

Welcome to the winter edition of the Kimpton Parish Newsletter, which is the fourth edition and marks the end of our first year of publication. The aim of the Parish Council when starting the newsletter was to keep you informed about local news, provide council updates and publicise upcoming events and community initiatives. We hope you feel that we have been successful in that, and that you feel a bit more informed than you were back in January.

As well as the decision on Local Government Reorganisation, see article overleaf, 2026 will bring us the final version of the TVBC proposed Local Plan, ahead of it being submitted for review by the Planning Inspectorate. Despite our comments, the plan is still expected to include proposals which, if implemented, will bring major changes to the parish and the area over the coming years. All comments submitted next year will be reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate, so it is vital we all make our views known. For now though, we wish a Happy Christmas to everyone in the Parish, we hope you all enjoy the festive season.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Housing at Ludgershall

North of A342

Everyone in the parish was sent a consultation survey by Bloor Homes asking for your opinion on their proposals to build 400 homes on land north of the A342, just outside Ludgershall. We hope that you took this opportunity to provide them with your feedback on the proposals.

As we understand it, they plan to submit a formal planning application in early 2026 and if that is granted, building is then to start later that year or in 2027. Bloor have indicated that a development of this size may take up to five years to complete.

South of A342

The other proposal for housing at Ludgershall is for a development across the Wiltshire border, starting at Empress Way, Ludgershall and finishing on land south of the A342 south of Andover Lane, this is policy NA8 in the TVBC proposed Local Plan which some of you may have seen. The development would be served by a new access road from the A342 over the railway line.

Master Land & Planning, who are representatives of the developers of the entire site, have indicated they will attend the next Parish Council meeting on 26th January to introduce themselves, their client and provide details of the project including indicative timelines.

We will confirm their attendance when publishing the agenda for the meeting on the village noticeboards and our website, which we will do by 20th January.

Neighbourhood and Community Planning

Whilst having a Neighbourhood Plan would not have prevented the TVBC proposals to allocate large areas of land in our parish for housing, having one may help in the following scenarios:

- Influencing the design of future housing developments in our parish
- Providing us with some defence against speculative planning proposals in other areas of our parish

The creation of a plan relies on collaboration between the Parish Council and their community, to understand what is most important to us all and to identify priorities to be included in any future plan.

If you would like to be part of a team looking at what might be included in the plan, and then working towards putting a plan in place, please contact our Parish Clerk or any Councillor to find out more.

Village Green Christmas Tree

The Parish Council will again be arranging for a Christmas Tree to be put in place on The Green. It will be in place in time for the traditional "Carols on The Green" on Wednesday 17th December at 6pm.



LOCAL EVENTS

KIMPTON COFFEE MORNINGS

First Friday of each month

Time: 10am - 12 noon, at the Village Hall

Meet your neighbours to have a chat and a catch up over a coffee/tea and homemade cake!



In aid of the Village Hall repairs
Friday 16th January

7pm £3 Per Person

Cash Bar available

Bring your own nibbles

Teams of 4 or more, 8 max

Limited tables available

Call Andy Roberts 07787 571094

Sue Michalczyk 07985 517751

Kimpton Village WhatsApp Group

There is a Kimpton Village WhatsApp group which offers villagers an easy way to keep in touch and share community news. If you would like to be added to the group, please message Sue Michalczyk on 07985517751 or Niall MacGinnis on 07590808565

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR LATEST NEWS. NEXT ISSUE: SPRING 2026

NEW YEAR, VOLUNTEER!

Volunteering Opportunities

Since the last issue, we are pleased to report that we have had one new volunteer who will help with recovery and clearance in an emergency situation. We still need more volunteers for that role, if you think you would be able to help please let us know.

This, and all the opportunities to help our community, can be found under the Volunteering tab on our website. Some of the areas we need help with are: **Community Speedwatch, Neighbourhood Planning, Supporting the Community in an Emergency** and **Community Maintenance**.

Over the next few issues of this newsletter, we are going to highlight specific roles which it would be really good to fill. We are starting with the vacant **Parish Councillor** role.

Parish Councillors serve on the Parish Council, which is the first tier of local government. Councillors work collectively to support the community, including the following:

- Local amenities - in our case that's the Village Green and the playing field
- Planning - that has included our work in publicising and providing feedback on the proposed TVBC Local Plan and Councillors review every planning application for work in the parish, commenting as necessary
- Road Safety - the Parish Council purchased the Speed Indicator Device which, from the graphs we published in our last issue, show that average speeds on Deacon Road have reduced. Councillors are currently discussing other traffic calming measures which might be deployed in the future

The Parish Council should have six Councillors but currently there are only five. If you would like to help influence the future of our community, in any of the areas above, or in other areas in which we are not currently active, please contact the Parish Clerk or any of the Councillors to find out more.

Local Government Reorganisation

The government has now opened the consultation period on the options proposed for Local Government Reorganisation across Hampshire. In case you were not aware, the reorganisation will mean that from April 2028, Hampshire County Council and all of the District Councils in Hampshire will cease to exist and will be replaced by new Unitary Authorities who will deliver all services in their area. The consultation period is open now and closes on 11 January 2026. There are four proposals and you can have your say on them by completing the online survey on the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government website. The website has a very long address so we have published it in the Latest News section of our website. Please take this opportunity to give your feedback on the proposals.

Christmas & New Year Bin Collections

In case the note attached to your bins has gone missing, the revised Bin Collection dates for the Christmas period, and information on seasonal recycling, can be found at: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/seasonalinformation>. Food waste collections will continue to be weekly, but will change in line with the revised collection schedule over the Christmas period. Garden waste collections will not take place between Monday 22 December 2025 & Saturday 3 January 2026.



Measuring the depth of the Pillhill Brook

If you have walked along Water Lane recently, you might have noticed this marker board in the Pillhill Brook. Have you wondered what it is for? Well, it is one of nine measuring points along the Brook which the Pillhill Brook Association are using to create a flow map of the Brook. You can see the first results on the Brook Levels page on their website www.pillhillbrook.org.uk, under the Groundwater tab.

Remembrance Service

St Peter & Paul's Church was well attended on Remembrance Sunday, when the annual Service of Remembrance for those who have given their lives for our country, was held. The Service was led by former Kimpton resident Michael Roberts, and a wreath was laid at our village memorial in the North Transept of the Church during the service.



Parish Council Meetings:

The Parish Council meets in the Village Hall at 7pm, 9 times a year, in January, March, April, May, June, July, September, October and November. We warmly invite you to come along, share your thoughts and be part of the conversation that helps guide our future. We look forward to seeing you there.

26th January | 30th March | 27th April
2026

Church Service Times:

17th December, 6pm
Carols on The Green
19th December, 6pm
Carol Concert
21st December, 9:15am
Holy Communion
Christmas Eve, 5:30pm
Crib Service
Christmas Day, 9am
Christmas Holy Communion
18th January & 15th February, 9.15am

Flood Advice

As winter and another groundwater season approach, do be aware that although the work Southern Water undertook in 2024 will prevent rising groundwater from entering sewers, rising ground water could still affect your property.

Please take a look at the Flooding page under the Emergencies tab on our website, where you will find links to advice on protecting yourself and your property, and if you do have a watercourse running through your land, guidance on how to maintain it.