



Issue 10  
April 2012

# Odiham Parish Council

Serving the People of  
Odiham & North Warnborough

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### Odiham Parish Council

The Bridewell  
The Bury  
Odiham  
RG29 1NB  
01256 702716  
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 Care Group

Mon to Fri: 9am to 5pm  
01256 765265

### Odiham Health Centre

01256 702371

### Odiham Police Office

24 hr non-emergency  
(PC V Bolan & PCSO E Wallace)  
0845 045 45 45



## 117th Annual Parish Assembly



**Wednesday 25 April 2012**

**7.30pm – 9.00pm**

**Mayhill Junior School**

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 25 April from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at Mayhill Junior School.

The agenda will include:

**A talk by Group Captain Dominic Toriati of RAF Odiham**

And

**Question time**

The following Councillors are attending to answer questions raised:

District Cllr Ken Crookes

Parish Cllr Mark Faulkner: Chairman

Parish Cllr Helen Fleming: Chairman of Planning and Development

County and District Cllr Jonathan Glen

District Cllr Stephen Gorys

Parish Cllr Richard Harris: Chairman of Traffic and Transport

Parish Cllr Duncan Janaway: Chairman of Events and Community

Parish Cllr James Robinson-Giannasi: Chairman of Amenity Areas

Priority will be given to residents who have given advance notice that they wish to speak and this also allows the Councillors an opportunity to give more detailed feedback on the day.

You are therefore invited to email your contact details and questions to the Deputy Clerk ([deputy.clerk@odiham.org.uk](mailto:deputy.clerk@odiham.org.uk)) or by post or telephone to the Parish Office (contact details in left hand panel).

## PARISH OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

The office is open to the public between 9.30am and 2.00pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday but we would recommend phoning in advance to ensure the office is attended.

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

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW COUNCILLORS



### Cllr Jeremy Fellows

Jeremy moved into the area in August 2010. For many years he was active at the local and regional level of the National Trust and in recent years has been a school governor at Bramley Primary School near Basingstoke and Vice-Chair of the Bramley Parish Plan steering committee. After spending his first year in Odiham helping to get the family settled and overseeing extensive work on his house he is now resuming his community involvement. He is looking forward to using his experience of conservation, of being the Financial Controller of a local business and of being the father of two young children to help the Parish Council meet the twin challenges of the Government's localism agenda and preserving what is best about the parish whilst addressing its current and future needs

### Cllr Mike O'Neill

Mike has lived and worked in the Odiham area since 1968. He is a keen walker and is enjoying making a positive contribution to the Parish Council. His reason for becoming a Parish Councillor is to see a stronger representation on the Parish Council from North Warnborough. He takes a great interest in local matters. He and his family all believe North Warnborough is a great place to live and he wants to maintain Odiham and North Warnborough as a very special much loved area for all residents to enjoy



### Cllr Katie Sheppeck

Katie has lived in Odiham for 12 years and works at RAF Odiham working with the public to alleviate their concerns about Chinook Military flying. She has been a member of the Parish Council before and finds the role extremely interesting and rewarding. She is keen to engage with the local community as much as possible and believes her role as Engagements Officer on the camp sites very well with the opportunity to help out at all levels in the local area.

### Cllr Duncan Janaway

Duncan returned to the family farming business at Lodge farm in 2002 and decided to become a Councillor to help Odiham and North Warnborough adapt to the high level of change. He was brought up in this area and its facilities and people made it a very enjoyable experience which he wants to maintain for future generations. He is not averse to change as long as it is for the greater good and believes his experience of living and working in the area can help offer a balanced opinion.



## THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE



The first weekend of June sees the commencement of celebrations to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Parish Council is closing The Bury to through traffic from 3.00pm on Bank Holiday Monday 4 June. This is intended to enable the community to meet and celebrate the occasion.

We are hoping to provide trestle tables for picnicking purposes and to have some musical entertainment provided by schools and other groups.

In the event of bad weather we are grateful to the Cross Barn who have kindly offered to provide shelter for the day and whatever the weather the event will culminate in the Beacon Field when our official beacon is lit at 10.30pm.

Please join us on the day to make this an enjoyable and memorable community event.

Cllr James Robinson-Giannasi

## COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Odiham Parish Council currently has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor.

The Council meets on Monday evenings at three weekly intervals and usually meetings last between two and three hours.

Involvement between meetings may include reviewing planning applications, helping on working parties, reviewing circulated documentation in advance of all meetings and attending occasional external meetings and training sessions.

If you are interested in joining the Parish Council please contact the Clerk.

## ODIHAM VILLAGE AGENT

Odiham Parish Council is assisting Age Concern in finding candidates for the role of Odiham Village Agent.

If you enjoy volunteering and have a few hours a week to give then please email the Parish Office for a role description and application form.

## DIAMOND JUBILEE OAK

Odiham's role in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations began last week when our Jubilee Oak was delivered.

At the moment our Quercus Robur is just a bare root sapling, about 120 cms tall but we can all imagine a day when it is many times that size and when it will be reminding the village of the residents of Odiham in 2012 and their participation in Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

We need to find a suitable site to plant the tree, one that will stand the test of time, as oaks reach great age - this tree will outlive many generations of our descendants and be a landmark for, potentially, hundreds of years.



Cllr Mark Faulkner

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Mark Faulkner

Chairman

Chair of Staffing

Cllr James Robinson-Giannasi

Vice-Chairman

Chair of Amenity Areas

Cllr Jeremy Fellows

Cllr Helen Fleming

Chair of Planning and Development

Cllr Richard Harris

Chair of Traffic and Transport

Cllr Duncan Janaway

Chair of Events and Community

Cllr Mike O'Neill

Cllr Katie Sheppeck

## 2012/13 PRECEPT



Residents have recently received their notification of council tax charges for 2012/13. The Parish Council precept makes up a small proportion of the total charge but, as you will have seen, Odiham Parish Council voted to increase the amount requested by 4.8% over 2011/12 to help pay for local services

The increase follows no change in 2011/12 and means that we now collect a total of £117,000 per year. This represents an average charge per household of £54, compared with an average figure of £59 for all Town and Parish Councils within Hart.

Although Odiham Parish Council is always reluctant to increase the parish precept, in the current environment it was essential to do so as many of the costs that it faces are increasing in line with headline inflation. The Parish Council is also taking on increased local responsibilities (for example keeping the public toilets in King Street open) as higher tiers of government face pressure on their own purses.

The Officers of the Council do an excellent job of containing the cost of running the Council and expenditure in all areas is under constant review but the truth of the matter is that overall the costs have increased significantly in recent years despite efficiency improvements.

At the start of this year the Council reviewed the financial projections for 2012/13 as part of its budget setting process and recognised that the fixed costs of running the Council such as maintenance of open spaces including the cemetery, energy and maintenance costs on parish owned street lighting and running the Parish Office accounted for virtually all of the precept receipts.

This meant we were faced with a simple choice - either increase the Parish Council precept or seriously consider reducing the services that are offered in Odiham and North Warnborough. We chose to request an increase in the precept, recognising that although no increase in living cost is welcome these days, what we have requested works out to an increase of an average of just £2.50 per household per year. As it stands, the Council still has relatively little available for grants to worthy causes or new initiative projects so we remain under real pressure to make each pound that the Council receives from its residents work harder, which remains our strongly held objective going forward.

Cllr Mark Faulkner

## PROPOSED HATCHWOOD DEVELOPMENT

### PRE APPLICATION CONSULTATION

In our last newsletter I explained that the Parish Council had heard that a planning application was likely to develop part of Hatchwood Farm (the field on the left hand side as you leave Odiham by the Farnham Road, before you get to Broad Oak roundabout). Since then the applicant has begun a consultation with residents, before submitting the application to Hart District Council. We strongly advise residents who wish to have a say to look at the files in the library or the Parish office, or at the planning consultant's web site ([www.bell-cornwell.co.uk](http://www.bell-cornwell.co.uk)) and to make comments now, before the application is submitted and while changes are still possible.

There is a real possibility that the application may be granted due to changes in planning circumstances since previous refusals, so we advise making all relevant comments now which could improve the outline plans. Please also let the Parish Council know your views at this stage either by letter to the Parish Office or by email to a specially set address: [planning.consultation@odiham.org.uk](mailto:planning.consultation@odiham.org.uk). There will subsequently be the usual opportunity to comment to Hart when the application is submitted but also note that it is currently expected that the application will be submitted as an outline application - with only limited details provided. These would include: approximate location of buildings, routes and open spaces; the upper and lower limit for the height, width and length of each building included; and the proposed area or areas of access to the development.

**For more information come to a PUBLIC MEETING at The Vine Church, London Road on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm.**

### DESIGN FEEDBACK

When it learned of the possible development, the Parish Council passed to Hart District Council, the planning authority that will ultimately determine the application, a number of design considerations which we understand were fed back to the applicant. Subsequently, and based upon information in the applicant's EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) screening opinion request, we have given the applicant our feedback directly. This has covered design issues such as: effect on the ridge and sky line; height of proposed houses; retention of trees, shrubs and hedges; characteristic views of unbroken roofs; scale and sustainability of the proposed care home; materials; density and scale of proposed houses; size of houses (based on feedback from residents to our questionnaire in late 2010); gradual edge to the village; and parking for the care home.

Now that we have more information, it is our intention to respond to the pre application consultation using the same channels as residents. Our feedback at this stage does not, however, indicate that Odiham Parish Council has already formed an opinion on either the fact or the form of any application that may be submitted for this site.

### DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

At the Parish Council's public meeting on planning in November 2010, we explained that under current rules, new developments are expected to make contributions to local facilities – school, highways, but also local leisure and open space facilities. Residents who responded to our questionnaire provided their thoughts on desirable leisure facilities.

As I reported in the last newsletter Odiham expects, under the proposed new local plan, to take 230 new houses as our fair share of the overall Hart target. Of these 80 are already built or have sites identified (e.g. the Wood site in the High Street). Every single new house is expected to make a contribution to parish leisure facilities and at present anyone seeking permission to build even one new house here makes a contribution towards the provision of allotments. With the prospect of more than 200 houses, the parish council has drawn up a list of leisure and open space projects which could be funded by future developments. For large sites contributions are negotiated with the developer; the Parish Council passed its updated list to Hart District Council before Christmas for consideration in the context of Hatchwood Farm.

This list includes: New village car park/other parking solution; New community centre/teenage hub for indoor recreation or improvements to existing community building, e.g. Baker Hall; Restoration of the King Street Cemetery chapels; Cycle way to Hook and Hartley Wintney; Improved parking in Tunnel Lane for castle and canal walks; Higher specification public toilets; Improved facilities at Recreation ground– football pitch, MUGA, Pavilion; Skateboard park; Refurbishment/insulation of NW Village Hall; Additional bike racks; Football facilities, eg North Warnborough football club; BMX track; Enhancements to Cross Barn; Play area for eastern end of village; additional street lighting; traditional bus shelters.

**The Parish Council actively seeks your views on the projects in this list.** Whatever happens at Hatchwood Farm this list, confirmed or modified by your feedback, will form the basis for our requests from developer contributions for all new houses built in the parish over the next few years. All such projects have to be justified on the basis of the additional pressure on facilities that new development brings. Some of these will be easier to justify than others, and some will not be feasible at the time the money is available, so we will have to be pragmatic over priorities.

**TO CONCLUDE: Please** send your pre-application comments on the proposals for Hatchwood Farm to both Bell Cornwell and ourselves; **and** send your comments on the potential projects from any developer contributions to the Parish Council.

Clr Helen Fleming