

Kingsclere Parish Council

Annual Parish Assembly held in the Village Club on Thursday 17th April 2014

Present: Cllrs Adams; Bond; Denness; Farey; R Peach; Sawyer.
Clerk; 11 members of the public: Borough Cllr Sherlock; County Cllr Chapman;
0 member of the press

1. Welcome by The Chairman: Cllr Alan Denness:

2. Apologies: Cllr Osselton; Cllr Cruickshank

Cllr Denness welcomed everyone and introduced Stella Scrivener of Planning Aid England.

3. Presentation on the Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan by Stella Scrivener:

Ms Scrivener firstly explained that Planning Aid England is an independent charity providing support to the Kingsclere team in putting together our Neighbourhood Plan.

With the aid of a slide presentation (attached) she explained the tiers of the Planning System from National Government down to Kingsclere's own input. Kingsclere has a right to introduce a Neighbourhood Plan to influence local development and help determine planning policies that will affect us over the next 20 years. It is essential that we have good community involvement to ensure we introduce the right policies in our plan to influence development in Kingsclere to the community's wishes.

The Planning policies will set out the opportunities for development and state what will or will not be permitted and where.

Ms Scrivener went through the criteria for meeting the basic conditions advising that our own Plan cannot change national policy. We cannot say no to development only ensure that we have our say in how this is implemented here. We will also have to conform to Basingstoke & Deane's Local Plan and consultation is ongoing on this at the present time. Anyone wishing to have their say should visit their website and complete the consultation response form.

Ms Scrivener continued by advising of the issues that have been raised to date through our own consultation questionnaire and outlined the priorities (Questionnaire results can be viewed through the dedicated webpage on the Parish Council Website).

The next steps are to review the possible sites identified for the 50+ homes allocated for Kingsclere; to engage more with young people and businesses; to investigate evidence and to draft our policies.

Finally Ms Scrivener took us through the requirements of the referendum and impressed upon the room that it is very important to get people out to vote on what is to be a very important future for all of us.

The floor was opened for questions:

Q: What is the timescale, when will our plan be complete.

A: we are planning for the Summer of 2015.

Q: Does the Village Design Statement already in place and adopted have any impact.

A: Yes – but the Neighbourhood Plan will provide us with even more influence.

Q: We wont have facilities for more homes, we are already losing some of them now...even the Library may be lost to us soon, how are we to accommodate more people.

A: You can get the developers to contribute to more facilities. Get ready to lobby them to request more services.

Q: Can we make a Policy to extend the Settlement Policy Boundary and thus give us more room for these new homes.

A: You can approach Basingstoke & Deane BC to see what their plans are for the SPB and work from there.

The Chairman thanked Stella Scrivener for a very good and informative presentation and discussion. She has given us plenty to think about.

4. Minutes: The Minutes of the last meeting held on 18th April 2013 were agreed

5. Matters arising: None

6. The Chairman's Review:

Cllr Denness started by saying he felt that we have a good working Council that has achieved much over the last year and a full report will be included in the Annual Parish Report which will hopefully be out by the end of May.

A copy of his full report is appended to these Minutes and available to view in the Parish Office but included reports on:-

- i. The resignation of Darren Hardcastle and our thanks for the work he did with us.
- ii. The Co-option and welcome to our newest Councillor, Nicola Peach
- iii. The achievements of the council in tidying up Crown Green; installing a safe footpath access to the Ecchinswell Road Cemetery; securing funding for a defibrillator and training for the volunteers; new football posts and nets at the Recreation Ground; a new gate on footpath 84, leading onto Fox's Lane; pollarding the trees in St Mary's Churchyard; hiring a skip for a big 'tidy up' at the Allotments; the introduction of a community bus twice a week to Tadley; the cleaning of the War Memorial and the introduction of a group to look at our WW1 Commemorations.

Thanks were offered to everyone involved in all these projects and to those that assisted in the funding.

Cllr Denness went on to give brief details of projects we are still working on or planning for the next year. They include:-

- i. An outdoor Gym
- ii. New play equipment at The Dell Recreation Ground
- iii. The continuing work toward our own Neighbourhood Plan
- iv. To work with volunteers to try and secure a level of library services

He took the opportunity to thank the Planning Team for their diligence over the application for the Quarry. Thanks to Peter Goff for his work on the Parish Council's website and thanks to the Clerk for her continued work and support over the past year.

7. Open Forum:

No matters of concern were raised by the public in attendance, but the council were thanked for the work they undertake on behalf of all the residents of Kingsclere.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Signed:.....

Chairman

Signed:.....

Parish Clerk

Dated:.....

Dated:.....