

Chairman's Report 2010

In May 2011 parish council elections will again take place. The Overton Parish Council has just one more year in office but is currently concentrating much of its attention on the future beyond those elections. Before reporting on the future I would like to detail the progress in other matters over the past year.

Achievements

Overton Parish Council was awarded Quality status on the 28th September 2009 and has joined 29 other parish councils, across the whole of Hampshire which has so far achieved this high standard of administrative competence.

Hampshire County Council's Village 30 project has been completed in Overton during the past year and a 30 mile per hour speed limit has now been adopted on all highways, roads and lanes within the four gateways to the village.

During the summer of 2009, the long awaited pedestrian phase at the traffic lights has been installed using Developer Contributions.

The adoption of the Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) has now been completed. Signs are to be erected in the six areas where alcohol related disorder or nuisance has been experienced in the past.

In the autumn of 2009 the Overton Youth Drop-in Centre opened in the High Street under the title of the ChillZone. It is being led and run by the Community Church and is actively supported by the Overton Parish Council and the Police.

In November 2009, the parish council agreed to open the parish office in St Mary's Hall for two mornings a week - the provision of this service will be reviewed in 2010.

In April 2009, the parish council carried out a grit bin survey and purchased seven further bins to give a better coverage of the village. It is planned to purchase a further five grit bins in 2010.

The parish council gave several grants to groups in the village including the Overton Community Centre for tree works in the Community Centre forecourt, the Brownies for new tables at Town Meadow and Ashe PCC for a new path in the churchyard.

The parish council has been successful in obtaining a grant to carry out long awaited fencing works at the allotments.

Outstanding matters

The problems of car parking in the centre of the village for residents, shoppers and visitors have still not been resolved. Plans were put forward in 2009 but were not accepted by the Parish Council. No further action is currently being considered but if further large scale housing is built in the future in Overton the parking problems will have to be re-examined and resolved.

Further improvements to road crossings and footpaths are still under review. Monies from Developers Contributions in respect of both the Overton Hill and Foxdown developments are not yet exhausted and it is hoped that further work can be done to improve pedestrian access and safety around the village in the forthcoming months.

The building of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) for the enjoyment of young people in the Parish has not yet been advanced, but it remains a Parish Council objective.

The creation of a Parish Plan, to evidence the way the Parish wishes to develop in the future has yet to be agreed. A community led project, such as a Parish Plan, requires the involvement of a dedicated group willing to devote some of their time and energies to the future of the Parish. A timescale of some eighteen months is usually sufficient to complete a Parish Plan.

The Future

It is important that the parish council and the community respond to the public consultations on Basingstoke and Deane's Local Development Framework (LDF). The Borough's target date for agreeing a "Core Strategy" for inclusion in the LDF is currently set at October 2010. Thereafter the LDF will be developed throughout the rest of 2010 and into 2011 and the Parish Council will publicise the key dates of the public consultations. The Parish Council will continue to submit its views both in writing and speaking at public consultations with the Borough. The parish council will continue to pursue the aims as laid out in its Community Strategy document - this will include finding further ground for both allotments and burials.

Please come along to parish council meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month - starting with PUBLIC TIME at 7.00pm

Planning Meetings will be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. All meetings are held in the Community Centre.

Agendas are posted on the Events Noticeboard by the chemist. (Minutes are available in the Library or on the website at www.overtonvillage.com)

Accounts to 31st March 2010

<u>Income</u>			<u>Funds held by Overton Parish Council - 31.03.10</u>	
<u>2008/2009</u>		<u>2009/2010</u>	Halls Reserve	£15,169.38
£52,911	Precept	£54,337	General Reserve	£24,270.06
£1,665	Interest	£0		<u>£39,439.44</u>
£6,238	Grants	£10,575	Balance at bank - Lloyds - 31.03.10	£6,697.61
£361	Other	£1,748	Balance at bank - Website - 31.03.10	£576.38
<u>£61,175</u>		£66,660	Balance at 31 March 2010	<u>£46,713.43</u>
	<u>Expenditure</u>			
19,969	Salaries	20,393		
18,898	PWLB Loan	18,898		
6,890	Administration	7,936		
3,322	News and Views	4,177		
5,565	Grants/S137	4,281		
1,064	Capital Expenditure	1,935		
10,584	Maintenance	7,201		
540	Website	540		
<u>66,834</u>		65,360		

£8,156.00 of the Halls Reserve is set aside for St Luke's Hall to match fund £ for £ during 2009/10.

The balance of reserves will be used to implement Overton Parish Council's Strategy.

The parish council continues to repay the loan used for works to St Mary's Hall.

For problems or comments about Parish Council matters, please contact the parish councillors:

Maggie Atkins (770369), Mark Attwell (770472), Peter Baker (770007), Paula Baker (771219 - also borough councillor), Brian Langer (770848 - Transport Representative), Tony Leach (770966), Jacky Lessware (773043), David Llewellyn (Chairman of the Planning Committee) (773004), Tom Ridler (773108 - Highways Representative), Lucy Sloane Williams (770607), Ian Tilbury (771429 - also Borough Councillor), Alan Whitney (770174).

Clerk to the Council is Laura Harley, Oak Tree Lodge, Roundwood, Micheldever, Winchester, Hants. SO21 3BA, 01256 771919, email opc@overtonvillage.com

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