



Oliver's Battery News

Editorial

First of all a big thank you to all who have contributed. Once again, lots happening in our community with all the different groups reporting in this issue. There continues to be a focus on the Rec which is a much-valued asset. Wider afield concern is expressed about large projects nearby which will certainly impact on traffic. And we all know Romsey Road is close to a standstill for some hours of every day.

Our councillors, county, city and parish continue to work hard and deal with the issues of the day. There are plenty of events to enjoy—see the back page diary.

Tony Gaster

oliversbatterynews@gmail.com



Parish Council Business

Devoted to Bushfield, see articles elsewhere for recent/current events and projects.

Bushfield Camp – Outline Planning Application

What is Outline Planning Permission?

An application for outline planning permission allows for a decision on the general principles of how a site can be developed. Outline planning permission is granted subject to conditions requiring the subsequent approval of one or more 'reserved matters'.

What is included in the Application ?

Access from the existing highway into the site is applied for/included in detail – everything else submitted is "indicative".

Therefore, the appearance of the proposed buildings, the final layout, scale and landscaping scheme are not fixed or provided in detail as part of the application.

Although the proposals have been developed following discussions with HCC, National Highways and WCC, that is not to say that any of the proposals are agreed.

The Site Access and Badger Farm Road works drawing depicts the proposed site access and associated

highway enhancements including new pedestrian crossing points, modifications to the highway width, new pedestrian routes and new bus stops (providing access to P&R buses). To support a move away from private car journeys, sustainable alternatives will be offered, including a private regular shuttle bus service between the Site and Winchester train station, a car club, and electric bikes.

Commentary on what is proposed

Although the site is within the Compton Street Local Gap, the principle of an employment site development within the gap has been accepted by WCC.

Although works to St Cross Road Roundabout illustrate the proposed off site highway improvements to the roundabout, including new signalised pedestrian and cycle crossings, it is not clear why the vehicle access directly off this roundabout is not achievable. Although stopping the Park & Ride buses outside the Proposed Development presents an opportunity to increase bus utilisation, there is no reference to increasing the capacity of the Park & Ride facility or adding a bus lane along Badger Farm Road to cope with additional services and make journey times shorter and more attractive. This is considered to be essential to mitigate the additional vehicle journeys generated by the proposed development.

The car parking onsite needs to be carefully controlled to ensure it meets predicted demand, in order to prevent overspill into adjacent parishes. WCC will need to ensure the design principles that are inherent in any outline planning permission are carried forward into the future detailed design at 'reserved matters' stages and are

also very robust in assessing and testing the developer's evidence base and any mitigation proposed.

Summary

The PC supports development on brownfield sites and does not object to this development in principle, but has major concerns regarding the access, the impact on traffic congestion, the potential increase in CO2 emissions and increased pressure on parking spaces in the parish and nearby.

The PC will review and comment on the other 'reserved matters' as they are developed and shared during further consultation and engagement events and when they are formally submitted as part of a planning application.

Comments

On the basis that the Outline Planning Application includes specific proposals in respect of access only, the PC has submitted more detailed comments than in this article, highlighting the following: vehicular access should be directly from the St Cross roundabout capacity of the Park & Ride facility needs to be increased a bus lane along Badger Farm Road needs to be included temporary lights at the junction of Oliver's Battery Road and Badger Farm Road must be included too to provide an accessible junction for pedestrians as well as improving safety for drivers and cyclists.

In addition, the PC has stressed that further public consultation and engagement are essential as the proposal develops and must give adequate time for any proposals to be properly considered and commented on.

David Kirkby Chair Oliver's Battery Parish Council

From St Marks

I hope this note finds you well and in good spirits as we dive into the festive season. Our recent Christmas Tree event was a delightful success, thanks to the wonderful contributions from our community. Your involvement made it a lovely celebration.

I want to extend a warm invitation to join us for our upcoming Christmas services at St Mark's. Our Carols By Candlelight takes place on December 17th at 5pm, the Crib service at 5pm on Christmas Eve and the Christmas Eve Eucharist at 9:30pm. These services offer not only a moment of reflection and spiritual connection but also a chance for us to come together as neighbours and celebrate the joy of the season.

In the midst of the December hustle and bustle, let's take a moment to find comfort in the familiar sights and sounds - the soft glow of lights, the timeless Christmas songs and Carols, and the shared joy with neighbours. These simple pleasures contribute to the tapestry of our community.

As we look forward to the year 2024, I am excited about our community gatherings especially the Easter Egg Hut! Keep an eye out for the details. It's events like these that bring us together and strengthen our bonds.

Wishing each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with peace and joy. I look forward to sharing more time with you in the coming year.

Revd Marianne Foster



Golf Club Socials

Below is a short item regarding the Golf Club Socials following a conversation with one of the chefs there to confirm their continuation: Olivers Battery Golf Club Socials - Every 2nd Thursday of the Month 6-8pm at the South Winchester Golf Club House

Alex and Adam (resident chefs) are keen to continue hosting our monthly socials into 2024, offering a pleasant meal and drink at a reasonable price. We have a number of residents who regularly attend this event and many who wish the event to continue.

Unfortunately there have been a few hiccups this year (cancellations) and in order to avoid disappointments in



2024, it would help to be sure of numbers wishing to attend the evening 2 weeks prior to the event date. The best way to communicate is via the Events Mailing Address below. Currently, the Chefs reasonably request a minimum party of 15. There is usually more of us!

Please do come along - email oliversbatteryevents@gmail.com for any more information and/or whether you wish to be added to the mailing list. In the event of any cancellation we can let you know and avoid wasted trips.

Seasons Greetings from the Events Team. *Chris Stride*

Yew Hill Nature Reserve

We had 20 Shetland sheep (loaned from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust) return to Yew Hill to graze the chalk grassland after a wet summer with lots of growth. They have a lot of grass to get through! We do ask that dog walkers



The volunteers have been back in action clearing scrub. One of the main tasks is to dig up hawthorn regrowth and dogwood, to prevent it encroaching onto the chalk grassland and shading out the wildflowers. They have started brushcutting and raking the SW meadow adjacent to the Reservoir. The group meet fortnightly on Thursdays and you can find the dates and details on the Hampshire Branch website under Reserves.

walk their dogs outside the reserve whilst the sheep are there as these are very nervous sheep and we did lose one to a dog attack a couple of years ago. There are good public rights of way around this little reserve so thank you very much to all dog walkers who kindly stay outside the reserve, it's much appreciated!

There is a team of volunteers who carry out daily checks on the sheep.



Wishing you a lovely festive season

Fiona

Butterfly Conservation

What a great community minded team—Ed

Oliver's Battery Community Films



We are looking forward to the Spring Film Season 2024 and below you can see ten out of our twelve team members. The team faithfully get together three times a year to select the programme of films for your enjoyment.

Oliver's Battery Community Film has been running for 6 years and we have a regular turn out of 30-40 people attending - there are seats for 70, a full cinematic sized screen and comfortable cushions so please find out what you are missing if you have not sampled an evening with us yet.



We have maintained the ticket price at £6.00 since the start of OBCF (ice cream and raffle optional) and there is often the option of a short film in addition to the main film. Please make a note of the films showing. If you would like to be part of the team or wish to add your name to the OBCF email list, (used solely for this event), for a film reminder and to win the chance of winning free entry to a season of films then

contact admin@obcfilm.co.uk , or look at the website www.obcfilm.co.uk, or speak to one of us.

Chris Stride

Highways

I am pleased to update you with the news that Hampshire County Council Highways engineers will be reviewing some of the speed limits on the main routes to and from Winchester, including those around Oliver's Battery. The current 40mph on Badger Farm Road between Sainsbury's and Pitt Roundabout will be considered with a view to reducing the speed limit to 30mph. They will also look at potential options at the Oliver's Battery Road South junction with Badger Farm Road to improve vehicle safety, pedestrian and cycling access. Traffic studies will start in January 2024, with engineering options, focused engagement with the Parish Council and residents leading to a feasibility design by around May 2024.

Cllr Jan Warwick

Oliver's Battery

Sustainability Group

Work is starting with the use of the "old" thermal imaging camera. It has to be dry! However we have a list of "clients" to work down before we can advertise the service. A grant for a second camera has been applied for and the hope is that this will be easier to use. Watch this space

Clare Shorter



Olivers Battery WI (OBWI)

OBWI members are coming together for seasonal events as

this year comes to an end. Our meeting on 18 December will be a musical experience with entertainment from the talented Winchester A Capella singers. This theme continues with the area Carol Service at St Cross.

We don't just gather at meetings, we remain busy in the community. The group were delighted that Wetsuit Wanda won the group category of the 2023 scarecrow display. She was reflecting the national WI resolution, calling for water companies to clean up our rivers.

Thank you to those in the community who helped OBWI produce over 500 poppies, which made the spectacular display, both outside and in, at St Mark's during November.

OBWI group (and community members) have created the current postbox display at the shops, with a pyramid of Tragedy Teddies. After Christmas these will be sent on to children in areas of conflict, as a form of comfort. Please visit the Tragedy

Teddies organisation's website for more information and patterns, and to see how you too can get involved.

OBWI group meetings run on the third Monday of the month at St Mark's Church Hall. Members, guests and visitors arrive from 19:15 for a 19:30 start.



These meetings offer the chance for a few hours of female company, tasty refreshments together with an opportunity to learn about something new. If you are female and this sounds like something you'd like to investigate further, please come along to a taster session. To find out more, please contact our Secretary on oliversbatterysec@hampshirewi.org.uk.

We look forward to meeting you at a future meeting, where we run a charity raffle (tickets £1 each, cash please), serve cake and refreshments. There may be occasional talk of preserves but at OBWI you'll have





limited renditions of Jerusalem!
Annual WI membership (from April)
costs £46. Membership is currently
offered on a pro rata basis for the
remainder of the year.

Demelsa Healey
OBWI President



Request for Help with Leaf Removal

Volunteers required to help the
Handyperson Group remove leaves
from the macadam path on two
sides of the Oliver's Battery Primary
School.

*It is intended to remove the leaves
sometime during week commencing 8
January 2024, weather permitting;
date and time to be confirmed nearer
the day.*

*If you have a stiff brush, leaf grabbers
and/or large vegetation bags, that
would be helpful.*

*If you are able to help for up to two
hours, please email your contact details
to cllr.kirkby@oliversbattery.info, and I
will be in touch when a date is agreed.*

3rd Winchester City Brownies

Meet on a Tuesday evening at St
Mark's church. This term we've taken
part in the scarecrow trail, joined in
with Owslebury Handbell group,
made and decorated biscuits, learnt
about bats from Maggie and planted
daffodil bulbs in the St Mark's garden
with Karen. There were also some
beautiful lanterns and Christmas tree
decorations made. Have you spotted
our wooden ones on the Oliver's
Battery tree?

We'd love some more girls to join us.
Please email Kate -
3rdwincitybrownies@gmail.com with
any enquiries.

Kate Fletcher

See picture on page 15-Ed

Support Services from Hampshire County Council

Dear fellow resident, I have put together some helpful information on support available locally from our county council. If you have any further questions, then please do get in touch.

Connect to Support

Hampshire is an online resource for adults in Hampshire. Its aim is to help our residents stay independent. You can find a whole range of local groups, activities and services within our community as well as care providers and other paid services that may help.
www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk

For more information on Hampshire County Council's adult care services, detailed information and advice visit:
www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare

Blue Badge Scheme: The quickest and easiest way to apply for a blue badge on Hampshire County Council's website. If you don't have access to the internet, you can ask a family member, friend, or carer to assist you or apply on your behalf.

www.hants.gov.uk/transport/parking/bluebadge/howtoapply

Meals on Wheels: From 1st October our Meals on Wheels service will be delivered by Health & Independent Living Support (HILS). To access this popular service call 0330 2000 103 (option 4) or visit www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare/meals-on-wheels. Deliveries are made 365 days a year, between 11.15am

and 2.15pm each day.

If you are concerned that a loved one or someone else you know, is or will be unable to feed themselves, you can contact



Hampshire County Council on 0300 555 1386 who will assess them for eligibility for care support.

Community Transport formerly known as Dial-a-Ride and Call & Go, is a bookable door-to-door accessible transport service for individuals who:

find it difficult to use or access public bus services or live more than 400 meters from an available bus service/stop or have no access to a car and there is no bus service when they need to travel.

For any further queries, please contact the Community Transport and Contracts Team - email connecttransport@hants.gov.uk or phone 01962 846785
www.hants.gov.uk/transport/alternativetransport/communitytransport

Wheels to Work: If you are 16+ and you do not have access to your own private or public transport and you need to get to work, training, an apprenticeship or interview Wheels to Work is a fully taxed and insured moped loan scheme. For more information: Call 07896 212198 or 01425 205475 or Email: mopedloan@cfirst.org.uk

Cllr Jan Warwick

07717 104236

jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk

Improvements at the Rec - It's all happening!

Our project at the Recreation Ground is nearing completion. Our vision was to develop the provision at the Rec, to appeal to people of different ages in our community, so that it truly becomes a space for the whole community.

We know that our playground draws parents and children from all over Winchester, and beyond. We are proud of its reputation and we love the fact that local parents can bring their children to the Rec so easily at any time.

We also know that we have a dedicated group of tennis players who regularly use the court - one of the very few free courts in the area. The new net is looking good, we have



plans to trim overhanging trees and we are looking at options for repainting the surface and lines in the coming year.

The MUGA - or the Multi Use Games Area to give it its full title, is regularly used as an informal kick about area, and for basketball practice. It is good to see our teenagers down there after school, letting off steam and unwinding after another day at their studies. And parents use the space to teach their young kids to ride a bike.



A few years ago, as an early part of our improvements, we came up with the idea of a pathway round the perimeter of the Rec, cut into the grass. We thought it would be good for older people who were not used to exercise build up fitness gradually. Each circuit came to about 500 metres, so twice round the Rec would be about a kilometre's walking. It would also be fun for little kids to ride their bikes in a safe environment. Now, as part of the programme of improvements, we are trying to draw people to the far side of the Rec, by setting picnic tables, benches and bins and the new tree planting, to provide a 'destination'. Here, people can sit, take in the views, have a picnic, enjoy the new trees, see the Rec from a different perspective. We are also putting more tables and benches and bins down near the playground,





developing this as a families and kids area.

The last thing on our improvements' list is the football field. Given the larger number of families with younger children, we took a decision to modify the field to provide a smaller, U12/5 a side/walking football pitch. We have new, smaller goal posts and the pitch will be lined regularly. We are hoping to attract residents from younger girls and boys to women and men over 50, to playing on this pitch.

We hope these improvements to the Rec will go some way to bringing more residents to use the space in different ways. It is a beautiful spot, the views

over the surrounding landscape quite lovely. It's great for just sitting and letting the mind wander, but there's other stuff to do as well - watch the birds, look at the flowers, hear the wind, take a picnic, take a walk, take a seat, play tennis, or football, play on the MUGA or play on the swings, whatever takes your fancy. Fly a kite or just run about in the open and in the fresh air. It's our space, let's use it.

Connie Leach



Repair Café Winchester

It has now been running successfully for 9 months. We have mended an amazing variety of items including - to name just a few - hoovers, mowers, lots of lamps, a tent,



SCAN ME

clothes, furniture, musical instruments, soft toys, computer issues and other electronic items. None of this would have been possible without the fabulous volunteers that have come together to create a great team. Thank you to all of you!



Next year we look forward to continuing with events on the second Saturday of the month. Mornings (10.00am to 12.30pm) are at Badger Farm Community Centre. In the afternoon we are changing our venue to Winnall Primary School, 31 Garbett Rd, Winchester SO23 0NY (2.00 to 4.30pm).

Why not come and visit us next year. You can book your items on our website

(www.repaircafewinchester.org) from two weeks prior to the next event or arrive on the day. There is no charge



for the service, but donations are welcome. If you would like to become part of this team, go to the same website, and fill in the volunteer form. We look forward to seeing you!

Rebecca Hare

Oliver's Battery Community Café

It 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 are welcoming an increasing number of visitors – a record 75 one Friday in November - and the team want to discover how they can best serve local needs including supporting local organisations and becoming a real hub for caring in the community.

Re.vive

We're celebrating Christmas at Re.vive on December 22nd by singing some carols and enjoying mince pies and mulled wine. Please do come and join us!

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

Tree Lighting Event

Saturday December 2 saw the annual Christmas tree lighting attended by around 100 people. Mulled wine went down very well, the WI have done an amazing job of fuelling everyone and making everyone welcome-we are very grateful to them, especially Christine Stride for coordinating.

The tree erection team-led by Colin



and Matt got the tree up very quickly, decorated by Mairead, Marianne, Luca, Hughie and light input from myself. Tom Foster led some carol singing on his guitar and there was the usual spectacular rocket firework. Well done to everyone involved, bearing in mind the tree arrived a few hours late; fortunately, the team are well versed in erection now.

We have asked children and adults to decorate a handprint of themselves which I will collate into a tree to display-perhaps the pc could also do one. The view is to create a tree representing the hands of the community of Oliver's Battery. The children also redecorated suncatchers from previous years to go on the tree.

Tom Foster led some carol singing on his guitar and there was the usual spectacular rocket firework. Well done to everyone involved, bearing in mind the tree arrived a few hours late; fortunately, the team are well versed in erection now.

Amy Patterson and others





OLIVER'S BATTERY SCARECROW COMPETITION WINNERS!

**ADULT WINNER
DAVID AND GOLIATH**



**FAMILY WINNER
SCARECROWS
UNITED FOR PEACE**



**GROUP WINNER
WETSUIT WANDA**



Supported and sponsored by





We have planted 11
new trees at the
Recreation Ground.



We will need to water
them, from April onwards.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are putting together groups of volunteers. They will
look after the trees, and water them if there is no rain.

The soil needs to be kept moist. Or the trees will die.

It will not take much time - we are buying a water
carrier to take water to the trees.

The whole family can help. You can get together with
friends and neighbours to form a Group.

It will be entertaining; it could be Fun!

We are forming a Rota. The more people who
volunteer, the fewer times each group has to do it!

If you are interested, get in touch with

Cllr. Connie Leach



Chiropractic and Sports Massage We can help
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OLIVER'S BATTERY
CHIROPRACTIC

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



For your Diary

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

January 9, February 6. March 5, April 2, May 7. June 6

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

Wednesday January 17 Haunting in Venice

Wednesday February 21 Double Indemnity

Wednesday March 20 The Great Escaper

Wednesday April 17 And Then Come The Nightjars

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

Thursday January 11 Thursday February 8

Thursday March 14 Thursday April. 11

Winchester Gardening Club 7.30pm start, at St. Mark's Church Hall

Wednesday January 10 Glenn Duggan on the Fantastic Flors of Australia

Wednesday February 14 Maggie Tran on Trowels and Tribulations of taking on a historic garden

Wednesday March 13 AGM, speaker Pauline Weeks on Hardy Geraniums. Where and why?

Oliver's Battery WI - St Marks 7.15 for 7.30pm start

Thursday January 18 Speaker meeting. Topic 'Beaker Buttons'.

Monday February 19 Speaker meeting, 'Indiscreet revelations of a tour guide.'

Monday March 18 Speaker meeting, with Celebrant, Tracy Spring.

Monday April 15 OBWI Birthday meeting with entertainment from The Land Girls.

Monday May 20 Annual Meeting. Election of Officers and new committee.

The Battery Club

for Senior Citizens meets at St Mark's Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm.

Re.vive community cafe

Friday mornings 9 am - 12 at St Marks

Repair Café Winchester—Saturdays

13 January, 10 February, 9 March, 13 April, 11 May, 8 June

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