

## **OLIVERS BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of Annual Parish Meeting held at St. Marks Church Hall, Olivers Battery Road South, Oliver's Battery on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008. 7-30pm to 10-00pm.

### **1. PRESENT**

Seven members of the Parish Council  
Forty Nine Parishioners  
Winchester City Councillor Brian Collin  
A representative of Hampshire Constabulary  
Steve Opacic Head of Strategic Planning Winchester City Council

Apologies were received from County Councillor Charlotte Bailey, City Councillor David Spender and five parishioners.

Mr Geoff Sharman, Parish Council Chairman, took the chair.

### **2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007 were distributed to everyone at the meeting and were confirmed and signed as correct.

### **3. GUEST SPEAKER – STEVE OPACIC – HEAD OF STRATEGIC PLANNING WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

The Chairman introduced Steve Opacic, Head of Strategic Planning at Winchester City Council who gave a talk about the Winchester District Development Framework Issues and Options Document produced by the City Council as Planning Authority and which includes issues and options for future housing in Winchester District based on government requirements. The document referred to proposed strategic broad planning policies for the next 20 years which would replace the current Local Plan. In respect of housing development Steve explained the government proposals for the number of new houses needed in the Winchester City Council area and in particular as to how this could affect in and around the town of Winchester including Oliver's Battery. A number of issues and options with regard to housing development were set out in the document and there has been a consultation period within which the public had been asked to express their views. There has been a very large response and the comments received are now being considered by the City Council. Following such consideration the City Council will make a decision as to a preferred option for future housing development in the area and this will then be the subject of an examination by a Government Inspector prior to the adoption of future planning policies for housing development within the Winchester District. Steve dealt with a number of questions raised by parishioners and the Chairman thanked Steve for his presentation.

#### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

At the beginning of his report the Chairman introduced the members of the Parish Council and referred to encouraging a community spirit within the parish. In connection with the activities of the Parish Council during the past year and proposals for 2008/2009 the Chairman mentioned the preparation of a Village Design Statement for the parish which it was hoped would be completed and adopted by the Planning Authority in the near future. It is proposed to erect an ornamental village sign for the parish on the ancient monument site at the junction of Olivers Battery Road South and Downlands Road and a competition for the design of the sign has been arranged. At the recreation ground the Parish Council is continuing with plans for the development of improved facilities for junior sport/activities which it is anticipated will be funded by funds provided from the Open Space Fund operated by Winchester City Council and parish council funds. The Chairman also replied to various questions from parishioners and he thanked the members of the Parish Council, the Clerk to the Council and Mr Peter Bugg (part time groundsman for the recreation ground) for their work on behalf of the parish.

#### **5. PARISH ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk to the Parish Council presented the Accounts of the Parish Council for the year 2007/2008 comprising an Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Supporting Statement. The Accounts showed an opening credit balance of £40162 – 84 and a closing balance in hand as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 of £49595 – 65. Details were given in respect of the income and expenditure over the year including how the figures in the Accounts were made up and calculated.

#### **6. REPORTS BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND CITY COUNCILLORS**

A written report provided by County Councillor Charlotte Bailey (Copy in Minute Book) was noted. This report referred to matters which Charlotte as the County Councillor for the area had done and/or reported upon over the past year and which affected the parish. The items mentioned included roads/pavements repairs, the latest position in respect of the South Winchester Park & Ride facility and changes at waste recycling centres for waste from small businesses and residents with trailers and vans. Reference was also made to a flashing portable speed limit sign used for a period at Old Kennels Lane and the role of Police Community Support Officers and County Council Accredited Community Safety Officers.

In a written report (copy in Minute Book) provided by City Councillor David Spender, details were given of the Scrutiny Panels at the City Council on which David served during the past year. This report also mentioned rubbish clearance, repairs to footpaths/pavements, the times for use of the free bus passes for those 60 and over and the issues and options for future housing development in the Winchester District as set out in the Winchester District Development Framework Issues and Options document issued by the City Council.

City Councillor Brian Collin presented a written report (copy in Minute Book) which was distributed to everyone at the meeting. The report refers to housing development, rubbish collection, highways and street lighting and bus services. Reference is also made to community safety, strategic planning and sport and recreation facilities. Brian also mentioned the possibility of some future improvements at the Bushfield roundabout.

## **7. OTHER PARISH MATTERS**

Mr Maurice Walker, Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator for the parish, gave details of a county meeting which he had recently attended in connection with the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and he distributed leaflets/publications about the Scheme.

Jessica Lloyd referred to a proposal for communities in the Winchester area to initiate a scheme called the Greening Campaign. The campaign is intended to make people aware of the need to tackle climate change in the communities and to lower carbon emissions. The campaign would be run by a committee of volunteers from the community and Jessica invited all residents to attend a public meeting in respect of this matter which is to be held at the Primary School on the 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr Morris proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Sharman for his conduct of the meeting. Mr Morris also reminded those present that the monthly meetings of the Parish Council on the first Tuesday of each month were open to the public.