

Kings Hill Parish Council – Annual Report

March 2011



Photo by Andy Michael

Kings Hill Parish Council

The Parish Council was created in 1999 and since then the village has grown significantly. There are now over 2,700 dwellings. The Parish Council is the closest form of government to the people of Kings Hill. Contrary to what our title may suggest, we are not affiliated with the Church and have no religious bias.

We act as the voice of the people of Kings Hill and will defend or oppose activities in the interest of our residents, particularly planning applications.

The number of parish councillors has increased as the community has grown and in May 2011, there will be 12 councillors representing the residents. To become a Parish Councillor, application forms are now available from the T&M BC office in Gibson Drive or from T&MBC Website. Forms must be returned by noon on 4th April.

Chairman's Report March 2011

I am delighted to have served for a second year as chair of Kings Hill Parish Council and I would like to thank all councillors and staff members for their help during the past year. Also, thanks to our PCSO's Wendy Stanley, Anne Roots and PC Nick Stevens who have helped give us a safer place to live.

Last September there was a consultation between residents and the developers on future plans for the Central Area. This was a great opportunity for residents to put forward their views on the future of this area which includes the Control Tower. Hopefully by the end of this year we will see significant changes to this area.

The Parish Council has given its backing to the idea of having a Skate Park on Kings Hill. A site was offered by KCC and Liberty and discussions are ongoing. Updates will be posted on the Parish Council website.

The forthcoming year holds a lot in store. We should see the sports and leisure facilities at Heath Farm taking shape. The plans will be on display at the Annual Parish Meeting on 31st March. So please come along and give us your comments. The Parish Council and Kings Hill Football Club are already in talks with Liberty Property Trust regarding the management of the facility.

The Parish Council would like to encourage more residents to engage with the Parish Council. Recently a group of residents attended a KHPC Planning Meeting to voice their strong objections to building houses on derelict MOD land in the Parish. The committee was able to consider their objections when providing feedback to T&MBC Planning Department. The council holds monthly meetings for all the committees which residents are very welcome to attend to find out about council activity and make comments on agenda items. We would love to see you at one of more of these meetings. Meeting dates and agenda are available on www.kingshillparish.gov.uk.

Cllr Sarah Barker – Chair of the Parish Council



Kings Hill Parish Council

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Your Parish Council

March 2011

Parish Services

The Parish Council is responsible for the following:

- The Kings Hill Community Centre
- The playground and Green in Anson Avenue
- KHPC currently lease some allotments from West Malling Parish Council until the Kings Hill allotments are ready
- Planning consultee
- Acting as a liaison between the community and other local organizations such as Liberty Property Trust, Kent Highways Services, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
- Providing new amenities. In 2011-12 the Parish Council will be providing a new bus shelter for the Discovery Drive bus stop
- A quarterly newsletter sent out to all residents of Kings Hill Parish
- Nominates representatives to serve on 7 local voluntary, public and community organisations.

Council meetings

The general public are always welcome at any Council meetings to make comments or bring awareness to a particular issue. There is an opportunity for residents to speak at every meeting. Meetings are held in the Community Centre and start at 7:30pm on the following days each month:

- 1st Wednesday – Community Centre Committee
- 2nd Monday – Finance and Audit Committee
- 2nd Wednesday – Planning Committee
- 3rd Wednesday – Full Council
- 4th Wednesday – Amenities Committee

Please check the website or the notice board outside the Community Centre for details of the agenda for each meeting.



Kings Hill Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors are:

Sarah Barker	Michael Palmer	Lindsay Sharp
Graham Hall	Brian Pearson	David Waller
Gary Morris	Tony Petty	Sue Woodcock
David Murray		

Grants to local groups and associations 2010 – 2011

- Kings Hill & Larkfield Community First Responder - £932
- Kings Hill Football Club - £1000
- TMBC – Summer Playscheme - £210
- Heart of Kent Hospice - £200
- Royal British Legion - £50
- Tonbridge and Malling Crime Prevention Panel - £100
- Kent Police – PCSO Funding - £19,730
- Kings Hill Youth Club - £22,660

TOTAL £44,882

Youth Fund

Any local Parish organization can apply to the Parish Council for a share of the £5,000 Youth Fund for 2011/12. Projects must be linked to youth.

Applications should be submitted by 3rd May. Forms can be downloaded from our website or by emailing the Clerk clerk@kingshillparish.gov.uk.

Reports

March 2011



LOOKOUT FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT THE CENTRE IN 2011

- CCTV will be installed to improve the security and protection of the centre
- A new safety rail will be installed outside the pre-school entrance to avoid accidents adjacent to the car park entrance
- New storage arrangements to be built in the centre

Community Centre Report 2010/11

Main achievements

- Hilary Wren, Centre Manager, is now full time and has made great improvements in efficiency and overall management of the Centre
- We employ 2 caretakers and 2 cleaners (part time) and a catering assistant (part time)
- The annual cost of maintenance has been reduced and the standards of cleanliness and health and safety have improved
- New notice boards have been installed in order to publicise more events
- Improved contacts with hirers have been developed and notice taken of their views
- The first Kings Hill Summer Fete was held in 2010 and a volunteer working party is well into plans for this year's event to be held on Saturday 23rd July 2011.
- The Christmas pantomime and a week of activities prior to Christmas were well received and likely to continue in 2011

Resident's responses

We continue to strive for the best facilities for our residents. Therefore any ideas, suggestions or even criticisms will be considered by the committee and centre manager. Residents are welcome to attend the committee meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month

Kings Hill Youth Club Report 2010/11

Kings Hill Youth Club opens twice a week. It has a committed and motivated staff team that includes 3 youth workers, a music tutor and a physical instructor. Together we work hard to plan and develop a fun, engaging & relevant programme for the local young people in Kings Hill and surrounding areas.

- **Tuesday session 6.30 – 8.30 pm.** Activities Include: Football, Tennis, Pool, Table tennis, Jewellery making & Nail art.
- This year we have also included programmes in: Healthy Living, Young people & Alcohol & Drugs Awareness.
- **Friday session 7.30 – 9.30pm.** Activities include: Dance/ Keep Fit/ Boot Camp and our music program – 'Wired for sound'
- Within our plans for the coming year we aim to not just continue with these activities but to develop them further. Our Learning outcomes for our music program include: supporting all young people who access the youth club with learning the basics of Logic 8 (music software) and gain a basic knowledge of music structure (drums, synths, pads)
- They will also have the opportunity to produce their own CD
- Our current user base continues to grow and our regular members play a major role in the direction and development of the youth club. We are looking forward to planning our summer programme, with paint balling and sailing remaining popular choices of summer activities.

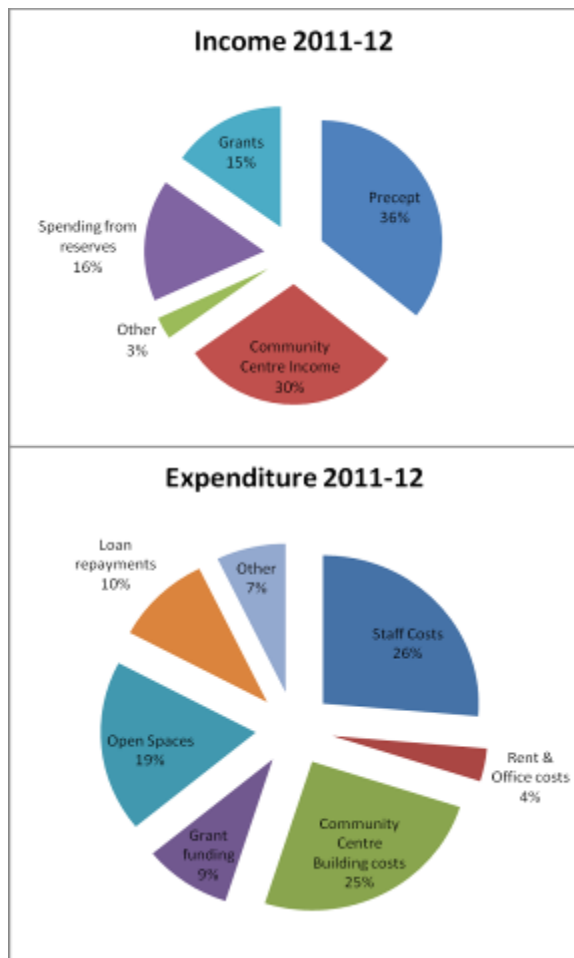
Council Finances

March 2011

Important planned expenditure for 2011/12

- £30,000 – work to community centre
- £70,000 – skate park
- £9,000 – election costs
- £12,000 – new toucan crossing on Discovery Drive
- £9,500 – new bus shelter

KHPC recognizes that the current economic climate is difficult for its residents and therefore there has been no increase in the charges to residents through the council tax. Income from the Community Centre and other grants help to keep down the Council tax you pay.



Budget for 2010/11 and 2011/12

The Council's accounts are prepared in accordance with the Account and Audit Regulations 2003 (Amended 2006). They are subjected to external and internal audit (by an independent auditor). Every year local government electors are given an opportunity to examine the Council's accounts and financial records. Copies of the full accounts are available on request.

2010-11		2011-12	
Budget	Income:	Budget	
147,194	Precept	151,381	
151,610	Community Centre Income	126,100	
10,857	Other	12,635	
58,500	Spending from reserves	69,724	
25,812	Grants received	65,000	
<u>393,973</u>		<u>424,840</u>	
	Expenditure:		
106,634	Staff Costs	111,970	
15,535	Rent & Office costs	15,250	
86,500	Community Centre Building costs	106,088	
40,408	Grants payable	38,850	
48,500	Open Spaces	79,386	
42,696	Loan repayments	42,696	
53,700	Other	30,600	
<u>393,973</u>		<u>424,840</u>	