

**Headbourne Worthy Parish Council**  
**Minutes of meeting of 10 March 2014**  
**Church Rooms, St Mary's Church, Kings Worthy**  
**At 7.15**

**Present**

**Vice Chairman Harry Whorwood**

**Councillor Jane Rutter**

**Councillor Claire Duncan**

**Councillor Chris Clarke-Smith**

**Councillor Claire Welland**

**Clerk Hilary Graham**

**Hampshire County Councillor Jackie Porter**

**Apologies for absence**

**Chairman, Councillor David Pearcey**

**PCSO, Kerry Croutear**

**Public participation**

**Siôn Graham**

**Colin Child**

**Mario Gualano**

**Drew Gibson**

**Sandie Whorwood**

**Tom Crutchfield**

1.The meeting started at 7.18

2.Councillor Whorwood talked briefly about the current issues, including the flooding and the Parish Meeting to be held about this in May and the upcoming elections for the Parish Council.

He thanked all the agencies and the villagers involved and said that valuable lessons had been learned for the future.

**Colin Child**

3.Colin had attended to discuss the traffic issues with School Lane. His property is immediately opposite the entrance on London Road. Because Wellhouse Lane was closed traffic came along there and either attempted to turn around in London Road to go left or reversed into his drive. There had been an accident and it was very dangerous. Councillor Welland talked about the public consultation that had been carried out two years ago where a large majority of School Lane residents had voted to keep the road as it was, rather than make it a cul-de-sac or one way. Now as a result of the closure there had been more complaints. Colin said that they had not been consulted. He also thought that Wellhouse Lane should have been closed at Andover Road. Councillor Whorwood said that it was the villagers that had closed the road and it was very difficult to get signage for it, but this is a lesson learnt.

4.Councillor Whorwood said that the School Lane issue will be revisited.

**Mario Gualano**

5.Mario lives at the junction of Down Farm Lane and Springvale Road, the area that is flooded.

6.He asked that the capacity of the culvert there should be addressed and that all blocked drains be dealt with.

7.He said that there was hearsay that the Fisheries had made the problem worse and that this should be checked.

8.Councillor Whorwood said that there had been a multi- agency meeting last week, involving Kings Worthy Parish Council, Southern Water, Steve Brine, Headbourne Worthy Parish Council, The Environment Agency and Hampshire County Council. The watercress beds are the lowest point of the

valley and water flows there from Springvale, Down Farm lane and behind Wellhouse Lane. The beds saved Winchester downstream. There are several winterbournes and springs in these areas. The Environment Agency is looking at the course of the water and at whether the fisheries have exacerbated the situation. Separately one of the residents has privately commissioned a Hydrology Assessment. The flow of water in Down Farm Lane/ Springvale Road exceeds the pipe capacity by 202%.

9.The next step is a joint way forward by Headbourne Worthy and Kings Worthy on flood mitigation and culvert clearance. The drains are to be cleared out in the next couple of days.

10.Mario said that the sewage pits on their property seem to be backing up again. Councillor Whorwood said that as far as he knows the sewer is working at a very low level. He will have a word with his contact.

11.Mario asked if The Environment Agency had an idea how often this would happen and what about a sluice on the other side of the railway line? Councillor Whorwood said that a team at The Environment Agency is dealing with post flood issues. Also the private survey should ensure that the whole area is mapped.

12.Councillor Rutter said that there are concerns that the railway embankment will be undermined.

13.Councillor Whorwood said that the water table in Headbourne Worthy is at its highest. In 2001 it was at its highest for 60 years, but now 13 years later the situation is worse. He said that we need to keep alert to things like manhole covers blowing which are flood indicators.

### **Drew Gibson**

14.Drew lives opposite Mario and the water has been running through their property.

15.The watercress beds acted as a retention tank and saved Winchester. Why not do the same the other side of the railway line?

16.He is concerned about contamination as there is brown sludge on his drive and paddock. Councillor Whorwood had been given assurances that the treatment plant was not pumping out, but someone else had said that the pumps were coming to the end of their lives.

17.He asked if water from Littleton and Harestock is coming through into Headbourne Worthy. Councillor Whorwood said that there is no obvious source for the water. The Hydrologist has said that water is ponding further up Down Farm Lane. Drew said that there used to be a wide culvert behind their property as his wife used to ride there, but that is now full up.

18.He had two 12" diameter pipes put in on his property after 2001 at great cost. Also, after 2001 a lot of money was spent putting new pipes under the road at the junction of Down Farm Lane and Springvale Road. The culvert there is forever filled with sediment and the owners of Worthy Barn have narrowed the culvert. The Environment Agency will look at that. There is also a problem with a concrete obstruction at the back of Worthy Barn and Worthy House.

19.Finally, what knock on effect will the building at Barton Farm have? Councillor Rutter said that will be revisited when the detailed plans are submitted. He also expressed concern that the Parish Council was ineffective. Councillor Whorwood said that the Parish Council had limited powers and influence, but joining with Kings Worthy on this issue will help and individuals themselves can influence.

20.Drew said that arguments have to be put forward now. Councillor Porter said that has been done already.

### **Sandy Whorwood**

21.Sandie said that the traffic calming has made a big difference to the speed of cars. Could something permanent be done? Tom Crutchfield said that he is working on schemes for The New Forest at the moment and that something similar could be done, for example making more of a corner at the junction to stop cars shooting out.

### **Councillor Porter**

22.Flooding has become reactive rather than proactive.

23.Bore hole readings are to be done at the Treatment Works.

24.Consideration will be given to putting an additional pipe under the road.

Residents with winterbournes, springs or rivers in their gardens are responsible for maintaining the water courses.

25.It is important that Headbourne Worthy has a good plan as there will be a lot of competition for the available money. A blanket application for several parishes for funds will be made and Headbourne Worthy will have to make sure it gets its portion. A 90 page scoping report has gone to the Environment Agency, of which 37 pages are photos of the floods.

26. Tom asked whether Springvale Road would still be resurfaced or would wider work including drainage be carried out first. Councillor Porter said that the surface was so bad it would have to be done. Drainage will come later.

27. A change to local hospital facilities is being considered. There is a proposal for a new hospital on the A303 between Winchester and Basingstoke, with a heli pad, or upgrading Basingstoke hospital.

28. Trauma patients will no longer be taken to Winchester. Maternity cover is going to be an issue.

29. There is a review of the waste disposal facilities. Closing for one day a week may be a possibility.

### **Local policing**

30. Councillor Whorwood read out the report submitted by PCSO Croutear. There were some local incidents, involving the theft of metal from a front garden in Green Close and theft of scaffolding from The Good Life.

### **Minutes of meeting of 13 January 2014**

31. These were proposed for agreement by Councillor Duncan and Councillor Rutter seconded. They were signed and dated by Councillor Whorwood.

### **Standing Orders**

32. No changes were to be made and they were readopted.

### **Finance**

33. The clerk said that the balance on the bank account was £6,218.65. A schedule of payments was supplied and signed and dated by Councillor Whorwood.

34. Internet banking with Unity Trust Bank has now been achieved. Two cheques were signed by two Councillors; for the hire of the hall and for the SLR.

35. The Financial Regulations need amending for Internet Banking and would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Planning**

36. Two sets of plans were discussed; crowning a beech tree at The Marlands and retrospective planning for creating living accommodation at Woodstock, Mortimer Closer.

### **General Amenities**

#### **Noticeboard at Nations Hill**

37. A quote for moving this, at £96 was agreed. It will be moved next to the dog litter bin.

Wildflower planting

38. Councillor Welland had not received a reply from The Worthys Conservation Volunteers. Councillor Whorwood will speak to Phil Jeffs who is overseeing the work.

#### **£106 funds**

39. The Sports pot is empty. There is £4461.53 in the play pot. Kings Worthy has not taken all the money promised for Church Green yet. The project is with their Solicitors at the moment as there is a covenant on the ground. Both the Eversley Park resurfacing and the Church Green play area should be finished by the summer. There does not seem to be a problem with accessing the funds past the deadline originally imposed but the clerk has contacted Winchester City Council to ask why all the funds have not been transferred.

#### **New Bus Shelter**

40. This is Councillor Clarke Smith's project. The shelter is to be placed next to the footpath on land adjacent to the fence of The Marlands. Councillor Whorwood said that Councillor Clarke Smith should ascertain who owns the land first. The quote of £3062.34 for the shelter, plus VAT, and £1250 for groundworks, was accepted. There is a grant of £1500 promised towards this. Councillor Rutter proposed acceptance and Councillor Welland seconded.

#### **Litter pick**

41. This will be hosted by The Marlands on the 22 March 2014 and has been publicised in the Newsletter.

#### **Lengthsman**

42. He is due on the 17 March and a list of jobs was agreed.

### **Annual Meeting date**

43. The Council AGM has to be between the fourth and eighteenth day of the elections on the 22 May. The date was settled as the 2 June.

**Annual parishioners' meeting**

44.The date was settled as the 19 May and the subject matter was agreed as flooding. Councillor Rutter will speak to Rob Heathcock from the incident room to see if he will speak. A village newsletter will advertise the meeting.

**Forthcoming Council elections**

45.All the Councillors present were intending to stay. Tom Crutchfield will apply and possibly Dan Rye. The Chairman, Councillor Pearcey will be leaving.

**Clerk Vacancy**

46.The post had been advertised in the newsletter and on the website and there was one applicant, a clerk at Kings Worthy Parish Council, Adrian Reeve. The closing date is the 22 March.

**Newsletter**

47.Councillor Rutter thanked the helpers who delivered the newsletter. The copy date for the next newsletter is the 21 April.

**Neighbourhood Watch**

48.There was nothing to report.

**Footpath from The Dell**

49.Councillor Rutter had investigated this. It comes to a dead end at a fence. The Parish Council should ensure that the developer of the adjacent site includes a way through.

**Councillor Wood**

50.He has announced his intention to stand down from the City Council and Councillor Whorwood wanted to convey the Council's thanks for his support and attendance over the years.

**Next meeting**

51.The next meeting for normal business would be on the 2 June. The Parishioners meeting would be on the 19 May.