

Kings Worthy Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 27 September 2021 at 19:30 held in Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road

Attendees

Councillors Les Haswell (Chair), Colin Cossburn, Emily Fish, Ian Gordon, Mandy Hallisey, Dorry Lawlor, Stewart Newell and Steve Waters.

Clerk(s)

Parish Clerk (Christopher Read)

Apologies

Cllr Signe Biddle

Cllr Sue Cook

Cllr Matthew Miller-Hall

Cllr Charlotte Smith

County & City Councillor(s)

Cllr Jackie Porter (Hampshire County Council [HCC])

Cllr Malcolm Prince (Winchester City Council [WCC])

Members of the public

None.

PC/21/094 – Public question time

None.

PC/21/095 – Impact of Coronavirus (Covid-19)

It was agreed to book Tubbs Hall for full council and committee meeting until the end of the calendar year.

PC/21/096 – To receive written reports from City & County Councillors and Parish Councillors following external meetings

WCC report (see attached) – All members had received a copy of the report before the meeting. Cllr Prince noted that he had attended Top Field to discuss the outstanding issues and it is awaiting a reply that week.

- Tesco layby – Cllr Newell enquired as to when the Tesco layby will be going ahead. Cllrs Prince (WCC) and Porter (HCC) confirmed that £50,000 had been allocated and this will enable a full costing for the project.

Cllr Cossburn stated that the layby was a condition of Top Field Action Group withdrawing their objection to the development of Top Field and that the leader of

WCC at time promised this would happen, with funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy. Cllr Porter (HCC) stated that having seen the letter sent to Top Field Action Group this promise was not agreed in writing. However, our city and county councillors will be pushing for this work to go ahead but more money may need to be found once the costing of the proposal is complete.

- North Winchester Farm application – Cllr Newell asked if WCC had objected to the application to increase HGV movements to the North Winchester Farm recycling site. Cllr Porter (HCC) stated that the Environmental Health Officer at WCC had made robust comments about the application.

HCC report (see attached) – All members had received a copy of the report before the meeting.

Cllr Porter added that a section of highway verge had been taken by a resident and this is being dealt with.

- M3 Junction 9 – Cllr Porter stated that Cycle Winchester had met with Highways England to discuss a cycle path. Highways England do not want to put one in and both HCC and WCC are being robust with them about this.
- Grass cutting within the Parish – Cllr Gordon raised the issue of grass cutting around the parish. Allowing the grass to grow longer will potentially cause issues with ticks and thus increase the risk of Lyme's disease.

Also, the contractors are letting grass clipping get onto the highway gutter which is causing blockages. Cllr Porter stated that she is aware of this matter. Cllr Waters stated that blowing clippings onto the highway is an offence.

PC/21/097 – Agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 26th July 2021

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

PC/21/098 – Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting on the 26th July 2021

None.

PC/21/099 – Agree and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on 31st August 2021

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

PC/21/0100 – Matters arising from the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on the 31st August 2021

None.

PC/21/101 – To receive the minutes of the committees

Recreation & Amenities (R&A) Committee – Before the meeting all Councillors had received a copy of the minutes for the meetings on the 5th August 2021 and 9th September 2021.

Cllr Hallisey stated that the recent music festival had been a success.

Finance, Administration & Remuneration Committee – Before the meeting all Councillors had received a copy of the minutes for the meetings on the 11th August and 15th September 2021.

- Assistant Clerk – Lousie Daniel had been hired on a salary of £22,500 pro-rata based on 20 hours per week.
- Parish Council insurance – It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the recommendation to proceed based on the receipt of two quotations and accept the quotation for a 3-year long-term agreement from Hiscox, at a cost of £5,470.60 per annum.
- Tree works at Upper Broadview – It was unanimously agreed to proceed with quotation C from Merritt Tree Services for the tree works to the laurels at Upper Broadview, subject to confirmation of ownership.
- Management report for month ending 31st August 2021 (see attached) – The Clerk gave a presentation of the accounts for the month ending 31st August 2021.
- Sub-lease with Tubbs Hall Management Committee (THMC) – It was agreed for Cllrs Haswell and Newell to meet with THMC to discuss the proposed sub-lease arrangements.

Under the provisions of the Public Bodies [Admissions to Meetings] Act 1960 [as extended by S100A of the Local Government Act 1972] the public were excluded from the discussion on this item due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered, namely to discuss the status of the Lovedon Fields site. Cllrs Malcolm Prince (WCC) and Jackie Porter (HCC) left the room at this point.

Lovedon Fields site – Councillors discussed correspondence that had been received relating to the transfer of the open space at Lovedon Fields.

Action: It was agreed to get legal advice on our position and reply as appropriate. This advice will be circulated to Councillors.

Action: It was also agreed to get legal advice on the planning status of the land.

Action: Arrange a meeting with WCC to discuss the open space.

Cllrs Malcolm Prince (WCC) and Jackie Porter (HCC) returned at this point.

Planning & Highways Committee – Before the meeting all Councillors had received a copy of the minutes for the meetings on the 17th August 2021, 7th September 2021 and 21st September 2021. No questions were raised.

PC/21/102 – Winchester Villager’s Trust representative

It was agreed to appoint Cllr Gordon as the Parish Council’s representative for the Winchester Villager’s Trust.

PC/21/103 – Communications (incl. Website / Facebook / Newsletter / Monthly Comms. Etc.)

None.

PC/21/104 – Clerk’s Notices

Fire shutter battery – Following the recent service of the fire shutter and battery backup, the backup was found to not be functioning correctly. A quotation had been received for a replacement at a cost of £609.00.

Action: It was agreed to obtain another quotation for this work and that the shutter will be deactivated and remain closed until this repair has been carried out.

October half term football – It was agreed to allow WCC to use Eversley park for their October half term football project.

Confirmation of decisions via email – Cllr Lawlor had requested that when Councillors views are sought on decisions outside of meetings that the decision made is shared with members. Recently she had not been made aware of a decision made by the office.

The Clerk stated that this was not normal policy and had not emailed Cllr Lawlor as he had been informed she had been made aware of the decision by the committee Chair.

After discussion it was agreed to inform the relevant committee members of decisions when views are sought via email.

PC/21/105 – Chair’s Notices

None.

PC/21/106 – Items for discussion at the next meeting on the 29th November 2021

None.

Meeting Closed at 20:40.

Signed:

Date:

Report to the Kings Worthy Worthy Parish Council from City Councillors

September 2021

New Leisure Centre:

Continues to do well – remember to register your car reg no at reception if you want to take advantage of the free parking allowance.

M3 Junction 9 proposals

On a positive note, the County Council and Winchester City Council have both supported our long-held view that a roundabout at the Cart & Horses junction should be installed as part of the M3 Junction 9 changes, the proposals for which have just finished their first round of consultation. Neither local council can support the main proposals without this vital improvement to the local road network. We will be pressing for the new roundabout, however, to respect its position as the gateway to the South Downs National Park, with suitable landscaping and the inclusion of footways, safe crossing points and dedicated cycle lanes.

Cycle Routes

There are some suggestions emerging from the County Council that as well as supporting our call for the proposed pedestrian link to Winnall to be upgraded to a cycle route as part of the motorway junction works, the permissive cycle route along Worthy Lane should be upgraded and extended to link with the new route from the Cart & Horses junction. A permissive path is a footpath where people are allowed to cycle, but it does not necessarily meet cycle path standards. We support an upgrade, so long as pedestrians retain precedence along the shared surface, but a lot of physical work and consultation is needed before these can become a reality. We believe these moves are supported by the Winchester Movement Strategy and will try to ensure that full consultation is undertaken before, and then regular maintenance is put in place after these improvements.

Kings Meadow Priorities

Cllr Prince recently met with Cllr Porter and the WCC Strategic Director Richard Botham at the new Kings Meadow development to look at the council's priorities for improvements to access and landscaping. Key to encouraging sustainability and healthy lifestyles is the walk – which should be upgraded to a route suitable for non-motorised vehicles too, such as buggies, motability scooters, wheelchairs and bicycles – across the old railway bridge along the Kim Bishop Walk to the bottom of Wesley Road. The work the Parish Council has done already at the Scout Hut end of the walk is appreciated. The City Council has allocated CIL money of up to £50,000 to pay for this and the long-awaited lay-by to take traffic off the road at the junction of Hookpit Farm Lane and Springvale Road, the Tesco junction. Officers are now fully costing this work. There is a possibility that the total cost will exceed the allocated budget. If this is the case, other sources of funding will have to be explored.

Planning and Enforcement

The Enforcement team at the City Council has recently been brought back up to full strength and with a new officer in charge is talking with renewed enthusiasm the various cases around the District. The enforcement team is updating its processes so that it can provide a better Enforcement reporting service for Parish Councils. Please do email them with any concerns: enforcement@winchester.gov.uk.

Meanwhile, despite the loss of three experienced members of staff, the planning department has been shortlisted for a prestigious Award, based on their creative social media engagement strategies for the first phase of public consultation for the new Local Plan. With a robust recruitment and training plan, we expect this department to be back up to speed soon, and if you hear of any problems with the planning department in the mean time please do contact one of us.

EcoGen planning application.

We provided robust responses in response to the new technical documents commissioned by EcoGen on HCC's request. We also encouraged residents to respond to these too, by a letter drop to several hundred houses nearest to the route, and through Social Media engagement. We endorse the position taken by KWPC Planning & Highway committee, at the meeting to consider this planning application, which we attended.

Other items:

Kings Barton – we are working with WCC Officers to try to improve collaboration with CALA for the benefit of both KB and the wider Worthy's community.

We are supporting residents with concerns on various planning and retrospective planning application.

Contact any of us with questions on these, or any other matters. Worthys@winld.org.uk

Steve Cramoysan, Malcolm Prince and Jane Rutter

County Councillor Report for Parishes September 2021

It always feels like a New Year after the County's August official meetings break, but in reality, meetings and conversations have continued through the Summer.

Meetings: HCC is going back to a mixture of meetings online (Decision Days, briefings etc) and in person (County Council, Select Committee, Regulatory etc) which will be useful as it cuts journey times and our carbon footprint for many occasions, but still gives opportunity for working 'in 3D'.

Through August, I have been working on projects which are important to you and HCC has now identified officers (importantly with a budget!) to progress these to completion.

To give you some idea of the range of projects, I am listing projects across the division.

There are now officers working on :-

- improved access to Micheldever Station,
- making the Broad Street service road closure permanent,
- the Millennium path repairs,
- improvements on the Bishop's Sutton path
- continuation of the flooding mitigation for the Worthys
- bus improvements for Kings Barton and the bus corridor
- completion of the cycle route from South Wonston to Winchester
- crossing and speed restrictions on Andover Road
- a study of the Itchen for public access, quality, maintenance and walkability,

Officers are also assigned (but currently without capital budget) for

- the West Street project
- flooding mitigation at Sutton Scotney

Planning and Regulatory matters ongoing are

- Ecogen recycling : expansion hours of operation and vehicle numbers (cttee likely Oct 20th 2021)
- The recycling and incineration of waste at Alton
- The Candover Water Augmentation scheme (likely to go to cttee in Spring 2022)
- M3 Junction 9 works
- Sun Lane, including construction of the new roundabout

In addition, Kings Barton highway matters continue with a team at HCC, in conjunction with WCC.

Grass cutting: Pilots are ongoing to look at reducing verge and grass cuts to improve biodiversity in areas cut by WCC under an agency agreement from HCC. If you get the chance, please go and look at either Badger Farm or Alresford. Two pilot areas, these are being cut just 4 x per year, instead of the usual 9. I'd appreciate your views. HCC sightlines will continue to be cut for safety reasons, but frequency TBC if the new regime is developed.

Afghanistan: The County will be welcoming families in a similar way to the Syrian acceptance a few years ago. This includes support for training, language and physical and mental support for some time after their arrival. We look forward to working with the districts and county on this. You may well be familiar with the mobilisation already in place for this with our incredible volunteer organisations, including Community First and Unit-12, but if your Parish Council wants or needs more information, I am happy to provide it.

County Deal, making an Expression of Interest: The Leader has written to Government to express interest in participating in the 'County Deal' which considers innovation, levelling up and importantly, devolution of services to a '*sensible economic geography*' and so Hampshire is proposing this in partnership with Portsmouth, Southampton, the Isle of Wight, and districts and boroughs. HCC has set up meetings with potential partners and Government has set up a meeting to discuss this in September. As this develops, I will be placing more about this on my website this month for reference. (search County Deal)

The Hospital consultation plans have been delayed by Government again, as new parameters for funding have been introduced which means changing the clinical model planned and proposed by the Trust. Will this ever happen? I continue to be on the PSSAG (Patients, Staff and Stakeholders Advisory Group) and will be on the County Scrutiny Committee when it gets to that point.

School performance: During lockdown, schools in my division and across Hampshire did an incredible job getting the most vulnerable children and key worker children into school, and keeping in touch with others. Ofsted inspections did not take place in 2020, and only a few in 2021. Conscious that the national figure for failing schools (Inadequate and requiring Improvement) is about 14% and Hampshire has 6.5%, I wanted to find out how Hampshire's school improvement advisory service, HIAS, is helping the last 6.5% of schools to become good through this difficult time.

A complication is that some of these schools are managed by their Academy Trust which does not necessarily seek or co-operate with the HCC systems, though some do. Unable to visit schools in the last academic year, I hope to resume visits in person soon.

Lockdown has seen a huge increase in the number of children home schooling too.

Early years settings have taken a real knock in lockdown and some have closed. Funding has been precarious and fixed costs have been high with less children attending. The County has a statutory duty to provide enough childcare places for the county's children, which they do through private, and voluntary settings, charities and their own nurseries. Cost of a place is immaterial for this study but crucial for parents, and may affect a child's ability to attend. Good news: there is a new curriculum from September 2021 which includes more communication with children and less paperwork!

Faster broadband: Announcements were made by Government for funding for a new Gigabit scheme from April 2021.

I was recently informed that HCC expected to have their agreements in place with Government and BDUK in the next few weeks.

CFP's already up and running will be in conversation with Chris Priestley at Openreach already, but as soon as the arrangements are finalised (expected this month) , I'll be asking Glenn Peacey at HCC to assess for each Community Fibre Partnership, whether being on the CFP programme offers any added value more than remaining on the general Openreach programme so that communities can make their own decisions whether to go ahead with their own FTTP scheme . Interestingly, I tried recently to secure a FTTC (Cabinet) scheme but Openreach no longer install fibre just to Cabinet (C), but always to Property (P)

All new properties being built are FTTP (Fibre to the property) .

Declaration of Interest: I have accepted the invitation to become a trustee for Citizens Advice Winchester District CAWD. I know that they make requests to you for funding from time to time but I will not now be able to encourage you to continue to be generous! Thank you if you do so!



Jackie Porter, County Councillor for the Itchen Valley Division
Campaigner, School Governor and Charity Trustee
Liberal Democrat spokesperson for Children in Hampshire

Text: 07973 696 085 Ansaphone: 01962 791054

Write to me at: The Down House, Itchen Abbas SO21 1AX

I'm also on Twitter: @JackieLibDem, Facebook or What's App, but for a personal matter, a phone call, text or email is best.

You can see more about local and national matters on www.jackieporter.co.uk

Management Accounts for the period ending 31st August 2021

Income

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Community Infrastructure Levy	£12,884.51	£6,442.26	£35,609.37	£29,167.12
Neighbourhood Plan	£9,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration	£173,733.08	£72,040.63	£72,219.79	£179.16
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£4,399.44	£1,833.10	£915.00	-£918.10
Planning & Highways	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation & Amenities	£5,560.00	£1,733.55	£1,252.00	-£481.55
Totals:	£205,577.03	£82,049.54	£109,996.16	£27,946.62

Expenditure

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Community Infrastructure Levy	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£9,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration	£81,705.67	£38,767.72	£33,041.42	£5,726.30
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£10,315.89	£4,902.71	£2,915.26	£1,987.45
Planning & Highways	£7,175.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation & Amenities	£81,257.55	£27,150.99	£23,409.39	£3,741.60
Totals:	£189,454.11	£70,821.42	£59,366.07	£11,455.35

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Actual Year to Date Position	£16,122.92	£11,228.12	£50,630.09	£39,401.97

Memorandum position - Excluding Community Infrastructure Levy receipts and expenditure

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date
Memorandum Year to Date Position:	£3,238.41	£4,785.86	£15,020.72	£10,234.86

Balance Sheet for period ending 31st August 2021

Bank Accounts	
Unity Trust Bank Current Account	£8,491.51
Unity Trust Tailored Deposit Account	£103,306.34
Sub-Total:	£111,797.85
Investments/Deposits	
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
Sub-Total:	£90,213.92
Other	
B4B Procurement Card	£5.24
Debtors	£200.00
Prepayments	£0.00
Sub-Total:	£582.79
Total Current Assets:	£202,217.01
Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	£594.17
Retentions	£377.20
Received on Account (inc. Precept)	£14,351.50
PAYE Payments Due	£460.00
NI Payments Due	£832.36
Pension Payments Due	£1,010.27
VAT to be Paid	-£3.00
VAT to be Reclaimed	-£1,646.49
VAT that has been Reclaimed but not received	£0.00
Total Current Liabilities:	£15,976.01
Current Assets Minus Liabilities:	£186,241.00
Earmarked Funds in Reserve	
Church Green Reserve	£6,177.49
Play area maintenance reserve	£34,053.22
CIL Reserve	£25,179.42
Total Current Liabilities:	£65,410.13
Net Assets	
Profit & Loss Accounts Brought Forward	-£8,558.49
General Reserves (inc. £19,297.65 for tree works)	£78,759.27
Profit & Loss Year to Date	£50,630.09
Total Net Assets:	£120,830.87