

# Headbourne Worthy Village News

Summer 2020

News and Information from your local Parish Council

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council includes the majority of Kings Barton

## Annual Review - Cllr Claire Welland



### Annual Review, May 2020 Cllr Claire Welland, Chair.

As I write this, the world feels like a very different place: the things that were on my mind even a few weeks ago have retreated and have been replaced with concerns for family, friends and neighbours; where simple supplies are more difficult to come by, and our lives have turned

– almost overnight – into something much more limited in scope.

I must admit that adding a section to our Parish Emergency Flood Plan for a response to a possible Pandemic had been on my 'To Do' list for some time. But unless you have lived it, how could you possibly imagine what would happen, and how a Parish Council might respond? We had just been updating the Flood Plan after the most recent flood event when Covid-19 made its appearance on the world stage. For now, our community across both Headbourne Worthy and Kings Barton is managing to help neighbours informally, and long may this continue. There will be a time in the months to come to discuss the lessons we have learned from this

experience, and I hope to be able to see some of you then.

In the meantime we have already had to cancel the Annual Parish Meeting: we had planned to meet in St Swithun's Church on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, with highlights from this report from me, followed by an update from Chris Hughes, who is the Team Leader for Major Development Implementation for Winchester City Council, and is the main liaison between Winchester City Council and CALA Homes at Kings Barton. I'm sure we all would have been interested to learn about the new developments there, along with plans for the future. The Parish Council is meeting via Zoom, with details published so that members of the public are able to attend, albeit virtually. *(cont. On page 2)*

## Kings Barton Play Area - More Delays



Local residents at Phase 1b of the Kings Barton development are increasingly frustrated at the sight of their childrens' play area - in place for over 9 months now - still closed and padlocked. With most Cala employees furloughed over the lockdown, and play areas closed anyway, some delay in the opening was inevitable. Recent safety checks have identified several areas of concern however which still need to be dealt with before the play area can safely open. We hope that Cala will do the work swiftly.

**To contact your Parish Council, visit [www.headbourneworthy.org.uk](http://www.headbourneworthy.org.uk)**

or contact the Parish Clerk, Belinda Baker, email [clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk](mailto:clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk)

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# Annual Review (cont.) - Cllr Claire Welland

## Finances

This financial year, the Parish Council's precept (the money requested from residents via the Council Tax) was £8,765. It was discovered during the year that the Parish Council is not keeping up with the number of new residences within the Parish (mostly due to the Kings Barton development), resulting in a large percentage decrease per household. Whilst this was probably welcome to residents the Parish Council believe that this indicates a potential lack of preparedness for supporting its residents, therefore a precept of £22,180 was requested for the following financial year to try to make up this shortfall.

Due to the additional workload of the Parish, it was agreed to increase the Clerk's hours from 4 per week to 6 per week for the forthcoming year.

This financial year, a total of £600 in grant funding was awarded as follows:

- £300 to The Worthys Festival
- £100 to Kings Worthy Pre-School
- £200 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Winchester (The Worthies) Scout Group

## Planning Applications

This year, the Parish Council considered 16 planning applications. Of these, 3 involved additional residences on the original plot of land, 1 was a change to a business premise, 6 involved modifications or extensions to existing buildings, 2 involved work on trees and gardens, and 5 were more detailed plans for the Kings Barton development. 8 of the planning applications were permitted, 1 was refused, 1 was withdrawn, 1 didn't require approval, and 7 have yet to be decided.

## Ongoing Events & Projects:

### The Play Area at The Dell

Headbourne Worthy made a significant investment in the play area at The Dell. It was officially opened by the Mayor in September 2019.

### Community Emergency Action Plan

After the flooding earlier this year, some further work will be done in order to increase the Parish Council's preparedness for future flooding events. Some infrastructure improvements are planned to the pipes under Springvale Road, and to junction of Down Farm Lane with Springvale Road which will improve matters somewhat.

It will also be important to log any learning points from the response to the pandemic, although it is still too early to address this fully.

### Kings Barton

Development on the Kings Barton site continues. As well as 12 of the 17 homes developed by Bargate Homes at Barton Farm off Andover Road which are in our parish, approximately 250 residences on the Cala Homes site are now occupied.

The Parish Council has begun the work required to increase the number of councillors on the Parish Council – as recognition that there are now many more residents in the parish. This work is ongoing and may take some time. The Parish Council has also begun to look into securing a Polling Place on the Kings Barton site, as well as a more conveniently located post box, and a safer crossing point over Andover Road.

### Barton Meadows Nature Reserve

Residents have made full use of the Barton Meadows Nature Reserve over the past year, and particularly during lockdown. It has become renowned nationally after placing at no.4 of 20 in 'Where to get up close to nature - 20 cool meadows' in The Times

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/best-places-to-see-nature-in-the-uk-20-cool-meadows-22b7nh8zh>.

The state of the paths during inclement weather requires attention, and the Parish Council has been attempting to address this, albeit with limited results so far.

## Conclusion

None of us currently know how long the effects of the pandemic will last, and as well as this Headbourne Worthy faces some significant challenges: not only as the traffic levels increase due to the building at Kings Barton, but also with the more unpredictable weather patterns. The Parish Council must rise to meet these challenges, using our influence and our budget where we can to improve the lives of our residents.



**The view across Barton Meadows towards the South Downs National Park**

# Kings Worthy Pre-School Appeal

Kings Worthy Pre-School is OPEN, let's keep it that way.

In June Kings Worthy Pre-School put out a call for new trustees, we were looking to widen and refresh our skills base. We also announced the serious possibility that the setting would not reopen in September, maybe you saw the Newsnight feature in July?

We have been overwhelmed by the amount of support we have received, our Go Fund Me page has raised over £4500, with other donations and separate fundraising ideas our total so far is over £5000.

Together we have been able to save us.... for now,  
Thank you!

Our Target to continue for the new academic year was £15,000 we have raised a third of this and therefore can open in September. However the remainder will need to be raised through a mix of fundraising, grants and donations if we are to continue long term.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us, we couldn't have made it this far it without you. We are really looking forward to welcoming back many



children and their families in September as well as some new faces. The safety of children, staff and their families remains our priority, Kings Worthy Pre-School has a wonderful team of staff, who have been with us for a number of years. They are highly qualified and care deeply for the children in their care and Pre-School continues to be a joyous place of development, learning and support for all who attend.

Please look out for fundraising events and ways you can support this vital community service in the coming months.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Pre-school please visit

<https://www.kingsworthypreschool.org.uk/>

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/keep-kings-worthy-pre-school-open>

If you would like information about becoming a trustee or Friend of the Pre-School please contact [joanne.meharg@gmail.com](mailto:joanne.meharg@gmail.com)

(Full article on the Pre-School on the PC website).

## Jackie's County Corner - August 2020

Cllr Jackie Porter Tel/text: 07973 696 085

Email : [Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk)

Website [www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk)

Newly restored home phone: 01962 791054

Twitter @JackielibDem

The lockdown is unwinding, and we are all determined to make changes to extend the feeling of community that has built up since the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. We have all enjoyed the birdsong, fewer cars on the road and if we have them, our gardens and footpaths. We have produced more waste at home, (and *much* more glass!) though restaurants have much 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. Zoom and similar platforms has meant we travel less often. So at last, where you live doesn't restrict participation, however strange it seems at first, and it does reduce your carbon footprint!

At **Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee**, we heard that the 'cost of Covid' to HCC up to May had

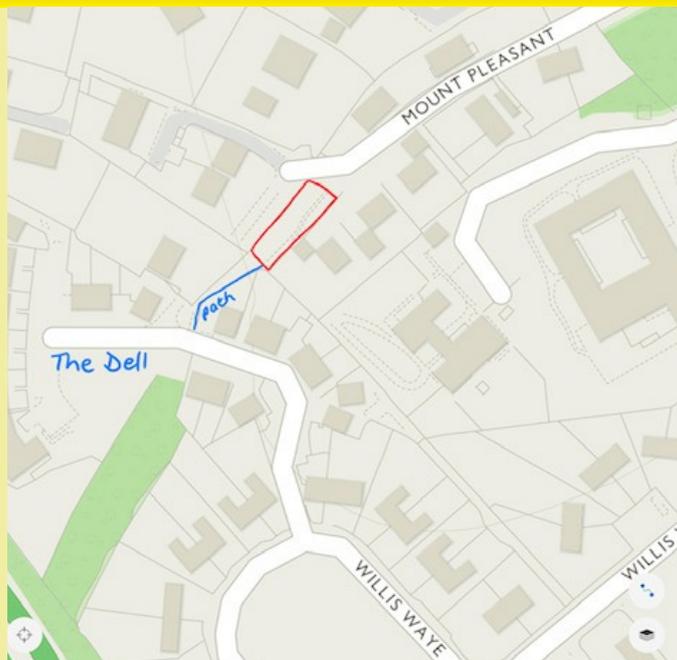
been around £200m. Although the Council had received approx. £53m in grant, the County Council would be around £110m off budget as a result of Covid in 2020-21. This puts non-essential services at risk in future.

The **0333 370 4000 helpline** is still in place and expected to be so for the future. A triage system has meant that approximately 50% of the calls have been referred to Adult or Children's services.

I know it worked well: I used the helpline often, 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. If you think you or a loved one may need the service, you can call the helpline above for advice.



# Do you own this strip of land?



The Parish Council is keen to upgrade the footpath leading from The Dell through to Mount Pleasant. It is an important pedestrian link to the school and other local facilities in Kings Worthy. This work has been identified as something we could do with our CIL developer funds, but as unregistered land the ownership of the land is unclear.

The Parish Council plans to unilaterally adopt the land at the entrance to Mount Pleasant for use as a footpath (see map adjacent) unless we are able to determine ownership.

If any members of the public have cause to object will they please contact the Parish Clerk. See contact details on front cover.



Flooding at the junction of Springvale Road and Bedfield Lane this February.

## Flood Action Group

Concerned residents have been meeting via Zoom to share their experiences during the most recent flood event and to make plans for how we might put in place a mitigation strategy for future flooding. If you would like to join in the next call please contact Cllr Claire Welland ([clairew@headbourneworthy.org.uk](mailto:clairew@headbourneworthy.org.uk)) for the Zoom code, or check out the website.

**Could you deliver this newsletter three times a year to up to 500 households? The Parish Council is looking for a paid deliverer to help with distributing the Parish News. Please contact the Parish Clerk at [clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk](mailto:clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk)**

## Parish Council Meetings now on Zoom!

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council has continued to meet throughout the Covid 19 crisis but over the internet via Zoom. The clerk has published the access arrangements on the news section of the Council's website so all are welcome. The meeting in September will also be held via Zoom but the Council will continue to monitor the situation and move to face to face public meetings when it is considered safe and appropriate to do so.

Updates are available on the Council's website but please sign up for email alerts from the news section for them to be sent direct to your inbox.

In the meantime, the Council has also been engaging with the local community via Zoom with the flood action forum that is looking at ways to improve the flood resilience in Headbourne Worthy. The Council considers that flood resilience in Headbourne Worthy is an important matter and continues to raise the issue with HCC. The Clerk has been asking the Post Office to provide a post box in Kings Barton. Unfortunately, the Post Office will not do so unless there is 800 metres from another post box and there is less than that to the post boxes on the Andover Rd. If anyone can point to an area where this is not the case please contact the clerk ([clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk](mailto:clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk)) and she can go back to the Post Office.