



Kings Worthy Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 27 July 2020 at 19:30

Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held electronically via Zoom

Attendees

Councillors Les Haswell (Chair), Signe Biddle, Sue Cook, Colin Cossburn Emily Fish, Ian Gordon, Mandy Hallisey, Dorry Lawlor, Matthew Miller-Hall, Stewart Newell (Vice-Chair), Charlotte Smith and Steve Waters

Clerk(s)

Parish Clerk (Christopher Read)
Assistant Clerk (Lucia Foster-Found)

Apologies

Cllr Jackie Porter (HCC)

Members of the public

One.

PC/20/090 – Appointment of Councillors to committees

Steve Waters was appointed to join Recreation and Amenities Committee.

Matt Miller-Hall was appointed to join Finance, Administration and Remuneration Committee.

PC/20/091 – Public question time

[Proposed alcohol licence for 1 Foxwood Close –](#)

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the following recent planning application:

1 Foxwood Close, Kings Worthy, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 7TX. New premises licence for the for sale of pre-mixed cocktails for delivery/takeaway only (for consumption off premises).

Cllr Gordon responded that the Planning and Highways Committee had discussed this application and agreed that Parish Council will be objecting to the application. This was on the basis that it is inappropriate for domestic premises to be used to deal in alcohol and also that there will be issues with increased traffic from both delivery vehicles and customers in this small close which has no off-road parking and which is also a “No Public Access” approach.

Councillors requested that Cllr Rutter investigate the implications regarding Environmental Health, Customs and Excise, and also the Weights and Measures Act. She will report this back to the Parish Council.

(The member of the public left at this point)

[Traffic issues and proposed changes at Hookpit Farm Lane junction –](#)

A member of the public requested that in their absence, the question of progress from the City Council on their promise to address the traffic issues at Hookpit Farm Lane.

Cllr Rutter responded that County Highways had agreed to cut in extra parking, but the budget source for this had yet to be decided.

[Parking on the verges outside Tesco –](#)

A member of the public requested that in their absence, the issue of parking on the verges at Tesco in Hookpit Farm Lane be discussed. Cllr Gordon made the observation that yellow lines would make this an offence, but that there had been resistance in the past as local residents feared that the parking issues would just be pushed up the road and into Cundell Way.

It was decided to defer this matter for discussion at a Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

[Eversley Gardens development –](#)

A member of the public requested that in their absence, the following questions be asked:

Question 1 – Regarding the incomplete development at Lovedon Fields. I notice that an excavator was levelling ground in the area designated for allotments in the last week of June. Is the Parish Council aware of this work, and monitoring the material that is used on the land which will ultimately grow crops?

Question 2 – What progress has been made with HAB and Fields in Trust to secure the Parish Councils ownership of the land subject to the Fields in Trust Deed of Dedication, and the transfer of ownership of the allotments?

These questions had already been answered via email, as well as at both the Recreation & Amenities Committee and Planning & Highways Committee meeting. Given that the monitoring of the open spaces works is the responsibility of WCC (as per the S106 agreement), it was agreed to inform the member of the public to direct any further questions relating to the works to WCC.

It was agreed to move item 6 on the agenda (Reports from the County Councillor etc.) to this point in the meeting.

PC/20/092 – Reports from the County Councillor (inc. report on Barton Farm, City Councillors, School Governor and Parish Councillors following external meetings)

Cllr Porter had sent a report before the meeting which was distributed to all members (see attached).

Cllr Rutter gave a report for Winchester City Council (see attached). Concerning the green waste collection, Cllr Rutter agreed to speak with Cllr Todd to raise awareness of where people should place the bins for collection.

Cllr Rutter also agreed to find out what the current situation is with regards to the Caravan in Mountbatten Place.

[Meeting at Eversley Gardens site](#) – Cllr Haswell, Cllr Newell and the Clerk met on site with Cllr Porter, Cllr Rutter, Cllr Prince and members of the resident's management company who are currently managing works on the site.

The allotments are complete, pathways are being finished off and the area that was earmarked for the pump track has been levelled with soil and will be seeded. It was proposed that those people who will be allocated allotments be consulted as to the position of the shelter.

All planting is intended to be completed as planned.

The Clerk suggested that the liabilities of the other signatories on the S106 could be investigated.

It is WCC responsibility to ensure that the S106 is in order, but the Parish Council needs to make it clear that if the correct funds are not available, then the Parish Council may not accept to take over the areas in question. The Parish Council would also be responsible for the proposed play area after any handover, so would need some involvement in the design/equipment with regards to future maintenance.

PC/20/093 – Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

None.

PC/20/094 – To agree and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 June 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2020 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and it was agreed for the Chair to sign these as a true record after meeting, via the post.

PC/20/095 – Matter arising from the meeting held on the 22 June 2020

None.

PC/20/096 – To receive the minutes of the committees

[Recreation & Amenities \(R&A\) Committee](#) – All Councillors had received a copy of the minutes before the meeting.

R&A decision to agree to Eversley Park height restriction barrier at a cost of £3184.00 + VAT was ratified. It was also agreed not to ask Worthy Sports and Social Club for a contribution towards the Planning application fee for barrier.

R&A decision to agree to felling of poplar trees in Church Green at a cost of £2550.00 + VAT was ratified. Clerk informed Councillors that this was with Worthy Tree Care.

R&A decision to agree to supply of commercial bin at Eversley Park due to increased littering during this period at a cost of £553.00 + VAT for a six-month contract was ratified. It was agreed to review this after 6 months and also there to be no recharge to Green Smile for this provision.

[Finance, Administration & Remuneration \(FAR\) Committee](#) – All Councillors had received a copy of the minutes before the meeting, including the monthly management report (see attached).

Grants to Terracycle and Citizens Advice Bureau were noted.

The Clerk went through the underspend, which has largely been caused by COVID-19. Cllr Gordon suggested that any underspend go to the Burial Ground. The Clerk suggested that this be reviewed again in November as there are some large expenses pending for R&A e.g. barrier, playground fence, poplar felling, bollards at Church Green etc.

Debtors – The main debtor is Tubbs Hall and Clerk and Cllr Newell are due to have a meeting with Tubbs Hall Management Committee to discuss this and the proposed new sub-lease.

[Planning and Highways \(P&H\) Committee](#) – All Councillors had received a copy before the meeting of the minutes for the both the May and June meetings.

Application for felling of yew tree at the bottom of Mill Lane – more information has been requested from the WCC planning officer.

150 Springvale Road – safety aspect concerns were raised and Cllr Gordon will discuss further with WCC planning officer.

[PC/20/097 – Communications \[incl. Website /Facebook / Newsletter / Monthly Comms. etc.\]](#)

The Clerk proposed using the postal service, perhaps using the WCC delivery service again (as for the COVID-19 letter in March). All Councillors agreed in principle.

It was also agreed to ask members of the public if they still wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter or would prefer an emailed electronic copy.

[PC/20/098 – Clerk's notices](#)

None.

PC/20/099 – Chairman’s notices

None.

PC/20/100 – Items for discussion at the next meeting on the 21 September 2020

Neighbourhood Plan – Update on meeting with WCC Strategic Planner.

Meeting Closed at 21:02.

Signed:

Date:

County Councillor Report for July 2020 meetings (sorry, very long this time...)

The lockdown is unwinding, and we are all determined to make changes to extend the feeling of community that has built up since the 23rd March. We have all enjoyed the birdsong, less cars on the road and if we have them, our gardens and footpaths. We have produced more waste at home, though restaurants and commercial uses have less. This is the time for communities and individuals to look at how lightly we can tread upon the planet in our daily lives, whilst still ensuring that our local businesses and services can adapt to survive.

Digital connectivity for ALL- not just the 97% target previously held by HCC, has become vital for access services and work, as more go online. Zoom and similar online platforms has meant we travel much less often. Distance and availability of transport doesn't restrict participation, however strange it seems at first.

The County Council had just started a **review of the Minerals and Waste Plan**. This is a 'light touch' review, but one focus is inevitably linked to the future of domestic waste management, relating it to our need to 'tread lightly' on this planet and the 2019 Government waste consultation outcomes that I have mentioned before. With 67 days of no-coal powered electricity, HCC has relaxed its ban on wind power. Details TBC

Libraries have been used in different ways- so many residents have used the online service. This service was under threat, with thousands of responses (>15,000) to the consultation- but now a look at the digital offer during Covid 19 lockdown will be a big part of the review.

At **Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee** on the 25th June, we heard that the 'cost of Covid' to May had been around £200m. Although the Council had received approx. £53m, the County Council would be £109.7m off budget as a result of Covid in 2020-21. This would delay the actions already planned to counteract govt funding cuts. The 0333 370 4000 line is still in place and expected to be so for the future. A triage system meant that approximately 50% of the calls had been referred to Adult or Children's services.

I know it worked well: I used it often in the last few weeks, developing a good relationship with the **Meals on Wheels team!** Any adult who is unable to cook their own food is entitled to use the Meals on Wheels which provides a hot lunch, and can provide a packed tea too. A number of urgent cases were referred within 24 hours.

For those in care, the situation was extremely worrying, and although I'm angry at the distress this has caused, I hope this will bring the deficiencies of the national situation to light. The NHS has now commissioned **HCC to provide a 'recuperation home' for patients leaving hospital after** an extended stay because of Covid, rather than send them back to their care home or to their own empty home.

Child safeguarding is a key schools' role and no school means that problems for children go undetected. Some very serious cases came to light- and the numbers are rising. I attended an information session on protection of children at risk of FGM- which, like Domestic Abuse, was a challenge to identify during lockdown. More foster carers are urgently needed. Go to hants.gov.uk for more information.

Black Lives matter brought the uncomfortable issue of slavery back to the fore for us all. The Safeguarding teams are concerned about Modern Slavery. There is now a **Modern Slavery helpline 08000 121 700**

Highways and Transport: the post Covid changes have been rapid and far reaching for urban areas.

HCC has put up a website for suggestions- please put yours on the map! I was not able to stop the closure of Hyde Street for cars into Winchester, even as a temporary measure; this has been a long term aspiration of HCC but I know this will create real challenge for residents and businesses in my division.

However, **for rural areas and market towns**, the help is not so timely. I know that you have been struggling with **overgrown footpaths** and footways and in light of our new interest in activity outdoors and in health, I will be raising this as a budget issue at HCC at every opportunity. Our own Countryside Access Ranger, Abby Sullivan has over

1000km to manage 'in her patch'. The delay on the Worthy Down to Winchester path is because of an objection, and is not Covid related.

Meanwhile, case work continues and planning goes on. For those Parishes not already affected, a new system has started for 'cross boundary' applications. If an application crosses into the National park, the City 's section is managed by HCC (due to a 1999 ruling). This means that we will have to keep a sharper eye on three lists now! I will be detailing this separately to clerks, but I have asked for these lists to come to you now, as the others do.

And in the last few days, the lockdown has been relaxed further: cafes pubs and restaurants are opening. HCC's Country Parks have been open for a while without the cafes, but now the play areas, MUGA's and Skateboard parks can be opened too. I know that you will want the parish messages to be consistent with other public play areas: Simon Finch at WCC has more information if you require it.

A 'Pavement Licence' scheme is soon to be introduced for eating establishments to expand onto the public land- details of how to apply will be published once Royal assent has been given, likely to be in the next week. This will streamline several processes for road closure and licensing currently undertaken by the County and the City Councils during the 'Covid period ' to September 2021.

Village Halls can open from the 4th July, though I have yet to see one that is doing so. The cleaning regime is a real barrier to multiple use. I was pleased to see that HCC has granted funds to some in this division. I am always asked to comment on the efficacy of a grant by HCC, so please warn me if your village has made an application!

Local Lockdown is being managed by the Public Health teams locally. Please contact the Director of Public Health, Simon Bryant if you have a specific query. Simon.bryant@hants.gov.uk

Alresford is one of the market towns where traffic management is being put in place to improve distancing, but we'd like it to aid the economy too.

John Harvey is our HCC direct link for Traffic Regulation Orders for Alresford.. For other suggestions, please go to the Hants Covid Travel Map. Can I suggest you look at it for your Parish area to check what people have submitted? And let me know the PC's views. You may want to advertise them widely so that residents can like or disagree with suggestions.

HCC has also placed a temporary traffic ban on Hyde Street. Although not in this division, I know many of you (including me!) use it to get into the city, and it will be interesting to see how the closure changes traffic flow and journey lengths/times. The advantage of all these Covid changes is that they can be used to experiment. I'd be pleased to pass on your thoughts after we have all used them for a while.

Scrutiny meetings have restarted- all are televised on the hants.gov.uk website. Although delivered via nurseries, pre-schools and childminders, **ensuring sufficiency of under 5 child care places is a County Council responsibility.** The extremely poor furlough arrangements has created an extremely difficult financial situation for most settings and many are at risk of closure. The County Council is aware of this pressure and the subject will be one of the agenda items at the next Scrutiny meeting on the 8th July.

Our schools have never closed, staying open over Easter and the current arrangements are to say the least, challenging. Staff have worked continuously since Feb half term, though most took the May half term as an opportunity to deep clean the school premises. We await news of the next phase of opening. Some schools cannot even have back years R,1 and 6 completely.

I apologise for the length of this report- things are changing daily, and I'm happy to take questions, though you are welcome to link up with me separately at any time during the month if you wish.

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Report to the Kings Worthy Parish Council meeting of 27th July 2020

New Green Waste Collection

As there is some confusion about what is planned for garden waste collections, we thought we'd give Parish Councillors a clear summary of the new system.

Winchester City Council is to bring in a new system of green bins for garden waste collection early next year. Instead of green bags, green wheelie bins, the same size as the recycling bins are to be provided. They will be supplied in two sizes, 240 litres and 140 litres. The supply of the bins will be free, although the cost of them to the Council will be £400,000. It is not possible to have a mixed system of bins and bags.

The wheelie bins have several advantages over the bags

- They hold a great deal more (about 2.5 times the capacity of the bags and are easier to move around.
- Long life
- The collection trucks are more efficient, larger and have a reduced environmental impact.

Disadvantages of the bags

- When filled with wet vegetation the weight can exceed 25 kilos, the Health and Safety limit of lifting for men. (16kg for women operatives.)
- The bags wear out rapidly, especially if dragged when full.
- Empty bags are blown away by the wind or otherwise disappear.

There will be an annual charge of £59 for the large bin and £39 for the smaller. The signing up process (which is starting in November) for the new collection in 2021 allows bins to be shared by groups of neighbours. This could reduce the cost to each household and reduces the problem of bin storage.

At the moment, the green waste collection service is paid for by all households, via their council tax, so that although not charged for directly, is isn't actually 'free'. The current cost to the Council is £578,000. Many flat-dwellers and others without gardens who do not actually use the service are subsidising those with gardens. It is worth noting that the proposed charges are the lowest in Hampshire, (Hart District Council are currently charged £72 for their bins) and that Winchester will be the last in Hampshire to bring in a charge for green waste collection. Residents can of course opt out of the collection system altogether and take their green waste to a re-cycling centre themselves, or compost their garden waste - the Council is also providing composting bins at a subsidised price of £19.

This change to the green waste collection has been brought about by the need to close an increasing gap in Council finances, quite apart from the fact that Hampshire County Council is requiring all councils to charge for garden waste collection. There was an increasing and growing problem with income not matching expenditure and the Covid crisis has added to this. Many of the Council's sources of Income, such as rents and parking charges etc have plummeted and contrary to newspaper headlines the Government are not refunding all the costs and income losses from Covid.

Top Field

Councillors will have seen that building has recommenced at Top Field. Jackie will be reporting on the plans for improving traffic congestion at the Tesco Express junction. We are grateful to the Worthys Conservation Volunteers who have been undertaking a survey of wildlife on the site and that will help to inform decisions about how we manage the remaining public open space at Top Field. The public engagement on this has been delayed by Covid 19 but we hope will be back on track shortly.

Management Accounts for the period ending 30th June 2020

Income

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Neighbourhood Plan	£9,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration (inc. CIL receipts)	£214,135.02	£41,949.52	£44,879.52	£2,930.00
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£4,181.20	£1,045.30	£328.54	-£716.76
Planning & Highways	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation & Amenities	£6,060.00	£1,263.23	£1,706.00	£442.77
Totals:	£233,376.22	£44,258.05	£46,914.06	£2,656.01
Revised Totals (excluding CIL receipts):	£186,270.20	£44,258.05	£46,914.06	£2,656.01

Expenditure

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Neighbourhood Plan	£9,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration (inc. CIL receipts)	£73,517.28	£20,145.18	£17,475.19	£2,669.99
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£9,685.00	£3,382.84	£2,128.44	£1,254.40
Planning & Highways	£6,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation & Amenities	£81,269.00	£13,462.07	£12,766.12	£695.95
Totals:	£179,971.28	£36,990.09	£32,369.75	£4,620.34

Current Position

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Actual Year to Date Position:	£6,298.92	£7,267.96	£14,544.31	£7,276.35

Memorandum to show transfer to play area reserve position

Play area reserve transfer	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Revised Year to Date Position (including transfer to play area reserve):	-£3,701.08	-£2,732.04	£4,544.31	-£2,723.65

Balance Sheet for period ending 30th June 2020

<u>Bank Accounts</u>	
Unity Trust Bank Current Account	£14,042.79
Unity Trust Tailored Deposit Account	£72,087.30

Sub-Total: £86,130.09

<u>Investments/Deposits</u>	
Hampshire Trust Bank Variable (45-day notice)	£42,313.17
Hampshire Trust Bank Variable (90-day notice)	£42,686.83
United Trust Bank Variable (100-day notice)	£5,000.00

Sub-Total: £90,000.00

<u>Other</u>	
B4B Procurement Card	£177.04
Debtors	£3,279.15
Prepayments	£0.00

Sub-Total: £3,456.19

Total Current Assets:	£179,586.28
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Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	£4,620.81
Retentions	£377.20
Received on Account (inc. Precept)	£41,144.74
PAYE Payments Due	£251.20
NI Payments Due	£509.86
Pension Payments Due	£839.09
VAT to be Paid	-£15.60
VAT to be Reclaimed	£15.60
VAT that has been Reclaimed but not received	-£2,818.60
Total Current Liabilities:	£44,924.30

Current Assets Minus Liabilities:	£134,661.98
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Earmarked Funds in Reserve	
Church Green Reserve	£10,370.49
Play area maintenance reserve	£24,053.22
CIL Reserve	£31,746.75
Total Current Liabilities:	£66,170.46

Net Assets	
Profit & Loss Accounts Brought Forward	£12,582.28
General Reserves (inc. £7,364.59) for tree works)	£41,364.93
Profit & Loss Year to Date	£14,544.31
Total Net Assets:	£68,491.52