

# Headbourne Worthy Village News

Autumn/Winter 2020 News and Information from your local Parish Council  
Headbourne Worthy Parish Council includes the majority of Kings Barton

## Return of Lockdown - need help? INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Do you or a friend or neighbour need help due to COVID-19? A reminder that the number to call is 0333 370 4000.

Many people have found the village 'WhatsApp' a great help - please email [clairew@headbourneworthy.org.uk](mailto:clairew@headbourneworthy.org.uk) with

your name, phone number & address to sign up to the group.

The Kings Barton Residents Association has once again formed a group of volunteers to support neighbours seeking help during lockdown. If you need support please send an email to [kingsbartonra@gmail.com](mailto:kingsbartonra@gmail.com) entitled "I Need Help".

Wellhouse Lane bus crash

Jackie's County Corner

New Parish Councillor - Melanie Iredale from King's Barton

St Swithun's car park news

Parish Infrastructure Projects

## Barton Farm Academy - Interview with Head-teacher

Nicola Wells, Head-teacher, Barton Farm Academy.



### What inspired you to have a career in education and, in particular, leadership?

*Though I had a leadership role in banking, pursuing a career in education was always at the back of my mind. I was a bit of a pickle at school and was lucky to have an inspirational teacher who saw the best in me. He was a great role model; I saw how he encouraged children and helped build their confidence. His approach had a strong effect on me. Being head at Barton Farm Academy really is a dream job. Being able to start from scratch, write your own curriculum and employ staff who subscribe to the school's ethos is an unusual opportunity.*

Compassion for each other and the environment and enabling children to thrive as adventurers in both the classroom and outdoors are just some of the values embedded in the very heart of Barton Farm Primary Academy. Currently, there is a cohort of 28 reception aged children and this local school will eventually grow to have a two-form entry from reception age though to year 6. With the children settled in and the first term well underway, Cllr Melanie Iredale had a chat with inspirational head teacher, Nicola Wells, to find out more.

### Who was your favourite author when you were a child?

*A tricky one! I loved adventure books, especially Enid Blyton. Though the language in her books is outdated, the sense of adventure, however, is timeless. We want to encourage our children to be adventurous and explore the world around them. In fact, our 'Levison' Reception class is named after the explorer, Levison Wood.*

### In terms of ethos, what is the vision of Barton Farm Academy and do you have a school motto?

*Our motto is 'Nurturing Curiosity'. Part of our role as teachers is to help children uncover their hidden talents by encouraging their curiosity and creativity, we believe a broad and balanced curriculum can help them achieve this. We encourage compassion for ourselves, others and our planet. Most importantly, I want children's primary education to be a joyous experience for them.*

### How did you overcome the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure that the school opened in time for the first cohort?

*Everybody worked very hard to get our school ready. Willmott Dixon (the constructors), the University of Winchester Academy Trust (our sponsors) and Hampshire County Council were all committed to opening on time. A major problem was delays in the supply network and as such the staff and I often used our own resources. We worked tirelessly throughout the summer to be ready. It was a shame that due to social distancing we were unable to have stay and play dates and give parents a tour of the school before the start of term. Thankfully due to our outdoor space and the building having lots of glass windows, parents are at least able to get an inside view of their children at either end of the school day.*

**Continued on next page.....**

**To contact your Parish Council, visit [www.headbourneworthy.org.uk](http://www.headbourneworthy.org.uk)**

or contact the Parish Clerk, Belinda Baker, email [clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk](mailto:clerk@headbourneworthy.org.uk)

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### How do you envisage integrating the school into our community?

Our plans for events such as a community fete and inviting elderly residents to come and do activities with the children are sadly on hold due to the pandemic. As the first community building in Kings Barton, we would for love our facilities and grounds to be used by the local residents. Over the last year we have built up a rapport with St Barnabas and the Kings Barton Residents Association. We have recently organised a collection for the Winchester Food Bank and parents were very generous with donations. I am also head teacher at our sister school, Stoneham Park Academy in Eastleigh, where we have a community allotment.

### It's well known that outdoor learning is beneficial to the well-being of children, how do you plan to utilise and develop the school's outdoor space and facilities?

Our broad curriculum is designed to take full advantage of our outdoor learning

space. With all classrooms having access to these areas, the children get plenty fresh air and natural day light. They have been busy planting in the veggie beds and are excited to cook the food they have grown themselves. Our Forest school, which will ultimately run from reception to year 6, encourages children to communicate, work together, look after each other, problem solve and manage risk in a safe environment.

### Winchester City Council has a clear carbon neutral target. With the aim for the District to be carbon neutral by 2030, how does the school plan to meet this target?

Sustainability is one of our key values, the school has been designed with this in mind and the building should pay for itself. We have a rain-water recycling system, solar panels, a green roof to attract wildlife and wild flowers to encourage biodiversity. We teach the children how to recycle and reduce consumption, our consumption levels are

displayed on a visual monitor for all to see. We encourage parents and children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. We have an eco-council in school and are hoping to achieve 'Eco-Schools' accreditation in the next couple of years.

### The festive season is a great opportunity to strengthen partnerships with parents and the community, how will this be different this year with the current pandemic?

We are planning a Christmas production that will be available on the school website for parents to see. We are getting the children involved in the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal to help them understand caring for others in less fortunate circumstances. We had hoped to arrange a lantern parade with the local residents' association. In ordinary times, we would love to take the children to sing carols to local care home residents.

Many thanks to head-teacher Nicola Wells and to our new councillor Mel for this fascinating insight into the school.

## Jackie's County Corner - Autumn 2020



It was such a pleasure to meet Susie Little at Tower House Horses. Susie generously uses her horses to help those who have been victims of Domestic Abuse, or addiction. If you'd like to know more, or donate, go to [www.towerhousehorses.org](http://www.towerhousehorses.org)

### The County Council has set up a

'Citizens Forum' to receive feedback. Go to [hants.gov.uk](http://hants.gov.uk) and search Hampshire Perspectives for details or go direct to [www.hampshirecc.researchfeedback.net](http://www.hampshirecc.researchfeedback.net)

The **Covid-19 Local Engagement Board is headed up by the Leader of the County Council**. It is advised by the Director of Public Health (DoPH), Simon Bryant. I attend the meetings as your Councillor and as Cabinet Member for Wellbeing at WCC. The local virus figures are low but rising steadily, so many events are being cancelled by organisers or by the DoPH. We want Christmas to be good for everyone- and I'm sure you'll agree that a Covid-free Christmas present is the best present we can imagine right now. Meanwhile, click on the interactive map on [www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk) for recent, very local Covid-19 data.

If you have an autistic person in your family, you'll know the challenges of obtaining a diagnosis. At HCC **Children's Scrutiny we heard of the woeful progress of services for Autistic children** which has been an ongoing problem for more years than I can remember. It's a money issue- there just isn't enough- and the

funding needed didn't happen because the General Election of 2019 'got in the way'. To an 'old hand' like me, this felt like groundhog day. I have asked for frequent updates until this is resolved, and was pleased that the NHS Director, newly appointed to carry this forward, agreed: this *must* improve.

**Hampshire Hospital options:** Online consultations involving 1000 people were held through the Summer. Most people who attended the online events wanted the best healthcare wherever it was possible, the opportunity to 'stay local' for tests and check-ups, excellent public transport links to all sites (including Alton and Andover) for staff, patients and visitors, and a better link between the NHS and social care.

Options for care have been drawn up by HHFT. You will be able to comment on these in early 2021

Visit [www.hampshiretogether.nhs.uk](http://www.hampshiretogether.nhs.uk) for more information about this health service improvement programme – and you can also follow it on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/hampshiretogether](https://www.facebook.com/hampshiretogether)).

**Please give your comments:** even if you haven't been to any of our hospitals yet, it is worth putting yourself in the shoes of an employee, patient or visitor to think how it would work for you.

**Finally, are you entitled to Healthy Start Vouchers?** These provide vouchers to purchase a range of healthy foods for some pregnant mums and children under 4. See more on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) but if you need a printed version of the form, please contact me or your health visitor.

**If you are worried about how you can feed the whole family,** now or in the future, contact me or go direct to [www.winchesterbasicsbank.org.uk](http://www.winchesterbasicsbank.org.uk). Food is donated by the community for the community. You don't need to be referred by anyone else, just call 01962 855774 or go online. Food can be delivered if necessary.

County Councillor Jackie Porter [www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk)  
07973 696085, [Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk)



## Parish Infrastructure Projects

When developers build houses in Headbourne Worthy, the Parish Council receives a payment, called Community Infrastructure Levy. It is intended to pay for the additional infrastructure required by more homes and more residents in a community. It can't be spent on running costs or everyday expenditure, and if it is not spent within 5 years the Parish Council may have to repay the funds to the developer.

To determine where best to spend this Levy, the Parish Council has produced a Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan, which lists all the infrastructure currently in the village, and identifies suggestions for infrastructure improvements. These have been prioritised by the Parish Council, and the suggestions that we are currently taking forward are:

1. The Parish Council's own Speed Limit Reminder sign, which can be placed around the village on a permanent basis. The Parish Council currently shares a basic SLR with other villages.
2. Improvements to the footpath between The Dell and Mount Pleasant.
3. A further village History Board.
4. Changes to the junction of Down Farm Lane and Springvale Road to address the flooding and vehicular speed.
5. Direct access from within Headbourne Worthy to the Nuns' Walk, the path along the Itchen to Winchester.

## New Parish Councillor



Following the resignation of Giles Vigor-Robertson from the Parish Council, we have co-opted Mel Iredale - welcome Mel!

*"I am delighted to have been co-opted on to our parish council and I am very much enjoying working alongside my fellow parish councillors for our community. Having lived in Fulflood for 12 years, I moved to Kings Barton last year where I live with my 14-year old daughter and our adorable spaniel. I have previously worked in investment banking and, more recently, special education needs until I sadly had to medically retire due to disabilities. However, this has not stopped me from 'doing my bit' for our local community. As secretary of the Kings Barton Residents Association, I enjoy being actively involved in local events which bring neighbours together. I regularly liaise with outside agencies to help improve the safety and well-being of our neighbourhood such as assisting in ASB disputes and crime reduction."*

## Wellhouse Lane School Bus Incident

Just 4 days into the new school term a school bus crashed into the railway bridge at Wellhouse Lane. The bus had been carrying over 70 youngsters including some from Headbourne Worthy to The Henry Beaufort secondary school in Harestock. The double-decker bus should have travelled along Springvale Road before turning left onto Bedfield Lane and onto the Cattle Market before turning up

Andover Road towards Harestock. Instead the bus attempted to go along Wellhouse Lane.

Three of the youngsters were seriously hurt, and several more were treated at the site. The Police investigation is ongoing, but conclusions are expected within weeks. Many families across the Worthy villages and beyond had children on the bus, including our family, and as well as the obvious injuries, all of the children were very shaken by the experience.

The Parish Council is waiting for the conclusions of all the investigations and will push for improvements in the safety on Wellhouse Lane as appropriate. Residents will have noticed that Hampshire County Council has cut back the vegetation to the sides of the bridge, and Network Rail has cut back the vegetation alongside the live railway line so the visibility of the bridge is already much improved.

*Claire Welland, Chair, Headbourne Worthy Parish Council*



## Petition

### PETITION TO MAKE ANDOVER ROAD SAFER -Your Support and Signature matters!

The Kings Barton Residents Association (KBRA), in consultation with local Councillors, has composed a petition to make Andover Road safer for all road users. The aims of the petition, which is due to be presented to HCC on 3 December, include:

1. **Installing a crossing near the Ridgeway, improving walking and cycling routes, and engineering the road for safety and slower speeds,**
2. **Reducing the speed limit from 50/40mph to 30mph – reflecting the crossing and the new residential nature of the Andover Road,**
3. **Taking further measures, such as changes to crossing phasing and lighting – to encourage HGVs to use the official diversion routes.**

You can find the petition at [www.headbourneworthy.org.uk/community/headbourne-worthy-parish-council-10171/kings-barton/](http://www.headbourneworthy.org.uk/community/headbourne-worthy-parish-council-10171/kings-barton/)



# St Swithun's Car Park Grant Award



I write this wearing not only my Parish Councillor hat but also my Churchwarden of St Swithun's Church one and am thrilled that Winchester City Council has awarded a grant to the parish council of £50,000 towards the cost of the new car park. My heartfelt thanks go out to HWPC for applying on St Swithun's behalf.

For those of you who are new to Headbourne Worthy, a car park will be built to the very highest environmental standards in the triangle of land situated between London Road and the stream running south of the church. For the past few decades we have had the generous loan of a grass verge on the private drive to Pudding Farm on the opposite side of London Road. However, lack of disability access, heavy traffic and winter water-logging was making this amenity increasingly unviable but, after much hard work with WCC, planning permission was obtained in 2019. We then had to start fundraising.

An unsuccessful CIL grant application was first sought in 2019 by St Swithun's PCC, but it was the

community aspect of the proposed use of the car park and building that swung the decision for HWPC's 2020 successful application. Both Rev'd Paul Bradish and I are delighted at the prospect of St Swithun's opening up for more community uses. Together with the parish council we envisage village talks, musical events, exhibitions, hobby clubs, a community



café and a host of other uses. Additionally, in July a lovely open air church service was conducted in the grounds of St Swithun's and the opportunity to do something similar with outdoor concerts extends those possibilities even further.

In their application the parish council also mentioned the car park could be used by those wanting to walk in Barton Meadows Nature Reserve. During lockdown that walk

became well-known to locals as well as those from further afield, especially after it featured in *The Times Weekend* section. We are also exploring the installation of an electric recharging point for vehicles – the council and PCC of St Swithun's are keen to pursue the greener aspects of car ownership, but at this point the feasibility of the concept has not yet been established.

Finally the car park will enable disability access for wheelchair users, although at the time of writing planning permission for the upgrade of the footpath has not yet been granted. However and unfortunately, due to bat and bird breeding restrictions, construction can't commence until October 2021, but thanks to HWPC's successful CIL grant application we now have the majority of funds to hand and intend to place a build contract before Christmas. Exciting times for the community of Headbourne Worthy lie ahead!

*Gimma Macpherson*



## Parish Council Meetings - how to join on Zoom!

Headbourne Worthy Parish Council meetings have had to be held via Zoom since May of this year. However, all are welcome to attend and residents will be invited to speak at the public participation part of the meeting.

The Zoom meeting details are available at the top of the agenda which is posted on the Council website under the meetings tab, the village noticeboards and notifications are sent out from the news section of the website. Please remember to sign up to these email alerts (situated at the right hand side of the Council website). Not only will notification of the Council meetings come direct to your email box but other notices regarding local matters, such as road closures, neighbourhood watch warnings, planning applications that would affect the whole community and local events.

## Award for Parish Council

The Mayor of Winchester has given Headbourne Worthy Parish Council a Local Hero Award in recognition of the key role that we and other parish councils have played in helping our communities during the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

