



# Odiham Parish Council

Issue 15  
October 2014

Serving the People of  
Odiham & North Warnborough

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### Odiham Parish Council

The Bridewell  
The Bury  
Odiham  
RG29 1NB  
01256 702716 or [www.odiham.org.uk](http://www.odiham.org.uk)  
Email: [clerk@odiham.org.uk](mailto:clerk@odiham.org.uk)

### Basingstoke and North Hants NHS Foundation Trust

01256 473202

### Hart District Council

Harlington Way  
Fleet  
GU51 4AE  
01252 622122

### Hart Planning Department

01252 774419

### Hampshire County Council

The Castle, Winchester  
Hampshire, SO23 8UJ  
0845 603 5638

### Neighbourhood Watch

01256 701805

### Odiham Bridewell Library

0845 6035631

### Odiham Volunteers Care Group / Transport

Mon to Fri: 9am to 5pm  
07551 587862

### Odiham Health Centre

01256 702371

### Odiham Police Office

24 hr non-emergency Tel: 101  
(PC P Franks, PCSO E Wallace and  
SC Iain Tunstell )

## LAST CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY!

The deadline for residents to provide comment to **Hart's Local Plan Consultation**, that could see dramatic additional development in our area, is fast approaching! Odiham and North Warnborough residents need to input now to make their opinions count as the deadline for comment is just days away - **October 10th!**

Those residents who attended the consultation event held by Hart at the Cross Barn earlier in September will know that Hart is consulting on 5 possible approaches ('options') for distributing the increased housing growth across the District, ranging from the creation of a new settlement to spreading it around all the main towns and villages. **HOWEVER**, one of the five options (option 5), is designed to protect bird habits in the north and east of Hart and in doing so **plans to focus 1,500 houses around Odiham, North and South Warnborough, south west of Hook and Long Sutton.**

Once Hart makes its decision, new housing numbers will be allocated to parishes and towns in accordance with the selected option(s). Therefore, this CONSULTATION WILL TRANSLATE INTO WHERE HOUSES ARE BUILT in the Hart District and how many more houses will be built in Odiham and North Warnborough.

All the parishes within Hart will understandably have strong opinions on how these new houses are distributed. With this in mind, it is essential that the residents of our parish make their voice heard as part of this process.

**Make your comment BEFORE 10 OCTOBER**

by visiting [www.hart.gov.uk/local-plan-options-survey](http://www.hart.gov.uk/local-plan-options-survey)

## ODIHAM CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA 27 NOVEMBER 2014

Last year's event really was a spectacular success!

In Odiham are planning a bigger and better extravaganza for this year, so we encourage all our residents to **save this date** as a must attend village event.

It is still a traditional village event aimed at all ages and families. There will be more entertainers, more rides and more food stalls.

To allow room for extra stalls, the High Street will be closed from the chemist to the War Memorial.

For more details please visit [inodiam.co.uk](http://inodiam.co.uk).



## CHANGES WITHIN ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL

In May Odiham Parish Council undertook its annual restructure. Cllr Jonathan Hale has now taken the role of Chair of the council, with Cllr James Robinson-Giannasi remaining as Vice Chair. Cllr Rebecca Reid is now the Chair of the community committee, with Cllrs Helen Fleming and Richard Harris remaining as the respective Chairs of planning and traffic and transport.

Given the unprecedented level and size of new housing development applications we are facing, an initial change has been to increase the number of council meetings. Full council meetings will now take place monthly on the first Monday of the month, with a separate additional planning meeting taking place every 3 weeks, also on a Monday.

Odiham Parish Council welcomes public attendance and speakers at our meetings – details of which can be found on our website [www.odiham.org.uk](http://www.odiham.org.uk) and our noticeboards. Agendas are published on the Wednesday before each meeting. Please note that May 2015 will be an election year for the council.

## PARKING UPDATE

As residents will be aware, the revised parking restrictions on Odiham High Street have been in place for several months now. During this time, the new scheme has been closely observed, something that will continue during this trial period.

The monitoring undertaken includes surveying availability at the pay and display car parks, as well as the restricted and free parking zones at different times of the day, with a view to measuring the impact that the change has had.

We will publish this research on our website [www.odiham.org.uk](http://www.odiham.org.uk).



Additionally, adhoc opinions from residents and shoppers on the High Street as well as retailers are being canvassed to gauge the success of the new scheme. To date the feedback gained has been overwhelmingly positive.

We also welcome any direct feedback that you may have. Your input very much counts and it is as a result of initial feedback that the permit part of the plan was removed. We are currently receiving feedback from residents on London Road regarding the concerns that they have raised and will be considering this as part of the review process.

## PLANNING UPDATE

After a long battle by residents and the Parish Council alike to try to secure as many improvements as possible to the design and bulk of the housing at Hatchwood Farm, the application has now been granted. At the time of writing we are still awaiting details of the final designs approved.

The process has shown the importance of early and open consultation with the developers looking to build within our parish - as well as how essential comment and input from our residents is in influencing any level of enhancements as part of the planning approval process.

As you will have read on the front page of this newsletter, Odiham is under threat from the potential of considerable further development, depending on which option(s) Hart DC chooses for its Local Plan.

Residents will be aware from our survey at the end of 2012 that owners of land around the parish have put forward a number of sites for possible development. With Hart's Local Plan and the Odiham and North Warnborough Neighbourhood Plan (see more on the next page) under way, we are asking those landowners to respect the process whereby residents will be consulted on where development should best take place, and that it be done within a proper planning framework. Regrettably some landowners are still putting forward applications, it seems to try to jump the gun.

However, we must explain that any site which sits within the settlement boundary (drawn by the last Local Plan) carries a presumption that some form of development will be permitted on it, even if it is in a Conservation Area, but **only** if it can be shown to maintain or enhance the character of the relevant Conservation Area. This is quite a complex and technical planning assessment to which we do our best to contribute.

The Parish Council works hard to try to influence modifications to planning applications already submitted to try to achieve the best for the parish in terms of architecture, character, infrastructure, disruption and facilities. We welcome and appreciate residents' direct input to us at the public sessions of our council meetings. However, we would also strongly encourage residents to make their own comments direct to Hart DC via [www.hart.gov.uk](http://www.hart.gov.uk).

## SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE

Over the last year, Odiham Parish Council has been made aware of several concerns over speeding in the parish. As a result we are acquiring a Speed Indicator Device that will warn drivers when they are exceeding the speed limit, as well as provide us with data to prove the issue to support the need for more enforcement. This device can then be used as part of a speed watch scheme. The device is expected to be in operation shortly.



## THE SWAN PUBLIC HOUSE



For those wondering what the situation is with The Swan public house at North Warnborough, Odiham Parish Council has been informed that Hart District Council has made provision for it to be re-protected with the erection of scaffolding, a tin roof and shrouding. At the present time they are also considering the options for the long terms use of this building.

## AN UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan seems to me a real opportunity to do something really vital for Odiham and North Warnborough, which is why I volunteered. I have lived here 26 years, seen our children grow up, supported their clubs and activities and made an active contribution to the Vine Church but this is the first time I have ventured into community action. I have slightly more time to do that now I am a part time consultant and not a full time Director!

The Neighbourhood Plan has statutory force and potentially allows us all to have control over three things: where new houses get built, access for local people to housing they can afford and new community facilities. It is also an opportunity for us to create a shared vision for what we want our community to be like in the future. The future means change - over the next ten years we are likely to be required to allow many more houses to be built - but together we can shape a future of which we can be proud.

The plan should take 18 months to be put in place and you can follow our progress through this magazine or email us at [in@onwardplan.com](mailto:in@onwardplan.com) and we'll update you that way.

*Philip James - Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group.*

## LIFE SAVING DEFIBRILLATOR IS COMING TO ODIHAM

Hook & Odiham Lions are kindly purchasing a defibrillator machine, which will be installed in Odiham High Street soon. They installed one in Hook earlier this year and wanted to provide the same life saving equipment in Odiham as well.

Once installed, the equipment can be used by anyone to help save the life of someone suffering from a heart attack. The device contains a recording of instructions making it easy to operate. It works when a member of the public calls 999, and, if appropriate, the call-handler will advise where the equipment is and give a code to use it. After it is used, it will be checked by South Central Ambulance Service employees to make sure it is still working.



## REPORTING OF FLOODING AND DRAINAGE ISSUES

Often as part of planning applications, the issue of drainage comes up, with subsequent flooding suggested as a reason that developers should reconsider their plans. However, we constantly hear from the developers and Thames Water that only a minimal number of incidents have been reported by residents. We understand that Thames Water categorise the problems with their drains by the volume of complaints, as such we would strongly encourage all residents to report any issues observed during this winter by contacting Thames Water on **0800 3169 800** or at [www.thameswater.co.uk](http://www.thameswater.co.uk). Links are also available from [www.odiham.org.uk](http://www.odiham.org.uk).

## PLAYPARK VANDALS

We all know what a lovely place Odiham and North Warnborough is to live and thankfully antisocial behaviour in our parish is an extremely rare occurrence. That said, we regularly have to remove litter and sometime even broken glass from the play areas set aside for our children. However, it seems a particular shame to have recently had to replace the seats of the swings at the park by Recreation Road that were vandalised. Other than the cost, the reprobates responsible are also depriving the children in the interim period in which the seats are replaced. We would ask our residents to please report any antisocial behaviour that they observe in these areas to the police. Additionally we would remind residents that dogs are not permitted in the play areas.

## MAGNA CARTA CELEBRATIONS ODIHAM 2015

### **SAVE THE DATE: Magna Carta Festival (22-25 May 2015)**

The Odiham Magna Carta Festival Weekend is a community project led by the Odiham Society with which we intend to mark this seminal moment in our villages' history.

2015 is the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta. Odiham was a stepping stone in the story that laid the foundation for Parliamentary democracy of today; and the parish is a focus for commemorative events in Hampshire that will take place in 2015.

The celebrations are planned for 22nd - 25th May 2015 and will involve the entire community, local organisations and schools, and of course visitors will be most welcome to join in, learn and enjoy. Planned activities include:

**A Hog Roast at King Johns castle - Archery contest in the chalk pit - Choral concert in All Saints' Church featuring the first public performance of a specially commissioned Magna Carta Anthem - Flower festival - Art festival - Medieval market - Boat rally and canal trips on the Basingstoke Canal - Guided walks around King John's Castle - Archaeological dig - Clog and morris dancing - Medieval ale festival.**

For more comprehensive information about the Magna Carta celebrations and associated events, please visit:

<http://magnacarta800th.com/events/odiham/>



## PARISH OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

The office is normally open to the public between 10am and 2.00pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday but we would recommend phoning in advance to ensure the office is attended.

For a list of all Cllrs please see the website.

Keep up to date with parish council matters on the website at [www.odiham.org.uk](http://www.odiham.org.uk)