

# News and Views

Issued by Overton Parish Council and distributed to Overton and Ashe.  
Information and Comment on Village Activities

February 2005

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

From Parish Councillors Ian Tilbury and Brian Langer  
and Clerk Laura Harley.

### Parish Council Meetings

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2005 in the Community Centre</li><li>• Planning 7:00pm</li><li>• Public time 7:30pm</li><li>• Main meeting 8pm.</li><li>• <b>Committee Meetings Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b></li><li>• Planning 7:00pm</li><li>• Finance &amp; General Purposes 7.30pm</li><li>• <b>St Mary's Hall meeting Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb.</b></li></ul> |
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Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board. All public are welcome to any of these meetings.

### Fly Tipping

This has been a perennial problem for many years. Residents and business users should be aware that anyone who turns up at your door offering to remove rubbish or cut hedges, trees etc and take it away, must be a licensed waste carrier. You have the right to ask them for proof that they are licensed; if they are not do not use them! Furthermore if your rubbish later turns up dumped in the countryside you could be held liable and prosecuted.

### Sapley Lane Playing Field

There have been a number of reports of children riding motocross bikes in this playing field; this is illegal. Residents are reminded that while BMX bikes can use the skateboard ramps they are not suitable for motorcycles.

### Parish Council Questionnaire and Prize Draw

Thank you for everyone who completed the questionnaire that was sent with the November edition of *News and Views*. Unfortunately the results were not conclusive for some of the items, but the comments aided the Parish Council in its decision-making regarding the budget for 2005/2006 (see below). As an incentive to parishioners to complete the questionnaire a prize of £25 was offered of tokens for any shop in Overton. Dave Boshier was the lucky recipient and he has decided to spend his money at Pickwicks in Winchester Street.

### Parish Council budget 2005/2006

Apart from St Mary's Hall, which is the biggest Parish Council commitment at present, it was agreed to carry out the following projects in 2005/2006:

To do a pavement audit for the village to highlight areas which need maintenance, drop kerbs etc and pass the information to Hampshire County Council  
To install a CCTV system in the centre of the village aided by a grant from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

To continue to support the Overton Website.

To set aside a contingency of £1,000 towards the Little Meadow (next to the Cemetery) project to meet any rising costs or unforeseen circumstances, and to pay for the annual maintenance costs.

To set aside £1,000 towards the cost of commemorating the end of World War II.

To set aside £1,000 as a grant to HART towards the cost of its new hospital.

To fund a footpath board for the village.

To fund a person to pick litter in the village for three hours per week.

To match fund £1 for £1 any fund raising that is carried out by St Mary's Hall, St Luke's Hall and the Community towards the cost of refurbishing any of these establishments to a value of £10,000 each.

**The Parish Council continues to set aside £2,000 per year for grants to any local club or society within the parish.**

**To apply for a grant for 2005/2006, please write to the Clerk outlining your project and include your latest set of accounts.**

### St Mary's Hall

Overton Parish Council has agreed to carry out the work to St Mary's Hall so that it meets the criteria set out under the Disability Discrimination Act 2004. Consequently the existing toilet block will be demolished and replaced with a new extension incorporating toilets including disabled persons' facilities and a new kitchen, boiler room and storage area. A new entrance is also to be made in the east side of the hall to accommodate disabled users. Essential maintenance works will also be carried out. The cost of work will be met by a PWLB loan, and the cost of repayment will be met from the existing precept, which has not been increased for 2005/2006.

The St Mary's Hall Management Committee will be applying for grants and raising funds to try to carry out additional work to the hall. Fund raising has already started for the proposed garden behind the hall, and the committee would like to thank Antler Homes for its generous donation of an old wellhead from the Kingsclere Road development site. This will be a focal point of the finished garden.

### Freedom of Information Act 2000

Overton Parish Council is in the process of revising its Publication Scheme. Once the scheme has been approved by the council and Information Commissioner, a copy will be available on the website, at the library or from the Clerk.

### Environmental Traffic Calming

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council are intending to carry out some traffic calming works in Overton. An outbuild is to be installed at the Winchester Street/Sapley Lane junction to slow cars coming into the village from the south. This will incorporate new village and speed limit

signs. New signs are also to be erected at Southington both where the speed limit changes to 40 mph, and to 30 mph.

### Did you know?

The Clerk holds all the current planning applications for the village. If you would like to see a copy of the plans, please contact her. To ensure that the borough council's Development Control Committee considers any contentious plans, a plan outside the Settlement Policy boundary requires 4 objections, within the Settlement Policy Boundary 6 objections and major developments 11 objections. Information regarding the Settlement Policy Boundary can also be obtained from the Clerk.

### Highways & Byways New Year Update

(HCC=County Council, BDBC=Borough Council, OPC=Parish Council)

High Street pavement by Overton Gallery: due for repair on a weekday in this financial year; Broken fencing by 50 Winchester Street: HCC has order in to repair; Rotten Hill pavement to Laverstoke: too narrow to allow formal SIGNED use by both cyclists and pedestrians; Winchester Street loose block pavings: HCC to repair; Road potholes and cracking surface: HCC repairs as and when advised, eg Lion Close marked up; Kingsclere Road surface dressing: due to take place from traffic lights to Harrow Way in next financial year; Leaves, branches on pavements, litter and fly tipping: contact BDBC ☎ 845474; The Green 'roundabout': HCC to tar over damaged grassed area; School approach: OPC arranging meeting with school/HCC over verge and ancient hedgerow damage by vehicles. No positive underground drainage to take away road surface water – drivers are reminded that they could be prosecuted for careless driving if splashing pedestrians on pavement; Elm Road and Copse Road new street lights: OPC endeavouring to find a funder for these; Traffic lights: HCC suggests trial period peak hour 4 way phasing to help right-turning vehicles. OPC still keen on getting a 'safe to cross' phasing for pedestrians; Grit bins: OPC still seeking approval from Kingfisher Housing Association over positioning near flats in Charledown Close. If bins become empty of salt contact HCC ☎ 764444; Circular Walks display map: Biodiversity Society to present final proposal to OPC; Flashetts: OPC seeking repair of fence and clarification from landowner over permitted use of path by horse riders; Twice yearly rural verge cut by HCC agents: Immediate notification required ☎ 764444 of any wild plants needing special marking and an early cut; Copse Road/Foxdown hedge: will be cut by HCC but cuttings will NOT be cleared; Noticeboards: being erected at surgery, school and corner Dellands/Sapley Lane; C29 towards A303: OPC's serious concern over safety of narrow bridge expressed to HCC and Network Rail; Parking: no easy solution to this increasing problem. OPC asking BDBC how village is supposed to cope with an extra 250/300 cars which Overton Hill and Foxdown developments will bring. Residents asked to use their garage for car storage wherever possible. BDBC asked to review Winchester Street unrestricted parking; Station area: OPC concern over effect from proposed business units adjacent to overflow car park and increasing parking pressure on neighbouring residential roads when village expands; Bridge Street and Battens Ave traffic regulation order amendments: after inordinate delay by HCC, implementation now being actioned by BDBC; Footpaths

and Rights of Way: any problems contact John Smith, Poyntz Road ☎ 770301 as OPC's representative.

### Dog Mess in Grit Bins

The County Council's Highways department has given notice that it is **totally unacceptable** for grit bins to be used for depositing dog mess and ordinary litter. Unless these practices stop immediately their work force will be under no obligation, under health and safety legislation, to refill these bins with grit. This is a village wide problem but the most recent case was at Hazlecombe.

### Commemoration of the Battle of Trafalgar

2005 is the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. Did you know that the frigate captain who took the news of the victory and the death of Nelson stopped off at the White Hart to change horses on his way from Falmouth to London? This took place on 5 November 1805, and several groups within the village have agreed that it would be appropriate to hold some form of commemoration in Overton on 5 November this year (which is conveniently a Saturday). It is also hoped to erect a plaque on the side of the White Hart. If you are interested in being involved with organising an event or you have any ideas, please contact the Clerk.

### Street Lighting

To report a fault, check the defective light number (this is found on the street light column 5 to 6 feet off the ground facing the road) and the road name. Phone 0800 506060 and you will receive a prompt to leave a message. Be sure to state Overton as this number covers all of Hampshire. The light will normally be repaired within 5 working days.

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## RECYCLE FOR CHARITY

### From Pat Bain.

I have just become a Rubbish Ranger for **Naomi House**, the children's hospice. What this means is that I am the local collector for items which can be recycled in some way to raise funds for the charity. These items are

- red, green or blue plastic milk bottle lids
- inkjet and laser printer cartridges
- old mobile telephones
- used stamps
- foreign currency

So, while your Christmas card envelopes can go into your green bin, please remember to tear off the stamps first. And with all the extra catering at this time of year, when the plastic milk bottles go out for recycling, let Naomi House have the coloured tops. And how many mobile phones will become redundant this Christmas as demands are made for the latest model!

Last year they raised £4,000 from recycling, but this year the target is £8,000, which would pay the fuel bill at the House, thereby freeing up funds for other projects.

So, if you're not already donating any of these items to other good causes, please remember Naomi House.

The Overton Community Centre Committee has kindly agreed for a collection bin within the Centre for an initial period of 6 weeks, so hopefully we can make this a success. They have requested that the large printer cartridges are dealt with separately, so please contact me directly for collection.

Please let me know if there is any other location / organisation who would be willing to have a collection bin, be it a business, social club or meeting place perhaps. After all, this can be replicated anywhere.

For further details, please contact Pat Bain ☎ 771433.

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## **OVERTONVILLAGE.COM**

*From Colin McLaren.*

The overtonvillage.com group welcomes Lucy Sloane Williams representing OPC.

By the time you read this our new Bulletin Board will be up and running. It's a great facility to air topics, join in discussions, offer items for sale, ask questions, make suggestions, or just listen in to the latest village gossip. All you have to do is register a username and a valid email address, accept the general rules and off you go. We do hope that you will join in. One of the first threads is asking if anyone knows about the airfield at Frost Hill Farm during the Second World War. If you do – get in touch!

The next issue of the Overton Handbook will not be published until 2008 but it can be updated via the web site; all you need to do is contact

[webmaster@overtonvillage.com](mailto:webmaster@overtonvillage.com) to update your section of the handbook.

Remember. www.OvertonVillage.com is for use by all of the community.

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## **TESTBOURNE NEWS**

*From Teresa Reynolds, Governor.*

### **GCSE Results**

Results tables for the 2004 GCSE exams have been published recently and you may have seen these in the local press. We were pleased with these as we had hit all the targets we set. The school also receives a document called a "PANDA" which provides very detailed performance and assessment data, and grades our performance compared with other schools on a scale of A\* - E. We are pleased to be able to report that we have been given A grades for our percentage of 5 A\* - C grades and for the value added to pupils' progress from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4.

### **Jets Meet The Sharks**

Rehearsals are now well under way for our forthcoming production of West Side Story. Performances will be from 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March and tickets will go on sale from the school office after half term, ☎ 892061. This promises to be another in a long line of successful Testbourne musicals and we look forward to seeing you there.

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## **BIODIVERSITY SOCIETY AGM**

### **Water Vole Talk Included**

*From Kath Doyle.*

Overton Biodiversity Society's Annual General Meeting will be held in the Community Centre at 7.30pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

The society has recently received an award from the Lottery Local Heritage Initiative to implement a range of wildlife and local heritage activities and we will have a display of our proposals on how we intend to use the money. These include improvements to Little Meadow (the area beside the cemetery) to produce a community wildlife meadow, notice boards and leaflets for nature and heritage trails around the village and carrying out and publishing a range of surveys

including hedgerows, ancient trees and species such as dormice and water voles.

After a **brief** AGM Dr. Jon Benge of Sparsholt College will give an illustrated talk on water voles - followed by coffee and cakes.

A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to find out more about our group and, of course, to all our existing members. For a mere £1 you can join or renew your annual membership.

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## **OVERTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

*From Colin McLaren.*

Below are details of the OBA meetings for 2005 – all meetings are to be held at the Honey Pot from 7.30pm.

Tue 1<sup>st</sup> March

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Tue 5<sup>th</sup> July

Tue 6<sup>th</sup> September

Tue 1<sup>st</sup> November

All members are encouraged to attend, and any ideas for agenda items are to be forwarded to [tracy.leach@iconinteriors.org](mailto:tracy.leach@iconinteriors.org). Please forward all membership enquiries to [colin@pharostechonology.co.uk](mailto:colin@pharostechonology.co.uk).

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## **ST MARY'S HALL**

*From Teresa Reynolds, Secretary, SMHMC*

The committee would like to thank Alan Turner, who regretfully tendered his resignation as Chairman at our last meeting. He led us with great commitment for a year and put us on the road to refurbishment of the Hall.

We now have a new Chairman, Mark Winter, but we are looking for any interested parishioners who would like to join the committee, especially if you have ideas about fundraising. Please contact the Parish Clerk, Laura Harley ☎ 01962 774296.

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## **LIBRARY NEWS**

*From Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.*

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February there will be a very special event in Overton! **A taste of Venice** will celebrate the Venetian Carnivale in music, prose and poetry, as actors lead us on a journey through Venice past and present. The evening starts at 7.30 and tickets cost £3 to include a glass of Italian wine. There will be Italian food and drink on sale and also works of art. Information on Italian holidays will be available too. Tickets will be strictly limited, so don't leave it too late!

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## **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/59745** Erection of new multi species abattoir and processing facility and new access road on land at Southley Farm. No objection.

**BDB/58981** Erection of a single storey side/rear extension at 12 Alexander Road. No objection, providing that there is sufficient off road parking remaining once the development has taken place.

**BDB/59960** Change of house type to plot 3 (amendment to planning permission BDB/58335). No objection.

**BDB/59922** Erection of single storey rear extension at 8 Highfields. No objection.

**BDB/59955** Erection of single storey rear extension at 13 Two Gate Meadow. No objection.

**BDB/59985** Installation of a satellite dish to front of property at 11 Battens Avenue. Objection – not suitable in a Conservation Area.

**BDB/59986** Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 2 no four bedroom dwellings with detached garaging and creation of new access at Ambledene, Winchester Street. Objection – poor access to site – concern about piecemeal development of this area of Overton.

**BDB/59987** Outline application for the erection of 2 no. four bedroom dwellings on land at Lemsford, Sapley Lane. Objection – poor access to site – concern about piecemeal development of this area of Overton.

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## OVERTON RECREATION CENTRE

*From Gordon Baker, Chairman.*

Congratulations to all prize winners in the January 2005 draw. The top winners were:

£500 Jill Smith, £200 D Berry

£100 J Webster, Anita Wheeler, Mags Stewart.

ORC contact phone numbers: Gordon Baker, ☎ 770807 or e-mail us on [chairman@overtonrc.org.uk](mailto:chairman@overtonrc.org.uk)

We have sports facilities and halls available for hire at reasonable rates.

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## PLAYGROUP NEWS

*From Lorna Bloor.*

Overton Preschool Playgroup continues to be at the forefront of early years education. In addition to rating top in all six Ofsted inspection categories, we have now become fully Accredited following a 2 day visit by the Preschool Learning Alliance accreditor in November. Few other preschools have attained this in our area and we are extremely proud of our highly committed staff and committee for this achievement. We believe in learning through play and in making preschool available to all families in the village. From 3 years of age our places are FREE to all children. To discuss your child's needs please call our playgroup leader Amanda Igo ☎770370.

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## ST MARY'S CHURCH

*From Margaret Elkins.*

By the time you read this, St.Mary's Church will be undergoing an extensive period of refurbishment. It will have new lighting and heating systems and will be decorated throughout. During this time the church will be closed to all except workmen. Sunday services will be held in the church rooms and any church funeral services will be held at Laverstoke Church.

The work is scheduled to take 12 weeks but we may be able to celebrate Easter in a bright, warm church even if the work

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is not completely finished. Further updates will be given as work progresses.

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## DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16<sup>th</sup> February. 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](mailto:NewsandviewsRG25@aol.com)

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## WHITCHURCH SILK MILL

*From Jan Rumball, Education Officer.*

The Silk Mill is again hosting the work of Textile Artist Hazel Smith, until the end of March. Many new pieces will be on sale.

For disabled visitors to the Silk Mill, there is now a stairlift, enabling easier access to the first floor.

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## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

*From Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.*

Extra services to and from Basingstoke and Andover Friday and Saturday evenings

The county council is funding for a six months trial period the following **extra** buses on route 76 to access the nightlife in Andover and Basingstoke on Friday and Saturday evenings. These will all serve the Leisure Park at West Ham and will pick up and drop off at all the usual bus stops on the route. If popular, it is hoped they will have a long-term future.

Andover bus station depart	2010, 2240, 2330;
Overton village centre depart	2043, 2313, 0003;
West Ham leisure park depart	2055, 2325, 0015;
Basingstoke bus station arrive	2104, 2334, 0024;
Basingstoke bus station depart	2110, 2335, 0025;
West Ham leisure park depart	2119, 2344, 0034;
Overton village centre depart	2132, 2356, 0046;
Andover bus station arrive	2203, 0022, 0112.

County Council subsidised Stagecoach services 76 and 86 (evenings and Sundays) and Weavaway Travel's Thursdays only service 120 to Newbury

The contract covering the above services will be renegotiated this spring. There is no certainty that any of the services will continue beyond the summer as usage has to be justified against the county's ever tighter budget. If you have an important need for a specific service, including the new services above, please let me know ☎ 770848 without delay. The Mondays to Saturdays Stagecoach 76/86 services that operate up to 8pm are **NOT** affected by this contract review as they are run commercially by Stagecoach.

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Comments and contributions for *News and Views* are welcomed by the editor, Teresa Reynolds, The Three Horseshoes, 41 Winchester Street, e-mail [newsandviewsRG25@aol.com](mailto: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 Vice Chairman Sarah Mills, 37 Red Lion Lane, e-mail [Sarahmills46@hotmail.com](mailto:Sarahmills46@hotmail.com) or Clerk to the Council Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774296, email [laura.harley@virgin.net](mailto:laura.harley@virgin.net).

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