



Headbourne Worthy Village News

Summer 2021

News and Information from your local Parish Council

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council includes the majority of Kings Barton

Annual Review - Cllr Claire Welland - See Inside



Annual Village Litter Pick Saturday 17th July

Come to Marlands on London Road at Taylor's Corner from 10am to noon and collect your litter pick sticks and bags for our village spring clean. A little later than usual so be prepared to battle wildflowers and nettles with long trousers and sturdy garden gloves. Chris and Bevis Clarke-Smith will welcome you with a cup of coffee and a biscuit before sending you out to clear an allocated area. Many thanks to Chris and Bevis for hosting this event again and providing the comestibles!



The Kings Barton Residents' Association will be organising their own litter pick later in the summer, using the same Parish Council equipment, so it's important the two events don't clash. Keep an eye out for the date.

Wildflowers: The photos above show wildflowers - including Cowslip - at Taylor's Corner. Would you like to see our roadside verges cut less to allow the wildflowers to flourish? Should we ask WCC to look again at the maintenance contracts? The cost of taking away the cuttings, which is essential if the verges are allowed to grow high, does add to the cost. But fewer cuts may compensate for this. Let us know what you think!

STOP PRESS - Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Celebrations: Thursday 2 June - Sunday 5 June 2022.
Sunday 5 June has been earmarked for The Big Jubilee Lunch for street parties etc. etc. If you are planning to close your

road to enable a local party, please put in your application asap as the city council anticipates being swamped with applications and it will take a long time to process them all. So if you leave it too late you might be unlucky. Contact our PC Clerk for more details.

Kings Barton Play Area - Finally Open!



Parish and City Councillors met with WCC representatives to discuss issues with the new play area in Kings Barton. Two additional benches and bins will be provided, and issues with the landscaping (including the plentiful thistles) will be addressed by CALA.

The Parish Council expects to take over responsibility for the play area in March 2022. Do let us know if you would like to see some more play equipment added in due course, as the Parish Council is keen to see the play area well used by all the community.

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

or contact the Parish Clerk, Belinda Baker, email clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk

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Annual Review - Cllr Claire Welland



A year on, and still the Covid-19 pandemic rages around the world. The Parish Council pivoted quickly to virtual meetings, and these took place instead of real-life meetings all year, to the planned timetable. We did have to cancel our Annual Parish Meeting as this is required to take place in-person. Officially virtual meetings have ended, but according to current restrictions we are still not allowed to meet inside with more than 6 people. We await primary legislation from central Government to enable this going forward. The Parish Council experience of virtual meetings has been very positive: they enable contributions from our residents including those with caring responsibilities, mobility issues, or lack of transport. Attendees to Parish Council meetings were able to take a virtual tour of the new Barton Farm Primary School and to hear from various interested parties regarding the solar farm planning application. In-person meetings will begin again once restrictions allow – either inside or (weather-permitting) outside while the light holds.

We were sorry to lose Giles Vigor-Robertson as a Parish Councillor this year, but very pleased that Melanie Iredale has stepped up to serve as a Councillor. Our Parish Council was recognised with a Mayor of Winchester's Local Hero Award in November 2020 for providing guidance and advice to our community during the pandemic. Distressingly, in September, young people from Headbourne Worthy and our neighbouring communities were involved in a serious school

bus crash on Well House Lane. The court case regarding this continues.

Despite the restrictions, the Parish Council has achieved much this year, particularly with our investment in infrastructure in the parish of the new dedicated Speed Indicator Device and the upgrade to the path surface between Mount Pleasant and The Dell; also with a joint bid with the Parochial Church Council of St Swithun's Church for significant grant funding for the new church car park. The Flood Action Group has made some steps forward this year, and we hope to put in place measures to ease the flooding in the village.

*Claire Welland, Chair,
Headbourne Worthy Parish Council.*

Photo right: Parish Cllrs met recently (socially distanced) to consider the state of footpaths in our Parish - more on this soon!



Virtual or In-person PC Meetings - Latest News

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council was able to meet virtually during the pandemic, however, the legislation, passed in March 2020, that enabled Councils (including District, Unitary, County and Parish) in England to meet, virtually, ran out on 8th May and was not renewed. This means that Councils are required, due to the 1975 legislation, to meet in person and in public. However, the Covid legislation does not permit inside open meetings of an indeterminate number until June 21st (at time of writing this date has not been changed). This, naturally, has created a problem for Councils in England as any decision that needs to be made, needs to be made in public. In April, a Hertfordshire Council took the matter to court on the grounds that the 1975 legislation does not prohibit (for obvious reasons) virtual meetings but sadly the judge decided that primary legislation would be needed to allow for virtual meetings. More information is available in an article on the BBC website:

[Councillors call for online meetings to continue post-pandemic - BBC News](#)

The government is consulting on changing the law to allow for virtual and hybrid meetings because many Councils have been impressed by the increased engagement with the public. If you would like virtual meetings in some form or other to continue to be allowed, please engage in the government consultation available [Local authority remote meetings: call for evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council decided that in order to be able to respond to the needs of the community, meetings between councillors would continue to take place, virtually, in May and that any decisions that needed to be made then could be made by the Clerk, under the authority the Council has legally delegated to her.

However, the Council held the June meeting in the Kings Barton Play Area in order to comply with public meetings and Covid legislation, and will hold the July meeting there too. The Council hopes that other Council meetings can be held in Kings Barton (once Covid restrictions are definitely removed) throughout the year and are investigating the possibility of using the facilities at the Barton Farm Academy. The Council hopes that this will enable more engagement with the Council from the Kings Barton residents.

Please sign up for email alerts from the Parish Council website (www.headbourneworthy.org.uk) for updates on what is going in the community and with the Council. The email alerts are postings from the news and/or events section of the website that come straight to your in box. One item that would have come through on an email alert is the M3 Junction 9 consultation.

Belinda Baker, Clerk to Headbourne Worthy Parish Council.

See back page for details of how to respond to the M3J9 consultation.

Barton Farm Friends – working with our new school



Barton Farm Friends aka BFF is a community-based fundraiser for Barton Farm Academy Primary School. All new and current parents are welcome to join as are locals.



If you would like to join BFF, find out further information or make a donation to our local school, please get in touch at info@bartonfarmfriends.co.uk. You can also follow BFF on Facebook (Barton Farm Friends – BFFs). The pandemic has been a huge hindrance for community events, so we are very pleased to announce that BFF will be hosting a summer fete at the school on 11th July, 12-3pm. All are welcome, there will be several activities to indulge in and it will be a great opportunity to get together and have lots of fun in the school grounds.

Oscar's D of E Award Volunteering Challenge

At HWPC we love to let our readers know about those local residents who kindly contribute some of their spare time to volunteer in our community. For this newsletter edition, Cllr Mel Iredale met up with the creative and entrepreneurial Oscar Watson, aged 14, of Kings Barton to thank him for helping out. Oscar is doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award and for his volunteering challenge he chose to litter pick in his neighbourhood.

Hi Oscar, we are all very grateful to you for picking up litter off our roads. Thank you!

What do you enjoy most about doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

I'm also doing running for the physical challenge and writing and designing a comic about nomadic adventures for the skills challenge. I have always liked drawing and being creative, so I enjoy the skills challenge the most.

How much time out of your week did it take to litter pick?

I picked up litter for 12 weeks running, doing 1 hour each week.

If other young people wanted to get involved in community projects like this, how could they volunteer?

I would suggest doing this through the Duke of Edinburgh Award as you're given guidance and it is well organised.

What makes a good neighbour?

Being proactive and friendly. I like to help people out and at the same time being able to earn some money to save up for things. I have asked around and now do odd jobs, mainly washing cars as this seems to be what most people want me to do for them.

Who is your hero and why?

Stan Lee, a comic writer, editor and publisher for Marvel. He worked really hard to get from the bottom to the top.

If you were to bury a time capsule in your back garden, what would you put in it?

I would write a piece about what life is like in the present as this will be history when it is read in the future.

What's the best and worst thing about school?

The best thing is getting to see my friends and I like doing history and art. The worst thing definitely is having to get up early.

What would you like to be when you are older?

I'd like to be a Graphic Designer as combining media with art interests me.

Last but certainly not least, what do you like to do for fun?

Being with friends, drawing comics, swimming and earning money.

It sounds like Oscar has an exciting and interesting future ahead of him, we wish him all the best! And thanks mum, Jessica, for providing the coffee!

Thanks Mel for this fascinating interview! Ed.



Jackie's County Corner - June/July 2021

I'm back and very grateful to all of you who took the time to vote by post or in person at the elections on the 6th May. I was elected to be your County Councillor for the Itchen Valley Division.

Although we could not meet you earlier, we were allowed to meet you at your door after the 8th March and I had hundreds of conversations - both happy and sad.

I saw a distinct difference in those conversations in comparison to those in previous years.

- A greatly increased interest in our green environment
- A greater awareness of recycling, and how we can reduce our own Carbon footprint
- A far greater number of electric cars plugged into homes
- The health and wellbeing of you, and of those around us
- And of course - getting out more!

Electric cars have burgeoned in the last few years. 'Range anxiety' is often less with an electric car when you plug it in at home, rather than find a fuel station. But conscious that this is not possible for residents without off street parking, WCC

has provided fast and rapid charging spots at car parks in Winchester and Alresford, with more planned. HCC is trialling slow charge on-street overnight charging from lamp posts.

I'm still a Trustee of The Watercress Way. Our progress has been hampered through the last year but we are volunteering **from June, with walks, and conservation activities.**

Go to www.thewatercressway.org.uk



for details. Volunteering is an opportunity to make a real difference for others; and taking part is fun particularly if you want to walk and talk and meet others along the way.

As I write, we don't know what the trajectory of the Delta variant will be or even what the future holds, but the lockdown has meant that consultations are continuing online for now. The M3 Junction9 consultation continues until 8th July. You can also ask for a telephone consultation if you can't go online - call 0800 123 5000. Highways England are running a series of webinars and online consultation sessions, and there is an online feedback form for your comments. See the Highways England website:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/south-east/m3-junction-9-improvements/>

Have you been clearing out your wardrobe recently? Now there's another way to put unwanted clothes to good use. Shelter has a scheme whereby you can send them by post - for free! Go to <https://shop.shelter.org.uk> You can buy clothes there too.

Two pilot areas have been chosen to trial leaving the grass longer for biodiversity. One is Alresford. In other areas, you are asking for your verges to be left too. It's a fine line between biodiverse and untidy! I'd appreciate your views as the summer progresses. *Cllr Jackie Porter.*

Editor Jane Rutter adds: We are also pleased to welcome our new City Councillor, Steve Cramoysan, who is a past member of Headbourne Worthy Parish Council and lives in the parish. Steve will be well known to any of you with youngsters in the Worthys Youth Football Club, where he volunteered for several years. We look forward to seeing Steve again at future meetings of the Parish Council.

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M3J9 Consultation - Closing Date 8th July 2021

Headbourne Worthy community has been asked their opinion on the proposals for the M3 Junction 9 improvement scheme.

The statutory consultation takes place from Thursday 27th May until Thursday 8th July and since it is likely that residents will be affected by the sound level and the new traffic layout it is worthwhile taking a look at the proposals and submitting your comments.

Information on the consultation is available on the Parish Council's website under the M3 Junction 9 tab and at

<http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m3junction9>.

Comments can be made online via

<http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m3junction9>, email M3Junction9Improvements@highwaysengland.co.uk

or by post Freepost M3 JUNCTION 9.

