

# **Kings Worthy Parish Council**

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14 May 2012  
at Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road, Kings Worthy**

**Present:** Councillors – S.White [Chairman], M.Prince [Vice-Chairman], R.Barnes, I.Gordon, M. Hallisey, K.Reiners, R. Sign and J.Steventon Baker

HCC Cllr J.Porter; WCC Cllrs R. Johnston & J. Rutter

Clerk; Colin Arnett

20 Representatives from the Village Community Organisations and members of the public

### **AP/12/01 Chairman's Welcome to Parishioners and Guests**

Cllr Sarah White welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **AP/12/02 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs T.Bohle, M.Taylor and D.Welstead; R.Fellows and D.Inglis.

### **AP/12/03 Presentation: Derek Smithers – Parish Plan**

Derek gave a brief resume of the background to the parish plan and highlighted some of the more significant findings. Copies of the published document were made available to those attending.

A small project group was established some three and a half years ago, being independent of the Parish Council. They reviewed; Housing, Transport, Facilities, Law & Order, Environment, Businesses, Communications and Involvement.

The recommendations for transport included; improvements to the A33 Junctions, improvements to bus timetabling, the cost of fares and the creation of cycle routes.

Parishioners considered that the facilities within the village were good, but could be improved with additional parking in the parish, and public toilets at Eversley Park. They considered it a safe place to live.

With regard to the environment; the Village Design Statement is in need of updating; the gap between the village and Winchester needs to be maintained; new walks around the village and the encouragement of diversification of habitats need investigating.

**AP/12/03 Presentation: Derek Smithers – Parish Plan cont.**

Business did not generally engage with the plan. Communications and the involvement of parishioners could be improved.

He acknowledged those who had assisted with the document, in particular the project group, the Parish Council and Winchester City Council.

Cllr White congratulated the project group on an excellent document and Derek took general questions.

**AP/12/04 Minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2011**

The minutes were agreed as a true record; had been signed by the Chairman and copies made available to those attending.

**AP/12/05 Parish Council Chairman's Report**

Cllr White gave a synopsis of her year as chairman.

Cllrs Andrew-Power had resigned during the year. In their place Cllrs Reiners and Taylor had joined with one vacancy remaining. Noel Brooks the deputy clerk had left and Adrian Reeves had been appointed to the post in November.

With the view to improving communications with parishioners, a monthly bulletin has been continued to be produced and placed on the village notice boards, website and parish magazine. The website is also being re-developed. In answer to a request from the church we have amended the timing of our newsletter to February and August to spread through the year between the church publications.

A consultation has been held with young people to see what additional facilities they would like to see within the village. It was good to see that the quarterly litter-pick has attracted more participants.

Councillors are taking an active part in the Queens Jubilee Party. They have ordered an obelisk/sun-dial to commemorate the Jubilee. Similarly they have been involved in organising events around the Olympic Torch Relay coming through the village.

**AP/12/06 City Councillors Report – Robert Johnston and Jane Rutter**

Cllrs Johnston and Rutter distributed their annual report [copy attached].

Robert updated those attending on the development at Barton Farm. He also thank Jane Rutter for her sterling work in organising a very successful Worthy's Festival.

## **AP/12/07 County Councillors Report – Jackie Porter**

Jackie hoped that her “County Caller” newsletter kept parishioners updated on her activities.

She highlighted just some of the initiatives undertaken this year had included; grit bins; safer routes to school; Barton Farm; access to the countryside; older people; broadband and assisting the police

## **AP/12/08 Parish Council Committee Chairman Reports**

### **Recreation and Amenities Committee – Cllr Sarah White**

Projects have included the replacement Multi Use Games Area at Eversley Park together with the refurbishment of the dog-walk fencing, a new notice board and additional litter bins. Practice Cricket Nets have also been ordered. New equipment has been installed at the children’s playground at Fraser Road together with a new safer surface with motifs. At Upper Broadview improvements have been made to the entrances to the new path. The entire parish owned bus shelters have been refurbished.

We have also advertised for a new maintenance operative. WCC are to transfer the ownership of the small playground in Fryers Close to the PC. A path across Eversley Park from the Loader Close car-park to the school is being commissioned

### **Planning and Highways – Cllr Ian Gordon**

Members continue to comment on the planning applications made to WCC for developments within the village.

The South Downs National Park are now responsible for planning in Abbots Worthy.

There will be a phased introduction of new street lighting in the parish next year with the conservation area retaining the antique style lighting. A new Core Strategy for planning has been developed by WCC which has taken into account comments from the parish plan and the “blueprint” initiatives. Within this it will allow for some shared ownership homes to be allocated to Kings Worthy residents or those that have links with the village. The core strategy also shows the need for some 150-250 houses to be built within the village settlement in the next 20 years.

The “Lit-Speed” sign has been used in the village on a regular basis on Springvale Road and Lovedon Lane. London Road and Church Lane/Nations Hill outside of the school. Figures show that outside the school some 2,000 plus had exceeded the speed limit both ways. Parking on verges and pavements are to be addressed in partnership with the police.

Scottish and Southern Energy held a consultation day with Steve Brine and the Parish Council on their plans to introduce a new service into the village in order to reduce power cuts.

## **Finance – Cllr Malcolm Prince**

Cllr Prince gave a graphic presentation of the income and expenditure over the past year. A small surplus was achieved of £1,013. The monies in reserves are at recommended levels.

The precept had been increase by 1.8% for the financial year, however for the year 2012-13 the precept had been maintained at the same level, which had largely been achieved by a thorough review of expenditure. As a result of an increase in housing in the village over the year, the actual charge will be 1.4% lower to individual households

The asset register is being revised with the purchase of a new piece of software which will include photographs of each piece of equipment.

The provision for maintenance is increasing with need to keep the public recreation areas in good order.

## **AP/12/09 Community Reports**

- **Police – Sergeant Lamper** – He introduced himself as the senior officer for the community policing team of eight based at Alresford. Don Hagger is retiring, however Kerry Croutear will continue as the contact for the parish.

The police station at Alresford is closing with a move to another building. However this will not affect the service. Initiatives are currently being undertaken on environmental visual audits whereby property security is improved with lighting, hedge cutting etc. Travellers are also being closely monitored.

- **Neighbourhood Watch – Neil Pidduck**

Kings Worthy still remains a low crime neighbourhood. There are some 34 co-ordinators within the area. Liaison meetings have been suspended until the replacement for PC Hagger has been confirmed. A meeting of all co-ordinators within Hampshire has been arranged for the 24 May 2012.

- **Scouts – Andrew Rolf**

The numbers wishing to join the scouts are increasing; however places are limited as more leaders are required. The facilities at the Wesley Road hut are out-dated with proposals being considered for alternative sites. The financial accounts are sound. Parishioners are invited to the AGM on the 22 May 2012 at Church Green.

- **Jubilee Hall – Ian Gordon**

The Jubilee Hall is a registered charity and there are currently two vacancies on the management committee. A new kitchen was installed in 2008 and the boiler replaced in 2011. The facilities are well used with bookings ranging from dog training to dance classes.

- **Kings Worthy Primary School – Chris Martin**

As chairman of the governors, Chris was delighted to report that the appointment of a new head teacher had resulted in an excellent Ofsted report. The pre-school had moved to the Nations Hill site. Two temporary classrooms are being installed to increase the intake. There had been successes in music, sport and charity fund raising.

- **Worthies Youth Football – Tom Andrew- Power**

Charter status had been achieved from the Football Association. There are now eleven teams regularly playing at Eversley Park which will increase to 14 for the coming season involving some 250 children. The club is being re-branded as an inclusive club to include those children with learning disabilities. A celebration day has been arranged for the 26 May 2012. Thanks to the PC for the best pitches in the area.

- **St Mary's Church – Jonathon Smith**

The Church has an open door policy whereby parishioners are welcome to attend services both at the St.Mary's and the chapel on Fraser Road. An average of 120 persons attends Sunday services.

The church rooms are used for many activities including the monthly lunch club. There is an extensive children's programme with a dedicated youth worker. A new director of music has been appointed. Donations totalling some £10K have been given to charities over the past year.

- **Worthies Local History Group – Eleanor Hamblin**

The group was founded in 1982 and has some 60 members. It celebrates its 30 anniversary in the Autumn. It has a successful programme of meetings and visits, together with a comprehensive archive of digital records and booklets for sale.

- **Worthy Tenants and Leaseholders Association – Gloria Francis**

The organisation assists tenants with problems. They hold a monthly surgery and bi-monthly meetings, including walkabouts with officials from WCC. Also fund raising activities within the community such as tea parties and Christmas events. They are currently working with WCC to improve the lighting in garage areas. The AGM is to be held on the 21 June 21012.

- **Neighbourhood Care – Eleanor Hamblin**

The organisation was established in 1981 as part of the International Year for Disabled People. It aims to give help and support in a variety of ways to people in the Worthys. The principle need is for transport for hospital and doctors appointments and for help with shopping. There is currently a lack of volunteers. The main activity is the monthly lunch club for some 32 people. There is also a monthly tea afternoon at the Church Hall on Fraser Road

○ **Lionel Tubbs Hall – Jackie Porter**

The Management Committee are working towards “hall-mark” status which involves revisions to the constitution and a review of the land leases. The number of trustees will increase from 8 to 12. New chairs have been purchased. The hall continues to be well used. A group meets each Friday morning for coffee, scrabble and curling.

**AP/12/10 Question Time**

Cllr White invited questions, but as none were forthcoming it was suggested that the meeting be brought to a close and any questions could be put informally to the speakers over refreshments.

Cllr Prince reminded everyone of arrival of the Olympic Torch Relay on the 11 July 2012 and the associated events on Church Green and Eversley Park

**AP/12/11 Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 13 May 2013 at 7.30 pm at Kings Worthy Community Centre.

Jackie Porter proposed a vote of thanks for the excellent work of the Parish Council over the past year.

The meeting closed at 10.02pm

Signed .....

Dated .....