

VILLAGE NEWS

SPRING 2006



THERE'S NOTHING TO DO IN KINGS WORTHY!

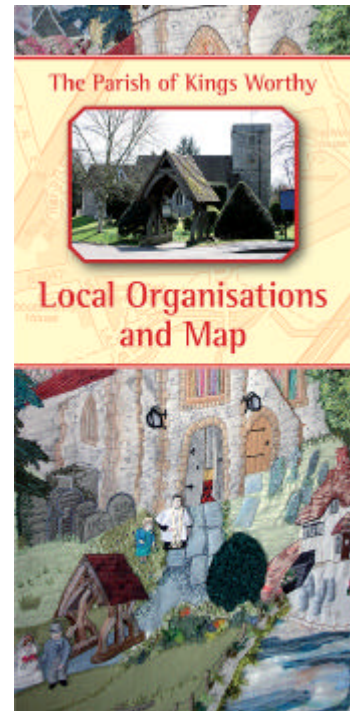
For those who think this, help is on its way!

Your Parish Council has co-funded a project with St. Mary's Church which has resulted in an attractive, illustrated, leaflet listing nearly 30 organisations that are active in the village. There is a brief description of each organisation, with details of where and when they meet and whom to contact.

The information is displayed around a detailed street map of the village which shows the location of pubs, post offices, churches, the doctor's surgery and so on.

A copy of this leaflet should be coming through your letterbox shortly – please don't bin it as it could be very useful to you!

Please let us know what you think of it. Contact details for the Parish Office are on the back of this newsletter.



CALLING ALL BUDDING JOURNALISTS

If you read the Hampshire Chronicle regularly, you may have noticed that there hasn't been any reporting of activities within Kings Worthy for a long time. We've spoken to the Chronicle about this and they've reassured us that they have nothing against the village!

Years ago, they used to send a reporter to each and every Parish Council meeting but this is no longer financially viable for them. They've asked us if we can nominate someone in the village to be our correspondent for the Chronicle.

So, if you've ever had a burning desire to write for a newspaper, now's your chance! (There is a small payment for doing this but don't think about retiring on it).

Please contact the Parish Office if you're interested or you want more information. We will pass your details to the Chronicle and they will decide if you're suitable to do the job.

We'd really appreciate if someone came forward to do this - we poor councillors don't have the time...

IN THIS ISSUE

THERE'S NOTHING TO DO IN KINGS WORTHY!

CALLING ALL BUDDING JOURNALISTS

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

'ELLO, 'ELLO, 'ELLO

KEEPING A WATCHFUL EYE

YOUR VIEWS

WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH!

OOPS...

COUNCIL NEWS

DIARY

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

At the March Recreation & Amenities (R&A) Committee meeting, there was a presentation from Esther Grabham, the Community Children's Worker, on her work in Kings Worthy. Esther has been in post since July 2005 and is involved in various areas of youth work. A major part of her work is at the Kings Worthy Youth Club. The club meets on Tuesday evenings at the Lionel Tubbs Hall between 5.30–7.30pm for young people in years 6,7 and 8, and 7.45–9.45pm for young people in years 9, 10 and 11.

Esther is also involved in the St. Mary's Church youth group *Youth Active*. The group meets on the first Sunday evening of the month and is for young people at secondary school. Their activities include chill-out evenings, trips, film nights, discussion around Christianity and other topics relevant to young people. A Youth Active weekend may take place in July this year.

The other major piece of work Esther is working on is the *Floodzone* Holiday Club. The theme of this club is the story of Noah's ark. It will take place from Tuesday 8 August – Saturday 12 August 2006 (10:00am – 12:15pm) and is for children and young people aged between 6–11 years.

As if all this was not enough in the 20 hours Esther works in the village each week, she also hopes to get involved with supporting the curriculum around substance misuse and R.E in Kings Worthy Primary School. Esther's presentation left all the councillors on the R&A both impressed and exhausted, she is so enthusiastic about her work!

She is looking for volunteers to help with *Floodzone* so please get in touch with her if you can spare some time. You can also contact her to register your child for the club or to get a programme for any other of Esther's activities. We hope she will find lots of support for her work within the village and wish her good luck with her activities.

Phone: 07854459696

Email: esther.winchester.ymca@btconnect.com



'ELLO, 'ELLO, 'ELLO

In March, there was a meeting about the reorganisation of Hampshire Constabulary within the Winchester District - one of the parish councillors attended and reported back to the Council.

- Policing in the district will remain largely unchanged after the reorganisation.
- A new initiative was launched on May 15 - a phone number to report non-emergency problems, such as anti-social behaviour, abandoned cars and noise nuisance. This new number is **101** and the cost of a call will be no more than 10 pence. For emergencies, the usual **999** number remains the same. You can also contact Hampshire Police on **0845 045 45 45** for other enquiries. You will be put through to the local station - for Kings Worthy, this is Alresford.

A leaflet on the reorganisation is available from the Parish Office or from any local police station. You can also find out more on the Hampshire Police web site - <http://www.hampshire.police.uk/>

KEEPING A WATCHful eye...

The Kings Worthy Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, Rob Fellowes, is short of local co-ordinators in the following roads:

Cundell Way, Haydn Close, Vale Way, Willis Way, Firs Crescent; Lynn Way, Friars Close, Kings Close and Boyne Rise.

If you are interested in volunteering or even if you just want to find out more about Neighbourhood Watch and what it involves, please contact the Parish Office (number and email on the back page) and they will pass your details on to Rob.

YOUR VIEWS ~ OUR THANKS

In previous issues of this newsletter, we've asked for your views on what we're doing, what we've done and, more importantly, what you think we're not doing that we should! We've had loads of feedback from many residents and we'd like to say a big "thank you" to all those who have spared the time to respond. We've replied directly to everyone who has contacted us - some of the suggestions and comments received have been acted on and some are still in hand. These are some of the most popular issues we've had feedback on:

The hedge beside Church Green a.k.a. Peeks Field – the overwhelming view was that this should go. However, we have agreed to allow the oak trees to be planted behind the existing hedge to establish over several seasons before removing the hedge and roots, possibly Autumn 2008.

Eversley Park:

Toilets – we agree these are a disgrace. We have paid for their refurbishment and also for regular cleaning. Unfortunately, they have been vandalised again and are in a sorry state once more. In future they will only be unlocked when football matches are played - this means they will be closed throughout the summer.

The Pavilion – this has been vandalised several times recently and some people who use it leave broken glass. Many of the parish councillors are regularly in the park and are well aware of the problem. The area is frequently cleared both by councillors and the Parish Council handyman. The Police have increased their patrols. We understand that some residents know who is responsible for the damage – if so, they have a duty to report this to the Police direct or anonymously through Crimestoppers (0800 555 111).

Dog walk - the dog bin is not well sited so we have asked for it to be moved to a better location. We are also hoping to extend the dog walk. Sadly, some owners think that as it's a dog walk they don't need to clear up after their dogs – we can assure them they do AND NO ONE ELSE!

Graffiti around the Kings Worthy Centre - this seems to be associated with nearby building work with its ready supply of chalk so we hope this will stop when the work finishes. In the mean time, we shall continue to remove it. Please direct your anger at those who do the graffiti not at those who try to clean it up.

Nations Hill bus shelter – this has been a problem for years. We have spent £100s of your money in replacing the glass only for it to be vandalised within days. We have recently authorised its refurbishment using steel panels at a cost of approx £1000.

Parking problems near the school – this is a big problem for a short time each weekday when school begins and ends. The Police have been asked to contact the school and residents who are most affected by this. Parents are asked to show consideration and not park across drives and cause obstruction.

Speed of traffic along Springvale Road - we are compiling a factual article for the next newsletter and will continue to talk to both WCC, HCC and the Police about this. Funding priority seems to be given to areas with existing high accident rates.

We have received a lot of positive comments about what the Parish Council is doing in the village and we are very pleased that some residents think we are doing a good job. However, we don't think this means we can pat ourselves on the back and do nothing more. We are committed to working for the village and its residents and to providing equipment and facilities for the enjoyment of all and we will continue doing this.

We've taken an amount of abuse from some residents recently, so we'd like you to bear a few things in mind. Firstly, *we're* not responsible for the graffiti, the vandalism, the litter and the dog mess. Secondly, we have a large area to look after and a limited budget. Finally, the parish councillors are all volunteers - we don't get paid for doing the work and we give up our own time for council duties. We do our very best but we're not perfect - we can't do everything and we can't be everywhere.

Please continue to give us your comments - they make a lot of difference to what we do!

What a load of rubbish!

Winchester City Council has recently finished trialling Alternate Weekly Collections (AWCs) of rubbish and recycling in specific areas, including part of Kings Worthy. The scheme will now be rolled out over the entire district and will affect Kings Worthy from October 2006.

This means that household rubbish will be collected one week and recycling the following week. WCC is also introducing a new service - free collection of green garden waste in the same week as recycling.

WCC will be providing information about the new arrangements during the summer. As well as leaflets coming through your letterbox, there will be roadshows held in the village and a telephone hot line to advise residents. The Council will arrange for a waste advisor to visit you in your home if you need.

Why is the Council doing this? Firstly, the Government has set statutory targets that each local authority must meet—without implementing AWCs, WCC will not meet these targets. Secondly, the amount of waste produced within the area cannot be disposed of without building new landfill facilities and there is no space to do this. Thirdly, the EU will impose financial penalties on the Government if targets are not met - these will be passed on to householders and businesses through direct or indirect taxation.

If you want to find out more about this new scheme, there is a lot of information on the WCC web site at <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/> under Waste and Recycling. Alternatively you can call the Environment Team on 840222 or the Parish Office on 884150.

OOPS... Sorry - we made a couple of mistakes in a previous issue. In the article "Hedging your bets" (Summer 2005) on what to do if you have a problem with a neighbour's high hedge, the Enforcement Team's number was given as 959289 - it is, in fact, **848388**. We also said that the fee for pursuing a complaint was £100 for residents on any kind of state benefit - *it is only for those on council tax and housing benefit*. We apologise for any confusion we may have caused!

COUNCIL NEWS

All the Parish Councillors had to stand for re-election this year. Only 9 of the current councillors returned nomination papers to Winchester City Council and so, as there are 12 seats on the Council, all these councillors were elected without contest.

We are allowed to co-opt 3 councillors to fill the remaining places - look out for notices on the Community Centre door and on the parish notice boards.

If you are interested in filling one of the vacant places, please contact the Parish Office and you will be told if you are eligible to stand. If you'd like to speak to any of the councillors before applying, the Parish Office will put you in touch with someone.

DIARY

Meetings are held in the Council room at the Kings Worthy Community Centre. There is a public question time at every meeting - everyone in the village is invited to attend.

2006 MEETINGS

Full Parish Council (Mondays 7.30 p.m.)

19 June, 17 July; no August meeting; 18 September

Committees:

Recreation & Amenities (Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.)

7 June; 12 July; no August meeting; 13 September

Planning (Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.)

31 May; 28 June; 26 July; no August meeting; 27 September

Finance (Wednesdays 9.30 a.m.)

14 June; 12 July; 16 August; 13 September

N.B. Please check the notice boards or contact the Parish Office as sometimes meetings have to be rescheduled.

KINGS WORTHY PARISH COUNCIL

Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road, Kings Worthy SO23 7PJ

Chairman: Robert Johnston

Clerks: Barbara Fairbrother & Colin Arnett

Telephone and Fax: 01962 884150

Email: kwpc@btconnect.com