

Summer 2018

In this issue

Top Field Footpaths

Top Field Development

Parish Council Elections

Parish Council Surgeries

Churchill Close Gates

Broadview Management

Burial Ground

Hinton Park Orchard

Bike Racks

Eversley Meadow

Wheeled Sports

Church Green

Footpath 3 Clearance

Noticeboards

Litter Pick

kingsworthy-pc.org.uk



Top Field Footpaths

As many will have been aware, there were applications submitted for footpaths to and around Top Field (top end of Hookpit Farm Lane, just up from Burnet Lane/Blackberry Fields), some 20+ years ago. For various reasons, these have never been confirmed and there was eventually a formal inquiry on these in the middle of August. Submissions were put in by Hampshire County Council and the Parish Council. We are very grateful to the parishioners who came along to give their evidence. We expect to hear the results in a few weeks and will of course publish them for all to see.



Top Field Development

There have also of course been proposals regarding further housebuilding on Top Field. We are aware that there is already outline planning permission for 25 social houses here, in addition to those existing at Burnet Close and Blackberry Fields. There have been discussions between Winchester City Council (WCC) New Homes delivery team and the landowners Galliford Try, regarding the idea of building up to 35 new houses in total. This will result in the rest of the land transferring into public ownership and ideally, listing it as a "Field in Trust", to prevent any further house building.

The Parish Council have stood by our promise to only back this proposal if it is supported by the community as a whole. As a result WCC hosted a public consultation evening in July to look into this. If the principle of further development is supported, the next stage would be to consult on the placing of the housing and any additional recreational facilities that might be deemed appropriate.

We have asked that any future consultations run later into the evening, to allow more parishioners to attend and ideally be over 2 or 3 days. We await the results of this first one, to see whether more will be necessary.



Parish Council Elections

For this year's local elections in May, there were 10 candidates for the 12 vacancies on the Parish Council.

We therefore have 9 continuing councillors and we were delighted to be joined by Charlotte Smith at the election. Since then we were also pleased to have co-opted two councillors, Derek Smith and Tracey Anderson, so that we now have a full complement.

At the May Annual General Meeting Sarah White was elected as the Chairman with Martin Taylor as Vice-Chairman.

All councillors are tasked to represent the community as a whole and aim to reflect the views of parishioners and spend public funds wisely to the benefit of all. We continue to be non party political, consult as widely as possible wherever practical and keep the public informed of our activities and actions on your behalf.

Outgoing Councillor

We would like to extend our thanks Judith Steventon Baker, who decided to stand down after being a councillor for 8 years, for all her hard work.



Sad loss of a Councillor

We were all deeply saddened by the death of Denis Welstead, who was a great contributor to many parish projects and events. He will be sorely missed by all. It



seemed only fitting that the proceeds from this years Pimms Stall, at which he always made an appearance, would go towards the purchase of a WW1 memorial bench. Particularly given his involvement in the refurbishment of the WW1 memorial at St Marys Church. We would like to thank Rotary Winchester for their generous contribution. Public donations towards the bench are welcomed.

Parish Council Surgeries

We hope to run a few of these in the coming months when councillors will be available to listen to your concerns / feedback / suggestions. We aim to do these at weekends, probably near Tubbs Hall/ Springvale Stores/ Tesco/ Eversley Park etc. in order to catch as many as possible. Look out for more news on these or just come and talk to us, if you spot us!



Churchill Close Pedestrian Gates

Since Churchill Close was extended, concerns have been raised about the possibility of an accident where footpath 3, running between Springvale Road and Edinburgh Road, crosses the access to the new housing area (known as 'The Heights'). Vision is restricted for both motorists leaving the new housing area and for footpath users.



The Parish Council requested that Hampshire County Council (HCC) install pedestrian gates on the footpath. Due to budgetary constraints, HCC declined the request thus in the interest of safety, the Parish Council agreed to install them. These will make pedestrians and cyclists slow down and encourage them to look and listen for any motor vehicles approaching the crossing. These gates will be installed very soon.

Broadview vegetation management

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, we have a 10-year plan to rejuvenate the vegetation alongside Broadview; taking out overgrowth, dead and fallen trees and encouraging new young trees and shrubs.

If you take a look at Upper Broadview today you will see new Yew trees, Hazels and Hawthorns gaining in height. The Lower Broadview areas had a profusion of wildflowers when the trees were first cleared but are now in that intermediate stage where bramble and bindweed have taken over. We have planted a mix of native trees and shrubs (you will have noticed the fenced off enclosures) and once these start to mature, the weed growth should subside. In the meantime brambles and nettles are ideal for butterflies.

We intend to extend mowing to clear a further strip of weeds adjacent the grass to stop encroachment of some of the more vigorous species. We will continue weeding the shrub enclosures to ensure they establish well. We have also enlisted help from the Worthys Conservation Volunteers who, last Spring, brush cut scallops of undergrowth in Upper Broadview.

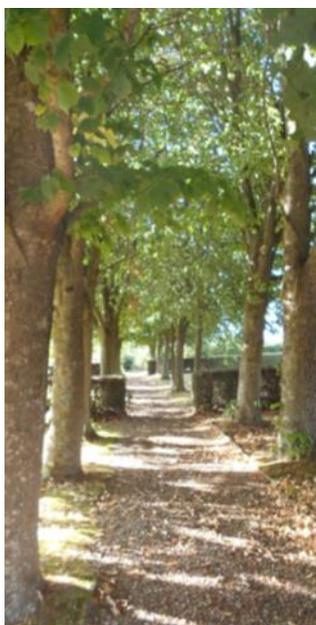
With this varied management pattern we hope to continue to diversify the habitats along this public open space. We will be cutting further areas in the not too distant future.

Lovedon Lane Burial Ground improvements

Have you seen the new plants and the slight change to the layout at the cremation area? This summer we removed some of the over mature evergreen shrubs and planted *Libertia* and *Agapanthus* to provide more colour. Small improvements perhaps but hopefully welcome ones, as the Parish Council continues to improve parts of the Burial Ground.

One of the more significant issues, to be dealt with this coming Autumn, will be the dense avenues of lime trees. We have now awarded the contract to carry out thinning works and expect to remove alternate pairs of trees to give those that remain more room to mature.

You may have seen similar work carried out on the lime avenue at Winchester Cathedral last year. It can look severe to begin with, but in fact the trees that remain will benefit from the extra space provided.





Hinton Park Orchard

Did you see the crop of plums, apples and crab apples that ripened in our orchard this year? Have you also spotted the Medlars too? We are very pleased they have fruited so well at such a young age and look forward to much more in future. Please help yourself if you are passing.

Bike Racks

Two new dual use containers have arrived outside Springvale Stores this summer. Filled with soil and compost they will soon be planted with small colourful shrubs but as you can see, they serve as bicycle racks too. We hope they encourage you to cycle to the shops instead of using your car.



Eversley Meadow

The new wildflower meadow adjacent Eversley Gardens (HAB development) was cut in midsummer to allow the slower growing perennials and finer grasses to come through. The annual flowers put on a good display but the meadow needed "topping" to encourage good root establishment in this its first year.

The path around the meadow was open for the Festival last year and will be opened permanently this Autumn. However, to ensure the wildflowers are given the best chance possible, HAB (who will continue to manage the area until 2019) are due to tape off access to the field itself. Please help us by keeping yourselves and your four legged friends, off the wildflower areas until it is officially opened next year.



Wheeled Sports

You may recall that both last spring and during the September Festival we held a consultation on the idea of a Pump Track in the new park as well as a Skate Ledge in the main section of Eversley Park. This was met with nothing but encouragement from children, teenagers and parents alike. The skate ledge is now available for use and there are ongoing discussions on the feasibility of the proposed pump track.

Church Green

You may have been aware that the young children's play area has been taped off for a few months. Unfortunately due to defects in the materials, we had to close the play area for the safety of those that use it. We are liaising with the contractor to ensure that these issues are rectified.

On a more positive note, we will be seeing some of the younger footballers playing on the Green on some Saturday mornings this winter. Prepare your pitch side viewing.

Your Parish Councillors



Sarah White

PC Chair

R&A



Martin Taylor

PC Vice-Chair

FAR Chair



Tracey Anderson

FAR



Ian Gordon

P&H Chair

FAR



Mandy Hallisey

R&A Chair

P&H



Les Haswell

P&H



Dorry Lawlor

R&A Vice-Chair

P&H



Noel McCleery

FAR Vice-Chair



Karen McCleery

P&H Vice-Chair



Stewart Newell

FAR

R&A



Charlotte Smith

R&A



Derek Smith

P&H

PC= Parish Council

P&H= Planning & Highways

FAR= Finance, Administration & Remuneration R&A= Recreation & Amenities

Footpath 3 clearance

Residents who use it will be aware that the well-used footpath 3 between Springvale Road and Edinburgh Road became overgrown by nettles and brambles this summer to the extent that it was nearly unusable; particularly by those with buggies. As maintenance of this footpath is the responsibility of Hampshire County Council (HCC), the Parish Clerks and a number of residents reported the need for clearance on many occasions.

Frustration at the lack of progress, despite acknowledgments, was expressed during the Parish Council meeting on 16th July. Two Parish Councillors, Noel McCleery and Derek Smith therefore volunteered to undertake the clearance themselves and it was carried out, to a high standard, on the afternoon of 19th July.

During the operation many residents came along and expressed their thanks and some provided drinks, which were gratefully received on an extremely hot afternoon. In the continuing age of HCC austerity we hope to be making use of a Lengthsman next year (More information on this next time).

Kings Worthy Parish Council

Kings Worthy
Community Centre
(Tubbs Hall)

Fraser Road

Kings Worthy

SO23 7PJ

Phone: 01962 884150

Email:

clerk@kingsworthy-pc.org.uk

Office opening hours:

10.00am - 3.30pm (Mon - Fri)

Meetings:

Parish Council – 3rd Monday of the month at 7.30pm
(except August & December)

Recreation & Amenities – 1st Thursday of the month
at 7.30pm (except August & December)

Finance, Administration & Remuneration – 2nd Wednesday
of the month at 2.15pm

Planning & Highways – Last Tuesday of the month at 7.30
pm

All meetings are held at Tubbs Hall and open to the public.

Speak to the clerk first if you have a specific interest, so you
can be directed to the most appropriate meeting.



Parish Noticeboards

Parish noticeboards are provided at strategic points throughout Kings Worthy. Though their primary purpose is to provide information about Parish Council activities, all have a section where residents may post notices. We ask those posting notices to please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use only drawing pins, never staples. These are really difficult to remove and then break off, making the whole board lumpy and difficult to use.
- Put up only one notice on each noticeboard; leave space for others.
- Do not obscure other notices; though out of date ones may be removed.
- Put your notice up tidily and secure it well; preferably using all four corners. If you can laminate your notice it will last longer in inclement weather.
- We will remove notices that are tatty, out of date or when an advertisement has been up for more than a couple of months, to make room for others.

Litter Pick

Note the date: **Saturday 13th October from 2 - 4pm**

There will be a competition for children and delicious home made cakes to follow. Do join us for a friendly afternoon looking after your village.

