

**Kings Worthy Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting  
held on Monday, 26 April 2021 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) and Charlotte Smith.

**Clerk(s)**

Parish Clerk (Christopher Read)

**County & City Councillor(s)**

Cllr Jackie Porter (Hampshire County Council [HCC] & Winchester City Council [WCC])

Cllr Jane Rutter (WCC)

Cllr Malcolm Prince (WCC)

**Apologies**

Cllr Steve Waters

**Members of the public**

None.

**PC/21/047 - Public question time**

None.

**PC/21/048 - Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

None.

**PC/21/049 - Reports from the County Councillors, City Councillors and Parish Councillors following external meetings**

- Cllr Porter's report had been distributed to Councillors before the meeting (see attached) and added the following:

Cart & Horses junction – Cllr Porter noted that there had been another accident recently and that she had reviewed the footage. She has asked HCC for the CCTV cameras to stay.

Cllr Newell asked whether two of the butterfly grips on Stoke Charity Road are to be cleared. Cllr Porter has asked for this previously but will chase HCC again.

- Cllr Rutter gave a brief summary of her report (attached).

New leisure centre – Cllr Prince stated that the new leisure centre will be opening on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021 due to potential snagging.

- Cyclists at Eversley Park– Cllr Prince noted that he had witnessed cyclists using the path at Eversley Park and not using their bells. After discussion it was agreed for R&A to discuss this issue.
- Speed indicator sign – The Clerk and Cllr Cossburn has met that morning with the Maintenance Technician. It is now repaired and up on Lovedon Lane, as per the working group meeting held on the Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**PC/21/050 – To agree and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 March 2021**

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chair via the post.

**PC/21/051 – Matters arising from the meeting held on 22 March 2021**

Fossil fuels and investments – The Clerk had not yet had chance to investigate whether our deposit accounts invest in fossil fuels.

**PC/21/052 – To receive the minutes of the committees:**

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

Market Garden in Martyr Worthy – R&A members met with a representative of a group looking to setup a market garden in the area. They had requested a letter of support as this was in the Parish. However, subsequent to the R&A committee meeting it was determined that it was in fact in Martyr Worthy.

**Action:** After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to write them a letter of commendation for their proposal but to refer them to Itchen Valley Parish Council for a letter of support.

(Cllr Prince left at this point)

Finance, Administration & Remuneration Committee – All Councillors had received a copy of the minutes before the meeting.

Planning & Highways Committee – All Councillors had received a copy of the minutes before the meeting.

Ecogen & Boyne Rise applications – Cllr Gordon noted that the committee had unanimously agreed to object to both the recent Ecogen and 5 Boyne Rise applications.

**PC/21/053 – To consider the draft end of year accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (see attached).**

Councillors reviewed the draft end of year accounts with the Clerk; no changes were made.

**PC/21/054 – Preparations for the Annual Parish Meeting on the 4th May 2021 (to be held via Zoom)**

Cllr Newell asked what happens if no members of the public attend.

**Action:** The Clerk is to double check with the Hampshire Association of Local Councils for advice in case this happens.

**PC/21/055 – Preparations for the return to in person Parish Council meetings.**

The Clerk noted that the government had decided not to extend the remote meeting regulations thus all Council meetings will have to be held in person from the 7<sup>th</sup> May onwards. There is currently a court case being heard to challenge this decision.

Due to the number of people attending, Full Council meetings will be held in a larger venue than Tubbs Hall, likely the School hall.

**PC/21/056 – Email responses within the Council**

Cllr Lawlor asked why a deadline cannot be agreed for response from the Office. The Clerk stated that due to the large workload, correspondence has to be dealt with on a priority basis.

(Cllr Lawlor left the meeting this point)

Cllr Cossburn stated that any deadline would have to apply to Councillors.

Councillors discussed the proposal and voted unanimously against a deadline.

Cllr Haswell proposed a vote of confidence in the Clerks for their hard work; this was agreed unanimously.

**PC/21/057 – Communications [incl. Website /Facebook / Newsletter / Monthly Comms. etc.] including the protocol for the approval of Council communications.**

Cllr Smith has circulated a draft policy and asked Councillors present for comments.

Cllr Newell thought the policy was very good but the Social Media aspect, particularly who gets to post, needs clarifying.

**Action** – The Clerk is to involve the comms group when the up and coming website changes are planned.

**PC/21/058 – Climate change**

WinAcc had recently sent round a survey for Parish's. It was agreed for the Parish Council to undertake this survey.

**PC/21/059 – Parish plan review**

This review is taking place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm.

**PC/21/060 – Clerk's Notices**

None.

**PC/21/061 – Chairman’s Notices**

None.

**PC/21/062 – Items for discussion at the next meeting on the 24 May 2021**

None.

**Meeting Closed at 21:23.**

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**Signed:**

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**Date:**

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## Cllr. Jackie Porter's County Council Annual Report for Parish and Town Councils

Spring 2021

This year has been very difficult for us all, but as we become a vaccinated population, daily life is starting to return again. Many of the operating teams (eg Highways) have had to pull off site at one time or another because of Covid-19 or self-isolation. Just as in the NHS, the changing workforce with its own pressures has reduced speed of response. But it wasn't all about food, prescriptions and health needs. The County's other roles were vital too.

**Meetings soon went on line** and after a few 'quiet weeks', everything and everyone fell back into place, albeit working from a bedroom or even a garden shed, often with children studying at home too.

I feel that as we return to a 'new normal' there is a lot to do to reverse the inevitable inertia that has set in as a result of a disparate team in all departments, tinged with illness and anxiety as families are all working from home.

I hope that the **new working practices can bring vitality back into the work of the County Council**, whilst at the same time, preserving work life balance and conserving our county's assets, and **tackling the climate crisis** that we all must face and act upon. Initiatives on verge trials, EV charging and energy generation, school insulation and solar panels are all initiatives that are in progress now.

I was pleased to be fully involved with the **Social Prescribing teams**, liaising between Public Health, the NHS, volunteer groups, the county and city officers. It proved to be a new but vital link, and one which is agreed should, and will, continue.

### **Several areas where the County has supported residents:**

**A Covid19 helpline was set up** to offer direct support for any matter from the general public relating to Covid 19 as it was realised that lockdown would last longer than initially expected.

**The number is still in operation 0333 370 4000** (mainly from 9-4.30pm). It offers a triage service: HCC deal with adult and children's social care issues, before referring other callers to local authorities. This has been used extensively, and continues to deal with daily needs, and concerns, including prescription collection, and mental health needs. **Unfortunately, there was a period with no County telephone lines at all** for general enquiries, and it was only restored after 6 months after pressure from several of us.

School 'closures'. **Schools were not closed and staff operated both for key children who remained at school**, and for children who receiving schooling, but at home. (For example, in

the school where I am a Governor, 150 children were in school daily, and 280 were being educated in their own homes.) This continued through the Easter holidays last year, but not through other breaks. However, at Christmas, public opinion forced the Government to support parents with vouchers for food during the holidays too, and this will be continuing through the Summer of 2021. This funding programme is being distributed by HCC.

Special schools were fully open throughout the last lockdown, even though some parents were reluctant to send children to school. In reality, few primary schools have had serious outbreaks (though three have had suspected cases in my division), but more have occurred in secondary schools. **The situation is reported to me direct so that I can inform communities if the situation becomes more serious.** At Perins school, the school was wisely closed for two weeks to clear the school of infections just before Christmas.

The County provided support to schools for PPE, guidance about returners, isolators, and children with mental health issues. A help line was set up for schools and parents.

**Child safeguarding reports dropped to very low levels at the first lockdown**, but returned with a vengeance, at higher levels, and with more cases of domestic abuse and child safeguarding reported by the Police which showed the escalated levels of need. The County Council receives several thousand calls a month for children alone.

The inclusion team is now working with families who are reluctant to send their children back to school. If you are concerned in this way, please call the Covid helpline and you will be referred to that team.

**County Lines reports** also dropped initially, but soon returned. The Willow team work in partnership with the Police on this, and achieved some successful break ups of Lines, resulting in protection of the children involved, who are themselves exploited.

I also dealt with **several issues on Traveller and Showperson's sites** which included a visit accompanied by the Police. I had hoped to follow this up, but new lockdown prevented this.

**Hampshire Outbreak Board, and Engagement board.** There was clearly a need not just for general public information regarding the 'state of play' in Hampshire, but also a need to identify areas where the deprivation is worse, and hence the case rate was greater, and act with additional public information and work with that authority. Mercifully, Winchester was mostly in the 'lower categories'.

**The Director of Public Health** sits within the Directorate at the County Council, and led operations, which included tracing, and working with the NHS and Government over lockdown decisions. (do you recall Tier 2, 3, 4 etc?) This also included decisions about public events. There was much criticism over last minute decisions to stop events happening (eg the Fair in Alresford, and less urgently, Boomtown in both 2020 and 2021) but the overriding opinion of the Engagement (politicians) board and the Outbreak board officer group that

public contagion had to be stopped at that time, and that a mass event threatened mass infection.

Now the rates are low, these boards continue to operate to monitor infections, health and vaccinations.

And in the midst of all this, there was flash **flooding in Autumn 2020** which is being worked through by HCC officers (though WCC cleared most of it up at the time), and planned Operation Resilience (resurfacing) work to underbridges and longstanding flooded areas, including to single and groups of homes who were disastrously flooded. Work is ongoing on these areas in much of my division.

As you can see at present, one flood alleviation scheme rose to the top of the list in this year: the Worthys. Sutton Scotney is next on the list.

I am really pleased to see this: this is the result of meetings every three months; sometime it felt like groundhog day, but importantly, Worthys flooding alleviation works (part 1) are being carried out now. A funding bid was submitted to DefRA Part 2 . If successful, the work will be completed in 2022.

Sutton Scotney investigations started some time ago. For clarity , it was left with the city councillor who chaired the Flood Action Group to follow through. I have now taken a more direct interest, and expect to see progress before next Autumn.

#### **County Council involvement in Planning applications:-**

**Highways: M3 Junction 9.** (An NSIP.HCC 'a host authority'). The initial re-design was rejected by the public on the rounds of safety (A33) and the failure to address the SpitfireLink congestion. I expect to see a new design go out to consultation in Summer 2021.

**Southampton Airport.** (An Eastleigh BC application). Although SDNPA and WCC opposed the application, HCC supported the application. The decision to approve is being challenged.

**Inert waste recycling plant at Three Maids Hill.** (An application to HCC) I opposed this in conjunction with fellow councillors. It was rejected, principally on the grounds of loss of facility at the stables, dust and congestion. A second plant (enforcement) in that area was withdrawn. I await that resubmission.

**Candover Valley Water Augmentation scheme: (application to HCC)** I was in close liaison with the residents and SDNOPA and the HCC officer on this ridiculous scheme and was pleased when Southern Water accepted criticisms and withdrew it.

**Ecogen expansion.** (An application to HCC) This site is affecting parishes of both Wonston and Kings Worthy. I will be objecting, and have sought clear no HGV signage for Sutton Scotney with urgent effect.

**Kings Barton:** The S106 and S278 works for this site are in conjunction with HCC. I have met with HCC officers on many occasions to try to progress this – but it is going extremely slowly, at Cala's own admittance.

**Hospital re-organisation and building** (HHFT plans) I have a role on the PSSAG as a Winchester councillor, and attend the special County HSC meetings to examine the implications of the proposals. The PSSAG work will cease after May as I am only seeking re-election as a county councillor to concentrate on the wide number of issues that exist in this division. I will continue to take a keen interest in the HASC

**In my role as shadow Children's Spokesperson at HCC**, I have consistently supported school transport, and worked with many families to achieve it.

The terrible bus crash in this division was a shock to us all, and the Officer and Executive member promised great improvements at Wellhouse Lane bridge, but so far, very little has been done by HCC. The driver is being prosecuted for his actions.

Meanwhile **reception children** have been denied the right to use a school bus for free (as other children do) if the journey is greater than 2 miles. I have challenged this many times at the council, and will continue to do so.

My **motion to the Council on School streets for safer, less congested areas** outside schools to encourage children to ride then stride the last few hundred metres at least, was successful, and three schools are piloting plans this Summer.

In this same role, I have demanded better performance for Education Health and Care Plans's, and assessment of autism. Children's Services scrutiny now receives updates on progress at every meeting, and more funding has been assigned to this work which was falling behind month by month until this intervention.

### **Broadband.**

Having consistently campaigned for faster broadband, the new Gigabit scheme proposed by Government, and in this area, principally operated by Openreach seemed very cumbersome but too good to be true. HCC agreed to top up the fund by £1m, which didn't seem so much money, but as most schemes could be purely funded by Openreach it looked as if rural communities were finally getting the broadband they so desperately needed, particularly as the whole world went online during the pandemic.

But Openreach delays in processing Community Fibre Partnerships has been a great frustration to their organisers. The Top up money is running out and the Government chose not to continue the roll out, but close and reopen a new scheme. A few fellow councillors and I are trying to persuade the County Council to divert funds for another top up scheme for 21/22. The Itchen Valley division certainly needs it.



**All this extra activity has cost a lot of money.** At one time, HCC reckoned it would be £80m short of the sums refunded, but at the last count, Government had refunded all but less than £5m, including the cost of the Brexit checkpoint works (iro £2.6m). The checkpoint works were constructed in the summer, set up pre-Christmas 2020, and the checkpoint opened to low numbers of users on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, so after our pressure, it taken down by March. What an unnecessary expense.

The best thing about the works is that, at my request, whilst the road is being restored back to more like its original state, the A31 layby is being restored with a road side verge and a more attractive entrance for the home and business at last.

The Cart and Horses junction cameras are still deployed- I have viewed the CCTV again recently and I know this information informs officers in consideration of future designs if there is an opportunity to do more there.

I am grateful to officers concerned for all projects in progress or completed this year. Their keenness to help wherever they can is greatly appreciated.

You can continue to contact me at [jackie@jackieporter.co.uk](mailto:jackie@jackieporter.co.uk) or telephone 01962 791054

## 2021 Annual Report to Kings Worthy Parish Council from City Councillors.

This has of course been an unprecedented year, with the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic affecting every single element of everyday life. We would firstly like to pay tribute to the very many members of our communities who stepped up to help, especially during the first lockdown. The networks of neighbourly support which were initiated last March have in most cases continued to offer help and support in our communities all year and all those concerned are to be congratulated. In particular, the Parish Council has offered not only continued advice and support where necessary but also taken on board the new ways of working, with online meetings and consultations, enabling not only councillors to continue to meet but also members of the public to continue to play their part in local democracy.

The City Council too has had to adapt to the 'new normal', with officers working from home and councillors attending meetings virtually. The pandemic has affected everything, but for the City Council the work became so much more and again we would like to commend our officers for the huge efforts they have made over the past year to support the wider District, by allocating Government grants, supporting local businesses with information and advice, and through it all still getting the bins collected!

Cllr Prince is pleased to report that the new Sport and Leisure Park will be opening on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May. We are pleased to see that the new affordable homes at Top Field – or King's Meadow as they are being marketed! – will be available soon, and anybody interested in the shared ownership homes should let us know straight away. The City Council under the control of the Liberal Democrats is well on the way to providing 1000 new council homes within the next ten years.

Plans are progressing quickly for the regeneration of central Winchester. The first steps include a green park area following the river on the former Friarsgate Surgery area, which will soon be demolished, and a significant upgrade to the Kings Walk area. Many will have seen the extended open air seating areas for cafés across Winchester City and the market towns in the District. This now includes the complete closure at weekends of The Square to through traffic, creating a pleasant continental style al fresco dining area, much appreciated by visitors and local residents alike.

Cllr Porter hopes that everyone has contributed to the public consultation on the new Local Plan. Over 2,000 people have responded to the online consultation. Whilst having to conform to Government edicts on housing numbers and quality, this is our opportunity to decide at a local level what sort of housing we need and where it should best be built, and this new Local Plan will cover the next fifteen years.

All three city Councillors have written to Hampshire County Council to object to the proposal to increase the amount of waste transferred at the Ecogen plant off Stoke Charity Road. Whilst we all support recycling, the waste should not be transported so far, and this site is clearly unsuitable for a bigger operation. In any event no recycling as such takes place here, but merely a collection and transfer onwards of mostly cardboard to another plant that actually does the recycling. We continue to press HCC for a 40mph limit along the length of Lovedon Lane, and that the two dangerous 'pinch points' be addressed.

We are pleased to see that flood mitigation works have finally commenced along Springvale Road, and hope that the minor inconveniences of rolling road closures will be made up for in future wet winters if flooding is thereby avoided.

We continue to call for changes to the Cart & Horses junction, which, despite the reduction in speed limit to 40mph, continues to see regular accidents and is avoided by many local drivers. There may be an opportunity to link improvements here to the work being considered for the M3/J9, which we are investigating. We are pleased that Cllr Porter has persuaded the County Highways department to continue close monitoring of this junction. It is concerning that the County has so far refused to consider reducing the speed limit along the B3047, despite the nasty accident that happened at the junction with Mill Lane and Park Lane recently. We will continue to push for a change here to 30mph.

There has been a significant increasing in recycling levels across the District, following the introduction of doorstep glass recycling. Batteries and smaller household electrical appliances can also now be collected with the usual waste collection service. The introduction of a paid for service for garden waste was effectively forced onto the City Council by changes in the way the County Council charges for waste disposal, but the scheme has been rolled out with remarkably few hiccoughs and the flexibility of the system, allowing households with smaller gardens to share bins and so on, has led to a better-than-expected take-up rate for this new service.

Cllr Jackie Porter, Cllr Malcolm Prince and Cllr Jane Rutter

26.04.21

**Management Accounts for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (Draft)**

**Income**

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date	2020/21 Forecast Outturn	2021/22 Budget
CIL expenditure	£0.00	£0.00	-£18,244.14	-£18,244.14	£0.00	£9,000.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£9,000.00	£9,000.00	£0.00	-£9,000.00	£0.00	£9,000.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration	£214,135.02	£214,135.02	£160,648.64	-£53,486.38	£205,025.46	£186,617.59
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£4,181.20	£4,181.20	£2,936.47	-£1,244.73	£6,514.84	£4,399.44
Planning & Highways	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation & Amenities	£6,060.00	£6,060.00	£7,095.00	£1,035.00	£4,393.33	£5,560.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>£233,376.22</b>	<b>£233,376.22</b>	<b>£152,435.97</b>	<b>-£80,940.25</b>	<b>£215,933.63</b>	<b>£205,577.03</b>

Budgeted new CIL income not received this year: £38,894.37

Corrections (from P&L to Reserves): £51,412.99

**Expenditure**

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date	2020/21 Forecast Outturn	2021/22 Budget
CIL expenditure	£0.00	£0.00	£14,778.98	£14,778.98	£0.00	£9,000.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£9,000.00	£9,000.00	£0.00	-£9,000.00	£0.00	£9,000.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration	£73,517.28	£73,517.28	£78,167.77	-£4,650.49	£80,279.85	£81,705.67
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£9,685.00	£9,685.00	£9,580.28	£29.72	£11,631.30	£10,315.89
Planning & Highways	£6,500.00	£6,500.00	£6,827.95	-£327.95	£7,376.95	£7,175.00
Recreation & Amenities	£81,269.00	£81,269.00	£64,221.76	£17,047.24	£69,384.85	£81,257.55
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>£179,971.28</b>	<b>£179,971.28</b>	<b>£173,576.74</b>	<b>£3,098.52</b>	<b>£168,672.95</b>	<b>£189,454.11</b>

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date	2020/21 Forecast Outturn	2021/22 Budget
<b>Actual Year to Date Position:</b>	<b>£53,404.94</b>	<b>£53,404.94</b>	<b>-£21,140.77</b>	<b>-£74,545.71</b>	<b>£47,260.68</b>	<b>£16,122.92</b>

**Memorandum position - Excluding CIL receipts only**

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date	2020/21 Forecast Outturn	2021/22 Budget
<b>Revised Position (excluding CIL receipts):</b>	<b>£6,298.92</b>	<b>£6,298.92</b>	<b>-£29,352.42</b>	<b>-£35,651.34</b>	<b>£13,039.18</b>	<b>£3,238.41</b>

<b>Play area reserve transfer</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>
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**Final memorandum position - Excluding CIL receipts and including play area reserve transfer**

<b>Net surplus / Deficit</b>	<b>-£3,701.08</b>	<b>-£3,701.08</b>	<b>-£39,352.42</b>	<b>-£35,651.34</b>	<b>£3,039.18</b>	<b>-£6,761.59</b>
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## Balance Sheet for period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

<u>Bank Accounts</u>	
Unity Trust Bank Current Account	£10,152.73
Unity Trust Tailored Deposit Account	£43,256.34
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>£53,409.07</b>
<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)	£5,213.92
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>£90,213.92</b>
<u>Other</u>	
B4B Procurement Card	£43.68
Debtors	£1,872.72
Prepayments	£1,139.92
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>£3,056.32</b>
<b>Total Current Assets:</b>	<b>£146,679.31</b>
Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	£7,573.34
Retentions	£3,878.57
Received on Account (inc. Precept)	£377.20
PAYE Payments Due	£251.20
NI Payments Due	£603.77
Pension Payments Due	£966.13
VAT to be Paid	£52.34
VAT to be Reclaimed	-£2,634.15
VAT that has been Reclaimed but not received	£0.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities:</b>	<b>£11,068.40</b>
<b>Current Assets Minus Liabilities:</b>	<b>£135,610.91</b>
Earmarked Funds in Reserve	
Church Green Reserve	£7,674.99
Play area maintenance reserve	£34,053.22
CIL Reserve	£16,967.77
<b>Total Current Liabilities:</b>	<b>£58,695.98</b>
Net Assets	
Profit & Loss Accounts Brought Forward	£12,582.28
General Reserves (inc. £7,364.59) for tree works)	£85,473.42
Profit & Loss Year to Date	-£21,140.77
<b>Total Net Assets:</b>	<b>£76,914.93</b>