

REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
16 JANUARY 2007

Chairman Michael Warne presided at the meeting that would be his last before retiring as Chairman and Councillor.

PC Mark Smith attended and detailed 12 offences reported from 21 November to-date: 3 minor thefts; 2 common assaults; 1 breach of peace; 3 non-domestic burglaries of minor worth; 2 criminal damages; 1 theft of handbag from a motor vehicle. Crime rate was still low. Parishioners were requested to report all crime incidents to the Police in order to ensure future coverage of the area. It was advised that Otterbourne, Compton & Shawford, Twyford, Colden Common, Hursley, Badger Farm Oliver's Battery and Stanmore might merge for future policing with 4 officers covering the entire area for non-urgent calls. Cllr Warne noted that the Police presence in the village had already declined and this would be raised at the next Police Partnership Parish Council Forum with a request for additional policing of Otterbourne in consideration of Elderfield.

County Cllr Charlotte Bailey thanked the Chairman for his excellent work for the Parish. There would be a meeting of Hampshire Action Teams, Parish and District Councils in February where items of importance and in need of improvement could be raised. Concerns in the past had included drainage, overgrowing trees, grass and general maintenance. All Councils had been asked by the Government to reappraise speed limits on A and B roads by 2011. County and District Councillors will be assessing villages, including the possibility of introducing 20mph speed limits near to schools and examining public attitudes towards enforcement. HCC has published its projection for school places required for the next 20 years. Winchester Downlands has less than 10% spare capacity and Otterbourne Primary School remains at full occupancy and a popular choice. No change to the local level of pupil numbers was predicted.

HCC are examining the criteria for subsidising buses. Any journey subsidised by more than £2.50 will be cut, although social need would be taken into account to avoid severe impact on services for rural areas. Councillors pointed out that if WCC intends to cut city car parking, bus access should have greater importance. Also that good bus pass provision for the over 60's reduced reliance on cars. An integrated policy and transport system was needed. District Cllr Murray Macmillan advised that WCC had a statutory obligation to discuss programmes, timetables and routes. More negotiation was taking place with regard flexibility being given to bus routes and the introduction of independent charitable services.

Regarding Highways, the gullies on Poles Lane would be cleared in the next few weeks and reported maintenance problems still requiring attention would be followed-up. The use of Main Road as the primary diversionary route when the M3 is closed had been examined. No alternative route had been put forward and the strategic importance of the road was not being recognised by HCC for resurfacing requirements, only if more signage was required. The large information signs on the M3 and link roads were criticised for unhelpful information. It was advised that the Highways Agency had taken over responsibility for these to increase responsiveness to events in the future. All signs for Restricted Byways would be replaced with wooden finger posts and plaques pictorially representing the users allowed for them. There are no Restricted Byways within the Parish but any damaged finger posts on local footpaths may also be requested for replacement.

A meeting on Southampton Airport had taken place that had been positive in achieving recognition for Winchester district and the need for alternative routings, in particular in trying to keep flights east of the city.

Further progress had been made on the proposed Otterbourne School Travel Plan. Two more drop-off points at The Old Forge and the Otter PH had been agreed in addition to the Recreation Ground. It was hoped the draft proposals would eventually be approved by HCC to give eligibility for grants, funding such items as covered areas for parents and children to wait. At present the criteria for approval was not being met due to the lack of a crossing point near to Williams Garage. This was causing a problem because of distraction to car drivers in such a busy area and its situation between two roundabouts. It was noted that a crossing point would also benefit elderly residents. Recommendations for restriction of parking in Cranbourne Drive had been suggested; also a voluntary one-way system of driving in via Cranbourne Drive and out via Coles Mede for parents still collecting and dropping-off.

The Otterbourne Conservation Group had put forward a request for repainting the sign at the Old Church Yard in Kiln Lane and an estimate of £100 was agreed. Cllr Warne will continue his work as Chairman of the Conservation Group and also as the Parish Representative to the Otterbourne Village Hall Committee.

There were no new risk assessment items. The Sports Club was addressing screening of the dumper truck at the Recreation Ground. The Woodland Trust had felled trees causing concern and cleared streetlights on Otterbourne Hill of overhanging branches.

The bid for the Lottery Grant for the Village Design Statement had been successful for the sum of £6,650. Collaborative work was progressing in small groups. A new definitive map had been received and the new definitive statement was awaited. Otterbourne Primary School would be approached for input from the children and also input from a cross-section of local residents would be used.

Regarding Sports and Recreation, the report from the Hampshire Playing Fields Association providing an independent assessment of the Sports Club licence renewal had been received. Some clarification was needed but it was agreed that the proposal as put forward by the Parish Council to the Sports Club was in line with the charges as proposed by the HPFA report. A response is now awaited from the Sports Club. A response is also awaited on whether the Sports Club intends to put forward detailed proposals for consideration with regards pitch changes, barrier, covered area and hard-standing based on the limits of reasonable development as set out by the Parish Council. A request for the Clubs sponsor, Hendy Lennox, to play a one-off family game at Oakwood Park on Sunday 28 January was agreed by Council. The Open Space Sport and Recreation Study had been completed and returned to WCC.

Councillors had met with Southern Water to discuss their intention to plant Hazel in Oakwood Copse and fencing that might be required if damage is caused by deer. If fencing was required the main path would be excluded and self-closing gates would ensure access to the closed area. The new Southern Water boundary security fencing was under construction. Southern water advised of a change of occupancy of Southern House from two to four business users. This was due to the reduction of use by the present occupiers and would not increase or affect the B1 office use permitted. Cllr Warne had been advised by Peter and Ted Whieldon of new plans for the extension of Williams garage to include the workshop, parking area, shop and Post Office. Land had been bought to the rear of the site for the extension. Councillors welcomed the provision of increased shop facilities for the village and viewing the plans at application stage.

The last item on the Agenda was the Election of a new Chairman for the Parish Council. Chairman Michael Warne gave a brief summation of past years and thanked Councillors and the Clerk for their support. Nominations for a new Chairman were requested and Councillor Richard (Dick) Oldham was unanimously elected by Council. Cllr Phillips extended thanks to Michael Warne on behalf of Councillors and the Parish for his excellent service to Otterbourne as Councillor since 1994, Vice-Chairman from 1999 and Chairman from 2003.

Mrs J Ayre, Clerk
16 January 2007

REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 20 FEBRUARY 2007

The new Chairman Cllr Dick Oldham presided at the meeting. Cllr Oldham thanked Michael Warne for his valued service to the Parish Council over the past 14 years and the Clerk and helpers for arranging the well-attended evening at the Village Hall marking his retirement.

Chris Williams had been approached to remove the conifer tree that unbalanced the site at the War Memorial. The remaining trees would be trimmed and shaped and, pending quotation, a low box hedge planted either side of the Memorial steps. The Village Hall Committee had agreed a position for replanting of the tree on the bank opposite the Village Hall.

Cllr Oldham had attended a meeting for the proposed South Winchester Park and Ride. The planning application for this is due to be submitted end of March/early April. Archaeological surveys are being carried out at present. The Otterbourne Road would require temporary traffic lights for about a month to enable a site access to be formed through the farm gate. It was pointed out that if the Otterbourne Road was required as a diversion route during any closure of the M3 during this time there could be considerable problems. Two proposed bus routes from the Park and Ride had been put forward: one outward along St Cross Rd and Southgate St, returning Upper High Street, Romsey Rd and Badger Farm Rd; the second outward along Badger Farm Rd and Romsey Rd to the Railway Station returning by the same route. Councillors were asked to register preference for route and bus times at the Park and Ride website.

Cllrs Oldham and Zebedee had attended the second Hampshire Action Team meeting. These have been set up to be more locally responsive. Community representatives and groups were invited to discuss priorities for improvements to HCC services. The meeting had dealt with concerns on highways, transport and road maintenance; also flooding and the provision of facilities for young people. A full feedback report is awaited.

A police report had not been submitted for this month. Cllr Hudson reported on the Partnership Parish Council Forum attended in January. From April six new police areas would be created in Hampshire. Otterbourne would be in Area 3 called Winchester Southgate. It would be centred on a Parish Hub in Twyford at which the new officer in charge would be Sgt Alistair Hibberd. There would be two (later three) Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) assigned to the Area. These would not replace Police Officers but work with them providing greater interaction with villagers and improving the quality of life by minimising anti-social behaviour. Cllr Hudson raised the recent Anthony Rice case and requested that Otterbourne should have the highest policing priority in recognition of concerns arising from this. As this decision was dealt with at strategic level it was requested that concerns were conveyed to the highest level within the Force dealing with this. Overall, it had been an important meeting for Otterbourne to attend. There had been considerable representation from significant Police and other officials and Otterbourne had been recognised as an active and interested Parish.

County Cllr Charlotte Bailey submitted a report on Hampshire County Council matters. The County Council is proposing nearly £12 million cuts to services for 2007/08 in order to keep its budget to a 4.9% increase. The cuts primarily affect Adult Social Care, but also Children's Services, subsidised bus services, Librarians and Countryside Services. Regarding highways matters, cut back to the hedge at Brooklyn and repairs to the pavement near the garage had been requested. Cllr Smith noted that no mention had been made of repair works to the highway edges of Kiln Lane. This would be followed-up together with report of some street lighting not working on Otterbourne Hill.

Following the advertisement of a 'Vacancy for a Councillor', arising from the retirement of ex-Chairman Michael Warne, Council members voted and co-opted Mr Christopher Barton-Briddon onto the Parish Council.

A report had been received from Michael Warne as Parish Representative to Otterbourne Village Hall. The pantomime and concerts by Otterbourne Brass had been a great success and virtually sold out. It was decided that 'Carols around the Tree' needed more publicity next year. The Committee agreed to consider a new venture in the summer – an afternoon tea event with entertainment from a string quartet.

Cllr Smith reported as Representative for air traffic concerns. Following on from initiatives started by District Cllr Murray Macmillan, two recent meetings had been attended with the Director of Airside Operations and the Head of Air Traffic Controllers. Work was being advanced on a proposal to be put at the next Technical Working Group in March. Overall concerns relating to the Winchester area and its Parishes were now being recognised and co-operation in addressing these was being achieved. Cllr Hudson reported that at a recent presentation of the Masterplan of the expansion of Southampton Airport, aircraft stacking would not arise in the foreseeable future.

Cllr Zebedee reported as Representative for bus transport. Some changes to the Solent Blue Line had been made. These included minor changes to morning peak hour journeys on the Bluestar 1 route and re-routing via Stanmore Lane on the Service 49. Effectively it was hoped that these changes would have minimal effect on users from Otterbourne.

Cllr Hudson, as Team Leader for the Village Design Statement, gave an update on the last meeting which had included a brainstorming session on what should be encouraged or discouraged for new building, extensions, drives, parking, signage and amenities. Draft text had been submitted and some preliminary work on sketches by a retired architect agreed. Two Exhibitions of the VDS work have been scheduled in the Bianchi Room of the Village Hall on Saturday 12 May 9.30 am – 12.30 pm and Monday 11 June 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm. Both Exhibitions will display the same material and it is hoped that residents will be able to attend one or the other. A presentation by WCC on 'Live for the Future' was also being held at Otterbourne Village Hall on Tuesday 6 March at 7.30 pm.

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REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING continued

Otterbourne Sports Club had responded, in part, to letters from the Parish Council concerning changes to the Recreation Ground and the new Licence Agreement. Although only at proposal stage, the Club is considering joining a new league, the Hampshire Premier League, from next season. This will remain at Step 7 of the FA requirement which could require less stringent ground requirements, but would still be a feeder to The Wessex League. It is hoped that a more definite decision from them will be forthcoming by next meeting.

A letter from the Winchester Hash House Harriers had been received requesting use of the Sports Pavilion and area of the Recreation Ground for a summer BBQ. In principle Council members were in favour of other Sports Groups using the Recreation Ground services. Further enquiries would be made before the next Council meeting.

The Children's Play Area at the Recreation Ground was opened for discussion. Four proposals from Playground Suppliers had been received for initial consideration. These would be presented to Councillors at the next meeting for general feedback. Following this, consultation with local groups and parishioners would be made in order to gain representative views on age range, type and style of equipment and ground base. A pathway to the playground was also proposed.

Regarding planning, an application for revised proposals to Yeoman's Drove caused concern. It was noted that the roof pitch and direction had altered; Council would advise WCC that it was important for the roofline of any development to be in keeping with that of the surrounding properties. An outline drawing of a proposed new dwelling on the site of the Old Café on Boyatt Lane had been received. Initial response was favourable, but concerns over access and building line would be monitored. Several complaints from residents regarding inconsiderate and sometimes illegal parking had been reported by builders on construction works at both Elderfield and Yeoman's Drove. Letters would be written to both properties requesting parking in the Public Car Park and the local police advised of the situation.

The proposed new bus shelter at Oakwood Avenue was discussed. A site meeting had been attended by Councillors to examine the area. It was agreed to replace the existing shelter with a three bay Queensbury wooden shelter and to remove the bench which had been vandalised. Lighting the shelter by either solar power or adapting the street light was also being considered. Councillors agreed that the whole area surrounding the shelter needed addressing. A further site meeting is to be arranged to examine the matter.

Mrs J Ayre, Clerk
20 February 2007

REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 20 MARCH 2007

Chairman Cllr Oldham presided at the meeting and welcomed Cllr Barton-Bridson to the Council. A police report had been submitted detailing 21 crimes reported from 23 January to 18 March: 7 offences of theft from commercial premises; 5 of theft from motor vehicles; 2 of criminal damage; 5 of deception at Williams garage and internet fraud; 2 minor assault cases. A potential distraction burglary to an elderly resident was also being investigated. Crime figures were still comparatively low.

District Cllr George Beckett reported that the City Council budget had been set at a 2.9% increase for 2007/08. A request was made to notify the Clerk with any concerns about alternate refuse bin collections. Additional bins were only provided for households with greater than six members but extra garden bags could be purchased. Representations have been made regarding the speed of SERCO vehicles and continuing problems should be reported.

County Cllr Charlotte Bailey reported on the Four Dell Farm application below and also on highway matters. The road around Coles Mede would be widened where vehicles had damaged the edge of the green. A report was awaited on the condition of Kiln Lane. The quality of highway repairs would be raised at the next meeting of the Hampshire Action Teams.

A Parishioner's Open Forum followed. This was a new trial item introduced to the Agenda. Parishioners were asked to maintain a two-minute speaking time per person. The planning application at Four Dell Farm, Poles Lane was the only item. This application is for the development and operation of a facility for the production of recycled aggregates and other recycled materials. Ten Parishioners attended to voice concerns and request objection to the application from the Parish. The applicant also attended the meeting and responded. The proposal would replace Snowflake, one of the current tenants at Four Dell Farm. Operations would involve mechanical sorting and recycling of plastics, cardboard, metal and concrete rubble. Three persons would be employed initially. Site surveys for visual impact and screening requirements had been made and noise surveys conducted showing current background level already reached 53.5 decibels. Vehicular movements would be 36 per day (18 in and 18 out). These would be 32 ton, 4 axle, fixed wheel HGVs. The net gain after the Snowflake operation had left the site would be + 6-8 in/out movements per day. 70% of these movements would be exiting via Poles Lane roundabout with the majority continuing up Otterbourne Hill to the motorway. Mechanical crushing of the concrete rubble would occur four times per year at up to two-week sessions. A similar, but much larger facility is at Southampton docks. The applicant was thanked for attending to answer questions and County Cllr Charlotte Bailey was thanked for notifying residents along Poles Lane, Silkstead and Shepherds Lane and the Clerk. A site meeting between the applicant, Cllr Bailey and Parish Councillors was arranged for 22 March.

The Parish Council will oppose this application based on the impact on the environment, noise, traffic flow and safety of increased lorry movements through the traffic calming section on Otterbourne Hill. The Council believes that the village already accommodates a significant volume of heavy goods vehicles with the Veolia site and another increase in volume of movements should be directed towards an existing facility and not to introduce a further recycling operation. The village already suffers from increased noise pollution from the M3 motorway and planes using Southampton airport. Both sources of noise are due to increase over the coming years. While supporting the environmental argument for concrete recycling, the Parish Council rejects the proposal that this site should be used. The impact on the rural landscape should not be underestimated.

The Chairman urged Parishioners to write to Hampshire County Council quoting the site reference as detailed at end of report.

A report was submitted by the Otterbourne Conservation Group following the Committee Meeting on 28 February. 2007 was the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Group and the AGM in May would be a series of short presentations on the Group's activities since 1987, together with an exhibition of material from the archives. It had been agreed that the Group would rejoin the Friends of St Matthew's Church. Several trees needed clearing from Sponder's Mede following the recent storms. The Chairman had written to urge WCC to assume responsibility for the improvement of the area of Otterbourne Hill Common outside St Matthew's Church under the terms of the Scheme of Management for the Common. It was noted that the cattle on Southern Water's land off Oakwood Park had been removed and it would be restored to a conservation area.

A report from the Otterbourne Village Hall Committee advised that two extensions to the Village Hall were being considered: one to the west side for the Chiltern School and the other to the south side to create a props store adjoining the stage.

Transport Representatives for Air and Rail updated on matters. A meeting of the Airport's Technical Working Group had been arranged for 23 March. Following the change of rail network providers, the Shawford to Waterloo timetable had improved to an hourly service with two-hourly on Sundays.

The Village Design Statement had recently recorded its 33rd meeting after almost one year since initial meeting. Work was continuing well to produce a draft document and sketches of the village had been commissioned. Two exhibitions in the Village Hall have been arranged, both to present the same material. It is hoped that Parishioners will attend one of the exhibitions on either 12 May 9.30-12.30 pm or 11 June 7.00-9.00 pm to give their views.

The renewal of the Licence for Otterbourne Sports Club was discussed. Cllrs Oldham, Gray and Zebedee had attended a meeting on 19 March at the Pavilion with representatives of the Sports Club. The Club had rejected the new Licence proposal put forward by the Parish Council in January on grounds that they estimated costs would be twice the figure of other local Clubs in a similar position. Councillors pointed out that fees for other Clubs did not take into account almost exclusive use of facilities and training nights provided by Otterbourne. Also that costs incurred by the Club for services were very high and that concessions could be obtained to give 80% relief to cover Council Tax. Councillors would examine detailed costs incurred by Colden Common, Owslebury and Twyford as comparison and investigate alternatives for independent, definitive valuation.

The Sports Club had left the Wessex League and joined the Hampshire Premier League along with several other Clubs in the area. It was reported that ground requirements were less stringent within this League. The Club would put forward detailed plans with regard to hard standing on the south side for the pitch, permanent fence/barrier on south side and western side beyond hedge, removable dugout shelters and removable fencing on northern side. The additional canopy/standing area at the front of the pavilion would not be required at the present time. Storage of the temporary fencing was still to be resolved. Councillors agreed that none of these proposals for change would be implemented until resolution of the Licence.

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Report of Otterbourne Parish Council Meeting 20 March 2007 continued

A request from the Winchester Hash House Harriers for a hog roast at the Recreation Ground on 2 July had been positively received and it was hoped that this would be the first of several events broadening the use of the Recreation Ground and Pavilion.

A second removable post at the Recreation Ground was discussed as ambulance access had been a recent problem. Also, it was agreed that the horizontal boom of the height restriction barrier would be replaced as it was almost impossible to close.

Brochures and draft proposals were presented to Councillors on five suppliers for the refurbishment of the Children's Play Area at the Recreation Ground. The suppliers had been chosen for their natural wooden structures and because they had provided equipment for other local Parishes. Councillors examined the brochures following the meeting in order to choose three suppliers for tender at next meeting. Consultation with local toddler groups and school children would occur during coming months regarding type of equipment preferred. In the meantime suppliers would be examined further to compare warranties and maintenance and separate quotation for site clearance would be sought. The overall budget was estimated at £40,000. Funding approaches had been made to WCC Open Space Fund, Awards for All, WCC bid for Big Lottery Children's Play, the HPFA and Southern Water. £25,000 for the project already existed from reserves accumulated since 1986.

Further planning applications included proposals for a new four bedroom dwelling at the former Hilltop café on Boyatt Lane and a new two bedroom bungalow at Highways, Main Road. Councillors were concerned that the boundary of the Common was maintained regarding the former Hilltop café development and any damage reinstated after construction. With regards the Highways proposal, comment would be made regarding density of building on the plot. The area of Common on Otterbourne Hill near to Lilac Cottage had been examined and it was agreed that in the future the bollards should be replaced with horizontal poles to deter parking.

Following positive reports from Steep Parish Council and costs for batteries and maintenance, Councillors agreed a new wooden three-bay Queensbury bus shelter with solar panel to replace the one near to Oakwood Avenue. Queensbury would be invited to make a site visit and landscaping quotations for the surrounding area would be sought.

Councillors were notified of the forthcoming Parish Elections on 2 May and to request Nomination Packs from the Clerk if they intended to stand. Notices will be posted on the Parish boards and website inviting Parishioners to stand. The date of the next meeting is 17 April at 6.30 pm in the Main Hall followed at 7.30 pm by the Annual Assembly.

Mrs J Ayre, Clerk

20 March 2007

Four Dell Farm, Poles Lane, Otterbourne

Application for the development and operation of a facility for the production of recycled aggregates and other recycled materials

Comments by 16 April to: Neil Chester, Environment Dept, Planning and Development, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD. Reference 07/00638/HCS

Copy by 9 April to: Neil Mackintosh, Development Directorate, Winchester City Council, Avalon House, Chesil Street, Winchester SO23 0HU Case No 07/00638/HCS

REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 17 APRIL 2007

Chairman Dick Oldham presided at the meeting which was kept short due to the Annual Assembly immediately following.

Of nine Councillors serving on the Parish Council, six had decided to stand for the Parish Elections on 3 May. One further candidate, Mrs Hannah Williams, had decided to stand also. Following closure of the applications procedure, all seven candidates had been duly elected uncontested by WCC. Cllr Creagh and Cllr Gray had tendered their resignations and the Chairman recorded appreciation to both Councillors for their service to the Parish Council. It was hoped that Cllr Gray would continue to offer advice on finalising the Sports Club Licence Agreement. Cllr Jeffery advised that he would consider standing again for one of the two Parish Council Casual Vacancies which will be advertised to all Parishioners in May.

County Councillor Charlotte Bailey advised that more than 130 letters of objection and concern had been received regarding the Four Dells Farm application. Noise readings from the applicant and from the Silkstead and Compton Down group of objectors were being sent to WCC Environmental Officer for comment. It has also been requested that records of lorry movements, speeds, accidents and repairs to roads and bollards be taken into account in determining the application which will come before the HCC Regulatory Committee on 23 May. The site is also being examined regarding compliance with current planning regulations. District Cllr Murray Macmillan advised that WCC had expressed concern regarding the landscaping proposals. Representation to Highways regarding the proposed increase in vehicular movements for this application against HCC recommendations for constraints and limit of movements at the Veolia site had also been made.

The planning application for the Park and Ride will go in this week. Plans should be available at the Castle, WCC Planning Office and their website. HCC is examining speed limits in villages for 20mph and 30mph schemes. At present the County is only suggesting 20mph 'advisory' limits near schools. Stricter enforcement of the current 30mph zone can also be requested. Works on the new Library in Winchester have caused delay in opening which will now occur in November 2007. The temporary Library at Capitol House, Andover Road will continue until then.

There was one question arising from the Parishioners Open Forum relating to the next attendance at a Parish Council meeting of Mr Julian Perkins, Project Manager at Elderfield. Mr Perkins will be invited to the June meeting and the letter would request reply.

Council agreed unanimously that Michael Warne would be put forward as Parish Representative for 2007/08 at the Otterbourne Village Hall Committee AGM.

Cllr Zebedee had attended the Hampshire Rail Forum on 16 April which brought together the key players in the rail industry to update on developments of interest to rail users. SW Trains had won the new franchise and would be undertaking a programme of station improvements including lighting and access for the disabled in conjunction with Network Rail who are responsible for infrastructure.

The Technical Working Group meeting of Southampton Airport had taken place but the proposals from Winchester Air Group had not been sufficiently considered. The next meeting will be on 26 April and WAG will resubmit proposals.

The next meeting of the Village Design Statement is on 30 April at 7.30 pm in the Bianchi Room for continuation of works towards the Exhibition on 12 May and 11 June.

Regarding the Licence Fee for Otterbourne Sports Club, Councillors were examining further information relating to fees charged by neighbouring Parish Councils to their Clubs. The WCC Sports Development Officer had been approached and would be asked to attend a meeting. The District Valuer Service, the official body of arbitration as agreed in the expired Licence Agreement with the Sports Club, had been contacted. It was advised that an assessment with definitive fee could be achieved, however, this service would cost in the region of £1,500. It was agreed to write to the Sports Club stating that a new Licence must be agreed before the Parish Council would give permission for play next season. The Club could either accept the previous proposal put forward or agree to the independent arbitration by the District Valuer Service, but in such case as to be bound by the final outcome and to meet half the costs of the service.

A follow-up letter regarding the dumper truck in the corner of the Recreation Ground had not been acted upon by the Sports Club. A further letter would be written stating that the dumper truck must be screened or removed by 30 June, failing which the Parish Council would make arrangements and invoice the Club. A letter had been issued to the Sports Club requesting independent inspection of the stanchions and floodlights for structural and electrical safety. Reports of two loose stakes and a lamp post lying on the Common had been made. A letter would be sent to Southern Electric and the posts re-secured.

A quotation from Cranworth Builders was agreed for demolition of the Oakwood Avenue bus shelter and removal of the concrete bench seat arms. A site meeting had been arranged with Queensbury Shelters to assess the site. Landscaping would also be discussed.

The Finance Chairman approved the quarterly inspection of the Bank Statements for all Parish accounts. A VAT inspection by HM Revenue and Customs had taken place covering 2004/05/06 financial years and no findings or recommendations had been made.

Following a request from a resident for a copy of the Minutes from each Meeting public access to the minutes was discussed. Council agreed that in future a copy of the ratified Minutes would be put on the website. Parishioners would also be able to view a paper copy of the Minutes during any Parish Meeting upon prior request to the Clerk.

The next meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Mrs Julie Ayre, Clerk
17 April 2007

Present: Cllrs R Oldham (Chairman); Phillips (Vice-Chairman); Williams; Barton-Briddon; Smith; Zebedee; Hudson

In attendance: County Cllr C Bailey; District Cllr E Bell (late arrival); Mrs P Cole; Mr M Warne; 4 parishioners; Clerk

Election of Chairman: Cllr R Oldham was proposed by Cllr Phillips, seconded by Cllr Zebedee and unanimously agreed by Council.

1. **Correspondence:** Correspondence Folders 1 and 2 passed to members for circulation.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr G Beckett and Cllr E Bell (late arrival).
3. **Minutes of the Meeting:**
 - a) Parish Council 17 April 2007 previously circulated to Councillors. Proposed by Cllr Barton-Briddon, seconded Cllr Hudson, approved and signed.
 - b) Annual Assembly 17 April 2007 previously circulated to Councillors. Proposed by Cllr Phillips, seconded Cllr Hudson, approved for presenting to the Annual Assembly in 2008 for ratification.
4. **Matters arising on the Minutes and not discussed elsewhere**

Clerk requested clarification. Council agreed that both the Parish News and the Minutes (following ratification) should be published on the website.
5. **Police Report:** none received for this month.
6. **County Councillor's Report**

Four Dell Farm Application: Cllr Bailey will attend the Regulatory Committee on 23 May and make objection on various grounds.
Park and Ride: Final date for representations is 7 June.
Speed Signs and Limits: Speed signs are being set up in a number of villages for two week periods. The aim is to give the Police guidance as to the need for enforcement.
HAT will discuss bids from villages for speed reductions. Kiln Lane is being considered.
Safer Neighbourhood Panels: A partnership between villages, WCC, HCC and the Police is being set up to help identify problems and target actions to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. A meeting on 4 June at Colden Common will be advised.
Crime and Disorder Data Information Exchange (Caddie): A new website has been set up for residents to find out more information about their area www.hantsiowcaddie.gov.uk
7. **District Councillor's Report**

A Reports from Cllr Beckett had been submitted.
Elections 2007: There had not been any change of control within WCC, however a new representative for Southampton Airport was required.
Four Dell Farm: WCC had submitted objection to the application on the basis of countryside policies and visual amenity. The Parish Council was advised to focus on

total lorry movements and the numbers imposed on the Veolia site by HCC. WCC has written to the owners regarding several breaches of planning consent currently on site. A Report from Cllr Bell had been submitted. Cllr Bell had been nominated to serve on the Licensing and Resources Committee and also the SERCO Liaison Committee. Noted concerns from local villages which would be addressed included: traffic speeds and increased lorry movements, inappropriate infill and backfill development, motorway noise and aircraft over-flying and the Four Dell Farm application.

The Meeting was closed for the following item.

8. **Open Session for Parishioners**

Planning Application: Change of Use to Equestrian Usage for Highmoon Stables

Mr B Barker commented on the above application on behalf of local residents concerned that the site was becoming increasingly developed as a larger facility. Three main points were noted: that the stables should remain for private use only and not run as a business; there should be no livery or horse breeding; there should be no cars or horse boxes parked on the site. Cllr Smith established that there were currently 4 horses on the 11 acre site, although there had been 7 horses under previous ownership. There was concern regarding access to the site over a Right of Way and Public Footpath. Cllr Phillips had visited the site and would further investigate with WCC before comment. Mr Barker was thanked for attending.

Planning Application: Development of Facility for Recycled Aggregates Four Dell Farm

Mrs A Bailey commented on the above application. It was thought the Chiltern School had not made objection, but Otterbourne Primary School had. Mr M Warne asked whether a member of the Parish Council would be attending to represent the views of the village at the Regulatory Committee on 23 May. Cllr Phillips confirmed attendance. Meeting reopened.

9. **Vacancy for a Councillor**

There had been no applications for the two vacant positions. Clerk would re-advertise on notice boards, magazine and website.

10. **Election of Committees**

Planning and Highways: Cllr Phillips (C); Cllr Hudson; Cllr Barton-Briddon

Amenities and Recreation: Cllr Zebedee (C); Cllr Williams

Finance: Cllr Smith (acting C); Parish Clerk

11. **Appointment of Representatives to various bodies**

WDAPC:	Parish Clerk
Otterbourne Village Hall Committee:	Mr M H Warne
Otterbourne Conservation Group:	Mr M H Warne
Otterbourne Sports Club:	Cllr Zebedee
Otterbourne Allotments Association:	Cllr Barton-Briddon
Council for Protection of Rural England:	Otterbourne Conservation Group
Ampfield Countryside Heritage Trust:	Otterbourne Conservation Group

12. **Specific Responsibilities**

Planning and Highways Policy:	Cllr Phillips
Community Planning and VDS:	Cllr Hudson
Street Furniture and Highway Maintenance:	Cllr Barton-Briddon
Recreation Ground and Pavilion:	Cllr Zebedee
Children's Play Area and Youth Facilities:	Cllr Williams
Hampshire Waste Services Liaison Group:	Cllr Phillips; County Cllr Bailey; Mrs P Cole
Footpaths Representative:	Otterbourne Conservation Gp; Cllr Oldham
Public Transport Representative:	Cllr Zebedee (rail and buses); Cllr Smith (air)

Otterbourne Common Security and Co-ordinator remained Vacant. An approach would be made to a local resident. **Cllr Oldham**

13. **Report of Representative to Various Bodies**

Otterbourne Village Hall Committee: The AGM will be held in the Bianchi Room on 4 June.

Otterbourne Conservation Group: The AGM will be held in the Bianchi Room on 30 May.

A series of talks on the work of the Group would mark its 20th Anniversary.

Public Transport Representative (air): Cllr Smith advised that it was important for the Winchester Air Group to be formally recognised as the main representative body to Southampton Airport and to have sponsorship from someone in WCC. Cllr Smith enlisted Cllr Bell to forward this aim following-on from her predecessor M Macmillan.

14. **Risk Assessment**

The Sports Club had not responded to the letter 5 April advising inspection of the floodlights and stanchions at the Recreation Ground. A follow-up letter would be written. **Clerk**. Cllr Smith advised he was qualified to undertake an electrical inspection and offered his expertise without reward to the Parish Council. **Clerk to liaise with Cllr Smith/Sports Club.**

15. **Village Design Statement**

The Exhibition on 12 May had been very positive and some good comments and feedback had been received from about 40 parishioners. The Exhibition included work from the VDS team, many photographs of the village, a time-line and professional cartography work. A display of drawings and writing received from children at Otterbourne Primary School was also exhibited and work from the Conservation Group. The next Exhibition is on 11 June 7.30–9.30pm in the Bianchi Room and Councillors were encouraged to attend. Work continued with producing a draft and editing. Phil Turner was engaged in helping. Cllr Hudson presented a response to a Questionnaire from WCC on Community Planning Guidance. Council agreed submission to WCC and a copy of the paper would also be sent to Cllrs Bailey, Bell and Beckett. **Clerk.**

16. **Report of the Amenities and Recreation Committee**

a) Renewal of Licence Agreement for Otterbourne Sports Club - update

The meeting planned with Amanda Ford, the Sports Development Manager of WCC,

to discuss the Sports Club Licence Agreement, had to be cancelled due to an injury sustained by Ms Ford. The meeting would be rearranged at first opportunity in July. Cllr Oldham, Cllr Zebedee, Roger Gray and the Clerk had met to discuss the proposal put forward in January. Reappraisal of all the information received confirmed that the offer was fair. A letter would be sent to Amanda Ford setting out the Parish Council's position regarding this proposal. **Clerk.** Legal advice had been received advising that the expired Licence Agreement was in need of updating and that a new one should be drawn up. Oliver Sowton had been engaged to write with explanation of his concerns. A maximum of £300 for fees had been set and was ratified by Council. The letter would be presented to Council for information before proceeding further. Fees for drawing-up a new Agreement would be investigated. **Clerk.** A letter would also be written to the Sports Club requesting a meeting as a matter of urgency to forward the fee negotiations. **Cllr Zebedee.** It was agreed that if verbal agreement on fees could be reached, then the decision to suspend matches next season could be rescinded with approval of the Chairman and Chairman of Recreation Committee.

17. **Report of the Planning and Highways Committee**

a) Applications and Closing Dates for Comments

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Case No 06/0353/TPO
17 May | 39 Oakwood Avenue, Otterbourne
Fell 1 acacia; crown lift 3 sycamores to 7 m; remove left fork of 1 maple tree over house and fell 1 maple
Tree Warden reported. Cllr Phillips to examine. |
| Case No 07/00751/FUL
25 May | 2 Waterworks Road, Otterbourne
Two storey rear and single storey front extensions
Cllr Phillips to examine. |
| Case No 07/00904/FUL
14 June | Highmoon Stables, Grange Drive, Otterbourne
Change of use of land to equestrian usage
(may affect the setting of a public right of way)
Cllr Phillips to speak to WCC. Rights of Way investigating. Clerk to be advised. |
| Case No 07/00970/LIS
25 June | Langley House Trust
Blocking up redundant doorways; external lighting; stepped access and internal partition. No comment |
| Case No 07/01089/FUL
25 June | Cherry Abbott, Norlands Drive, Otterbourne
Detached garage/workshop (Resubmission)
Cllr Phillips examining new submission |
| Case No 07/01122/FUL
27 June | 45 Cranbourne Drive, Otterbourne
Front and rear single storey extensions
Awaiting plans |

b) Decisions

Case No W20538	Highways, Main Road, Otterbourne Detached two bedroom bungalow Application refused
Case No W03028/09LB	Langley House Trust Installation of nine CCTB cameras and extractor fan Retrospective Application permitted
Case No 07/00412/FUL Resubmission	Yeoman's Drove, Main Road, Otterbourne 1 no five-bedroom dwelling Application permitted
Case No 07/00696FUL Retrospective	Sandhill Farm, Poles Lane, Otterbourne Removal of condition No 3 of planning permission
Case No 07/00697/FUL Retrospective	Erection of detached double car port Applications permitted

c) New bus shelter at Oakwood Avenue – update and quotation

At a site meeting, HCC Highways had agreed to cut back the overhanging trees around the shelter and obstructing the sight line of approaching buses. A site meeting with Queensbury Shelters had confirmed that the existing concrete base could be used but a dig-in shelter would be required. Queensbury had quoted £500 plus VAT to demolish the existing shelter and seat ends plus create small concrete slope at entrance. Cranworth Builders had quoted £516 plus VAT for demolition only. Queensbury was agreed. There was discussion about the cost v benefit of the solar panels. Proposal by Cllr Phillips, seconded Cllr Hudson and agreed by Council to commit the full sum of £9189.00 less £350 being received from HCC Passenger Transport Group. Order to be progressed, but a further question about the solar receptor is being investigated before solar panels are confirmed. **Clerk.**

18. **Report of the Finance Committee**a) Parish Accounts stand as follows:

Lloyds TSB Treasurers a/c 1074401 to 30 April	4290.48	
Less outstanding cheques	<u>(181.56)</u>	4108.92
Bank of Ireland No 1 Open Spaces to 05 March	25202.17	
Less outstanding cheques	<u>(120.00)</u>	25082.17
Bank of Ireland No 2 Deposit to 05 March	32599.45	
Plus Receipt of Precept	<u>26002.00</u>	58601.45
Bank of Ireland No 3 Clerks Gratuity to 05 March		913.14
Bank of Ireland No 4 Sports Club to 05 March		1054.02
Bank of Ireland No 5 Reserve to 05 March		14999.91
Bank of Ireland No 6 Children's Play Area to 05 March		20013.01

b)	<u>Cheques for payment from Lloyds TSB a/c 1074401</u>	1641
	1903 HCC – County Supplies VDS Velcro	9.66
	1904 S Water – Standpipes at Oakwood Park	19.38
	1905 CPRE – Subscription	27.00
	1906 OVHC – PC meeting and VDS 12 May exhibition	40.00
	1907 Bryan Foot – various works as attached	395.50
	1908 Metroplan – VDS flip-chart	75.91
	1909 Teacherboards – VDS display board and lights	511.60
	1910 Mrs J Ayre – salary April	571.73
	1911 Mrs M Gaines – bus shelter cleaning April	103.86
	1912 Mrs J Ayre – office allowance £60; travel £31.31	91.32
	1913 Petty Cash	50.00
	1914 Mrs S Hudson – reimbursement of VDS exps	150.00
	1915 HAPTC – Cllr Training	20.00
	1916 Jim Kimber – recreation ground April	212.95
	1917 Celia Harris – VDS payment	150.00
	1918 Peter Jones – VDS payment	200.00
	1919 Taurus – Grass seed for youth facilities	100.00
	1920 Initial Electronic Systems Ltd - pavilion alarm	<u>139.39</u>
		2868.30

Cheques for payment from Bank of Ireland a/c No 1

0022	Taurus Garden Services – Cranbourne Drive March	80.00
0023	Taurus Garden Services – Cranbourne Drive April	120.00

Cheques for payment from Bank of Ireland a/c No 4

001	Otterbourne Sports Club – interest on deposit a/c	54.02
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c) Assets and Public Liability Insurance

HAPTC had advised that Norwich Union had entered the insurance market for Parish Councils. A competitive quotation had been received. The excess was greater at £250, but the Fidelity Guarantee at £250,000 and Public Liability at £10 M was far better. NU intended to present a 3-year quotation next year. NU quotation for £1415.89 Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Barton-Briddon. Agreed by Council. The Assets Register would be further examined. **Cllrs Smith, Oldham, Phillips, Clerk.**

d) Bank Mandates for Bank of Ireland

New signatories for the Bank of Ireland were required.

19. **Any other business**

The Civic Service All Saints Church, Compton 18 October 2007. C&S to host reception.

Works on the Common Permission had been given by the Parish Council and WCC informed of works at the Reservoir which would continue for up to 14 days.

Parking on Pavements Reported by several residents, particularly on Main Road at Otterbourne House and the entrance road to Cranbourne Drive. A note would be made in the Parish News. **Clerk**

Parish Plan Cllr Hudson advised that progress and recommendations should be regularly monitored.

20. **Date of next meeting:** 19 June 2007

REPORT OF THE OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 19 JUNE 2007

Cllr Dick Oldham presided at the meeting. An application for one of the vacancies on the Council had been received from Mrs Wendy Andrews who expressed an interest in joining the Finance Committee and Council approved co-option. A Police Report was presented by two Police Community Support Officers. There had been nine reported incidents since last meeting but overall crime was still low. The two PCSOs patrol the area on bicycles and are particularly concerned with anti-social behaviour.

Julian Perkins, Project Manager for Elderfield reported that £330,000 had been spent on the property upgrade for external and internal works. Some improvements in security had occurred but this was not in order to take more serious offenders. An invitation was issued to Councillors to visit and this will be arranged. A new Local Protocol with the Probation Services had been signed enabling clearer and easier lines of communication. Information sharing had increased and there was much more input from the Probation Service. Encouraging reports were received on several residents including the start of new careers. Help with works around the village was offered. Mr Perkins answered several questions arising and was thanked for his attendance.

County Cllr Charlotte Bailey advised that there would be a budget of £10,000 allocated to provide grants for initiatives that benefit local communities. Voluntary organisations and Community groups may apply for one-off items such as new equipment or to initiate a project. They will be available mid June and may be accessed on Website: www.hants.gov.uk/grants. Safer Neighbourhood Panels for each area will be set up consisting of the Community Sergeant, PCSOs, a representative from each Parish Council and some Neighbourhood Watch groups. They will meet every six weeks and aim to use local information to target particular problems including litter, graffiti and dog fouling.

District Cllrs Eleanor Bell and George Beckett reported. The Winchester Town Access Plan was examining issues and policies regarding parking, access, one way systems and pedestrian areas. Discussion papers will be produced and Parish Councils consulted. An Alternate Bin Collections Review had taken place including a public session. Analysis of the representations received will take place. The new WCC nominee to the Southampton Airport Consultative Committee is Cllr Frank Pearson, the portfolio holder for environmental issues. Southampton Airport is holding another Stakeholder Conference to which local Councillors and a Parish Council representative will attend. The Parish Council was encouraged to give as much input as possible to the WCC Local Development Framework being produced. This document will affect the next 10 years of planning in the villages and will become the policy on which decisions will be made.

An Open Session for Parishioners raised a matter in connection with the serious flooding of Main Road by Williams garage in 2003. New housing developments at Twyford Road potentially using the Chickenall Lane pumping station caused concern. This, together with consideration of the CCTV cameras to monitor the sewers, would be followed-up.

The AGM and 20th Anniversary of the Conservation Group was celebrated with talks, displays and a resumé of the work of the Group. The Chairman and all Committee members were

re-elected for a further year. At the AGM of the Village Hall Committee it was agreed to purchase a retractable projector screen for use by hirers. The annual audit had revealed a Net income increase of 4% on 2006, but had also recommended that charges should be increased in 2008. The quality of the book-keeping remained high and serving Members of the Committee were re-elected unopposed with one new Member co-opted.

Mrs Bennie who lives on Chapel Lane was thanked by Council for agreeing to report any matters arising in connection with the security of the Common. There were several risk assessment concerns arising this month including the fence for the Children's Play Area, the corner floodlight on the Recreation Ground, the front beds around the pavilion above the damp proof course and a report on the lean-to bus shelter on Main Road. Repairs and action was agreed. The second Exhibition of the Village Design Statement had been very successful. In all 100 visitors were recorded to both events. Work on the draft statement was continuing well.

Cllr Zebedee gave a resumé regarding renewal of the new Agreement for the Sports Club. The fee proposal put forward had been compared with fees charged to similar Clubs in the area and was considered fair if taken in addition with the other items of pitch marking, Council Tax and services covered by the Sports Club. A letter had been sent to Amanda Ford at WCC stating the Parish Council's position. A meeting had been arranged with Ms Ford and two representatives from each side. The possibility of negotiation as Landlords would include internal maintenance of fixtures and fittings which had not been undertaken over the years. Legal advice had been received stating that a new Agreement should be drafted and Councillors were considering the format of this. A letter had been sent to the Club advising that agreement must be reached before further play next season and the situation would be reassessed after the meeting.

Cllr Williams presented a report on the proposed new Children's Play Area and consultations to four main groups: children under 7, children over 7, parents and carers, local residents who overlook the site. In addition posters would be displayed at the Play Area and on the notice boards inviting comment and a website consultation would also occur. A Questionnaire had been produced for consideration by Councillors before printing. A presentation and display had already been made to Otterbourne Toddler Group and some worthwhile feedback received. The consultations would be ongoing over the summer, the results collated and a report produced before a bid to the Big Lottery for funds. The Children's Play Area account currently holds £25,000 of the estimated £40,000 required.

Several planning issues were discussed with regard new Applications and Enforcement Cases including The Barn on Poles Lane, Four Dell Farm, The Maltings and Highways on Main Road, Highmoon Stables and Highbridge Farm. The application at Four Dell Farm for the Concrete Recycling Plant had been withdrawn. Regarding the new bus shelter at Oakwood Avenue, a site visit and report by the Queensbury technician had not recommended solar panels as the trees to the south side were considered too dense, even if cut back. Electric lighting will be examined.

Council made several adoptions at the meeting: the Standards Board for England Revised Model Code of Conduct for Councillors; the NALC revised Model Form of Contract for Clerk and the WCC Review of Travel and Subsistence Allowances for Parish Councils. The internal audit for year ending 2007 had been carried out and approved without any recommendations.

Julie Ayre, Clerk, 19 June 2007

REPORT OF THE OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 17 JULY 2007

Vice-Chairman Cllr Ian Phillips Chaired the July meeting.

An attending Police Community Support Officer reported 7 incidents during the last month. 3 criminal damages: a telephone box at Coles Mede, a damaged fence to a property and a Southern Water vehicle. 3 thefts: two of work equipment and one from Williams Garage. 1 non-dwelling burglary: to a rear shed. Crime was considered very low. Reports of problems at the Recreation Ground on Friday and Saturday evenings had been received. Small fires had been lit in the vicinity of the youth facilities. The PCSOs would be making patrols of the area and Oakwood Copse.

County Cllr Charlotte Bailey advised that a new application from AJ Blake and R&W at Four Dell Farm had been received. HCC had confirmed that they would inform Otterbourne of the application. Plans were on the HCC website. HCC had also confirmed that all residents who had submitted comment on the first application would be informed.

District Cllr George Beckett reported on the new South Winchester Park and Ride. Following the consultation, the application for the Itchen Farm 'Tarmac' site was proceeding. Compton & Shawford, Hursley and Otterbourne Parish Councils had confirmed preference for this site. An independent report had been commissioned by WCC into the alternate bin collection scheme. It had concluded that there was no public health hazard and the collection routine was beneficial to recycling. The roll-out would continue across the District. Cllr Beckett was interested to receive any comments.

District Cllr Bell had submitted a report following-up on several local planning matters, the Park and Ride application and the Local Development Framework.

At the Open Session, Mrs Philippa Wrightson, Tree Warden for Otterbourne, asked that any matters relating to trees be reported to the Clerk.

A letter of application from Mr Kevin Stafford had been received. Councillors agreed co-option onto the Council which is now at full number with nine members again.

A report from the Parish Council's Representative to the Village Hall advised that The Chiltern Tutorial School had asked for an extension to the west side of the Village Hall to provide an extra classroom. A temporary building of timber construction 24' x 12' was proposed. The Village Hall Committee was examining the details and would make a formal approach to the Parish Council, as Custodian Trustees of the Hall, before any building work commenced.

Following approaches by the Parish Council, HCC had chosen Otterbourne as a trial village for improving signage. A sign audit of the village had been made by Councillors identifying good signs, damaged and obstructed ones, unnecessary signs and posts and areas of sign clutter. Councillors had met with HCC and consultants Mott Gifford to present their recommendations and a report is awaited.

Concern regarding possible flooding of Main Road had been followed up, however no mention of CCTV coverage had been found in the flooding and drainage file. The Bourne was being traced. It was thought that new houses at Twyford would not affect Otterbourne due to several miles of flood plain in between. Further work is being undertaken.

Consultation had been ongoing from May for the Village Design Statement including two Exhibitions. The second draft copy had now been completed. Several more drafts would be necessary before presenting the formal draft to WCC planners for their Statutory consultation. The project was well within budget of the £6,650 received from the Awards for All grant.

The Parish Plan produced in 2004 was reviewed. Progress had been made on several recommendations including construction of the Youth Shelter at Oakwood Park, production of the Welcome Pack for new residents and currently the refurbishment of the Children's Play Area. However, the highest priority – a road crossing point in the vicinity of Williams Garage – still needed implementing. This requirement had also been highlighted in the VDS and Otterbourne School's Travel Plan 2007.

A meeting had taken place on 2 July between the Sports Club and representatives of the Parish Council, Chaired by a member of WCC. A provisional settlement on fees had been reached which was approved at the Parish Council meeting. Regarding the match fees, £1300 per annum for 3 years until August 2010 was agreed with a further rent review every year thereafter increasing in line with the RPI. The Club would also pay the Business Rate (Council Tax), water and electricity charges and be responsible for the internal decoration and daily maintenance of the pavilion. The Parish Council would undertake the grounds maintenance and the Sports Club would undertake its own line marking as at present. Regarding the Agreement, the Parish Council had sought legal advice which had suggested a Lease as best representing requirements. This would be for a period of 10 years and contain conditions of use and occupation similar to that of the previous Licence Agreement. Council agreed a draft should be drawn up.

Regarding the Pavilion, there was agreement that a number of Health and Safety repairs were needed to the floor and internal fittings and that this was the responsibility of the Parish Council as Landlords. At the same time, proposals were being drawn up by the Club for changes to the internal layout of the pavilion in order to meet current-day standards, such as separate male/female areas and separate team areas. These plans would be presented to the Parish Council for approval and the Sports Club was investigating funding from the Football Foundation.

Regarding the Grounds, the Club would reduce to playing on one pitch only which it was hoped would both increase the available space for other users and reduce car parking problems. Proposals from the Club were put forward for a permanent barrier rail of wooden posts 2m apart with a metal horizontal bar between them along the southern and western edges of the match pitch. Gaps through for access to the Itchen Navigation would be maintained. A similar fence across the northern edge was proposed but of temporary nature, with the metal cross pieces removed between matches and the uprights of this section removed during the close season. The front patio of the pavilion was put forward for extension together with construction of a veranda covering it. A 1 metre wide path was also proposed along the southern fence joining the Itchen Navigation by the borehole. Sketches were presented. It was acknowledged that the proposals were considerably reduced on those

Report of the Otterbourne Parish Council Meeting 17 July 2007 Continued

previously presented and the Sports Club had taken into account the guidelines set down by the Parish Council of maximum development that it would consider permitting. A formal proposal and plans is still to be received.

It was agreed that as settlement of the fees had been reached, the Sports Club would continue play for the next season 2007/08 whilst the Agreement was being drawn up. The Parish Council thanked Amanda Ford from WCC and Roger Gray for their input.

The consultation on the new Children's Play Area had moved forward apace with presentation of the four proposals to the two village playgroups, the Brownies and Otterbourne School. Questionnaires had been prepared and completed at each event and 200 would be distributed to parents of Otterbourne School to complete in conjunction with their children. A website questionnaire is available for Parishioners to complete or paper copy from the Clerk. A Big Lottery application form had been completed in draft ready for submitting in the Autumn to help fund the project.

A provisional date had been set for installation of the new Oakwood Avenue bus shelter. As solar powered light had not been possible, Southern Electricity Contracting had been asked to assess the provision of an electric light within the shelter. This was estimated at £1000. Alternatively a 4m or 5m streetlight could be installed illuminating the area around the shelter at similar cost. Council agreed to reconsider the matter after installation of the new shelter, cutting back of the trees and tidying up of the area.

HCC had commenced a new Community Safety Initiative scheme to improve lighting and investigation would be made of possible areas in the village before final bids were submitted in December 2007. Parishioners should contact the Clerk with suggestions.

The 1/4ly analysis of accounts showed expenditure broadly in line with provision. Interest received for this first 1/4 was well above anticipated.

There will be no meeting of the Parish Council in August. The next meeting will be Tuesday 18 September 2007 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

18 July 2007

Mrs Julie Ayre, Clerk to the Parish Council
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REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18 SEPTEMBER 2007

Cllr Dick Oldham presided at the meeting and welcomed new Councillor, Kevin Stafford to the meeting. A police officer attended and gave a detailed crime report for both Otterbourne and Compton & Shawford totalling 18 offences. Within Otterbourne the following reports had been made: minor assault, two burglaries to St Matthew's Church and Otterbourne Golf Centre, road traffic accident on Kiln Lane, heavy vehicles using Kiln Lane, rowdy behaviour at Williams Garage, two reports of suspicious persons in Oakwood Avenue, theft from a parked car in Cranbourne Drive. Crime was considered low. The officer was advised of recent incidents involving smashed bottles at the Recreation Ground and asked to increase visits to the area particularly over the weekend evenings.

Regarding Four Dell Farm, County Cllr Charlotte Bailey reported that well organised and serious objections had been put forward at the HCC Regulatory Committee but that the application for the development of a facility for recycled aggregates had been approved. District Cllr George Beckett advised that a residents group from Compton & Shawford Parish was examining the possibility of a Judicial Review. Also, it had been ensured that the granting of this first application did not influence WCC in their decision for environmental concerns for further applications. The second application for the external storage and waste management which includes night working is to be heard by HCC Regulatory Committee on 17 October. The Parish Council has already lodged objection and it was hoped that a similar large number of Parishioners would attend the Committee meeting to show their concern. In addition, three further planning applications for Four Dell Farm had been received to which the Parish Council has objected. District Cllr Eleanor Bell reported on a new application for a HGV Operator's License at the site which will be investigated with view to lodging objection on grounds of increased traffic movements through the village.

With regards other highways matters, Cllr Bailey advised that Kiln Lane had been totally resurfaced. Plans were underway to widen the road around Coles Mede by 2 metres to enable better access for large vehicles. The Park and Ride application had been granted. Parish Councils would be involved in further consultations. The main construction work would take place in 2009 with a view to opening for use in 2010. Cllr Bell had attended a site visit to Hockley Viaduct and it was hoped that this would receive funding to improve pedestrian access and possibly link with the Park and Ride to provide a cycle route into Winchester.

Cllr Beckett had studied the draft of the Village Design Statement and congratulated the Team on the standard of their research and work. Regarding aircraft noise, progress had been slow over recent months. Ideas put forward from the Winchester Air Group had not been properly acknowledged and a further meeting of all parties was arranged on 24 September. Robin Tice was being consulted and would present further proposals from the Winchester Air Group regarding the approach from the north. Cllr Beckett also reported on alternate bin collections. Any problems encountered should be reported and WCC has agreed to review after one year. From 2009 the over 60s bus pass would be issued for national use and would be recognised by all bus companies.

Report of Otterbourne Parish Council meeting 18 September 2007 Continued

At the Open Session, Parishioners reported litter concerns and a follow-up would be made to check on the frequency of litter picks by WCC. It was felt that the condition of pavements had deteriorated and that encroaching ivy and overhanging vegetation needed cutting back. The gullies also needed clearing at Poles Lane roundabout and along Main Road. Follow-ups would be made with HCC and residents contacted.

The Civic Service would be hosted by Compton & Shawford Parish this year at All Saints Church in Compton on Sunday 28 October. Councillors had been invited to a Rededication Ceremony at Elderfield to mark the completion of the refurbishment project which would include a tour of the building.

Councillors had been copied on a letter of formal complaint from a Parishioner regarding the Parish Council. None of the complaints related to specific individuals. Ten items referred to complaints about the handling of the renewal of the new agreement with Otterbourne Sports Club. One item referred to mismanagement of the project to provide a youth shelter. One item referred to failure to object to a planning application in 2004 in relation to Four Dell Farm. The Clerk had made a report to the Chairman taken from Council records. The complaint and report had been forwarded to the Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils and the Chairman would respond to the Parishioner.

The Village Hall Committee had staged a Chamber Orchestra event which had proved very successful. Electrically operated screen projectors had been installed in the rooms for hire. A new cleaner had been engaged. A proposal had been received for an extension to the John and Betty Mobbs Suite to the western elevation. The Chiltern School was current resident and the extension was required to increase the school numbers. To finance the works, OVHC proposed to use some of their reserves, The Chiltern School proposed to provide a loan and the Parish Council had been asked to consider a loan from Parish reserves. Council agreed that the proposal merited consideration and would examine the planning application and finance further.

The Conservation Group reported that the working party at Sponders Mede in August had been very useful and a further one was scheduled for 30 September - all welcome. A new sign had been painted for the Old Church Yard and would be erected shortly. The Tree Warden had listed the ancient trees in the Parish and was working on the replacement of dead trees. The application for an HGV Licence for Four Dell Farm had been noted and reported to Councillors. The Autumn talk was being arranged in October.

The recent sign audit and de-clutter in the Village had progressed. Based on Councillors' recommendations, HCC and Mott Gifford consultants had returned with a programme for the removal of several cycle route and redundant signs, repositioning and combining signs on posts and improvement of the restriction signs for Kiln Lane. Otterbourne is one of only a few areas benefiting from the trial project. It is hoped works will be complete by December. Several items of highway maintenance including sweeping around island refuges will also be undertaken.

Report of Otterbourne Parish Council meeting 18 September 2007 Continued

A Councillor will attend The Winchester Passenger Transport Forum on 2 October. Items to be raised will include timetables, more provision of double-decker busses for students to school and more modern buses for use by mothers with pushchairs. Parishioners are requested to send comments to the Clerk for reporting.

Three items were reported under risk assessment in the Parish. The bark chippings around the climbing frame in the Children's Play area needed topping up. A dog notice was required on entry to the Recreation Ground from Oakwood Copse. Repairs to the corner floodlight stanchion were acceptable but would remain under appraisal and a follow up would be made regarding the electrical report.

The VDS Team had attended a recent meeting to receive comment from Winchester City Planners on the Consultation Draft. A small number of comments in writing had been received from Consultees in the village. The editorial team will meet to add amendments before sending the draft to the Planners at Winchester again.

The Parish Plan has been reviewed at a meeting with WCC and of the 39 action points 39% of goals had been or were in the process of being achieved. Priorities for outstanding points were discussed including a crossing point on Main Road near Williams Garage, a Doctor's consulting room in the village and the resurfacing of the M3 with quieter material. Councillors would follow-up with the crossing point in line with Otterbourne School Travel Plan and enquiries would be made about a suitable venue for a surgery consultation room. HCC Highways had advised that a quieter surface would only be considered when the motorway needed resurfacing.

The provision of Countryside Access Boards was proposed and discussed together with an application for funding from HCC. Councillors will consider the proposal and best position of the board(s) prior to application. The new Lease Agreement for Otterbourne Sports Club was being drawn up by Solicitors and is expected by next meeting. Several amendments and new terms have been included. Permission from Southern Water was still awaited.

The consultation for the Children's Play area had been completed with responses from Otterbourne School children and parents and various children's groups within the Parish. The use of the playground, the preferred equipment, seating area and design had been considered. A design presented by Lappset had been much preferred encompassing most items required except a den. The first part of the initial application to the Big Lottery had been accepted. Work will continue on progressing this and looking at the project details.

The new Oakwood Avenue bus shelter had been installed and the Handyman was complimented on his work for the fencing surrounding it. Planting would be arranged for either side. Lighting of the shelter was discussed and Councillors agreed to reassess the need in the future. Cutting back of the trees overhead and to the side had been requested. Considerations for expenditure for the next financial year were requested.

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REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 16 OCTOBER 2007

The Vice-chairman, Cllr Phillips, presided at the Meeting. Two new appointments were made to Committees: Cllr Stafford was appointed to the Amenities and Recreation Committee and Cllr Andrews had agreed to Chair the Finance Committee.

An attending Police Constable advised that it had been a quiet month. Offences included two thefts from motor vehicles; one criminal damage to a fence; one incident of rowdy behaviour by children. Regular patrols of the Recreation Ground had taken place by PCSOs. There was some concern regarding the forthcoming night of Halloween. Cllr Hudson had attended the Police Parish Partnership Forum at which a new initiative for Safer Neighbourhood Panels had been discussed.

A report from County Cllr Charlotte Bailey included details of the improved road widening at Coles Mede. Shawford Post Office was under threat of closure. The new library in Jewry Street is due to open on 27 November. District Cllr Eleanor Bell reported on the South Winchester Park and Ride and the restoration of the Hockley Viaduct providing linked pedestrian walkway/cycleway into Winchester. The Captain Barnard pub and restaurant had been closed down was being considered by developers. At the Open Session for Parishioners, concern regarding broken kerb stones was noted. The Clerk advised that litter-picking in the village by WCC occurred every eight weeks; next due on 28 October. Requests could be made if particular areas were in need also.

Deputy Managers, Naomi Caldwell and Sally Cooper attended to update on Elderfield. Councillors were thanked for attending the Re-dedication Day which had been very successful. The Elderfield Ashes cricket match had been won by the Elderfield team this year. A member of staff had received an award at the House of Lords for his work. Two residents had successfully moved out into the Community; one to start his own business. Occupancy had been low but full complement was expected by January. Involvement in the village currently includes: a venue for Top of the Hill Cricket Club, litter picking and tending the war memorial. Help was also offered with planting new trees on the green area at Coles Mede this autumn. Volunteers from the community were welcome at Elderfield following Risk Assessment procedure. Elderfield Management Team would always answer any concerns or questions from parishioners.

The quarterly analysis of the accounts and forecast of expenditure was examined. Forecast expenditure was slightly below provision for the year and income forecast was higher than expected. The Village Hall extension and a proposal to consider a Parish Council grant or loan of £7,000 was discussed. There was concern that if the Lottery Bid for the refurbishment of the Children's Play Area at the Recreation Ground failed then the entire cost of £40,000 might be required from Parish Reserves. Therefore, it was difficult to consider a grant at this stage, but a loan would be considered with possible conversion to a grant later. Michael Warne, Parish Representative to the Village Hall Committee advised that a grant and loan facility had been provided when the John & Betty Mobbs Room was built. The Planning Application had been submitted and approaches had been made by builders for the tender. The regular rental from the School was important for Village Hall finances. Also, with the extension facility, the Main Hall would be used less by the Chiltern

School and be more available for hire. It was established that the future of the School was not dependent upon the extension. The Finance Committee would examine the accounts from the School and consider the loan further at the Annual Finance Meeting to set the Precept on 12 November. Requests for consideration at the Finance Meeting for expenditure in 2008/09 included: i) a further £2,500 provision for the refurbishment of the Children's Play Area; ii) additional street lighting under the Community Safety Initiative Scheme; iii) two additional dog bins to serve the main Common and the Recreation Ground at Oakwood Copse footpath; iv) a donation to the Winchester Age Concern Luncheon Club; v) the Village Hall grant/loan of £7,000. Parishioners are welcome to contact the Clerk with further considerations by 5 November

The new draft Lease for Otterbourne Sports Club had been received from the Solicitors and was being checked by Cllrs Zebedee, Oldham, Stafford and the Clerk to ensure it met requirements. Cllr Williams had attended two useful courses to help with the Lottery Bid for the new Children's Play Area. The inclusion of a sensory garden as part of the project was being investigated. It was thought that the initial estimated cost of £40,000 might not be sufficient. A further meeting with the suppliers was taking place for more competitive quotations. Also, the type and cost of flooring was being examined as this consumed a large part of the funding. It was agreed that Cllr Williams could seek sponsorship from local businesses.

Regarding Planning, Cllr Hudson had agreed to speak at the HCC Committee Meeting on 17 October against the second application at Four Dell Farm ref: use of land for waste management. County Cllr Charlotte Bailey and District Cllr Eleanor Bell would also represent residents' views. A further application for Change of Use to B1 offices is due for Committee on 25 October. WCC would be asked to examine the name and signage for the site following the land owner's decision to name it an Industrial Park. An application for a Goods Vehicles Operator's Licence would be followed up with WCC. Further applications going to Committee on 25 October included Change of Use to Commercial Livery Stables on Silkstead Lane. Concern was noted at the size and number of vehicle spaces being included in the application for conversion of The Barn, Poles Copse, Poles Lane. Also that a dwelling St David's on Main Road was being proposed for offices. The Planning Committee agreed that the strategic planning of the area needed more consideration in that applications were being considered individually rather than as a whole on the village.

Councillors were asked to consider additional street lighting provision under the Community Safety Initiative which is part funded by HCC. Three areas were put forward; the 90° turn on the footpath from the public car park to Otterbourne School; the access road to the School and St Matthew's Community Room; the footpath between Meadowcroft Close and Main Road. It was also agreed to examine lighting at the new Oakwood Avenue bus shelter again following the pruning of the trees around the street light. Councillors had approved the funding application to HCC for two new Countryside Access Boards at the Recreation Ground and Village Hall; a response from HCC Small Grants Scheme panel was expected late October. Protection measures to the Common along Red Lane, off Boyatt Lane were considered following problems with illegal parking on the Common. WCC would be approached in the first instance to improve the ditch which had broken down.

REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 20 NOVEMBER 2007

Chairman, Cllr Dick Oldham presided at the Meeting. The Police Report detailed six incidents for the past month: damage to an outbuilding at Cranbury Park; attempted burglary at Coles Mede; theft at Williams Garage; criminal damage to the entrance door at Williams Garage; a break-in attempt at Otterbourne Golf Club; theft from a motor vehicle on Kiln Lane. Parishioners were advised to leave lights on when out in the evenings to deter burglaries and to lock away garden tools and secure outbuildings. At the Open Session a Parishioner presented two newspaper cuttings to the meeting on ex-offenders in the community. Concern was expressed regarding Elderfield and Councillors were requested to remain vigilant.

The Report of the Finance Committee made recommendation for the 2008/09 budget at £26,601. Parish expenditure on overheads was set at 6.6% below 2007/08 with overall expenditure set at a 2.3% increase on 2007/08. The additional expenditure within this figure included: a further £2,500 provision for replacement of the Children's Play Area; a donation to Age Concern Luncheon Club of £30; a further provision of £500 for the replacement of street lights; £100 for a dog bin relocation from the rear of The Old Forge (reported underused by the Dog Warden) to the exit of the woodland footpath from the Recreation Ground on Waterworks Road. It was also recommended to fund from Reserves £2,000 for the provision of two street lights under the HCC Community Safety Initiative Scheme and £7,000 for a loan to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee for the Village Hall extension. The budget was approved by Council and would be notified to WCC for the 2008/09 Precept.

The Finance Committee had assessed the Assets Register and Insurance and also the Financial Risk Assessment for the Parish and found both to be satisfactory. An offer had been received from Southern Water to purchase the freehold of Oakwood Park Recreation Ground and enquiries were being made as to the value of the land. A reply from solicitors had advised that monies held in the account set aside for the maintenance of Cranbourne Drive Open Spaces was not restricted to this use provided Council continued to maintain the Open Spaces from the Precept. The bid to the HCC Countryside Access Scheme had been successful and Councillors agreed funding up to £600 allocated in the 2007/08 Precept towards two Countryside Access Boards. The boards would be placed at the Recreation Ground and Village Hall and would show footpaths in the Parish annotated with information and pictures. A bid to purchase two street lights under the HCC Community Safety Initiative Scheme was approved for submission. The lights would be positioned on the Access Road to Otterbourne Primary School/St Matthew's Church Room. It was hoped that careful positioning would also illuminate the footpath to the Public Car Park.

The Report of the Amenities and Recreation Committee advised that the second draft of the Lease for Otterbourne Sports Club had been received from the Parish Council's Solicitors. The Lease had been checked by Councillors of the Committee, Cllr Oldham and Clerk to ensure it covered concerns and met requirements. A few further amendments would be advised to Solicitors. Councillors agreed to the recommendation by the Committee to instruct Solicitors to draw up the final copy for signature. Progress was being made on the replacement of the Children's Play Area at the Recreation Ground. The application to the Big Lottery fund was proceeding well and was on schedule for submission before Christmas. A meeting with the preferred

supplier, Lappset, had been held to determine the final look of the play area. Contact had been made with potential sponsors Veolia, BAA and Clancy Docwra. The horizontal boom of the height restriction barrier at the Recreation Ground was being repaired following accidental damage by a van driver. A quotation was being sought and a claim commenced on the vehicle owner's insurance.

The report of the Planning and Highways Committee discussed the application received from Four Dell Bungalow to remove agricultural restriction. Concern was raised at the application setting precedent and further advice would be considered before response. A member of the Parish Council had attended a meeting on Four Dell Farm involving HCC and WCC Officers, County, District and Parish Councillors and the Compton & Shawford Residents Association. One map of the site detailing planning consents was being developed and would be copied to Parish Clerks. A reply had been received from HCC regarding the traffic capacity of Main Road. A 12 hour traffic count in December 2006 detailed vehicular movements as 9,387 including 174 HGVs. It was considered that Main Road was operating at 50% of capacity. However, at the Four Dell Farm meeting, the Traffic Officer had accepted that there was a level of vehicle activity through the village which would have a detrimental effect on amenities.

The Winchester District would be retendering for bus services after March 2008. A review was currently taking place and large budget cuts were required. Buses serving Otterbourne were not part of this review and should not be affected. Extensive changes were also occurring to train services and major improvements for disabled access to Southampton Parkway were scheduled. The Winchester Travel Centre will close at the end of November. Regarding air transport, a proposal to extend air space over Romsey and the New Forest had been made. Several representations, including one from Otterbourne, had been put forward but had not been taken-up.

The Conservation Group reported a successful autumn talk by Graham Saffe updating on various topics. Kingfishers had been seen at the new pond east of the railway line. Barn owls had raised chicks in the owl box near the Old Church. Also it was noted that benefactors had donated two new benches in St Matthew's Churchyard.

An approach by WCC had been made to begin a performance review of Parish Plans. Otterbourne had been consulted and a Parish Plan Progress Report had been received. Councillors acknowledged WCC's initiative but agreed further work was required. A suggestion to form a sub-group, supported by the Parish Council, was agreed and an approach would be made to Parishioners to progress this. The latest draft of the Village Design Statement was currently with WCC awaiting approval for policy guidelines. It would then be sent to a member of the Cabinet prior to a final six week consultation period. Maps and photos were prepared and the Design Statement was well on schedule for completion.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 18 December at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

A copy of the Parish News may be viewed on: www.otterbourne.parish.hants.gov.uk
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OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting 20 November 2007
Report of the Planning and Highways Committee

Applications and Closing Dates for Comments

Case No 07/02579/FUL 29 November	Four Dell Bungalow, Poles Lane, Otterbourne Revocation of section 106 Agreement which restricts the occupancy of the dwelling house persons solely or mainly working, or last working in the locality in agriculture or forestry and required a contribution towards open space
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Decisions

Case No 07/00029/LIS	St Matthew's Church, Main Road, Otterbourne Internal and external alterations to provide external wheelchair ramp, repositioning of footpath and installation of disabled WC and ancillary works Application permitted
Case No 07/02390/FUL	Southern House, Sparrowgrove, Otterbourne Compound to house emergency generator and air conditioning plant Application permitted
Case No 07/02195	St David's, Main Road, Otterbourne Change of use from dwelling to office on ground floor with single storey front extension and two bedroom flat on first floor, additional parking at rear. Application permitted
Case No 07/02250/FUL	Otterbourne Village Hall, Cranbourne Drive, Single storey side extension Applicaiton permitted
Case No 07/02340/FUL	The Lodge House, Oakwood Close, Otterbourne Demolition of surrounding 1m high wall, replace with 2m wall Application refused: insufficient information that the roots to the TPO trees adjoining will be protected

REPORT OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18 DECEMBER 2007

Chairman, Cllr Dick Oldham presided at the Meeting and on behalf of the Parish Council wished all residents a very happy Christmas.

Sgt Hibberd reported that there had been very low crime levels in the village during the last month comprising: 1 domestic assault; 1 indecent assault of minor nature; 1 fraud offence; 3 thefts at Williams Garage. A suspicious vehicle had been reported around Cranbourne Drive. There had been a spate of bogus house callers in Colden Common Parish and residents were advised to act with caution for similar occurrences within Otterbourne. The introduction of Police Community Support Officers had been working well in the area and had given more police presence in the Community. The 101 number had not been taken on after the pilot study because of funding and it was recommended to use the 0845 0454 545 number to report non-emergency matters.

A follow-up letter to WCC had been sent regarding the reinstatement of the bund along Red Lane. The bid for the street light to illuminate the access road to Otterbourne School had been submitted to HCC. The Village Design Statement was still awaiting approval from WCC Planning Department before a six week public consultation but an extension for a further three months work had been granted by the Awards for All lottery scheme. The Parish Council thanked Mr Ian Stockdale for agreeing to review the Parish Plan in the Spring of 2008. Mr Stockdale had been a significant member of the team who had worked on producing the Plan. The information for work to commence on the two Countryside Access Boards had been received and annotations and pictures were being compiled. The planning application had been approved for the Village Hall extension but it was still undecided whether raft or pile foundations would be required. The Parish Council would send a representative to the Environment Scrutiny Panel in January to discuss Southampton Airport. The quotation for repair of the height restriction barrier at the Recreation Ground had been received and forwarded to the insurance company. A further quotation for making a bracket to prevent it being lifted out again had also been received.

District Cllr Bell reported that WCC had submitted a detailed response to the post office consultation and had asked if Shawford could have a mobile unit in conjunction with Compton Street. Councillors were recommended to attend the Local Development Framework workshop taking place at the new Discovery Centre in Winchester.

Mr Julian Perkins, Project Manager at Elderfield, advised that the accommodation was almost full but many residents would be returning home over the Christmas period. The planning application for reinstatement of security lighting as previously existed to the outside had been granted by WCC and works would commence soon. A litter pick through the village was scheduled and further initiatives were welcomed. The clearing of Sponder's Mede pond was put forward for consideration. Questions were taken from Councillors and Parishioners. Mr Perkins advised that since the Anthony Rice case the whole MAPPA process which had been set up to monitor ex-offenders in the community had been revised. The partnership with the Probation Services and Police had improved. Langley House Trust had much greater involvement in the consultation and selection process and more consideration was given to their views. Mr Perkins confirmed that the highest level of ex-offender, as defined by MAPPA 3, was still not accepted at Elderfield and that this would not change without prior notification to the Parish Council.

The Finance Committee considered several donations from its Free Resource 2007/08 budget and the following were agreed: to Elderfield for tending to planting and grass cutting around

the war memorial £170; to the Parochial Church Council for Parish magazine publishing costs £110; to the Conservation Group for a replacement painting of the Old Church Yard £115; to the Citizens Advice Bureau £65; to Winchester Young Carers £65. A request from the Conservation Group to fund a day's work on tree cutting at Sponder's Mede was also agreed.

The opportunity to purchase the freehold of the Recreation Ground was discussed. Cllr Oldham, whose residence backs onto the ground, Declared Interest in the matter. He handed the meeting over to the Vice-Chairman for the Item and withdrew from discussions. A preliminary meeting with Peter Hawkey from Southern Water had taken place. It was established that the offer had not been made as a result of Southern Water's recent change of ownership and much of the estate, including the woodland, was being reviewed. The freehold had not been offered to anyone else and SW was not in a hurry to do so, but would not rule it out for the future. The valuation of £150,000 for the 6 acre site had been made by their Land Agent. The Parish Council had sent a copy of the its current Lease with Southern Water to WCC and a response had been received. This noted security to the end of the Lease and the right to re-new for a further 21 years. The right of SW to terminate the Lease with two year's notice if it needs the land for operational purposes was also noted, together with the 'best endeavour' clause for Southern Water to find an alternative site in such instance. Further legal advice was suggested. Regarding the price, WCC had advised that as agricultural or community land the value would be around £3,500 per acre but as grazing land it could be £15,000-£25,000 per acre. After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council had considerable assets invested in the land such as the pavilion, youth facilities and proposed children's play area. Council agreed in principle that future ownership of the site should be explored and Southern Water notified of its interest to purchase. However, the value of the land required further investigation with a view to negotiation on price and Councillors would work on this.

Three planning applications were discussed this month. Mr John Collis from Veolia attended the Parish Council meeting to advise Councillors of the Veolia Planning Application. A building currently being used for activities would not last to the end of contract. Veolia proposed its demolition and replacement with a building brought from another site. The building would consist of canvas on a steel frame and not be a permanent structure. The activities on site and the vehicle movements would not change and the vehicle size would not increase above the present 44 tons. There would be no additional visual or auditory impact on the village. Concern was raised regarding intensification along Poles Lane and pressure on the Veolia site for greater use or acceptance of more toxic waste. Mr Collis advised that there were no current plans for this. Council agreed that no objection would be lodged for the application. An Appeal had been made by R W Plant against WCC's decision not to grant use of land for storage at Four Dell Farm. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the Inspector reinforcing its objection to the planning application. An application for an amendment to an approved new dwelling on the former Hilltop Cafe site on Red Lane had been received and Council agreed not to lodge objection.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 15 January at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. All Welcome.

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