



Kings Worthy Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 29 January 2024 at 19:30 held in Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Road

Attendees

Councillors Signe Biddle, Colin Cossburn, Emily Fish (Chairman), Ian Gordon, Mandy Hallisey, Phillip Horne, Dorry Lawlor, Charlotte Smith & Steve Waters

Clerk(s)

Parish Clerk (Christopher Read)

Anita Husz (Deputy Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr Matthew Miller-Hall (the council resolved to approve Cllr Matthew Miller-Hall's reason for absence)

County & City Councillor(s)

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

Cllr Steve Cramoysan (Winchester City Council [WCC])

Members of the public

One.

PC/24/001 - Election of Chairperson

Cllr Ian Gordon was proposed by Cllr Hallisey and seconded by Cllr Fish.

Cllr Colin Cossburn was proposed by Cllr Lawlor and seconded by Cllr Waters.

Both candidates gave a short presentation on why they wished to stand as Chairman.

A ballot was held with 6 votes in favour of Cllr Cossburn, 2 votes in favour of Cllr Gordon and 1 spoiled ballot.

Cllr Cossburn was elected as Chairman and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

Cllr Gordon stated that he was resigning from the Council with immediate effect and left the meeting at this point.

Cllr Cossburn asked members of the public to leave the meeting to discuss a statement made by Cllr Gordon when resigning relating to a previous ballot.

He also noted that he will not be re-standing for election in May.

(Cllrs Cramoysan, Porter and a member of the public re-entered the meeting at this point).

PC/24/002 – Public Question Time [Please note that this is the only time that the public are able to speak and is limited to 5 minutes per subject]

A member of the public raised his disappointment and concern at the recent permission given for the increase in Heavy Goods Vehicles to the Ecogen site.

Action – Publicise the email address for reporting issues, on our website and Facebook page.

PC/24/003 – Impact of COVID-19 (including meeting recommendations)

It was agreed to keep the current recommendations.

PC/24/004 – Co-options to fill Councillor vacancy on the Parish Council

After discussion, it was agreed to confirm with Winchester City Council whether the vacancies had to be re-advertised and whether we can wait until May to do so.

Action – Clerk to ask WCC as above.

PC/24/005 – Appointment of Councillor(s) onto committee(s)

Cllr Hallisey was appointed onto the Finance, Administration & Remuneration committee.

(Cllr Biddle left the meeting at this point)

PC/24/006 – To receive written reports from City & County Councillors and Parish Councillors following external meetings

A copy of the city & county council reports had been circulated to the Councillors before the meeting (see attached). Both Councillors summarised their reports.

Cllr Porter highlighted the recent flooding and the need to confirm the ownership of the boundary ditch surrounding the King Charles Pub.

Cllr Lawlor noted that she had spoken to the local Stagecoach manager who has stated there is no longer an issue with the punctuality of the Spring bus service but the issues still remain.

PC/24/007 – To agree and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 27 November 2023

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

PC/24/008 – Matters arising from the meeting held on the 27 November 2023

None.

PC/24/009 – To receive the minutes of the committees:

- Recreation and Amenities Committee – 11 January 2024 – A copy had been circulated to members before the meeting.
- Finance, Administration & Remuneration Committee – 17 January 2024 –
 - i. Agreement of photocopier contract – It was agreed to proceed with a 4-year contract from Kyocera at a total annual cost (for rental) of £473.68.
 - ii. Appointment of internal auditor – It was agreed to proceed with appointing

company B (Do the Numbers Ltd) as the Councils internal auditor at a total cost of £500.00

- Planning & Highways Committee – 19 December 2023 & 23 January 2024 –

Committee members asked for clarification from the Finance committee on the additional information they require for the proposal for an additional speed sign.

PC/24/010 - Eversley Park play area renewal – update on tower installation including remaining findings and opening

Tower installation (remaining findings) – The Clerk updated Councillors. Cllr Cossburn stated that he felt the contractor is in breach of contract and thus they must rectify the issue highlighted by the inspector.

Action – Check if the contractor is registered with a trade body.

Zip line –

Action – After discussion, it was agreed to request a full schedule of painting works from the contractor before any works take place.

PC/24/011 – Grant request from 3rd Winchester Scouts group

The Clerk summarised the request which was for £500.00 towards the cost of a replacement BBQ to be used at local community events. It was unanimously agreed to grant £500.00.

PC/24/012 – Agreement of works for finishing of the allotment site (including fencing and hedging)

Following a recent email regrading the access for the site, it was agreed to confirm with the solicitor(s) at WCC whether access was granted for the allotment area.

Action – Contact WCC's solicitors to confirm access.

It was also agreed to delay the hedging works until the next planting season.

Action – Cllr Cossburn to apply for WCC Community Infrastructure Levy funding for the allotment works.

PC/24/013 – Agreement of quotation for the renovation of the bottom football pitch

(Cllr Hallisey left the meeting at this point)

Members reviewed the quotations and the Clerk noted that the decision at R&A had been made based on the wording provided which was in fact drafted by the Clerk, not the contractor.

It was agreed to proceed with quotation C (from Southern Ground Care) at a total cost of £7,190.00.

PC/24/014 – Agreement of quotation for re-surfacing at Lovedon Lane Burial Ground

(Cllr Hallisey returned to the meeting at this point)

After discussion it was agreed to send this item back to R&A to clarify the differences in the

specification.

PC/24/015 – Agreement of quotation for repairs and replacement equipment at Fraser Road play area

It was agreed to accept the quotation from Company A (Redlynch Leisure) at a total cost of £13,151.00. This amount has been agreed by our insurers, along with the funds to cover the replacement equipment which will be ordered directly from the suppliers.

(Cllrs Cramoysan & Porter left the meeting at this point)

PC/24/016 – Parish Council email provider including alternatives providers and gov.uk domain

It was unanimously agreed to proceed with a gov.uk domain name.

Action – The Clerk will check which suppliers can be used for this type of domain.

Action – Cllrs to provide feedback on proposed systems to the Clerk which will be shared with Councillors ahead of the meeting.

PC/24/017 – To review the draft forecast outturn (2023/24) & draft budget (2024/25) including agreeing the annual precept for 2024/25

Members had reviewed a copy of the Forecast Outturn (2023/24) and budget (2024/25) and Clerk showed an updated set based on the decisions above. It was agreed to set the precept for 2024/25 at £185,946.00.

PC/24/018 – Communications – including website, newsletter and monthly update sheets

Newsletter – It was agreed to delay this until April and include the date of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Monthly updates sheets – Cllr Lawlor noted that monthly updates sheets had not been issued recently as had been done historically.

Action – It was agreed for Cllrs Lawlor & Smith to review the Councils communications strategy including noticeboards.

PC/24/019 – Parish Council social media –

After discussion, it was agreed to review this part of the Councils communication strategy.

PC/24/020 – Creation of a potential Council WhatsApp group

After discussion, it was agreed for Cllr Lawlor to re-circulate the proposal and terms of reference to all members for agreement at the next meeting.

Action – Cllr Lawlor to re-circulate the proposed terms of reference.

PC/24/021 – ID card policy – agreement of draft policy

It was agreed to adopt this policy.

PC/24/022 – Parish Council emergency action plan

It was agreed to look into expanding this plan to cover events other than flooding.

PC/24/023 – Recording of Council meetings

After discussion, it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain a template policy from NALC (National Association of Local Councils), HALC (Hampshire Association of Local Councils) and/or the Society for Local Council Clerks (SLCC).

Action – Clerks to obtain and circulate policy as above.

(Cllr Hallisey left at this point)

PC/24/024 – Potential electric car charging points

Cllr Horne had investigated this and the cost of approximately £9-10,000.00.

PC/24/025 – Addition of any other business to future agendas

Cllr Cossburn noted that NALC advise against doing this as it is not best practice.

PC/24/026 – Items for inclusion in Council communications

- Compensation for water supply issues
- Ecogen email addresses to report issues
- Councillors Vacancies

PC/24/027 – Clerk’s Notices

None.

PC/24/028 – Chairman’s Notices

Cllr Cossburn stated that the supporting documents for the meeting need to be sent with the agenda.

PC/24/029 – Items for discussion at the next meeting – 26 February 2024

None.

Cllr Lawlor stated that she no longer wishes to be involved in the Council’s social media.

Meeting Closed at: 21:45

Signed:

Date:

County Councillor Report for January 2024

Flood Action Groups are set up in some villages, but maybe not all? Please could you ensure your Emergency Plan is up to date: it would be helpful if you could invite me to join your Flood Action Email or What's App if you have one. Thank you.

If you are not already signed up for Flood Alerts, please go to www.gov.uk to register.

<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>.

Future Services consultation

I have documented the financial position in which HCC find themselves and the cuts they are expecting to make. The 'Future Services' consultation starts on Monday 8th January 2024 and continues until 2359hrs on the 31st March March 2024.

The consultation is online or can be viewed at a library or calling 0300 555 1375 to order a paper copy of the consultation. Responses can be submitted online: www.hants.gov.uk/future-services-consultation or by sending via Freepost HAMPSHIRE

The 13 areas of consultation are:-

1. Adult Social Care changes (contribution changes from 95% of income to 100%)
2. Adult Social Care grant schemes (withdrawal of grants to Voluntary Services, and Citizens Advice and Local Solutions Grant)
3. Competitive (one off) grant schemes (withdrawal of three grant schemes)
4. Hampshire Cultural Trust grant (reduce £'s to manage and deliver culture/arts)
5. Highways Maintenance (reduction of)
6. Highways Winter service (reduction in priority one routes)
7. Homelessness Support services (stop this as HCC not a housing authority)
8. Household Waste Recycling Centres (-running on a reduced budget resulting in less hours of opening, possible closure)
9. Library stock (reduction of purchase of new library stock in book and/or digital form)
10. Passenger Transport (withdrawal of *all* funding for community transport schemes, supported bus routes, concessionary travel hours and school transport offer)
11. Rural Countryside Parking (charging for parking at countryside sites)
12. School Crossing Patrols (to decide how to withdraw funding from each SCP site)
13. Street Lighting (To dim street lights further and switch off for additional 2 hours.)

I urge your council to consider these changes and respond if you can. There is a general preamble in the document, then you can complete one or all sections as you wish.

A number of drainage and road maintenance schemes were set up for end of '23 and the New Year, but currently many of them are being postponed as the teams struggle to catch up following the spate of bad weather. Please report problems asap. The County Council has a new look website which offers 'report it' on the home page which is helpful.

Broadband

I have asked again what Hampshire is doing to tackle the 'last 5%' of you that don't yet have fast broadband. I have heard that signing up to 'Starlink' isn't cheap but it can give speeds of up to 200Mb and reaches rural 'notspots'. Go to www.starlink.com for details

Hampshire County Council has opened the consultation on the Minerals and Waste plan : Partial Update, Reg 19 Proposed Submission Consultation: this runs from 9th Jan 2024 to 2359hrs on 5 March 2024. Parishes who may be affected by Minerals and Waste planning can respond online. (and I expect all Parishes will have a view). You can respond at www.hants.gov.uk website survey www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update or email hmwp.consult@hants.gov.uk

Cllr Jackie Porter

Report from WCC Councillors – Kings Worthy Parish Council 29th January 2024

Southern Water – Water Supply issues

I am sure everyone is aware that there were widespread water supply issues including no water available to around 500 properties mostly on high ground in Kings Worthy. This was part of a wider issue which dragged on as the attempts to isolate one problem led to exposing other weaknesses in the infrastructure. Winchester City Council's role in helping to mitigate the issues is as part of a multiagency "Crisis management" team. In the event of a crisis, a Crisis management process kicks in. In a Water supply crisis, WCC's role is primarily to offer Car park space for the Water Authority to distribute Water supplies. As part of doing this, we have WCC officers at the table which create a Communications channel to that team. Southern Water works out where it thinks the issues are from their customers reporting supply problems. Winchester City Council Councillors collect information from their wards as to whether there are any shortages and where those are, and report them via WCC officers at the crisis management meetings. At times we found that Southern Water thought that the problem was fixed, but our contacts were telling us otherwise.

We have been told by some local people who have reported no water or reduced supply, that Southern Water should provide some reductions to their bills. The advice given to us is to report the issues and seek compensation via the Official Regulator, Ofwat. Link here:

<https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/households/supply-and-standards/standards-of-service/?fbclid=IwAR0H2dd70eDeuMauwvz4EYmDnUwV2k-AX-dkEaZc2NJKralzMVB96gRee7E>

I see no reason not to pursue it via both Southern Water and Ofwat!

Waste & Recycling

At the Health & Environment committee on 22nd January, which Steve Chairs, we heard from City Council officers an update on the Waste & Recycling strategy. Some of the key points include:

- 8740 responses to WCC survey of residents. This is extremely high and shows the interest in improving recycling rates. Details are in the report that was published for that meeting.
- Food waste collections must start from April 2026 – WCC may go earlier if vehicles, infrastructure & funding ready
- County Council to confirm MRF by April 2024. This will confirm or amend the proposed plan for Comingled recycling bin
- Comingling means glass, tins and paper and other recycles in the same bin. Still a risk that glass might be separate.
- Govt announcement of EPR funding by Nov 2024
- Deposit Return Scheme to be introduced by October 2025
- Caveat: National Govt promises could be amended!

Lots of details in the HEP papers here:

<https://democracy.winchester.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=350&Mid=4465&Ver=4>

Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust proposals

HHFT who run RHCH in Winchester are proposing to reshape hospital services in mid to north Hampshire. Basingstoke Hospital is near or at its end of life and is expensive to maintain and has a risk of some buildings become unusable. HHFT propose to build a new hospital in the Basingstoke area, and in the process change how RHCH Winchester is used. Some of the changes such as replacing A&E with an Urgent Treatment Centre and downgrading Maternity provision from Consultant to mid-wife led services are generally considered to be down grades in most local people's minds. It is proposed to make RHCH Winchester the centre of excellence for planned surgery, for both Winchester & Basingstoke patients.

Details are available in HHFT consultation papers.

<https://www.hampshiretogether.nhs.uk/consultation-meetings-and-events>

The Health & Environment committee are hosting HHFT who are coming along on Wednesday to answer questions from members of the committee. The deadline to register for public speaking has passed, but anyone can watch the meeting on the City Council's YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPls5SYa_8Q

The Spring Bus Service

As you know, this is a joint piece of work between Dorry (In her capacity as a concerned bus user) and Steve, with Jackie challenging the County Council where we think we can. We've had no response from Stagecoach following the meeting we had. Dorry managed to speak to Ops mgr at Bus station. His response was not helpful. HCC transport team do not have access to punctuality reports for the scheduled services which they do not subsidise and has effectively no leverage over Stagecoach.

Important to remember that buses are a privatised industry. The way that it worked out, the vision for a bus industry with competitive operators failed. In effect we ended up with private businesses having more or a less a monopoly in their specific areas. This is effectively the model we have in the Winchester area. There are some exceptions elsewhere in the country. Getting a better service will, ultimately depend on whether we can persuade Stagecoach management to change their bus service priorities, or to increase the resources – drivers and buses. Also, important to remember that some of the issues are dependent on random traffic congestion on the routes especially in the City centre areas, or on the bus routes that precede the bus & driver being on the Spring route. Getting 100% punctuality will not be possible, but improvements should be, if Stagecoach decide to take action.

Steve & Dorry have agreed a set of steps that we intend to take. A gradual escalation.

City Council News

The latest City Council News can be found here: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/news>

Jane Rutter, Steve Cramoysan and Jackie Porter – 29th January 2024

Management Accounts for the period ending 31st October 2023

Income

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date	Forecast Outturn	2024/25 Draft Budget
Community Infrastructure Levy	£9,507.31	£9,507.31	£16,956.39	£7,449.08	£16,956.39	£0.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration	£184,096.44	£137,805.90	£149,543.77	£11,737.87	£198,590.88	£185,489.02
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£7,930.97	£5,948.22	£1,647.00	£-4,301.22	£8,594.04	£7,025.81
Planning & Highways	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation & Amenities	£7,633.65	£5,400.86	£13,549.31	£8,148.45	£13,549.31	£11,055.14
Totals:	£209,168.37	£9,507.31	£16,956.39	£7,449.08	£16,956.39	£0.00

Expenditure

Department/committee	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date	Forecast Outturn	2024/25 Draft Budget
Community Infrastructure Levy	£83,447.38	£83,447.38	£84,466.08	£1,018.70	£84,466.08	£0.00
Finance, Administration & Remuneration	£107,921.03	£85,066.59	£86,448.10	£-1,381.51	£114,144.15	£110,716.35
Kings Worthy Community Centre	£11,120.16	£8,118.83	£7,489.47	£629.36	£16,280.61	£9,174.88
Planning & Highways	£11,070.00	£5,309.90	£4,284.40	£1,025.50	£8,475.54	£9,386.39
Recreation & Amenities	£94,196.54	£76,430.43	£78,326.11	£-1,895.68	£157,272.46	£77,246.08
Totals:	£307,755.10	£258,373.12	£261,014.16	£-603.64	£380,638.84	£206,523.70

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Year to Date		
Actual Year to Date Position	£-98,586.74	£-99,710.83	£-79,317.69	£20,393.14	£-142,948.22	£-2,953.72

Memorandum Position - (Excluding CIL income, CIL expenditure, play area spend)

Memorandum Year to Date Position:	£-6,269.15	£-9,156.57	£13,875.96	£23,032.53	£-37,840.17	£-2,953.72
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Balance Sheet for period ending 31st October 2023

Bank Accounts	
Unity Trust Bank Current Account	£9,687.52
Unity Trust Tailored Deposit Account - 2.75% AER	£129,995.20

Sub-Total: £139,682.72

Investments/Deposits	
Nationwide variable (35-day notice) – 3.1% AER	£85,000.00

Sub-Total: £85,000.00

Other	
B4B Procurement Card	£207.19
Debtors	£1,265.86
Prepayments	£0.00

Sub-Total: £1,473.05

Total Current Assets:	£226,155.77
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Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	£25,893.56
Retentions	-£4,868.71
Received on Account (inc. Precept)	£45,748.03
PAYE Payments Due	£644.56
NI Payments Due	£1,394.59
Pension Payments Due	£1,836.68
VAT to be Paid	£5.45
VAT to be Reclaimed	-£7,901.92
VAT that has been Reclaimed but not received	£0.00
Total Current Liabilities:	£62,752.24

Current Assets Minus Liabilities:	£163,403.53
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Earmarked Funds in Reserve	
Play area maintenance reserve	£28,708.08
CIL Reserve	£2,186.25
Total Current Reserves:	£30,894.33

Net Assets	
General Reserves (inc. £24,727.65 for tree works)	£211,826.89
Profit & Loss Year to Date	-£79,317.69
Total Net Assets:	£132,509.20