



Headbourne Worthy Village News

Summer 2013

News and Information from your local Parish Council

Parish AGM

The annual public meeting for Headbourne Worthy Parish Council - open to all - is being held on Monday 20th May, from 7.15pm in the Church Rooms behind St Mary's Church, London Road.

As well as reports from the Council on its activities over the year, there will be a guest speaker from the group 'To Honour a Promise' - see back page for full details. Join us for a glass of wine before the meeting - all welcome.

Inside

- Rubbish!
- To Honour a Promise
- Mayor's Awards
- More on the proposed new car park for St Swithun's Church
- Worthys Festival 2013

New Car Park for St Swithun's?

Headbourne Worthy Parochial Church Council (not the Parish Council - different organisation) would like the Church of St Swithun to have its own a car park on the same side of the church. At present the church does not have a car park and relies on the extreme generosity of Mr V Powell to use his driveway opposite the church.

This current situation is very unsatisfactory for apart from cutting up the driveway's grass verge in wet weather and making it difficult for cars to park; it means that everyone using this facility for Services, weddings and funerals, many of whom are elderly, has to cross the busy London Road. Also wedding cars and funeral hearses have to park outside the lych-gate entrance and thereby cause a blockage to traffic. A dedicated car park on the same side of the church would avoid the hazardous crossing of the London Road and hopefully, the easier all weather parking might also attract more people to Sunday Services and use the church for weddings. (Continued on Page 2)



To contact your Parish Council, visit www.theworthys.org.uk

or contact the Parish Clerk, Hilary Graham, on 883797. clerk.headbourneworthy@parish.hants.gov.uk

Worthys Festival 2013

Plans are now firming up for the next Worthys Festival, being held this autumn from Saturday 21st to Sunday 29th September.

New this year is a Beer Festival, hosted by the Worthies Sports & Social Club over the second weekend of the Festival. Tickets for each afternoon or evening session will be on sale soon - for details see the website.

As last time, a full Programme will be produced in good time detailing all the many events and activities planned for the Festival. This will be

in the form of an A5 full colour booklet, which will be delivered free to all households in Headbourne Worthy, Kings Worthy and Abbotsworthy. Please keep it safely when it arrives, as it will be your guide to all things Worthys Festival! It is also a great way for local businesses to support the Festival, by advertising in the programme. If you are interested in this, please contact me soon.

Jane Rutter, Chair, Worthys Festival Steering Group. Tel: 884981

Car Park? - cont...



A triangular area has been identified across from the stream on the south side of the church, with the stream as its base, one side being the London Road and the other side being the public right of way path leading to the rear of the church. This area should accommodate about 25 cars. Hampshire County Council Highways Department have already agreed in principle to an access point off the London Road, subject to a successful planning application to Winchester City Council. This planning application will take some time to prepare and it is hoped that before it is submitted, consultation with all concerned will ensure it has the full support of the local community.

Professional advice in preparing the planning application will be obtained from an individual who is an expert in designing car parks and landscaping will be an essential part of the design.

It is hoped the local community will support this use of church land for a car park, for all the reasons explained above, as it would undoubtedly benefit the future use of this beautiful 1000 year old Saxon church. If you have any queries please contact Brian Porter, the Churchwarden on 01962 864347.

*Do you have a view on this proposal?
Come along to the Annual Parish Meeting
on Monday 20th May at 7.15pm at St
Mary's Church Rooms and help the Parish
Council to decide it's view on the planning
application.*



Looking towards the church along the footpath from London Road.

Worthy Conservation Volunteers

Volunteers, under the guidance of Bruce Graham, have been working in the grounds of St Swithun's Church in Headbourne Worthy. They spent two days in February installing hazel faggots along 50 metres of the river bank, to help improve the flow and prevent the stream from silting up. Bruce, and separately the volunteers, were recommended for the Mayor of Winchester's Community Awards by Headbourne Worthy Parish Council. The awards were presented on the 13th March.



Pictured with the Mayor from left to right are Bruce Graham, Gail Alexander and Siôn Graham.

Rubbish!

Huge thanks to everyone who joined in last month's village spring clean. Over twenty bags of rubbish were collected by fifteen or so willing helpers.

The event was kindly hosted by Chris and Bevis Clarke-Smith at their lovely home, Marlands, on London Road. Pictured are some cheerful volunteers, including Parish Chair David Pearcey (left), Parish Clerk Hilary Graham (2nd from right) and Chris Clarke-Smith (3rd from right).



To Honour a Promise

During World War I (1914-18), Winchester became a major transit location for troops destined for the Western Front and battlefields. Vast numbers of barrack huts and recreation buildings were built, covering large tracts of Morn Hill, Magdalen Hill, Winnall Down and Avington Park. It is claimed the Morn Hill Camps could accommodate more than 50,000 troops when Winchester at the time only had a population of about 20,000.



The Promise: To erect a permanent memorial to those service personal of the British, Commonwealth (the then British Empire), American and Allied Forces who passed through Winchester Morn Hill Camps on their way to fight for our freedom in the Great War 1914-18.

The Project Group, which sits under The Upper Itchen Valley Society, has taken for its theme: "To Honour a Promise".

Recent local research has revealed something of the importance of the Morn Hill Camps which are now beyond living memory. The information gathered was sufficient to justify further work to determine how the thousands of troops massing for combat could be suitably remembered and in what form.

In a contemporary book on the work of the American Red Cross (1919) it had been noted



that a Memorial in Winchester Cathedral had been planned and promised for the American soldiers. No memorial was installed and the present project is a way of addressing that omission.

After The Great War, the City published a printed tribute showing the many individual units which had passed through Winchester. The total of individual Army formations listed exceeded 200 and a recorded statement on 14th May 1919 by the Mayor said, "Some two million soldiers have been associated with Winchester in the past four and a half years."

It is inevitable most of those troops came through Morn Hill Camps and early in 2012, the To Honour a Promise Project Group was formed to secure support and funding for a memorial commemorating such momentous events at Morn Hill. The 2014 Centenary of the start of the Great War became a target date for a permanent Memorial to the troops of Britain and the many Allied Nations who came to Winchester to be in place, hopefully within the city.

Additionally, it is planned to place information boards within the site for the benefit of visitors to that part of the land which is managed by Butterfly Conservation.

Below: The project group includes local councillors Robert Johnston and Jackie Porter, and is led by Dame Mary Fagan, Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire.

