

Headbourne Worthy Village News

Autumn/Winter 2012

News and Information from your local Parish Council

Barton Farm - now it's official

Secretary of State Eric Pickles has finally decided that the proposed development of 2000 houses with associated infrastructure will be going ahead at Barton Farm. The principle of development has been agreed, but there will be many months of detailed planning debate before the first diggers move in. Of the 2000 homes, one third will be 'affordable' housing, which will be welcomed by many local people. (More inside)

Inside

- Play area for Church Green?
- Pedestrian refuge for Bedford Lane
- Take care with bonfires
- Should Wellhouse Lane be closed to vehicles?
- Hitting the Cold Spots - free advice from the County Council

Christmas Greetings



Christmas Greetings from all your local Parish Councillors. We hope that you have a great time, and that any really seasonal weather (as above - St Swithun's Lych-gate taken in 2009) should be picturesque, but short-lived! Let us know if any grit bins need topping up before the snow arrives.

For many, the celebration of Christmas includes a visit to our local church. The Christmas services planned for St Swithun's Church on London Road in Headbourne Worthy are as follows:

December 2nd 5:00pm Advent Carols by Candlelight

December 23rd 10:00am Christmas Carol Service

December 25th 10:00am Christmas Holy Communion

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

Barton Farm - now it's official



A developer's eye-view of how the Barton Farm 'village green' area will look.

As a Parish, we need to think about many issues to do with our identity and the impact of traffic. For instance, what is your view of the Parish Council's idea that the railway bridge at Wellhouse Lane should be closed to vehicular traffic (but open to pedestrians, horses and bicycles)? Please let our Parish Clerk know.

When the development is at a relevant stage, it will need to be re-parished - or do we want to be part of this large urban community? Most of the development is currently within our parish boundary. Would we want Headbourne Worthy instead to join with Kings Worthy and have a Worthys Parish Council perhaps? Again, we would welcome your comments.

Cllr Keith Wood writes:

"It is disappointing that the Government has allowed Barton Farm to be released for housing at this time against the Council's wishes. The site was originally proposed for housing some 30 years ago but it was not until

2001 that the Council agreed with the Government that it was a suitable place to build 2000 houses. Since then we have always been fighting an uphill struggle not against the actual development [a battle already conceded] but about the need. Winchester has grown in the past in an incremental manner and we wanted to avoid this big bang approach. We now need to do everything we can to ensure that the development of the site generates all the promised benefits; the Primary School, Community Centre, Health Centre and so on. Detailed Planning applications will now need to be submitted and there may be a chance to influence the way the development progresses and its phasing. It is planned to set up with the developers a forum to try and mitigate the impact of the development on the surrounding area. Cala Homes say they want to work with the local community so we will need to test their resolve."

Jackie's County Corner

County Councillor Jackie Porter reports:
"M3 junction 9 - Funding has been granted by the Dept for Transport to HCC to improve flows for local traffic in 2013.
Now that Barton Farm in Headbourne Worthy Parish has been approved by the Secretary of State, we must ensure that the best possible outcome is negotiated for parishes close to the site, particularly regarding traffic issues.
Village Lengthsman Scheme: I am pleased Headbourne Worthy is looking at joining a



consortium of other villages in this HCC initiative. More details in the next Village News. The funding for the scheme starts in April. I have met with county traffic officers to look at possible improvements to the Cart and Horses junction with the A33, including a 40mph limit. Please see my website: www.jackieporter.mycouncillor.org.uk for more information on all these issues."

Bedfield Lane Refuge

The Parish Council was approached in early 2011 about making Bedfield Lane at the junction with Springvale Road safer to cross for pedestrians. This junction has blind spots in all three directions, is very close to the change in speed limit from 40mph to 30mph, and is very wide meaning vehicles can keep their speed up around the corner.

Winchester City Council sent a Traffic Engineer to assess the junction, and as a result a traffic island ('refuge') was proposed in the middle of the road to allow pedestrians to cross one lane of traffic at a time. It was thought impractical to narrow the junction instead because of the large number of HGVs and agricultural vehicles that use it.

HWPC sent out a consultation to nearby residents, and the response was very much in favour of the traffic island. However, several concerns were raised.

A number of alternatives were proposed to try to reduce car speed and increase pedestrian visibility at this junction, however the Council agreed that these options would not provide as much benefit as the traffic island.

Residents all over the village differ in their views of what constitutes a 'rural'

environment. Some were concerned that additional street furniture would urbanise the village. However, the Parish Council agreed that it is important to prioritise the needs of our pedestrians, a lot of whom are either elderly or have small children meaning they walk slowly and need more time to cross this busy, wide junction. It is the Parish Council's view that the traffic island is the best way to improve this situation, given the options available and the necessary limitations on budget.

Headbourne Worthy is a very cost-conscious parish, as you can tell from the very low precept you pay as part of your Council Tax. Admittedly our parish doesn't have the facilities of Kings Worthy or Littleton, but we can make a difference to improve our environment and we hope you agree that this will make a small but significant improvement to our residents.

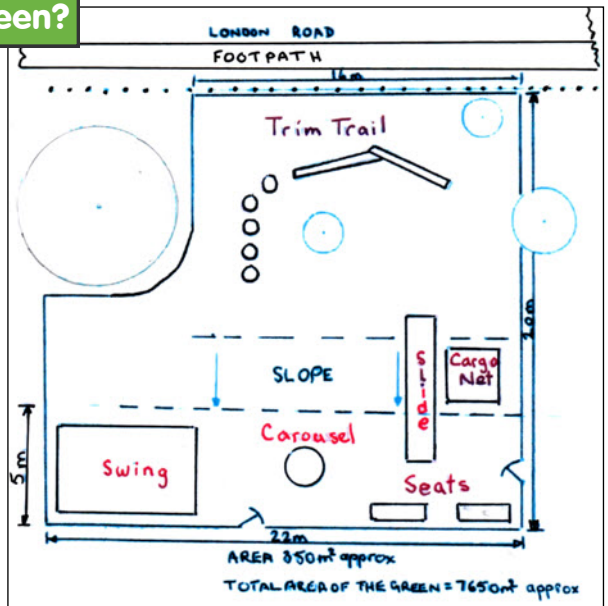
If you would like to make a suggestion to the Parish Council, please come along to our meetings and let us know - unless you speak up we do not know what you're thinking or what you want. If you would like to get more involved we currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Please contact Hilary Graham, our Clerk, for more details.

Cllr Claire Welland

Play Area for Church Green?

Kings Worthy Parish Council is consulting with local residents of both parishes over whether to build a play area for the under sevens on Church Green, on the corner nearest the Jubilee Hall, well away from the church and houses, safely fenced and wooden or painted green so that it blends in well with the green.

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council has agreed to help fund this through the 'Open Spaces Fund'. Comments please to the Kings Worthy Parish Office at Tubbs Hall or leave in the box in the church porch, or if you prefer, email to kwpc@btconnect.com.



Autumn Bonfires

It's the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness but also of delicious smells from wood smoke and bonfires. Headbourne Worthy residents need to be aware that if a bonfire proves a nuisance to neighbours who then report it to the local council's Environmental Health Department, an abatement notice can be issued to stop you having your glorious bonfire with fines of £5000 and more for noncompliance.

To avoid all of this, it might help to warn your neighbours before you start and choose a cool day when folks are less likely to be enjoying their gardens. Burn dry material, thus less smoke and try not to hug the hedges or fences nor indeed the telegraph poles and their cables. They are all inflammable. DO NOT use petrol or paraffin to ignite it! Keep children and pets at bay. Check no hedgehogs are in the pile to burn and finally, make sure you add nothing that might explode.

Only Guy Fawkes was entitled to do that and look where it got him!

Cllr Claire Duncan



Hitting the Cold Spots

Are your heating bills going through the roof? If they are, much of the heat you are paying for could be going the same way. Hitting the Cold Spots, a Hampshire County Council scheme funded by a grant from the Department of Health, can help and advise you on ways to keep warm and healthy this winter:

- **Small grant** support to cope with winter fuel emergencies.
- **Carbon monoxide detectors** – provided **free** with a home safety visit.
- **Tariff change advice** to help you to save money on your fuel bills, and practical support and assistance with debt, money and benefits.
- Access to **free loft and cavity wall insulation**, including for solid wall properties.
- Free assessment for connection to **mains gas supply**.

For free and in-depth advice, please contact the Environment Centre office on **0800 804 8601** or email staywarm@environmentcentre.com.

Hitting the Cold Spots services are available until 31 March 2013 – so call now!

* Some of the above services and emergency relief are subject to availability and conditions apply.