

OLIVERS BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Parish Council Meeting held at St. Marks Church Hall, Olivers Battery Road South, Oliver's Battery on the 2nd December 2008. 7-30pm to 9-30pm.

1. PRESENT

Mr Sharman(Chairman); Mr Morris; Mrs Goodwin; Mrs Banister and Mrs Cope.

County Councillor Charlotte Bailey and City Councillor Brian Collin were also in attendance for parts of the meeting

Apologies were received from City Councillor David Spender and PCSO Gavin Cooper (Hampshire Constabulary).

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present wishing to make a statement or to speak under this item.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th November 2008 were confirmed and signed as correct..

Oliver's Battery Ancient Monument Site (Open Space)

It was noted that a draft Management Plan was still awaited from the Hampshire County Council Manager for the Site.

Cycle Stands/Racks at Oliver's Battery Shops

The Chairman reported that a further meeting has been arranged for the 12th December 2008 with the representative of the owners of the majority of the car park on the easterly side of Olivers Battery Road South and Sara Kendall (Traffic and Transport Technician, Winchester City Council) to discuss this matter and hopefully agree the location for the proposed cycle stands.

4. VACANCIES FOR TWO PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Chairman stated that the names of two persons who may be interested in becoming Parish Councillors have been mentioned to him and it was agreed that the Chairman should contact such persons to discuss this matter. If such persons are definitely interested in being Parish Councillors they will be invited to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

5. PLANNING

The recommendation by the Planning Panel that no comments be made in respect of a planning application (Case No. 08/02022/FUL - W05206/06) for the erection of a shed and a tree house in the rear garden of 10 Parliament Place was confirmed.

It was decided not to make any comments in respect of a planning application (Case No. 08/02565/FUL – W00098/01) for the erection of a 3 bedroom two storey dwelling and alterations and extensions of existing bungalow to form a 4 bedroom two storey dwelling at 11 Seldon Close.

A letter from Winchester City Council as to a conservatory at 43 Compton Way being permitted development was noted.

The requisite copies of the Village Design Statement for the parish to enable copies to be supplied to Winchester City Council and to each household in the parish have now been printed and the arrangements for the distribution are now being made.

6. FINANCE AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

The transfer of £500 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account was agreed and the following payment was authorised :

G. C. H. Sharman	Chairman's Allowance 2008/2009	£100 – 00
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A letter from Oliver's Battery Primary School requesting a grant to assist with the cost of developing book boxes in the eight classes at the school by providing a "changing" selection of books and/or the purchase of story sacs for younger children was considered. It was decided that a grant of £500 be made to the school in the current financial year for the specific purpose of such project.

In respect of a letter from Winchester Citizens Advice Bureau requesting a grant in the financial year 2009/2010 it was agreed that a grant of £300 be made to the Bureau in such financial year.

The need for members to consider the projected/estimated Account for the current financial year was mentioned as it will be necessary to fix the precept for the year 2009/2010 at the January 2009 meeting of the Council.

7. RECREATION GROUND

In connection with the proposed multi use games area the Chairman reported on a meeting/consultation with City Councillors, Stuart Dunbar Dempsey (Open Space Project Officer, Winchester City Council) and Amanda Ford (Sports Development Officer, Winchester City Council) on the 27th November. There was general approval and support for the project although there was some concern about the visual impact of the proposal.

Hampshire Playing Fields Association has also indicated support. The position as to whether planning permission for the project is needed still has to be checked with the relevant Planning Officer at Winchester City Council and the amount of funds in the Open Space Fund which can be used for the proposed multi use games area is to be checked again. Tim Griffin is now to prepare a set of more detailed drawings for the project and will be researching suppliers/contractors and cost estimates. It was acknowledged that when completed the multi use games area would require ongoing maintenance costs. In connection with the project it is intended that there will be public consultation by way of the Community News, the Council's website and possibly by way of letter to some local residents.

8. ORNAMENTAL VILLAGE SIGN

Mrs Goodwin reported that arrangements for the proposed sign were still proceeding although the Working Group were experiencing some difficulties in finding suitable craftsmen to undertake the construction of the sign. Estimates of the likely cost are being obtained.

9. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT – NEW PUBLICATION SCHEME

Under the Freedom of Information Act it is the duty of every public authority (including Parish Councils) to adopt and maintain a publication scheme. This commits a public authority to produce and publish the method by which specific information will be available so that it can be easily identified and accessed by members of the public. A new model publication scheme for Parish Councils has been produced by the Information Commissioner's Office and it was resolved that such model publication scheme be adopted by the Parish Council to take effect from the 1st January 2009. The publication scheme for the parish showing the specific information available from the Council can be seen on application to the Clerk to the Parish Council and arrangements are to be made for such publication scheme to be made available on the Parish Council's website. Parish Councillors were requested to inform the Clerk to the Council immediately they receive any request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

The following were noted :

Letter from the Leader of Winchester City Council as to a consultation involving Parish Councils in connection with the City Council's budget for the year 2009/2010.

Letter from Rebecca Hare at Oliver's Battery Primary School with regard to the involvement of members of the local community in connection with an allotments scheme proposed at the school.

Notice of General Meeting of Winchester District Association of Parish Councils on the 4th December 2008.

Invitation to the opening of The Carroll Sure Start Children's Centre at Stanmore on the 13th December 2008.

Hampshire Association of Local Councils Newsletter

Letter from the Church as to increased charges for the hiring of St. Marks Church Hall.

Report by Pam Vandersteen as the Public Transport Representative for the parish.

Newsletters from Community Action Hampshire and the Butterfly Conservation Reserve.

11. REPORTS COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND CITY COUNCILLORS

In a written report (Copy herewith) County Councillor Charlotte Bailey referred to Hampshire Countryside and Access Small Grants Scheme, a proposal to involve members of the local community in connection with a suggested scheme on the grounds of the Primary School, a flashing speed limit portable sign and an independent review of County Councillor allowances.

12. OTHER PARISH MATTERS

In a written report PCSO Gavin Cooper (Hampshire Constabulary) stated that there had only been one reported incident in the parish since the last meeting of the Council.