

KINGSCLERE ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Kingsclere Parish Council Chairman's Report 2020 - 2021

Kingsclere's response to the pandemic has been impressive, but not surprising! From the spontaneous army of volunteers who supported the vulnerable and our local shops, to the retailers and other essential services which have served us so well, we thank you all for your dedication and generosity.

Thanks also to our own Parish Council staff who adapted their operations to maintain services to parishioners and support council meetings. Staff changes at the height of lockdown presented further challenges, but we now have the 'A Team' of Sandi Ackrill as Clerk, Eleanor Read as Assistant Clerk, and Louise Porton as Finance Officer. We thank Louise for her five years as Clerk. Sandi's determination and local knowledge (she grew up in the area) have seen her settle in well. We are extremely grateful to Sarah Jones, resident of Kingsclere and Clerk to Ecchinswell Parish Council, who ably stepped into the role of Locum Clerk to cover during the changeover.

We have continued to press Hampshire County Council to improve **maintenance and safety on our streets**, and we are pleased to see they have been more active in the village over the last year, mending several drains and potholes, replacing kerbside bollards, and resurfacing a significant stretch of Swan Street. Love Lane has had major works, although at the time of writing we are still chasing up on a number of snags and the final surface.

However, Hampshire Highways say that there is no reason to act on our concerns about **speeding** which fall within national guidelines, so the Parish Council has added another SID (Speed Indication Device) on Basingstoke Road and has plans to install village gateways and 'dragon's teeth', where permitted, to encourage drivers to slow down as they approach our village.

The **Neighbourhood Plan**, which you voted on in the 2018 village referendum, has been serving us well. We are required to review it later this year, and we know from national policy and a shortfall in the Borough's Five Year Land Supply, there is likely to be pressure for further development. We have heard from two developers who are interested in land which is not allocated for housing in our Neighbourhood Plan. Although what happens will not ultimately be in our hands, we shall endeavour to get the best deal for our community.

We are in negotiation with Basingstoke & Dean Borough Council over the transfer of the **public conveniences** in the Square to us, the Parish Council. We are currently trying to obtain realistic costings for running the toilets, as this will fall to us and impact the Parish Precept you pay with your council tax. Our own research indicates that the £5000 pa we were initially quoted is grossly over-optimistic. While many parishioners have indicated to us that they want these facilities retained, we do not want to burden the community going forward.

Despite the pandemic, many of the regular events in the village have continued, albeit in modified forms. The 2020 **Great British Spring Clean**, was delayed until September and became the Autumn Clean. Thank you to all the families and individuals who turned out and supported this annual event. We are also grateful to the **Royal British Legion** which organised suitable commemorations through the year and has maintained the memorial garden.

Cllr. Nicki Peach has continued the ongoing development of the **Community Orchard** which now includes a very smart sign at the entrance with artwork by a village artist. We are also grateful to Diana Tait and Rod Eldred for looking after the **wildflower area in the Churchyard**. Please take some time to take a good look at this as you pass, it is now showing a wide variety of wildflower species as the seasons pass.

Our Borough Councillors, Ken Rhatigan and Clare Kinnear, have served us well supporting us in our endeavours and have been regular attendees at our meetings giving parishioners and the Parish Council the opportunity to ask questions. In May, Clare retires from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council at the Borough elections. We thank her for her service to the Parish and wish her well for the future.

I would like to thank my fellow Parish Councillors for their work and commitment, managing projects, researching information, responding to residents' concerns, and sharing their perspectives and expertise in Council meetings. They give much of their time without complaint and for no reward.

Finally, I would like to thank our residents for their interest, support, and making Kingsclere such a great community. Parish Council meetings are open to all residents and are held on the last working Monday of each month (see the back page, the Tower, and our website for details).

Cllr John Sawyer
Chairman
April 2021



Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan

On 5th January 2021 the Local Planning Authority approved the outline planning application for 13 houses at the Fawconer Road site. We are still waiting for planning applications to be submitted for the Strokens and Coppice Road sites. Throughout the year the Parish Council has continued to comment on all planning applications to ensure the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) are adhered to. As a result, some planning applications have been declined. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is currently undertaking a review of the Local Plan, and the Parish Council took the decision to review the NP later in the year once the draft changes to the Local Plan are known.

Despite a difficult year, the Parish Council continued to take forward some of the projects in the NP. A provision in the Traffic and Transport Management project concerns safety measures in and around the village, including the provision of white entrance gates. In 2020 the Parish Council agreed to take advantage of Hampshire County Council's Community Funded Initiative where Parish Councils can fund traffic management programmes. Dragon's teeth road markings and improved entrance signs, showing the village 'bedbug', have been installed at most entrances. At the time of writing, we are waiting for the white gates to be replaced, as the wrong sizes were installed. Gates and signage along Ashford Hill Road are postponed pending completion of the housing development.

Work on our Local Green Spaces has largely been postponed due to the pandemic, however essential repairs were undertaken to the bridges behind the Malthouse Open Space. The container in the Holding Field has also been relocated to the Fieldgate Centre and, following two competitions amongst residents, new 'dog poo' and entrance signs have been installed at the Community Orchard and other places around the village.

Kingsclere Organisations

Kingsclere Walking Group

Lyn Pounds - tonylpounds@gmail.com

Kingsclere Branch, The Royal British Legion

Mark Holden 07714 028438
kingsclere.chairman@rbl.community



Girlguiding Kingsclere

Opportunities for girls aged 5 - 14

Colleen Stables
kingscleregirlguiding@gmail.com

Kingsclere Singers

Hazel O'Leary - Musical Director
kingscleresingers@gmail.com
We are planning to start rehearsals again in the summer. Watch out for events to follow. New members always welcome - just come along and enjoy singing.

Kingsclere Community Library

www.kingsclerecommunitylibrary.co.uk
kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com
07899 623872

Kingsclere Youth Football

Richard Hanney -
richard.hanney53@btinternet.com
More information on our website:
www.pitchero.com/clubs/kingsclereyouthfootballclub

Kingsclere Photo Club

Contact: email@kingsclerephoto.org
Website: www.kingsclerephoto.org

Kingsclere Heritage Association

Richard Croft - Chairman 01635 298114
Michael Leah - Secretary 01635 297403

Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Limited

Peter Turner - Chairman
01635 298434
fieldcorner@hotmail.com
Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Limited is a charity which raises funds towards the repair and restoration of the fabric of the ancient Church at the heart of the village.

Greener Kingsclere

Kingsclere Sustainable Markets
greenerkingsclere@gmail.com



Kingsclere Village Club

Managing Trustees
chairman@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk



The Fieldgate Centre
Kingsclere Community Association
Your community your place

Kingsclere Community Association

01635 298497
fieldgatecentre@outlook.com
www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk

Kingsclere Bowling Club

William Holding Field
Ashford Hill Road
Kingsclere
RG20 5NY

Brian Watts - Chairperson 0118 981 6892
brian-watts@btconnect.com

Clive Howard - Membership 07484 317711
clive@townsend.farm
www.kingsclerebowlingclub.co.uk

Kingsclere Charities

The Trustees of the Kingsclere Charities continued to meet via Zoom throughout last year and have made payments to residents in both Parishes. A major refurbishment has also been undertaken on one of Kingsclere's Almshouses. The Trustees have updated the objectives, payment rates, and policies of the charities, and have launched a website which should make it easier for residents to find information and application forms.

- The Charities, some of which have been in existence for hundreds of years, were established to support the residents in the parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley. Applicants are not means tested.
- The Welfare Charity provides assistance that cannot be provided by the NHS or Social Services. Grants are given towards items such as motorised wheelchairs and mobility scooters, stairlifts including installation costs, medical equipment, various aids that make life easier for sick and less mobile residents, and travel costs to and from hospital.
- The Education Charity provides benefits not normally provided by the Local Education Authority to schools in both Parishes.
- The Apprentice Charity provides grants towards the cost of books, travel, IT, stationery, and specialist clothing to students aged between 16 and 25 years of age.

The Charities also manage two Almshouses in Kingsclere and ten in Headley.

For further information see www.kingsclerecharities.org or contact The Clerk, Mrs Jan Pearce: 01635 269184
kingsclerecharities@iname.com

Kingsclere Parish Council Financial Report 2020/2021

Expenditure:

Salaries and related costs	£36,126
Office & Admin costs	£9,208
Grants made (S137)	£1,725
Allotments	£1,397
Recreation Ground and Play Area	£4,233
Cemetery	£4,113
Churchyard	£1,893
Malthouse Open Space	£636
Holding Field	£1,877
Community Orchard	£1,003
Street Lighting	£753
General Maintenance	£165
Other	£4,250
S106	£0
S137 (other than grants)	£0

Sub Total: £67,379

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Orchard Signs	£302
Mobile Phone	£100
Laptop	£649
HCC Deposit for Gates/Signs/Paint	£250

Total Capital: £1,301

Total Expenditure: £68,680

Income:

Precept:	£47,606
Revenue Grants	£11,986
Other Grants	£680
Burial Ground	£4,738
Allotment Rents	£1,106
Lease Rents	£781
Other income	£21
S106	£0
VAT Reclaim	£4,977

Sub Total: £71,895

Total Income: £71,895

Balance in General Reserve at 31st March 2021 £51,299.11

Other expenditure includes:- £1547 Job Advertisements; £708 SID Installation; £528 Training; £527 Covid Supplies; £204 Defibrillator Battery; £160 Spring Bulbs; £55 Christmas Lights.

Kingsclere Making a Difference Awards **2020 - 2021 Roll of Honour**

Helen Andrew	Nik & Rory Dymond	Ruth Ladd
The Ashton Family	Sue Elliott	Tracey Lethbridge
Helen Aymes	Lesley Farey	Monica Lubbock-Smith
Lynne Baker	Mick Farey	Andrea Morley
Anna Lisa Balding	Stephen Flemming	Tracy Maher
Charlotte Bedford	Georgina Goldsbrough	Kate Oldershaw
Dr Sarah Bond	Michelle Gore	Karen Pearce
Ian Bowes	Tim Hargreaves	Louise Porton
James Cairns	Mark Hirst	The Porton Family
Camilla Chancellor	Elise Hirst	Lucy Richards
Karen Colombo	Caroline Hughes	Shiv
Elizabeth Colvin	Susan Iacobucci	Suzie Swisher
Rachel Crispin	Maria Jacklin	Hannah Tordoff
Samantha Cruickshank	Janet James	Max Tordoff
Carole-Anne Dykes	Cathy Jenkins	Miranda Walsh

Kingsclere Food Donation Scheme Volunteers

Janet Larkins; Sarah Mussett; Louisa Nolte; Kate Pink; John Price;
Emma Rivers; Luke Rivers; Maggy Wallace; Tim Webborn

Kingsclere Shops

Rahil Butt and Staff at Kingsclere Pharmacy
Raj & Monica Patel and Staff at Swan Street Stores
Nigel Smith and Staff at The Village Butcher

Kingsclere Parish Council Meeting Dates 2021 - 2022

Council meetings are held at 7:30pm in the main hall at Kingsclere Village Club

24th May 2021

27th September 2021

31st January 2022

28th June 2021

25th October 2021

28th February 2022

26th July 2021

29th November 2021

28th March 2022



Kingsclere Parish Council would like to thank all those who have contributed to the Kingsclere Annual Report 2021.

If you would like to contribute next year and are not on our contact list, please get in touch.

Tel: 01635 298634

Email: clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk

www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk

[@KingsclereParishCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil)

[@KingsclerePC](https://twitter.com/KingsclerePC)