



Oliver's Battery Parish Council meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2025 at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church Hall, Oliver's Battery.

| <u>Present</u> | <u>In attendance</u> | <u>Apologies/Absent</u> |
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| Cllr Almond | Locum Clerk – Helen Symmons | Dist & County Cllr Warwick |
| Cllr Blundell | Dist Cllr Laming | Dist Cllr Brophy |
| Cllr Ironside (from minute 25/139.2) | Two members of the public | |
| Cllr Gaster | | |
| Cllr Kirkby | | |
| Cllr Leach | | |
| Cllr Leigh-Jones | | |

| <u>Item</u> | | <u>ACTION</u> |
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| 25/133 | Apologies for absence and declarations of interest | |
| | There were no apologies as all Parish Councillors were in attendance. District & County Cllr Warwick and District Cllr Brophy sent their apologies. There were no declarations of interest at this time. | |
| 25/134 | To adjourn for public participation | |
| 25/134.1 | There were two members of the public present but they did not wish to make any formal representations. | |
| 25/134.2 | It was NOTED that there were no outstanding matters on the Action list. | |
| 25/135 | To receive the County Councillor's report (this is the link to the report on the Parish Council website) | |
| 25/135.1 | It was NOTED that there were no outstanding matters on the Action list. | |
| 25/135.2 | Council NOTED the report from County Cllr Warwick and RESOLVED that the link to the Devolution consultation be posted to the Council's website. | Cllr Ironside |
| 25/136 | To receive the District Councillors' report (this is the link to the report on the Parish Council website) | |
| 25/136.1 | It was NOTED that there were no outstanding matters on the Action list. | |

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| 25/136.2 | <p>Council NOTED the report from Cllr Brophy and agreed the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The link to the Enforcement Plan consultation be put on the Council's website ii. Cllr Blundell to consider the Enforcement Plan and refer any comments to the April meeting that Council may wish to consider submitting. <p>District Cllr Laming provided a verbal update regarding the new proposed weekly food collection. A new small bin will be provided to households although there is no roll-out date as yet for the initiative. Winchester CC will be responsible for collection of the waste but Hants CC will be responsible for its disposal which will be to a 'digester' system. He further advised that the Head of Legal at Winchester CC would be having a tour around his ward imminently.</p> | <p>Cllr Ironside</p> <p>Cllr Blundell</p> |
| 25/137 | To approve the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on the 4th February 2025 | |
| | RESOLVED – Agreed as a true copy and duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting. | |
| 25/138 | Finance and Council matters | |
| 25/138.1 | To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List | |
| | <p>25/49.2 It was NOTED that no grants are available at present. This action is complete.</p> <p>25/65.5 Parking suspension. On agenda, see item 25/138.5.</p> <p>25/108.8 PROW sign. On agenda, see item 25/138.8.</p> <p>25/108.8 It was NOTED that the fee for creating the image for the PROW sign had been paid. This action is complete.</p> <p>25/124.3 It was not clear as to whether the grant of £150.96 had been paid to the OB Countryside Group. This will be checked.</p> <p>25/124.3 Cllr Kirkby has spoken to the OB Countryside Group regarding the wording of the signage and is waiting to hear back.</p> <p>25/124.6 Visual tree survey. On agenda, see item 25/138.5.</p> | Locum Clerk |
| 25/138.2 | To accept payments for February 2025 and agree the January 2025 bank transactions with the bank balance. | |
| | <p>There was one query which was answered by the Locum Clerk.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept payments for February 2025 and agree the February 2025 bank transactions with the bank balance.</p> | |
| 25/138.3 | To receive the Events Working Group Report (standing item) (this is the link to the report on the Council website) | |
| | The Chairman confirmed availability of entry forms on Council website and at Post Office, Butchers and Run Walk Sport shops. Council recorded its thanks to Colin Stride and the Events team for their ongoing work on the event and to Eclipse Foot Clinic this year's sponsor. | |
| 25/138.4 | To receive the Sustainability Working Group Report (standing item) (this is the link to the report on the Council website) | |
| | It was confirmed that the 'Big Swap' event had been posted on the Council's Facebook page and posters were being displayed round the Parish. Posters were also on display for the Litter Pick event too. The Brownies Sustainable Fashion Show is on 18 th March. It was hoped that the Council would join the Hampshire Greening Campaign next year as interest in the Parish grew. | |

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| 25/138.5 | To receive the Tree Warden report (this is the link to the report on the Council website) | |
| | The action for the Locum Clerk to organise the parking suspension was confirmed. This is to be done by 15 th March. Additionally, the action for the Locum Clerk to confirm in writing the tree survey order. | Locum Clerk |
| 25/138.6 | It was NOTED that there were reports of increased sightings of dogs on the Recreation Ground. Various aspects were discussed which resulted in two actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A post to be made on the Council's Facebook page to highlight no dogs are permitted in any area of the recreation ground including the wildlife area ii. Cllr Leigh-Jones would survey and map the area to consider how many additional preventative signs would be required. He will establish the current signage and consider what may work better and will bring a recommendation to Council in April. | Cllr Ironside Cllr Leigh-Jones |
| 25/138.7 | Council NOTED the Electrical Substation Lease report (this is the link to the report available on the Council website). Following discussion Council RESOLVED the recommendations in the report to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Appoint Wellers Law group as the Parish Council's solicitor in the matter ii. Obtain an indication of their fees iii. Obtain advice from Wellers Law Group on any changes they would recommend to the Head of Terms, including a requirement for SSEN to cover the full cost of Wellers Law Group fee for undertaking the Lease renewal work. | Locum Clerk |
| 25/138.8 | Council confirmed that the quote of £162 and associated design was acceptable and the Locum Clerk will action the order, including delivery to the Chair's home address. | Locum Clerk |
| 25/139 | Planning | |
| 25/139.1 | To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List | |
| | 25/66.2 24/00109/BCOND – 3 Downlands Road. There was no update on this enforcement case so it remains outstanding. Cllr Laming will continue to pursue an answer. | Cllr Laming |
| 25/139.2 | Council NOTED the Planning report (this is the link to the report on the Council website). New application notified since the February 2025 meeting 25/00226/HOU 39 Old Kennels Lane, Oliver's Battery Proposed front, side and rear extension. Hips to gable and alterations to main roof. New detached annex. Cllr Blundell reported there had been 2 public objections. Following discussion, Council RESOLVED to object to the application as it was considered to be an overdevelopment of the site and out of keeping with the street scene. There were concerns with the loss of amenity and privacy to neighbouring properties. Additionally, it was felt there was a contravention of aspects of the design statement especially with regards to car parking. A formal objection will be written and submitted to the Planning authority. Cllr Ironside joined the meeting Cllr Laming provided an update on Bushfield.Camp. The latest information has been published to the Parish Council's Facebook page. Updates on applications previously reviewed by the Parish Council were contained within the report (see the link above) with no further information provided at the meeting. | Cllr Blundell |
| 25/140 | Communications | |

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| 25/140.1 | To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List | |
| | 25/126.3 Cllr Ironside confirmed she had a knowledge of the website administration. This action is now complete. | |
| 25/140.2 | <p>Alternatives to an Oliver's Battery newsletter to communicate community news and announcements was discussed. There had been no interest from Badgers Farm Parish Council to support an extra edition of the 'Community News' publication. The editor of Community News advised it did not have the capacity to publish additional Oliver's Battery news pages and wished to remain fair to both parish councils that used this publication as a communication avenue.</p> <p>Posting to the Parish Council Facebook page is increasing but discussion regarding an 'Announcements Only' Whatsapp group took place. The platform would be governed by the Parish Council but other community groups could have access as administrators.</p> <p>Further investigation is to take place with a potential 'sample' group for Councillors only being established to understand how it would function. A proposal will be brought to the next Council meeting with consideration including ideas as to how to share the news of the new community engagement initiative when it 'goes live'.</p> | Cllr Ironside |
| 25/141 | Recreation Ground, Wildlife Conservation Area and the Battery | |
| 25/141.1 | To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: see Actions List. | |
| | <p>25/111.3 It was established that watering in the 2nd and 3rd year will be on a decreasing scale. David Warren will take this forward and ensure undertaken. The action is complete.</p> <p>25/127.3 The carabiners have been purchased and just need to be installed.</p> | Cllr Leigh-Jones & Kirkby |
| 25/142.2 | To consider report based on Groundsman's weekly reports and agree actions. | |
| | <p>Cllr Leigh-Jones had submitted a written report (this is the link to the report on the Council website).</p> <p>A battery has been purchased for the Speed Indicator Device. Council RESOLVED that a new bollard would be ordered and installed through Infinity Playgrounds to replace the broken bollard at the Recreational Ground.</p> <p>The checklists from the groundsman confirm no issues to report in February. It was clarified that the bins mentioned in the report are now being locked.</p> | Locum Clerk |
| 25/142.3 | To receive reports on routine maintenance and ad-hoc tasks that have been completed (Standing Item). | |
| | No reports had been received. Council acknowledged that a glass issue had been dealt with. | |
| 25//143 | Lengthsman Scheme | |
| 25/143.1 | It was NOTED that there were no outstanding matters on the Action list | |
| 25/144 | Items for Consideration Only | |
| 25/144.1 | 25/130.1 The Chairman met with the Parochial Church Council but due to procedural speed the deadline for the available grant had now passed so the action had not moved forward and could be shown as complete on the action list. | |
| 25/145 | To discuss correspondence received during the month and items for the agenda at the next meeting. | |

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| 25/145.1 | No correspondence had been received to date and no items were presented for the agenda in April. | |
| 25/146 | <p>Exempt Business: RESOLVED 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><i>Cllr Laming and 2 members of the public left the meeting</i></p> <p>Regarding a property matter, it was reported that following the appointment of Council solicitors, the other party had not responded regarding the costs Council were claiming that should be covered. It is believed the other party may have sought an alternative land source to supply the new water service. The Chairman will establish from Council's solicitors if any progress has been made regarding the recovering of Legal costs.</p> | Cllr Kirkby |
| 25/147 | Date of next meeting – 1st April 2025 at 7.30pm | |
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| | Meeting ended at 9.05pm | |
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