

**Draft minutes**

**Headbourne Worthy Parish Council**

**Annual meeting**

**20 May 2013**

**Church Rooms**

**St Mary's Church, London Road, Kings Worthy**

**7.05**

**Present**

**Acting Chairman; Councillor Harry Whorwood**

**Councillor Claire Duncan**

**Councillor Claire Welland**

**Councillor Jane Rutter**

**Clerk Hilary Graham**

**Apologies for absence**

**Councillor David Pearcey**

**Councillor Chris Clarke-Smith**

**Hampshire County Councillor Jackie Porter**

**Winchester City Councillor Keith Wood**

**PCSO Michelle Wilkinson**

1. Councillor Whorwood opened the meeting by introducing the Councillors and welcoming the parishioners. He referred to the starting point of the Council's year, the Barton Farm meeting the year before. He then outlined the activities of the council for the past year as follows;
2. There was a good start to the year as the Annual Meeting was well attended. The topic was Barton Farm. 11 parishioners attended, as well as Keith Wood, the Winchester City Councillor, Jackie Porter, the Hampshire County Councillor and Stephen Jenkins from Hampshire County Council Highways Department. There was a lively discussion and some interesting ideas put forward, including closing Wellhouse Lane at the railway bridge. A forum had been set up to make sure that such issues are considered along with the design, density and amenities. Councillor Jane Rutter attends these .

3. The Council has had sterling work from its Chairman David Pearcey, and the supporting Councillors. Their time is given voluntarily. The meetings have also been well attended by Jackie Porter and Keith Wood.
4. Headbourne Worthy has two new police representatives this year, PCSO Michelle Wilkinson, and Sergeant Mark Lamper. When they are unable to attend they send a report. Thankfully Headbourne Worthy is a safe place to live with few incidents.
5. The Parish Council has a new website this year. Councillor Claire Welland has been instrumental in setting this up, a joint venture with Kings Worthy Parish Council. Both Claire and the Clerk, Hilary Graham, have received training in uploading documents.
6. Thanks to Jane Rutter The Village News has been a regular feature, and thanks to the Councillors who give their time to deliver a copy to every home, no mean feat.
7. A grant of £500 was received from Jackie Porter and was used for new heading signs for the three noticeboards. The Headbourne Agapanthus is blue, and this colour was chosen for the signs.
8. A flashing 30 traffic sign was purchased with three other parishes. Hilary Graham is leading this initiative. A grant from Jackie Porter was received to cover the purchase cost and part of the running costs.
9. A new scheme has just been launched by Hampshire County Council, called the Lengthsman Scheme. Ten parishes join together and each receives 10 hours of free maintenance each year. Claire Welland and Hilary Graham will decide on what work needs doing.
10. A new island crossing has been made at the bottom of Bedfield Lane. Parishioners' views were sought and Claire Welland worked with the Hampshire County Council to design a viable scheme.
11. The PCSO had sent an Annual Police report. There had been 3 incidents of anti-social behaviour, 4 burglaries other than in a dwelling, 1 burglary in a dwelling, 15 incidents of suspicious behaviour, 1 theft from a vehicle and 2 thefts by deception.
12. Finally, the new issue is the proposed car park at St Swithun's Church which had been discussed the previous week.
13. Several people had come to the meeting to give their support and views for this issue. They were Peter Christmas, Alan Gordon the Vicar, Gimma Mc Pherson, Howard Tissiman, and Jean Merrikan.
14. They described the problems with the present parking system, which is on borrowed land on the opposite side of the very busy road. There is an ageing congregation and most come to church in their cars. Crossing the road is an issue. Consideration has been given to approaching the owner of the land where cars are parked now, but this would not solve the problem. The church is an iconic building and visitors come from all over the world to see it, but are dismayed when they cannot park. The gate to the car park opposite is locked unless there is a service. Funeral hearses have to park on the main road. There would be screening so that the car park would not be visible from the road and the proposed site is not overlooked by houses. Gimma Mc Pherson spoke of the new car park opposite her home and how screening means that she cannot see it from downstairs, but it is visible upstairs. She is pleased if the car park is full because it means that the business is thriving.
15. There was a misapprehension that the Parish Council had decided against it. Councillor Whorwood said that the Parish Council would decide when the plans were received and that

had been made clear at the previous meeting. The clerk said that there could be a special meeting if it becomes a contentious issue.

16. Colin Cook had come to the meeting to give a talk about the Winchester Morn Hill Camps and their role in the 1914 to 1918 war. It is claimed that 50,000 soldiers could be accommodated at the camps, at a time when Winchester had a population of 20,000. The talk was accompanied by slides. To conclude he said that there would be an exhibition and asked for the loan of any items of interest and that donations would be gratefully received. He left leaflets with the clerk. Councillor Whorwood thanked him for his talk.
17. Howard Tissiman asked what the Parish Council was doing about the traffic in Headbourne Worthy. He had written to the MP, Hampshire County Council and the City Council after the previous meeting. Eventually he had received a response from the Highways Inspector to say that a proper study should be undertaken. This had been sent to the Parish Council. Councillor Rutter said that a Barton Farm Forum had been set up to address such issues and that the surveys had been done. She asked for a copy of his letter and he asked for a report of the current position. The Clerk said that she had met with a Highways Engineer to discuss the closure of Wellhouse Lane at the railway bridge and Hampshire Highways were looking at this idea. This was a Parish Council idea and had been publicised in the Parish newsletter.
18. David and Leslie Barrow had come to the meeting to talk about the speed and volume of traffic on Down Farm Lane. The lane has become wider because the banks are being eroded by cars. It is a very narrow lane but drivers persist in speeding. They asked that consideration be given to wooden posts at the edge of the road as a traffic calming issue, and that if Wellhouse Lane is closed that Down Farm Lane should also close as traffic would only divert there.
19. The meeting ended at 9.10