

News and Views

Issued by Overton Parish Council and distributed to Overton, Laverstoke and Freefolk.
Information and Comment on Village Activities

September 2003

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Councillor Brian Langer.

Parish Council Meetings September 2003

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| • Wednesday 10 th in the Community Centre | |
| • Planning | 7:00pm |
| • Public time | 7:30pm |
| • Main meeting | 8pm. |
- Tuesday 23rd 7:30pm Planning
 - 8pm Finance & General Purposes

Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board.

High Street Road and Pavement

The county council intends to surface dress in the High Street; in particular the parking areas which could not be done in 2002. The job is scheduled for later on this surface dressing season – weather has to be dry, not hot nor cold so we await with interest when they find a Sunday meeting all the criteria! Efforts will be made to warn users, as all parking will be banned whilst the work takes place. Parts of the pavement close to the hospice shop lie at a lower level than the rest encouraging puddling in wet weather and water penetration into the shops. The county is investigating this problem.

Overton Handbook

This is the last call for new and amended entries for the new edition of the Handbook. Please supply all copy by 14th September to either Laura Harley, Parish Clerk, (address on page 4) or Brian Langer, 16a Poyntz Road.

Open Spaces – Dog and Other Regulations

This was discussed at the August meeting of the Parish Council as differing regulations appeared to apply to different areas. Was standardisation appropriate and what should the regulation cover anyway? The Edward Kersley Playing Field currently has a NO DOGS NO GOLF regulation but the former is difficult to enforce whilst the gate is still missing from the Poyntz Road entrance and the one at the Red Lion Lane entrance does not swing shut. The Sapley Lane Playing Field has a NO DOG FOULING regulation which was to enable pensioners in the area to exercise their pets there, so long as they cleared up after them.

However, there is now permanently fixed play equipment at that site and it was suggested that the rule should be the same as that applying at Edward Kersley PF. It was agreed that **no** changes to existing regulations would be actioned until all sites – the two above, plus Oak Tree Park, Poultons Close, Two Gate Meadow and Foxdown - had been investigated but that in the meantime the police would be asked to monitor compliance with the existing regulations.

Riverside Walk

It has always been a bone of contention that, apart from Flashetts, Overton has no riverside walk. Some years ago the borough council was attempting to secure riverside frontages west of Kingsclere Road on the south side of the river for potential use as a rear access for properties in the High Street. The complexities of the situation meant that little progress was made. After earlier representations from parishioners to help resolve the situation the Parish Council at the August meeting voted on the following resolution: That the Parish Council withdraw support for a riverside walk on the south side of the River Test between Kingsclere Road and Bridge Street as the proposal is unattainable. This was passed but it is hoped that greater efforts will be made to gain riverside access in other parts of the parish where multiplicity of land ownership is not such a difficult issue.

During public time at the same meeting a parishioner commented on how overgrown the riverbanks had become and how this was adversely affecting views of the river from the bridges. Although the comment received a sympathetic hearing the point was made that fish welcomed the shade offered by trees and this fact also needed to be considered.

Grass Cutting

The poor results of the grasscutting in the village were again raised at public time. It was explained that three authorities parish, borough and county - were responsible for different areas of grass but that the areas giving rise to most complaints were the responsibility of the borough council. It was especially disappointing that no improvement had occurred as meetings had taken place recently between a borough councillor and the relevant council officer to resolve past criticisms. It was agreed the Parish Council would write formally to the borough expressing its concern at the shoddiness resulting from the current cutting policy.

Walkway Along C29 to Reservoir

In response to a parishioner's request that the west side verge informal path, formed recently by BT engineers, be made permanent the county council has quoted £21,000 for the work. As this is way beyond the Parish Council's budget it is unlikely such a path will be brought up to highway authority standards.

Court Drove Development Proposal

Mr Nason had written to the Parish Council outlining a proposal to develop land off Court Drove for both commercial and social housing and the related formation of an Overton Housing Association to manage the latter. He described his scheme to the Planning Committee and hoped that, in due course, the Parish Council would support it. As the draft Local Plan was being considered by the borough council in September the Parish Council had been advised

that it should make no comment on the proposal at this stage. For more details contact either the parish clerk or Mr Nason direct.

Want to Learn to Jive or Salsa?

After the success of last term, Fiesta Dance School is once again providing dance classes at St Mary's Hall in Overton during the autumn session. This term will see three different 45 minute courses on offer. The 10 week beginners course in Salsa will re-commence on 24th September and will run alongside new classes in beginners Jive/Rock and Roll and advanced Salsa.

For further information, please 'phone Peni Harman ☎ 896833 or visit Business Connections, 6 High Street.

Laverstoke /Freefolk Village Design Statement

Questionnaires for the Laverstoke and Freefolk Village Design Statement will be circulated to all houses in the parish at the beginning of September, and will be collected between 27th September and 10th October 2003.

Questionnaires can also be returned to 16 Manor Cottages, Freefolk or to 12 or 19 Laverstoke Lane, Laverstoke.

We are also hoping to compile a pictorial history of the area – do you have old or new photos of the parish – or stories to tell about Laverstoke and Freefolk? If so, please come to the Memory Lane Day between 10.30am and 2.00pm on Saturday 11th October at the Portals Sports and Social Club, where the photos will be copied.

Parish Council Surgeries

Following the success of the surgery at the end of July, two more dates have been arranged – 13th September and 15th November. Surgeries will be held between 10.00am and noon in the Palmer Room in the Community Centre and will coincide with another event taking place. Please come along and see a parish councillor if you have any problems or queries.

Local Management of Litter

This was discussed at length at the last Parish Council meeting and it was agreed to ask the borough council to define the service which they should currently be giving to the parish. It was agreed that an Environment Week should take place in the spring of 2004, which would hopefully involve a number of clubs and societies within the village including the Business Association and the school.

INFLUENZA AND PNEUMONIA

From D Wicke, Overton Surgery.

FLU

Flu is a highly infectious illness caused by the influenza virus. It tends to start suddenly with symptoms such as fever, chills, headache, aching muscles and feeling generally unwell, together with a cough or sore throat. Flu is spread by coughs and sneezes from people who are already infected with the virus. For most people flu is a nasty experience but for some it can lead to serious illness. Flu vaccination needs to be given every year.

We advise you to have a flu vaccination if you:

- are 65 years or older by 31.12.03
- if you have heart, lung or kidney disease, diabetes or lowered immunity due to disease or treatment, whatever your age.

Patients registered at Overton Surgery can have their flu vaccination when they see the doctor or nurse for anything during October and November. Patients not visiting the surgery for other reasons can book an appointment at the flu vaccination clinics by phoning the surgery at the beginning of October. Clinics will be held during October and November 2003.

PNEUMONIA

Pneumococcal disease can cause pneumonia and meningitis and is a major cause of illness and death, especially amongst the very young, elderly and those with lowered resistance to infection. This vaccine is usually only given once in your life. Your GP or practice nurse will advise you if you fall into one of the few categories of people who need more than one.

We advise you to have a pneumococcal vaccine if you are:

- 80 years old or older
- whatever your age if you have heart, lung, kidney or liver disease, diabetes, no spleen, cochlear implants or lowered immunity due to disease or treatment.

Patients registered at Overton Surgery can have their pneumococcal vaccination at the same time as flu vaccination, or at any other time during the year by making an appointment or asking for it when they come for other reasons.

ST LUKE'S HALL - LATEST NEWS

From Chris Penney, Secretary.

The all-new Board of Trustees (constituted on 3rd July 2003) is calling an Extraordinary Annual General Meeting for 7.45pm on Wednesday 15th October 2003 in St Luke's Hall. The Trustees decided on this date at their recent open meeting which was attended by several members of the public. They hope there will be a high attendance at the EAGM: mid-October was chosen to avoid any possible clash with the last few weeks of the holiday season. A reminder will appear in the next *News and Views*, but please put it in your diaries now.

Apologies for the delayed publication of the St Luke's Update document mentioned on page 1 of the August issue of *News and Views*. The Trustees wanted to be able to include the EAGM date in the Update, copies of which are now readily available. Contact details for each individual Trustee are included - or you can E-mail **all** the Trustees at the same time using the new general correspondence address of **SLClubOverton@aol.com**

A ring-binder, containing copies of recent Minutes etc, has been set up in the Overton Library, as promised, and will be kept up-to-date.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Readers should note that the comments given are those of the Parish Council; the Borough Council does not necessarily endorse them when arriving at its decisions.

BDB/56211 Erection of replacement detached garage at 17 Bridge Street. No objection.

BDB/56148 Erection of two storey rear extension and installation of window to front elevation at 6 Waltham Road. Extension will overshadow neighbouring properties.

BDB/56194 Change of use from class A1 (retail) to class A1 and A3 (mixed use retail and coffee shop) (retrospective) at 21a High Street. No objection.

BDB/56031 Erection of a temporary 22m pole to support telecommunications apparatus at an overall height of 26.3m and ancillary equipment for no longer than twelve months at land at Kennel Copse, Foxdown. No objection.

ART CLASS AT ORC

From Stuart Campbell-Smith.

Starting on 11th September 1:00–3:00pm at Bridge Street Pavilion. This class welcomes everyone whether accomplished or total beginner. One to one guidance and help being provided by an experienced and published tutor/artist.

Specific learning projects including sketching, pen & ink, colour, perspective and more, always available.

An excellent opportunity to meet and learn together with like minded people.

This ten week course costs £45. (£38 over 60s)

Contact Stuart Campbell-Smith on ☎ 322200 for further information, or a chat.

ADULT EDUCATION

From Glenda Walsh, Community Education Officer.

The Autumn Term Adult and Community Education programme is now available free from your local library or by phone from the Customer Services line at BCOT ☎ 306484. An exciting programme of leisure, pleasure, qualification and personal development courses for you to browse and decide what to take up or continue in the coming months.

OLD BASING AND DISTRICT U3A

From Joy MacGregor.

Just to remind residents again that there is a thriving U3A (University of the 3rd Age) Group in the area for the over 50s and retired people. Membership is only £12 a year and there is a very wide diversity of interests catered for, both intellectual and physical or just plain enjoyable. Amongst these are literature, languages, science & technology, bridge, play reading (in Oakley), art history, garden appreciation, along with country dancing, tennis, swimming and walking. A good time to join is at the AGM on Wednesday 10th September at 2pm in the Elizabeth Hall, Hook, and anyone with skills to offer is made especially welcome. If any more info is required, do give me a ring - Joy MacGregor ☎ 770391.

OVERTON CHORAL SOCIETY

From Gill Corbett.

The Choral Society starts its new season with an AGM on Monday September 8th and rehearsals recommence the following Monday, September 15th. This year's programme includes concerts in Overton at Christmas and early spring, and a concert in Winchester Cathedral in May 2004 when we will be singing Rossini's Stabat Mater and Haydn's Nelson Mass. We also hope to be taking part in the Overton Sheep Fair in 2004. New singers are always very welcome to join us. We are a small, friendly choir numbering 30 - 40 regular members, so if you would like join us come along to any of our rehearsals in St Mary's Hall in the High St every

Monday evening at 7:45pm. Alternatively ring Gill Corbett ☎ 770384 for further details.

COMMUNITY CENTRE CLASSES

From Paula Baker.

Mondays: Advanced Yoga 9.30-11.00, Beginners Yoga 11.00- 12.30; Wednesdays: Computing, 9.30-11.30, "Flowers in the Afternoon" 1.15-3.15. Info from Aldworth Science College, ☎ 473698.

BIODIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS!

From Peter Hutchins..

(See parish board by Overton Pharmacy for the full story....)

A Hummingbird hawk-moth was seen in gardens in Poyntz Road, part of a large influx from the continent.

Moth-trapping in Station Rd resulted in over 150 moths of more than 61 species being seen; highlights being the Lappet, Elephant and Poplar hawks, Buff tip, Early thorn, Beautiful Golden Y, Beautiful Hook Tip and Dusky Sallow.

A Red kite over the Station Road area provided proof of their continued presence locally. The Group's organised moth-trapping evening at Ashe Hill proved a success with a good turn out of locals and over 100 species of moth being seen. Tawny owls were calling nearby and a pipistrelle bat joined the throng flying overhead; the event did not finish till 1:30! (Great cakes..)

Lapwing were seen to drop in to the Ashe crossroads area. A Spotted flycatcher was heard in Oak Close. A Painted lady showed well in London Road!

If you would like to contribute in the future please feel free to do so on / to the following:

Peter Hutchins: ☎ 770831 / 07760 – 247615

All reports will be acknowledged and gratefully received.

The hedge row surveys are progressing well. Each 30m strip taking about 2hrs of measuring, peering, arguing(!), identifying, losing the pencil, recording and refreshments! We're all learning fast and really enjoying the process of having our eyes opened to what has been around us unnoticed for too long.

Have you got your "Wildlife in Overton" photo yet?

Application forms from the Hospice Shop. The Biodiversity Group Minutes are available in the library. Please phone Kath Doyle ☎ 771032 for more info.

FRIENDS OF OVERTON SURGERY

From Chris Smith.

There will be a special Meeting of Friends of Overton Surgery at the Community Centre on Wednesday 24th September at 7:30pm. This is to agree amendments to the constitution as recommended by the Charity Commission. For more information contact the Chairman – Bill Denny ☎ 770183 or the Secretary - Chris Smith ☎ 397283.

VIKING BADMINTON CLUB

From Alison Foy.

Friendly, competitive and social club is seeking new members. We have teams in the Basingstoke and Hampshire league.

Club night is every Tuesday from 7:30-10:00pm at John Hunt of Everest School.

If you are interested please ☎ 326364 or 771794 for more information. First club night is FREE!

EXERCISE TO MUSIC CLASSES

From Caroline Mills.

Autumn term classes start the week commencing Monday 14th September, and are as follows: Wednesdays 9:15 – 10:15am, Body Conditioning; Fridays 9:15 – 10:15am Aerobics and Toning, St Luke's Hall, Winchester Street. For further details ☎ 397742.

OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

From Gordon Baker, Chairman.

The ORC has a new website – visit us at

www.overtonrecreationcentre.org.uk

Congratulations to all 28 prize winners in our August draw.

The top prize winners were:

£500 J Clark £200 S Annells

£100 J Hodgson, A Rowles, P Foster.

Remember, our sports facilities and halls are available for hire at reasonable rates (subsidised for our members).

Contact Mindy ☎ 773337 or Gordon ☎ 770807.

The ORC noticeboard has had to be removed from the wall next to the Community Centre. Until it can be re-positioned the draw results sheet will be displayed in the window of the Overton Bathroom Centre. Results sheets are always available at Paul the Barber's once printed, usually a week after the draw. You can also look at the results on the website.

SHORT MAT BOWLS

From Neil Thomas.

St Luke's Hall Short Mat Bowling Club begins its new season on Monday 6th October. We bowl on Mondays and Thursdays from 7:30-9:30pm and Wednesdays from 2-4pm, most members bowl once or twice a week. We also play friendly and league matches throughout the season. We think we are a friendly bunch and we have a lot of fun. If you are at all interested come along and try the game out for a month with no obligation – we have bowls you can borrow. For further information please contact Neil Thomas ☎ 770490 or Mike Watts ☎ 770439.

TEST VALLEY SHOPPA

From Basingstoke Dial a Ride.

This is a bus service for those living in Overton, Ashe, etc., who have difficulty reaching supermarkets (Sainsbury's and Asda) in Basingstoke. The service will start on September 26th and run every Friday. Those wishing to use it must first register. Registration is free and the criteria are that you have difficulty getting to the shops, i.e are heavily pregnant, elderly, or of impaired mobility. ☎ 462101 for further details and to register.

Comments and contributions for *News and Views* are welcomed by the editor, Teresa Reynolds, The Three Horseshoes, 41 Winchester Street, ☎ 770248, e-mail newsandviewsRG25@aol.com. The editor reserves the right not to print articles without giving a reason.

For problems or comments about Parish Council matters, contact the Parish Council Chairman, Sarah Mills, 37 Red Lion Lane, ☎ 772069 or Vice-chairman Paul Green, 5 Oak Close, ☎ 07776-172303, email greenpaul@btopenworld.com or Clerk to the

The normal Basingstoke Dial-A-Ride and the Thursday Rural-Ride semi scheduled service to Basingstoke town centre will continue to run as before.

DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16th September. Please send your articles to the editor in writing, on a PC floppy disk or by e-mail. The email address is NewsandviewsRG25@aol.com

WHITCHURCH SILK MILL

From Stephen Bryer.

Escape the Treadmill

Lord Caernarvon will open the doors of Whitchurch Silk Mill free to the public on Saturday 13th September, at which time the waterwheel restoration appeal will be launched. The 1890 waterwheel will have to be stopped before it deteriorates further.

During this Heritage weekend visitors of all ages will be able to try their hands at stone age stick weaving, silk painting, weaving without a loom and learn about lace making. Guides will be on hand to unveil the mysteries of the highly skilled craft of silk weaving.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.

Buses

Services 76 and 86

The manager of Stagecoach's Andover depot has assured me that they will be monitoring demand for the morning peak services to Basingstoke when the colleges return and he is hopeful of being to supply a duplicate bus on the most popular services until students timetables have been sorted out. In this way regular commuters should not be inconvenienced in the way they were in 2002.

Service 11 Basingstoke to Peter Symonds College and Westgate School, Winchester

Countywide Travel has advised that this service will from 4 September leave Overton Community Centre at 0742, Freefolk at 0747 and run Mondays to Fridays during term times only. It arrives at Peter Symonds College at 0810 and Westgate School at 0813.

Return service leaves Westgate School at 1635, Peter Symonds College at 1640 arriving at Freefolk at 1703 and Overton at 1705. Places on these services will be strictly limited to 27 and preference will be given to season ticket holders. Day return fare from Overton/Freefolk to Winchester is £4.30, a term long return ticket £240.00 and an academic year return ticket £600.00. Further details from Countywide travel ☎ 01256 780079

info@countywidetravel.co.uk.

Trains

The winter service commences on Sunday 28 September and will be reported in the October edition.

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Council Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774296, email laura.harley@virgin.net.
