

VILLAGE NEWS

SPRING/ SUMMER 2007



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year we are delighted to welcome Colin Piper from the Countryside Service of the Recreation and Heritage Department of Hampshire County Council. Colin is the Rights of Way Map Review Officer and will be giving a 30min. presentation entitled Rights of Way - Past, Present and Future . We think that this will be of great interest to many of you in the village and is a new feature of the annual meeting that we hope to continue in future years.

There will also be short reports from the police and many local groups and services within the area, such as the Local History Society, the Worthies Conservation Volunteers and Neighbourhood Watch.

It's an excellent opportunity to raise issues which concern the village generally. As well as the Parish Councillors, County and City Councillors will be available to answer questions and to provide up-to-date information on local matters and wider issues as they affect Kings Worthy.

The annual parish meeting is open to everyone in Kings Worthy, so please come along - we are sure that you will find it interesting and informative.

THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MONDAY 14TH MAY IN THE KINGS WORTHY COMMUNITY CENTRE, FRASER ROAD, 7.30 P.M. ONWARDS.

AND ANOTHER date for your diary...

The annual Village Fete will be held on Church Green (formerly Peeks Field) on May 28. The Parish Councillors will be running a charity book, CD, video and (dare we hope?!) DVD stall, so come and browse — more importantly, buy a good book to read or a film to watch!



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out at last - THE Village design statement

The Village Design Statement (VDS) is a document that has been produced by the Parish Council with the assistance of local residents.

It describes the visual character of the village and exists to provide guidance to potential developers on how to protect and enhance the local character and distinctiveness.

It has taken a number of years to finalise the VDS and many people have made invaluable contributions to the process. There have been far too many to list here, so if you were involved in any way, please consider yourself thanked!

For an official document, it's very readable and is exceptionally well-designed, we think.

Copies of the VDS can be purchased from the Parish Office in both paper and CD format. You can also buy a paper copy from Winchester City Council for £5 plus £2 p&p or download it from the WCC web site at <http://tinyurl.com/2khzxr>



WHAT'S IT LIKE, BEING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

The Parish Council still has only 9 councillors out of a possible 12 and we are keen to fill these vacancies.

Would *YOU* be interested in joining us?

There are 10 main PC meetings a year and 10 meetings of each sub-committee (councillors are expected to join at least one of these). There are no meetings in either August or December:

- Full Parish Council - 7.30 p.m. on the 3rd Monday of each month
- Finance-11 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month
- Planning - 7.30 p.m. on the 4th Wednesday of each month
- Recreation and Amenities (R&A) - 7.30 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month

So - what's in it for you? It's an excellent way of finding out more about the village and how parts of it are managed. It also offers a real insight into how decisions are made at parish, city, council and national level and how part of our council tax is spent.

If you're interested but want to know more, you can call into the Parish Office (details on the back page) and have a chat with the clerks. Better still, come along to one of the meetings and see what goes on. The councillors will be only too happy to talk to you!

THE PARISH COUNCIL'S Achievements 2005/2006

A lot of people in the village think the Parish Council does very little - in fact, we've been incredibly busy, working on your behalf. Here are some of our achievements in the last 18 months:

- Picnic tables and seats have been provided at Hinton Fields
- Footpath notice-boards and leaflets have been produced
- Eversley Park now has a trim trail, new equipment in the children's play area, the markings on the football pitches have been renewed and there are new nets and markings on the basketball court
- Fraser Road children's play area also has new equipment and more is on the way
- The Green in front of the Community Centre has been landscaped (picture below)



- The whole length of the dog walk at Eversley Park has been improved
- A leaflet "Exploring Kings Worthy" has been produced
- The bus shelter at the top of Nations Hill has been refurbished
- There is a new notice-board at Abbots Worthy
- The burial ground in Lovedon Lane has been extensively refurbished (below)



- We are now producing regular newsletters

But we're not finished there! We have plans to provide further amenities for the village, for example, we are landscaping the open spaces in Firs Crescent and Fryers Close. We still need your help - please let us know if you can think of anything you would like to see in the village. We can't promise that exactly what you want will be possible, but we'll certainly listen and consult with you.

An exciting new PROJECT!

The dedicated web-surfers amongst you may have noticed that on Hampshire County Council's web site listing of parish council web sites - <http://www.hants.gov.uk/localgov/parish.html> - there's no mention of Kings Worthy (or of Headbourne Worthy, for that matter!). Well, we're about to change THAT!

One of the new projects that the Recreation & Amenities (R&A) Committee is taking forward is the parish council web site. As well as being an exciting new venture for Kings Worthy Parish Council, we've also been approached by Headbourne Worthy PC to work on a joint community web site for the Worthies. We think this is a fantastic opportunity for us to collaborate with Headbourne Worthy and for us to come up with a really splendid site that will be attractive and informative not only to residents in the Worthies, but also to prospective new residents.

AS EVER, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We want to include as much about the Worthies as we possibly can and we plan to include information about local groups, societies or activities, businesses and so on, as well as about the two parish councils.

- Do you have any thoughts about what we should (or shouldn't) include?
- Do you have any experience of web design and would be willing to help or advise free of charge?

There's a small group of parish councillors working on this - Cllr. Liz James (Kings Worthy) and Cllrs. Dennis Curling and Jane Rutter (Headbourne Worthy). If you have any suggestions about the content of the web site or, better still, if you'd like to be part of the group, please contact the Parish Office. You don't need any technical skills (although if you do have them, you would be most welcome!), just enthusiasm.

Kings worthy BACK IN the news

If you read the Hampshire Chronicle, you might have spotted that Kings Worthy has long been missing from the Town and Country page - but no longer!

We now have a village correspondent - **Russell Cook** - and thanks to him, we're back in the news again.

If there's anything you think would be worthy (sorry) of inclusion in the Chronicle, like a coffee morning, jumble sale or any other event, please email or phone the Parish Office (details below) and the clerks will pass it on.

The Parish Council is very grateful to Russell for doing this - it's good to see Kings Worthy back in the Chronicle.

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.

2007 MEETINGS (none in August)

Full Parish Council (Mondays 7.30 p.m.)

May 21, June 18, July 16, September 17

Committees:

Recreation & Amenities (Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.)

May 9, June 13, July 11, September 12

Planning (Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.)

May 30, June 27, July 25, September 26

Finance (Wednesdays 9.30 a.m.)

May 9, June 13, July 11, September 12

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

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