



Oliver's Battery Parish Council meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2025 at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church Hall, Oliver's Battery.

<u>Present</u>	<u>In attendance</u>	<u>Apologies/Absent</u>
Cllr Leigh-Jones	Clerk – Emma Abrahams	Dist & County Cllr Warwick
Cllr Blundell	Dist Cllr Laming	Dist Cllr Brophy
Cllr Kirkby		Cllr Ironside
Cllr Gaster		Cllr Almond
Cllr Leach		

<u>Item</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
26/14	Apologies for absence and declarations of interest. Apologies from Cllr Almond & Cllr Ironside. There were no declarations of interest at this time.	
26/15	To adjourn for public participation and County and District Councillors reports.	
26/15.1	There were no members of public in attendance.	
26/15.2	To discuss the progress and resolutions from the last meeting	
26/15.3	It was NOTED that there were no outstanding matters on the Action list.	
26/15.4	To receive the County Councillor's report. A written report was received. The only item of direct consequence for Oliver's Battery was Local Government Reorganisation but the consequences for parish remain vague at the moment.	
26/15.5	To receive the District Councillors' report. A written report was received. The main item of significance was that organisations can now apply for one-off grants up to £3,000 for activities which would benefit residents and local communities. A speed limit reminder sign was suggested and it was proposed that this would be investigated to see if it was within the grant criteria.	
26/16	To approve the minutes of the meeting held 06/05/2025.	
26/16.1	Cllr Blundell proposed, Cllr Kirkby seconded and everyone agreed. RESOLVED: to accept as a true copy. A copy was signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.	
26/17	Finance and Council matters.	
26/17.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting: Outstanding matters on the Actions List are on the Agenda.	
26/17.2	To accept payments for April/May 2025 and agree the April/May 2025 bank transactions with the bank balance. The amounts in the various bank accounts were NOTED .	
26/17.3	To receive and approve the internal Auditor's report for 2024-2025. Internal Auditors report received and approved.	
26/17.4	To note that the internal Auditor had carried out a review of the Parish Council's accounts for the year ending 31 st March 2025 and has completed an Audit report. The report had been circulated to all Councillors. The audit was NOTED .	

26/17.5	To approve Section 1 (the Annual Governance Statement 2024-25) of the AGAR for submission to the external auditor.	
	The 9 governance statements were read aloud at the meeting and agreed by all present. Section 1 was signed by the Chair and Clerk. RESOLVED to submit to External Auditor.	The Clerk
26/17.6	To approve Section 2 (Annual Governance Statement 2024-25) of the AGAR for submission to the external auditor.	
	Section 2 was certified by the Clerk and signed by the Chair, RESOLVED to submit to External Auditor.	The Clerk
26/17.7	To approve the notice of public rights form for publication. RESOLVED to publish notice.	
26/17.8	To receive the Events Working Group Report (standing item). No report was submitted by the Events Working Group this month. Councillor Kirkby and the Clerk met with Marianne Foster to discuss the future of the group. During the meeting, it was noted that a shortage of volunteers is making it increasingly difficult to organise events. At present, the group consists of only three members. Marianne plans to speak with the remaining members and will then consult with the Parish Council regarding the group's proposals.	
26/17.9	To receive the Sustainability Working Group Report (standing item). No report was submitted this month.	
26/17.10	To receive the Tree Warden report. Cllr Gaster updated the Council on a change of provider for the tree survey, The already agreed price has not changed and the tree survey will take place Monday 16 th June 2025. Cllr Gaster will be the point of contact on the day and will meet the contractor on site. Once the survey has been conducted any actions required will be reported to a future meeting.	Cllr Gaster
26/17.11	To receive an update on proposed Traffic Regulation Order on Oliver's Battery Road South. Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report. The principal engineer at HCC has confirmed that there will be a 3 week consultation period and that all objections and comments are considered. The date of the consultation has not yet been confirmed but the Council should receive it in advance and will be able to share with interested parties.	The Clerk
26/17.12	To receive an update on proposed changes to Oliver's Battery Road South/Badger Farm Road junction. Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report. A senior transport planner at HCC provided a Cllr briefing, including the Chair, on 21 May. Funding available only allowed a feasibility study, which includes junction remodelling with a level crossing for pedestrians and cyclists as one of the core objectives. A high-level estimate is £4-5M. This cost is only likely to be met with a contribution of £2-2.5M from Section 106 (from a major development) South Winchester Golf Course was mentioned as a source of that contribution. Even if funding was available the work would not start until after M£J9 works are completed. Public engagement/consultation is not planned at present.	
26/17.13	To consider adopting Model Standing Orders based on the template updated by NALC on 31 st March 2025. Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report. All agreed the recommendation to adopt the new Standing Orders. RESOLVED to add to website.	The Clerk
26/18	Planning.	
26/17.1	To discuss the progress of resolutions from the last meeting. It was NOTED that there were no outstanding matters on the Action list.	
26/17.2	To consider planning reports and agree actions	
26/17.3	Council NOTED the Planning report . A written planning report was received which included an addendum. New applications: Minstrels 15 Old Kennels Lane (25/00975/HOU). RESOLVED not to object on this	

	<p>The only activities by the Handyperson Group during May has been to continue to water, mulch and monitor the trees in the recreation Ground.</p> <p>The bench near the car park needs to be treated and the Handyperson Group will do this.</p> <p>The lining in the car park needs refreshing. Alternative quotes to be sought from Infinity Playgrounds and Grass and Grounds.</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report on bench treatment.</p> <p>The recommendation of applying teak oil to the benches on the Battery and on Old Kennels Lane by the local handyperson who carried out the work previously was agreed. The cost is £160.00. Cllr Kirkby proposed, Cllr Leigh-Jones seconded and all agreed.</p>	<p>Cllr Leigh-Jones</p> <p>Clerk</p>
26/19.4	<p>To consider actions following Annual Play Area Inspection report.</p> <p>Report to be prepared for July meeting.</p>	Cllr Leigh-Jones
26/19.5	<p>To consider additional “No Dogs” signs at Recreation Ground and Wildlife Area.</p> <p>Cllr Leigh-Jones proposes a new signage for the recreation ground to combine a welcome sign and to include a reminder that dogs are not allowed in the whole area. The proposal is for four signs in total three size A4 and one size A2, Cllr Kirkby asked for a written report including costings to be presented at the next meeting for a decision.</p>	Cllr Leigh-Jones
26/19.6	<p>To consider extending Groundsman’s contract for another year</p> <p>Cllr Kirkby had submitted a written report on the bench treatment.</p> <p>All agreed the recommendation to the groundsman’s contract with Grass and Grounds for another year. Proposed by Cllr Kirkby, seconded by Cllr Gaster and agreed by all.</p> <p>Tenders for a new term contract will need to be invited by end of November 2025 to ensure a contract is in place by 1 April 2026.</p>	
26/19.7	<p>To discuss and agree a resolution regarding a memorial bench at the recreation ground</p>	
	<p>The Parish Council have been approached by a member of the public regarding a memorial bench request at the recreation ground. The consensus was that this would be appropriate at the Recreation Ground and a policy on Memorial Benches needs to be prepared for future reference.</p> <p>The council agreed that at this time a Bench in this location would be the best option so on this occasion have denied the request.</p>	<p>Cllr Leach</p> <p>The Clerk</p>
26/20	<p>Lengthsman Scheme.</p>	
26/20.1	<p>The proposal submitted by Cllr Kirkby for 7 items of work for the visit on 26 June was agreed by all.</p> <p>RESOLVED to submit worksheet and map to Lengthsman.</p>	The Clerk
26/21	<p>Items for Consideration Only.</p>	
26/21.1	<p>Outstanding matters on the Action list are on the agenda.</p>	
26/22	<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>Date of next meeting – 1st July 2025</p>	
	<p>Meeting ended at 9.00pm</p>	