

# **Kings Worthy Parish Council**

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
at Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road, Kings Worthy**

Present: Councillors: Sarah White [Chairman], Phil Allen, Bob Barnes, Ian Gordon, Mandy Hallisey, Dorry Hudson, Malcolm Prince, Kerstin Reiners and Martin Taylor.

WCC: Cllr Jane Rutter

HCC: Jackie Porter

Clerks: Adrian Reeves  
Chris Read

Public: 8

### **PC/14/11 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Newell, Steventon-Baker and Welstead.

### **PC/14/12 Public Question Time**

Members were asked if they could consider rejecting Top Field due to current severe flooding issues. Cllr Gordon responded stating that there were regulations from the Environment Agency to ensure that new building did not worsen any flooding issues. Cllr White added that all aspects for all sites are being considered in the Local Plan Part 2 selection process and that flooding and other physical constraints is one of them.

Members were asked if there will be a full election in May. Cllr White indicated that this would only be the case if there are more candidates than vacancies.

Members were asked if action will be taken regarding flooding and the prevention of it reoccurring. Cllr Allen responded stating that he and Cllr White had walked the length of Springvale road and taken photographs of where there are currently problems or where problems could occur. The council would be liaising with HCC regarding improvements for the future.

### **PC/14/13 Reports from Police/County Councillor/City Councillor/School Governor/Parish Councillors**

- **Police** – Nothing received

- **County Councillor** – the monthly report from Jackie Porter covered the following [copy attached];

Jackie Porter's report first highlighted the terrible flooding that has been occurring but indicated that few homes were damaged inside. She also indicated there will be a lot more discussion on the subject and how to prevent it. Hampshire County Council has reserves of £300 million as a contingency for a rainy day and Jackie Porter feels this is the time to use them. It was suggested by Jackie Porter that the Winchester City Council planning department needs to bear this in mind when approving planning applications. A suggested solution from Jackie Porter was for a larger culvert under the road.

Jackie Porter also indicated that there are now potholes everywhere and they can now be reported direct to HCC or on [fixmystreet.com](http://fixmystreet.com)

A member of the public thanked Jackie Porter for her help placing sandbags to help restrain the flood water.

- **City Councillor** - See attached report
- **School Governor** – Cllr Gordon gave a report on various aspects of academic progress by pupils, good attendance despite various winter bugs. Parents are being encouraged to use the carpark at Loader Close and walk across the path across the park.

Cllr Prince highlighted the proposed new waiting restrictions for the area adjacent to the school.

- **Society Local Council Clerks Conference**– Cllr White highlighted items picked up from this event, attended by Adrian Reeves and herself, this included the Right to Challenge, eg regarding hedge cutting etc, various insurance issues such as correct protocol regarding passwords and legal issues such as libel and slander which can be an issue with emails. All were reminded to be wary of “replying to all”, “blind copying” and forwarding of emails

Cllr White and the Clerk visited the Pear Technology stand and received information regarding a mapping software program. A ~~meeting with a~~ representative of Pear Technologies has been invited to present the software at a meeting before the next parish council meeting. This will take place at 7pm and all councillors were invited.

## **PC/14/14 Flooding**

1. Thanks were given to all the councillors who helped with distributing leaflets etc regarding the flooding and to Cllr Reiners in regard to her work creating the KWPC Facebook page which has been invaluable in regards to disseminating useful information.

2. Cllr White reported that notices have been placed up on the notice boards and the website and Facebook page offering help and advice, including asking people to slow down when driving through the floodwater.

3. Cllrs Allen and White walked the length of Springvale Road looking at the drains. Cllr Allen reported various issues regarding the culvert between Legion Lane and the Kings Charles Public House. He estimated that just under 50% of the drains along Springvale road are blocked and not flowing. He also spotted that the concrete pipes leading to the drainage ditch opposite Legion Lane entrance on the grass strip have been damaged. It was agreed that the parish council continue to keep the public updated. **Action- Clerk**

Jane Rutter added that everyone should try and support their local businesses during this hard time.

#### **PC/14/15 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 20 January 2014**

The minutes were agreed as a true record with one amendment – PC/14/07 – Tree Management Work. Correct spelling of Cllr Allen’s surname from “Alan” to “Allen”

#### **PC/14/16 Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20 January 2014**

- **PC/14/03 New Councillor** – The parish council welcomed the new councillor Dorry Hudson onto the council and it was confirmed she had signed the required paperwork.
- **PC/13/130 Springvale Road (TRO)** – It was stated that speed data needs updating. Jackie Porter has emailed HCC for an update on the progress. Residents of Springvale road are to be notified by HCC regarding the Traffic Regulation Order.
- **PC/14/02 Tesco’s Parking** - Cllr Gordon is to find out what time the Tesco’s lorries are arriving and from which direction. He has spoken to Tesco’s but is waiting for the flooding to recede before chasing up. Cllr Gordon is also trying to get a sign from HCC stating that Church Lane is unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles. **Action – Cllr Gordon**
- **PC/14/07 Worthies Sports and Social Club Patio Extension** – Parish Council have written to a qualified independent qualified surveyor but have yet to receive a reply. All councillors agreed that the boundaries should be officially documented.
- **Fire Hydrants** –Cllr Hallisey reported that several are blocked. Jackie Porter is to report this when Cllr Hallisey has informed the Clerk which ones are blocked.

#### **PC/14/16 To receive the Minutes of the Sub-Committees:**

The Minutes of the following Committees were received and discussed.

#### **Planning and Highways Committee – 29 October 2013**

Cllr Gordon presented the minutes and highlighted the following;

- **13/02759/FUL Half Acre** – Cllr Gordon has spoken to Winchester City Council about this application. The Planning and Highways committee have opposed it on the basis of it being an overdevelopment.
- **Cart and Horses Junction**–the council are still in discussions with HCC at this point but it was confirmed that there is no extra money on top of the regular Highways 106 funding put aside for any works to the junction.
- **Planning Applications** – Members had considered the planning applications for Lovedown Farm Lovedon Lane, Half Acre Nations Hill, 1B Red Marley Nations Hill, 22 Tudor Cottages Church Lane, 43 Willis Waye.

### **Recreation and Amenities Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

Cllr Allen presented the draft minutes and specifically highlighted;

- **RA/14/31 Burial Ground and Football Pitch Fees** – A vote was held on a proposed increase to the burial ground fees and they were approved unanimously. Cllr Prince suggested that the new fees should have gone to Finance committee for approval before being presented to full Parish Council. It was accepted that this was omitted in error. A vote was also held on the proposed increase in football pitch fees and again approved unanimously. The increases are due to rising costs.

### **Finance Committee – 14 February 2014**

Cllr Prince presented the minutes and highlighted the following;

The current surplus on current account amounts to £10,386 with a forecast year end deficit of £6,225. The Forecast includes the estimated £10,000 spend on necessary tree works and the second half estimate for street lighting. The accounts include the grant received from the War Memorials Trust. The balance of £2,092 on a previous surplus in Open Space Funding has been incorporated into the General Reserves. It was agreed that last year's surplus should be moved into General Reserves.

- **Grants** - no further applications to report
- **Reviewing Tubbs Hall Leases** – It was confirmed that WCC will be funding the legal costs of the head lease between WCC and the Parish Council and the Clerk is chasing up a response from Howard Bone at WCC.
- **Internal Auditor** – The clerk is compiling a list of potential suppliers for the internal auditing service. **Action - Clerk**

**PC/14/17      Local Plan Part 2**

A very useful preliminary meeting with Steve Opacic and Elizabeth Dee was held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Further information and a breakdown of data is being sought prior to another meeting, scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> February at 09:30am. Approximately 140 responses have been received regarding the LPP2 consultation.

#### **PC/14/18     Boundary Changes**

The Parish council have been consulted on this. Jackie Porter reported that when Barton Farm is completed it will become part of Headbourne Worthy. Cllr White suggests that the built area of Headbourne Worthy becomes part of the built area of Kings Worthy and would combine under one settlement boundary. It is also suggested that Kings Worthy, Headbourne Worthy and Abbots Worthy come under the same Winchester City Council ward. Cllr Reiners stated she thought if Barton Farm becomes part of Headbourne Worthy then separate organisations would be better. Jackie Porter commented at this point indicating that the boundary consultation is in relation to Wards and not Parishes. Cllr Taylor indicated that Abbots Worthy feels it would be beneficial to stay separate from a combined parish, as they fall within the South Down National Park. A proposal to include Headbourne Worthy built area within Kings Worthy City ward was voted on and resulted in a majority; the proposal will be put to the boundaries commission. A vote on the proposal of amalgamating the parishes resulted in a tie. This proposal will therefore be deferred until a later date.

#### **PC/14/19     Public Forums**

Cllr Allen presented a document relating to setting up a public forum (document attached).

Cllr Reiners suggested that we use the Annual General Meeting to take in ideas for issues to be discussed and possibly people to attend. There was a general level of support for the principle.

(4 members of the public left at this point)

Cllr Hallisey indicated she was against the idea based on it being too complicated. Cllr Prince also stated he had reservations due to it being too close to the May parish council elections and must be left at pre-consultation level till after the election.

(The remaining 4 members of the public left at this point)

Concern was voiced over the possibility of a pressure group either dominating a forum or even the Parish Council itself. Cllr White described the legal position on pre-determination in relation to any individual or group. Jackie Porter suggested using a forum (or think tank as was the preferred term) to draft an emergency local response plan. A vote on this proposal resulted in 5 in favour and 3 against.

(Jane Rutter left the meeting at this point)

It was agreed to form a think tank of up to 12 people to discuss emergency response plan to issues such as power cuts or flooding in 4-6 weeks times. 6 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstained. To be advertised in our communications. Cllr Allen agreed to do some more research on this for next Parish Council meeting

(Jackie Porter left the meeting at this point)

#### **PC/14/20    Communications**

Cllr White stated how well the website, Facebook page and notice boards had been used in relation to the recent flooding issues. She also informed the council that the newsletter is out for delivery this week.

- **Email Cascade** – Cllr White informed the council of a system in use by Colden Common parish council called Mailman which is supported by HCC. Cllr Taylor showed the council a copy of a page from the Itchen Valley List which has a list of local businesses for communications purposes. Cllr Reiners agreed to investigate these further.
- **Meeting with Peter Byford** – It was suggested that a meeting with Peter Byford be made to discuss the website. The list of people to attend are Cllrs White, Reiners, Taylor and the Trainee Clerk.

#### **PC/14/21    Clerk's Notices**

- **Request from WCC for daily flood updates** – The Parish Council feels they have done all in their power and don't have the resources to collect accurate data. Parishioners are being referred to the WCC emergency centre for assistance.
- **Redecoration of the Office and Meeting Room** – It was agreed that 3 quotes be obtained for redecorating the parish office and parish meeting room. **Action - Clerk**

#### **PC/14/22    Chairman's Notices –**

There has recently been a problem with commercial vehicles parking in the Springvale Stores car park for prolonged periods of time. Councillors supported the plan of the Parish Council to request a notice informing drivers that the car park outside Springvale store is for the use of people visiting those 3 stores only. **Action- Cllr Gordon.**

#### **PC/14/23    Items for the Next Meeting**

Think Tank, Stagecoach, Parish Plan and Parking at Springvale stores

**PC//14/24    The next meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014.**

The meeting closed at 10.28pm.

## County Councillor's Report for February 2014

Jackie Porter: County Councillor representing residents and businesses in the Itchen Valley Division  
Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Children in Hampshire  
Prospective Liberal Democrat MP for Winchester and Chandler's Ford  
You can contact me at:  
tel: 01962 791054    mob, text 07973 696 085    Twitter @Jackielibdem  
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### Water-everywhere!

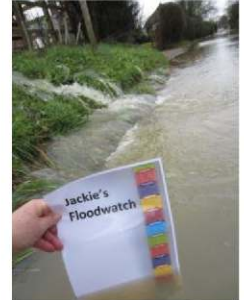
The flooding across the district has been devastating- but luckily at present few homes are damaged inside. HCC is aware of the threat to homes and staff have done their best. After the flooding subsides, the campaign to stop it happening again needs to be clear.

The County has reserves which are being saved for a rainy day. These are the rainy days. Residents are being advised to call the County on 0845 603 5633 about road flooding or the Winchester Hotline 01962 848364, but also to consider how they can help themselves in this dreadful weather. Thanks to KWPC for a very helpful response to the residents- they appreciate it.

Individual homeowners who have specific threat of flooding can continue to contact me if they wish. I will do my best but can't stop it raining I'm afraid. And because of high groundwater levels, any rainfall will bring more flooding.

I have placed practical and useful links and further information on my website.

Please remember- however clear it looks, floodwater is now likely to be contaminated now and care should be taken to wash hands etc.



Roads: Potholes arriving everywhere- go to [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) for the easiest way to report.

Power; SSE re supplies- please report on 08000 72 72 82. You can also reach them on [www.ssepd.co.uk](http://www.ssepd.co.uk)

A nationwide survey for disability scooter riders, <http://www.rica.org.uk/content/take-our-mobility-scooter-survey>.  
**Deadline 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014.**

### Health

I have met with the Chief exec of the Hampshire Hospitals, at the County Hospital this month, and talked to the Chairman and Clinical Director of the West Hants Clinical Commissioning Group. More details on my website.

### Grants

Village hall grants are available through HCC. Worth applying- link to the Grants page is on my website. Grants are also available for First World War commemorations- up to the value of £2000.

Council Tax: 2015-16 cuts/efficiencies expected to be around £93million (total budget £1.8 billion) Most staff seem to be in the throes of considering voluntary redundancy. This is a difficult time for staff who are stretched to the limit with local flooding problems etc.

Lengthsman-not in Kings Worthy-but you may like to re-consider this?

This is starting to have a real impact, and parishes are encouraged to think about whether we seek further funding for future years. (or indeed to join the scheme?) I would be interested in feedback about quality of work carried out.

### To Honour a Promise

You will be interested to know that the memorials (one at the site of the Morn Hill Camp, one in the courtyard of the Great Hall) have been ordered, and are due to be in place by June 2014. There is also an exhibition at the Great Hall from 23 June 2014

Funds and stories still welcome!



**Watercress Way:** Thank you for your support on this project. The route for this long distance path includes sections from the old railway lines closed by Beeching. The project is also supported by HCC, The Gratton Trust, The Watercress Line & South Downs National Park. If you are interested in joining the mailing list, please contact me or email Sara Mc Partland: [sara@teltrak.com](mailto:sara@teltrak.com)

## City Councillors' Report to the meeting of Kings Worthy Parish Council Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014

**Flooding:** Since The City Council set up the Flood emergency control centre in the Guildhall to co-ordinate flood defence efforts, things seem to have gone more smoothly. Water levels today (Saturday) seem to be going down a little, so hopefully the worst is past, although the rain from the end of this week may take a couple of days to reach the springs in Springvale. We would like to congratulate the Parish Council on its response and in delivering useful information to affected households – we also did so earlier on through the local Focus delivery network.

**Riverpark Leisure Centre:** The debate is continuing as to whether and how the RPLC should be replaced or rebuilt. There will be an Informal Scrutiny Group (ISG) made up of City Councillors who will look at the options in more depth, which we hope will report soon to help inform the debate. The City Council will be debating the next year's budget on Thursday of this week.

**No Overall Control:** WCC has now gone to no overall control, following the defection of Cllrs Derek Green and Jamie Scott from the Conservative group to the Lib Dem group. As there is such a short period of the council year left, it is unlikely that much will change – the Conservatives are running a minority administration for now.

**Planning Issues:** Jane has been receiving strong concerns from residents about three planning applications, and has liaised with the City officers dealing with them and with Ian Gordon of the Parish Council. She has refrained from expressing support or objecting to any and will decide on each application's merit if and when they are discussed by the Planning Committee.

**Abbey House:** Robert and Jane are both on a new ISG looking at the use of Abbey House (the Mayor's house next to the Guildhall), with a view to making it more accessible to the public and available for more uses, to pay for its upkeep and improvements.

**There will be another Worthys Festival in 2015:** the dates have been agreed by the Festival Steering Group, after careful consideration of the alternatives, as 19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, venue to be confirmed. The Festival Steering Group is very grateful for the continuing support of the Parish Council, and has welcomed several new members, including Sarah, to our ranks. Please let Jane have any comments or observations that may be helpful to the organisers of the 2015 Festival. Particular thanks were given at the last meeting to retiring Treasurer Malcolm Prince, who has done an amazing job in ensuring the Festival is safe, insured, and solvent!

**To Honour a Promise:** Local resident historian Tony Dowland was instrumental in suggesting a memorial to the troops that passed through Morn Hill between 1914 and 1918. Jackie and Robert are members of the committee raising funding together with Brigadier David Harrison. They have raised funds to commission a memorial at the Castle and information boards at Morn Hill; these have been designed and produced by Sue Tinkler a local artist. The projects Patron is Dame Mary Fagan and the unveiling of the monument will take place on Armed Forces Day in June. Further information can be seen on our website <http://www.tohonourapromise.co.uk/> this was produced by the University of Winchester as part a project for a course.

Apologies that this report is later than we would have liked: delayed by a family funeral and the flooding.

Jane Rutter and Robert Johnston 15.2.14