

Oliver's Battery Parish Council

Community Initiative Update - December 2024

Recent responses from residents continue to disappoint. The lack of a successor to Tony on the Newsletter, the poor response to the Scam evening and the Swish event appear to indicate a sense of residents' apathy towards involvement in community activities in general, and towards actively volunteering in particular. It is indeed difficult to maintain a positive attitude towards further community provision. At this stage, is it perhaps sensible to pause and consider what to do next.

Had there been any positive responses from the community, via the newsletter, or email, phone comments or even chance conversations in the street, then the next step would have been clear - to issue a Survey to all households, to flesh out a more up to date demographic, as well as giving indication of direction of future planning.

However, preparing and putting the survey out, both on paper and electronically, getting it counted up, and sorting out recommendations would be an enormous task. The last Survey, published as part of the Oliver's Battery Plan, took many months and involved many, many people. Even though a SurveyMonkey option was available for the Plan, the vast majority of responses were on paper, which then had to be manually entered to help with the analysis. There is no way at present we could assemble a team of volunteers to complete this task.

I propose therefore ***that further development on the current Community Initiative be paused, until such time as the OB community itself gives clear indication of interest in and commitment to this project.***

C M Leach, November 2024.