another 150.

"As times change there is always a need to review, refurbish and refresh the fabric of the building, to ensure its future safety and suitability. The 150th anniversary offers a great opportunity to update the church interior and celebrate the ministry of the church in Crowton, strengthen relationships within the local community and welcome new visitors.

"It is challenging trying to organise events in the middle of a global pandemic - we are hoping for the best but prepared too to postpone, re-shape or move online as necessary. We step forward in trust and hope!"



Children from Crowton Christ Church pose for a group portrait.

How it all began...

The opening of Christ Church, Crowton in 1871 must have been a huge relief for the local community. Before this the nearest church was in Weaverham and worship together every Sunday would have involved a round trip, on foot or on horseback, of nearly six miles.

The building was designed by the eminent ecclesiastical architect John Loughborough Pearson, who was also responsible for Truro Cathedral (England's first new cathedral after the reformation), Norley's Church of St John the Evangelist (1879) and dozens more beautiful parish churches across Cheshire, Yorkshire and Wales.

Crowton Church is built mainly of red sandstone in the 'gothic revival' style and was funded by tithes from the Weaverham benefice and private subscription.

Calling the faithful to prayer for 15 decades are three bells, named Faith, Hope and Charity, which were donated by the Lascelles family from Norley Bank. They were taken down in 1970 in the interests of safety and restored in 1989 with an automated chiming system.

Over the years there have been a number of additions and improvements to the church, including: the conversion of paraffin lamps to electricity (1935); replacement of solid fuel heating by electric heaters (1936); installation of new choir and clergy stalls (1952); replacement of electric heaters by oil-fired central heating (1971); new electrical wiring and light fittings (1991); and the replacement of the original pipe organ with an electronic model (1993).

For more information about the history of the church, news about anniversary events, to donate to the fund-raising appeal, or to join in the celebrations in other ways, please go to the website: www.crowton150.org.

NEW VICAR APPOINTED

The parishes of St John's, Kingsley, Christ Church, Crowton and St John's, Norley have appointed a new vicar, after a two year vacancy. Rev Canon Ron Iveson, currently Vicar of Bidston on the Wirral, will move into the vicarage in Kingsley in mid-February, and as well as ministering in the three NCK parishes, will also be priest-in-charge in the neighbouring parish of Alvanley and Manley. Dr Lund added: "Our Associate Minister, Rev Hilary Merrington and I are delighted to be welcoming a new incumbent into the benefice during this special anniversary year".



Rev Canon Ron Iveson

The Hurst and Blakelees' churches

They are currently closed for public worship and this will continue throughout the Christmas season, however services are available online as The Hurst and Blakelees offer worship alongside their sister church in Helsby.

Where a service indicates that the public might be present, the worship is being broadcast live from Helsby Methodist Church, Chester Road, Helsby. online worship can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yylqtswf>

Sunday 20th December, 6:30pm - Online Carol service - YouTube

Christmas Eve 24th December, 4pm - Online Christingle Service - YouTube
- packs for the production of Christingles can be ordered from cathclarke.hmc@gmail.com these can be picked up via a socially distanced collection at Helsby Methodist Church on 22nd December (evening) packs of Christmas activities for Children will also be available at the same time when booking.

Christmas Eve 24th December, 9pm - Online "Bethlehem Midnight" Communion Service - Zoom - to book for this zoom service please contact david.bintliff@methodist.org.uk communion packs can be picked up before the event via socially distanced collection at Helsby Methodist Church

Christmas Day 25th December, 10am - Online and in socially distanced service at Helsby Church, Christmas Celebration Service - YouTube - spaces are limited in the worship area

Sunday 27th December, 10:30am - Circuit Carol Service - available at <https://youtube.com/ncmethodist>

With every blessing in this season, all at Blakelees and The Hurst Methodist Churches.

DIARY OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE EXTENSION

Kingsley Community Association is a Charity, run solely by volunteers. It is not funded by either the Parish Council or CWAC Council, and funds itself from hiring out the Centre, running its own events and publishing Kingsley News. It is a not-for-profit organisation.

Readers will have seen that during the Covid-19 pandemic, an extension to the Centre has been built, giving the Centre more meeting room capacity and therefore greater flexibility to take bookings. The extension, which adds around 40m² of space also gives a better capability to put on concerts and theatre productions.

The planning for the extension started long before the Covid-19 pandemic.

September 2018

The KCA Committee recognised that bookings at the Centre had increased significantly over recent years, and that more concerts and theatrical productions could be mounted, with Kingsley Players annual programme being supplemented by productions from Kingsley Youth Theatre and Cheshire Rural Arts.

KCA did not have all the funds to undertake an extension project, but had sufficient funds to demonstrate to potential grant providers that a project could be feasible with grant support.

October 2018

Stuart Begg, of FOB Architecture, offered to produce initial thoughts of what an extension could look like and how it could interact with the existing facilities. The Committee decided to go for an extension running along the side of the hall. This would require the lease of a small amount of additional land from CWAC Council, who are the freeholders of the existing site.

November 2018

CWAC were approached and discussions with Council Officers began in the New Year.

February 2019

CWAC Council Officers indicated that CWAC would support the extension project. However the lease of the small amount of land would be a land disposal by the Council, requiring a public consultation, for which the Council was reviewing its consultation policy. The new lease would have to wait for this consultation policy review to be completed.

April 2019

KCA devised a survey questionnaire to gauge public opinion in the village about the services and facilities provided by the Community Centre, and whether the provision of additional facilities would be welcome. The survey was distributed through the KCA website, through Survey Monkey, and within Kingsley News, distributed to most of the 800 or so households in the village.

May 2019

The results of the survey showed near universal support for the extension project. The survey results were used to support grant applications to the National Lottery Community

Fund and the Village Hall Improvement Fund, run by DEFRA. An application was also made to the Co-op Community Fund for a grant towards a boiler replacement for the Centre's heating system. Neighbours to the Centre were alerted to our proposed extension and the necessary planning application.

June 2019

Detailed applications were made to both DEFRA and National Lottery. Preparation of these applications was an iterative process involving many drafts, covering all aspects of the proposed project. The National Lottery application ended up as a 6000 word document. In addition, an application was made for a grant from Veolia, sourced from Landfill Tax money.

July 2019

Stuart Begg prepared and submitted the planning application and the detailed plans that accompanied it.

CWAC planned to review their consultation policy on land disposals at their July cabinet meeting, but the item was dropped off the agenda post the May elections, and rescheduled for September.

September 2019

CWAC's review of its consultation policy on land disposals was again postponed and delegated to a Committee scheduled to meet in January 2020.

Budget costing was prepared showing costs of c£100,000, including VAT.

Tender drawings prepared and six local contractors approached.

12 months had now passed.....

October 2019

Planning permission received.

November 2019

Grant application made to Tarmac, again to be sourced from Landfill Tax money.

Bids were received from three contractors. Contractors interviewed and detailed tender comparisons worked through to identify the preferred contractor.

December 2019

The Village Hall Improvement Fund awarded a £15000 grant. Payment to be conditional on the CWAC lease being sorted out.

January 2020

CWAC's review of its land disposal consultation was again deferred.

Tarmac will consider a grant application but won't decide at their quarterly meeting until lease is signed.

February 2020

CWAC decide to proceed with public consultation on lease to KCA, with two advertisements being placed in Chester Chronicle.

March 2020

National Lottery Community Fund awarded a £35000 grant, again payment conditional on lease being sorted out.

No responses received to public consultation so new lease can be drafted. Heads of terms for lease agreed with CWAC.

April 2020

CWAC legal department asked to draft lease based on existing lease extended to include additional land needed for extension.

May 2020

Veolia refuse to give grant, because of delay in signing a new lease.

June 2020

Draft lease produced by CWAC after eight weeks, reflecting CWAC's preferred terms, but ignores existing lease rights.

Detailed final refinements to build contract agreed, awaiting lease signing.

July 2020

CWAC finally concede and agree detailed terms reflecting existing lease rights. Lease signed.

Build start agreed for 26 July. Neighbours notified of construction programme.

September 2020

Tarmac quarterly meeting approves £15000 grant award following lease signing.

24 months has now passed....

October 2020

Co-op award £3000 grant reflecting customer support over the last twelve months.

December 2020

Two and a quarter years after the process was begun, the building is complete!

Things have been very quiet since March. We have emailed all members each month, trying to keep in touch and make sure everyone knows that any help they might need is available. We have had two Zoom meetings to which everyone was invited, one of which was our virtual AGM! As we have all been taking our daily exercise many paths have crossed and news exchanged.

The Committee have made contact with all members by phone, and we had many lovely conversations. A Christmas card has been sent to each member together with a copy of the WI Cheshire News.

We are hoping for a better 2021 and hope it won't been too long before we can be meeting again.

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Spring / Summer Plant Sales

This is a very late thank you, but unfortunately we have had no Kingsley News for many months. You will probably remember in the early part of the year, during the first lockdown when all but essential shops were shut, that a number of venues around the village held plant sales (either by honesty box or directly outside their homes).

This is just a big thank you to all who bought or contributed to any of the stalls. The exact totals are unknown, but Higher Hayes raised (we think) around £1000 for Chester Zoo during a very difficult time for them;

Ruby (via Town Well stall with plants, fruits and veg) raised over £1500 for Age UK – she continued selling veg in the Frodsham shop, so overall even more would have been raised; The Hurst Church plant stall raised around £250 for Chester Aid to the Homeless.

Hurst Fundraising for Charity

During the year ending August 2020, members of the Hurst attempted to help support Chester Aid to the Homeless (CATH). Fundraising events were sadly curtailed by the coronavirus pandemic. A total of around £2350 was sent to the Charity through various events throughout the year. Several carloads of clothes, bedding and food (mainly pot noodle, cup a soup and similar things that could be made by just adding hot water – these were described by CATH as being the most useful and popular items) were also delivered. From September 2020, The Hurst will be trying to collect for “Good Company” – obviously the ability to run fund raising events is much limited at this time.

Good Company

Good Company is an adult social group for disabled adults aged 18+ in Cheshire West. It's run by Disability Positive, a charitable organisation, and currently the group receives no local authority funding due to cuts to the social care budget. Any money received through fundraising goes towards paying for venue hire and resources to use with the group, e.g. arts and crafts, sports equipment, refreshments etc.

In normal times, the group meets weekly for activities and social sessions. Previous activities include cinema trips, bowling, arts and crafts, cooking, first aid, self defence, dance classes and sports. There are about 15-20 members of the group who attend on a regular basis. During the current covid situation, the group now meets weekly on Zoom, mostly for social catch ups. They have also recently tried some online activity sessions such as a virtual dance class, a signing lesson taught by one of the talented members and a quiz hosted by another of the members.

Good Company is a lifeline for a lot of members and their families or carers. Members can attend the group unaccompanied by carers, because the staff at the group are fully trained and provide whatever support each member needs - for example personal care, behaviour management, support with managing difficulties such as anxiety, hypersensitivity etc. It's a chance for the members to meet with their friends, have fun, chill out and be part of a community. It also gives the families or carers a break, and many of the families build connections and form a support network for the difficult times.

Some of the members may not have any other social activities in their week and may be very isolated. They provide a regular routine for the members and an opportunity to meet new people in a safe and supported environment. Some may find it difficult to join other groups or to do things independently. At Good Company, everyone is encouraged to be as independent as possible, and part of what they do includes teaching lifeskills, such as cooking, money management, travel training, building relationships, etc.

Some members have very difficult home lives, so an important part of what they do at the group is to check in with those members and provide a listening ear when they're having a hard time. They often can't solve their problems, but it helps for them to have someone to talk to who they trust.

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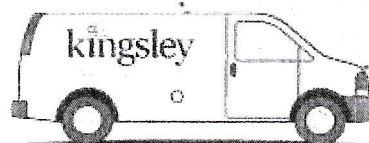
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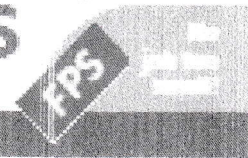


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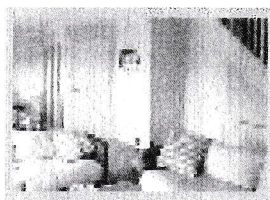
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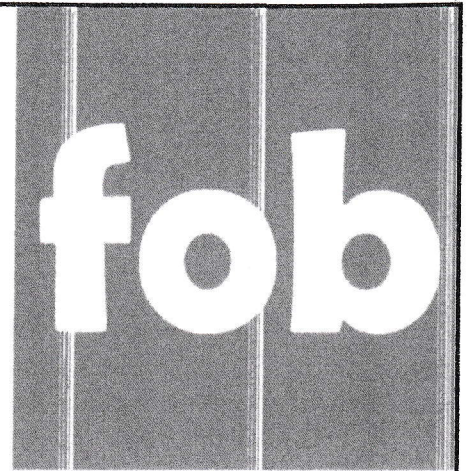
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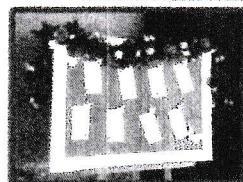
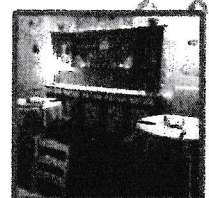
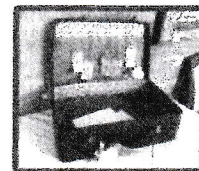
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KINGSLEY GARDEN CLUB

Welcome back Kingsley News, we have missed you. Well what a year! We hope and trust that all our members and indeed all Kingsley residents have survived the Lock-downs 1 & 2, Tiers 2 and all other restrictions that we lost track of what we should and should not have been doing.

It would not surprise any of you that we had to cancel our remaining talks and meetings in the 2019/20 programme and our meetings to date in the 2020/21 programme. At this time no decision has been made on what will happen when the programme recommences in February 2021. Whilst there is good news with the vaccines on the horizon for 2021, it is doubtful that we will all have been vaccinated by February, or indeed before the summer, to give any confidence for people to meet up indoors once more for talks.

The Committee will continue to review the programme and the Government advice and restrictions, as well as the vaccination programme and advise all our members when we deem it safe to open again for a socially distanced meeting.

You will have been aware of the various stalls that were outside Val Boote's house on Well Lane this summer, the Garden Club had a "bring and swap" stall and Ruth had a charity sales stall. We had hoped to have stall in the village as part of the May VE Day celebrations, but with the restrictions in place this had to be cancelled. We are looking forward to 2021, a New Year and hopefully at some time in that year something getting back to a more "normal" life as we can.

May the Committee wish all our members and all our residents a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year, please stay safe, observe the guidelines and we will all meet again at sometime in 2021.

Some jobs for you to be doing.....

Rake your lawn of leaves and either collect and compost or put them on the borders.

Group potted plants together in a sheltered spot for the winter

Protect your bigger tender plants in pots with fleece and bubble wrap

Leave some of those seed heads for the birds and don't forget to keep topping up the feeders.

Get the seed catalogues out and start buying those seeds ready for a nice early start in 2021

Winter prune your Wisteria and climbing roses.

Clean your greenhouse glass if you haven't done so and squeeze every bit of natural light you can out of these short days for the plants you are protecting in there.

Lift and store your dahlia tubers before they rot in this damp weather.

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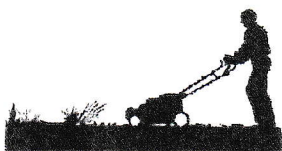
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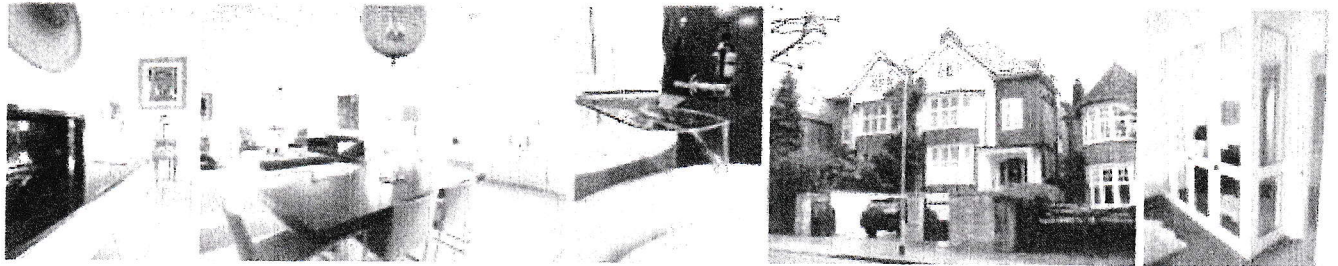
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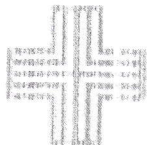
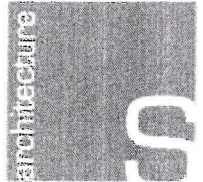
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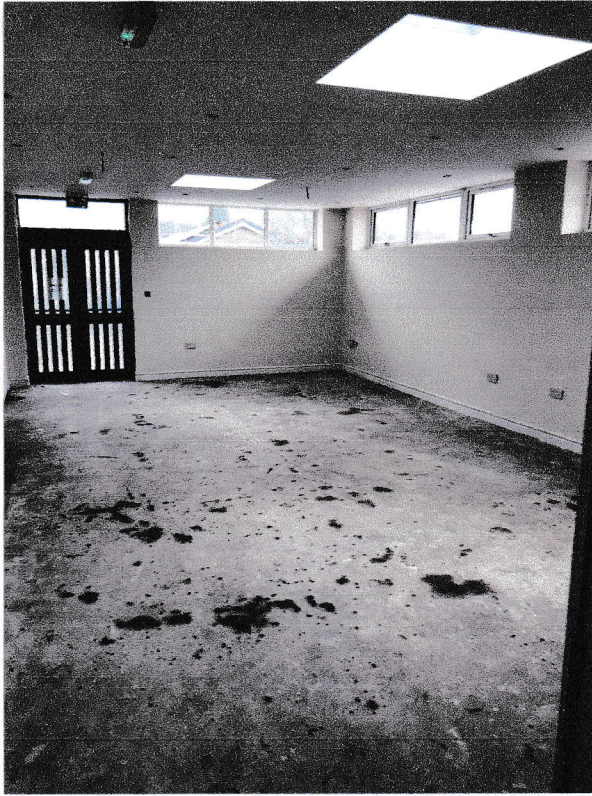
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