

Kings Worthy Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 21 January 2013
at Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road, Kings Worthy**

Present: Councillors: Sarah White [Chairman], Phil Allen, Mandy Hallisey, Malcolm Prince, Kerstin Reiners and Martin Taylor

HCC: Cllr Jackie Porter

WCC: Cllr Jane Rutter

Police: PCSO Chris Martin

Clerk: Colin Arnett

Public: 1

PC/13/01 Apologies for Absence

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

PC/13/02 Public Question Time

Cllr White welcomed Lt Col Marc Lawson the Commanding Officer of the Training Support Unit at Worthy Down.

He emphasised that he is keen to maintain the links with local authorities and support them wherever possible.

He outlined the development which is taking place at Worthy Down from 2014-18 whereby the base is being completely re-developed into a tri-service base to include both naval and air force personnel.

Cllr White outlined her aim to embrace service families to the events organised within the parish and Marc readily agreed to advertise these in his information bulletins. Cllr Prince suggested that there may be interest in the fun-run in the summer as part of the Worthys Festival. Cllr Allen highlighted assistance in clearing the footpath along the line of the old railway to Worthy Down Halt and research for both the war memorial missing names and the naval road names information board.

PC/13/02 Public Question Time cont.

Cllrs Porter and Rutter highlighted their desire to involve the army in the Worthys Festival and Morn Hill Memorial respectively.

PC/13/03 Reports from Police/County Councillor/City Councillor/School Governor/Parish Councillors

- **Police** – PCSO Chris Martin presented his monthly report [copy attached].

There had been six reports of antisocial behaviour, several reports of suspicious vehicles and people, and one each of theft and criminal damage. He had also been monitoring the Hookpit Farm Lane area for off-road motor cyclists and parking at the school where warning letters had been given to drivers who parked within 10m of a road junction.

- **County Councillor** – Jackie Porter presented her report [copy attached].

She gave members an update on the safer routes to school initiative which included staggering start times at the pre-school. She agreed with Cllr Prince that the path across Eversley Park was just one aspect and not the only panacea. He emphasised that we own only half of the car park and that the path is also there to improve access to the facilities for disabled users.

Jackie is now the chair of the Worthies Neighbourcare, who have agreed to cease the monthly lunch club as there are more appropriate options now available. Cllr Hallisey asked about the grit bin for North Road. Cllr Taylor thanked her for arranging for the clearing of the footpath to Abbots Worthy. The funding of a bus shelter at the junction of Nations Hill/Springvale Road had been agreed. The PC are still awaiting information on choices of design. Cllr White suggested that the memorial plaque which was in the original shelter could be installed in the new shelter.

- **City Councillor** – Jane Rutter presented her report [Copy attached].

The proposed parking restrictions around Tesco Express have been abandoned due to the number of objections received. WCC are pursuing the enforcement notice on the garages. She is now a member of the Barton Farm Forum and would be happy to represent Kings Worthy. She understood that Southern Water are cleaning the sewers in the North Road area, as well as others, every other month.

- **School Governor** – No report

- **Parish Councillors**

WCC 2013-14 Budget Consultation Meeting – Cllr Prince had attended this meeting on the re-structuring of the council tax and will share with members more detail when the precept is discussed.

PC/13/04 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 19 November 2012

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

PC/13/05 Matters arising from the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 19 November 2012

- **PC/12/146 Sewage Problems – North Road** – Cllr White reported that Cllr Gordon is to research the sewage system network plans for the village.
Action – Cllr Gordon

Members reminded the clerk that they wish to have the new property build figures presented at each meeting. **Action – the clerk**

- **PC/12/148 Wi-Fi** – Cllr White confirmed that the new link had been installed.
- **PC/12/150 Dog Fouling** – Members were disappointed that the problem had increased on the snow covered ground. Cllr Hallisey has placed notices on some WCC litter bins indicating that faeces can be placed in them. She is awaiting further copies, together with details of a bin bag dispenser and metal signs indicating that a particular area is being monitored.

Cllr Reiners agreed to design another card for dog owners encouraging parishioners to report persistent offenders of uncleared dog fouling or uncontrolled dogs to the parish office in the first instance. **Action – Cllr Reiners**

Members were concerned at the recent incidents of dogs being stolen and suggested that an article be included in the next communications bulletin.
Action – the Communications Team

- **PC/12/150 Parish Plan - Youth Meeting** – there was no further progress on the “street reach” visit to the Winnall and Stanmore areas for Cllrs Prince & Reiners which Jackie Porter is arranging.

Members expressed their disappointment that young offenders were on occasions not being pursued by the police. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged with the police after the street reach visit.

PC/13/06 To receive the Minutes of the Sub-Committees:

The Minutes of the following Committees were received and discussed.

Planning and Highways Committee – 27 November 2012 & 2 January 2013

With the absence of both the chairman and vice-chairman of the committee, Cllrs Allen & Taylor had nothing significant to share with members.

Recreation and Amenities Committee – 29 November 2012 & 3 January 2013

Cllr White gave a dashboard presentation to members

- **Cricket Nets** – the nets had been taken down for the winter period. Martyn Smith will install the gravel boards when the nets are put up in the Spring.
- **Church Green Playground** – Cllr Reiners outlined a draft revised scheme on a smaller scale which will be presented to R&A for consideration. Members agreed that an exhibition should be held for parishioner consultation.
- **KWCC Raised Flowerbed** – Members agreed a budget of up to £500 for the design of the proposed replacement flowerbed area in front of KWCC. This will cover the costs of design concepts, planting schemes and structural requirements.
- **Lower Broadview Entrance** – Members approved the sum of £260 to improve the entrance path from Tovey Place.
- **Bylaws** – These were now in force. The committee were composing a shortened version for the parish green areas – noting that the full set would be held at the parish council office. Cllr Allen suggested that the PC logo be included on the proposed boards

Finance Committee – 12 December 2012 & 16 January 2013

Cllr Prince shared with members that a surplus of £9,348 was currently reflected in the accounts.

He highlighted the expenditure on street lighting and the THMC. The reserves remained above the minimum level recommended by HALC. The new scheme for the allocation of S106 monies had yet to be clearly defined.

- **Asset Register** – this had now been completed. Thanks to Cllr Welstead for taking photographs of the various items which will be incorporated into the register.
- **Grant Applications** – Members ratified the decision to grant £500 to the Citizens Advice Bureau towards running costs for the service.

Under the National Code of Local Government ALL Members declared an interest in the Worthys Festival.

Members agreed a grant of £500 towards the cost of the festival including the hiring equipment, communications etc. Members agreed with the decision to defer any grant to the Jubilee Sailing Trust until its involvement locally had been established

PC/13/07 Budget/Precept 2013-14

Under the National Code of Local Government ALL Members declared an interest in the Precept

Cllr Prince took members through the draft budget, together with the information from WCC on the tax base for Kings Worthy including the Council Tax Support Grant [Copies attached]. Members agreed the budget and ratified a precept of £114,000.

This represents 1.93% increase in the precept and council tax support grant which is within the 2% ceiling as stipulated by the Department for Communities and Local Government, but would in effect create a static or slightly lower charge to individual households in view of the increased number of properties within the last year.

PC/13/08 Springvale Road – Speed Limit

Cllr White reminded councillors of the current position whereby councillors, at a meeting in 2010, with a Highways representative from HCC, had discussed that it would be normal practice for a residential road with as many turnings as Springvale Road to have a 30mph limit. HCC were to conduct their own investigations, but these had been delayed until this last autumn due to funding restraints. The Highways department had been chased for their results several times recently and we had been guaranteed a reply before the end of this financial year.

Cllr Reiners presented her small straw poll survey in regards to the “20 is Plenty” national campaign. This had been conducted on a house to house basis on a Sunday morning along a stretch of Springvale Road to include 31 residents. All respondees had been in favour of a 30mph limit along Springvale Road and around the whole of the village. Only a quarter were in favour of a 20mph limit around the whole village, and fewer for that specifically along Springvale Road. Three quarters were in favour of a 20mph limit for specific other roads. Cllr Reiners was thanked for her work, but it was acknowledged that this was only a very small sample, and that previous surveys, particularly in regard to the speed limit along Springvale Road, had met with a 50:50 level of support for reducing the limit from its current 40mph.

After some discussion it was agreed that for now we would await the response as previously requested from the HCC highways experts. However it was suggested that we continue to push for this as soon as possible and ask for clarification from HCC, that if their findings were in favour of reducing the speed limit, that money was available within this year to fund its implementation. No further action would be taken on this issue generally until after HCCs response.

However it is understood that Headbourne Worthy Parish Council, has shown interest in extending their 30mph stretch along as far as Nations Hill, this stretch coming within both Kings Worthy and Headbourne Worthy’s auspices. The clerks were asked to clarify this position with the Headbourne Worthy clerk and request a formal request for our council’s agreement on this, if this was what was required.

Action – the clerk

PC/13/09 Communications

The new communications group for the next 3 months consisted of Martin Taylor, Mandy Read and Phil Allen.

The newsletter was briefly discussed including the suggestion of an extra double page for a “cut out keep” list of local clubs and organisations. This was proposed as an annual addition and was agreed by all. A number of minor changes were suggested, including putting the acknowledgment of Cllr Bohle’s contribution to the parish being more prominent in the body of the newsletter. This edition was due for delivery during February half term and Cllr White and Allen would recruit deliverers for this.

A website meeting to discuss a formal contract, any improvements and a session for training as expected to occur in the next couple of weeks.

PC/13/10 Clerk’s Notices

None

PC/13/11 Chairman’s Notices

Cllr White reminded councillors that council business requiring action should not generally be discussed via email, other than to confirm dates or circulate information prior to meetings. In order to properly include all councillors and to keep all within the public domain, business should be confined to the public meetings

Cllr White also reminded specifically the newer councillors, that the parish council is apolitical in respect to parties, although we work with our city and county councillors and our MP on local issues as appropriate and on their own merits. Any projects that were largely driven by party political campaigns were not within our remit.

PC/13/12 Items for Discussion at Next Meeting

Cllrs were asked to forward any items for the next meeting to the clerks for inclusion in the agenda at least 10 days before the next meeting.

PC/13/13 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on the 18 February 2013.

The meeting closed at 11.00pm.

Signed

Dated