

Kings Worthy Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 16 January 2012
at Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road, Kings Worthy**

Present: Councillors: Sarah White [Chairman]; Malcolm Prince [Vice-Chairman], Kirstie Andrew-Power, Bob Barnes; Terry Bohle, Ian Gordon, Mandy Hallisey, and Judith Steventon Baker

HCC; Cllr Jackie Porter
WCC: Cllr Jane Rutter

Clerk: Colin Arnett

Public: 5

PC/12/01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Sign and Welstead.

PC/12/02 Public Question Time

Andy Salter shared with councillors his concerns regarding the state of a tree on the Kim Bishop Walk banking which backs onto his garden in Legion Lane. He circulated photographs of the tree. He is keen to purchase a 5 metre strip of our land which includes the tree which he will then attend to at his own expense. Members referred the matter to the P&H Committee for a detailed examination.

Elaine Fullaway asked if she could attend the Youth Liaison Meeting on the 25 January 2012. Cllr White indicated that she would be welcomed.

PC/12/03 Reports from Police/County Councillor/City Councillor/School Governor/Parish Councillors

- **Police** – no report. *[Post meeting note – a report was received after the meeting and circulated to members – copy attached]*

It was agreed that a meeting with the police should be scheduled towards the end of January.

- **County Councillor** – Jackie Porter presented her report for January. She highlighted the shortfall in primary school places and urged the PC to respond to the draft School Places Plan. With regard to Barton Farm members confirmed that they wished the P&H Committee to be closely involved.

PC/12/03 Reports from Police/County Councillor/City Councillor/School Governor/Parish Councillors cont.

- **County Councillor cont.** - She also indicated that HCC were to shortly undertake a feasibility study into the Church Lane/Bedfield Lane highway changes and that the 30mph for Springvale Road would be included in the programme next year.

The press reports regarding the incorporation of Abbots Worthy into the Itchen Valley PC were inaccurate and were not initiated by her. Cllr White asked the clerk to circulate the letter that had been delivered to the residents of Abbots Worthy on behalf of the PC.

Action – the clerk

Cllr Prince expressed his concerns regarding the need for Parish Councils to be of sufficient size [population] to ensure the expanding role associated with localism can be effectively achieved.

- **City Councillor** – Jane Rutter presented the report from herself and Robert Johnston [copy attached]. She highlighted the need for internet access for parishioners in the KWCC, particularly those bidding for social housing. Members agreed to investigate the feasibility. **Action – the clerk**

It has been proposed that a Community Forum be established for Barton Farm. Members welcomed the suggestion. However Cllr Gordon expressed his concerns regarding the mixed messages which were coming from WCC councillors and officers. Members also supported the comments on the Community Lettings Plan, the Ramsay Road “hole” and the Broadview Finger Posts. Cllr Steven Baker indicated that TACT had been promoting “homes for local residents” for several years. Cllr Gordon is to seek assistance from Cllr Welstead, who has some expertise on Health & Safety matters, regarding the “hole”.

Cllr Hallisey shared with Jane the complaints which she had received regarding the bus service. These centred on delays, cancellations and extra charges for boarding the bus at the start of its circuit of the village.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would send a letter to the appropriate authority adding our voice to the request for a reliable regular service which is not currently always the case. **Action – Cllr White**

- **Parish Plan** – Cllr Prince indicated that the plan had now been completed. The clerk was asked to circulate copies to members. **Action – the clerk**
- **School Governor’s Report** – Sarah White had resigned as a school governor. Cllr Gordon had agreed to take her place. He had yet to attend a meeting, so he had nothing to report.

Cllrs White and Prince had attended a meeting with the Headteacher regarding the school travel plan and the Olympic torch relay.

- **School Governor's Report cont.** Members unanimously supported the suggestion of a path across Eversley Park to help ease the parking at the school by vehicles using the car park at Eversley Park and also with the view to making the park more accessible to all users. Members agreed that this should be referred to the R&A Committee with a target completion date of September 2012. **Action – the clerk**

A meeting had been scheduled with WCC to discuss the Olympic Torch Relay on the 19 January 2012. The Headteacher has been invited as we wish to involve as many children as possible in the event.

PC/12/04 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 21 November 2011

The minutes were agreed as a true record and were signed by Cllr White.

PC/12/05 Matters arising from the Minutes of 21 November 2011

None

PC/12/06 To receive the Minutes of the Sub-Committees:

The Minutes of the following Committees were received and discussed.

- **Planning and Highways Committee 29 November 2011**

Cllr Gordon presented the minutes.

Members had supported the application to construct five dwellings at Lynden Edinburgh Road. They had objected to the development at 138 Springvale Road as they had concerns regarding the site layout and the design of the access road. The Enforcement Notices received from WCC had included 70 Fraser Road and 1 Elizabeth Close.

- **Recreation and Amenities Committee 5 January 2012**

Cllr White used the new dashboard screen presentation.

Members approved the expenditure of £1705 for the repairs to the Eversley Park Children's Playground.

She also shared with members the complaint which had been received regarding the positioning of the new notice board at Eversley Park.

- **Finance Committee 11 January 2012**

Cllr Prince also used the new dashboard presentation.

He shared with members the income and expenditure for the period ending the 31 December 2011.

PC/12/07 Community Communications

Cllrs White and Andrew-Power are compiling the next newsletter for publication in February. Members suggested several items which could be included.

Communications Team A of Cllrs White, Sign and Welstead would do this month's communications to be followed by Cllrs Barnes and Bohle who will compose the monthly communications bulletin for the following two months.

PC/12/08 Website

No further progress to report.

PC/12/09 Parish Olympic 2012/Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Cllrs Barnes and Bohle circulated drawings of two options for the obelisk to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. Members preferred the option without the brass banding. This would be some 4ft high with an estimated cost of £2K. Members agreed to the idea from Cllr Andrew-Power that voting boxes be installed in local shops for parishioners to select a location.

Action – Cllrs Bohle & Hallisey

Cllr Barnes agreed to obtain samples of granite colours for consideration.

Action – Cllr Barnes

Cllr Steventon Baker is to attend a meeting of the PCC to discuss their arrangements for the Queen's Jubilee. Members agreed that they would consider a grant towards the costs of a beacon and would be prepared to serve Pimms at the event.

PC/12/10 Keep Britain Tidy "Love where you Live" Campaign

Cllr Andrew-Power is drafting a paper which she will circulate to members.

Cllr Hallisey shared with members an example of such an activity, whereby a parishioner had tidied the green area between Fryers Close and Mountbatten Place.

Cllr Andrew-Power is to circulate possible dates for the next litter-pick.

Action – Cllr Andrew-Power

PC/12/11 Budget 2012-13

Members approved the budget for 2012-12 and ratified the decision not to increase the precept.

PC/12/12 Inter-Council Communications

Members agreed that the new dashboard presentations were working well and would hopefully reduce any time over-run on PC meetings.

PC/12/12 Inter-Council Communications cont.

Cllr White reported that the chairman’s group meetings were being scheduled on a monthly basis after the Finance Committee meeting.

PC/12/13 Clerk’s Notices

- **WSSC 40th Anniversary** – a notice had been received advertising this event on the 21 January 2012.

PC/12/14 Chairman’s Notices

None

PC/12/15 Any Other Business

- **KW Youth Club Meeting – 16 February 2012**– Cllr Steventon Baker expressed her concerns that “graffiti painting” was included in the activities. Members agreed that this was a term describing an art form.

PC/12/16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was arranged for 7.30 on the 20 February 2012.

The meeting closed at 10.24 pm.

Signed

Dated

Report for Kingsworthy Parish Council Meeting 16th January 2012.

17/11 & 26/11 - Report of off road bikes on Hookpit Farm Lane
18/11 - Theft of wing mirror Forbes Road
26/11 - Report of nuisance youths in recreation ground
27/11 - Report of off road bikes on Hookpit Farm Lane
29/11 - Suspicious vehicle enquiring about scrap metal at premises
29/11 - Nuisance youths in recreation ground
1/12 - Suspicious male on Fraser Road
3/12 & 4/12 - Report of off road bikes on Hookpit Farm Lane
5/12 - Nuisance youths in play park on Fraser Road
7/12 & 11/12 - Report of off road bikes on Hookpit Farm Lane
8/12 - Theft of horse feed and bin
13/12 - Theft of moped light
16/12 - Nuisance youths in Fraser Road
Btwn 16/12 & 19/12 youths in school grounds, chalk drawings and smashed fruit left behind
29/12 - Report of youths playing knock and run on doors
29/12 & 5/1 - Suspicious vehicle seen asking for scrap metal
6/1 - Male selling garden furniture door to door
6/1 - nuisance youths Fraser Road
Btwn 1/1 & 6/1 - garage break, nothing taken
9/1 - Bull Farm, suspicious tractor seen removing silage bales, tractor not belonging to farmer
15/1 - Report of off road bikes on Hookpit Farm Lane

Beat Surgery was held on 14th January. Next Beat Surgery is on Saturday 10th March 2012 between 15.45 and 16.45 at Tubbs Hall.

We have carried out several operations in the area in the last 2 months to combat off roaders and bikes. Any vehicle registrations given to us by villagers are followed up either by letter or in person.

No other issues to report.

Also, as of 9th January myself and Don are now based out of Alresford Police Station, not North Walls. Don has also now taken on responsibility for Hursley, Otterbourne and Compton. We hope this will not impact on our response times or the coverage you receive, we are hoping as always to provide a very visible presence, and deal with issues that arise as normal. If you have any queries or questions please contact us.

Kerry and Don.

County Councillor's Monthly Report for Parishes for January 2012

Happy New Year!

I hope that the lack of snow continues into 2012: but if the weather turns bad, please go to my website for the **daily weather alert updates** from the Director for Environment, Transport and Roads. These reports are issued to County Councillors at around 5pm every day when the snow is threatened. If you prefer, I can send these *direct* to councillors (and others) who send me an email to jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk heading SNOW. I am putting the reports on to my website www.jackieporter.mycouncillor.org.uk for your information too.

Primary school places are at a premium at the moment. The reality is that for residents moving into the area mid-year, it is often difficult to find places at the same school for siblings. Families who live at the edge of a catchment area and parents who want their child to be at an out of catchment school for childcare reasons, for example, may not get their first choice. This is a real problem in rural areas where catchment areas are larger, and an obvious second choice of school is unclear. The County has received some money from Government (just under £8m) for building new schools to cope with the increased demand right across Hampshire, but it isn't enough to cover the places needed even in the Winchester district. A new 2 form entry primary school costs £7m, and a 1000 place secondary school costs around £30m, excluding land. Academies and Free school provision complicates the picture too.

There is a draft School Places Plan 2011 - 2015 out for consultation. As a local Council you may even have a representative Governor at your local school. Please take the opportunity to debate whether your Council wishes to make a response to this consultation: a good, local school is what most parents seek for their children, and you can help to make that point in your response. The link is: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places>. Please send comments to ian.lawson@hants.gov.uk by **31 March 2012**.

Footways (i.e. paths alongside roads, or metalled paths between areas) are most likely to be HCC responsibility. With the Operation Restore for Roads programme, the footways have not taken priority for several years now, but a number are in poor condition. Please report any faults on www.fixmystreet.com or report on the hants website under 'report a road problem' or call 0845 603 5633. If you think it is a real hazard, it is worth using the word 'dangerous' in your report: risk assessment requires a faster response. (Or if there are gaps where you *need* a footway, you are welcome to request this direct too but it may be worth talking, initially, to me)

Lighting: in particular, maintenance. I have had reports that the complaints procedure for failed lights isn't as good as it was pre PFI. I have taken this up at HCC who awarded the contract.

Lit Signs are in use in several villages now, but due to the maternity leave of the HCC officer, and the staffing cuts, the programme stalled in 2011. But new paperwork has been sent to all four villages in the next tranche at the beginning of January, so we hope to make some progress now.

The agreement for Barton Farm MDA by WCC has implications for HCC matters too: highways, and education, public transport are three of the issues to be tackled. If you think the decision will affect your Parish and want to be involved in any discussions, please let me know.

Finally, **HCC and the New Forest and South Downs National Park authorities are putting out a pre application Bid Document for Public Transport.** It describes the way forward for a Public bus service to serve tourists and residents alike. This is extremely interesting because it mirrors my proposal to the SDNPA in autumn 2011 when we were trying to improve village bus services. If it is relevant to your communities, **please respond as individuals and the Parish to the Draft Plan by 27th Jan 2012.** The link is:

<http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/looking-after/partnership-working/local-sustainable-transport-fund-bid>

City Councillors' Report to the Kings Worthy Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16th January 2012

Worthys Festival 2013

The initial meeting of the Steering Group for the 2013 Worthys Festival is this Wednesday, 18th January. An enthusiastic and well-attended AGM led to new recruits for the organising committee and lots of fresh ideas so Jane is looking forward to a positive meeting. All members of the Parish Council, whether Steering Group members or not, are welcome to come along to the meeting, which is at 7.30pm in the Worthies Sports & Social Club.

Internet access to WCC - support for families in Kings Worthy

Following feedback from local residents, it is clear that there is a need for the provision of access to an internet link for people who are trying to bid for social housing through WCC but have no internet at home. Currently they have to try to bid over the phone, which is time consuming and ineffective, or to walk or catch the bus (unaffordable for some) into Winchester to access the public internet point at the council offices or at the library. Would there be any possibility, if your local councillors can find suitable equipment, of providing internet access in the parish office a couple of times a week, during office hours when they can be supervised by the clerks? We feel this would be a very valuable service for those families in the village who are struggling in the current economic climate.

Barton Farm

At the WCC meeting at the end of year the Local Development Framework for the District was discussed. The meeting was a long one (ended at 2.30am), and at times heated. At the centre of the debate was the requirement for Winchester District to provide 11,000 new homes over the next fifteen years. Key to the Conservatives' plans was the agreement to allow development on Barton Farm, opening the way for Cala Homes' re-submitted planning application for 2,000 homes there to be accepted, subject to the normal planning considerations.

Your City Councillors both voted against this proposal, principally challenging the numbers of houses required, and Jane spoke against various aspects of the proposal. However, an apparent Tory three-line whip and the support of Independents and the Labour councillor meant that the Conservatives' proposals were passed. Jackie, Robert and Jane are looking at the County Council's proposals for traffic management which were produced in response to the last Cala application – we are very concerned that there should be local intervention at the earliest possible time to ensure that local roads are not turned into race tracks but that local traffic is prioritised and roads wherever possible 'ruralised'.

A local Community Forum is being proposed which will include all local representatives and parish councils to discuss any proposals which come forward for Barton Farm and ensure that local residents' views are put forward. We will keep you informed about any developments.

Community Lettings Plans

Jane has been a member of an informal Scrutiny Group of WCC for the past four months, looking at the council's lettings policy for social housing. She was particularly concerned that there was no apparent mechanism, with the exception of 'rural exception sites', for local people to be prioritised in the allocation of local housing. This has led to families and young mothers being separated from their support networks of family and friends, causing hardship and in some cases extra costs to the public purse, when a single mother was unable to work because she was moved too far from family who could offer child care. The ISG's report will recommend that the Council adopt a new policy of 'Community Lettings Plans', where, in certain circumstances and fitting strict criteria, up to 50% of all new homes in a relevant development may be prioritised for allocation to people with a local connection. It is hoped that this new policy will also encourage fewer objections to any new developments of social housing, if local residents are confident that the housing will offer a realistic chance of housing more local people.

Ramsay Road Hole

We both have been concerned for some time that the unfinished works in Ramsay Road are a safety hazard. The problem with this is that from the planning and building control perspective it represents work in progress and does not breach any regulations. We have both been approached by concerned residents and the Health and Safety Executive have been less than helpful. We would be interested in the views of the Parish Council in a joint approach to the Health and Safety Executive in Basingstoke to make them aware of the safety issues. If the project is to continue in limbo, the applicant should be made to construct a secure fence that is both safe and in keeping with the residential area it is in.

Broadview Finger Post

We have been approached by residents regarding the finger post at Broadview. I have spoken with Colin Arnett and am fully aware that the developer needs to complete the S106 agreement that also includes some other unfinished items from the development in Lovedon Lane. We are aware that Mr Dunbar Dempsey is dealing with the applicant and would like to know if the Council are aware of when the builder will fully comply with the S106 agreement. Alternatively would you like your City Councillors help to expedite this matter?

Cllrs Jane Rutter and Robert Johnston
13.1.2012