

OLIVERS BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Parish Council Meeting held at St. Marks Church Hall, Olivers Battery Road South, Oliver's Battery on the 1st November 2005. 7-30pm to 9-15pm.

1. PRESENT

Mr Morris (Vice-Chairman); Mrs Goodwin; Mr Pyke; Mrs Banister and Mrs Cope.

City Councillor David Spender

County Councillor Charlotte Bailey and Clare Shorter (Oliver's Battery Countryside Group) were also in attendance for parts of the meeting.

Apologies were received from Mr Sharman (Chairman); Mr Makewell and City Councillor Brian Collin.

In the absence of the Chairman the chair was taken by the Vice-Chairman, Mr Morris.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th October 2005 were confirmed and signed as correct.

Accessibility of unmade part of Compton Way

In connection with the poor condition of the surface of this section of Compton Way and which is not suitable for use by persons with wheelchairs or pushchairs the Highway Authority (Hampshire County Council) have stated that this section of road is not adopted as a public maintainable highway. As there is a bridleway over this section of road there may be some very limited responsibility for maintenance by the Public Rights of Way Authority. If the making up of this section of road to adoption standard took place the owners of properties having frontages to the road would be liable for the cost. Following a discussion of this matter it was decided to seek a meeting with representatives from both the Highways and Public Rights of Way Departments of Hampshire County Council to explore whether there was any possibility of the surface of a strip of this section of road being improved.

3. PLANNING

With regard to a Notification from Hampshire Association of Parish & Town Councils in respect of a seminar on "Planning Matters" on the 14th December 2005 it was arranged that Mrs Goodwin and Mrs Banister would attend this seminar.

In respect of an appeal made by the owner of 1 South View Road against a planning condition requiring a first floor dormer window in the front elevation to be glazed in obscure glass it was noted that the Planning Inspectorate have allowed the appeal and the condition has been deleted.

The following planning decisions were noted:

South View Park Homes	Storage of mobile homes on an area of land at South View Park Homes	Permission Granted
4 Mount View Road	Rear single storey extension, loft and roof extension and dormer window	Permission Refused
168 Olivers Battery Road South	Single storey pitched roof extension to rear of garage	Permission Granted

City Councillor David Spender referred to a Planning Improvement Plan being prepared by Winchester City Council in respect of planning procedures and which may propose a change to the current procedure whereby in the event of a Parish Council lodging an objection to a planning application it is automatically referred to the Planning Committee. However, details of the proposals to be included in the Planning Improvement Plan are awaited.

In connection with the questionnaire issued to all households in the parish requesting the views of local residents for the purpose of the Village/Neighbourhood Design Statement for the parish it was noted that approximately one hundred questionnaires have now been returned completed. .

Mrs Goodwin gave a summary of the recommendation by the National Association of Local Councils in respect of the length of time planning papers and documents should be retained by Parish Councils.

4. FINANCE AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

The transfer of £1500 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account was agreed and the following payments were authorised:

Audit Commission	Audit fees	£141 - 00
Badger Farm & Olivers Battery Residents Community Association	Grant towards cost of annual fireworks display & bonfire	£250 - 00*

Badger Farm & Olivers Battery Residents Community Association	Grant towards cost of publication of "Community News" in 2005/2006	£500 - 00*
P.C. Bugg	September & October recreation ground maintenance	£195 - 00
Hampshire Association of Parish & Town Councils	Fee for planning seminar for Councillors	£ 35 - 00
Oliver's Battery Countryside Group	Grant to facilitate funding arrangements for Conservation Area regeneration	£353 - 00*

* Section 137 payment.

Projected/Estimated Accounts for the current financial year and a statement of unavoidable expenditure for the year 2006/2007 were discussed as a preliminary to the fixing of the precept for the year 2006/2007 at the meeting of the Council in January next. Members were asked to put forward any particular projects they had in mind for the Council to undertake in the financial year 2006/2007 so that the likely expenditure could be considered in connection with the fixing of the precept for that year.

In connection with a suggestion for there to be an event or project to mark the 50th anniversary of the parish in September 2006 it was agreed that in principle the Council would make available some funding subject to the details of the event/project being agreed. It is believed that the Church also propose to do something to celebrate the anniversary and Mr Pyke undertook to check this with the Church. Mr Pyke is also willing to act as co-ordinator in connection with the event/project. This matter is to be discussed further at the December meeting and it is hoped that the proposal can be mentioned in the next issue of Community News with a request for local residents to put forward any ideas which they may have for a suitable event or project.

With regard to the Council's Bank Accounts it was confirmed that National Westminster Bank PLC shall continue as bankers of the Council and that there shall be four Parish Councillors as authorised signatories with cheques to be signed by any two of the authorised signatories. The existing signatories, Mr Sharman, Mr Morris and Mr Makewell were confirmed and it was unanimously resolved that Mrs Goodwin be appointed as an authorised signatory.

5. CONSERVATION AREA/ HEDGEROW PLANTING

Mrs Goodwin and Clare Shorter from the Oliver's Battery Countryside Group gave an up date in respect of the scheme put forward by the Group for the regeneration/improvement of the Conservation Area. A written offer of a grant of £3530 to assist with the cost has been received from the Hanson Environmental Trust (administered by the Royal Society

of Wildlife Trusts) and it is hoped that a further grant will be forthcoming from Hampshire County Council's Village Initiative Fund. Winchester City Council, as landlords under the Lease under which the Parish Council hold the Conservation Area, have approved the scheme and the City Council have also indicated their support generally and stated that their Planning Department have no objections to the scheme. A number of volunteers have come forward indicating a willingness to help with work to carry out the scheme. Mrs Banister thanked the Oliver's Battery Countryside Group for all their work in connection with the scheme and it was resolved that the scheme be approved by the Parish Council. It was also agreed that the Parish Council should make a grant of £353 to the Group to facilitate arrangements for obtaining grants to fund the scheme. The Group will now make arrangements to implement the scheme.

6. RECREATION GROUND.

In respect of the dog bin at the entrance to the recreation ground which had not been installed in the correct position the Clerk reported that Winchester City Council have arranged for the bin to be installed in the correct position during the week commencing Monday 31st October.

It was noted that the advice of the Legal Officer at the National Association of Local Councils is awaited in connection with the wording of the new notice intended to be erected at the entrance to the recreation ground.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

An e mail from Hampshire Association of Parish & Town Councils seeking the views of Parish Councils in respect of the HAPTC Annual Report and the HAPTC Quarterly Bulletin was considered. The Association are to be informed that this Council would be happy with a slimmed down version of the Annual Report, but would like the current content/size/frequency of the Quarterly Bulletin to continue as at present with a copy of the Bulletin being provided for each councillor.

The following were noted:

Letter from BAA Southampton reporting on the Airport's Community Stakeholder Conference held on the 23rd September.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of Hampshire Playing Fields Association on the 22nd November 2005.

Butterfly Conservation (Yew Hill Butterfly Reserve) Newsletter
Community Action Hampshire Newsletter.

8. OTHER PARISH MATTERS

Mrs Cope mentioned an overhanging hedge obstructing the pavement at Priors Way adjacent to the side frontage of 16 Partridge Down. The Highways Authority are to be notified and requested to take any appropriate action.

As this was his first attendance at a Parish Council meeting City Councillor David Spender introduced himself and indicated that he would endeavour to be present at future meetings of the Parish Council.

County Councillor Charlotte Bailey gave a report (copy attached) on County Council matters with particular reference to further investigations being carried out in respect of a Park and Ride Scheme for South Winchester. She has asked the County Council's Officers to keep Parish Councils informed of any proposed arrangements.