



# Kinver Climate Action Group

## Minutes of the Meeting on 2 October 2025

### Present:

Eunice Lord, Christine Allen, Kathryn Clark, Peter Barber, James Bundred, Phil Jones, Amanda Coffey, Steve Watt, Nick Pearson, Cate Waymouth

New member Cate Waymouth was welcomed to the meeting.

### 1. Apologies

Steve Anderson, Sally Harris, Lindsey Davies, Kate Byford, Yvone Beran, Andy Hughes

### 2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the July meeting were passed as a true record. The August meeting was a talk on *Skip the Tip* by Gemma Wall of Waste Savvy Staffs.

### 3. Community Solar Options: group update (NP, PJ)

NP reported on the discussion with Steve Bott of Crowle Community Energy. He had recommended we go for grants for feasibility studies as soon as possible. Their first study concluded solar PV was viable but the maximum size they could connect was 250kWp.

£40k is available from Midlands Net Zero Hub for first stage feasibility studies, with £100k grants for follow-up including planning, connectivity, finance etc. Issues of connectivity cost; financial management; and battery storage were raised.

It was **agreed** that we actively pursue options, with a group currently comprising NP, PJ and EL. Whatsapp **KinverEnergy Group**

**Action:** CA to pursue National Grid contacts re size of array and cost of connection

### 4. River Stour: Great UK Water Blitz, Outfall Safari, and future (AC)

At the Great UK Water Blitz, 7 points were sampled, as usual the Smestow showed highest levels of P, most sampling points had levels high enough to damage river ecology. Results were posted, see map at <https://www.freshwaterwatch.org/pages/explore-our-data>.

AC updated on positive collaboration with local groups, including with Severn Rivers Trust aiming to store our monitoring data on their system for public access. An Outfall Safari led by Severn Trent had come across red ochre, not usually present, and of unknown origin which she has reported to the EA. Regular sampling of our section of the Stour catchment, for N and P, is being organised with volunteers.

The problem of Himalayan Balsam and other invasive species was raised, and possible support from any Local Nature Recovery Plan. However our LNRS is still in development, and is a legal framework rather than obligation. Our LNRS welcomes info from groups involved in nature projects, see <https://www.staffsandstokeLNRS.co.uk>.

Current River group members: AC, YB, AH, CA, EL, SA plus new recruits Trevor Fletcher and more. Whatsapp **KinverRivers**

## 5. Staffs Climate Commission and Climate Action Plan for Kinver

EL reported being invited to join the Staffs Climate Commission, which brings together councillors, public sector employees, and members of other bodies to progress cutting carbon emissions by sharing info and experience. There was no other representation from South Staffordshire. Sustainability West Midlands are members, they produced the Sustainability Roadmap to 2030 for the Combined Authority; so are Moorlands Climate Action who are innovative and active.

EL proposed that KCAG draft a Climate Action Plan for Kinver Parish, building on experience of SCC members and others, to put before KPC. EL, CA, PJ and JB agreed to progress.

**Action: EL** to send round example Climate Action Plans and Kinver CAP draft.

## 6. Programme of talks/activities:

6 Nov : Will a heat pump work for my home? (PJ). All booked.

**Action: All:** Share fb posts about future events including this one to websites you know, including neighbouring areas

4 Dec: Xmas get-together with food, tbc.

**Action: CA/EL** confirm arrangements Xmas get-together

## 7. Home Energy MOT: campaign 2025/6 (EL)

The new campaign will be starting this autumn. EL called for volunteers, the commitment can be fitted to people's availability. An ad for the service has been placed in Kinver News. New member Cate W is doing a degree project on insulating narrowboats – using our thermal camera to help.

**Whatsapp : KCAG MOT**, currently active CA, JB, SW, NP, PB, Cate W (from Feb)

**Action: All:** Consider volunteering for visits, which are normally joint, and in the morning.

## 8. Kinver Connections (PJ)

PJ updated on the Kinver Connections consortium: National Trust are very keen to increase biodiversity of sandscapes, and the proposed route via Whittington would lend itself to that. Biodiversity Net Gain money could be used to facilitate, e.g by carrying out the work then marketing it as off-site BNG.

**Action: PJ** to submit an article on Kinver Connections to Kinver News.

## 9. Next meetings

6 Nov : Will a heat pump work for my home? (PJ). Senior citizens, 7pm

4 Dec: Xmas get-together with food, tbc.

8 Jan: Next meeting, 7pm, Kinver Constitutional Club (NB NOT New Year's Day!)