



## Oliver's Battery Parish Council meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church Hall, Oliver's Battery.

<u>Present</u>	<u>In attendance</u>	<u>Apologies/Absent</u>
Cllr Gaster	Clerk – B Gibbs	Cllr Blundell
Cllr Kirkby	County Cllr Warwick	Cllr Ironside
Cllr Leach	District Cllr Laming	Cllr Leigh-Jones (late arrival)
Cllr Leigh-Jones (from 7.53pm)		District Cllr Brophy
	One member of the public	

<b>Item</b>		<b>ACTION</b>
23/127	<b>Apologies for absence and declarations of interest</b>	
	Apologies had been received from Cllrs Blundell and Ironside. Apologies were also received from District Cllr Brophy and Cllr Leigh Jones apologised for his late arrival.  There were no declarations of interest made at this time.	
23/128	<b>To adjourn for public participation</b>	
23/128.1	Although there was a member of the public present she indicated that she did not wish to comment at this time.	
23/128.2	To discuss the progress of public comments from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	There were no matters arising from the public session in February 2024.	
23/129	<b>To receive the County Councillor's report</b>	
23/129.1	Cllr Warwick had submitted a written report for the Parish Council that will be appended to these minutes.  Items to note as follows. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The County Council's budget for the next financial year has been approved by the council. This budget covers £2.6 billion of public spending on the ongoing delivery of important local services to Hampshire's 1.4 million residents.</li> <li>• From 1 April 2024, Hampshire County Council's portion of council tax will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care.</li> <li>• The County Council's new local transport plan (known as LTP4) has been</li> </ul>	

	approved. It is guided by two principles, widening the choice of travel options that people can use and providing a transport system that puts people first.	
23/130	<b>To receive the District Councillors' report</b>	
23/130.1	<p>Cllr Brophy had submitted a written report for the Parish Council that will be appended to these minutes.</p> <p>Items to note as follows.</p> <p>Councillors approved a balanced budget for Winchester City Council at a council meeting on 22nd February. The key highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A below inflation rise in Council Tax for city council services (an increase of £4.07 per year for a Band D property, or 2.6%.)</li> <li>• Investment in the council plan priority of 'Greener Faster' – This includes expanding recycling and introducing doorstep food waste collections.</li> </ul> <p>A new survey has been launched by the Bushfield developers that focuses on "safeguarding" "legacy land", which asks for views to "understand how the Church Commissioners for England will commit to safeguarding a very large proportion – and in fact the majority – of the site as accessible, green open space. Through our online survey, we would like to understand how we can work together to maximise the potential of the legacy land as part of Bushfield's future redevelopment." The Clerk was asked to add the link to the survey (<a href="https://bushfieldcampregeneration.co.uk/legacy-land/">https://bushfieldcampregeneration.co.uk/legacy-land/</a>) to the website.</p> <p>One of the ward's most inspiring volunteer groups – the Winchester Repair Café – which meets at the Badger Farm Community Centre – is being honoured with a Mayor's Community Award in recognition of its contribution to the community.</p>	
23/130.2	To discuss the progress of requests to District councillors from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	<p>23/71.1 &amp; 23/89.2 &amp; 23/100.2 The Parish Council asked that the district councillors to report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council with news of any progress of the enforcement of the planting at the Dentist's surgery in Oliver's Battery Road South.</p> <p>Cllr Laming said that he was in touch with the WCC Enforcement about this topic. However, he also said that the Clerk should contact Cllr Porter at WCC about this item.</p>	Cllr Laming Clerk
23/131	<b>To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024.</b>	
	RESOLVED – Agreed as a true copy and duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.	
23/132	<b>Finance and Council matters</b>	
23/132.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	<p>23/115.2 The Clerk said that the CIL money that has been allocated to the Recreation Ground project has not been received in the Parish Council's bank account. Ongoing.</p> <p>23/115.5 To publish the new terms of reference for the Events Working Group on the website. Action complete.</p> <p>23/115.6 To publish the new terms of reference for the Sustainability Working Group on the website. Action complete.</p> <p>23/116.1 To approve a 2023-24 grant application on behalf of the Citizen's Advice Winchester District for a total of £300. Action Complete</p> <p>23/117.1 To authorise the purchase of a Scribe Accounts licence at an initial cost of £717.00 and a recurring cost of £468.00. Action complete.</p>	
23/132.2	To accept payments for February 2024 and agree the February 2024 bank transactions with the bank balance.	

All outstanding invoices had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve all invoices & payments up to this date.

Payment date	Customer	Details	Gross
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Nil Receipts for February 2024

Invoice Date	Supplier	Details	Gross
01-Mar-24	Mr B V Gibbs	Feb 24 Salary	566.91
29-Feb-24	D Kirkby	Rec Ground Expenses	14.44
29-Feb-24	Mrs C M Stride	Distribution team Xmas Gift	36.75
29-Feb-24	WC Citizen Advice	OBPC 23-24 Grant	300.00
29-Feb-24	Copying Centre Ltd	INV-2402-035	307.60
29-Feb-24	D Kirkby	Rec Ground Expenses	9.99
29-Feb-24	Merritt Tree Spec	Inv-10037	1,200.00
23-Feb-24	HMRC PAYE/NIC	PAYE/NIC Month 10	142.55
23-Feb-24	St Marks Church	OBPC Jan invoice	50.00
23-Feb-24	Grass and Grounds	INV 2022990	231.60
23-Feb-24	Infinity Play Ltd	INV-01077	1,296.00
23-Feb-24	Grass and Grounds	INV 4412	55.20
20-Feb-24	Infinity Play Ltd	INV-01057	10,075.80
20-Feb-24	Starboard Systems	INV 5384	860.40
20-Feb-24	Worthy Heating & P	INV 7286	81.60
20-Feb-24	Hampshire Pension	OBPC Jan 2024 Contributions.	201.69
20-Feb-24	Winchester CC	Dog Bins 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2023-24	195.00

**Bank reconciliation as at 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Opening balance	35,028.79
Add - income	45,537.10
less - expenditure	52,426.56
Closing balance	28,139.33
Unity Trust Bank	28,139.33
Total Balances	28,139.33
Balance as per cash book	28,139.33
Variance	0

23/132.3 To receive update from the Events Working Group (standing item)

A key thing in terms of event safety was obtaining permission for the temporary closure of the parking area on Oliver's Battery Road South. This is for increasing visibility of various smaller height people in particular crossing in front of St Marks.

The Event has been advertised on the Parish Council (PC) Newsletter and website, BFOBCRA Newsletter and website, locally in Alexandra Sports, the New Forest Butchers and Post Office. Also, in Pitt Village, Winchester Village, Oliver's Battery Road North and

	<p>Southampton Orienteering Club (SOC) newsletter.</p> <p>The response via the email list requests for gardens has been outstanding and the routes for the various courses have now been able to be chosen (with gardens to spare).</p> <p>Producing the final mapping will be carried out week commencing 10th March and then these maps will be sent to Sarsen Press for printing.</p> <p>Our local Alexandra Sports has kindly offered to provide £200 sponsorship for this event.</p> <p>We are in the process of purchasing 250 Easter Eggs. Last year the entry fees largely covered this cost.</p> <p>St Marks Hall is being provided FREE again for this event and our thanks go to Rev Marianne Foster, who is also part of the team.</p> <p>The various trophies will be presented at 5:15pm on 31 March in St Mark's Hall.</p> <p>We would appreciate a representative of the PC to present the PC trophy and an A4 sized PC promotion (other trophy providers being asked to do the same).</p>	Cllr Kirkby
23/132.4	To receive update from the Sustainability Working Group (standing item)	
	<p>Activities over winter have included visiting twenty-five properties to conduct thermal imaging survey using the first thermal imaging camera. There is a fairly long article about this in the February 24 edition of the Newsletter.</p> <p>The article gives fuller explanation of what has been identified. As a result, we have already had two new requests for surveys and hope to get more before the weather warms up. Many thanks for buying the second thermal camera. Now it has stopped raining, the new thermal camera will get used for a formal survey in the next day or two.</p> <p>Wildlife/ Hedgehog/ Seed planting activities</p> <p>Plans are being developed but nothing to report just yet. However, with so many grass verges disturbed by the relining of our gas pipes, this could be an opportunity to scatter some wildflower seeds.</p>	
23/132.4	Budget / Precept 2024-25	
	<p>The Clerk spoke about the Budget &amp; Precept for 2024-25 and said that this had been approved at the last meeting. However, it was now apparent that there is an error in the approved spreadsheet.</p> <p>A shortfall of £2,700 is now reported as the line item for the Newsletter costs should have been £3,000 rather than £300 as this was the figure entered.</p> <p>The Clerk commented that it was too late to review the 2024-25 precept request.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To retain the proposed budget of £3,000 for the Newsletter in 2024-25 and use drawdown from the general reserve to cover the projected shortfall.</p>	
23/132.5	Traffic issues in Oliver's Battery	
	<p>Cllr Gaster presented a report about traffic issues on Oliver's Battery Road South from Downlands Road and Old Kennels Lane. He began by commenting on the condition of the junction at Oliver's Battery Road South and Old Kennels Lane. Effectively, this is a blind corner for traffic travelling from Old Kennels Lane.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster asked for an extension of yellow lines by 10m for both sides of the road here.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster continued by saying that the community needed to support local shops and businesses. However, parking was a big issue along Oliver's Battery Road South. It is apparent that for most days, parking adjacent to the businesses is fully taken.</p>	

	<p>Local residents have their own off-road parking and it is others who are causing an issue with Oliver's Battery Road South being reduced to a single width due to parking.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster suggested a two-hour parking restriction along Oliver's Battery Road South. It was queried how this would be monitored so that it is effective. Also, the need for parking may then move further into Oliver's Battery.</p> <p>On-street waiting by large delivery vehicles, particularly to the Post Office, also presents problems as deliveries need to be made.</p> <p>There is an issue with traffic speed which involves tradespeople and vans but also local people. A speed gun was mentioned as an option.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster suggested that this is given serious reflection for possible future action.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster asked for a discussion to take place between the County, District and Parish Councils with local businesses in order to identify a resolution to these issues.</p>	Cllr Leach
23/133	<b>Planning</b>	
23/133.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	<p>23/71.1 &amp; 23/89.2 &amp; 23/100.2 The Parish Council asked that the district councillors to report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council with news of any progress of the enforcement of the planting at the Dentist's surgery in Oliver's Battery Road South.</p> <p>The Parish Council re-iterated its concerns to Cllrs Warwick and Laming</p>	District Cllrs
23/133.2	To consider any planning reports and agree actions.	
	<p>Cllr Blundell submitted a written report.</p> <p>24/00112/HOU 7 Treble Close, Oliver's Battery: Demolition of the existing garage, a small rear and side extension, internal rearrangement, a replacement garden room and works to the hard landscaping behind the property.</p> <p>The Orange notice is displayed and there have been no public comments to date.</p> <p>RESOLVED: No comment.</p> <p>24/00065/HOU 4 Crescent Close, Oliver's Battery: Part 1 storey extension to rear and part 1.5 storey extension to rear and front of existing dwelling. External alterations to elevation including materials and fenestration.</p> <p>The Orange notice is now displayed having previously been not evident. The Case Officer has been contacted and to confirm neighbours have been advised about this application.</p> <p>RESOLVED: No comment.</p>	
23/134	<b>Communications</b>	
23/134.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	Nothing outstanding	
23/134.2	To receive an update on the Newsletter	
	<p>Cllr Gaster submitted a written report.</p> <p>There were plenty of contributions for the February 2024 edition and it was well received. Cllr Gaster said that he had a vision to grow the publication and make interesting for everyone of all ages. Therefore, it is important that I find a way to contact some of our</p>	

	<p>many teenagers.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster also said that in order to increase our advertising revenue, we may need someone to focus on this and take this on (I don't have the time right now). My goal would be a minimum of 2 pages of paid ads and if we grow from current 16 pages, the extra cost will be funded by ads, so it will be worthwhile.</p> <p>The distribution team need our thanks.</p>	
23/134	<b>Recreation Ground, Wildlife Conservation Area and the Battery</b>	
23/134.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	<p>23/91.1 &amp; 23/105.1 Further efforts will be made to supplement the number of volunteers for watering the new trees. Volunteers are now in place. Action complete.</p> <p>23/91.1 &amp; 23/105.1 Discuss in more detail recent application to place a bench on the Battery for Mr and Mrs Butler. The Clerk is now in touch with the family and will report back to a future meeting.</p> <p>23/105.4 Parish Council accepted the proposal for a small commemorative plaque to commemorate former Cllr. Ivan Arnold, and set a budget not exceeding £50. Ongoing.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Leach</p>
23/134.2	To consider report based on Groundsman's weekly reports and agree actions.	
	Cllr Leigh-Jones had received the checklists from Grass and Grounds for February 2024 and he confirmed the checklist (along with the status of the Defib) have no issues to report.	
23/134.3	To receive reports on routine maintenance and ad-hoc tasks that have been completed (Standing Item)	
	<p>The mains water supply tap at the recreational ground has been repaired.</p> <p>It is apparent the new smaller size goals are receiving significant use. At some point we may need to consider the storage and maintenance of the nets (particularly in the summer holidays).</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby has sent through photographs evidencing that some of the plastic caps that cover bolt heads and nuts need replacing. Some nail heads need to be hammered flush with wood in sections of the play equipment.</p> <p>No report has been received from the Handyperson group in February.</p>	Cllr Leigh-Jones
23/134.4	To consider any further updates on an Inclusive Recreation Ground for all Ages projects.	
	<p>Cllr Leach submitted a written report.</p> <p>The Recreation Ground Improvements Project has now been completed. Cllr Kirkby's article in the February OB News magazine details what has been achieved.</p> <p>The trees, picnic tables, benches, bins and the new football pitch all enhance the provision of facilities for residents of different ages, offering opportunities for a wider range of activities.</p> <p>The watering of the trees will begin as the spring advances. The Handyperson Group will be leading this initiative and a number of residents are involved, including some of our local students who are completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, as part of the community service component.</p> <p>The tree watering will need the tap at the Recreation Ground to fit a hose which can connect to the water carrier that has recently been purchased.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster has kindly volunteered to fit a new tap, and is in conversation with Cllr Kirkby as to fine details of purchases required.</p>	Cllr Gaster

	RESOLVED: That the sum of approx. £50 be used to buy required parts and change the tap so that the water carrier can be easily filled.	Cllr Kirkby																					
23/134.4	To receive an update from the Tree Warden																						
	<p>Cllr Gaster provided a written report.</p> <p>The agreed work was done by Merritts on Feb 15th. However, after some discussion the cherry tree was not taken down. I also pointed out that there was a requirement for some trimming of the very tall trees on the Battery that border Oliver's Battery Road South. Cutting back branches overhanging the road will require special permission and temporary closure of the parking spaces. It's not urgent, so next winter should be OK.</p>																						
23/135	<b>Lengthsman Scheme</b>																						
23/135.1	<p>The Clerk presented a verbal report.</p> <p>Colden Common Parish Council has served notice that it will be ending its role as the administrator of the local scheme after April 2024. It has also been announced that the scheme will be re-financed for a further five years.</p> <p>The Scheme is now looking for a new administrator.</p>																						
23/136	<b>Items for Consideration Only</b>																						
23/136.1	<p>Cllr Kirkby spoke about the CPRE and their "Hampshire Hedge" project.</p> <p>He suggested inviting them to the April meeting.</p>	Clerk																					
23/137	To discuss correspondence received during the month and items for the agenda at the next meeting.																						
23/137.1	<p>The Clerk listed the following correspondence.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Sender</th> <th>Subject</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>06/02/24</td> <td>HALC</td> <td>Hampshire ALC Conference 2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td>07/02/24</td> <td>CPRE</td> <td>The Hampshire Hedge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>08/02/24</td> <td>WCC</td> <td>Your Council News Feb 24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12/02/24</td> <td>WCC</td> <td>Winchester Business bulletin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14/02/24</td> <td>WCC</td> <td>Parish Connect Feb 24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23/02/24</td> <td>HCC</td> <td>Hampshire County Policy Forum Survey</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Sender	Subject	06/02/24	HALC	Hampshire ALC Conference 2024	07/02/24	CPRE	The Hampshire Hedge	08/02/24	WCC	Your Council News Feb 24	12/02/24	WCC	Winchester Business bulletin	14/02/24	WCC	Parish Connect Feb 24	23/02/24	HCC	Hampshire County Policy Forum Survey	
Date	Sender	Subject																					
06/02/24	HALC	Hampshire ALC Conference 2024																					
07/02/24	CPRE	The Hampshire Hedge																					
08/02/24	WCC	Your Council News Feb 24																					
12/02/24	WCC	Winchester Business bulletin																					
14/02/24	WCC	Parish Connect Feb 24																					
23/02/24	HCC	Hampshire County Policy Forum Survey																					
23/138	<b>Date of next meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm</b>																						
	Meeting ended at 8.57pm																						
23/139	<p>Exempt Business: To pass a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from the discussion of the following matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.</p> <p>There were no exempt items to discuss.</p>																						