#### SUMMER FAIR 15TH JULY 2017

You know it's summer when the Summer Fair is on at Kingsmead Primary School, Saturday 15th July 2017, 1-4pm

Come and meet us at the Fair where we are, by popular demand, sponsoring a climbing wall.

The Northwich Neighbourhood Police will be there to invisibly mark cycles, so bring your kids' bikes along and safeguard your property.

Lots of food, drink, fun and stalls by the KFA and school...



Stop press... after 20 years, we are investing in a new clock tower mechanism! A new noticeboard with space for community notices will also soon be available in Kingsmead Square.

#### 2016 / 17 SPEND HIGHLIGHTS

Precept of £132,228, budget of £209,001 (difference met from reserves). An average cost of £74.83 per property per year. £35,582 spent on essential tree works, £58,920 on routine grounds maintenance. Play area improvements £22,966. Considerable works on culverts and ponds, totalling £49,112. £1,890 on play area inspections to keep children safe. Budget of £6,000 for Christmas lights and trees agreed, spent £4,376. Administration and office costs kept to a minimum at £3,659 against a budget of £9,057.

#### 2017 / 18 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Precept set of £134,873 (increase of 2.3% on 2016), budget of £183,513. Budget for admin and office costs has been reduced to £6,515. Council resolved to enrol all eligible employees (Clerk) into the Cheshire Pension Fund.

A thorough review of the Grounds Maintenance Contract and considerable amount of tree work enabled us to reduce the overall budget for maintenance.

Improvements to Duke's Way play area are imminent—£20,000.

#### CONTACT US

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# June 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to our latest newsletter and hopefully we are enjoying some sun!

Our current land maintenance contract expired in March 2017, and a considerable amount of effort was made to ensure the new contract covered all maintained areas of the Parish. The contract was awarded to Lawtons for a period of 3 years on fixed price terms.

The 20mph zones have been extended from Monarch Drive to now cover St. George's Way, Moor Park Way and all roads off. It would be satisfying to see more people volunteering to join the Speed Watch group that currently covers Monarch Drive.

It's may seem a long time until December, but reserve Friday 1<sup>st</sup> in your diaries for the Christmas Lights Switchon in the square. The Barnton Silver Band will be back, as will the Kingsmead School Band. Also, plenty of mince pies and festive stalls from local businesses.

Finally, I would like to thank Brian Done and Jim Millar who have retired from the Council after giving freely of their time and experience. We welcome Lynne Williams and Steve Chappell to the committee.

Have a great summer!

# We've been busy...

## **Parks**

### Get involved

#### **Ponds**

We now have an annual maintenance plan for our ponds, managed by specialists. You will have noticed, for example, previous work near Coronet Avenue, Duke's Way and Moor Park Way ponds is well on the way to restoring them to their former glory.

#### Wildlife

We also hope you like the new duck houses and bird boxes. In continuing to improve the open spaces, we wanted to upgrade our feathered friends. We have created a genuine 'love nest', with our first set of ducklings seen heading out of the Duke's Way pond residence last month.

Also, check out the pond near Coronet Avenue which is rich with wildlife.



Tell us what you think—email the Parish Clerk and share your views.

### **Capesthorne Close**

We have recently updated the park at Capesthorne Close with new trim trail equipment. The feedback from residents has been really positive, and we hope children will get lots of enjoyment from this park.



# Duke's Way 2

We have agreed a new design for the park at the bottom of Duke's Way. The refit will start at the end of June and will positively transform this area for the play season. We will be replacing the current play unit and fitting some trim trail items for younger children (toddler +). We are also containing the park within railings.

#### Where next?

We have conducted an online survey regarding the small park on Burwardsley Way. Children do use this park, and residents would like to see it updated. Consequently, this park is scheduled for renovation during 2018.

Please be aware that there are 9 parks within Kingsmead Parish, 5 of which are aimed at younger children and toddlers. Get out this summer and enjoy them!

### **Gardening Competition**

Calling all keen gardeners! The first Kingsmead Parish Council Best-Kept Garden Competition!

There will be a winner for each of the following categories:

- BEST Traditional Garden (lawn, borders, roses, bedding plants, etc.)
- BEST Modern Garden (landscaped, external room, features)
- BEST Wildlife or Ecological Garden (growing veg, ponds, wildflowers, ecology)

#### **Details:**

- Winners of each category will receive £100 in gardening vouchers
- Overall winner will receive a trophy
- Open to any household in Kingsmead Parish (exc. Parish Councillors and their families). Kingsmead Parish includes Royal Gardens, parts of London Road and the new Hill Top Grange development.
- One entry per household; minimum age of entrant must be 18 years old.
- Households wishing to enter should email, write to or phone our Parish Clerk (using the contact details on this newsletter) by 1st July 2017 with name / address / telephone number / front or backgarden or both / category entered

The competition will be judged independently between 2nd—14th July 2017, with the winners to be announced at Kingmead Primary Summer Fair on 15th July 2017. Good luck!!!