



Oliver's Battery News

August 2023

Editorial

Well, we are on track for my second newsletter and firstly my thanks to those who have made contributions. Next time this could be you.

I have been reflecting on what are the issues for people in this community. I know that one is the junction which many find a bit scary. I'm told there is no money to make any improvements but I don't believe that. If we want change we have to agitate to get those responsible to take action. In my last home, the junction at the Cart & Horses was a major issue but at last the responsible people are taking action.

I have been asked to remind everyone to ensure their plants, trees and hedges do not envelope local footpaths. This is particularly critical for those on mobility scooters and similar. Please do take action and cut back if you can. The council will do it for you but you might get an unwelcome bill!

Shops have been another issue here and we have a lovely article about our local butcher. The field as an ACV is also important to many and that is covered also. I wonder what residents think about two proposed developments—Bushfield Camp and the Golf Course. Both are bound to

affect us in many ways. We do have some thought on this from one of our city councillors and I am sure there will be more to come

Tony Gaster

Oliver's Battery Primary and Nursery School

We are celebrating the school's 50th Anniversary in September and are holding a celebratory party/fayre to mark this amazing milestone. As well as welcoming our current staff and pupils we would love to see past pupils, teachers and parents that have been part of the school for the past 50 years join us to celebrate. The event is taking place on Saturday 16 September 1 - 4pm (times to be confirmed).

Stacey King Admin Team Oliver's Battery Primary and Nursery School



Embracing Peace and Renewal:

The Beauty of Rest in Oliver's Battery. Hi there, wonderful residents of Oliver's Battery,



I hope this message finds you well. I am delighted to share my thoughts with you in the pages of our Oliver's Battery newsletter on a topic that resonates deeply within each of our hearts: the profound significance of rest. Life these days can feel like a whirlwind, with work, family, and a constant stream of notifications vying for our attention. In the midst of all this chaos, it's easy to forget about the simple yet incredible gift of rest. I'm talking about the kind of rest that recharges your body and soul, like taking a deep breath of fresh air after a long walk through the fields. Speaking of fields, have you ever just stopped and admired the beauty of our countryside? Those peaceful fields around Oliver's Battery have a way of soothing our souls and reminding us to slow down. It's fascinating how even in the oldest stories, like the one about the Creator taking a day off after crafting the universe, rest is celebrated. It's a little reminder that we all need moments of stillness and calm, where we can hear our own thoughts and feel a sense of connection with something bigger. Contrary to what some might think, embracing rest isn't a sign of weakness. It's a sign of wisdom – recognising that we need to take care of ourselves in order to be our best for others. Think about it: when we're well-rested, we can give our all to our roles as parents, friends, and community members. It's like we're

recharging our superpowers. Oliver's Battery is a gem, surrounded by the beauty of nature that's just waiting for us to pause and appreciate. Whether it's a leisurely stroll around our streets, a quiet moment on the historic Battery, or catching up with friends and neighbours, let's make time for rest in our lives. I'm excited to let you know about something special in our community – the weekly get-together at our community café, Re:vive (9am - midday every Friday). It's more than just a café; it's a chance to unwind, chat, and share in the joy of finding moments of rest in our busy lives. So, let's remember to give ourselves permission to rest and recharge. It's not just a luxury; it's a way to live a fuller and more balanced life. Wishing you all peace, joy, and plenty of rest.

Revd Marianne Foster St Mark's

Planning

Revised Local Development Scheme for Winchester City Council's Local Plan. Extracts from report of Councillor Jackie Porter, Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan - 10 August 2023 and presentation by Adrian Fox. You may recall that the consultation on the Regulation 18 Local Plan took place in November/ December 2022. The Regulation 19 Local Plan is the version of the Local Plan that Winchester City Council (WCC) would like examined. In order to avoid the situation that the Local Plan is found 'unsound' by an Inspector all of the necessary evidence base need to be completed and available. The timetable for the consultation on the Regulation 19 Local Plan has been revised to allow time to complete all the evidence base.

WCC advise that there is work that needs to be undertaken to secure a sound Local Plan.

Therefore, they will:

- change the Local Plan period from 2019 – 2039 to 2020 – 2040.
- move the public consultation on the Regulation 19 Local Plan to August/September 2024.
- hold the Local Plan Examination at the end of 2024.
- ensure that the Local Plan is adopted at the end of 2025.

One of the pieces of work that needs to be completed is the Strategic Transportation Assessment, which is an extremely important piece of the evidence base, as highway implications are often raised by local people as one of the key areas of concerns. Importantly, this not only covers roads but is also intended to put a clear focus on sustainable transport options over the needs of the car.

WCC assert that the risk of extending the timetable is minimal as they have a 5-year housing land supply. WCC will need to continue to demonstrate a 5-year supply of housing continues to be delivered by the site allocations in the current (2015) Local Plan to avoid unwanted strategic applications by developers.

WCC's intention is that the Local Plan will be supported by the most up to date transport analysis, retail and employment data, the outcome of the public consultation and to ensure that they have listened and acted upon the feedback that they have received so that they can produce a sound Local Plan.

David Kirkby

Let's Visit our Shops

There have been some changes at the shops over the past couple of years. So The Oliver's Battery News will be visiting our shops in turn over the next few editions to tell you about some of the changes and to see what's on offer...

The New Forest Family Butchers is our first stop. Our Roving Reporter asked Chris, the new proprietor to tell us what's been happening. It's a lovely story of continuity and change.

Q: How long have you been open here in Oliver's Battery? What brought you particularly to Oliver's Battery? Do you have any other shops?

We have been open since March 2023 after being contacted by the previous owner of Barlow's. He was planning his retirement from butchery at a point where we were looking to expand. We also have another shop on the edge of the New Forest in West Wellow (Lower Common Road) which is also called New Forest Family Butchers.

Q: Tell us a bit about yourselves, who you are, where you come from, etc. Who is working with you?

My name is Chris Street and I am the owner of New Forest Family Butchers. I have lived in Hampshire all my life and went to school in Romsey. I come from a farming background and started my butchery career at the age of 16. I am



now into my 16th year of butchery and bought my first shop in West Wellow in 2020. I have recently got married and in June this year, we welcomed a baby boy. The 2 other full-time members of staff in the shop are Edwin Burrows (a former owner of Barlows and with over 40 years of butchery experience) and Jake Sharratt who is currently enrolled in a butchery apprenticeship at Sparsholt College. We are a friendly, knowledgeable team who are happy to offer advice on the best cuts and cooking methods.

Q: Tell us a bit about where you source your meat from? Is provenance important, do you think? What do your customers think?

New Forest Family Butchers takes pride in providing meat that is hand-selected and locally sourced. We strongly believe that we should support our British Farmers.

Q: What do you have for your 'Specials', what are you particularly proud of (the stuffed chicken breast wrapped in bacon made a great roast meal for a single person and the deboned chicken and the lamb 'cushion' were so easy to carve, I thought. Roving Reporter)

Since taking over the shop we have introduced some new ideas and products and we have different specials each week. We dry-age local lamb and beef in-house and this is very popular amongst our customers. We also provide pack deals and seasonal hampers, for instance BBQ packs, steak packs, winter warmer packs, meat for the week packs and Christmas hampers.

Q: What is special about your sausages?

All of our sausages are hand-made using

traditional methods. Our flavours include; traditional pork, pork and apple, honey and mustard, chilli and leek, Cumberland, pork and herb and many more.

Q: What are you selling, apart from meat?

In our shop we have a deli counter which sells hot products such as pasties, sausage rolls and pies. We also serve over 35 different types of cheese as well as olives, black pudding, quiches and cured meats. We have recently started to produce our own Biltong and you will also find seasonings, sauces, chutneys, pickled products and cakes. In the past few weeks, we have started to offer fresh fruit and vegetables. We are keen to receive feedback as to whether people like having such products on offer.

Q: What are your plans for the future development of your shop?

We are hoping to build a good



reputation through people's trust in our services and will continue to prioritise quality and local sourcing. We are keen to continue to offer new products and ideas and are always happy to receive feedback from our customers.

Not many people know that we are here, so we are trying to 'get ourselves out there' a bit more.

Q: Is there anything else you'd like to tell us that we haven't asked about?

We offer free local deliveries and will accept orders through our social media platforms (Facebook = New Forest Family Butchers – Winchester / Instagram =

@newforestfamilybutcherswinch). If customers don't access social media, we are happy to take orders over the telephone - 01962 865593.

The New Forest Family Butchers is offering an introductory 10% discount if you produce the tear-off voucher below, Go along and meet the team and see what's on offer. We wish them every success in this new venture.

Connie Leach

TEAR-OFF VOUCHER Put broken line around it and scissors if you can find them. Produce this voucher when you next visit the New Forest Family Butchers to receive a 10% discount on your bill. Dated August 2023. Valid till end of September 2023.

Re.vive

Oliver's Battery Community Café is for all who appreciate a cup of tea or coffee maybe with some cake and a

chat on a Friday morning at St Marks opposite the Post Office. An initiative of St Mark's Church, the Café is staffed by local volunteers and welcomes people of all ages.

We welcome over 50 visitors every Friday and the team want to discover how they can best serve local needs including having a monthly community "spot" where local organisations can share what they're about.

We're looking forward to seeing many new faces when we host a Big Macmillan Coffee morning at the Café on September 29th.

All are welcome at Re.vive Café which hopes to become a real hub for caring in the community. Contact the team at re.vive1cafe@gmail.com for further information or, better still, visit from 9-12 noon on a Friday morning!

Peter Smith

Asset of Community Value (ACV)

Nomination 2023 – Texas Field and Yew Hill Butterfly Reserve.

Cllr Connie Leach and I have put together a package of evidence to support a re-nomination of this land as an ACV. Our thanks go to all those local residents who responded to the PC survey, submitted testimonials and photographs and a special thanks to Jackie Warren who arranged and managed an informal survey of people visiting Texas Field to give us further evidence.

The nomination form has been submitted electronically, with attachments providing supportive evidence. See below the Title Page Rational and Contents:



“I have considered whether it is realistic to think that the public’s use of the Land might continue and have concluded that it is. Although the Appellant intends to develop the Land for housing, it is not certain that planning permission will be granted and that the scheme will go ahead. It is therefore not fanciful to think that the local community’s use of the Land may continue for some time”

The quote above, from the First Tier Tribunal judge, Moira McMillan in November 2019 (Appeal number: CR/2019/0001), stands out as a starting point for the abridged evidence bundle in support of the Application to Re-nominate the Land. Since judgement was made in favour of listing the Land as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) in November 2019, community use remains strong. If anything, the community have

used it even more in the past five years, particularly during lockdown. Indeed, during lockdown the Land was used extensively, as can be read in so many of the comments from residents who having experienced the benefits have continued to use the Land to further their social wellbeing and social interests.

Consequently, during the past five years, the Land has more firmly become an essential part of Oliver’s Battery. Residents demonstrate a pride in the Land, a sense of ‘ownership’ in

their comments. Being able to use the Land has emerged as a strong reason why people move to live here. And their use of its wide and open green space allows residents to connect with nature for leisure, relaxation and improved mental health and wellbeing.

The changing demographic picture in Oliver’s Battery is permitting a new wave of younger people, with younger families, to also experience the many benefits of this Land. And the changing pattern of work, with so many now working from home, again takes advantage of the proximity of the easily accessible open space. Many comments have been received



explaining how their young children are experiencing nature through the field, and affirm the educative value of the space as their children grow older.

So it is, that the community changes and develops. Life continues and all ages from older folk, some with their carers, to toddlers enjoying the wildflowers and the butterflies, and the numerous benefits of the open space become more deeply embedded into the community consciousness of Oliver's Battery. The deeply felt value that residents give to the Land is revealed constantly and continuously throughout their responses, testimonies and photographs in the supporting evidence.

The various evidence sources are as follows:

1. Maps
 2. PC SHEELA Survey
 3. Volunteer ACV Survey
 4. PC ACV Survey
 5. Photographs
 6. First Tier Tribunal Judgement
- Separate overviews for each of the above are provided as part of the abridged evidence bundle.

David Kirkby (Chair Oliver's Battery PC)

OB Sustainability News

The **hedgehog highways** project continues: if you have seen hedgehogs, or their poo, in your garden please email: obhedgehogs@gmail.com. Claire Morgan is building up a picture of how many of these native creatures live in which gardens. Please help her.

Winchester Green Week is

launching its new web site:

www.winchestergreenweek.co.uk

Take a look to see what activities you can join in from 23 September to 1 October. Better still, shall we have an event here in OllyB? What shall we celebrate about our lower carbon lifestyles and wildlife friendly gardens? Contact obsustainability@gmail.com with your plans. If you would like more copy, please look at the hedgehog poster attached here.

Clare Shorter

Hedgehog Highways



Do you have hedgehogs in your garden?

If you have seen hedgehogs, or their poo, in your garden, please email us at:

obhedgehogs@gmail.com

Please include your address, and what the sighting was of (hedgehog or poo).

Could you ask or help your neighbours to look as well?

What's Up Down At The Rec ?

The summer holidays are nearly over, but the Rec is still looking very beautiful in the sunshine. Perhaps it has been all the rain that has made the grass so lush and green!

Hopefully you might have been down to have a look, walked around the grass path, kicked a ball about, enjoyed a game of tennis on the court with the new net now in place, taken the kids to the play equipment, or just sat on a bench and taken in the view and the birdsong.



Plans for improvements at the Rec are moving ahead slowly, nothing much can be done until the autumn in relation to tree planting, but we have chosen the varieties of native trees we are going to plant, and generally decided where they are going to go. Plans for the hedge are on hold at the moment as the boundary fence is almost totally obscured by greenery. Decisions on funding are still awaited, hopefully it won't be too long now before we can put the orders in for the new benches, picnic tables and bins.

One thing that we need to get in place and that's the arrangements for watering the new trees that we will be planting in the autumn. Newly planted trees are thirsty, especially if we have a dry spell, even in winter.



And they are mostly over at the far end of the Rec, at the end of the flat grass path. But we're getting the watering equipment organised and here's where we need your help! We need a community effort to water our trees regularly. Can you and your family be part of our team? We need to organise a rota, the more people we have, the easier it will be. If you are interested in helping to get these lovely trees started, just send an email to constance@leach154.plus.com - If we work together on this, our trees will flourish.

Constance Leach

From the city Council

This past month Bloor Homes has announced its ambitions for a

large-scale development of housing on the South Winchester Golf Course.



sand laid in the dips no more than 25mm at a time has proved successful. There are a lot of weeds in the lawn but I am very reluctant to use chemicals, so the grass has to compete. One of my earlier purchases was a battery lawn mower. This can be a minefield but first I looked at what battery-operated tools I already had and tried to match to the same manufacturer. So I bought Bosch as I already has other tools and the batteries could be shared. The battery represents about half the cost of the new mower. Battery mowers are quiet and light, two big plusses.

My front bed by the fence was mostly weed, so I dug the whole area. In doing so, I removed over 2 tons of stone (all went to be tipped) old tree roots and some concrete. I composted the whole area and bought new shrubs, then I spread some mulch from a great supplier in Andover. The mulch helped to suppress weeds and keep the moisture in, so essential for new plants. In the dry spell of 2022, I had to water everything every week by hand – keeps you fit and much better than a gym. It's nearly all doing well but the two small trees are still staked as it does get very windy here. I added several roses this spring from Peter Beales (50% off at end of season).

Cutting back old shrubs and hedges has



been hard work (I do have some help) and all the material has been shredded. It's interesting how well most established shrubs grow back when pruned and the young growth is so much more interesting. I gained 450mm on the drive by cutting back!

I am a great lover of trees and have planted 11 in our new home. Each is there to provide interest and some screening. Of course, I won't live to see them mature but I am a strong believer in planting for the future and clearly trees need to be part of that.

I'm a great fan of compost and now have a succession of wooden bins. Making your own compost is so simple and it uses all the waste green material, grass clippings and vegetable waste from the kitchen. In my system you need 3 adjoining heaps. One is ready to use and when empty, you simply unload the next bin and so on, so the heaps are turned but only 3 times.

Tony Gaster.



Yew Hill nature reserve.

Pictured below is a group from the Butterfly Walks held at Yew Hill nature reserve this summer, led by Rupert Broadway. They were well attended and very enjoyable. Lots of Chalk Hill Blues this August and good numbers of Brown Argus.

The sheep will be coming back in Sept/Oct if all goes to plan to graze all that grass back down this autumn. The reserve work parties resume on Thursday 12 October.

Fiona Scully



You could advertise here. We offer attractive rates for 6 bi-monthly publications to all homes in Oliver's Battery. The next edition will be published towards end October 2023.

For more information, please contact :

oliversbatterynews@gmail.com

Parish Council (PC) Business

The 5th Annual Christmas Tree Event will be on Saturday December 2, the tree will be put up in the morning and there will be an evening event as usual. The Group are still hoping that a suitable tree will be donated. More details and publicity on both these events nearer the time via the Newsletters, posters and Facebook. The Oliver's Battery Wildlife Conservation Area: WCC has offered the PC the freehold of the Wildlife Conservation Area, which was previously leased from WCC. The PC are appointing a legal representative so that the site can be transferred into the Parish Council's ownership.

The draft agenda for the September meeting includes updates on Oliver's Battery Village Design Statement, planning applications, the Working Groups (Events, Sustainability and Handyperson) and a by-election for a Cllr vacancy on 21 September.

Join our amazing Volunteer Team



Ways to get involved



Exploration Programme
Wednesday evenings



Activities Programme
Evenings and school holidays



Other roles
Marketing, Administration, Funding



Become a trustee
Join the community



☎ 01962 808339

🌐 www.winchesteryoungcarers.org.uk

📱 @WIN_YoungCarers



Registered charity number
1155554

For your Diary

Oliver's Battery Parish Council meetings at 7.30pm - St Mark's

Sept 5, October 3, November 7, December 5

Oliver's Battery Community Films 7pm for 7.30pm - St Mark's

Sept 20 - Allelujah

Oct 18 - What's Love Got to Do with it

Nov 11 - Oppenheimer (**Sat matinée 1.30pm for 2pm**)

November 15 - Barbie

December 9 - The Old Oak (**Sat matinée 1.30pm for 2pm**)

December 20 - Harold Fry

Oliver's Battery Social Evenings - Golf Club Thursdays 6pm - 8.30pm

Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9

Winchester Gardening Club at 7.30pm - St Mark's

Sept 13 Copping and its Craftsmen, speaker Chris Westcott

Oct 11 Interactive Pruning with Chris Bird

Nov 8 The Winter Garden speaker Mark Porter

Oliver's Battery WI at 7.30pm - St Marks

Sept 18 Speaker meeting on Bats.

Oct 16 Activity meeting - Ros goes Dotty (Stone painting).

Nov 20 Speaker meeting with Rev. Marianne Foster.

The Battery Club (for Senior Citizens) Wednesdays 2.30pm - 4pm

Sept 13 19th Birthday Meeting Talk - 'Ooh Never Noticed that Before'

Oct 11 Beetle Drive

Nov 8 Flower Arranging for Christmas

Dec 13 Christmas Lunch

Re.vive community cafe

Friday mornings 9am - 12 at St Marks

Events Working Group

Scarecrow Competition between Sat 29 September and Sun 8 October

Website: www.oliversbattery.info; clerkoliversbattery@gmail.com

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