

Kings Hill Parish Council Annual Report 2013/2014

Chairman's Report



I can't believe how quickly my year as Chairman has passed but what a year, starting as it did in spectacular fashion with the Phase 3 public consultation meeting in July. The Council's response was submitted to the planning authority and the rest is history; a revised plan is expected any day.

During the year, two Councillors, Emma George and Matt Peake, left the Council and their lives have taken them to pastures new. Matt's sterling work over several years prepared the Council to manage the Kings Hill Sports Park and, in August, I had the pleasure of accepting the keys, allowing us to offer spectacular sports facilities to Kings Hill residents in time for the new football season.

In the autumn we received fantastic news; Kings Hill will be getting a desperately needed third primary school which will be open for September 2015. As the residents' representatives, we are working closely with Valley Invicta Academies Trust who won the bid and the Diocese to try and influence the development on Gibson Drive to bring badly needed additional facilities to the community.

This was a hectic and challenging year for the Council and I would like to thank all of the Councillors who have voluntarily given so generously of their time and our excellent staff, lead by CEO Helen Munro, for their loyal support. I am sure that Councillors and staff will rise to the challenges that the coming year will inevitably bring as we strive to bring more facilities, more services and more community events to residents of our village.

Dave Waller

Chairman of Kings Hill Parish Council

Committee Reports Civic Year 2013/2014

Community Centre Committee



The Community Centre continues to thrive, playing host to more than 50 classes and groups, including being home to the Kings Hill Christian Fellowship.

Community events are very popular, especially the Summer Fete and the Centre Manager strives to find new and exciting events for the residents' of Kings Hill including more and more activities in the school holidays.

The fundraising events for the Community Centre enhancements has already raised £1228 towards a target of £9000. If anyone has any fundraising ideas we would love to hear from them.

We have heard rumblings that people might like a Christmas Carol concert and/or a New Year's Eve Party - if you are interested in attending something like that, or can help to organise one, please let the Centre Manager know.

Amenities Committee

During the year the Committee has been engaged in the planning, development and preparation of the following projects:

Kings Hill Sports Park Allotments

Whilst actively pursuing the lease for the allotments, in the interim period we have designed the allotment site,

produced a draft tenancy agreement and rules to be followed by allotment holders.

Village Sign - Preparation of the design and proposed location of sign(s) including negotiations with TMBC, KCC and LPT on likely locations and advertising consent required.

Open Spaces - We are responsible for the Council's Open Spaces and ensuring that they are kept in good repair. The Parish Council's Open Spaces include the



landscaping at Kings Hill Sports Park, Anson Avenue playground area, Garden Way and Lapins Lane.

Other topics discussed and progressed include the KHPC registration of Community Assets and preliminary work on the production of leaflets for a series of walks around Kings Hill.

Kings Hill Sports Park Committee

Since last year's report, The Sports Park has been given formally to the residents of Kings Hill by the developers, LPT and KCC. It is being managed by the Parish Council, which has employed staff to maintain this first class facility and to develop all its grounds and buildings.

The all-weather floodlit pitches have been very well used since we opened in September 2013 and the grass football pitches, used by the Kings Hill Football Club, are described as some of the best in the South East.

The next development is to install a proper kitchen and CCTV, which we hope to have in full use by May. Full

details will be posted on our website and in the Parish Council Newsletter.

This is your facility and we look forward to seeing more and more of the residents taking advantage of the whole area. Any suggestions and comments will be welcomed by the Sports Park Committee as we attempt to make this facility both attractive, well used and, not forgetting, financially viable.

Planning & Transport Committee

As a consultee in the local planning process, KHPC has received 46 planning applications for comments in the last year. Residents are also able to comment on applications that affect them. This was the case with the phase 3 planning application last year. As residents, please continue to exercise your rights to comment on planning applications. All planning applications are available for comment on the TMBC Planning Portal.

No decisions have yet been made by TMBC on the bus layover in Tower View or for the internal fitting of the proposed coffee shop at the Control Tower. When decisions are made they will be on the KHPC website.

Salt Bins We have a total of 19 in Kings Hill. With no snow this winter the bins have been filled once and will be ready for next winter.

Speeding We continue to work with neighbourhood police and other agencies to make drivers aware that the speed limit in Kings Hill is 30mph and this will continue in the coming year.

What is a Parish Council?

A Parish Council is the tier of local government closest to the people. It is not linked to the church in any way. The Council can respond to the needs of the community - delivering the services or representation it most needs. To do this well we need to hear from the community about local issues, so please keep in touch.

What does a Parish Council do?

The responsibilities of a Parish Council can include the provision and management of allotments, looking after open spaces and maintaining bus shelters and community buildings. A Parish Council can provide them itself, or by helping others (such as a charity) financially to do so.

Councils are also the focal point for various local consultations. The Parish Councillors know the village and can represent its views to other authorities.

Who runs the Council?

Parish Council elections were held in May 2012 to elect twelve councillors to run the council for four years. They work for the community on an unpaid voluntary basis. A Parish Clerk is appointed to advise the Council and manage the administration of the Council.

What does Kings Hill Parish Council (KHPC) do?

KHPC is responsible for the following:

- *Running of the Kings Hill Community Centre
- *Running of the Kings Hill Sports Park
- *Maintenance of the playground and green in Anson Avenue and other open spaces in Phase 1
- *Installation and replenishment of salt bins in residential areas
- *The provision and maintenance of a bus shelter
- *Set up and design of new allotments at the Heath Farm site
- *Consulted on all planning applications in the parish
- *Acting as a liaison between the community and other local organisations and Councils
- *Community Notice Boards
- *A quarterly newsletter sent out to all residents of Kings Hill Parish
- *Nominates representatives to serve on local voluntary, public and community organisations

Representatives on local voluntary, public and community organisations

Kent Association of Local Councils - TMBC Area Committee	Sarah Barker
Parish Partnership Panel	David Morfill
Blaise Farm Liaison Committee	Members of the Amenities Committee
TMBC Standards Board	Dave Waller
Malling Action Partnership	Dave Waller
TMBC Joint Transportation Board	Members of the Planning & Transportation Committee
Joint Parish Councils Transport Consultative Group	Sarah Barker Sue Woodcock

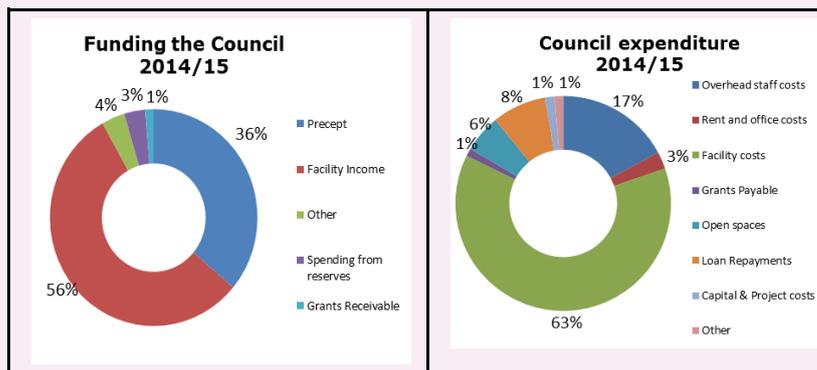
Grants

The following grants were awarded to local community groups in 2013/2014

Kings Hill Youth Club £11,025	TMBC Summer Playscheme £223.85
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Budget 2013/2014

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



2013/14 Budget £	Income	2014/15 Budget £
158,728	Precept	190,127
220,465	Facility Income	292,780
19,519	Other	19,015
87,516	Spending from reserves	17,177
26,000	Grants Receivable	7,000
512,228	TOTAL	526,099
	Expenditure	
89,445	Overhead staff costs	90,192
13,680	Rent and office costs	13,529
209,430	Facility costs	329,442
22,100	Grants Payable	6,000
18,220	Open spaces	29,900
42,696	Loan Repayments	42,696
107,407	Capital & Project costs	7,600
9,250	Other	6,740
512,228	TOTAL	526,099

With the addition of the Kings Hill Sports Park to the Council run facilities, the operating income and expenditure have increased significantly for the financial year 2014/15. In the financial year 2013/14 a large proportion of the set up and first year costs for the sports and allotment facilities came from Council reserves. The Council now anticipate that on going running costs of the facilities will be met mainly from hire income with a small proportion coming from council tax.