

## **REPORT OF THE OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY APRIL 2005**

The Annual Assembly was held at Otterbourne Village Hall. The Chairman, Cllr MH Warne welcomed all to the meeting. The Minutes of the 2004 Annual Assembly were adopted.

Cllr Warne advised that he had received the resignation of Cllr Peter Walford and gave official thanks and acknowledgement for his service to the Parish for over 20 years, at least half of this time served as Chairman or Vice-Chairman. Cllr Warne had submitted a written report; there were no questions arising from this. Cllr Warne then thanked his fellow Councillors for their work and support during the past year.

A written report had been submitted by Cllr Peter Walford. There were no questions raised by Parishioners. In addition a Planning Applications Analysis for Otterbourne had been submitted by Cllr Ian Phillips which was read to the Assembly by the Chairman. There had been eight fewer planning applications in 04/05 than 03/04 . The majority of these still comprised alterations/extensions and conservatories; there was only one new build application.

A written report had been submitted by Cllr Roger Zebedee. Cllr Zebedee gave a progress report on the project to provide a youth shelter and basketball end on land adjoining the Recreation Ground held under licence from Southern Water. There was concern from some Parishioners regarding congregation of young people, particularly after dark. However, the project had arisen from the Parish Plan which identified a need for youth facilities in the village. It was also supported by the local police as was the provision of a solar light for the shelter. Provisional costing for the project is estimated at £21,000, not including land clearance. The project will be financed completely from the Open Spaces Fund held by Winchester City Council, but be maintained by Parish funds. The project has not yet been submitted for planning application. The question of CCTV cameras at the Recreation Ground was raised, however the Parish Council has no current plans to install these.

Cllr Zebedee also briefly reported on the Itchen Navigation project regarding surveys and repairs to footpaths. Several parishioners requested extra dog bins at Sponders Mede and also near the kissing gate by The Old Forge. The Parish Council will consider these requests.

The proposals for changes to the Recreation Ground by the Sports Club were dealt with at a Public Meeting following the Annual Assembly. This was very well attended. The Sports Club presented their plans and proposals and the Parishioners had opportunity to raise concerns. Details of this will be published on the website. The Parish Council will report their decision after the May meeting.

A written report had been submitted by Cllr Roger Gray together with the Audited Accounts for 2003/04 and the Unaudited Accounts for 2004/05. These were distributed to the Assembly and Cllr Gray reported from these on the financial year 2004/05. A question was raised regarding the cost of land clearance at the rear of the village hall; this had been financed from the Open Spaces Fund held by Winchester City Council. A question was also raised regarding liability for tax on deposit accounts which will be investigated.

A written police report had been submitted by PC Mark Smith. The number of crimes recorded each year since 02/03 had not significantly risen. Burglaries had increased slightly; fraud crimes had trebled; public disorder crimes and vehicle crime had both decreased considerably.

Chairman Michael Warne invited general questions on the operation of the Parish Council; there were no questions arising.

The Chairman thanked all for coming and the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

J A Ayre  
Parish Clerk  
24 April 2005