

# **Kingsclere Parish Council**

## **Annual Parish Assembly held in the Village Club**

### **on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

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**Present:** Cllrs Adams; Bond; Denness; Farey; Peach; Sawyer.  
Clerk; 15 members of the public: 1 Borough Councillor; 1 County Councillor:  
1 member of the press

**Apologies:** Cllr Hardcastle; Mr & Mrs Sneed; PC Brian Dixon

**Welcome by The Chairman: Cllr Alan Denness:**

Cllr Denness gave a brief background on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and its importance, then handed over to Cllr Adams for a full presentation.

**Presentation the Neighbourhood Plan:**

The NP comes from the Localism Act and if it is adopted will have legal standing. It looks at housing, Recreation, Retail and Business implications and gives a say to a wider number of residents. The Borough is currently looking at their Local Plan and the Settlement Policy boundaries and all that will impact on Kingsclere's Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Adams then went through a visual presentation explaining the Key Principles; the Conditions and Criteria and Benefits. Kingsclere have registered their intention to proceed with the preparation of a Plan and this will entitle us to financial assistance in putting it together and following through the many processes required. If we hadn't registered we would have had no say over the future development of our village as this would be imposed by our Local Authority.

We are currently in the Consultation process and information is posted on all village Notice Boards. Cllrs will be attending further Training Seminars on this subject and soon we will be calling on volunteers to help with the Working Teams.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the last meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012 were agreed

**Matters arising:** None

**The Chairman's Review:**

The Chairman explained that the council had only been in office since September and has four members with no previous experience but despite that much has been achieved. Budgets have been reviewed and set, a new website has been set up with improved communication, successful negotiations have resulted in a full programme of works for managing the trees in St Mary's Churchyard, safety traffic initiatives, and there are many projects being currently negotiated which will further benefit the community. A full report is appended to the Minutes.

The Chairman offered his thanks to County Cllrs Chapman who provided financial assistance for a new notice board, "Road Closed" safety signs for parades, and other road safety measures.

**Open Forum:**

- a) The bridge at the bottom of Bear Hill needs to be replaced as the current one keeps being damaged – *HCC to be approached*
- b) How much influence would B&DBC have over Kingsclere under the powers of the Localism Act in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan – *There have been no recorded incidents of conflict but obviously our Neighbourhood Plan and B&D's Local Plan would have to be a good fit.*
- c) What happened to the extra trough at the allotments proposed by the previous but one Council – *it was not proceeded with*
- d) What happened to the 20mph campaign – *HCC finished their surveys and Kingsclere was not chosen for a pilot scheme.*
- e) If County and Borough Cllrs were unable to attend the Ordinary Meetings could we ask them for a report please – *Noted Chairman will take this up with them*
- f) Is there a deadline on the Neighbourhood Plan – *None yet but it is expected to take at least 12-18 months, there is a great deal to do.*
- g) Could we ensure the young people are given full consideration in the NP – *Yes, this need is recognised*

A note was taken of all these matters and will be looked into by the Parish Council.

The Chairman informed the meeting of the possibility of problems in retaining the toilets on The Square. They will be considered at an Overview Meeting in B&D and there will be a need to discuss this further at an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council soon.

Thanks were recorded to Cllr Osselton for her help in securing new housing and land at the Pony Paddocks and for negotiating the covering of our legal expenses in this matter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed:.....  
Chairman

Signed:.....  
Parish Clerk

Dated:.....

Dated:.....