



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS REPORT DECEMBER 2024

**MAY WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR.**

Replacement fencing at Broadview

In July the Parish Council were able to thwart an attempt by travellers to gain access to Eversley Park recreation ground to use it as a camp site.

The travellers were unable to get past the steel barrier at the entrance which was erected after the last encampment was removed. The barrier proved its worth and prevented another costly eviction.

This incident prompted the council to conduct a full survey of its green spaces to ensure that all were safe from similar attempts by travellers to gain access. Upper and Lower Broadview and the access for maintenance at Lovedon Fields were identified as potential risks as they are only protected by simple wooden fences.

The council have therefore decided to invest in additional fencing and barriers to prevent future incursions. A steel barrier is being fitted behind the gate at Lovedon Fields, maintaining the street scene along Lovedon Lane whilst greatly increasing the security of the area. The barrier is painted green to blend with the hedgerows and will not adversely affect users of the area.

New steel fencing will replace the wooden fencing along at both Broadview sites. This new fencing, which will be similar to the estate type fencing around Church Green, will contain a "kissing gate" capable of allowing wheelchairs, buggies etc to enter the area. The new fencing will be similar in height to the existing fencing, be black in colour and will maintain the wonderful views across the valley whilst provided a very solid barrier against unlawful occupation.



Speed watch scheme

If you have issues with speeding within the parish why not join our "Speed Watch Team". We are looking for parishioners to join our scheme to reinforce the speed limits throughout the parish. Full training will be given by Hampshire Police. Please let the Parish Office know if you would be interested in joining the team.



HGV'S on Lovedon Lane

If you would like to report issues regarding HGV movements appearing on Lovedon Lane but are not sure what to report, any vehicle with a freight-type container on its trailer is generally traveling to or from Ecogen. Lorries displaying the names of transport companies are also likely associated with Ecogen. There is a process whereby reported vehicle registrations can be checked against the records that Ecogen must maintain. The best advice is to send the vehicle registration, along with a photo if possible, to hgvs@kingsworthy-pc.gov.uk and let the Parish Council handle the checking. Thank you for your help.



An update on speeding

The latest analysis of speeding within the parish has revealed some worrying facts.

The first concerns Church Lane, home to our Primary School, where speeding around the opening and closing times is a major worry particularly since Hampshire County Council are considering the removal of school crossing patrols.

Please exercise caution on this road especially when the lower 20mph limit lights are operating.

The second area of concern is the Springvale Road where the speed profile has the appearance of being a 40mph rather than 30mph road. Maybe your car, like mine, has a digital display scene giving an indication of the speed limit on a specific piece of road. If it is showing 40mph on the Springvale Road then you are breaking the speed limit and following the advice of your display will not protect you from prosecution I afraid.

Please remember that the whole of Springvale Road is a 30mph zone.

The Parish Council has just taken delivery of a new "Speed Sign". Ten years have passed since the first sign was purchased and the progress that the technology has made in that time has been substantial. These improvements will enable us to better track speeders and allow us to potentially feed greater amounts of information to the Police for additional action.



A comment on private / unadopted roads

There are a few private or unadopted roads within Kings Worthy Parish, where the local authority has limited responsibility. It is sensible to have oversight of these roads through a company or unincorporated association, typically a residents association.

The primary responsibility of the association will likely be maintenance and managing risk (via insurance) for road users, but may also involve collective responses to developers, issues around rights of way and ownership and parking.

The responsibility for private roads lies with residents, as otherwise no one else will do it and therefore they must look after the road, any land associated with it, such as parking areas and amenity spaces or land within loops or borders and junctions. It is important to think about planning for maintenance, the risks of using the road and rights of way which may exist.

A road is "private" in the sense that it has not been adopted and is therefore not a public responsibility, but is a shared resource, for use by residents and their visitors. Typically, utility companies will be responsible for pipes, cables and services and they will have the right to enter the land to install and maintain their equipment.

Private roads are also subject to regulation in the usual way for planning consent, waste and littering. While not the responsibility of the local authority, the local authority can still impose "traffic regulation orders" such as speed bumps, speed limits or parking restrictions. They also retain powers relating to amenity such as hedge maintenance or licensing.

A residents association's main responsibility is protecting against civil liability, typically through public liability insurance, which will be the main annual cost. A small annual subscription from each household is recommended, along with extra funds for minor repairs. The association should appoint a chair and treasurer to manage payments. If resurfacing is needed, it would require negotiation, but an established association should ease the process.

A useful resource is www.privateroads.co.uk. "Private Roads and Estates: a guide for residents" is available for free from their website as well as more detailed documents on insurance and legal frameworks for private roads.