



Kinver Climate Action Group

Minutes of the Meeting on 22 May 2025

Present:

Steve Anderson, Eunice Lord, Kate Byford, Kathryn Clark, Peter Barber, Nick Pearson, James Bundred, Phil Jones

1. Apologies

Lindsey Davis, Christine Allen, Sally Harris, Dan Howard

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were passed as a true record.

3. Kinver Connections

Alistair Crisp of Sustrans gave an update of their “Kinver Connections” project (provisional title). This aims to provide a safe walking/cycling route between Kinver and Stourbridge. Sustrans support it because it would provide the ‘missing link’ on their Route 45. The route is planned to include a ‘spur’ into Kinver High Street. Sustrans support would require compliance with their standards, e.g. mobility-friendliness. The project relates well with connecting/ complementary projects by Dudley council (e.g. GeoTrails, and their Active Travel projects) and the National Trust (Sandscapes); they are keen, and may provide funding. Sustrans have applied for funding for a feasibility study, to explore costs and practicalities such as crossing the A449 safely. Alistair described the Sustrans approach, involving detailed discussions and involvement with decision making by local people, and cited a current project at Bilbrook.

It was agreed that the KCAG is supportive of the project, because it would provide a safe route for Kinver people getting into the conurbation, as well as visitors coming to Kinver, thereby reducing car use and increasing active travel. An article in the next issue of Kinver News, airing the idea and asking for views, was agreed.

Action: PJ : article for next K News

4. Programme of talks/activities

- **Building with Straw Bales:** 19 June: **PJ**

This is booked, first ads are out. It was agreed that Salli (our speaker) would speak first, after a brief introduction; followed by a short piece from Phil about his straw bale home office; and a few words from Steve about his family’s ‘mud house’.

Action: DH to put out as an ‘Event’ to gather expressions of interest
EL to display poster at May market

- **Will a heat pump work for my home?** 23 October (**PJ/EL**)

A speaker (Bean Beanland) is booked. He’s done a series of podcasts which are well worth a look: <https://www.youtube.com/@happyheatpumpodcast> . Kath Tunnicliffe and NP (who both have heat pumps installed) have helped provide a set of questions for Bean to cover.

- **Reducing and Managing Our Waste:** or similar **EL:** Talk by G Wall, Waste Savvy Staffs

Action: EL. Fix date (Sept?) and title.

- **Sustainable food** or similar: **SA** : Possible contacts: Vale Farm; Harper Adams University eg for carbon footprints.
Action: SA: Set up speaker and topic, for late autumn/winter
- **Roundhill Digester visit:**
Action: NP, PB to pursue

Committee meeting dates: It was agreed to normally only have meetings in months when we are not having a public talk / event; and to move these to the first Thursday of the month to avoid clashes with the Horticultural Society

Action: EL to change room bookings

- **Crowle Community Solar:** It was agreed to invite a representative from Crowle to a KCAG committee meeting to tell us about their Community Solar Scheme
Action: NP invite speaker/ fix

5. Market Stall 30 May

We are trialling collecting goods in collaboration with SCC Care Leavers Hub, for leavers setting up home for the first time. It was agreed we should increase promotional use of the market stall eg with a quiz on carbon footprints; asking what people might want more info on; map of recycling points; take-back schemes on electrics; repair cafes; events.

Staffing: LD, KC (am, from 9.30); **SA** (pm and set down); **EL** (gazebo & displays; van)

6. Home Energy MOT

This scheme has stopped for the season and will restart in the autumn. A feedback survey has been launched. The Methodist Church Hall had its Energy Audit this month, pro bono by Craig Clark - results awaited.

Action: EL to complete survey and report to funders by end June

7. Finance

The account at Metro Bank is working well; Kate will register with them as Finance Officer / signatory next week.

Action: KB/EL

8. AOB.

Phil reported that he and Dan were pursuing the possibility of a 'Bike Bus' – once a week convoy of children, parents and other volunteers biking to school with optional coffee afterwards. This works well in Worcester.

9. Dates of next meetings

NB the default committee meeting date has been changed to the first Thursday of the month from September, to avoid overlap with the Horticultural Society meetings.

19 June: Building with Straw Bales . Talk by Salli Gosling. 7 pm, Senior Citizens club, Kinver

24 July: Committee meeting, 7pm, Con Club

August no meeting

4 Sept: Skip the Tip: Public Talk by Gemma Wall, Waste Savvy Staffs, on local initiatives to cut waste while helping local people and the environment.