



Oliver's Battery Parish Council meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 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 Almond	Clerk – B Gibbs	Cllr Blundell
Cllr Gaster	Dist Cllr Laming	Dist Cllr Brophy
Cllr Ironside	Dist & County Cllr Warwick	
Cllr Kirkby		
Cllr Leach		
Cllr Leigh-Jones	Four members of the public	

Item		ACTION
25/46	Apologies for absence and declarations of interest	
	<p>Apologies had been received from Cllr Blundell. Apologies were also received from District Cllr Brophy.</p> <p>Cllr Ironside declared a personal interest in the agenda item concerning 6 Pine Close as a near neighbour.</p>	
25/47	To adjourn for public participation	
25/47.1	<p>A parishioner spoke about parking issues within the village. He had seen the survey in the village newsletter and had responded to it. He said that he supported any efforts to improve parking provision and enforcement of contraventions.</p> <p>Another parishioner spoke about the process involved in responding to the County and District councillors' reports when they are present at the parish council meetings. He also spoke about parking issues at Priors Way and Texas Drive when the Recreation Ground car park was full.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby responded by saying that there was an item to discuss the parking issues later in the meeting. He also said that the County and District councillor reports were to be received only rather than be used as the starting point for a debate.</p> <p>Two other parishioners introduced themselves as new residents who were keen to see how the Parish Council managed its meetings.</p>	
25/47.2	To discuss the progress of public comments from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	23/71.1 & 23/89.2 & 23/100.2 & 23/144.2 The Parish Council had asked that the district councillors to report back to Parish Council with news of the progress with the planting	

	<p>scheme at the Dentist's surgery in Oliver's Battery Road South outlined in planning application 22/00948/FUL.</p> <p>Cllr Laming said he would speak again with the planning department as well as Cllr Porter.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Executive of Winchester City Council asking why Cllr Porter had not responded to emails sent to her by the Clerk.</p>	<p>Cllr Laming</p> <p>Clerk</p>
25/48	To receive the County Councillor's report	
25/48.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
25/48.2	<p>Cllr Warwick had submitted a written report for the Parish Council that will be appended to these minutes.</p> <p>Although the local plan is a District responsibility, the new central government housing allocations will have a significant impact on infrastructure planning (roads, schools, flood drainage etc) that are the responsibility of the County Council. The final draft of the Winchester local plan will be open for public comment until 13th October before submission to the planning inspectorate.</p> <p>Hampshire's solar energy group-buying scheme, "Solar Together" is open.</p> <p>Those interested need to register online at www.hants.gov.uk/solartogether by 18 October for a free and without obligation quote.</p> <p>An expression of interest in a regional political agreement (combined authority) was submitted on 30th August by Hampshire County Council and the three Solent unitary authorities (Portsmouth, Southampton and Isle of Wight). The agreement would respect existing boundaries and could attract additional powers and economic funding.</p> <p>Hampshire's Children's services were rated outstanding by Ofsted this summer. Cllr Warwick said that these inspections by Ofsted were outside the scope of their school inspection regime and are not affected by the recent changes to school inspections.</p>	
25/49	To receive the District Councillors' report	
25/49.1	To discuss the progress of requests to District councillors from the last meeting: see Actions List.	
25/49.2	<p>A written report was submitted for the Parish Council that will be appended to these minutes.</p> <p>Winchester City Council (WCC) has published a "Proposed Submission Winchester District Local plan 2040" for consultation between 29th August and 13th October. The consultation only invites comments on whether the Plan complies with all relevant legislation and meets the tests of soundness set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.</p> <p>Cllr Laming re-iterated the points made by Cllr Warwick with regard to the local plan.</p> <p>WCC currently have four different community grants schemes. Cllrs were encouraged to check whether any would be suitable for local community projects and initiatives.</p>	All
25/50	To approve the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 7th July 2024.	
	RESOLVED – Agreed as a true copy and duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.	
25/51	Finance and Council matters	
25/51.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	25/23.9 Parking issues in Oliver's Battery Road South. On tonight's agenda.	

	25/37.4 The CPRE grant application should be from the Parish Council not the OB Countryside Group. Ongoing with Cllr Almond	Cllr Almond
25/51.2	To accept payments for July and August 2024 and agree the July and August 2024 bank transactions with the bank balance.	
	RESOLVED: To accept the payments for July and August 2024 and agree the July and August 2024 bank transactions with the bank balance.	
25/51.3	To receive update from the Events Working Group (standing item)	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report.</p> <p>Community Picnic</p> <p>The Summer Picnic took place on Saturday 24th August. The Events Group had prepared the Battery with bunting placed around the green. Sadly, the weather forecast was for heavy rain from the Friday night until lunchtime on Saturday.</p> <p>The backup plan to use St Mark's Hall was implemented and the picnic was held indoors. Over the course of the afternoon, 30+ people came, with their picnics, and enjoyed being entertained by the live music. Teas and coffees were offered to the attendees.</p> <p>Our sincere thanks go to Jayne Pickett for stepping forward to organise this at short notice and delivering a very enjoyable event regardless of the weather. Our thanks also got to Rev Marianne Foster for allowing St Mark's Hall and its facilities to be used for this community event and to Tom Foster for clearing and preparing the small meeting room/ to make space for the band.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Jayne Pickett and to Marianne and Tom Foster.</p> <p>Congratulations to Mia Chen (Oliver's Battery Primary School pupil) for her entry into the Scarecrow drawing competition (see September Newsletter for picture). Mia was presented a £10 book voucher by a member of the Events Group.</p> <p>This picture will be used on all the PR leading up to the Scarecrow week.</p> <p>The fifth Scarecrow Competition will run over the School Autumn Half Term from Saturday 26th October to Sunday 3rd November. Judging will be completed on Saturday 2nd November and the winners announced straight afterwards.</p> <p>All local residents and shop keepers/businesses and the Council are encouraged to enter.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs Ironside and Leach to lead on a potential Council entry.</p> <p>Our sixth annual Oliver's Battery Christmas Tree will go up on Saturday 7th December. It will no doubt be followed with the usual Mulled Wine, Mince Pies & Carols. However, the Events Group are hoping to 'beef up' the Christmas Tree event this year. If this impacts on the budget allocation, it will be included as a proposal in a future progress report seeking approval.</p> <p>OB Community Films will run a 'What's on in Oliver's Battery up to Christmas' set of adverts at its showings in the autumn.</p> <p>The Winchester Half Marathon runs through Oliver's Battery on the morning of Sunday 22nd September. They are looking for around 10 local volunteers to help.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllr Kirkby to send an invitation to help to the Contacts List.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs Ironside and Leach</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby</p>

25/51.4	To receive update from the Sustainability Working Group (standing item)	
	<p>Cllr Almond had submitted a written report..</p> <p>Members of Sustainability OB held a 'Climate Fresk' Workshop on 11th July. Feedback from the event has been positive and motivating. Sustainability OB alongside members of the community are holding another meeting / follow up discussion in early September.</p> <p>The next Big Outdoor Swap is Saturday 21st September.</p> <p>Sustainability OB are liaising with Anne Forder to arrange a feeder ride from OB to attend Winchesters Mass Bike Ride on 28th September. The aim of the event is to highlight the many benefits of cycling in Winchester.</p> <p>The Film Club, OBCG and Sustainable OB have collaborated and are promoting September's film "Wilding"- being shown on Wednesday 18th September.</p> <p>Cllr Almond has begun planning a 'Swish'. This is a "reduce waste" event that is likely to be held at Badger Farm Community Centre sometime in November.</p> <p>Cllr Almond and OBCG is in the process of applying for the hedgerow grant from CPRE.</p> <p>In Autumn Sustainability OB will begin promoting the thermal imagery surveys.</p>	
25/51.5	To receive an update from Tree Warden on visual inspections carried out.	
	<p>Cllr Gaster had submitted a written report.</p> <p>There was no need for any immediate work.</p> <p>The only area that needs cutting back is on the Battery, adjacent to Oliver's Battery Road South. It is proposed to contact the immediate frontagers and if there are no issues to arrange for the tree surgeon to visit and quote for the work to be done in the winter.</p>	
25/51.6	Overgrown hedges in Oliver's Battery (to receive reports)	
	<p>The Clerk presented a verbal report regarding overgrown hedges and the limit of the Parish Council's powers to deal with them. He said that he would advise the Parish Council that it should not routinely interact with householders who may have overgrown hedges abutting the pavements.</p> <p>He advised the Parish Council to report any overgrown hedges via County Council website where there was section devoted to the topic.</p> <p>There was a general discussion about future newsletter articles on the topic as well as FB and Instagram posts.</p> <p>Cllr Warwick said that the Clerk may wish to contact his colleague at Hursley Parish Council. She has had some experience of direct involvement with householders there.</p>	<p>Cllrs Gaster and Ironside</p> <p>Clerk</p>
25/51.7	To receive an update on the parking survey	
	<p>Cllr Gaster had submitted a written report.</p> <p>Cllr Gaster gave an overview of survey responses and said that long term parking affects Oliver's Battery Road South (OBRS) and to a lesser extent at Downlands Road, Compton Way and Olivers Battery Crescent. A discussion took place with Cllr Warwick about the options available to the County Council in placing time limits on parking in OBRS.</p> <p>It was suggested that a three hour on-street parking limit for OBRS from the Junction with Badgers Farm Road through to the junction with Old Kennels Lane.</p>	

	<p>There was no support for placing time limits on parking on all of the other roads named above.</p> <p>The issue of extending the yellow lines at the junction of OBRS with Old Kennels Lane was also discussed.</p> <p>No agreement was reached about extending the lines at the junction although Cllr Warwick said that she would speak to her colleagues about extending the lines on both sides of the junction.</p> <p>The Council are still waiting for the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process to start with HCC. When it does there will be a site meeting to discuss proposed restrictions, so we can explain our concerns and agree proposals for public consultation.</p> <p>Once new restrictions are in place, enforcement will be the key.</p>	Cllr Warwick
25/51.8	To receive an update on the Community Initiative	
	<p>Cllr Leach had submitted a written report.</p> <p>Cllr Leach said the aims were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor shift in demographic from 2018 • To bring newer residents into the wider community, increasing their sense of belonging • To work towards a closer, more cohesive, stronger community. <p>Cllr Leach said that it was her aim to meet with representatives of the primary school and their PTA. In addition, she was hoping to meet with Cllr Ironside regarding social media and asking for support from local residents with survey expertise.</p>	Cllr Leach
25/51.9	To consider grant application from Oliver's Battery Countryside Group (OBCG)	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby led with this item.</p> <p>OBCG decided not to request a grant.</p>	
25/51.10	To receive a grant from the Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Community Association.	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby led with this item.</p> <p>A grant had been requested by Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery Community Association in order to help fund costs associated with seeking to prevent inappropriate development at the Bushfield Camp.</p> <p>RESOLVED – to provide a grant of £200 to the Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Community Association.</p>	
25/52	Planning	
25/52.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	Nothing to report.	
25/52.2	To consider any planning reports and agree actions.	
	<p>Cllr Blundell had submitted a written report.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby presented a report regarding applications notified since the July 2024 PC Meeting.</p> <p>24/0186/HOU 6 Pine Close, Oliver's Battery: First floor side and rear extension, porch canopy and elevational alterations.</p>	

There have been no public comments at the time this report was compiled and the orange planning notice is displayed.

The Council had objected to the previous application, which had been withdrawn.

Cllr Ironside spoke in the public session and asked that any windows from the first-floor landing facing her property should be frosted or obscured. It was noted that she had previously made a personal declaration of interest.

RESOLVED – Cllr Blundell received delegated authority to compile material planning considerations for an objection to be submitted by the Clerk.

Cllr Blundell
Clerk

24/01524/HOU 113 Oliver's Battery Road South, Oliver's Battery: Front and rear extension, partial garage conversion, extend tarmac driveway.

At the time this report was compiled the orange notice was NOT displayed. There have been no comments from the public to date.

The applicants were present but did not speak during the discussion.

RESOLVED – that the Parish Council had no comments to make.

24/01640/HOU 7 Compton Way, Oliver's Battery: Single storey extension and refurbishment to chalet bungalow, with new dormers, roof lights, new roofing, painted brickwork and upgraded windows and associated landscaping. Cladding and new glazing to rear garage and workshop.

There have been no comments from the public to date.

RESOLVED – that the Parish Council had no comments to make.

Update on applications previously reviewed by the Parish Council

68 Old Kennels Lane, Oliver's Battery

24/0001060/HOU – Ground floor rear, side and front extensions. Roof alterations to provide first floor accommodation. Associated changes to exterior materials.

The PC submitted comments. The expiry date was further extended to 19 August and there have been 5 objections from residents/neighbours in addition to the PC's comments.

24/01260/HOU 6 Downlands Road, Oliver's Battery: Single storey front extension

The PC did not submit any comments.

22/00621/FUL 11 Mount View Road, Oliver's Battery: The erection of a pair of semidetached houses (1 x two bedrooms and 1 x three bedrooms), one 4-bedroom house and one 5-bedroom house, together with access, parking and landscaping.

No apparent progress.

Bushfield Camp – Outline Planning Application. Ref 23/02507/OUT

This application is ongoing but it appears that some adjustment to the application is likely to be necessary with further comments expected from National Highways.

22/00537/LDP South View Park Homes, Oliver's Battery Gardens

The appeal against the refusal of a Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Use of Development for the Use of Land for the Siting of up to 8 Caravans for permanent human habitation was successful.

25/53	Communications	
25/53.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	Nothing to report.	
25/54	Recreation Ground, Wildlife Conservation Area and the Battery	
25/54.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List.	
	<p>25/26.9 To instruct Infinity Playgrounds to replace the Recreation Ground open bin with one to match the other existing bins. An order has been placed.</p> <p>25/40.5 Obtain revision to quotation Q01504 as agreed and instruct works. An order has been placed.</p> <p>25/40.5 Monitor support chains to various play equipment and report when 40% worn and replace missing caps and inserts and tighten loose nuts and bolts. On tonight's agenda to receive a report.</p> <p>25/40.5 Ask Handyperson Group to cut back overhanging foliage (NB shield to be replaced). On tonight's agenda to receive a report.</p> <p>Cllr Leigh-Jones commented on the use of the Recreation Ground over the last two months. It is clear that the community (and most likely others from outside of the area) find this a place in which to gather, connect, and enjoy time in nature. Every part of the Recreation Ground is used by people of all ages and backgrounds.</p> <p>Any visit will see people using the tennis court with families picnicking at the benches and children enjoying the play equipment</p> <p>The Recreation Ground is a wonderful part of this parish and we should be truly proud of the efforts of the Parish Council and the many teams who work together to tend to it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Leigh-Jones spent time looking at the play equipment and checking on support chains for swings. • Several protruding nails were hammered back into wood sections. • Three bolt caps were replaced but caps for some of the smaller bolts that need covering need to be sourced. It is recommended we order a batch of these (they are plastic and probably would not be too costly). • One joist on the wooden equipment (the one with the single hand to hand swings) is loose and needs repairing/replacing (image attached). • It is recommended we ask the Handyperson group if this is something they could attend to or get a quote from Infinity Playgrounds for replacement/repair. <p>RESOLVED: Cllr Leigh-Jones to obtain any necessary accessories and check whether the handyperson group can repair/replace the loose joist.</p>	Cllr Leigh-Jones
25/54.2	To consider report based on Groundsman's weekly reports and agree actions.	
	The checklists had received from Grass and Grounds for the months of July and August and can confirm the checklist (along with the status of the Defib) confirms no issues to report.	
25/54.3	To receive reports on routine maintenance and ad-hoc tasks that have been completed (Standing Item).	
	<p>The Handyperson group had submitted a report for July/August:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Watering: Various volunteer teams and individuals have continued watering the 11 new trees in the Recreation Ground when weather conditions required. Grass clearance for access to the trees is now good. Where there might be problems (possible disease, aphids or structure) this has been reported to Cllr Leach for any action. • Benches: The 3 bare wood new benches in the Recreation Ground have all received 3 coats of protective stain. • Play Equipment: The largest equipment has been recoated with non-slip paint. 	

	<p>The very high usage of the play area has prevented completion of the task of re-coating the other two equipment. This will be done in the early Autumn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Warning Equipment: This has received regular maintenance and battery change. Batteries are beginning to depreciate achieving only 6 or 7 days now against early 10-12 days originally. • The Council might wish to discuss the continuing utility of this equipment. • Reactive Tasking: Members of the Group have reacted to safety concerns by fencing off the damaged furniture in the Recreation Ground and Battery. <p>Future Tasking: Completion of non-slip painting in the play area. Leaf Clearance in the late Autumn</p>	
25/54.2	To consider installing artificial grass to goal mouth areas.	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby submitted a written report.</p> <p>Earlier this year, the new football pitch was installed as part of the Recreation Ground Improvements Project. This has proved very popular and the grass in the goalmouth areas have already been worn away and these areas need to be refurbished.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby spoke about the options moving forward.</p> <p>Do nothing and let the goal mouths continue to deteriorate. This is clearly the most economic option but it is already seriously affecting the amenity and enjoyment of the new pitch and is a potential health and safety issue.</p> <p>Replacing the grass would restore the pitch to its previous condition but would need to be re-done three times a year, at each time the goals would be out of commission for 4-6 weeks. The new turf would need to be watered like the new trees.</p> <p>Replacing with artificial grass would have a high upfront cost but would be most cost effective in the long term. as it offers a much more durable surface than natural grass. Quality artificial grass also provides excellent cushioning underfoot.</p> <p>Based on experience to date, it is anticipated that replacement with grass turf would be required 3 times a year, with the consequential disruption. Artificial grass is much more robust and guarantees of up to 10 years are anticipated (subject to the quality of the artificial grass).</p> <p>RESOLVED – to ask for a quotes and suggestions from Infinity Playgrounds and Grass and Grounds Ltd to replace the badly worn grass areas in the goalmouths.</p>	Cllr Kirkby
25/55	Lengthsman Scheme	
25/55.1	<p>Cllr Kirkby commented that he believed that the Lengthsman did not visit on the 20th June.</p> <p>The Clerk apologised to the meeting as it was clear that the task list for 20th June was never dispatched to the scheme administrator.</p>	Clerk
25/56	Items for Consideration Only	
25/56.1	No reports were received.	
25/57	To discuss correspondence received during the month and items for the agenda at the next meeting.	
25/43.1	No other correspondence was received.	
25/44	Date of next meeting – 1st October 2024 at 7.30pm	
	Meeting ended at 9.28pm	

25/45	<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>	
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