

King's World Article
Kingsley Parish Council
Main Road/Forge Road naming ballot.

For some years, Kingsley has had a rather unusual problem in that the name given to the B3004 running through the village is different depending on whether you ask East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) or the Post Office. EHDC are responsible for road naming and for some time have issued mapping data using the name Forge Road. However, the Post Office insist it is called Main Road and use this name in postcode and address lists. Kingsley Parish Council (KPC) consulted both parties and was advised that the only way to resolve this confusion is to hold a Road Naming Ballot of all the premises with 'Main Road' as part of the address. As Main Road is the postal address, the ballot would need to show a 2/3rds majority (66%) in favour of Forge Road, for the Post Office to change. Anything less than 66% in favour of Forge Road would mean Main Road being adopted by EHDC. Earlier this year KPC decided to go ahead with the vote. EHDC provided a list of 177 affected addresses and ballot papers were prepared asking the simple question whether voters preferred Main Road or Forge Road. These were distributed and collected by very willing volunteers in Jen and Terry Duffield. All completed ballot papers have now been collected and counted by the Parish Council and the author can now announce the number of votes cast as follows: -

Total number of votes: - 176
Spoilt Ballots :- 1
Total of votes supporting Main Road: - 19 (10.79%)
Total of votes supporting Forge Road: - 156 (88.63%)

So the result of the ballot favours the use of Forge Road.

KPC can now go back to EHDC and the Post Office with a clear mandate for the use of Forge Road as the only name. It will take sometime for this to be adopted by the Post Office and as soon as this is confirmed another announcement will be made.

As a final comment the Parish Council would like to thank Jen and Terry Duffield for the weeks of hard work delivering and collecting the ballot papers.

Cllr David Lowe
Kingsley Parish Council