



Oliver's Battery Parish Council meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th November 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 Ironside (from 8.01pm)	Dist Cllr Laming	Cllr Gaster
Cllr Kirkby	Dist & County Cllr Warwick	Cllr Leach
Cllr Leigh-Jones		Dist Cllr Brophy
	One member of the public	

Item		ACTION
25/73	Apologies for absence and declarations of interest	
	<p>Apologies had been received from Cllr Blundell, Gaster and Leach and District Cllr Brophy.</p> <p>Cllr Ironside apologised for her late arrival</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest at this time.</p>	
25/74	To adjourn for public participation	
25/74.1	<p>A parishioner made a request for her family to install a water pipe across the Recreation Ground as a temporary measure in order to restore the water supply to a property in Texas Drive. The water supply ceased flowing some weeks ago.</p> <p>She wished to make the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern Water will not investigate any water leaks beyond their meter. • The original pipe to the property was laid many years ago across land in the family's ownership. • Since then, there have been several land sales with no easements or wayleaves recorded. • There is no drawing in existence showing where the pipe runs so investigating why the water has stopped flowing will be very difficult to achieve. • Other landowners have declined to help the family by allowing a pipe to be laid across their land. • The family are currently using the Parish Council's standpipe to draw their water. <p>Cllr Kirkby thanked the parishioner for her comments and said that the Parish Council would discuss her request in exempt business later on in the meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk introduced Cllrs Laming and Warwick to the parishioner and asked her to</p>	

	<p>speak to them as they may be able to provide more help than the Parish Council.</p>	
25/74.2	<p>To discuss the progress of public comments from the last meeting: see Actions List</p>	
	<p>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 scheme at the Dentist's surgery in Oliver's Battery Road South outlined in planning application 22/00948/FUL.</p> <p>An email has been received that explained that there was nothing WCC Planning could do to enforce the planting scheme as it was not included as part of a planning condition.</p> <p>25/47.2 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. An answer was provided as part of the explanation received above. Complete.</p>	
25/75	<p>To receive the County Councillor's report</p>	
25/75.1	<p>To discuss the progress of requests to the County councillor from the last meeting: see Actions List.</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
25/75.2	<p>Cllr Warwick had submitted a written report for the Parish Council that will be available on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>With more than 4,900 households in Hampshire expressing interest in the latest opportunity to benefit from more affordable solar energy, Solar Together Hampshire is extending its registration deadline until 15th November.</p> <p>The County Council will protect Household Waste Recycling Centres, School Crossing Patrols, and homelessness support services.</p> <p>This autumn Hampshire Libraries is marking its centenary of providing a public library service in the county, and residents are invited to join the celebrations. Whether that's by attending an event at one of the County Council's 40 libraries, contributing to a 'letter to libraries' display or enjoying one of the books in the special collection.</p>	
25/76	<p>To receive the District Councillors' report</p>	
25/76.1	<p>To discuss the progress of requests to District councillors from the last meeting: see Actions List.</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
25/76.2	<p>The City Councillors had submitted a written report for the Parish Council that will be available on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>Cllr Laming spoke about the following items.</p> <p>Winchester City Council is holding pension credit coffee mornings in the next few weeks to help people apply for any eligible benefits. Anyone receiving pension credit can also claim other financial support, including the Winter Fuel Payment. Full details, dates and locations are available at:</p> <p>https://www.winchester.gov.uk/housing/what-s-on-housing-events-and-activities</p> <p>WCC celebrated the official opening of installation of a new community 3G football pitch in Winchester. Replacing an old grass pitch, the new high-quality pitch at Hillier Way football ground (used by Winchester City FC, Winchester City Flyers girls' and ladies' teams, and Winchester Youth FC) offers facilities that can be used all year round. The new pitch has been funded by a grant from the Premier League, The FA and</p>	

	<p>Government's Football Foundation of £1,132,214; Winchester City Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding of £300,000; and £16,000 from Winchester City FC.</p> <p>WCC is running a short survey, in partnership with Temple Group, to gather feedback from residents across the district that will help shape our new Community Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy. The results will help ensure the strategy addresses the needs of communities.</p> <p>Please take five minutes to participate in the online survey at:</p> <p>https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qvePhv458Em1uaEdROB_EvHJtx1Y-BBJorplmjk</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby asked the Clerk to publish this item on the Parish Council website.</p>	Clerk
25/77	To approve the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on the 1st October 2024.	
	RESOLVED – Agreed as a true copy and duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.	
25/78	Finance and Council matters	
25/78.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	<p>25/49.2 WCC currently have four different community grants schemes. Cllrs were encouraged to check whether any would be suitable for local community projects and initiatives. Ongoing.</p> <p>25/37.4 Cllr Almond is working with the OB Countryside Group to apply for a CPRE grant. Ongoing.</p> <p>25/65.5 Our approved supplier has supplied a to remove a Cherry Tree and cut back branches overhanging Oliver's Battery Road South from the Battery. This quote is to be accepted.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Cllr Almond</p> <p>Clerk</p>
25/78.2	To accept payments for October 2024 and agree the October 2024 bank transactions with the bank balance.	
	<p>The Clerk told the meeting that he had produced a number of reports from the Scribe accounting system that reported such items as the percentage spent within each cost centre and monthly spend. Reports could also show how much each supplier had received as well as all income received.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby commented that it was important to show the remaining balance for each cost centre as well as to receive the monthly expenditure reports for each cost centre</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept payments for October 2024 and agree the October 2024 bank transactions with the bank balance. Clerk to provide quarterly reports showing budget and expenditure to date.</p>	Clerk
25/78.3	To receive update from the Events Working Group (standing item)	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report.</p> <p>The scarecrows for the 5th Annual Scarecrow Competition were displayed between 25th October and 3rd November.</p> <p>There were 26 entries across the three categories of Family, Adult and Group. There were a large number of viewings of the scarecrows over the week. Events Group personnel produced a full set of photos.</p> <p>The entries were judged by District Cllrs Brophy and Warwick and our thanks go to them for performing this task as it could not have been easy choosing the winners.</p> <p>The winners were as follows.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family: The Grave Robber, 18 Plovers Down • Group: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, St Marks Brownies • Adult: Feathers McStraw, 7 South View Road <p>Amy Paterson presented the winners with a certificate.</p> <p>The Events Group are mindful that there was a mixed reaction to merging the competition with Halloween. Two of the entries were vandalised, which was a great shame. Both had been photographed beforehand (and photos given to judges) and so were not disadvantaged in the judging.</p> <p>Thanks also to David Higgins with the map production.</p> <p>It has been recognised that the event was managed and coordinated successfully and a big vote of thanks goes to Amy and the rest of the team for this.</p> <p>Morgan Mitchener-Banks, the grandson of Brian Mitchener (the former Chair of the PC), who is a student at Winchester University, did another story on the scarecrow competition this year.</p> <p>Amongst others, Morgan interviewed one of the Events Group, Marianne Foster, who was well placed to answer all his questions and promote the competition.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby has asked for the link to the interview, so the PC can include it on our website and on our Facebook and Instagram pages.</p> <p>Hopefully a set of photos can get to the Hampshire Chronicle in time for the next edition.</p> <p>The focus from now is on the 6th Annual Christmas Event. The Events Group hope to have a tree donated from an estate just outside Alresford but have a backup, just in case.</p> <p>The Christmas tree event is planned to take place on Saturday 7th December with the WI geared up to organising the refreshments in the evening.</p>	Clerk & Cllr Ironside
25/78.4	To receive update from the Sustainability Working Group (standing item)	
	<p>Cllr Almond had submitted a verbal report.</p> <p>The main event for this month is the Swish clothes swapping evening. This was funded by grant from Cllr Jan Warwick.</p> <p>Planning is going well, making links with other Parish Councils and sustainability groups and charities in the area. The group is considering promoting the Clothes Pantry. This event has been advertised in newsletter, and on the Badger Farm website. Posters are going up around both parishes.</p> <p>There has been a recent article in the newsletter promoting our thermal imaging surveys. This information will be shared on the Facebook pages soon.</p> <p>A sustainable Oliver's Battery meeting has been arranged for 28th November with Stuart Mills from WeCAN in attendance to review recent activities and to plan some activities and events for next year.</p>	Cllr Ironside
25/78.5	To receive an update from Tree Warden on visual inspections carried out.	
	<p>Although there was no written report to receive it was noted that an outstanding quote for works to the Battery has now been accepted.</p> <p>It had been reported that a tree had fallen on the Battery.</p> <p>RESOLVED – The Clerk to issue an order with the tree surgeon for its removal.</p> <p>It was noted that Winchester Rotary had offered to plant disease resistant elms in the</p>	Clerk Clerk

	<p>parish. Although the Tree Warden was not at the meeting, it was agreed that the Recreation Ground was the only opportunity to plant such trees.</p> <p>RESOLVED – Cllr Kirkby would contact Cllr Gaster to seek his advice on potential locations at the Recreation Ground.</p>	Cllr Kirkby
25/78.6	To receive an update on the Community Initiative	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby provided a brief verbal report explaining that most of the current progress with this item had already been detailed in the current Community Newsletter.</p> <p>It was suggested that a short and simple survey might help to determine and shape needs of our newish residents.</p>	Cllr Leach
25/78.7	To consider the updated NALC Financial Regulations	
	<p>The Clerk led with this item.</p> <p>NALC had published a fresh draft of its model financial regulations in April 2024. It was promoting these as a new standard for parish councils to consider adopting. The regulations had been sent to all members and a copy is published on the website.</p> <p>RESOLVED – To add the agreed amendments to the text and adopt the new Financial Regulations.</p>	Clerk
25/78.8	To consider the appointment of an Internal Auditor for 2024-25 Financial Year.	
	<p>The Clerk explained that it was good practice for the Parish Council to record a minute to appoint an Internal Auditor for the current financial year in addition to noting the scope of work that this appointment entails. It should also be recorded that the Internal Auditor remains independent of the Parish Council and has no other relationship with it or serving members.</p> <p>The Clerk will be presenting quotations to the next meeting for consideration.</p>	Clerk
25/78.9	Speed Indicator Devices in the Parish	
	<p>Cllr Leigh-Jones had provided a written report.</p> <p>In a report to the September Parish Council meeting, members of the handyperson group suggested that the batteries in the Speed Indicator Device (SID) are no longer holding charge for a suitable period of time. The recording system in the device is also not working.</p> <p>There are three options for the continued use of speed management device in the parish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave the device and aging batteries as they are and continue to operate until they fail completely. • Purchase new batteries for the current equipment. These seem to be available through online purchase for between £19.99 and £29.99. This may add some longevity in between recharges of battery but will not fix the recording issue with the device. • Purchase new speed management device for use in the parish. <p>A discussion took place about the merits of replacing the batteries. Even if new batteries are supplied there is also the problem of the fact that no data is being recorded on the current device and its software is no longer supported or capable of being updated.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby also commented that even if data was produced, we would then need to identify who to send it to as well as considering what would be done with it and who would act upon it.</p> <p>RESOLVED – Cllr Leigh-Jones would still seek prices for a new SID</p>	Cllr Leigh-

		Jones
25/78.10	To consider Enabling Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting at Local Authority Meetings consultation	
	<p>Cllr Kirkby spoke about a Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation on enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at meetings.</p> <p>The intention is to give Councils the power to decide what works best in their own circumstances.</p> <p>He asked all councillors to consider responding to the consultation as individual Cllrs as some of the questions in the consultation were different for individual members.</p> <p>Links to the consultation and more details are published within the background document that is published on the Parish Council's website.</p> <p>RESOLVED – Cllr Kirkby to submit a response on behalf of the Parish Council.</p>	All Cllr Kirkby
25/79	Planning	
25/79.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	25/66.2 24/00109/BCOND – 3 Downlands Road. The Chair has asked Cllr Laming for clarification of the reason given for closure of the enforcement case as “not expedient to pursue”. Ongoing	Cllr Laming
25/79.2	<p>To consider any planning reports and agree actions.</p> <p>New Applications notified since the October 2024 PC Meeting:</p> <p>None at the time of issuing this Report</p> <p>Update on applications previously reviewed by the Parish Council</p> <p>24/01806/HOU 6 Pine Close, Oliver's Battery: First floor side and rear extension, porch canopy and elevational alterations.</p> <p>The following is separate to and in addition to the Parish Council's original comments on this application. The latter included, for example, that the proposal is overly dominant in the context of neighbouring dwellings and the neighbourhood/street scene in general and has inadequate parking (i.e. parking for at least 3 cars) in accordance with the Council's Standards 2009.</p> <p>Regarding the amended plans, the Parish Council is of the view that this amended application is out of keeping with the rest of the properties in Pine Close, even more so than the previous design, and indeed seems out of keeping with the current look of 6 Pine Close itself.</p> <p>One high level window on the rear elevation has been removed which is helpful and the remaining one is to a bathroom, which will presumably have obscure glass.</p> <p>This application gives the impression of being overbearing and bulky and also would dominate the street scene.</p> <p>RESOLVED – The Parish Council objects on the basis of the above comments by the closing date of 6 November.</p> <p>24/01524/HOU 113 Oliver's Battery Road South: Application permitted.</p> <p>24/01640/HOU 7 Compton Way: Application permitted</p> <p>24/01060/HOU 68 Old Kennels Lane: Application permitted</p> <p>22/00621/FUL 11 Mount View Road: November Update: The Case Officer has confirmed</p>	Clerk

	<p>that the nitrate/phosphate issues have held up this and other applications.</p> <p>This application will be considered at a future Planning Committee and, once the date has been confirmed, the Parish Council can write to that Committee if they wish to request that a site visit be arranged. A site visit seems to be appropriate, given neighbours' ongoing concerns about soil levels and potential overlooking issues.</p> <p>Enforcement</p> <p>24/00109/BCOND 3 Downlands Road. The Chair has asked Cllr Laming for clarification of the reason given for closure of the enforcement case, ie "not expedient to pursue". Cllr Laming was asked to provide an explanation as to why this case has been closed.</p>	Cllr Laming
25/80	Communications	
25/80.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List	
	Nothing to report.	
25/81	Recreation Ground, Wildlife Conservation Area and the Battery	
25/81.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List.	
	<p>25/40.5 Ask Handyperson Group to cut back overhanging foliage (NB shield to be replaced). Outstanding</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. Ongoing</p> <p>25.54.1 One joist on the wooden equipment is loose and needs repairing/replacing. Cllr Leigh-Jones to obtain any necessary accessories and check whether the handyperson group can repair/replace the loose joist. Outstanding</p> <p>25/68.5 To place an order with Infinity Playgrounds Ltd for the supply of artificial grass goalmouths at a cost of £13,594.68 excluding VAT. An order has been placed.</p>	<p>Cllr Leigh-Jones</p> <p>Cllr Leigh-Jones</p> <p>Cllr Leigh-Jones</p> <p>Clerk</p>
25/81.2	To consider report based on Groundsman's weekly reports and agree actions.	
	The checklists have been received from Grass and Grounds for October and there are no issues to report.	
25/81.3	To receive reports on routine maintenance and ad-hoc tasks that have been completed (Standing Item).	
	<p>Cllr Leigh-Jones provided a written report.</p> <p>Agenda Item 7.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic caps (varied size) for bolts on play area purchased • Steel pegs for goal nets need to be re-purchased • Cable ties to lock nets on to posts and bar need to be re-purchased. <p>Agenda Item 7.3</p> <p>Regular Recreation Ground tree inspections carried out.</p> <p>Two of three play equipments given two coats of non-slip stain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last piece of play equipment (Viking Ship) may receive non-slip coating by the time of the PC meeting if equipment not too busy during half term week. • Decided no further watering of trees required. Bowser remains secured in the allotment site until decision taken on winter storage. • Leaf sweeping can be started when PC decide that it has become necessary. • Another 2.5 litres of Cuprinol Slip Resistant paint in Boston Teak requested by team. 	Cllr Leigh-Jones

	RESOLVED – Cllr Leigh-Jones to purchase stain and reclaim cost.	Cllr Leigh-Jones
25/81.4	To receive an update on the Recreation Ground Improvements project	
	<p>The new trees on the Recreation Ground have come through the summer well, and thanks again to the Tree Watering Group who looked after them so efficiently. The large Copper Beech tree is not growing as straight as we would wish. Itchen Trees, who originally planted all the trees recommends that we re-stake it, which would allow it to grow straight up.</p> <p>Cllr Almond volunteered to see if the staking could be done by volunteers. If this could not be achieved then the quote to do the work provided by the contractor would be accepted.</p> <p>RESOLVED – That we go ahead with this work at a cost of £120 plus VAT. The Clerk to organise date with Itchen Valley Trees. This resolution is subject to a report being received from Cllr Almond.</p>	Clerk Cllr Almond
25/82	Lengthsman Scheme	
25/82.1	<p>The November worksheet was previously circulated to members.</p> <p>A revision was described at the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED - The revised list was accepted and the Clerk was asked to pass the worksheet and map to the contractor and the Clerk of Hursley Parish Council.</p>	Clerk
25/83	Items for Consideration Only	
25/83.1	No reports were received.	
25/84	To discuss correspondence received during the month and items for the agenda at the next meeting.	
25/84.1	<p>Correspondence was received from a local resident regarding issues experienced with riding horses on the PROWs in Texas Field. It was felt that most of the issues probably related to lack of understanding that some of the PROW were bridleways. Although the PROW were included in an article in the Newsletter (which is issued to all households and local shops) to help raise awareness, many users are not local residents so will not have seen the Newsletter.</p> <p>RESOLVED – To consider the suggestions further and provide a report to the December meeting.</p>	Cllr Kirkby
25/85	Date of next meeting – 3rd December 2024 at 7.30pm	
25/86	<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>To discuss a property matter.</p>	
	Meeting ended at 9.28pm	