

News and Views



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

November 2006

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Councillor Brian Langer and Clerk Laura Harley .

Parish Council Meetings

Taking place in the Community Centre

Wednesday 8 th November:	Planning	7.00pm
	Public time	7.30pm
	Main meeting	8.00pm
Tuesday 28 th November:	Planning	7.30pm
	Finance/Gen. Purposes	8.00pm

Agendas and planning applications are displayed on the events notice-board. All public are welcome to any of these meetings.

Parish Council Budget 2007-8

This will be finalised during December so if you have views on areas where expenditure should be committed or reduced/eliminated please contact the parish clerk on 01962 774186.

Parish Plan/Village Plan

A larger than expected response was received to the article in an earlier edition of this newsletter and consequently a public meeting, including people from Community Action Hampshire, has been called for 23rd November in the Community Centre at 7.30pm. This is your chance to become involved in an optional initiative that could provide planners and service providers with some crucial 'home-grown' proposals with considerable local support and lessen the chance that our views will be ignored when future statutory consultations occur.

Croudace's Contact for Overton Hill Development Site

The Parish Council chairman met the Croudace site manager, John Johnson, and agreed that he can be contacted on 01256 772046 should you need to discuss noise, pollution, misbehaviour etc relating to the actual site work and those working on it. The Parish Council has been pleased to note how little dirt and chalk is being carried onto the highway by lorries etc.

Alcohol Designation Order

In view of the cost implications and concern over effective enforcement, the Parish Council has decided to postpone implementation of the above in the village centre and play areas. Assuming the borough council sanctions Oakley's application for a similar order it was agreed that it would see how that worked out in practice before progressing this initiative in Overton.

Welcome Pack for New Residents.

People are constantly moving into and away from Overton but the next year or so will see the largest increase in new residents within a short time span since Woodlands was built in the 1960's. Whether the residents of Overton Hill move from elsewhere or within the village, a parish welcome pack will be produced containing a number of relevant local items. This will contain an updated Overton Handbook, latest *News and Views*, Village Design Statement, Business Association list, village map, footpath map, website details, Biodiversity Society's walks leaflets, transport timetables etc. In the meantime, should someone from outside Overton move into a home near you, please call the parish clerk on 01962 774186 and she will provide as much of the above material as is currently available.

Continued Tampering with Children's Play Equipment

This matter is becoming more serious and is of great concern to the Parish Council. The damage that takes place seems to be undertaken by an adult and further lines of enquiry are being made before a serious accident occurs.

Recent Parish Council Grants

£1000 to Overton Youth; £500 to Overton Biodiversity Society and £100 to Hampshire County Youth Band.

Grit Bins

These are refilled by the county council each autumn. If the one nearest to you has been missed please call 01256 764444, the County Engineer's office, and inform them.

Street lights

By the time this newsletter is distributed the clocks will have gone back and dark evenings will be here. If you notice a light not working, or one that stays on when it shouldn't, please contact 0800 50 60 60 and leave a message detailing lamp column number, street name and village name as the number covers all of Hampshire. Dayburners are given lower priority but, unless there is a major problem, the fault should be repaired within a week or so.

Community Furniture Project (cfp)

The cfp is a local charity that promotes the reuse of furniture, household goods and electrical items at low cost. To give any goods to the project contact ☎ 01256 320700 or email www.cfpbasingtoke.org. To comply with current safety and Trading Standards, upholstered furniture must have labels confirming it complies with the 1988 Fire and Furnishings regulations and mattresses must have the flame

retardant logo label. Items can be collected if bulky or taken to the store which is at 6 Joule Road, Basingstoke, RG21 6HX. Anyone can buy from the cfp and if you are living on a low income, retirement pension or receiving state benefits you can buy at discounted prices. Cfp is also looking for volunteers who could assist them for a few hours each week.

OVERTON HILL ANNOUNCEMENT

Russell Deness, Croudace Homes.

Croudace Homes are pleased to announce the forthcoming opening for sale of our prestigious new development at Overton Hill on London Road. The scheme provides a mix of 2,3,4, and 5 bed properties, including apartments. The initial release at the end of December will, along with subsequent sales, firstly be made available only to people with strong Overton connections; either currently living in the village, working in the village, or with close family ties to the village. The general release will follow in January 2007 to coincide with the completion of the sales office and show homes.

Croudace Homes has worked closely in partnership with the Parish Council to agree this scheme and give local people an early opportunity to buy their first new home in the village. Those who believe they qualify should register their interest with our Home Buying Advisors at Sherfield Park in Basingstoke on 01256 883813. We look forward to hearing from you.

TESTBOURNE NEWS

Teresa Reynolds, Governor.

Craft Fayre

The annual Craft Fayre – organised by the PTFA – is on Saturday 11th November from 11am to 4pm in the Sports Hall. There will be many stalls – old favourites and new – so come along, buy your presents and support the school.

Music Suite.

Our new Music Suite, funded with Specialist School money, is now well and truly open. Following a quarter-of-a-million pounds refurbishment, the old shabby warren of rooms has been swept away and we have a fabulous new high-tech area. It includes: 3 practice rooms and 2 superbly equipped performance and classrooms, one of which has the latest in keyboard and computer-linked composing software.

A.C.T.I.O.N.

Dawn Denning

Active Christian Team in our Neighbourhood is in great need of help both in providing transport for the elderly to medical appointments and the weekly Lunch Club.

If you could provide only 1 trip per month to hospital or surgery, on a day convenient to yourself, it would be a great help to the transport organiser, Mrs Betty Mackrill..

Lunch Club is also in need of help in its provision of the

Clark – 771619, John Mears – 770510, Brian Dennison – 770031 or Colin Parker – 771038. Thanks for your help.

OVERTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Noelle Moysi

This year's Late Night Christmas Shopping is on Friday 8th December. Sir George Young MP will be switching on the Christmas Lights at 6pm and Father Christmas will be in the Community Centre from 6.15pm. There will be entertainment and food and the shops will be open late, so come along and enjoy the festivities.

The deadline for applications for the Overton Community Award and the OBA Enabling Award is Friday 17th November. This Award is available to any individual who has contributed to the community in a significant way. This could be anything from keeping the village tidy to raising the profile of the village through sporting, academic or any other achievement. If you know any individual who deserves an extra thank you for all their hard work please contact Keith Green, OBA Chairman. The winner of the Overton Community Award will receive £100. The OBA Enabling Award is a grant of £100 available to local community groups or individuals looking to fund a specific project i.e. the cost of advertising or a piece of new equipment. Please contact Keith Green on 770907.

OVERTON YOUTH CLUB

Teresa Reynolds, Secretary

The Youth Club has been grateful to receive some funding from the Parish Council, however, it will be unable to operate without some more volunteers to help run it on Tuesday evenings, 7-9pm. Unfortunately some children come along to try and spoil the evening for the others and these are taking up the time of our Youth Worker. Please can some parents or anyone else interested in helping out come along. We can work out a rota if there are several helpers. Phone Lucy Sloane Williams on 770607 for more information. Thank you.

DEADLINE NEWS & VIEWS

This will be 16th November. 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

January 2007

Don't forget, the December issue will carry items relating to December and January 2007.

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/64461 Erection of a part two storey, part single storey side extension and a single storey rear extension at 2 Folley Cottages. No objection.

BDB/64406 Erection of a detached garage; raising of existing wall to 2.2 metres including alterations to existing access and installation of gates to front elevation at Southington House. No objection.

BDB/64399 Erection of a log cabin style workshop/store at High View, 40 Winchester Street. No objection.

BDB/64495 Erection of a two storey rear extension and front porch at 53 Pond Close. No objection.

BDB/94492 Erection of a single storey detached garage at Maidenthorne, Sapley Lane. No objection.

AUTUMN OVERSEAS FAIR

Elizabeth Mumford

Saturday 11th November at 9.30 – 11.30am in the Community Centre; Cakes, biscuits, produce, preserves, children's toys, bulbs for planting and gifts suitable for Christmas all very welcome. Raffle as usual. Children's competitions. (No bric-a-brac please !)

Do come and join us and enjoy a cuppa.

Proceeds to the poor and needy in Lebanon and Gaza

Admission 50p including coffee.

MP SURGERY

Graham Lambert

Sir George Young, your local Member of Parliament, will be holding an Advice Bureau on Saturday 9th December 2006 at Overton Community Centre from 10am to 11am. This Advice Bureau is open to all Constituents of North West Hampshire. Although it is not necessary to make an appointment it may avoid a wait by phoning 01264 401401. He will be pleased to discuss any matters of concern with which you feel he can help.

LIBRARY NEWS

Chris Vane, Library Supervisor.

Following the success of the Reading mission, the next event in the library will be "Twilight tales" on 21st December - more details next month.

Don't forget that we sell Book Tokens - ideal for Birthday and Christmas presents.

BIODIVERSITY SOCIETY

Margaret Rainford.

Are you able to help with a working party at Little Meadow? We will be landscaping on Sunday 12th November and on Sunday 19th November will be sowing meadow mixes and planting some of the young flower plants which have been raised by volunteer gardeners. Please contact Margaret Rainford on 770827 or email membership@overton-biodiversity.org if you can help, or just turn up from 10am. Refreshments provided. Wear suitable clothing. Will be cancelled if heavy rain.

OVERTON SOCIETY

Sue Carter

The Overton Society holds 3 or 4 Open Meetings each year on topics related to our aims:-

- To foster an awareness of Overton's heritage – built, natural & cultural
- To promote the village as a community
- To consider the impact of developments and change
- To provide a focus to celebrate the things we value in Overton

Everyone is welcome to join us at our next meeting on 15th November 2006 which is a light-hearted quiz "What do you know about Overton?" to be held in conjunction with the AGM - refreshments provided! Please bring ideas about

topics for future meetings – this is your society and we try to cater for your interests! We look forward to welcoming you at 8pm in the Community Centre.

OVERTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Lyn Hardy.

Our first two months of the 2006/07 Season have sped by. Paul Timms, our conductor, has really put us through our paces. We have spent half our evenings having a refresher on Mozart's Requiem and the other half on re-looking at or learning new pieces from the European Song Book.

As we enter November we will be cracking on with items for our Christmas concert (Monday 18th December) and also rehearsing Haydn's Missa in Tempore Belli (Mass in Time of War) which we will be singing with other choirs in the Winchester & County Music Festival.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please note that letters can only be printed if contributors are prepared to put their names to them.

Quiz Night.

An amazing £550 was raised to be shared between WaterAid and BASICS. Many thanks to such generous participants and to those who donated raffle prizes, time or helped with baking and clearing up!

Cindy Coppin and Jane MacKenzie

BARTH SYNDROME TRUST

Christmas Fayre

Teri Allison

The Barth Syndrome Trust is holding its annual Christmas Fayre at Overton Community Centre, on Saturday 25th November, from 10am until 2pm.

There will be the usual array of cakes, toys and books as well as the ever popular tombola, and some great raffle prizes. The children will love having their faces painted in the wonderful Christmas atmosphere.

Father Christmas will again be in his "Grotto", with his usual cheery smile. Please come and join us, for an early Christmas noggin (or two)!

MILESTONES

Ceri Adams

Milestones is Hampshire's living history museum, in Basingstoke. As a special Christmas and New Year promotion, the museum will be offering residents within Basingstoke and Deane the opportunity to visit at a reduced rate during December 2006 and January 2007. On proof of address (e.g. driving licence, utility bill) residents of the borough will be entitled to "2 for the price of 1" admission,

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. 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, Alan Whitney, (770174), E-mail alan-whitney@hotmail.co.uk or Vice Chairman Lucy Sloane Williams (770607), E-mail lucysloanewilliams@btinternet.com or Parish Councillors – Maggie Atkins (770369), Mark Attwell (770472), Peter Baker (770007), Paula Baker (771219 -also Borough Councillor), John Bennett, Sue Johnson (770975), Brian Langer (770848 – Transport and Highways Representative), Liz Lewis (770576), Sarah Mills, Ian Tilbury (771429 – also Borough Councillor), Clerk to the Council is Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, ☎ 01962 774186, E-mail opc@overtonvillage.com

which gives one adult (or concession) free entry when accompanied by another full paying adult. The offer is not valid for the museum's special events, e.g. Christmas Gala Evenings (8th & 15th December, 7pm -10pm). Further details at www.milestones-museum.com

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public Transport Representative Brian Langer.

Buses

Service 76/86

Stagecoach's Operations Manager at Andover has commented as follows on queries raised about tickets not correctly describing the journeys passengers were undertaking. 'If you are making a journey from Overton to Basingstoke.... then that is what should be printed on the ticket. I can only imagine that the tickets in question are for the over 60s concessionary passes which...don't involve any payment by the passholder. The driver may issue such a ticket without altering the journey details, as it makes no difference to the passenger, and the machine will then print out a free ticket with the journey details from whatever the last ticket issued was. I will remind drivers of the importance of ensuring the correct ticket is issued regardless of whether it is a concessionary or not.'

Service 74 around the village

Burghfield Mini Coaches have on some Saturdays been unable to provide a driver licensed to drive a bus with a capacity of more than eight passengers. This has caused some overcrowding and has been taken up with the county council who fund the service as it may contravene the terms of their contract with the operator. Reply awaited.

Trains

South West Trains franchise

This has been awarded to Stagecoach, the parent company of the existing operator, for a period of seven years and a possible extension to ten, and comes into effect next February.

Station car parking

As a result of the franchise award the Parish Council has renewed its pressure on interested parties – SWT, Network Rail, HCC, BDBC, Portals De La Rue and the local MP - to resolve without delay the issue of inadequate car parking at the station. SWT has for some time used the uncertainty over the franchise as a delaying tactic. The matter is of increasing concern as many of the new residents of the Overton Hill development are expected to be rail users and parking pressure on residential roads close to the station will increase to an unacceptable level.
