

## Otterbourne Parish Council

### **Archive Reports of Meetings 1999-2003:**

#### REPORT OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr MH Warne (Chairman) presided at the December meeting of Otterbourne Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 16th December 2003.

City Cllr Mrs C Bailey had submitted a report which stated that she had attended a meeting of the Health Performance Improvement Committee to speak on M3 traffic noise. Cllr Mrs Bailey and Cllr P Walford attended a whistle-stop of the Parish with the new Director of Development Services, WCC, Mr Robin Cooper who was able to gain some knowledge of the strengths of the area and some understanding of the pressures of development. The final version of the Winchester District Local Plan has been adopted by WCC and outstanding objections will be considered by the Inspector at the Public Inquiry. On flooding, Mrs Bailey reported that the Hampshire Flooding Steering Group is having a Liaison Meeting in January when she will ask Southern Water for an update on Chickenhall Lane Pumping Station. The clearance of ditches in Poles Lane has been carried out and seemed to help in the last downpour but Kiln Lane is still causing problems. Planning Enforcement Action has been successful regarding an unauthorised building at Sandhills, Poles Lane, and the flags and sign at Penarth House have been removed. The status of the building is still as offices unless the Yellow Dot Nursery chooses to make use of their permission which seems unlikely as the moment. The progress of other cases is being discussed with the Enforcement Officer. Mrs Bailey continued with a report on Southampton Airport and letters from the Managing Director, Southampton Airport, which are a sign that our message is getting through. We heard from Air Traffic Control on management of routes, from Flybe on possible changes and plans to replace the noisiest planes. and from European Regional Airlines on developments in aircraft noise and they heard from us and the Consultative Committee. It was agreed that a working party would be formed to understand the concerns and look at alternatives particularly with flight paths and flying heights. On Shawford trains, we have now had sight of the derogation order which allows trains to be reduced. We had been told that the reason was lack of use and poor passenger numbers but the reason given to the Strategic Rail Authority was that the trains will too long when the new Desiro trains are introduced. HCC are to take this up with SRA in the strongest terms and failing that with the Rail Regulator. The local Save Shawford Trains Group is doing great work on mobilising support. In conclusion Mrs Bailey's report stated that the Solent Blue Line has applied for a grant which will allow a 15 minute service for the 47 Bus throughout the day.

Mrs PB Cole submitted a report of the meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group held on 26 November, which made reference to PC Mark Smith wanting gorse at the reservoir cut back. to keep cars in view to prevent their being broken into there. It is hoped that faculty to repair the flint wall at Old Churchyard, Kiln Lane, will be signed now a new vicar has been licensed. Finger post at Kiln Lane to be re-painted. The fence at the Old Churchyard has been broken down again - by a six axled lorry marooned in Kiln Lane. The Chairman has objected on behalf of the Group to development of land at Victoria Inn on grounds of danger from increased traffic. A new portrait of Charlotte Yonge had been found at Tintisfield near Bristol.

A report of the meeting of Otterbourne Village Hall Committee held on 1 December, had been submitted by Mrs M Davis, which stated that Bryan Foot and Bob Hall had cleared the ditches and cut down trees which were growing in the ditch now giving a really good flow of water. A manhole cover situated outside the back emergency door was lifted and found the water level just two inches from the top. Southern Water to be requested to attend and advise what is causing the problem. A letter of resignation had been received from Margaret Gaines and Betty Mobbs as flower arrangers for the halls. The reason given was the necessity to climb ladders to reach the display shelves just below the ceiling level.

The Treasurer, Diana Axford, advised that the final builder's and architect's accounts for the hall extension have been settled as follows: Rice Building £4,177.30 Charles Walker (architect) £4,035.55. All tickets for the Brass Band concert 13 December were sold in advance and Mary Davis is handing £975 to the Treasurer and pantomime ticket sales are going really well.

Cllr R Zebedee submitted a report of the Annual Meeting of Parish Council Transport Representatives on the 6 December. Principal speaker was Mr Shelley, the Operational Director of Solent Blue Line buses who outlined some of the difficulties in running a service at competitive prices. Often bus operators received little or no notice from local authorities/public utilities of road maintenance being carried out which has a major impact on their ability to keep to timetable. Passengers usually blamed the bus operators. Difficulties in recruitment were also mentioned. The main issue of local interest was the retendering of Winchester area bus services which takes place early in 2004.

A report of the Parish Plan/Village Design Statement Steering Committee meeting, held on 15th December, had been submitted by Mrs Mary Davis. The Project Leader, Ian Stockdale, reported that a letter dated November 2003 had been distributed to every house in the village and all the foot soldiers for ensuring that this was accomplished smoothly. Members of the project team were pleased to hear that HCC had awarded a grant of £250 which means that we now comply with The Countryside Agency's criteria but the Agency would not accept the grant awarded by the Parish Council retrospectively. Members were advised by the Project Leader that he was halfway through compiling the appraisal and would work towards the date of 12 January for the preparation of the first draft. The Rev. Paul Baird had agreed to be an extra reviewer of the draft. Mr Ian Stockdale has arranged to meet a villager who was interested in providing photographic material as evidence to support a Village Design Statement.

Mrs Mary Davis had also submitted a copy of the minutes of The Patient Participation Group of the Twyford Practice meeting of 20 November. A new Chairman, Ken Ratcliffe, was elected and Mrs Davis reported that Otterbourne Village Appraisal was complete and when the health report has been collated it will be sent to the Steering Group. Early indications are that residents of Otterbourne would like a branch surgery. The report stated that a new practice nurse was in post and there were no changes in the district nursing team, also, that there had been a good response to the flu vaccination programme with over 70% of patients eligible taking the vaccine. The new appointment system for blood clinics was working well but the prescription run for Colden Common has concerns that on occasions they were asked to sign for controlled drugs which matter would be taken up with the dispensary, as it was considered that volunteers should not be delivering controlled drugs. The report continued by advising that the WRVS were willing to transport patients for medical appointments.

Cllr Warne explained the proposed route of the 1.5 metre trench for an underground electricity cable across the recreation ground to Southern Water and advised that a cable had for 50 years passed under the play area. No objection raised to the cable crossing our land. The 'open cable' on surface to floodlights for football practice is to be subject of a meeting with a contractor regarding price for burying in the ground.

Cllr Walford reported that he and others had walked the Parish with the new Director of Development Services, WCC, Mr Robin Cooper. Also that he had met Mr John Collis of Integra, Poles Lane, who explained proposed development at the Integra site for the next year or so and advised that fridges could be stored up to a maximum of 12.

Mr Collis also explained that part of the site would be cleared for erection of a permanent office block. He also advised that a new incinerator is in use at Alton and in September, a new incinerator will be opened in Southampton which may make it possible for the Otterbourne site not to be used as a Transfer Stn. The Parish Council accept in principle the delivery of domestic rubbish (as in Garnier Road) in lieu of 44 tonne waste vehicles.

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## REPORT OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr MH Warne (Chairman) presided at the November meeting of Otterbourne Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 18th November 2003.

Following the understanding that the Rev. P D Baird is shortly to assume the living of the United Benefice of Otterbourne and Compton, the Chairman read a letter of welcome sent to the Rector and his family on 13 November, with the hope that he will have a long and memorable incumbency in the village.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported on various matters including the retrospective planning applications of Hampshire Waste Services/Integra, Poles Lane, Otterbourne, which are to be the subject of a Regulatory meeting on 7 January; speeding on Poles Lane; Travel to School Survey how children travel to all state funded, private schools and sixth form colleges; the Brick Award for the new hall at Thornden School awarded by the Brick Development Association; the meeting of the Winchester Road Safety which discussed the Older Road User Programme with a voluntary scheme to help drivers over 70 to evaluate their skills. Mrs Bailey also reported that HM The Queen will visit Winchester on 21 November, and that a pilot scheme, Cango, is in operation which permits bus services to deviate from a fixed route to pick up people in isolated locations. In conclusion she reported that Hampshire Pupils had the best GCSE results yet.

The report by City Cllr Mrs C Bailey included references to the additions to the Design and Development chapter to be recommended for inclusion in the 'Winchester District Local Plan'. She also reported on the improvements to the Planning Committee by trying to appoint a membership of the Committee which reflects the geography of the District. This would mean replacing one Winchester Town Member with one from the Northern parishes, also, to allow speaking arrangements of 3 minutes for the Parish Council as well as objectors having 3 minutes. Mrs Bailey advised that work had started on the development of 14 flats at Brooklyn, Main Road. She also reported that Mr Robin Cooper from Canterbury is the new Director of Development Services, Winchester is officially the Best Tourism Information Centre in the South East and will go forward to the national finals. At the meeting of the Southampton Airport Consultative Committee on 16 October, Mrs Bailey challenged the assertion that planes are still travelling on the agreed flight path as more people have been complaining. A new monitoring system for the Spring next year was explained and this means particular planes which fly at the wrong height can be identified. It was agreed that complaints should be logged itemising each plane complained of. A new leaflet has been produced which includes a map of the agreed flight paths. Mrs Bailey also went to a conference at the airport where it was agreed that changes to minimise nuisance will be looked at. In conclusion Mrs C Bailey reported on Shawford train times and said that SW Trains will look at timetables again in the summer but HCC officers are still wanting changes for the new year and are working towards that. We have finally got the 'derogation' report from SRA for the changes to the timetable and they gave the reason as the length of new trains not the lack of passengers as we had been told. There is now quite a large action group writing letters of objection.

A police report had been sent by PC Mark Smith stating that crime reported between 21 October and 12 November in the village has been low with 3 offences of deception, 1 theft from a motor vehicle and 1 drug offence which has been dealt with and detected. As a footnote to the report and to consider, The Captain Barnard PH has recently been suffering from car crime, both theft from and theft of vehicles.

The Chairman updated the position as regards the notice that had been served on the Parish Council seeking an easement for access by vehicles across Common land and is to consult the councils solicitors concerning legal costs and fees.

The Draft Licence Agreement had been received from Southern Water regarding additional land adjoining the recreation ground. Consideration deferred pending review of the proposed aerial runway thereon being replaced by a youth shelter.

Reported that the bottom broken step of the War Memorial had been satisfactorily repaired before Remembrance Sunday.

It was agreed to purchase a seat from Neptune Outdoor Furniture Ltd, to replace the disintegrating seat at the recreation ground for the sum of £419 plus installation cost £90, also, a bench seat for the sum of £194 plus installation cost £67 for siting at Spenders Mede Nature Reserve.

Following a meeting between Mr Bushell of HCC and Cllr Zebedee regarding the provision of a street light on the footpath between Regent Close and Main Road it was agreed that two lights should be provided but the matter awaits discussion with a nearby resident.

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## REPORT OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr MH Warne (Chairman) presided at the October meeting of Otterbourne Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 21st October 2003.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported that bus companies and police had been contacted before the road closure of Otterbourne Hill for repairs. She had not yet heard from Hampshire Waste Services/Integra regarding the additional activities at the site in Poles Lane. The new Chandlers Ford railway station was in operation but with known lesser stops at Shawford but there will be no more changes of the timetables until the Summer. Mrs Bailey also reported that a recycling site is being prepared at Bar End for replacement of the Garnier Road site.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported the following on behalf of District Cllr Mrs C Bailey, who attended a meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee which revealed that extra flights were operating and there is to be a new tracking system. She also reported that low flying aircraft should be logged and reported to County Cllr Mrs A Bailey. Mrs C Bailey had expressed disappointment with the planning approval for 14 flats at Brooklyn on which matter Parish Cllr Warne advised that Southern Water had changed their position at the planning hearing. Cllr Mrs C Bailey's report also advised that a petition regarding M3 Noise had been presented in London.

District Cllr Murray MacMillan reported that he will know more at the next meeting regarding trains from Chandlers Ford to Shawford, also, that he had walked Otterbourne Common regarding the notice for access over Common land. He reported that planning, permission had been refused for development at Long Acre, Hurdle Way, Compton Down. Cllr MacMillan also reported that he will keep a watch for possible development in Tilden Road, Compton and keep alert for possible drainage and flooding matters in the Silkstead area of Poles Lane.

Mrs PB Cole reported on the recent meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group which included reference- to the dry condition of the pond at Sponders Mede Nature Reserve and that the stream and ditch both blocked. also. the Common was very dry and brown and overrun with rabbits. The Group were brought up to date ,with a case for easement across the Common. A suitable memorial to the late Mrs Janet Hancock is to be displayed. A letter had been read from British Butterfly Conservation stating that evidence of Striped Lychnis moth had been found at Railway Underpass near Kiln Lane Churchyard. The Group considered the idea of planting trees near the entrance of Old Churchyard, Kiln Lane. The report continued by advising that the Group had heard that the Environment Department had built a salmon pass near Allbrook Lock and that they are trying to repair banks from The Malms to Allbrook Lock but presently lack money. The Group was reminded of a conference on GM Foods at the Guildhall, Winchester, on 27 October. Agreed that the Chairman would write about the extension of use of Poles Lane Transfer Station on behalf of the Group. The report concluded by advising that OCG came second to Church Team in the Village Quiz.

PC Mark Smith reported on Otterbourne Village Crime figures 30 August to 21 October inclusive. During this period thirteen offences have been reported. Three were offences linked to Elderfield which were historical, but for statistical reasons required recording. (These three have also been detected) The report of the detailed offences concluded by advising that crime rates were still low in the village. Also, for information over the last 6 years Otterbourne and Compton has one of the highest crime rates of the 10 rural beats working from Alresford and Twyford. However over the last year has dropped to being one of the lowest.

Following a notice received from Blake Laphorn Linnel, solicitors, seeking vehicle access over Common and Other Land, to provide access to a large field, it was decided that a counter notice be served by the Parish Council stating that the easement over the access land be limited to agricultural use

Regarding the Parish Plan/Village Design project it was reported that £1,242.50 (50% grant award) had been received from the Countryside Agency and paid into the account of Otterbourne Parish Council and that HCC had been asked for a grant of £250 towards the final report stage of the Parish Plan project. It was noted that the Countryside Agency would not take into consideration the grant of £1,250 already made by the Parish Council retrospectively, which was considered a harsh decision. Information applicable to the Village Design Statement was being collected and it was expected to have relevant material to compile this document upon completion of the Parish Plan.

Repairs at the play compound, to meet insurance requirements, are in process and the seat at the recreation ground which is disintegrating is to be replaced at a cost of £419 plus installation costs of £73 and probably an additional cost to demolish/remove the existing seat.

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## REPORT OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr MH Warne (Chairman) presided at the September meeting of Otterbourne Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 16th September 2003.

Following a presentation to the former Chairman, Mr Peter Briggs, of a pair of mounted porcelain Otters , and a bouquet of flowers to his wife Fay, a letter of thanks and appreciation had been received from Peter Briggs who had served long years on the Parish Council, many as Chairman. Peter and Fay are moving to Scotland at the beginning of October

Condolences had been sent to Mr Frank Smith following the sudden death of his wife Vanessa, the caretaker of Shawford Parish Hall and post mistress.

Councillors Roger Zebedee. Michael Creagh and Satish Chappiti are to attend an evening seminar for new councillors at the Guildhall, Winchester, on the 7 October.

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey- reported on various matters including M3 noise levels, high level of noise at Southdown School. HCC meeting to consider 'bus strategy', Health Committee matters and a complaint regarding the eyesore of rubbish being dumped at the 'Brooklyn' site' Main Road..

City Cllr Mrs Charlotte Bailey- reported that the planning application for 14 flats at Brooklyn will finally come before the planning committee this month with a recommendation to permit which Mrs Bailey will speak against on various grounds and to which application the Parish Council have objected on various grounds She also reported that planning seminars are to be held on housing densities as set out in government guidance in order to try to get some open debate and clarity on the subject. Following complaints from people at Compton Down, Southdown and Otterbourne regarding more frequent flights which are moving over our villages and not along the river valley as they are supposed to, Mrs Bailey will raise the matter at the next meeting of Southampton Airport Consultation Committee. Mark Oaten MP has arranged meeting with the Managing Director of the airport to discuss this issue. She advised that she had finally got the SWT revised winter timetable for Shawford trains, which means 89 fewer trains per week, on which matter clarification is being sought. Mrs Bailey further reported on the M3 Noise Committee meeting with Mark Oaten MP and that a petition is now going to be presented to the Ministry of Transport and to the Department of Education, who has concluded that noise damages childrens' learning and yet this is not taken into account in the criteria for resurfacing of the M3. Mrs Bailey concluded her report by advising that people from St Cross and Stanmore are applying for some of the footpaths across Bushfield Camp to be officially designated as right of way as they have been walked for over 20 years. The matter will not be dealt with for more than a year.

A police report was submitted by PC Mark Smith specifying that 21 offences had been reported to the police during the period 17 June until 29 August and stated that crime rates have remained relatively low in comparison with adjoining areas.

The notice from solicitors demanding an easement for vehicle access on the Common and other land under the provisions of the Countryside and Right of Way 2000 is under active consideration by Cllrs Walford, Warne and solicitors. Following consideration of the new Local Authorities (Members Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003, which provide for payment to members, it was unanimously decided not to pursue or accept the right to payment of parish councillors.

Quotes are to be obtained for provision and installation of a wooden bench seat to replace the one with disintegrated concrete ends sited near the corner of the recreation ground.

It was agreed to write a letter to Pride Homes Ltd concerning the unsightliness of the site of 'Brooklyn' Main Road, due to rubbish being deposited on the site and not cleared, also rubble and timber from the demolished house being thrown in the adjacent Bourne Stream, on which matter we wrote on 1 May. The letter is to ask for tidying of the site and clearance of the stream to prevent possible flooding in the event of heavy rain.

The Internal Audit of the parish accounts for the year 2002/03 has been satisfactorily completed by BKR Haines Watts and copies of the relevant documents are to be forwarded for the External Auditor's Certificate and Opinion.

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## REPORT OF THE JULY MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr N Phillips (Vice-Chairman) presided at the July meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 15th July 2003

Following an approach by Cranbury Estate to City Cllr Murray MacMillan, concerning flooding in Poles Lane, he is to meet and co-ordinate the matter with Cllr Peter Walford.

City Cllr Mrs Charlotte Bailey reported that in planning matters it is clear from the Inspector's report regarding the appeal concerning Mawdlam Lodge, Southdown, Shawford, that housing should not be viewed in isolation and that its design and context must be informed by the wider context. The Inspector's judgement regarding Mawdlam Lodge will prove useful as a guide for any future Southdown housing applications and could be a useful guidance in other local applications such as Brooklyn, Main Road. It was reported that the proposed development with 14 flats at Brooklyn will not come before the July committee meeting; officers still have questions about parking, drainage and density. Mrs C Bailey also reported that Southern Water has put in writing the fact that the drainage in Otterbourne is overloaded and that when consulted on new development will advise that it is suggested that occupation of the development is premature prior to the sewer improvements being completed. The improvements are due by March 2005. Mrs C Bailey further reported that the M3 Noise Committee is having a surgery with Mark Oaten MP in August to discuss the next steps in the campaign. Mrs C Bailey concluded her report by advising that she had spent a morning with HCC -when presentations were made from senior officers, of particular relevance to the Parish was how maintenance of roads is organised. She also advised that she is to attend a CPRE Transport seminar this month which is all about speed, noise, light and rural routes.

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported that a planning application had been submitted this month for an extension to Westholme, Harestock Road, for 30 new en suite bedrooms. This is part of the allocation of 500 bedrooms to be built in Hampshire to relieve bed blocking in hospitals. They will be financed by the Government. The Park and Ride extension has at last got under way. Cllr Mrs A Bailey, reported that she had made a recreation and heritage visit which concluded with a visit to Farnborough Sports Centre to watch a disability basket ball training session. A visit was made to Silchester and a hostel for school aged children to enjoy adventure holidays. An update on Sustrans (cycle routes) was included. Mrs A Bailey further reported that a river bus was operating on the Hamble, that a water weekend in Winchester will be

on the 16 August and that she had attended the Annual County Council Service at Winchester Cathedral, which this year was in praise of the Voluntary Sector. Mrs Bailey, concluded with a report seen in the Echo on the good work of PC Mark Smith which she forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Education, who commended him for his observation and prompt action which prevented a possible fire at Shepherds Down School

Cllrs Michael Warne and Roger Zebedee had met with Mr P Hawkey, Southern Water, and Mr N Farthing, Sustrans, on 1 July when the siting for the proposed aerial runway which is earmarked for land at the north eastern end of the recreation ground was discussed. The delay finalising the legal arrangements regarding the use of the land was also discussed. Mr Hawkey advised of proposed forestry work, Oakwood Copse, in the future which would involve some felling and replanting. This may involve some access restrictions to certain paths within the woods with some deer proof fencing erected. On the Sustrans Cycle Route 23 (Otterbourne Section) Mr Farthing apologised for the delay in responding to correspondence on this issue during the last year and outlined his amended proposals for the path through the village. The proposal to route the path along the School/Church access road has been dropped but there is still an outstanding issue with the route from the Old Forge car park in an easterly direction along the boundary of Old Forge Bungalow.

The route through the recreation ground would be between the play area and the rear of houses in Oakwood Avenue. Barriers to safeguard children leaving the play area were discussed and agreed in principle. Mr Hawkey, Southern Water, had no objection to the route through the main path of Oakwood Copse to Waterworks Road. Mr Farthing, Sustrans, will present detailed plans to the Parish in a Public Exhibition although this will take several months to prepare. Mr Hawkey is also prepared to attend to discuss Southern Water's plans for Oakwood Copse.

Cllr P Walford reported on the meeting of Winchester District Association of Parish Councils, held on 16 June, when the guest speakers were Mr Colin Taylor, Chief Engineer of Hampshire Highways and Ruth Olczyk, a member of the traffic team. Mr Taylor went through all the facets of highway control and confirmed that Neil Broadbent is our contact in the event of any problem.

The only interesting part of this talk involved patching. He asked to be advised if we spotted a contractor filling a hole and then running rear wheels over it to press it down This is wrong and will not remain patched for very long. Ruth Olczyk itemised many of the traffic regulations that exist and gave examples of road management by increasing or decreasing the width of the carriageway. It is her team ,who produce these road schemes. Our attention was drawn to Zurich Municipal as a source of low priced insurance. All strategic plans have been scrapped and replaced by Regional Strategy Plans which are prepared remotely and do not take care of local needs The report concluded with circulation of copies of a paper produced by Alresford Parish Council wanting to have three planning committees with the district divided East/West instead of North/South as originally suggested. The Chairman of the meeting signed the form with a reservation over the geographical change.

Cllr Warne reported on the meeting with Hampshire Waste Services/Integra, on 27 June with Mrs PB Cole and other members of the Liaison Group Mr John Collis (Integra Site Manager) circulated charts showing the expected steady increase in traffic. He gave notice that HWS have obtained planning permission for a new Materials Recalling Facility at Alton which may ease the pressure on Otterbourne eventually. There appears to be no prospect of the Waste Transfer Station being relocated in the foreseeable future There may also be some slight alleviation in traffic movements as a result of the opening of a new glass facility in Southampton Docks. Mrs Cole reported on the excessive movements of 188 per day of 44 ton vehicles

A notice had been received from solicitors Blake Laphorn Linnell demanding an easement for vehicle access on the Common under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, on behalf of their client Perbury Construction, which matter is under active consideration.

A quotation of Christopher Williams Horticultural Services has been accepted in the sum of £260 for lopping the high overhanging trees at the car park, Cranbourne Drive.

The order has been fulfilled for the supply of dragon's teeth boundary marker posts on the recreation ground but there are eight more in need of replacement near the pavilion which Flooring and Fencing have been asked to replace as soon as possible. A new litter bin has been provided in the play compound and quotations are to be sought for replacement of the disintegrating seat near the North East corner of the recreation ground.

The accounts for the year 2002/2003 were signed off and awaiting audit and updated Financial Regulations were approved.

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Cllr MH Warne (Chairman) presided at the June meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 17th June 2003

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Cllr Michael P.N Creagh of 6 Stone Terrace, Boyatt Lane, Otterbourne, to serve on the Parish Council. There are now seven members with vacancies for two councillors.

City Cllr Mrs C Bailey reported her concern that Southern Water should be properly consulted regarding the proposed development with 14 flats at Brooklyn Main Road, and that she is to involve the drainage engineer. WCC, so that the committee will be properly informed when the application is considered by the committee in July when she intends to speak on behalf of local people. Concerning parking on Otterbourne Common, Mrs Bailey reported that she had spoken to the legal dept WCC, who will act if they are given evidence of a breach of the by-laws. A warning letter would be sent out and if that is ignored then a prosecution could result in a fine. It may be more effective to install more dragons' teeth boundary marker posts.

Cllr Mrs C Bailey advised that she is trying to find grants to help out with the Parish Plan Project.

There is a grant available to cover printing cost of Village Design Statements but not Parish Plans. She reported that she is pursuing two other sources.

On Highways, Cllr Mrs C Bailey, reported that she had met with Neil Broadbent, HCC, to look at work that needs doing and is pushing particularly for resurfacing of Kiln Lane, and for the problem of water on the road at the newly kerbed part to be solved. She also discussed the Coles Mede problem where cars and lorries have worn down the grass verge. As a short term measure the road is to be widened at the problem point but long term there will be consultation on possible changes to the design to improve parking.

A meeting of the Hampshire Waste Services/Integra Liaison Group is to be held on Friday 27 June at 2 pm at the depot in Poles Lane.

Concerning, Southampton Airport and aircraft noise. Mrs C Bailey reported that she had taken over Peter Mason's role on the Airport Consultative Committee and went to a meeting on Thursday 5 June, when she was surprised to find that there had been no complaints from Otterbourne and Shawford over the last 6 months and only 1 from Twyford. She also reported that she had since had one complaint from someone in Oakwood Avenue concerning a FlyBe plane which was very low. Cllr Mrs Bailey stated that she would be pleased to know of any complaints.

Mrs PB Cole reported on the recent meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group which stated that there had been a very successful working party at Sponders Mede Nature Reserve on the 25 May, that water voles were still on site and that a donation had been received from Brendoncare residents as a thank you for keeping the path to the garage cut. Other matters reported stated that the Chairman had noted that only a small piece of Otterbourne Common was marked on Countryside Agency maps and that the Parish Council, or WCC who hold the Manorial Rights over the Common, can appeal by the 23 August 2003. The Parish Council will purchase a copy of 'Our Common Land Law and History of Commons' for use by the OCG. The Chairman and some members of the Group would repeat their opposition to the new plans for

14 flats at Brooklyn, Main Road. A report of the AGM of Otterbourne Village Hall Committee, held 2 June, was submitted stating that 15 representatives of village organisations attended, the Financial Statement for year ended 31.3.03 were presented and that the Village Hall Committee are awaiting Architect's figures for the final payment in respect of building work involved in the new extension.

Cllr Peter Walford reported on the Meeting held at the Environment Agency at Colden Common which included references to the community catchment area, enlarged sewerage system by proposed rebuild of Chickenhall Pumping Station and replacement of Brambridge Pumping Station at a cost of £200M to which much objection is anticipated if the proposed scheme goes ahead.

PC Mark Smith submitted the reported 9 crimes in Otterbourne for the period 17 May to 17 June including damage to 2 council bus shelters, damage to 3 cars and damage to 1 garden ornament subsequently found not to have been damaged. 1 burglary to a Public House and 2 miscellaneous thefts. The report concluded by stating that in comparison to surrounding villages, Otterbourne still has a low crime rate.

Mrs Glynis Green, Parish Council representative to Elderfield, attended with the new Project Manager, Mr Julian Perkins who addressed the meeting. There are no plans to close Elderfield and there are no Category 1 residents for sexual offences. The nursery closed due to necessary works being required to meet Health and Safety Regulations at a cost of £200,000. There is no craft training for horticulture but as always there will be more on site training to enable residents to return to the community. Elderfield are awaiting funding to convert the old nursery shop to an IT centre where residents can develop skills. Mr Perkins advised that he will be available to attend Parish Council meetings.

Quotes are to be obtained for cutting the big overhang of trees at the car park. Cranbourne Drive and for the replacement of broken glass at the two new bus shelters. Also, a report is to be received regarding the crumbling of concrete ends to a seat in the recreation ground.

A report of meeting held 16 June by the Otterbourne Parish Plan/Village Design Statement Steering Committee stated 596 questionnaires had been distributed and to date 315 completed forms had been returned. Main issues, based on a quick scan, concerned traffic calming perceived as making Main Road more dangerous in certain areas: welcome pack for newcomers would have been an asset; events diary and business directory- two publications to be considered. On finance there was no news from the Countryside Agency regarding a grant towards completing the Parish Plan. Other sources would be investigated in order to obtain funds The Parish Council were thanked for financially supporting the work to date. Reported that 'champion/s' were still needed to lead the Village Design Statement Project. It should be possible to produce a Design Statement with some additional effort leading on from information supplied in the completed questionnaires. The Conservation Group have produced a very good portfolio of photographs and this should add to the structuring of a Design Statement.

BKR Haines Watts have been appointed as Internal Auditor in respect of accounts for the year 2002/2003 and the External Audit will be undertaken by the Audit Commission by the 8 September.

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## REPORT OF THE MAY MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr MH Warne (Vice-Chairman) presided at the May meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 20th May 2003

The Council welcomed the new City Councillor for the Compton and Otterbourne Ward, Murray P MacMillan, who advised members of the committees on which he is to serve.

Cllr Michael H Warne was unanimously elected Chairman and Cllr Ian Phillips Vice-Chairman followed by election of committees and appointment of representatives to various bodies.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported on some misconceptions on the traffic calming scheme under four heads as follows: Dangerous -highway not as dangerous as it used to be when speeds were **in the order**

**of 60mph.** This will be confirmed when the speed checks are done in June; Springs -these will always be present on Otterbourne Hill. The one affecting the cycle way has been remedied and blocked gully cleared. Design -all aspects of design were checked by an Independent Safety Audit . A swept path is included in this for all vehicles. There is a 3 Tonne weight limit on Kiln Lane, but those bigger vehicles needing access should have no difficulty provided they keep to the speed limit. Surface -two sections waiting for top dressing; Contractors start rural schemes in June. The resurfaced sections were done as a result of good budgeting; the scheme came in below the expected price. Mrs Bailey continued by advising that a review of the Social Services system has been undertaken following the tragic accident of Victoria Climbié , also , that the County Council has been encouraged to visit schools in their capacity as corporate parents.

City Cllr Mrs C Bailey reported that the Park and Ride scheme at Bar End is to proceed and recommended reading of the document Cultural Strategy introduced by WCC. She also reported that Hidden Gardens and Hyde Abbey Gardens are to be opened on 6 June. Mrs Bailey further reported that WCC are to appoint a new Chief Executive and a new Director of Environment and Planning. Concerning the suggested creation of three planning committees, Mrs Bailey reported that this matter was not appropriate at the present time.

PC Mark Smith had sent a written report of the 10 recorded crimes in the Parish over the period 15 April - 18 May as follows :2 dwelling burglaries; 1 theft from motor vehicle; 1 theft from PH; 3 damage offences re bus shelter, garden ornament, car; 1 assault; 2 minor crimes.

Mrs Mary Davis submitted a report of the meeting held 19 May concerning Otterbourne Parish Plan/Village Design Statement. It is expected that nearly 50% of the distributed questionnaires will be returned. A questionnaire is to be compiled to be aimed at the parents of children attending Otterbourne Primary School but do not live in the village. On Finance, Mrs Davis reported that the Countryside Agency had advised that an embargo had been placed on funding and that the 1 st June was the first date for revision. In October 2002 Otterbourne received advice from the Agency that our project had ben registered and funds set aside to help with our work. Our grant application was submitted in March 2003. The Countryside Agency requested a very detailed grant application and it was impossible to put this together until the team had compiled the questionnaire and worked out printing costs for both the questionnaire and final report. To date the project has cost £995.76. As part of the grant award the Parish Council agreed to commit a further £ 100 making a total to date of £ 1100.. It was agreed that the team should write to our MP outlining the situation to date. This is a government strategy which the Countryside Agency is managing. Investigation will be ongoing to find other agencies which might give grant aid. With regard to the Village Design Statement the team are still hoping that a villager or villagers will come forward to lead this project.

A new litter bin has been ordered for the children's play compound at the recreation ground and for the car park in Cranbourne Drive, also, provision of a dog bin at the entrance to Otterbourne Park Wood.

It was agreed to accept a quotation for dragons teeth boundary markers at the recreation ground in the sum of £849.00 plus VAT. Ordered as a matter of urgency to prevent access by new travellers reported to be in the district.

Consideration was given to new plans submitted for 14 flats at Brooklyn, Main Road. A detailed examination of the application is to be made by members with a view to an objection being lodged by Cllr Phillips to include matters concerning flooding and traffic. It was emphasised that this is a completely new application and in no way affects the outstanding valid permission for 12 flats.

A report was submitted with particulars of bank monies transferred to earn increased interest.

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Both the monthly meeting of the Parish Council and of the Annual Assembly were held in the Large Hall at Otterbourne Village Hall with Cllr MH Warne , Acting Chairman in the Chair on 15th April 2003.

It was agreed that Cllr Warne should write to developer Mr B Stevens, 4 Stone Terrace, Boyatt Lane, regarding employees parking on the Common, and asking for the damaged bank, opposite the unlawful parking, to be made good.

City Cllr PK Mason reported that he had looked into the matter of the silted up level of the bed of Bourne Stream to be lowered to improve the flow.

On the matter of the Parish Plan/Village Design Statement Project it was reported that a questionnaire is currently being distributed to every household

In view of the repeated damage to the steps at the War Memorial , two cast-iron protective bollards have been installed, also, the supply/maintenance works/repair of dragons teeth boundary marker posts on various parts of the Common undertaken at a total cost of £837.78 (incl VAT £124.78). Following the installation of the protective bollards, the second replacement of broken steps is to be carried out at a estimated cost of £330.00.

It was agreed to ask WCC for a dog bin to be installed at the entrance to Otterbourne Park Wood, and the unlawful activity of motorcycling on part of the Common is to be discussed with WCC who maintain the Common and operate the Bylaws.

Cllr Phillips asked if the Parish Council could explore the possibility for a footpath access on the left hand side of the car park, Cranbourne Drive , leading to the school.

Planning Enforcement Notices have been issued by WCC regarding the unauthorised erection of a dwelling at Sandhills Farm, Poles Lane

Cllr Michael Warne opened the meeting of the Annual Assembly and welcomed all present, as Acting Chairman. He explained that he was continuing to act in place of the Chairman, Mr Peter Briggs who was still in hospital. He informed the Meeting that Mr Briggs was now on the road to recovery after major heart surgery and other complications.

Cllr Warne drew the attention of the Meeting to changes in the composition of the Council that had taken place. Mrs Pam Cole , Miss Jane Ellaby , and Rev John Widdows had resigned during the course of the year but we have been fortunate in being able to recruit two new Members - Dr Satish Chappiti and Mr Roger Zebedee.

During 2002, new rules were introduced by central Government, which require potential Parish Councillors to make declarations of interests in much the same way as District and County Councillors and Members of Parliament do. This appeared to act as a deterrent to potential new Councillors. This year is re-election year for many Councils including this one. Otterbourne Parish Council has nine seats and to date only five volunteers to fill them Cllr Warne urged more volunteers to come forward to ensure that the interests of the village are properly represented.

Cllr Warne reported that the Council was actively- pursuing both Southern Water and the Environment Agency regarding the flooding which took place in the lower part of the village on New Year's Day. The Environment Agency is being pressed to improve the flow of the Bourne stream and to enlarge the balancing pond , which lies in the field behind Greenacres Estate. Also Southern Water were being urged to examine the state of the sewerage system in the same area to ensure that it is still viable and can cope with planned new developments.

Mr Warne thanked his colleagues on the Council, and the Parish Clerk, for all their work during the year and for all the support he had received in recent weeks.

The Amenities and Recreation Committee dealt with a wide range of topics during the year and the following is a brief report on some of the more important issues.

The Council has obtained agreement in principle with Southern Water for an extension of the Lease of the Recreation Ground to include an area of woodland on the north east corner. It is hoped to construct some recreational facilities for older children of this area.

The new Licence Agreement with the Sports Club has now been in being for over a year and seems to be working satisfactorily. The Club is now paying the full amount of Council Tax on the pavilion.

Cllr Warne referred to the two cast-iron bollards that had been installed by the War Memorial which were necessary to prevent vehicles damaging the Memorial steps.

The Council continues to be concerned at the incidence of casual parking on the Common and has recently issued a letter to all local residents on this subject. It had also been possible to persuade the traffic calming contractors to install posts along the Main Road side of the area.

Two further grants from the ex Otterbourne Youth Club money were made during 2002 to the local Guides and Scouts.

Finally Cllr Warne referred to the state of Oakwood Park Recreation Ground. There are still a few selfish dog owners who decline to use the dog bin provided for their pet's residue. The Winchester City dog warden now regularly visits the area and it is only a matter of time before one of the offenders is caught in the act. The fine for leaving dog mess around in a public place can be up to £1,000. Mr Warne also urged visitors to the Park not to leave litter on the ground. He thanked the two volunteer litter collectors, Mrs Zebedee and Mrs Eyers for their sterling work and asked for some consideration from visitors to make their task easier.

Cllr Peter Walford submitted the Planning Committee Report and stated that by normal planning standards this year had been comparatively quiet with only three applications that could be considered contentious

a) The applications by Pride Homes to acquire Brooklyn House to build on the site three interlocking blocks of apartments, one of which would be three floors high. The Council submitted strong objection to the scheme and there was a strong lobby from villagers and a site visit was made. The villagers had their say but the City Planning Committee passed the application.

b) The traffic calming measures have been implemented and the comments that have been expressed are few, but of those not many have raised objections. Some people considered that they had not received value and there were other stray comments about the cycle track. The higher standard of street lighting worried some people when first installed but it has now been accepted by most. We have not yet been advised officially whether the scheme has produced the lower speeds but it would appear that they are slower. The two chicanes on Otterbourne Hill have caused most traffic problems but we have yet to hear of any serious accident. The biggest asset that the scheme has produced was the resurfacing of most of main road through the village, with a low noise surface. The hill will be dressed in early summer and the strip near the garage is in a very poor condition and may need to be completely replaced.

c) We were asked to comment on the application for the temporary change of use of Penarth House to be used as a children's nursery. We were delighted with this possibility but had to submit an objection on grounds of traffic danger. The applicant wanted to use the nursery for up to 80 children of four years or less. The only entrance to the site is through the gates on a very busy bend and about 50 metres from a T junction. The idea of up to 60 cars delivering and collecting children at peak time and having to use the one entrance was considered too dangerous. An application involving a similar traffic flow about 3 years ago was rejected due to the danger and the Council could not see this application was very different.

Planning is now a very difficult subject because of the number of Government Guidance instructions that are issued; and the way these Guidance notes are interpreted does seem to vary from one planning authority to another.

The Council gave support to the idea of breaking the central planning committee into three. We suggested that a District Councillor from each Parish Council area should serve on a planning committee. This would,

in our opinion, ensure that applications would be considered by people with a more detailed knowledge of that area. The present committee has 14 members drawn from the whole Winchester District.

Cllr Walford continued his report by advising that the Council has limited powers on planning matters and really amount to being able to ensure that a particular application is considered by the full planning committee as different from being decided by an officer.

In November 2002 the Compton and Otterbourne Parish Councils called a joint meeting on noise on the M3. This was very well attended and as a result a lot of further meetings have been held with the Highways Agencies, as well as letters to the Minister of Transport, but no progress has so far been made. Many of you will have been asked to sign a petition but

Cllr Walford is not optimistic about the outcome. We are told that money is not available for resurfacing on any motorway that was not made of concrete; our section of the M3 has no concrete.

Cllr Walford expressed thanks to Cllr Phillips and Cllr Chappiti for their support throughout the year. Having served nearly 19 years on the Council, 8 of them as chairman, he thought it time for a new team to take the lead role, but will be available to provide historical background.

Since drafting his report, Cllr Walford attended a meeting where the guest speaker was Steve Opacic the head of future planning at WCC. He carefully listed the dates for the implementation of the current plan. He took questions after his talk and two comments he made were of interest.

Mr Opacic was asked where the guidance briefings originate. He replied that they came from the Home Office and were prepared by Civil Servants. When asked whether they were guidance or directives he said that he considered his department to be a subsidiary of the Home Office and therefore they could be considered to be an instruction.

The South Downs National Scheme will be ready for its public appeal stage towards the end of the year . It would appear that a lot of opposition has been expressed and therefore it should not be taken for granted that the scheme will proceed in its present form.

A report of the Finance Committee was read by Cllr Alan Graham, which stated that the biggest change that had taken place in the last year concerns the audit requirements which has increased the workload for the Clerk and himself but hopefully this coming year will be easier. He referred to the precis of audited accounts that had been circulated , reported on the overall cash position and various items of receipts and payments. Cllr Graham reported that the overall finances of the Parish are in such good shape that, exceptionally, for the coming year we have been able to reduce the annual Precept from £28,300 to £27,675 a decrease of 2.2%. As a result of this, Council Tax increase for the year is one of the lowest in the Winchester area although at 14.9% is still much too high. The Finance Committee was mindful of the fact that Council Tax payers were being asked to pay a lot more this year because of the specific funding shortfalls on councils such as Hampshire at the expense of other Councils in the North and Midlands. He hopes that our measure, however small, at least recognises the problems we all have face as Council Tax payers.

PC Mark Smith itemised the 83 recorded offences last year, compared to 108 the year before, and reported that the Parish had a relatively low crime rate. Sgt William Ord reported on the measuring efficiency of 'phone calls and advised that the operator analyses calls for appropriate attention. The number of calls to the Force Control Centres at Winchester and Netley were stated and that there is 24 hour cover. Sgt Ord also reported on the success of operating the Mobile Police Station.

Question Time raised matters concerning audited and unaudited accounts, provision of play equipment, parking on the Common and future printing and sale of booklet 'Portrait of Otterbourne'

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Cllr MH Warne (Vice-Chairman) presided at the March meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 18th March 2003

The Acting Chairman, Cllr Michael H Warne, reported on the continuing illness of the Chairman, Cllr Peter D Briggs, in hospital, and all expressed sincere wishes for his early return to good health.

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported on the Noise Meeting with HCC on 11 February, when 13 Councillors attended, all representing Divisions close to or adjacent to the M3 and affected by motorway noise. She and Cllr Peter K Mason stressed the size of the nuisance now suffered and explored a number of issues including: increase in volume of traffic; decibel levels and their significance; height and effectiveness of noise barriers; length of life remaining in the road surface. Cllr Mrs Bailey also reported that the Highways Agency receives about £5M a year for noise mitigation for the whole of the Country and that just 100 metres of noise barrier costs around £50,000. Other matters reported included meeting and letters regarding flooding; budget increase of 15% ; road closures ; bus roadside information going out to tender; plans have been prepared for the modernisation of libraries.

City Cllr Peter K Mason reported on the flooding meeting at Hursley, when all relevant people were present. Concern was expressed that breakages in pipe in Otterbourne would be the responsibility of Otterbourne PC. Cllr Mason reported that as more money was going to the north of England, Winchester City Council would be blamed for increases in Council Tax.

Mrs Pamela B Cole reported on the meeting of the Otterbourne Conservation Group held on the 12 March, which included reference to a cheque sent to Southampton Natural History Group in memory, of Mrs Madge Goodall, a very active and helpful member of the Group over many years. An award would also be given to Otterbourne School. also in Madge's name as she taught there during the war. It was to be awarded annually, for Citizenship, which includes conservation care of heritage and knowledge of local history.

Cllr Mrs Mary S Davis reported on a very good meeting of the Otterbourne Village Hall Committee and that the OVHC did not require a loan from the Parish Council. She also submitted a report of the meeting on 17 March re Parish Plan/Village Design Statement, which stated that all parishioners present had received three copies of the pilot questionnaire.

Cllr Michael H Warne reported on the Hampshire Rail Forum held in Alresford and that a Public Transport Forum is to be held on 19 March, to be attended by a member.

Cllr Peter Walford read the objection made by the Parish Council to the planning application for change of use of Penarth House from offices to a children's day nursery for 80, based on safety and generation of traffic. Following a letter from WCC the objection was given full reconsideration by the whole council, with an input from the applicant, Mrs Jane Dyke, when the Council decided not to withdraw their objection. The Council made it quite clear that they had no object to the use as children's nursery but only to the dangers from traffic entering and leaving the site on a dangerous bend.

On Finance it was agreed to review the Council's bank arrangements.

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Cllr MH Warne (Vice-Chairman) presided at the February meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 18th February 2003 following the continuing illness of the Chairman, Cllr P D Briggs, in hospital and all expressed wishes for his early return to fitness and wellbeing.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported an update on flooding in the area and read reports from residents. She is to attend a Lower Itchen Community Catchment Liaison Meeting convened by the Environment Agency, at the Cathedral Refectory on 5 March, and invite parishioners Mr P Bulbeck and Mrs V Standfield. Parish Cllrs MH Warne and P Walford are also to attend. Mrs Bailey also reported that she had attended a very well supported M3 Noise meeting with Cllr PK Mason. She further reported that a budget meeting this

week expect a 15% increase. Mrs Bailey concluded by advising that there had been a lower use of libraries and reported on the achievement of Thornden School. On the matter of flooding in the parish Cllr MH Warne reported on letters from the Environment Agency, Southern Water and parishioners and suggested that a meeting of all relevant parties be convened to prevent matters being raised in correspondence with the wrong authority or duplicated. Cllr R Zebedee reported the flooding of the footpath between the Otterbourne Pumping Station and The Malms at Shawford.

Cllr Mrs A Bailey submitted the written report of Cllr Mrs C Bailey which concerned matters under four headings: 1)Telecoms Mast; 2) WDAPC Grants from WCC; 3)Transport Meeting at Hartley Witney 4)The Draft Regional Strategy. Following consideration of the proposed mast next to the railway line at Allbrook, to which there had been no objections, but as it was proposed in an AONB consultations had taken place and through negotiation with the agent the cabins would be surrounded with wooden fencing and new planting of bushes to grow around and soften the impact. The fencing, cabins and mast will be painted dark green to help them blend with the background. Winchester District Assn of Parish Council Grants from WCC are to be provided by contributions from Parish Councils according to population to a central pot of money so smaller parishes could tackle larger projects. To help PCs and other grant seeking bodies in the future WCC is recruiting an officer to identify sources of funding and to attract funding into the District. There are many Countryside Agency, Lottery and EU grants available for partnership works and community exercises. The Transport meeting was about improving access to services, employment and the countryside. The speaker gave examples of what is possible through partnership schemes between County, District and Parish Councils together with the voluntary sector. Many grants available for particular services and some parishes have found that their Village Plans have provided the information they need to plan for the future and to present a good case for funding. The Draft Regional Planning Strategy has been published and comment must be in by April. Comments are invited on Policies and the supporting statement. The supporting statement has some interesting examples of initiatives by different councils the one for Hampshire is the ROMANSE project which is now called Intelligent Transport Systems. Basically the emphasis is on the Southern sweep along the coast and a Northern sweep to include Basingstoke, Farnborough and Guildford. Locally Basingstoke and Southampton are 'Hubs' for transport networks. Mrs C Bailey's report stated that members will be amazed to learn that the M3 is operating satisfactorily and that in 2010 the Highways Agency predicts that our section will be fine whereas the section from exit 9 to Basingstoke will have heavy peak congestion half the days of the year. The report concluded by Cllr C Bailey advising that she intends to write to the Highways Agency to find out their reasons for this prediction.

Cllr Mrs MS Davis, representative to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee, reported that the Christmas events were very good and that there had been an excellent attendance at the pantomime which more people attended than ever before , and many letters of appreciation had been received. It is proposed to mount an extra performance in 2004. Regarding the hall extension, the contingency period is to end and snags are to be put right when the final balance of account will be settled The programme of ongoing refurbishments is taking place. The Chairman is to seek advice re the new performing licence. OVHC have flooding worries and have advised the school that the ditch on their land needs clearing.

Cllr P Walford, representative to Winchester District Association of Parish Councils, reported that we are currently in the four week period in which we can object to the proposed scheme for a South Downs National Park. The boundaries are no different to the original scheme and there are four more periods of consultation to follow before the details are forwarded to the Minister. Legislation would then have to be prepared and put before the House of Commons. The earliest that it could be on the statute book would be 2006 but could be as long as 2009. Should there be a change of Government the whole scheme could be abandoned. Flooding is a major problem in many areas and the subject will have to be discussed on a County wide basis. The person at the centre of these discussions is a Mr Pollard. It was also reported that should there be a need to have a poll to elect our new council the cost will be £1500.

Cllr Mrs MS Davis submitted a lengthy detailed report of the meeting on 17 February, regarding the Parish Plan/Village Design Statement which included under the heading Young People/Leisure Activities and Sport information that Darren McCullen and Nicholas Bell aged 16+ have kindly volunteered to assist in providing input to the project for the younger aged members of the village.

Following information and costs of equipment from 1st Allbrook Guides it was unanimously agreed to donate the sum of £140.48 being a disbursement from the former Youth Club monies.

It was agreed to accept the estimate of Flooring and Fencing Ltd in the sum of £673 plus VAT for renewal of 1 dragon tooth timber post, reset 4 and supply and erect 4 and supply and erect 2 no.cast-iron bollards to protect steps at the War Memorial site.

The third estimate for the provision of an aerial runway on land adjoining the recreation ground has been received and will be considered at the next meeting together with other estimates, also, the result of consultations regarding provision of a shelter and basketball court.

On planning Cllr P Walford reported on the advice he had received concerning the proposed change of use of Penarth House from offices to children's day nursery for 80 children. The formal application to be considered when to hand.

The Annual Audit for year ended 31 March 2002 has been satisfactorily completed.

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the December 2002 meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 17th December 2002 and Mr MH Warne (Vice-Chairman) presided at the January 2003 meeting held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 21st January 2003 .

A letter, dated 17 December, had been received from PC Mark Smith offering his apologies for not being able to attend but reported that since the last meeting his beat area had suffered 13 offences, 11 of which have occurred in Otterbourne. Of these 3 have been burglary of dwellings, 1 in the early hours of 10 December where the offender was disturbed by the occupiers. During the afternoon of the same day 2 other offences occurred of this nature. These offences are treated with utmost seriousness due to their nature. Otterbourne has suffered 3 thefts from vehicles on 8 December and burglary and the builder's compound on the Common also suffered 3 thefts, one of which was recorded as a non-dwelling burglary. The remaining recorded crimes relate to a "domestic" incident and also a damage at Elderfield. The report stated that there had been no reports of vandalism during this period, and no reports of criminal damage have been made although a "nuisance" was reported in the Boyatt Lane/ Otterbourne Hill area by a number of drunken males in the early hours, all were stopped and checked by Police. His January report stated that youths were smoking drugs at the recreation ground and if found with drugs will be arrested.. 1 burglary had occurred in a dwelling and a bus shelter had been damaged. 2 arrests had been made at Elderfield for assault and theft and will be removed from Elderfield. A vehicle had been left on the recreation ground. His report stated that the crime rate in Otterbourne was still very, low.

Grants to village organisations from former Youth Club monies were agreed in the sums of £195.00 to Top of the Hill Cricket and £238.00 to the 15th Chandlers Ford (Allbrook and Otterbourne) Scout Group. A grant to the 1st Allbrook Guides is to be considered when further information is to hand.

Council awaiting formal quote from Flooring & Fencing for supply and installation of guard rails to provide protection to the lower steps of the War Memorial to be followed by quotation for the second repair of the Memorial steps.

County Councillor Mrs -Ann Bailey reported that she is to attend a meeting on 11 February, concerning M3 Noise.

City Councillor Peter Mason reported on new arrangements regarding highways and submitted a copy of the new staffing arrangements at Development Services Department Engineering,WCC and Winchester Highway Unit, Environment Department, HCC. He also reported that new drains were not working properly as water was passing over them, also that resident Mr JR Cox asked for a better surface to Park Lane which remedial work was not very satisfactory and that repairs on 17 January was not acceptable work.

City Councillor Mrs Charlotte Bailey reported that changes had been made to the Winchester District Local Plan which could still be made the subject of representations. She also reported that a telephone mast in Winchester is subject of a planning appeal and that she is to attend a Transport meeting in Hartley Whitney. She concluded by advising that abandoned cars cannot be removed until the owner has been traced or the tax has expired.

It was agreed to accept renewal of the maintenance agreement for the recreation ground for a further year with an increase of 2.5% over last year.

On the serious matter of flooding, Cllr MH Warne and parishioner Mrs VM Standfield gave a thorough resume of the nuisances suffered, following which it was agreed to write to the Environment Agency expressing concern that flood water was not getting away quickly and asking them to look at the flow rate of the Bourne Stream to the balancing pond. Also, to write to Southern Water asking them to carry out an examination of sewer pipes as it appears that storm water is flowing into the foul system and flooding into gardens. Copies to be sent to WCC. It was also agreed to seek a volunteer Flood Warden to warn properties of possible flooding

Following unanimous support for the draft suggestion to create 3 Planning Committees for the Winchester District, questions on the matter had been received from WCC to which Councillor Peter Walford had replied with comments and suggestions on the following matters:

A Planning application and approval concerning proposed block of flats at Brooklyn

B Wish to see planning applications considered and discussed by councillors with local knowledge

C Pleased to see all our elected councillors on a local planning committee and the areas set out

by the draft suggestion would be acceptable provided there are two senior planning officers

present at every meeting to give legal advice

D As in other areas planning committee meetings be held in the evening so enabling more

local people to attend.

Following consultations with residents of 11 and 12 Regent Close it was agreed to pursue the matter of the installation of a light on the footpath between the two houses to the Main Road, which if approved by the HCC will attract a 50% grant.

Councillor Peter Walford reported that Phase 11 of the Otterbourne Traffic Calming Scheme is almost complete and that the likely start dates for Phase III is in 2003 or 2004 which will require the Parish Council's confirmation of acceptance of permanently closing the road across the Common. and agreement to involve ourselves in negotiating an acceptable alternative piece of land for that to be taken for widening of the Junction at Boyatt Lane.

The budget for 2003-2004 was agreed and to Precept on Winchester City Council for the sum of £27,675 being £625 lower than that for year 2002-2003.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the November meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 19th November 2002

As Cllr Mary Davis will be heavily involved with work on the Parish Plan/Village Design Statement , it was agreed that she be replaced by Cllr Peter Briggs as representative to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee for the next few months until relinquishing his Office on moving to Scotland in April 2003.

A letter, dated 25 October, had been received from PC Mark Smith detailing 22 recordable crimes committed in the area covering Otterbourne, Compton and Shawford, which included 8 vehicle crimes mainly due to insecure vehicles. The letter went on to say that the figures are low in comparison to national figures and to the local towns such as Eastleigh and Winchester, both of which have low crime rates. PC Smith attended the meeting on 19 November and updated his crime report. The Publication Scheme under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is to receive consideration regarding the information to be published by the Parish Council.

Cllr Peter Walford reported on the meeting of the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils. on 23rd October. when the Guest Speaker, Barbara North. talked about the Mid Hants Care Trust. which is one of 10 in Hampshire and has a budget of £125m from which is paid the salaries of GPs and their assistants. and all the hospital staff. The Trust has also to meet the cost of district nurses. health care workers and dentists. The mentally ill budget is growing rapidly. Red tape is causing great concern - at the time of her talk Winchester Hospital has 60 beds blocked due to there being no beds available in care homes. There were nearly 60 one bed flats available on first floor of buildings, but as no lifts were available they could not be used. Lifts are specifically banned by NHS. Cllr Walford also reported that grants will be available from WDAPC this year for Parish Projects but may- be the last unless Parish Councils can convince District Councillors that they should continue. He also advised that developers contribution to the Parish Council Open Space Fund. held by Winchester City Council. must be spent within 5 years or the developer can reclaim it. and he promised to ascertain how this affected our current balance and plans.

Members are to consider our response to the questions raised by- WCC following the suggestion to create 31 Area Planning Committee for the Winchester District. which had been unanimously supported by the Parish Council.

A report of the meeting held 18 November, concerning the Parish Plan/Village Design Statement, was submitted by Cllr Mary Davis, Co-ordinator of the Project, which, amongst other matters, included advice that preparation of a questionnaire with 10- 15 core questions was agreed, particulars in respect of available funding were given and a draft timetable for the project plan. Also that interest groups are to prepare and present a Statement of Purpose in approximately 100 words which should describe what the group hoped to achieve for presentation at the next meeting on 16 December, being the day before the Parish Council meeting.

The broken War Memorial steps were repaired on 7 November by contractor, Perry Stares Building, an inspection on the 8 November, conducted for Mildren Construction's own works revealed that the steps had again been similarly damaged and broken by an unknown vehicle passing over the bottom of the steps. A temporary repair was effected through the good offices, free of charge, of Mildren Construction, in time for the Remembrance Service. Permanent repair and protection is to be considered

Three invitations have been sent to tender for the supply and erection of a 20 metre aerial runway on land adjoining the recreation ground, and negotiations are in hand with Southern Water for Variation of the Lease of the recreation ground to include land adjoining for the aerial runway.

A draft letter was approved for circulation to all residents, Otterbourne Hill, concerning the status and the rights of use of Otterbourne Common and particularly pointing out that the byelaws forbid driving or parking of any kind of vehicle on the Common without lawful authority

The Internal Audit of the parish council accounts for the year 2001/2002 have been satisfactorily completed by BKR Haines Watts to comply with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996, and are to be transmitted to the Audit Commission for their External Auditor's Certificate.

A well-attended farewell function took place on the 18 November, at Otterbourne School, to wish the Rector, the Revd John Widdows, all the very best on his retirement on 25 November, due sadly to continuing ill health. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Peter Briggs spoke on the matter and also advised the assembly of his likely change in residence in April 2003.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the October meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 15th October 2002

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Dr Satish Chappiti, of Quest, Poles Lane, to the Parish Council and for him to serve on the Planning, Development and Highways Committee.

Cllr Mrs MS Davis Parish Co-ordinator of the project Parish Plan/Village Design Statement reported on the meeting held 14 October, when it was decided that monthly meetings are to be held on the third Monday of each month and, amongst other matters, that a questionnaire, is to be circulated and completed. Answers should enable an appraisal of where the Village is now.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported that a petition regarding M3 Noise is to be canvassed and that the traffic calming scheme was one week behind schedule due to a gas leak, also, that the County Surveyor's Department had been renamed The Environment.

City Cllr PK Mason reported that he was pleased to see the Parish Council were pursuing a complaint concerning the recent siting of a telephone pole on the Common; and that he will take up complaints of aircraft noise with Southampton Airport Committee. He also reported that following the WCC Cultural Strategy meeting Parish Councils will be asked for comments in due course. Cllr Mason concluded by advising that the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary will now be up to their funded level after 6/7 years.

A former councillor, Mrs PB Cole, representative to Otterbourne Conservation Group, reported that it had been decided to buy a seat, in memory of recently deceased former founder member, Les Marrant, to be sited on Sponders Mede Nature Reserve. A working party had cut back trees from over the pond, moved a compost heap and stream edges had been strimmed. She further reported that the Chairman of OCG will see HCC to get parking, skips and damage sorted out on the Common. The old churchyard in Kiln Lane was in good condition and a faculty is being sought for permission to have the flint wall rebuilt; grants will be sought towards the estimated cost of £ 10,000. The Group's input into the Village Plan will include footpaths, inventory of green spaces and heritage - (what to preserve). Mrs Cole concluded her report by advising that Denis Bright will give a talk on flooding in the Itchen Valley, on 25 November in the John Mobbs Room at the Village Hall , and that the Rights of Way Act 2002 had been published with no land in Otterbourne shown on maps. Mrs PBCole, Parish Transport Representative, advised that she is to attend a transport conference shortly; and informed the Council that the brick bus shelter and attached notice board sited in the centre of Otterbourne, in front of bungalow Old Deeds, Main Road, had been demolished as part of the traffic calming scheme. HCC are to replace the bus shelter with a timber one, and the notice board, at their expense, on an adjacent site.

Cllr MH Warne reported that under the project of landscaping an area of land and provision of seat, near the Village Hall, seeding and grass cutting were completed and a seat is to be generously donated by a recently widowed parishioner, Mrs Betty E Mobbs, and will not need to be provided by the council. Members expressed appreciation and thanks for the kind offer of Mrs Mobbs. Mr C Williams, horticulturist, is to be contacted regarding shrub planting of the land. Members agreed that Cllr Warne arrange for three notices to be displayed on the recreation ground concerning the nuisance of fouling by dogs.

Members also agreed that Cllr Warne proceed concerning a Deed of Variation in respect of a small parcel of land adjoining the recreation ground for the provision of an aerial runway, select three suppliers of aerial runways and seek planning permission.

Following complaints regarding a builders skip on the Common, the residents of Hilltop Cottages, are to be advised of the Council's views and suggested action.

A letter had been received from Mr T Revell, Letting Secretary Otterbourne Village Hall, advising that the car park at the village hall was not large enough and asking if it could be extended on to adjacent Parish Council land. It was queried if the Otterbourne Village Hall Committee were of the same opinion. C11r Mrs

MS Davis , representative to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee, to make enquiries of the Committee, after which the Council would consider the position.

Following inspection by HCC of the lights at the public car park Cranbourne Drive, it was found that sufficient spread of light to the adjoining private school car park was not possible despite recent improvements. It was regretted that nothing further can be done in this matter but it is understood the problem is to be addressed by the School Governors.

On street lighting, it was agreed to write HCC asking if their scheme of lighting with 50% grant could apply to installation of a light on the public footpath linking Main Road with Regent Close.

It was agreed to write to WCC expressing support for the proposal recently made to them for reorganising the Planning Committee into three areas.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the September meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 17th September 2002

It was unanimously agreed to coopt Mr Roger Zebedee, of 14 Regent Close, to the Parish Council and for him to serve on the Amenities and Recreation Committee.

The Chairman, Cllr PD Briggs, reported on matters which had arisen during the holiday recess which included information on the effect of lighting installed with the traffic calming scheme and its effect on adjacent properties, and advise that the surgery at Brendoncare Nursing Home will not be available to other Otterbourne patients.

Matters concerning the Parish Plan/Village Design Statement were formally agreed to enable grants to be obtained from the Countryside Agency and Winchester City Council.

Work has been put in hand for clearance of ditches and culvert at the Village Hall.

Following correspondence with Elderfield, the Chairman is to discuss matters concerning Langley Trust's possible change of policy regarding residents and Parish Council representation on Friends of Elderfield, with the Team Leader, and report back at the next meeting.

Replacement of the vandalised seat on Otterbourne Hill is to take place after completion of the traffic calming scheme.

The new Beat Officer for the Parish, PC Mark Smith, introduced himself to the meeting and gave a talk on criminal matters, also an interesting indication of his belief in the value of 'beat policing'.

It was agreed to engage Red Lion Caterers of Southampton as caterers for the Civic Senice Reception to be held on 6 October.

Regarding dog fouling at the recreation ground , it was reported that Dog Wardens have been active and Council decided not to alter our present view as regards payment to the Sports Club for 'clearing up' what is now the result of action in contravention of the law. Consideration is to be given to the provision of notices to be displayed in the recreation ground reminding dog owners that it was used widely by young children and both junior and senior sports teams and it was important therefore that owners observe the By Law on cleaning up.

Recent damage caused by the ongoing problem of vandalism occurred to the brick building, owned by the Parish Council, on the allotments, Boyatt Lane. A temporary repair undertaken proved inadequate and a permanent replacement door has been installed at a cost of £370.00. At the time of the incident the police arrived only just too late to apprehend the culprits.

Cllr Walford reported on the many planning applications and on decisions which included the decision to permit development of 12 flats at Brooklyn, Main Road, on condition that the applicant makes provision for 30% of affordable housing and that the applicant makes appropriate provision for public open space through the Open Space Funding System. He also reported on the 4 Planning Enforcement Current cases in Poles Lane and Sparrowgrove.

On Finance, it was noted that the name only of the Youth Club Bank A/C had been changed to Business Call A/C and concerning the new Audit Regime, the required Statements of Assurance were agreed.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the July meeting of the Parish Council held in the Church Room at St Matthew's Church on 16th July 2002

It was regretted that The Revd EJ Widdows was no longer a member of the Parish Council due to his inability to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the appropriate time because of his illness in hospital, which Declaration is a requirement under the terms of the new Code of Conduct applicable to all Councillors. It is hoped that The Revd Widdows will soon be well enough to be co-opted back on the Council at an early date.

Members were pleased to accept the kind offer of former councillor, Mrs Pam Cole, to continue to serve as the Parish Council's Transport Representative.

County Councillor Mrs A Bailey reported the concerns of local residents regarding the problems that could arise by travellers should they move their caravans from Shawford car park to open space land in Cranbourne Drive, Otterbourne; and that a notice of eviction of the caravans is to be served on 17 July. She also reported on the site visit concerning the planning application for 12 flats at Brooklyn, Main Road, and submitted a copy letter from parishioner, Mr JHE Flower, to Inspector of Road Traffic Control, Hampshire Police HQ, expressing concern at the proposed access directly opposite the successful one way system to exit Williams Garage; and that signatures are to be obtained on a petition regarding the proposed development. Mrs Bailey further reported that complaints had been received regarding noise from lorries leaving Integra, Poles Lane, at 5.00am, loaded with old fridges being moved for transport on an early ferry. She added that permission for these had already been given by HCC which prompted Cllr Briggs to request that the Parish Council would wish to receive copies of such permissions granted in future to enable enquiries from parishioners to be given a reply. Mrs Bailey agreed to make this view known to HCC.

District Councillor PK Mason reported on the important matter of recycling and advised that WCC, who perform badly, are to purchase leaflets for distribution and are to provide for surplus bins for other waste to be relabelled as necessary. The Chairman suggested some householders had no surplus bins but would utilise a second recycling bin if provided. Cllr Mason said he accepted that view and would report it to WCC.

District Councillor Mrs C Bailey reported that an important consultation is to be held, on the 24 July, concerning the Winchester District Landscape Character Assessment with the intention that the Assessment will be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance.. Cllr P Walford is to attend. Mrs C Bailey also reported that WCC are to object in principle to A South Down National Park but are to make comments as are the Parish Council

A wide ranging discussion took place, with all councillors taking part, concerning the problems that may arise should the travellers move their caravans from the car park at Shawford, to the open space land at Cranbourne Drive, Otterbourne. Suggestions were made that dragons teeth boundary markers should be installed on the frontages to Cranbourne Drive and Coles Mede to prevent vehicle access. It was finally agreed to leave the matter at present as the installation of the numerous boundary markers would have a permanent effect on the environment to counter a short term annoyance.

Mrs PB Cole reported on the Transport Forum held on 9 July, which was poorly attended and concentrated on Youth Transport. Tried 3 schemes to try to get young people to places of entertainment on Friday and Saturday evenings specific bus services, pre bookable bus services and taxi sharing but all schemes failed. HCC have appointed 2 new officers to identify needs of young and develop schemes. HCC have 14 mopeds loaned to young people to get to college and work at a cost of £7 per week of which £5 covers cost of helmets, gloves and moped training and £2 deposit returnable if well behaved.

The latest acts of vandalism occurred on the allotments when taps were turned on and left running all night and the brick store broken into with damage to the door. A temporary repair has been effected to the door which may prove substantial enough to remain permanent subject to approval of the Allotments Association. The Parish Council are responsible for water charges and for repairs to the brick store.

The new Beat Officer for the Parish with effect from 1 August is PC Mark Smith who is to be contacted with a view to an early meeting with the Chairman.

Traffic calming works are due to commence on 29 July and take a period of 16 weeks for works on Otterbourne Hill and two roundabouts. Notices have been received regarding temporary 30 mph speed limit on Main Road/Otterbourne Hill and on Kiln Lane for 125 metres east from the junction with Otterbourne Hill and closure of unnamed road across the Common for 1 00 metres from junction with Otterbourne Hill.

Concerns were expressed at the proposal by contractors, Mildren Construction Ltd, to use a grassed part of the Common for storage and mess room and part of the unnamed road across the Common for parking. Agreed that the road could be used for parking but not the grassed part of the Common and possible alternative sites were discussed (since the meeting an exchange of views with the contractor and HCC has taken place on site).

Cllr Walford on behalf of Otterbourne PC, and Cllr Warne on behalf of Otterbourne Conservation Group, attended the site viewing meeting at Brooklyn, Main Road, regarding the planning application for 12 flats where parishioners spoke out strongly. The Viewing Sub-Committee are to refer back to the developer asking for reconsideration of the overall size and a reduction from 12 to 10 units. Each member of WCC Planning Development Control Committee is to be contacted drawing attention to the positioning of the waste bins at the proposed development in relation to existing properties and requesting that the developers be asked to reposition these bins so that they do not cause a problem to existing householders should the Committee be mindful to agree the planning application.

Following a site inspection by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with Mr PJ Hawkey, Southern Water, of land adjoining the recreation ground regarding its suitability for play equipment for older children, it was agreed that the strip of land offered could accommodate an aerial runway only subject to assurances by Southern Water that an extension of the lease of the recreation ground will be granted; also that the Parish Council obtain clarification of funding of the project.

It was agreed to invite applications for a second tranche grants for youth organisations up to a value of £250 from funds formerly held by Otterbourne Youth Club, for the period ending 31 December 2002. Notices will in due course be displayed on notice boards setting out the criteria to be met on applications for grants.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the June meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 18th June 2002

The Chairman read the letter of resignation from Mrs Pam Cole, and his reply, when members expressed regret at her leaving the Parish Council after her long and conscientious service. Mrs Cole to be contacted asking if she was prepared to continue serving as the Parish Transport Representative to HCC

County Councillor Mrs Ann Bailey reported on the Community Strategy Partnerships and that consultations were taking place regarding a six week school term with six terms per annum. Mrs Bailey also reported that she is to attend a WCC Planning meeting on 20 June, concerning the application for twelve flats at Brooklyn and that HCC had opened a 34 mile long footpath from Winchester to Farnborough. She concluded by reporting on the Children's Fund which provides money for projects.

District Councillor Peter Mason reported that the City Council were no longer in debt and can now utilise funds, that the Cabinet has been reduced from 8 to 5 members, and that the Council Plan for the coming year will be more readable. Cllr Mason also reported that he will attend the WCC Planning meeting on 20 June, concerning the application for twelve flats at Brooklyn, and that the Planning Viewing Sub-Committee may in due course be superseded with photographs.

Following consideration of a letter from an elderly resident of Oakwood Avenue, concerning the increasing frequency of footballs being kicked into his garden from the recreation ground, it was decided that nothing could be done by the Parish Council to prevent this nuisance although it was agreed to be lamentable.

Copy of correspondence, with notice of a petition, had been received from Cllr P Wall, of Eastleigh Borough Council, seeking the provision of play facilities at Otterbourne Hill. It was reported to Cllr Wall, through our County Councillor, that the Parish Council own no land on which to provide play facilities and that provision of such facilities on Otterbourne Common are precluded by law.

Shortly after repairs had been effected at a cost of £145 to the two wooden bus shelters at corner of Poles Lane and corner Oakwood Avenue, they were again vandalised and further repair costs will be incurred.

On proposed traffic calming measures for Otterbourne, it was noted that Mr J Pitman had written to the Hampshire Chronicle claiming that the people of Otterbourne did not want the scheme and that Mrs S Graham had also written to the Hampshire Chronicle pointing out that before the scheme was agreed wide public consultation in Otterbourne had taken place when the majority of people in the village had expressed a view in favour of the scheme.

It was reported that Otterbourne Conservation Group may have to cease activities unless appropriate insurance cover can be effected by Cornhill Insurance which covers the PC.

Cllrs P Walford and MH Warne attended a seminar on 11 June, at Petersfield, concerning the proposed very extensive South Downs National Park and are to formulate recommendations for consideration at the next council meeting. The most controversial part of the scheme is the planning aspect and its boundaries.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the May meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 21st May 2002

Mr Peter Briggs was unanimously re-elected Chairman, and Mr Michael Wame unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman, at the May meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

The Chairman read Miss Jane Ellaby's letter of resignation and his reply expressing regret at her resignation, and the thanks of all members for her past contribution to the work of the Council. Mrs Pamela Cole advised that she will continue as a member of the Council for one year and resign in 2003 but subsequently, on 23 May, Mrs Cole tendered her resignation. Notices were displayed on the 27 May advising that there are two vacancies on the Council.

Cllr Mrs Mary Davis submitted a report of the well attended meeting held on the 20 May, in the John and Betty Mobbs Room, Otterbourne Village Hall, regarding the Parish Plan/Appraisal/ Village Design Statement proposed project, which revealed good support of 12 volunteers for the project. A lively question and answer session followed addresses of three invited speakers. The report stated that the next

step would be to drop explanatory literature of the project to every house in the village with an invitation to an Open Meeting on Monday 24 June seeking help with the project.'

Cllr Mrs Pam Cole reported that Otterbourne Conservation Group members wished to stand for office again only if new insurance cover could be found as claims could fall on individual members. No sign of a Roman Road had been found on Sponders Mede Nature Reserve. The Bourne had probably been wider years ago and was a ford in the 1880s. The report continued by advising that Mr Chris Curry will be the speaker at the AGM on 4 June when his subject will be the archaeology of North Stoneham, and went on to say that the bottom stile in Otterbourne Wood had disappeared and the top gate was not keeping out cyclists and horse riders. The Group was asked to support the Parish Plan/Appraisal/Village Design Statement project and notice of any help available to be given to Cllr Mrs Mary Davis. The amendments to the plans for Brooklyn were discussed and the Group decided to renew objections. In conclusion, Cllr Mrs Cole's report stated that the proposed route for cyclists as suggested by Sustrans group was discussed and received no enthusiastic response.

Cllr Mrs Pam Cole also reported on the Road Safety Council meeting held on the 10 May, which revealed that WCC are happy to allow posters, reminding parents to restrain children, to be posted in their car parks.

It was noted that the Annual Civic Service will be held in St Matthew's Church, Otterbourne, at 10.30 am on Sunday 6 October 2002, and following the kind permission of Mr M Graveling, Head Teacher Otterbourne Primary School, the reception will be held in the school hall.

Concerning the Queens Golden Jubilee Celebration, members agreed that £150 be paid to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee for the benefit of Mrs Gill Macdonald and Group who are to mount a Jubilee Picnic Party at the school grounds.

Following discussion of a letter, dated 24 April, from Ms Liza Kinch, Guide Guider,

1st Allbrook Guides, it was decided to grant the sum of £250 from the Youth Club Account to provide finance for equipment

A plan of the proposed cycle route through the parish, submitted by the Sustrans Group, was given careful consideration and decided that concerns be expressed and representations made to the Hampshire Regional Manager, Sustrans, concerning 1) the proposed route past the school through the existing pathway round the car park into Cranbourne Drive into Main Road at the Cole Mede junction and 2) the Recreation Ground route

Concerning M3 Noise, a letter had been received from the Highways Agency, advising that they were confident that they used the best data available at the time regarding the growth of traffic and the volume of traffic per day but since 1985 the national traffic growth has nationally been higher than predicted, and the attraction of traffic from completion of works on the A34, A31 and M27 together with the Swaythling Link extremely difficult to predict. The traffic analysis of the Container Port indicated that the effect on the M3 would be minimal. The programming of any maintenance in the future would be dependant on the regular surveys of the road that are carried out and if greater wear does occur then it would increase the probability of maintenance being brought forward, which would include the provision of quieter surfacing. The letter concluded by advising that there are not any plans for further amelioration measures as the M3 does not meet the necessary criteria, but when the M3 is resurfaced it will be finished with a quieter surface.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the April meeting of the Parish Council and of the Annual Assembly held at Otterbourne Village Hall on 16th April 2002

The new Code of Conduct for Parish Councillors was adopted and will be operative with effect from the 5th May. Members will be required to notify their financial and other interests to the Monitoring Officer,

WCC, and sign a new Declaration of Acceptance of Office undertaking to abide by the terms of the Code of Conduct.

An invoice from the Sports Club, in the sum of £260.00 for clearing pitches of dog faeces at Oakwood Park, was not accepted as it was decided. that the Parish Council could no longer meet this charge as a dog bin had been installed and was regularly emptied which had fulfilled the Council's obligations in the matter. Club to be advised that they should contact Environmental Health Department, WCC.

Objection is to be made to the amended plans submitted for development of 12 flats at Brooklyn, Main Road, and HCC advised in case the revised access to the development would effect the proposed refuge, near Williams Garage, in the traffic calming scheme.

A referendum was held to test public opinion regarding a swing bay on the Cranbourne Drive green area. Of the 112 ballot papers issued, only 10 were returned with 8 of those being against the idea. The proposal was not taken any further. Also on Cranbourne Drive a barrier was installed at the bottom of the footpath to deter cyclists from speeding out into Coles Mede.

The situation concerning traffic through Otterbourne should now show a minor improvement when the Materials Recycling Facility is moved but this type of waste only accounts for 6-8% of the total traffic load. To make any serious impact on our problem we have to find a way of removing the lorries carrying Materials Waste Products. Chances of closing the site are slight and persuasion of the Highways Agency and HCC to build a spur road off the M3 have so far proved unsuccessful.

A grant of £5,000 was made by the Council towards the cost of the new Village Hall extension and we have placed on record our appreciation of the efforts of the Village Hall Committee which have resulted in an excellent new hall.

The Precept on Winchester City Council for the coming year was agreed in the sum of £28,300 being an increase of 9.6% on the previous year, but the first increase for two years. Examination and explanation of the accounts revealed that the finances of the Council remain in a healthy state.

Written proposals for a Parish Plan/Appraisal/Village Design Statement were presented to the Annual Assembly with a view to seeking parishioners interested in volunteering to assist on such a project.

Police Sergeant Ord advised the Assembly that 3 Police Constables were being interviewed

for the post of Beat Officer for the Parish and should be in post in a month or two. It was proposed to site a mobile Police Station on the forecourt of Williams Garage from time to time to improve public relations. He also gave the number and type of crimes committed within the Parish and advised that Otterbourne was a 'safe' area.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the March meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 19th March 2002

It was agreed to write to Sgt W. Ord at Twyford Police Station drawing attention to the long delay in appointing a Beat Officer for the parish of Otterbourne and in the meantime to receive a monthly report of crime in the parish as provided by the former Beat Officer, PC Clive Barham.

Following discussion of the Otterbourne Traffic Calming Scheme, a letter is to be sent to HCC asking if a 30 mph speed limit through Otterbourne could be installed before implementation of the of the scheme.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole reported on a meeting with Otterbourne Conservation Group which revealed that the Group's insurance premiums could double which would be unfair to small Groups and that a tiered system would appear to be more appropriate and that there was pressure for this solution. An estimate has been sought for cost of work necessary on flint wall at East side of the Old Churchyard, Kiln Lane. and as coping bricks are very expensive and flints are lying around the site the Group decided to scout the area

and collect these materials. The Woodland Trust has been asked to tell the Parish Council and the Conservation Group of any works being carried out in Otterbourne Park Wood:- undergrowth would be cut back 10m between Stoney Chute path and fields, dead Turkey Oaks felled but specimen trees left (not subject to TPOs). A notice is to be placed in the Parish Magazine asking for any photographs of the village of 1930s and 40s for the archives. Mrs Cole concluded by advising that the AGM of OCG would be on 4 June in the Village Hall and that a working party at Sponders Mede Nature Reserve had picked up litter and cleared the ditch.

Cllr Mrs Mary Davis reported on the opening of the John and Betty Mobbs Room, at the Village Hall, and that the Otterbourne Village Hall Committee prepared and funded the reception following John Mobbs' funeral as their Memorial to John. Mrs Davis also reported that a profit of approx £4,000 was made from the pantomime; that more work is needed to accomplish storage areas for tables and chairs at the hall; that security for the car park is to be researched. The Clerk is to write to Mr J Pitman, Chairman OVHC, asking if storage space could be made available for the Parish Council's document boxes presently stored at Shawford Parish Hall.

Regarding disbursement of Youth Club Funds, it was unanimously agreed to grant the sum of £250 to each of the following three bodies: Top of the Hill Cricket towards cost of repair of tractor and gang mower; Otterbourne Youth Football Club towards cost of football strip; 15th Chandlers Ford Scout Group towards purchase of camping equipment.

A draft letter was approved to accompany the notices/agendas of the Annual Parish Meeting (Assembly) to be circulated throughout the parish with information concerning the preparation of a 'Village Plan' and to gauge enthusiasm and willingness of parishioners to devote time voluntary to the project. If no support, the matter is to be dropped.

Following the recommendation of City Cllr Peter Mason an application is to be submitted to Winchester District Association of Parish Councils seeking a grant towards the Parish Project 2002/2003 - the planting of mixed bulbs and shrubs for display to improve the appearance of the village.

Concerning the Twyford Patient Participation Group, Cllr Peter Briggs reported on the last Steering Committee Meeting and the Open Meeting which concerned Diabetics and Treatment and which revealed that of the 9000 patients, 500 were Diabetic.

With regard to a complaint concerning vehicles degrading the grass surfacing to the triangles at the junction between Brooklyn Close and Main Road, it was reported that the Parish Council are waiting to hear from HCC regarding installation of bollards.

A two seat swing bay and safety surfacing has been satisfactorily installed in the play compound at the Recreation Ground for the sum of £6,782 (inc. VAT). The cost of this project is funded by Winchester City Council from the Open Spaces Fund.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the February meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 19th February 2002

It was reported that a site meeting had been held with all interested parties regarding resurfacing of the access road to the church and a reply is awaited from HCC and WCC.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported on various matters including the provision of play facilities, filling of pot holes on Main Road and that road surface dressing to be carried out from Kiln Lane and Otterbourne Hill should be extended through the village. Also included other matters that HCC members are to attend training schemes that she is to attend an Environment meeting and that Government money will be available in September to establish nursery education.

Cllr, Mrs PB Cole read her Road Safety Report which emphasised that contrary to popular belief more children are injured in cars than as pedestrians or pedal cyclists. Therefore the Government's aim of 50% reduction in child injuries could be accompanied by a determined effort to educate parents of the necessity to use child restraints in cars. Warnings and advice by Road Safety Officers would be followed by police enforcement targeted in areas where children in cars are mostly found e.g. outside schools and shopping centres. The report also included numbers of casualties in various groups. In conclusion the report stated that our child casualties are higher than any other European country because of higher car ownership and overcrowded country.

Cllr Miss J Ellaby reported that after discussion by the Jubilee Party Group it was decided that the school grounds were the better option as a venue for the Queen's Jubilee Party for which preparations are well in hand. As this venue removed the need for Public Liability Insurance of £150 promised to be paid by the Parish Council, it was agreed by the Council that this money may be used for any purpose associated with the Jubilee Celebration and approved by the Council.

A wide ranging discussion took place concerning the mandatory new Model Code of Conduct for Councillors, including the Registration of Members' Interests. The matter is to be discussed again in April with a view to making decisions on the matter and signing undertakings to observe the

Code . Failure to sign an undertaking will result in the councillor ceasing to be a member.

Following car break-ins at the school, it was agreed to seek advice and costings from HCC concerning improved lighting at the Council's car park, Cranbourne Drive, to illuminate the locality including a more effective spread of light to the adjoining school car park. The scheme is to improve lamps and lanterns to all three lamp standards but one of the units, nearest to the school car park to be raised four feet with provision of two four feet arms.

Cllr P Walford is to inspect the grass verges in Cranbury Close and at the green Coles Mede which have been damaged due to parking; and our contractors, Taurus Garden Services, are to be asked to clear the litter from the car park in Cranbourne Drive.

Following recent power cuts in the area, the matter is to be raised with Southern Electric.

It was agreed that the Parish Project for 2002/2003 should be a planting of mixed bulbs and shrubs for display to improve the appearance of the village. However, subsequently on 20 February, the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils advised that grants for Parish Projects in 2002/2003 had been cancelled due to lack of funding of the scheme by Winchester City Council.

Following a request from the Parochial Church Council, the Parish Council agreed to accept liability for maintenance of the Old Churchyard, Kiln Lane. Otterbourne Conservation Group are marking out the church site and are seeking costings to restore a 30m flint wall.

A letter is to be sent to Southern Water indicating our agreement to accepting any lease offered and our intention to install an aerial runway, approx. 20m long and with an area of safety surfacing, sat a cost of £9,000, leaving the question of a skateboard facility to a later stage. The length of the term of the lease of the offered land is also to be raised, as a long lease is necessary to facilitate funding.

It was reported that an order has been placed for repair of taps at the allotments at a cost of less than £100.

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Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the January meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall on 15th January 2002.

It was unanimously agreed that the new member, Mr Ian Phillips, serve on the Planning, Development and Highways Committee.

County Cllr Mrs Arm Bailey reported that she is awaiting a reply from Mr PJ Hawkey of Southern Water concerning their offer of a lease of land for a skateboard facility and their views for use of the land for a play area. Mrs Bailey also reported that she had objected to the planning application for demolition of Brooklyn, Main Road, and development of the site with 12 flats and 2 houses. She continued by advising that an M3 Noise meeting is to be held shortly and that the Otterbourne traffic calming scheme will commence in March. Concluding matters indicated that negotiations are to be held concerning inspection and resurfacing of the school road. that she is to meet with the new Area Surveyor, HCC, Mr Colin Taylor, when she will raise the matter of holes on Kiln Lane and that the new planning Green Paper proposes material changes.

Cllr Briggs advised that the Chamberlayne Estate are anxious regarding the temporary storage of plant on church road for traffic calming works and the effect on entry to Church Lodge and traffic access to the church.

Cllr Peter Mason reported that leaves had been cleared from the footway, Otterbourne Hill and from the footpath, Stoney Chute, Otterbourne Common. and that wrecked cars are to be cleared from Highbridge. He also reported that he is to contact the agent for the Chamberlayne Estate regarding control of access from church road to cottage Church Lodge.

A letter, dated 17 December, had been received from County Cllr Ken Thornber concerning the retention of the Materials Recycling Facility, (MRF) at Poles Lane was considered unsatisfactory but it was decided that no reply was warranted. The letter acknowledged that it as appreciated that the Parish Council and residents are against the whole operation (MRF and Waste Disposal Unit) and wish to see it relocated. It was agreed that Cllr Briggs contact Mr J Collis of Integra to arrange a meeting or meetings to consider site activities and lorry throughput.

The Distribution of Youth Club Funds was discussed and the criteria for application for a grant of money to local youth organisations were agreed. The total sum is £2,270.79 and grants up to £250 are to be made during the period ending 30 June 2002. It is envisaged that this will be followed by. a further tranche of applications for the period ending 31 December.

**An information notice will be published in the Church Magazine, on Parish Notice Boards, at Williams Garage at Otterbourne Primary School and the Web Site.** The Parish Council noted the school's desire to sponsor a Pre-School Group and the progress it had made towards the addition of a drama and music room to the existing building for use by pupils.

Cllr Phillips is to keep the council apprised and the issue will be reviewed later.

In view of the lack of significant support for the provision of swings at Cranbourne Drive, it was unanimously agreed not to pursue the matter and advise Winchester City Council accordingly.

A new Code of Conduct for Parish Councillors has been published and is presently being studied by members.

Following the consideration of details that had been circulated, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Budget and Precept on Winchester City Council for the sum of £28,300, representing an increase of 9.6% on the previous year, but the first increase for two years.

On planning, it was agreed to object, on various grounds, to the demolition of Brooklyn, Main Road, Otterbourne and development of the site with a two and three storey block of 12 one and two bedroom flats, 2 three bedroom semi-detached dwellings with associated parking and new access.

#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 15th December 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the December meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Nigel Ian Phillips to serve on the Parish Council, making a full complement of nine members.

City Cllr Peter Mason reported that he and County Cllr Mrs Arm Bailey had met with Mr PJ Hawkey of Southern Water concerning the offer of SW to lease land at the recreation ground to the Parish Council for a proposed skateboard facility. It was agreed that Mrs Bailey pace the area of the site and produce a sketch for SW as to what to erect on the site . Views were expressed suggesting that the land be a play area for children up to 14/15 years of age. SW stated at the meeting that they could see no possible problem regarding a term of lease of sufficient length to attract funding of a facility, but the matter will have to be referred to the landowner, Scottish Power, for a decision. Cllr Mason further reported that the planning application for a proposed telephone mast at Highbridge (within the parish) had been refused on grounds of visual impact, and concluded with a report on restructuring of council house rents and Council Tax increases by HCC and WCC.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole attended the Parish Transport Representatives meeting on 24 November and reported that Chandlers Ford Station is to be opened in next 2 years; cycle locks to be introduced at 18 stations; journey planners can be found on Hants Web; Waterloo to Exeter trains to be extended to Plymouth; direct Southampton to Swindon services; new Virgin Voyager trains in service. On buses, reported that new contracts are to be signed; shortage of drivers makes timetabling difficult; more accessible buses in use. Cllr Mrs Cole concluded by advising that she and Compton Representative asked if 'ROMANSE' signs, which display bus information coming shortly, could be blanked out to save explanations to parishioners why, after three and a half years, they are not working, but no such undertaking was given.

The Chairman, Cllr Peter Briggs, reported that former parish councillor Mrs Glynis Green, was happy- to resume her position as the parish council's representative on 'Friends of Elderfield' which kind offer was appreciated and accepted by all.

Following consideration of a letter from HCC, concerning traffic calming measures, it was noted that a brick-built gateway with 30mph sign adjacent to 'Penarth', Otterbourne Hill, was not possible to proceed with on safety grounds, and the proposed cycle lane (Kiln Lane to road across the Common) should not be coloured red as it is felt that the extensive area of the cycleway would, if coloured, detract from the nature of the village. The letter also asked the Parish Councils input in deciding the treatment of certain verge areas in the proximity of Kiln Lane, part 1m wide section to be grassed and wider area planted with growing shrubs. Another area of verge being created on the Northeast corner of the Kiln Lane roundabout could be planted or maintained as grass. The Council are to respond regarding an alternative type of 30mph sign and position, that the cycle lane not be coloured red on the understanding that safety railings will be provided and that all verges be grassed.

On planning, it was reported that the application for commercial development at 'Penarth', Otterbourne Hill, had been refused, also, the application for 9 dwellings at Allbrook, on the grounds of design. The planning committee is to consider the proliferation of telephone masts in the area and seek planning guidance on decisions.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 20th November 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the November meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

It was reported that the Chairman had written to Southern Water concerning their offer to lease land adjoining the recreation ground for provision of a skateboard facility. A reply is awaited before any progress can be made in this matter which will, of necessity have to include a long term of the lease in order to attract funding of a facility.

Cllr Walford gave a summary of the very well attended Public Meeting at which the issue of M3 Noise, in the parishes of Otterbourne and Compton & Shawford, was considered and at which many questions were raised and assurances given by Mark Oaten MP, County, District, and Parish Councils that the matter will be vigorously pursued with a view to the government releasing early funds for quieter road surfacing as on roads elsewhere.

County Cllr Mrs Bailey reported that the traffic calming scheme for Otterbourne will probably start early next year.

Cllr Mrs Cole reported on a meeting of the Road Safety Committee where the only matter of particular interest was the fact that if Hampshire wish to reach Government targets of a 50% reduction in child deaths and injuries in road accidents in the next 10 years the necessity of using child restraints in cars must be drummed into parents. Cllr Mrs Cole also reported on a meeting of the Otterbourne Conservation Group who had asked Mr John Davis to make a metal plaque with logo to put on parapet of bridge over the Bourne to explain grooves in parapet made by hoses of steam vehicles, which had to have a full tank to make it up Otterbourne Hill. She also reported that a marker is to be placed on Sponders Mede Nature Reserve to show route of Roman Road over the reserve and the Millennium Project kissing gate is to be opened by Mark Oaten MP on 30 November at 12:30.

Consideration is to be given as to how distribution of monies of the former Youth Club (presently £2,269.36) should be made and when the basis on which to accept applications is decided the matter will be well publicised.

Enquiries are to be made concerning the possibility of taking over derelict allotment plots adjoining ours in Boyatt Lane. but owned by and situated in the Borough of Eastleigh.

It was reported that investigations are not yet complete regarding the liability for maintenance of the Old Churchyard, Kiln Lane.

On planning, Cllr Walford reported that he is to attend a meeting in Eastleigh on 27 November, concerning the planning applications for 9 dwellings at Allbrook and commercial development at Penarth, Otterbourne Hill, and outlined the grounds of objection to be made at the meeting.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 16th October 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the October meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Mr PJ Hawkey and Mr M Wadsworth of Southern Water gave an interesting talk on the subject of their 'Comprehensive Woodland Planting Scheme'. The scheme provides for planting of a mix of various trees and shrubs on large parcels of land within Southern Water's 400 acres in Otterbourne with no increase in the provision of public paths. The additional plantings will also provide protection for flora and fauna and will be managed by a local forester.

Concerning Otterbourne Materials Recycling Facility, it was agreed to write to our solicitors, Dutton Gregory, accepting their advice in this matter i.e. that the PC continue to make HCC aware of the Parish Council's anxiety about the health and welfare of parishioners and of its wish to have the MRF moved away from Otterbourne as soon as possible. Also to ask to be kept informed of matters relating to this issue. A letter from the PC to the County Planning Officer, concerning Continued Use of the complete Facility in Poles Lane, suggested that a period of three years was reasonable for the entire operation (Waste and MRF) to be relocated in a more suitable setting,

It was noted that the Regulatory Committee of HCC had granted planning permission on the 12th September for the Continuing Use of the MRF until 31 December 2003 as suggested by the Parish Council in lieu of the application by Hampshire Waste Services for continuation to 31 December 2005.

It was reported that County Cllr Mrs A Bailey, in her report at the Otterbourne Parish Council meeting of 18 September, said that she would be seeing Mr J Ryder, HCC, regarding the provision of two sets of railings on Otterbourne Hill. However, the Traffic Calming Scheme accepted by Otterbourne Parish Council included provision for one set of railings only in that area.

The Sports Club licence agreement has been drawn up and the agreed document is to be forwarded to Mr I Ritchie, Chairman Otterbourne Sports Club, for signature.

As the Parish Project, landscaping at the village hall, would cost £550 to turf, approach is to be made to the Langley House Trust at 'Elderfield' for advice as to seeding which is estimated to cost £60-£70.

Three quotations were considered for replacement of a damaged two seat swing bay and for replacement of bark with wet-pour safety surfacing under two swing bays in the play compound at the recreation ground. The quotation of Redlynch Leisure Installations Ltd was accepted in the total sum of £5,894 plus VAT. The cost is to be met from the Open Space Fund held by Winchester City Council.

Following concerns of WCC regarding the inadequate provision of play facilities in the parish, the views of residents in Cranbourne Drive and Coles Mede are to be obtained regarding the possible provision of swings on the Public Open Space, Cranbourne Drive.

City Cllr Mrs Charlotte Bailey is to convene a Public Meeting on 8 November at 7.30 p.m. at Otterbourne Village Hall to consider the matter of M3 Noise. A leaflet drop with notification of the meeting is to be made to every household. In attendance will be Mark Oaten MP, Councillors from HCC and WCC the Environmental Health Officer, WCC, and representatives of the Highways Agency and Mott MacDonald.

Following the accident report of Mrs Elizabeth Bishop, concerning her children, at the September meeting, Cllr P Walford reported that he had approached HCC regarding the traffic calming scheme, also WCC, and learnt that it was not possible to alter the scheme to accommodate the safety suggestions of Cllr EJ Widdows. However, it was agreed to treat the suggestions as additional to the scheme, when completed, by seeking the landowner's consent to permanently close the entrance via Otterbourne Hill to Church Road by the War Memorial and thereby only provide traffic access to and exit from Church Road and School Road from the proposed roundabout to be built at the bottom of Otterbourne Hill opposite to church/school entrance and Kiln Lane.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 18th September 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the September meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Following the closure date for the return of the public questionnaires concerning the Otterbourne Traffic Calming Scheme, a Consultation Report prepared by the County Surveyor was circulated to all Parish Councillors, followed by a meeting with officers of HCC. Agreed that the contents of the Consultation Report fairly expressed the discussions which had taken place earlier.

It was unanimously agreed to nominate Mr N I Phillips to continue serving as the School Governor representing Otterbourne Parish Council on the governing body of Otterbourne CofE Primary School.

A letter had been received from Otterbourne Sports Club expressing concern about the size of the car park at the Recreation Ground being of inadequate size to accommodate their members and visitors when matches are taking place at the Recreation Ground. The matter was deferred pending consideration by the Amenities and Recreation Committee.

The draft Licence Agreement between the Parish Council and Otterbourne Sports Club, regarding the football pitches and pavilion at the Recreation Ground, which has been perused by the Council's solicitors, is to be prepared as a formal Licence Agreement for signature of the parties.

Agreed that a sum of up to £ 10,000 be lent to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee for a maximum period of 2 years to meet a possible cash flow problem due to unexpected increases to the total cost of the extension. This loan is subject to The Charity Commissioners' approval. It was also agreed to make a grant of £500 to Otterbourne Parochial Church Council towards the cost of resurfacing the path to the graveyard in recognition of our statutory liability.

The Council is awaiting quotations for a replacement two seat swing bay and wet-pour safety surfacing to replace part of the wood bark chippings in the play compound at the Recreation Ground.

Further information on the Integra situation in Poles Lane was received and is under consideration.

Mrs E Bishop addressed the Council concerning the accident to her two children caused by an out-of-control car travelling down Otterbourne Hill and mounting the pavement close to the village primary school. The car swerved to avoid another vehicle turning out of St Matthew's Church Road next to the school. Following Mrs Bishop's plea for something to be done to quell the speed of traffic and the parking outside the church, Cllr P Walford, Chairman of the Highways Committee, noted all comments made and will report back. He advised Mrs Bishop that the imminent Traffic Calming Scheme for Otterbourne will include features for reducing speed including a 30 mph speed limit from Penarth House through the village, and will provide for the provision of railings down Otterbourne Hill, on the opposite side of the church, to provide safety for pedestrians.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 17th July 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the July meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey submitted a report on the Public Exhibition of the proposed traffic calming measures, attended by 210 people and a number who had contacted HCC to make comments because they were unable to visit the exhibition. A final analysis of representations will be made by the end of July, when HCC hope to meet with the Parish Council. The report also stated Cllr Mrs Bailey had written a letter of objection to the application for extended temporary planning permission on the Materials Recycling Facility, Poles Lane, for a period of 5 years and that she had suggested a 6 months extension. The report concluded that, following complaints about the narrow width of the footway on Otterbourne Road, Compton, and Main Road, Otterbourne, the footways north of Poles Lane roundabout had been cleaned with an earth mover which has increased the width of the footway considerably.

Cllr P Walford reported on the planning application from Hampshire Waste Services for an extension of Temporary Planning Permission to the end of year 2005 in respect of the Materials Recycling Facility Poles Lane. The application which only concerns the MRF and has no relevance to the waste disposal side of the operation, is not to be opposed as its purpose is understood to be in order that further investigation into alternative sites may be made in the interim. It was reiterated in debate that the Council's intentions is to continue to vigorously urge relocation of all. or a substantial part, of the whole operation.

Objection is to be made to the Perbury planning application for development on land adjoining Penarth House, Otterbourne Hill.

A meeting has taken place with representatives of WCC Legal Department and HCC Surveyor's Department concerning the status of the gravel track across the Common, known locally as Red Lane. It was considered that the status of 'Private Street' is wrong and has yet to be determined. WCC is to give that matter further consideration.

The Parish Council is opposed to any alterations which might affect the status of Otterbourne Hill Common as set out in the Commons Act 1899 and Byelaws approved on 27 October 1965.

It was reported that the majority who attended the Public Exhibition of the Traffic Calming Scheme were prepared to accept the proposed scheme. The final analysis of the representations will be made by HCC by the end of July, when it is hoped to have a meeting with the Parish Council.

Terms of a draft for a new Licence Agreement regarding the football pitches and pavilion at the recreation ground and negotiated with the Sports Club were accepted and are to be perused by the Council's solicitors.

Discussion took place on disposal of the sum of £2,266.79 which was deposited with the Council in November 1991, on the closure of Otterbourne Youth Club, for a period of 10 years. The position will be considered in detail at the November meeting.

Remedial works to flooding of part of the play compound at the recreation ground has been effected and a quotation is awaited for replacement of the swing bay with rotting uprights with new equipment conforming with present Health and Safety requirements.

Three quotations were considered for cleaning and repair of the War Memorial of which that of Messrs Vokes & Beck was accepted in the sum of £ 1,032.11 plus VAT. The total amount in the Lloyds TSB War Memorial Account amounting to £718.67 is to be used towards the cost and the account closed.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 19th June 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the June meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Former Council member, Mrs Glynis Green, has tendered her resignation, due to family and work commitments, and the Chairman is to write thanking her for her past valuable services.

PC Clive Barham submitted his written report on Recorded Crime in Otterbourne Parish to 19 June, which indicated the theft of a cycle helmet, car maker's badges, and a break-in and theft of cash from the shop at Poles Lane golf course. Also, that two school girls were indecently exposed to at Otterbourne Hill.

PC Barham agreed to watch for the riding of motorcycles in the wood leading down from Otterbourne Reservoir, which matter was reported by Cllr Walford.

PC Barham informed the Parish Council that he be leaving the area on 9 July, as part of a career move, and stated that he had enjoyed his stay as Beat Officer for the two parishes of Otterbourne and Compton & Shawford, also that police cover for the area will be maintained until a new Beat Officer is appointed in due course.

The Chairman expressed thanks to PC Clive Barham for his 7 years service as Beat Officer for the area.

Concerning planning permissions and lorry movements at the Integra/Hampshire Waste Services Facility, Poles Lane, members were read a copy letter of 22 May from the Parish Council's solicitors, Dutton Gregory to HCC. The letter asked, amongst very many relevant matters, how HCC proposed to ensure that the European Convention on Human Rights of parishioners is addressed and protected in the decisions made by HCC in respect of the waste facility, not only as planning authority but also as employer of Hampshire Waste Services Ltd. Also, in particular how will the County Council justify any further increase in volume of heavy goods traffic requiring access to the site.

Following a 'walk through' of the area covered by the proposed traffic calming scheme, with representatives of HCC, further representations were made by the Parish Council, which have been included with plans to be displayed at the Public Exhibition to be mounted by HCC at the School on 6th and 7th July. Notices of the exhibition, with times, are to be published in the Parish Magazine and displayed on parish notice boards. HCC have agreed to carry out a leaflet drop to every house in Otterbourne advising details of the Public Exhibition when views will be welcomed from parishioners. A parish councillor will be in attendance throughout the exhibition.

The results of the referendum concerning the offer of Southern Water to lease land adjoining the recreation ground to the Parish Council, for provision of a skateboard facility, has been referred to Southern Water for their views, which are awaited.

Negotiations for a new Licence Agreement were to commence with the Sports Club on 21 June.

Additional quotes are awaited for cleaning of the War Memorial and repair of broken step.

Progress on the Millennium Project 'Rest and be Thankful Viewing Area with Seat' on Otterbourne Hill will now have to be delayed pending the outcome of the proposed traffic calming scheme which might have implications affecting the availability and suitability of the site. It was agreed to seek a quote for the supply and installation of a new swing bay, with two cradle seats, to replace the one at the recreation ground which has rotting uprights. Two 'No Parking' signs are to be erected on Otterbourne Common - one near the reservoir at Otterbourne Hill and one at the entrance to the gravel track known locally as 'Red Lane'.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 15th May 2001

Mr Peter Briggs was unanimously re-elected Chairman, and Mr Michael Warne unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman, at the May meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Due to forthcoming Council Elections, County Cllr Mrs A Bailey and City Cllr PK Mason were unable to attend to present their customary reports.

Cllr Mrs P Cole reported on the Road Safety Council meeting which revealed that they had no input into traffic calming measures although HCC have their own dedicated Road Safety officers. The report stated that Sparsholt College Open Day had been cancelled due to Foot and Mouth disease.

A letter from Otterbourne Village Hall Committee seeking a donation towards the costs of new curtains and china for the extension to the hall was fully discussed and agreed to obtain further information from OVHC.

The Council agreed to instruct solicitors, Dutton Gregory to pursue the Parish Council concerns in the matter of the HCC planning consents for the Waste Facility, Poles Lane.

The HCC revised traffic calming proposals for Otterbourne were considered at length and it was appreciated that our previous comments in relation to the positioning of the proposed speed limit and certain safety concerns had been incorporated in the revision. However criticisms were still voiced, particularly regarding cycle lanes. The County Council are prepared to consider further proposals from the Parish Council which matters will be raised during a walkabout with officers of the County Surveyor's Department and three parish councillors on 31 May. HCC intend to mount a Public Exhibition on the 6 and 7 July at a venue to be announced.

The result of the referendum for a skateboard park, adjoining the North East corner of the recreation ground and offered under lease by Southern Water, was as follows: **33.8% return of forms showing 169 electors in support of the proposed lease to provide a skateboard facility (ie "For") and 165 electors wanting the offer from Southern Water to be declined (ie "Against")**. Members agreed to write to Southern Water advising the result of the referendum and await their reply; also, advise Mark Oaten MP who had taken an interest in the matter.

On the matter of public footpaths, it was reported that some are being used but HCC are very strict as regards getting permission of landowners. Otterbourne Park Wood is officially closed but Otterbourne Conservation Group is waiting to hear from the Woodland Trust regarding the path through. The Parish Council agreed that the Sponders Mede footpath can be opened.

The long standing problem of flooding at the children's play area should soon be resolved as the contractors, Redlynch Leisure Installations, intend to start remedial works in 2 or 3 weeks time.

It was agreed to seek a quotation from Vokes & Beck for cleaning the stonework at the War Memorial.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting and Annual Assembly held 17th April 2001

Both the monthly meeting of the Parish Council and of the Annual Assembly were held at Otterbourne Village Hall with Cllr PD Briggs in the Chair.

Following a response from the Otterbourne Sports Club to the Parish Council's proposed new Licence Agreement regarding the recreation ground and clubhouse, it was agreed that Cllrs PD Briggs, MH Warne and Mrs MS Davis enter into negotiations with the Club and report back to the Council.

A report of Cllr Mrs MS Davis, representative to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee, had been circulated which advised that the contract for the building of the extension to the village hall had been awarded to RICE of New Milton for the sum of £192,000 to cover all work required, which commenced on 9 April with a completion date of 21 August 2001. Conditions provide for heavy lorries to avoid school starting and finishing times for deliveries and that builders have the use of six parking bays at the extension end of the hall car park. A letter has been sent to neighbours advising of noise at commencement of building work due to necessary pile driving. Other information in the report stated that refurbishment of both kitchens in the existing hall is in process and that new floors are planned for the large hall toilets, also, that the Committee aims to refurbish the floor in the main hall.

A meeting had been held with the cable laying contractors who have cleared and tidied up some of their workings but they will have to return for road patching.

The Chairman reported on the last year's events which included the co-opting of the Rector, John Widdows, to fill the remaining vacancy on the Council. Traffic calming and traffic movements to and from the Intcgra site in Poles Lane, continued to demand attention. Other issues considered during the year included the possible provision of a skateboard facility, the condition of the children's playground and the Millennium Projects. The Chairman's report stated that the volume of traffic through Otterbourne is by far the maximum concern to parishioners as it is to the Council, also, that the latest traffic calming proposals by HCC have been the subject of reservations by the Parish Council on safety aspects and we are awaiting revised plans. The first of our Millennium Projects, the village name sign, positioned by the War Memorial, has been completed but the 'Rest and be Thankful Viewing Area' on Otterbourne Hill is taking longer than wished due to the need to involve HCC, the Architect and Contractors, but we are awaiting tenders and hope to proceed within the next six months.

Cllr P Walford reported that the last year has not produced any highly controversial individual planning issues but has brought to a head the following major issues that have been with us for some time: 1) traffic through Otterbourne 2) traffic calming 3) traffic noise from the M3 and 4) the condition of principal roads through Otterbourne. The subject of traffic through Otterbourne was reported in much detail and it was suggested that the two ways of making a major impact on the problem was a) close the Intergra site in Poles Lane for much of its present usage b) build a dedicated slip road off the M3 so that all waste disposal traffic must enter and leave the Integra site by this route. Neither of these options will be accepted without considerable pressure being applied and the Council is currently seeking legal guidance on the issue. Two other schemes have arisen during the year; the proposal to build 3 "B 1" type buildings on the field behind the Otter Pub was discussed at some length but no firm proposals have emerged. Our major concern was that the proposed entrance would be through the Penarth House entrance. This would be dangerous and add still more traffic to Otterbourne. The proposal to build 90 dwellings in Allbrook raised a lot of concern. We estimate that this could add up to a further 150 vehicles per day in Otterbourne.

The traffic calming scheme proposed to your Council by HCC was not acceptable for a number of reasons and the designers were asked to revamp most of it, which is currently being carried out and provided the new scheme meets with your Council's approval it should be presented to parishioners by way of a Public Exhibition towards the end of May. The principal features of the scheme are expected to include a 30 mph speed limit, 2 chicanes on Otterbourne Hill, a roundabout at the junction of Kiln Lane and Main Road, refuges to assist crossing the Main Road near the Old Parsonage BrendonCare Home and narrowing of the road near Coles Mede intersection. We have been advised that when the section of M3 near Otterbourne is due for resurfacing, it will be done in a new quiet surface which it is hoped will reduce the level of noise by 50%. As the section near Otterbourne has been open for 10 years, and this is claimed to be the normal life expectancy, we are pressing for this to happen in the near future.

As additional support, WCC have agreed to take sound readings at various locations along the M3. The traffic flow on the M3 has increased dramatically since it opened, rising from 77,000 to 107,000 vehicles

per day. We have tried on numerous occasions to persuade HCC to resurface the main road through Otterbourne but without success. It is hoped that when the traffic calming scheme is installed parts of the road will be included in the works, but we can offer very little comfort to many people who have complained.

Cllr M H Warne reported that all of the footpaths in the village are closed at present by order of HCC due to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth and latest information is that the County have no intention of opening them in the foreseeable future. Sponders Mede Nature Reserve and Otterbourne Park Wood are also closed and parishioners are asked to continue to respect these closures. We became very concerned that the play area not only became flooded, but the water did not appear to be draining away which matter is awaiting attention from the contractor to construct a soakaway downhill from the play area. The cost of works will be met half from the contractor and half from WCC Open Space Fund. The kickabout area in Cranbourne Drive has been re-fenced with chain link being more sturdy and requiring less maintenance than the previous wood palings.

Cllr Warne also reported on the parish referendum being held regarding the possible provision of a skateboard facility adjoining the recreation ground and pressed all to return the referendum form and asked that they advise neighbours and friends of the importance of returning the form by 6 May. Many questions were raised by parishioners concerning the probable nuisances that would arise following the provision of a skateboard facility, to which Cllr Warne responded. He concluded by asking the assembly to let him know of any other ideas for 'sports' for smaller children.

Sergeant Ord reported on the reorganisation of the local police area into the Itchen Valley Section covering 180 square miles and operating from two police stations - one in Alresford and one in Twyford - and that your local police officer, PC Barham, had a high work load in his district of Otterbourne Parish & Compton and Shawford Parish. Speed enforcement by the Traffic Department is carried out with a speed radar camera on Otterbourne Hill and the road dip at Compton. He also reported that Neighbourhood Watches are continuing to provide valuable assistance. He further reported on some of the types of cases within the total reported 116 crimes.

Cllr AW Graham reported that the 1999/2000 accounts had been satisfactorily audited and he explained some of the key highlights and comparisons with the unaudited accounts for the year 2000/2001. Both sets of accounts had been circulated amongst the Assembly. Examination of receipts and payments, with provision for making a grant up to £5,000 towards the village hall extension, showed the healthy state of the finances with spending kept under close control enabling the Precept to be frozen for the current financial year at the same level as year 2000/2001. All the accounts were adopted by the Assembly.

Matters raised at Question Time included the traffic calming scheme and associated pollution, traffic through Otterbourne, Romanse bus indicator signs, removal of the bottle bank and the surface condition of Oakwood Avenue. Members responded to all the matters raised.

Concerning the matter of Integra traffic through Otterbourne, the Assembly indicated general support for expenditure of up to £3,000 on legal costs designed to ensure that full consideration is given to the interests of parishioners in future planning procedures.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 20th March 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the March meeting of the Parish Council held at Otterbourne Primary School.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported on her objection to the proposed mixed development at Allbrook Hill, Eastleigh, and on representations made concerning the Revised Traffic Calming Scheme for Otterbourne. She also advised that the planning application regarding Allbrook Hill has been withdrawn and is to be resubmitted, as has the application for development to the rear of 'Penarth', Otterbourne Hill. Mrs Bailey

concluded by reporting that HCC had closed all footpaths following the outbreak of foot and mouth disease.

Cllr Mrs PB Cole reported on the 7 March meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group which revealed that the Sponders Mede pathway had been closed off due to foot and mouth disease, a new 9ft oak has been planted on the Common and dog faeces being placed in ordinary green litter bins was causing problems of collection. A newly repaired fence at the Old Churchyard had been hit by a van and was leaning, and a farmer had erected a fence to prevent his cattle getting in Old Churchyard. Otterbourne Woods has been closed and the gate needs repair to keep out cyclists and horse riders. The Parish Paths Partnership Arrangement has ended, the work taken over by the Countryside Agency. The Group has withdrawn from the Arrangement as members have to meet new strict requirements as to training sessions on health and safety, first aid etc to be acceptable. Work on the Millennium Project, restoration and resiting of an old iron kissing gate, began earlier than expected which may cause a short term cash flow issue as grants expected are not yet forthcoming. The meeting concluded with an informal discussion on the new traffic calming scheme and the planning applications for Allbrook Hill and 'Penarth', Otterbourne Hill.

Cllr Mrs MS Davis reported that Otterbourne Village Hall Committee had received five tenders for the work of an extension to the village hall and that a letter of intent had been given to RICE of New Milton. Following a site meeting of the builders, quantity surveyor and architect on 21 March, it is anticipated a contract will be entered into. The length of contract will be 20 weeks and OVHC would like the extension to be ready for September 2001

Following discussion of the Revised Traffic Calming Scheme for Otterbourne, with officers of the County Surveyor's Department, the Parish Council submitted their serious concern regarding safety and comments on 10 March, to which a reply is awaited. The Council will comment on the scheme at the Annual Parish Meeting on 17 April and there will be a public consultation and exhibition mounted later by HCC.

The draft of the referendum notice regarding the provision of a skateboard facility has been finalised and will be circulated to parishioners at the end of March/early April together with a form for voting.

The matter of unlawful parking on Otterbourne Common is to be the subject of a meeting with WCC to determine the location for erecting appropriate signs to be provided by them.

On Finance, it was agreed to pay the sum of £147 for the repair of two taps and ducting to four standpipes at the allotments and to donate £200 to Otterbourne Conservation Group towards the cost of restoring and resiting an old iron kissing gate.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 20th February 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the February meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Following a request from Eastleigh Borough Council, it was agreed to make a donation of £100 towards the cost of the subsidised Sunday and Bank Holiday bus service on route 29/29A between Eastleigh and Winchester via Otterbourne.

The County Surveyor. HCC. is to write to contractors who laid cables pipes through Otterbourne regarding the standard of work, verges etc. and is to check the standard of work and restoration, which matters were raised by the Parish Council who are to carry out site inspections with the contractors.

Traffic problems from the Integra Waste Facility, Poles Lane, were reviewed and it was agreed to await information on a possible new site for the Recycling Facility, which, if acquired, would have little effect on present traffic through Otterbourne as 10% only of traffic movements relate to the Recycling Facility; the remaining 90% traffic movements would continue with waste vehicles. It would however ease the threat of

increased movements due to absence of an alternative site. It was agreed to obtain an estimated cost of fees to engage a legal expert on planning matters to consider the terms of planning consents for the Poles Lane site.

A letter together with a plan had been received from Southern Water showing a possible site for a skateboard park adjoining the north-east corner of the recreation ground subject to there not being a large number of local objections to the proposal. Enquiries are to be made of Southern Water regarding the term of a lease as a minimum term of years is material for obtaining monies from the WCC Open Space Fund. Also, it was agreed to hold a referendum to obtain the views of all parishioners on the issue of providing a skateboard park. It was agreed that the Parish project for 2001/2 would be to landscape an area of land (bank) adjacent to the village hall car park, with a boundary to houses on Cranbourne Drive, and provide a seat thereon at an estimated cost of £2250. Application for grant is to be made to the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils.

Following complaints of noise levels from the M3, the Parish Council agreed to write to the Environmental Health Department, WCC, advising support for the decibel measurements they are to undertake for Otterbourne and Compton.

On planning matters it was noted that the Parish Council had made objections to the proposed developments on land at Allbrook Hill, Eastleigh.

The Parish Council are to examine recent plans of a Revised Otterbourne Traffic Calming Scheme and discuss with HCC prior to a Public Exhibition being mounted later. The plans illustrate proposals for the traffic calming measures on Main Road and Otterbourne Hill, to include suggestions intended to aid pedestrian and cycle movements in the village and to support a 30 mph speed limit.

The final draft of the Licence Agreement with the Sports Club has been concluded and discussion with the Club should commence at an early date.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 16th January 2001

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the January meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

No reply had yet been received from Cllr K Thornber, Leader of HCC, in response to Cllr Briggs letter seeking clarification of several points concerning Otterbourne Waste Facility and Traffic Problems.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported that over 4000 key workers had been identified and plastic cards produced so that in a future emergency they can buy enough fuel to ensure they can continue working. She also reported that the Chief Emergency Planning Officer is planning to meet with Southern Water, Environment Agency and other bodies to discuss what future action can be taken to give better protection to those areas badly affected by flooding. Objection has been made to the proposed telephone mast at Hursley. Mrs Bailey further reported that a set of revised drawings for the Otterbourne traffic calming scheme should be received after 29 January when consultation with the public will be planned, most likely in May; and that Southern Water is making investigations into the precise outline of the recreation ground/playing field with a view to possibly accommodating skateboard equipment.

City Cllr PK Mason raised the planning matter of access via Penarth House, Otterbourne Hill, to proposed development on land at the rear (within the Borough of Eastleigh) and reported that consultations suggested that this was likely to be refused in view of the terms of planning permission originally given for commercial use. It was decided that there is nothing the Parish Council can do until a formal application has been made.

After consideration of the proposed Budget for 2001/2002 it was decided to Precept on Winchester City Council for the sum of £25,827, being the same as that for the previous year 2000/2001.

Particulars and details of a proposed new Licence Agreement with the Sports Club were discussed and amendments adopted to be incorporated in a revised draft Agreement for future consideration.

Following a request from BrendonCare for a gate and footpath to be provided from BrendonCare Home to Sponders Mede Nature Reserve, owned by the Parish Council and managed by Otterbourne Conservation Group, it was agreed to accede the request on condition that all costs and liabilities are borne by BrendonCare, that any the use of the footpath would be at users' risk and that it would be designated a 'Permissive Path'.

Attention was drawn to recent modifications to the way in which planning applications are decided by WCC as from 2 January 2001. Decisions should be delegated to the Chief Planning Officer in all instances excepting where (a) a Councillor registers a request that a planning application be referred to Committee (b) a Parish Council submits representations contrary to the officer recommendation (c) the Case Officer or Team Manager considers the application to be controversial or potentially controversial and /or the application is for a major development or (d) four or more representations are received which are contrary to the officers recommendation

It was agreed to purchase a replacement printer from Solent Office Services for the sum of £295 plus VAT, and to purchase from Compton and Shawford Parish Council their half share in the computer used by Otterbourne Parish Council for the sum of £150.

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### ***Reports of Meetings 2000:***

#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 19th December 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the December meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported on the proposed development at Pitmore Copse and concern over traffic impact. She reported that the County Officer has described the scheme as a 'non-starter' and made his objections known to the agent for the developer. Also Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey has written again to the Highways Agency over M3 noise. WCC has agreed to do a number of noise measurements for the area. Latest start date for Otterbourne traffic calming measures is March 2001, although we need to be aware that flood problems have meant that County road works were suspended for a period. Revised drawings are to be produced for PC for public consultation. Kiln Lane roundabout to be altered.

District Cllr Peter Mason reported that he has been selected to serve on Southampton Airport Advisory Panel and welcomed details of problems of low flying, night flying incidents.

PC Clive Barham reported on incidents in the area and has noted the chaos caused by roadworks and temporary traffic lights on Otterbourne Hill. Cllr Walford is to write to the Contractors complaining of the lack of adequate notice and the standard of reinstatement work. Also to ask for a schedule of remainder of work.

Integra Waste Facility - Traffic Problems - a Planning Consultant had been contacted who had advised that the Parish Council consult a solicitor. The Chairman is to contact Cllr Thornber for clarification of his letter of Oct 30th.

Street Lighting - Cllr Walford to enquire about a possible scheme or upgrading.

A letter had been received from the Chief Planning Officer, WCC, advising that the land adjacent to the Village Hall was approved as Public Open Space and may be used for informal recreational purposes. Also confirmed that WCC does not own this portion of land.

Pedestrian access to Otterbourne School - following a letter from Ian Metson it was agreed that the PC support any measures for better and more frequent maintenance of the footway, Otterbourne Hill and

extension of railings by cutting back overgrowth on west side of road. To write to School Governors reminding that cars should not be parked outside church.

Flooding risk to Village Hall narrowly averted by digging trench and clearing culvert and ditch.

Play area and repair of swing bay - work suspended due to flooding.

WCC planning erection of 'No Parking' signs at Otterbourne Hill Common and further information awaited following site inspection of parking problems opposite Otter Public House.

Licence negotiations with Otterbourne Sports Club - proposed Agreement circulated for detailed discussion at next meeting.

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### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 21st November 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the November meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported on her meeting with Southern Water (SW) when she was advised that SW are to try and improve the access gate to enable access for wheel chairs and improve the path to the recreation ground. Also, that SW are to erect signs prohibiting the dumping of waste in Sparrowgrove and Oakwood Copse. She also reported on many other matters including a suggestion to Integra to look round the Materials Recycling Facility at Poles Lane during one of the Liaison Group meetings; the shortage of 67 police officers for beat duties; the shortage of HCC staff, that NHS are recruiting foreign staff. Mrs Bailey concluded with a report concerning flooding.

PC Clive Barham submitted a list of 21 Recorded Crime and Disorder Incidents in Otterbourne Parish over the period 18 September to 21 November, of which 5 referred to incidents at the Elderfield hostel.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole reported on the meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group (OCG) which revealed that a tree was down on the Common in the storm. A letter had been received from the National Association of Local Councils saying Councils should obtain best costs for easements over Common ground for access and that the Government's new Countryside Bill is likely to approve a charge of 4% of capital value of a house for access over Common Land. Mrs Cole went on to report that the alter tomb in the Old Churchyard has been rebuilt and that a painting of the Old Church is nearly finished but a sign writer is needed for a text when both will be put on a sign post; further work is to be discussed with the Diocesan Board. The report went on to say that the surveyors report on St Matthew's Church, when the spire was taken down, had been given to OCG; the Environment Agency is to fell or pollard some trees; Chairman of OCG is to write to the Environment Agency, advising that OCG does not want the sides of the river canalised in the interest of preserving some rare Helleborus; a 10 Year grant has been allocated to Allbrook Farm to restore water meadows to original state.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole submitted a report on the Transport Forum she attended on 11 November, which amongst the many bus and rail matters reported included points from the new Transport Act, challenges facing public transport and obstacles to recruitment of staff for both rail and bus services.

Following advice that HCC are to continue with their scheme to provide 50% cost of providing street lighting, consideration is to be given to the necessity, if any, for street light(s) in an appropriate position and which meets the conditions of the scheme.

Quotations are awaited for the parish millennium project - 'Rest and be Thankful Viewing Area with Seat' to be sited half way up Otterbourne Hill.

Maintenance and repair works to 15 seats situated throughout the parish have been satisfactorily completed for the sum of £490.

Concerning planning matters, it was noted that WCC had sent a letter, on 13 October, to landowners/developers advising that it is possible to meet housing requirements on 'brownfield' sites and as a result WCC no longer expects to need to consider new greenfield sites for inclusion within the Winchester District Local Plan Review and the land proposed by landowners/developers for inclusion within the Review Local Plan will not be needed.

The Council also noted that a appeal had been lodged by Mrs J Stokes against the refusal of planning permission to permit side and front extensions and conservatory to rear, raising of roof to provide first floor accommodation at Sandhills Farm, Poles Lane.

The District Auditor's Report of 17 November had been received stating that the accounts of Otterbourne Parish Council, for the year ending 31 March 2000, were in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations of 1996 and the Accounting Guidance Notes for Local Councils. The Auditor's Report also enclosed advice that an invoice will be served in respect of fees for the two years 98/00 and 99/00 in the sum of £913.60 plus VAT.

The Council unanimously agreed to make the following annual payments:

To Otterbourne Parochial Church Council

£85.00 - contribution to publishing costs of parish magazine £320.00 - contribution towards churchyard maintenance

To Langley House Trust

£ 130.00 - grass cutting etc at War Memorial

£60.00 - emptying litter bin at car park Cranbourne Drive (based on £5 for each emptying)

Concerning Integra traffic problems, a letter, dated 30 October', had been received from Cllr K Thornber, Leader HCC, which caused great concern to the Parish Council in view of references to a planning permission for an increased recycling facility which, if it were implemented, would increase traffic levels by at least 20%. Although the Parish Council was aware of the projected rate of increase between 1996 and 2000, it had been unable to trace any reference to a further increase of 20% as suggested in Cllr Thornber's letter. This is to be the subject of strong representations.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 17th October 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the October meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported on the Human Rights Act and on her meeting with Southern Water regarding the kissing gate at the recreation ground, being a barrier to wheel chairs, and the need of land for a skateboard rink which matter will be reconsidered by Southern Water. She further reported that she is to see Mr K Riley of Integra regarding the provision of a wild flower area at the Integra site and improvements to the right-of-way. Also, that Mr J Ryder, HCC, is to write advising that the traffic calming Phase 2 for Otterbourne Hill is ready to commence but will probably not start until March 2001, and that Mr Ryder wants to discuss Phase 3 in village centre area with representatives from the Parish Council. Mrs Bailey concluded by reporting that five young members of the Hampshire Youth Band took part in the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games and that an exchange visit by Jordanians had been made under the El Hassan Award which is equivalent of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

City Cllr Peter Mason reported on the meeting with the HCC Area Surveyor, Petersfield, when the matter of the condition of roads was discussed and the need of money for repairs, also that large dangerous pot holes should be reported for urgent attention. He also reported on the Brownfield Sites Planning Seminar and on the Parish Appraisal Seminar which revealed that grants are available for undertaking a Parish

Appraisal. Cllr Mason further reported that he is to attend a meeting of the Community Engagement Committee on the 7 November and report back to the Parish Council.

Cllr Mrs Mary Davis, representative to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee, reported that planning permission had been granted for the proposed extensions to the village hall and that arrangements were in hand to appoint both an engineer and quantity surveyor. Due to the delay in receiving written confirmation of planning consent it appears that OVHC would not be able to advertise for tenders until the latter part of the year 2000 or even early in 2001 with the completion date therefore extended into the summer of 2001.

Following the council's decision not to proceed with the provision of a skateboard facility at the recreation ground, a letter from Mark Oaten MP enclosed a copy letter of 20 September, from Mrs Waghorn concerning the provision of a skateboard facility. Her letter to Mr Oaten stated that she did not think the recreation ground is "small" and there would be ample space for a small skatepark and possibly a basketball shoot. The Chairman would reply to Mr Oaten outlining developments and the decision taken by the Council in September.

A Parish Millennium Project, a new village name sign, has been satisfactorily completed having been erected near the War Memorial on Main Road, enabling a grant of £500 to be claimed from the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils.

A letter has been sent to Hampshire Waste Services/Integra, Poles Lane, seeking particulars of lorry counts for the month of September and to know of the arrangements for lorry movements over the Christmas period.

Quotations have been accepted in the sum of £78 for a yew tree to be provided in Cranbourne Drive and £90 for an oak tree on the Common. Otterbourne Conservation Group are to notify WCC with a view to obtaining a grant. Further enquiries are being made to the City Council regarding the possibility of further trees on the Cranbourne Drive site.

Quotations have also been accepted in the sum of £220 for felling three dead trees at the car park, Cranbourne Drive, and for lopping a large ash tree at the allotments, which branches obscure a street light in Park Lane. The Woodland Trust are to lop one of their trees in Otterbourne Park Wood which branches obscure a second street light in Park Lane.

The replacement fencing to the kickabout area in Cranbourne Drive has been satisfactorily completed and a grant of £500 is to be claimed from the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils.

Contractors, Redlynch Leisure Installations Ltd, are to carry out remedial works, during October, to the flooding of part of the play compound at the recreation ground, when advice will be sought regarding the condition of the wood bark and work of repair to the rotting uprights to the old swing bay.

A letter had been received from The Old Parsonage Brendoncare Home seeking the provision of a gate between the garden of Brendoncare and Sponder's Mede Nature Reserve, in the interests of safety so that residents can safely reach Williams Garage for their pensions, the post office and the convenience store. The Council are sympathetic to the proposal but public liability implications need investigation. Cllrs Briggs and Warne will make the necessary enquiries.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 19th September 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the September meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

A letter had been received from Mr Ron Emery, Organiser, Top of the Hill Cricket, seeking assistance towards costs of £400 for maintenance of the cricket field at 'Elderfield', Main Rd. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed to donate the sum of £300.

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported that HCC is carrying out a Speed Policy Review with a view to reducing to 20 mph in some places and from 40 mph to 30 mph in others. She submitted a copy of her letter to the Chairman Planning and Transportation, HCC, wherein she states the utmost importance of ridding Otterbourne, Hursley and Compton of their 40 mph speed limit.

City Cllr Peter Mason reported that WCC is trying to get amended plans for the proposed parking and new access at 'Roughacre', Main Road.

PC Clive Barham submitted a list of 15 Recorded Crimes within the Parish during the period 18 July - 19 September and gave information concerning the three cases involving assault.

Cllr Mrs Pam Cole reported on the meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group on 9 August. A member of the Group was unhappy with the management of Sponders Mede Nature Reserve concerning boundaries, parking and grass cutting. A discussion took place and the Chairman, who had read the old minutes, advised the Group as to how and why things had been done as they had. The fences did not mark the boundary necessarily but these were clearly marked on the conveyancing documents. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to householders adjacent to Sponders Mede, and again when properties changed hands, reminding them that the land (Sponders Mede) belongs to the Parish Council but occasional parking was acceptable. The Chairman of the Group had consulted HCC Paths Officer and had received a letter from HCC about the footpath through the Old Forge Restaurant car park. As a result the Group, with one exception, were satisfied with the 'status quo' even though walkers and cars share the same space. Mrs Goodall called attention to a letter in the Echo newspaper from Southampton's Waste Officer stating that if a new Materials Recycling Facility is not soon found he will suggest to HCC that the Otterbourne MRF should be enlarged.

Cllr Mrs Pam Cole also reported on the meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group on 13 September. A newspaper article about a Parish Council in Warwickshire charging £30,000 (thirty thousand pounds) for people to access their homes over a Common caused the Chairman of the Group to ask Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils to try and trace an Appeal Court Ruling about a similar case. The Chairman is to inform the Environment Agency regarding cement and rubble dumped under the culvert bridge at Greenacres.

Cllr Mrs Mary Davis reported that the Old Tyme Music Hall at Otterbourne Village Hall had been successful and that arrangements for the pantomime are proceeding.

Provision of a skateboard facility at the recreation ground was discussed and the sub-committee recommendation was accepted that the Parish Council do not proceed with the provision of a such a facility at the recreation ground. This decision does not mean that the Council are necessarily abandoning the whole project; simply that the PC continue to search for an alternative site.

The Parish Council proposal for a new slip road from the M3 direct into the Materials Recycling Facility, Poles Lane had been put to the Police. Their response indicated that they were unable, on the evidence of accidents caused by heavy lorries in the village, to offer support at this stage. They would not however object to the proposal if the Council was successful in their bid. Cllr Peter Walford drew attention to the fact that this did not answer the question originally put and is continuing to pursue the matter with the Police Traffic Management Officer.

Following required responses from the Sports Club, negotiations are proceeding for a new Licence to the Club for use of the recreation ground, and the committee is about to start on a draft agreement for consideration by the Council prior to commencement of formal negotiations

Replacement fencing works to the kickabout area, Cranbourne Drive, are to commence on 21st September.

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No meeting was held in August

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Report of Parish Council Meeting held 18th July 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the July meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

County Councillor Mrs Ann Bailey reported on various matters including education and the support for talented children, Hampshire's record of excellent musical education, and on the opening of a new museum in Basingstoke in November. She reported that HCC have an aim of 40% disposal of waste and that there is a continuing search for a site for a Materials Recycling Facility, also, that Otterbourne traffic calming measures, including the provision of a roundabout at the junction with Kiln Lane, will commence in November 2000. Mrs Bailey further reported that the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Mrs Mary Fagan, is to host a party for anyone aged 100 years or more and in this connection parish councillor Mrs Pamela Cole is to make enquiries of residents in Otterbourne Grange and The Old Parsonage Nursing Homes.

A petition had been received from The Young Residents of Otterbourne expressing their opinions and opposition regarding the possibility of a skateboard park in Otterbourne, which had been acknowledged by the parish council. Following discussion of the matter, it was decided to ask the Hampshire Playing Fields Association to carry out a feasibility study for the provision of a skateboard facility in the recreation ground and, if feasible, to carry out a household leaflet drop throughout the parish to obtain the views of parishioners.

Due to unlawful parking in the area of the track known as Red Lane on Otterbourne Common, it is intended to erect a 'No Parking' sign, also in the area at the entrance to Cranbury Park and Otterbourne Hill Reservoir, together with additional boundary markers to provide clear unrestricted access to Lilac Cottage.

Concerning the two Parish Millennium Projects, the proposed sighting of the new Village Name Sign near the war memorial is to be discussed with the landowner, Chamberlayne Estates, and updated quotations obtained for The Rest and Be Thankful Viewing Area, Otterbourne Hill, to which project the developers Devine Homes have promised a donation of £5,000 towards the cost.

The vehicle count carried out by Hampshire Waste Services/Integra for the period 6-10 March, showed a mean of 206 weekly movements, being fairly consistent with the previous weekly traffic movements supplied. It was noted that a letter had been sent to HCC by Mrs PB Cole asking if another planning application had been made which permitted lorry movements on a Sunday. The reply from HCC stated that there had been no change to the planning permission and that an assurance will be sought of Hampshire Waste Services that conditions prohibiting Sunday will not be disregarded in future, as they were on the particular Sunday.

The Chairman, Cllr PD Briggs, is to attend a Winchester Health for All Workshop in July, and Cllr Mrs PB Cole is to attend a County Transport Conference in September.

It was reported that there had been no complaints regarding the proposed HCC Otterbourne Traffic Calming Measures due to start in November.

The Parish Council proposal for a slip road to be constructed off the M3 directly into the waste transfer station in Poles Lane, has been passed to the Traffic Management Officer, Police Station, Whitchurch, for research as regards the number of injury road accidents that had occurred on Poles Lane, when the Parish Council will be contacted again. Without police support for the Parish Council's proposal the scheme cannot succeed.

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Report of Parish Council Meeting held 20th June 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the June meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Following the interest shown by the Rector, it was unanimously agreed to co-opt The Reverend Edward John Widdows to serve on the Parish Council, making a full complement of nine members.

Both County Councillor Ann Bailey and PC Clive Barham reported on the tragic accident in which 9 year old Bradley Watson was killed on Main Road on June 14th. Councillor Mrs Bailey was making further representations to HCC on the subject of road calming in general, although PC Barham stated there were unlikely to be any legal proceedings as the bus driver did not appear to be at fault.

District Councillor P Mason advised that he had been to a Tenants Participation meeting and that he was to attend a Licensing meeting next week. Mr Mason also reported on traffic matters and that the populace was not aware of the three tiers of local government (County, District and Parish) and their respective responsibilities.

It was decided to seek the use of Otterbourne Village Hall for the Civic Service Reception on Sunday 1 October.

Cllr J Ellaby reported that all the Millennium village celebrations went well and that favourable comments were received back. Although there was some bad weather the events went smoothly. The bands were good, as was the dancing, and the rambles were well attended. Record tickets were sold for the indoor events and there was a good congregation for Songs of Praise.

Cllr P Walford advised that the Traffic Calming Exhibition Phases 2 and 3 , mounted by HCC had not been well attended; no recommendations are to be made by the Parish Council for any modifications of the proposed Traffic Calming measures for Otterbourne.

Cllr P Walford also circulated his report of the Draft Regional Planning Guidance meeting held at the Guildhall, Winchester, on 1 June, concerning the Government's plan for the provision of houses in the South East, outside London, of 43,000 per annum over 20 years from 1996 to 2016 which, according to HCC, is unattainable as were other matters of the Government's draft plan. The report advised that HCC will definitely object to the proposed number of houses and recommends that the appraisal by the body SERPLAN (the London and South East Regional Planning Conference), with a greatly reduced number of houses, be reinstated instead.

A reply from the Hampshire Constabulary is expected shortly concerning the Parish Council's proposal for a link road from the M3 into the Hampshire Waste Services site in Poles Lane, Otterbourne, which would make a significant difference to the heavy goods traffic through the village.

On recreation ground matters, it was reported that a dog waste bin had been installed at the end of the hedge row between the car park and playing field; and that contractors, Redlynch Leisure Installations Ltd, have offered to carry out remedial measures to drain the persistent flooding of part of the bark play surface at the children's play area.

Concerning planning matters, it was agreed to submit comments to WCC on the application for resurfacing of car park, ancillary drainage, Old Forge Inn, Main Road, in view of the far reaching ramifications for Parishioners living near the site. Also agreed to object to the application for 3 no. four bedroom dwellings and 1 no. two bedroom bungalow with associated garages, parking and new access at Roughacre, main Road. It was agreed to renew the contract for the maintenance of the open spaces in Cranbourne Drive for a further period of two years from 1 June 2000.

It was reported by Cllr A Graham that the audit of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000 had been satisfactorily completed and that the Finance Chairman would review the Council's Standing Orders with a view to making any recommendations at the earliest opportunity.

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## Report of Parish Council Meeting held 16th May 2000

Cllr Peter Briggs was unanimously re-elected Chairman, and Mr Michael Warne unanimously elected Vice-Chairman, at the May Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported that trials of traffic calming measures with cones are to be carried out shortly on Otterbourne Hill, and in Hiltingbury and Hocombe Roads, Chandlers Ford. Also, that a CCTV camera is to be installed at Bushfield Roundabout.

City Cllr Peter Mason reported that the new Mayor of Winchester is Georgina Busher and that the City Council has started the new cabinet style of local government with proportional membership but committee memberships still have to be finalised. Cllr Mason advised that he is to serve on Health and Housing Committees.

PC Clive Barham submitted a list of 25 recorded incidents of Crime and Disorder in Otterbourne during the period 1 March to 16 May and reported on some of the incidents. Also, a letter had been received from Hampshire Constabulary advising changes to policing in the Winchester Rural Area which will improve the overall level of service offered to the rural community.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole reported on the AGM of Otterbourne Conservation Group held on 3 May, when Michael Warne agreed to continue to serve as Chairman and when a new treasurer will have to be found following the wish of Mr Basi1 Chubb to retire after serving for 15 years. During question time, members asked if anyone could suggest how to deal with the menace of deer, rabbits and moles but no solutions were forthcoming.

Following complaints of vehicle parking at Brooklyn Close and Main Road, approaches were made to the proprietor of Williams Garage, who agreed to stop parking of staff cars. It was also agreed to write to the manager of restaurant/pub, The Old Forge, asking if he could please consider staff sharing of cars whenever possible to alleviate the problem of overflowing of car parking to Brooklyn Close and Main Road, or implement any other measure which he considers will ease the problem.

A letter and plans had been received from HCC advising that Otterbourne Traffic Calming Phases 2 and 3 will be subject of a Public Exhibition by HCC and to learn the views of the Parish Council and residents. Subsequently agreed that Public Exhibition will be mounted by HCC in the Bianchi Room at the Village Hall on Friday 2 June commencing 12 noon. It is intended that Phase 2 works will commence on site approximately November 2000, with completion of Phase 2 expected during February 2001. A funding allocation for Phase 3 works has been set aside for financial year 2001/2002.

Information from Hampshire Waste Services showed that there had been a mean daily total of 194 lorry movements in and out of the waste recycling facility, Poles Lane, during the week 11th - 15th October 1999, and the traffic distribution shown as 57% Otterbourne, 26% Compton and 17% Hursley. Traffic flows for a week in March are being prepared by HWS and the parish council are to seek particulars of up to date flow figures.

The unaudited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2000 have been prepared for submission to District Audit on 12 June.

Following consideration of three estimates for the replacement of the wooden palisade fencing with chain link fencing at the kickabout area., Cranbourne Drive, the estimate of White & Etherington, Alresford, was subsequently accepted in the sum of £2763.88 plus VAT.

On recreation ground matters, it was agreed to remove and not replace the two litter bins that had rusted through, and determine the position for installation of a dog waste bin - probably at the end of the hedge row between the car park and playing field. In view of concerns regarding the flooded area of the play compound, the contractors who installed the new play equipment and the play bark surfacing, Redlynch Leisure Installations Ltd, are to be contacted on the matter.

It was noted that letters and an e-mail had been received from three parishioners making known their objections to the possibility of erecting of a skateboard rink, at some future date, on land in the vicinity of the Greenacres housing development presently in course of construction.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting and Annual Assembly held 18th April 2000

Both the monthly meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Assembly were held in Otterbourne Village Hall with Cllr PD Briggs in the Chair.

The summarised reports were as follows.

The Chairman reported that there have been no changes in membership of the Council since April 1999, but there is a vacancy for one councillor to make the full complement of nine. The media had suggested that the existence of parish councils may be under threat and that their contribution to debate is unimportant, which we consider to be completely untrue. Both the County and District Council appear to be anxious to continue our already high quality relations with them. The concern of the Council regarding possibilities of further flooding hazards due to the projected Greenacres Development were shared with Winchester City Council and as a result the Environment Agency were asked to advise on the drainage proposals. Agreement has been reached with the developers, Devine Homes, who have been highly co-operative throughout the discussions and work is well advanced on the site. It is accepted by the Environment Agency that the measures agreed should minimise flooding risk but we shall continue to monitor the situation.

A letter of complaints, supported with photographs, concerning vehicles parking at Brooklyn Close and locale was read to the council when it was decided to further consider the matter at the May meeting. Concerning the problem of parking on Cranbourne Drive, a long detailed letter from the County Surveyor explained why yellow lines are not considered a cost effective or safer solution to any problems there may be in Cranbourne Drive. Copies of the correspondence are to be sent to the School Governors and the Headteacher of Otterbourne Primary School.

PC Clive Barham reported on the local police re-organisation which will increase police levels in Otterbourne and with a car replacing the motorcycle give more time for policing Compton, Shawford and Otterbourne. Advice was given that there are no powers regarding gas containers on lorries and no legal right to stop sewage lorries if they caused no obstruction.

On the matter of the Hampshire Structure Plan, the present position is that Hampshire will be required to build 42,000 houses between the years 2001 and 2011 and allocate sites for a further 14,000 if they are required. Of this total the Winchester District Area will be called upon to build 5,100 with a further 3,000 of reserve sites. The main building sites have been allocated but the additional sites are causing a problem. Planners have asked all parish councils to complete a matrix giving details of main services in each settlement but will have to be reviewed. It would appear that the Otterbourne Common area is not likely to be affected but the remainder is being looked at carefully. The whole situation is very fluid and the parish council will try to keep parishioners abreast of changes as they occur but it seems almost certain that developers will be expected to include low cost high density buildings in their plans. The Minister of State has now advised that the average number of houses that will be required in the South East up to the year 2016 will be 6,580 per annum which is higher than the existing total by 17.5%. This higher total is retrospective to 1996 and will mean a big increase as we approach 2016.

The planning application details for the Old Forge Restaurant caused a great deal of passionate discussion with parishioners living near the site but fortunately most of the fears have proved groundless and parties appear to be living in harmony. The new wall adjacent to the bungalow on Main Road and near the Old Forge Restaurant seems to have caused difficulty with water drainage and is currently being discussed.

The paramount problem in the village is traffic , which we have been able to monitor very closely, and report the continuous increase in both volume and size of heavy traffic. This is causing major problems with the road surface breaking up under the strain and the vibration is causing major structural damage.

Phase two of the traffic calming scheme for the village should be implemented later this year which, hopefully, will slow down traffic.

We have been advised that parts of Otterbourne are included in an area in which naturally occurring radioactive gas called radon may exist. Any new development in this area would have to be subjected to an assessment by the British Geological Society of the propensity for radon.

The Amenities and Recreation Committee dealt with a wide range of topics during the year and reported on the more important issues which included the nuisance of litter, the provision of litter bins and fouling by dogs. Litter bins have been installed on the recreation ground and in the car park adjacent to the school and Winchester City Council have been persuaded to install a bin for dog excrement between the village hall and school car park. We hope to place a large bin for dog excrement on the recreation ground within the next month.

The council continues to oversee footpaths through the good offices of Otterbourne Conservation Group and have been able to arrange necessary repairs to various stiles within the parish. The parish council is currently negotiating with HCC and the Environment Agency regarding the prevention of flooding beside the Itchen Navigation.

An extension to the play area and additional play equipment in the recreation ground seems to have been well received by parishioners. We are presently trying to find a suitable site for the provision of a skateboarding rink but at present the only possibility seems to be on land behind the new development at Greenacres Drive, that may be made available to the parish council at sometime. The matter of a suitable site will be pursued during the coming year.

We are currently working on a new draft Agreement to be negotiated with the Sports Club whose existing Agreement expires in 2001.

Concerning Otterbourne Common, the restoration of the surface of the reservoir has been very successful and we are presently working with Winchester City Council to try and alleviate parking problems near the Otter P.H. and around the entrance to Cranbury Park.

The audited accounts for 1998/1999 and unaudited accounts for 1999/2000 were distributed, explained and adopted. The parish council reviewed their banking arrangements to ensure they were maximising returns, which resulted in moving the Open Space Funding Deposit Account from Lloyds TSB to the Bank of Ireland and upgrading the existing Lloyds TSB drawdown facility to a more competitive account.

The Precept on Winchester City Council has risen from £23,1 00 to £25,800 with the main anticipated new item of expenditure for this year being a £2,000 donation towards the cost of the proposed village hall extension.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 21st March 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the March meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

County Cllr Mrs A Bailey reported on the overruled conditions applicable to the waste disposal site at Poles Lane and to the huge increase in lorry traffic above that expected. She also reported that HCC are looking for the sum of £40,000 for traffic calming measures for the whole village, which will include a 30 mph speed restriction on Otterbourne Hill and a roundabout at the junction of Kiln Lane with Otterbourne Hill.

District Cllr PK Mason reported on the new building regulations requirements following the discovery of radon gas in rocks in parts of the area of the Winchester District. In view of health risks from under buildings, risk assessments will be undertaken before commencement of building works. and where appropriate, preventative measures will be taken by laying a gas proof membrane.

Following complaints regarding the speed of traffic on Poles Lane, the Parish Council are to ask our local police. PC Clive Barham., to arrange for speed checks to be undertaken in both directions on Poles Lane.

Cllr MH Warne advised a parishioner Mrs MI Waghorn, who was present with 3 boys, on the difficulties and objections regarding various sites for a skateboarding rink but indicated that a site may be available on land to be conveyed to the parish council on completion of the housing development at Greenacres.

Cllr Mrs PB Cole reported on the recent meeting of Otterbourne Conservation Group, when 3 new members had joined OCG, that a little egret (a small heron) had been sighted between the Old Churchyard and Oakwood Estate. and that a pair of kestrels are nesting at Manor Farm, also, that a talk to be held at the AGM on 3 May will be about Archaeological Surveys of Country Estates. Other matters reported that frogs spawn and mallards are on the pond at Sponders Mede Nature Reserve, quotes for replacing posts on Otterbourne Common have gone to HCC and two grants of £ 150 had been obtained for Millennium tree planting. The Rights of Way Officer had been contacted about flooding where footpaths 3 and 5 meet at the Itchen Navigation - water seeping from canal under footpaths which might be a spring - investigations proceeding. A new wall at the Old Forge Restaurant was alleged to be the cause of flooding at Brooklyn Close over Christmas. Ampfield Heritage Trust are negotiating to be able to make the footpath from Hursley Road -via Ladwell to be known as Audrey Hobbs Way.

Minutes of the Millennium Festival Committee meetings had been circulated which listed the proposed events to be held in the village hall, church and in the open-air. Enquiries are to be made by the Parish Council regarding liability for insurance cover but insurance liability to be undertaken by the Parish Council as regards events outside the village hall.

The new double sided carved oak village name sign has been delivered and enquiries are being made as to siting on the grassed area between the War Memorial and school entrance. Expert advice is to be sought regarding floodlighting with a new light from the same post, across the road, which has a floodlight for the War Memorial.

It was agreed that the parish project for 2000/1 would be replacement of damaged wooden fencing to the kickabout area in Cranbourne Drive, with galvanised chain link fencing. Application to be made to Winchester District Association of Parish Councils for a grant.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 15th February 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the February meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

A written report had been submitted by County Cllr Mrs A Bailey advising that she will be attending a HCC sub-committee meeting when she will be raising the issue of the threat to the bus services to Eastleigh colleges. The report further stated Southern Water Services are not moving completely from Sparrowgrove, Otterbourne, but will continue to use one wing of the office building and that the Audit Commission will lease the other wing. The final matter of the report advised that Cllr Mrs Bailey had not yet seen the balancing pond the size of which had been raised by a resident of Greenacres.

District Cllr P Mason reported on the matters of the Periodic Electoral Review which will be a subject for public consultation after publication on 22 February. Cllr Mason advised his opinion that the proposed changes to the structure of District and of County Councils will provide for a Cabinet of 10 members, a Scrutiny Group of 10 , a Performance Review Group of 10 with the remainder of other councillors being in the nature of 'back benchers'. Elections will be held in two years time.

PC Clive Barham submitted a report of record of Crime and Disorder Incidents during the period 18 January to 15 February showing only two thefts and two incidents of disorder within the parish. The report also stated that the temporary classrooms are due to be removed from the school site on the 16 February and the police no-waiting cones in Cranbourne Drive will then be removed. It is understood that the school will be writing once again to all parents requesting them to avoid parking in Cranbourne Drive between the Main Road junction and the village hall car parks.

Cllr Mrs PB Cole reported that Otterbourne Conservation Group had had a successful New Year Party and that an informative and enjoyable talk with slides had been given by Dennis Bright - wildlife photographer - entitled Wild West Wales.

It has been agreed to obtain specialised advice regarding the type of fencing for the kickabout area in Cranbourne Drive, obtain quotations and submit the works as a parish project to the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils for a grant towards costs.

Members were advised that HCC had approved a scheme within budget for traffic calming in Hiltingbury and Hocombe Roads, Chandlers Ford, by way of a series of chicanes but will not give consideration to a lorry ban until next year.

The council agreed that it would be appropriate to insert a time capsule in the wall of the proposed Rest and Be Thankful Viewing Area to be constructed as a parish millennium project half way up Otterbourne Hill.

It was agreed to offer the vacant garage/store on the allotments, Boyatt Lane, to the Allotments Assoc'n with effect from 1 March at a rent of £10 p.a. with the Association maintaining the building after the Parish Council have carried out initial minor maintenance and repair works.

Concerning the problem of parking Cranbourne Drive, which had been raised by the School Governors, it was agreed to accept the suggestion of the local police and ask HCC to install yellow lines on both sides of Cranbourne Drive from the junction with Main Road, past the village hall car parks for a total length terminating at the first house on the left hand side.

It was noted that the Annual Assembly will be held in Otterbourne Village Hall on Tuesday 18 April 2000, commencing 8.00 p.m.

Members accepted the suggestion of The Reverend John Widdows that the Annual Civic Service be held in St Matthew's Church at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday 1 October 2000.

Following enquiries of the Sports Club regarding their accounts and income from bar takings, it proved that there was no scope for seeking a reduction of the non-domestic rates which are paid by the Parish Council.

Litter and debris deposited on parts of the Common near the reservoir entrance is to be reported to Winchester City Council who manage the Common.

The dropped road surface in the lay by outside 'The Old Reading Room', Main Road, is to be reported to the Area Surveyor, HCC.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 18th January 2000

Mr PD Briggs (Chairman) presided at the January meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

It was reported that the proposed lorry ban in Hiltingbury and Hocombe Roads, Chandlers Ford, is under review and that Hampshire County Council are to consult Eastleigh Borough Council on the issue and associated costs. Cllr Peter Walford reported on the letters written to Mark Oaten MP and Michael Colvin

MP concerning the proposed lorry ban in Hiltingbury and Hocombe Roads and the possible knock-on effect in other areas. The letters enclosed both a copy of a well-written letter by parishoner Des Cole to the Hampshire Chronicle and a copy of a report prepared by the County Surveyor saying that it is difficult to justify the traffic proposals being implemented. The Parish Council also asked that the matters be brought to the attention of the Minister of Transport and to hear the Members comments on the subject in the near future.

District Cllr Peter Mason reported that WCC have a programme for collection of smaller green waste bins fortnightly and other large bins weekly. He also reported that he had no further news regarding boundary changes but is to attend a meeting on 19 January to learn of the proposed changes to the organisation of the Council. The proposed changed structure of District Councils also applies to County Councils.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole reported the points of interest from the Road Safety Council meeting held on 14 January. Parish Councils can get straight in touch with County Surveyor's Department to record missing speed roundels; need for repeater signs on 30 and 40 speed limits emphasised; unqualified motor cycle trainers are causing accidents: Road Safety Council officers to write to surveyors to remind them of their duty to clean road signs and keep foliage cut back.

In order to commence imminent negotiations with the Sports Club for a new Licence for use of facilities at the recreation ground, a letter has been sent to Southern Water Services seeking their agreement to extend the period of the Lease to the Parish Council.

Concerning the problem of parking in Cranbourne Drive, a letter had been received from PC Clive Barham with observations and a suggestion that the only permanent solution appears to be the introduction of parking restrictions in Cranbourne Drive in the form of yellow lines. Cllr Walford to consider the letter in committee and speak to School Governor, Mr Ian Phillips, who raised the problem on behalf of the Governors. The matter is to be further considered by the Council.

Cllr Michael Warne has spoken to City Council officers regarding parking on Otterbourne Common, particularly near Lilac Cottage. He also reported that contractors Flooring and Fencing are to inspect the fencing in the kickabout area in Cranbourne Drive with a view to quotations for costs of repairs or replacement.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was unanimously adopted to commit up to £5000 to Otterbourne Village Hall Committee, for their proposed extension to the village hall, and consider further when other sources of grant(s) to OVHC are known. Also agreed that the Chairman, Cllr Peter Briggs, consult with Mr John Pitman, Chairman OVHC, regarding aspects of correspondence that had been exchanged on the project and suggest that plans be displayed and the proposed scheme be publicised in the parish magazine or in a newsletter.

Following detailed consideration of actual and estimated expenditure and income for the year 2000/2001, it was unanimously agreed to precept on Winchester City Council for the sum of £25,287.

A notice was brought to the attention of the Council stating that Pitmore Road Post Office and Stores will be forced to close in the very near future unless there is a dramatic increase in the level of business in the shop. The Parish Council expressed support for this important local business and would urge the local community to fully support the shop by providing greater patronage.

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### ***Reports of Meetings 1999:***

#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 21st December 1999

The question of a 30 mph speed limit throughout the village is to be pursued when traffic calming measures have been completed.

A letter has been received from Mark Oaten MP, with a copy of his speech to Parliament, in which he expressed support for the Parish Council's concern regarding the housing proposals for Hampshire in the HCC Structure Plan 1996-2011.

The County Councillor, Ann Bailey reported that she supports Otterbourne PC in its opposition to the proposed lorry ban in Hiltingbury and Hocombe Roads and that the HCC decision on the proposal will be decided in January. Cllr Cole, in a submission to HCC, contended that there is no justification for imposing the ban on lorries using Hiltingbury and Hocombe Roads as it will preserve the peace and tranquility of some people at the expense of others, who clearly have more than their fair share of discomfort.

Review of Open Space Strategy 2000-2001-Revised Parish Guidelines. A letter had been received from WCC which advised that the sum currently held by Winchester District Open Space Fund is currently £9910.93.

Parish Millennium Projects.

- a Rest and Be Thankful Viewing Area. A letter, dated 14 December 1999, had been received from the Chief Planning Officer, WCC, advising that planning permission is not required for this project.
- b Village Name Sign. Cllr Wame to contact wood carver Glyn Mould.

Millennium Ad Hoc Committee-suggestions for village celebrations. Meeting for 6 January postponed until February when concrete proposals will be formulated.

Garage/store at allotments. Tenant PD Hopkinson, Potty Cottage, 7 Chapel Lane, vacated and paid rent up to 30 September. New owner of Potty Cottage (Mr A Jones) expressed wish to purchase and not rent. Following discussion agreed not to sell in view of complications - access is over Common land which is subject to Manorial Rights of WCC and the property is part of a larger building. Suggestion made that the building be let to the Allotments Assn at a nominal rent

Lease negotiations with Sports Club. Cllr Warne reported that he has analysed existing licence and is working on terms, also, that he is to write to Southern Water Services regarding extension of term of the head lease.

Car parking in Cranbourne Drive. A letter, dated 7 December, had been received from Mr Ian Phillips on behalf of the Governors of Otterbourne School, seeking the assistance of the PC to restrict parking in Cranbourne Drive. The road outside the school car park has recently had Police "No Parking" cones positioned which reduced on-road parking and created a safer environment for children going to and from the school but the Police have to remove the cones. Agreed to pass the correspondence exchanged on this matter to PC C Barham in the hope that he may be able to assist by providing a permanent solution to the parking problem. Mr Phillips to be kept informed.

Consideration of contribution to OVHC re hall extension alterations. Finance Committee to consider and report back. It was agreed to make a donation to Otterbourne Parochial Church Council in respect of costs towards publishing the Church Magazine (£80) and churchyard maintenance (£270)

Correct Road Name. The Clerk was requested to write WCC advising that the cul-de-sac, from Coles Mede to Brendoncare Parsonage Nursing Home, Otterbourne, is wrongly named Main Road instead of Old Main Road, and ask for correction to prevent confusion with the properly named Main Road which runs parallel.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 16th November 1999

Mr MH Wame (Vice-Chairman) presided at the November meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

Members welcomed the Clerk, Dennis Richman, back after his long absence due to illness and expressed grateful thanks to Cllr Mrs Mary Davis for carrying out duties, in a voluntary capacity, as Acting Clerk during his absence.

City Cllr Peter Mason reported that Notice of a By Election to be held on 1 December, for one Parish Councillor, had been published by WCC to meet the legal requirements regarding the long standing vacancy for one member.

County Cllr Mrs Ann Bailey reported that Otterbourne Primary School hope to retain one temporary classroom, after the building of permanent classrooms, as a music/drama room, and that Thornden School are to try and sell some land to Nuffield Hospital in order to provide an Arts Auditorium for the school. Mrs Bailey also reported that village names are to be retained in postal codes and that a flooding map had been obtained in respect of the proposed Greenacres housing development.

Cllr Mrs Pamela Cole submitted a written report on the many points raised at the Voluntary and Accessible Transport Seminar on 22nd October, also, a written report on the Annual Meeting of Parish and District Council Transport Representatives held 13 November. The reports concerned developments over the last year and HCC hopes for the future.

Cllr Mrs Mary Davis stated that Otterbourne Village Hall Committee are pursuing their application for grant towards the proposed alterations and additions to the hall; and Cllr Mrs Glynis Green advised that the Langley House Trust at 'Elderfield' had held a successful fireworks night and a successful auction.

The Millennium Ad Hoc Committee agreed that a time capsule be placed in the wall of the proposed Rest and be Thankful Viewing Area, Otterbourne Hill, and that a letter drop be carried out in the parish for suggestions to be placed in the capsule. A suggestions box is to be placed at the Garage and P.O.

Correspondence is awaited from solicitors regarding exchange of letters to be undertaken with the new owner of Myrtle Cottage, Main Road, concerning use of a parking space on Sponders Mede Nature Reserve at the rear of Myrtle Cottage.

It was decided to write to Mark Oaten MP to make the Secretary of State aware of local concerns regarding the provision of housing in the Hampshire County Structure Plan, and additional housing. This matter to remain in abeyance pending the decision of the Secretary of State.

Following a report that no public consultation had taken place regarding proposed extensions to Southampton Eastleigh Airport, Cllr Wame is to contact Group Captain MEH Dawson, who acts for Compton and Shawford PC as regards aircraft noise and flight paths, and report back at the next meeting.

It was agreed to make 4 contributions totalling £535 towards the cost of publishing the Parish Magazine, churchyard maintenance, grass cutting at the War Memorial and emptying the litter bin in the car park, Cranbourne Drive.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 19th October 1999

The County Surveyor wrote to confirm that following the Parish Council's request he would ensure the Poles Lane roundabout is inspected and kept in a safe condition.

Hiltingbury/Hoccombe Roads lorry ban - This matter now to be discussed at the Roads and Development Sub Committee meeting in December. Cllr Mrs A Bailey would let the Clerk have details about applying to the committee to make representation on behalf of the parish. This must be done in writing prior to the meeting.

Cllr Mr P Mason reported on Winchester City Council's meeting held on Monday, 18 October, 1999, in order to approve the proposals to be submitted to the Local Government Commission. WCC's proposal for Otterbourne and Hursley District Ward and Compton & Shawford District Ward were as detailed at the

Parish Council in September. However, an amendment proposed by Winchester Conservative Association combining Colden Common with Otterbourne as one District Ward and Compton & Shawford with Hursley as another District Ward, among other alternatives, was submitted. Following a vote this amendment was not adopted.

Parish Councils are requested to keep foliage, etc cut back from road signs. Members asked Cllr Mrs P Cole to enquire whether this referred to maintenance of traffic signs because surely this was the responsibility of the County.

District Cllr Mr P Mason was asked to contact the Electoral Registrar concerning filling the outstanding vacancy for a Parish Councillor. At the moment we have 8 councillors and despite repeated advertisements are unable to recruit anyone. The Electoral Registrar has indicated that a by-election will be called, which appears an unnecessary expense, in view of the response received to date. It was generally agreed that the Parish Council should stay at 9 members in total.

#### Waste Recycling Issues & Lorry Movements -

(a) Cllr Mr P Walford drew attention to the reply from Mr Thomas Mosedale, Solicitor, Hampshire County Council, Chief Executive's Office, to this council's letter dated 5 October, 1999. The reply is totally inadequate, there are no specific answers to the important questions posed in the Parish Council's letter.

(b) General discussion centred around seeking legal advice on planning procedures through HAPTC, or submitting the council's case direct to the Ombudsman. It was felt the only case to answer was one of maladministration. As the Ombudsman cannot rule on natural justice it might be preferable to await the outcome on the proposed lorry ban for Hiltingbury/Hocombe Roads. Should this ban be implemented by Hampshire County Council then Otterbourne Village has a very strong case to put to the Ombudsman especially as, in his report on the Minerals and Waste Local Plan, the inspector made mention of the effect heavy vehicle traffic would have on the village.

(c) The disastrous effect heavy good vehicles are having on village life can only be alleviated by moving the waste transfer station elsewhere or building a direct entrance/exit from the M3 to the site.

(d) It should be remembered Hampshire Waste Services is under contract to Hampshire County Council. If the County Council had acted reasonably they could have advised Hampshire Waste Services to delay their planning application until the outcome of the Public Inquiry into the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. These two organisations are working in partnership to provide the infrastructure. Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to dispose of waste.

(e) At the conclusion it was agreed to the following: (i) Await the outcome of the proposed heavy vehicle ban before seeking legal advice or taking further action. Implementation of this ban by Hampshire County Council would strengthen any case we have. (ii) In order to maintain pressure on the County Council, County Cllr Mrs A Bailey to arrange a meeting between Cllr Mr K Eastlin, new Chairman of HCC's Roads and Development Sub Committee and Cllrs Mr P Briggs and Mr P Walford. It was also agreed to try and speak to County Cllr Mr Dudley Keep. (iii) Send copies of correspondence to Chief Executive, of Winchester City Council. The City Council are allowed to make comment on planning applications and this authority might be able to put pressure on the County Council for the completion of the village's traffic calming scheme.

(f) County Cllr Mrs A Bailey advised that she is making a video to illustrate the safety aspects of village life. Looking at a square formed by Hocombe Road/M3 interchange/Poles Lane roundabout/Hursley/Ladwell Hill, 33 accidents had occurred on three sides of the square, Hocombe Road, zero accidents.

#### Skateboard Facilities -

(a) Cllr Mr M Warne reported that in a reply from Southern Water this authority advised they, 'could not readily think of a site which would be appropriate on Southern Water's retained land outside the existing land leased to the parish council in relation to the playing field.'

(b) In view of this disappointing response it was agreed only two suitable sites were available. Land close to the new Greenacres development and that to the rear of village hall. It was generally felt that the land to the rear of the village hall would not be suitable for young children, as they would be very vulnerable. As the Greenacres development was still awaiting full planning consent there is very little we can do at the moment. (For information a meeting with the Environment Agency has been arranged for 20 October.)

(c) General discussion centred around the difficulties associated with skateboarding facilities. It was felt that as finance dictated that the Parish Council would only be providing minimal equipment older children, who appeared to cause most disruption, would not be interested.

(d) Cllr Mr M Warne agreed to write to Mrs Strong, Waterworks Road, parent contact for this proposed scheme, to advise of the current position.

#### MILLENNIUM AD HOC COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held, at very short notice, on Friday, 1 October, circulated. Cllr Mrs M Davis attended, but unfortunately both Cllrs Miss J Ellaby and Mrs G Green were unable to attend.

The Council understood that at future meetings they would be able to put forward suggestions for events which might, following discussion, be included in the proposed celebration.

Views on submitted proposals:

- Time capsule: Suggestion that the time capsule, both competition and location for planting, should not be associated merely with the school. There are village children who do not attend the school. One location for consideration for planting could be the 'rest and be thankful' seat on Otterbourne Hill. Hopefully the items contained in the capsule might cover life in the village

- Pig roast: Worries expressed about the dangers associated with traffic using Boyatt Lane and children crossing to the Otter public house. The Committee will need the permission of the Lord of the Manor, Winchester City Council, to hold any event on the common.

- School discos: This could exclude children living in the village who do not attend the school. Committee to check with the Headmaster to see if an event held on school premises can be opened up to outsiders.

- History of Otterbourne: Parish Council in agreement. Because of the amount of work involved it would be preferable to hold it on more than one evening.

- Local ramble: Cllr Mr M Warne, for the Conservation Group, agreed to organise.

- Mosaic for new school foyer: Members to ask the committee to carry out further research. Would a mosaic on the floor be more preferable to one installed on a wall? Again this precluded children/parents who do not use the village school. Ad hoc committee of Parish Council: It was agreed that as representatives were involved from a wide selection of village organisations the Parish Council could make a financial contribution without the official status of a Parish Council committee. The Council has three representatives serving on the committee so our views are well represented.

- Village sign: Cllr Mr M Warne reminded members that the village sign should be ready for unveiling so this could be another event to include in the Village 2000 Celebrations.

Dog Waste Bins: WCC has advised that a 'dog bin' installed on land near the village school has been included for funding. Parish Council also agreed to fund another bin at the Recreation Ground. WCC are now the responsible authority to contact in respect of nuisance caused by dog excrement and owners may be prosecuted in the courts.

Cranbourne Drive kick-about area - because of continual damage to the fencing, the Council may decide not to fund further repairs.

School car park waste bin: Agreed to contact Elderfield about the emptying of the waste bin.

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### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 21st September 1999

A new street light standard has been erected on the footpath near the Old Parsonage Nursing Home. This has been funded jointly by the Parish Council and HCC.

The World War 1 plaque on the war memorial has been cleaned - thanks extended to Mr Tim Whitcher & Mr Len Brown.

The Parish Council agreed to support Integra in their concerns over the deterioration in the structural condition of the Poles Lane/Main Road roundabout.

Matters relating to the Hiltingbury/Hocombe Roads lorry ban will now be discussed at HCC's Road & Development Sub-Committee meeting in December, at which the Parish Council can make representations. Approx. 150 letters have been received by HCC objecting to the scheme and 50 in support.

The Council received from Winchester City Council their proposals for the Parish under the Electoral Boundary Commission's Periodic Review for Hampshire Districts and Parishes. In respect of the Parish of Otterbourne, WCC proposes that they combine with Hursley (as now) to form one District Ward of 1942 electors. Compton & Shawford will form another District Ward of 1252 electors. These two wards would be represented by two District Councillors.

The Village Hall's Lottery Grant application was unsuccessful. The Lottery Board has invited the hall's representative to attend a seminar on re-submissions. Following information gained from this, a second application would be submitted.

The Pantomime for January 2000 is Dick Whittington & his Cat Following a recent break-in, an alarm system and security lighting have been installed at the Village Hall.

In discussions on issues relating to the Otterbourne Waste Transfer Station, the Parish Council confirmed that the Village felt let down by HCC granting Integra planning permission to operate a Materials Recycling Facility and Waste Transfer Station on the old incinerator site. This planning consent being granted prior to the publication of the findings of a Public Inquiry on the Minerals & Waste Local Plan, and without limitation on the number of HGVs accessing the site.

In a letter of reply addressing the Council's concerns HCC explained that, 'County Council is obliged to deal with applications when they are received and applicants may appeal to the Secretary of State if their application is not determined within a statutory period.'... 'At the time the planning permission was granted the date of receipt of the inspector's report was not known. Even upon receipt of the inspector's report that report is not binding upon the County Council though it must be taken into account by them in the adoption of the plan.'... 'County Planning Officer has confirmed that there is no condition attached to the permission limiting the number of HGVs visiting the site. Whilst in hindsight it might be argued that such a condition should have been attached.'

It was unanimously agreed that a letter should be sent to the Chief Executive of HCC stating the following:

- This Council considers that the MRF should be reduced or even closed.

- We will look very closely at any decision by the County Council to implement a lorry ban on Hiltingbury/Hocombe Roads. It is our considered view that the County Council will, by imposing such a ban, compound the environmental effect on the Village. We are also seeking further advice on the situation the Parish finds itself in. Ideally the whole waste operation at Poles Lane should be moved to a more suitable and economically viable location.

The Parish Council continues to research matters relating to the provision of skateboarding facilities. One area which is proving difficult is a site, the Council not owning any land on which to install such a facility.

Volunteers from the Village Hall Committee, St Matthew's Church and members of the Parish Council willing to work towards planning a Millennium Festival for the parish were received by the Council.

It was agreed to make a grant of £250 towards the children's Christmas Party.

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#### Report of Parish Council Meeting held 20th July 1999

The Chairman began the meeting by giving Councillors a report on the progress of the Clerk, Dennis Richman, following his heart attack. His condition is stable but he awaits the outcome of further tests.

In view of the fact that the Clerk may be absent for some time, it was proposed "to authorise the Chairman and Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee at their joint discretion to take such action and incur such expenses as may be necessary due to the absence through illness of the Parish Clerk." The motion was passed unanimously and the Committee Chairmen agreed to undertake the work necessary to ensure the areas covered by their committees would proceed smoothly in the interim.

The Chairman reported that figures submitted by Integra showed traffic movements still around the figure of 212. A letter to the Chief Executive of HCC in respect of the Poles Lane Transfer Station expressing the Council's strong views and grave concerns was presented.

Hiltingbury/Hoccombe Roads - proposed lorry ban. Following a mail drop in the village in respect of this matter, HCC has received at least six letters/e-mails of objection from Parishioners. The effect of the proposed lorry ban coupled with the proposal to install traffic calming measures on these two roads has resulted in the meeting to discuss the lorry ban being deferred until September. Villagers who have not yet written objecting to this ban are strongly urged to do so as soon as possible.

HAPTC - Retention of Parish Council Governors on School Governing Bodies. Following discussions, it was agreed to write to the Department for Education and Employment in support of HAPTC's objection to the proposed removal from primary/first school governing bodies of co-opted members from Parish Councils.

Dog Waste Bins - Cllr Warne reported that WCC has advised that finance for the installation of dog waste bins and servicing of same would normally be the responsibility of the Parish Council. The total cost of installation would be approx. £155 and the annual charge for emptying a bin twice weekly £228. WCC advise that there is not sufficient money available to fund the bins and service. WCC would however be prepared to fund a bin in the vicinity of the school, because of the obvious potential health risk. A meeting with WCC's Dog Controller was being organised. There was one area at which it was thought the Parish Council should provide a bin, namely the Recreation Ground. A decision would be reached on this at the September meeting.

Skateboard petition - Cllr Warne reported that in response to a petition by three boys, signed in support by most of the residents of Regents Close, Sparrowgrove and Waterworks Road, the areas of finance, insurance and site should be researched before coming to a decision.

Application from Hiltingbury Otters Under 13 Team - the Council felt it necessary to reject the request by the above football team to play league matches on Sunday afternoons. It was decided that this is a recreational facility for the whole village and much of Saturday and Sunday mornings are already given over to the playing of football. The Council was concerned at the exclusion of the general public from a large part of the area at weekends. Although support for organised activities for this age group is to be encouraged, the Parish Council has very limited space available.

Oak tree Coles Mede - confirmation has been received from WCC that the large oak tree in Coles Mede is the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was agreed that as the condition of the tree presented a danger to the public, the work be put in hand as a matter of some urgency.

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Report of Parish Council Meeting held 15th June 1999

A petition organised by 4 boys, Daryl Strong, Ben Strong, John Waghorne and Sam Watson, seeking the provision of skateboarding facilities, was referred to the Amenities and Recreation Sub-Committee.

Councillors were concerned to hear of the hospitalisation of George Hutchinson, team leader at Elderfield, and they agreed to send their wishes for a speedy recovery.

County Councillor, Ann Bailey, reported on the Structure Plan regarding housing.. She also reported that there were no planning proposals for Barton Farm, adjoining the northern boundary of Winchester City and that the land formerly the site of M3 contractors' site office at Bushfield was to be restored as farmland to Mr Windibank, Itchen Farm.

City Councillor, Peter Mason, reported that the demand for houses was now much greater and therefore very probable that the additional 10,000 houses would be required but planning permission for 7,295 houses only would be required in the Winchester in the period 1996-2011. He also reported that Barton Farm was included as a major development area but Micheldever housing development land was not presently under consideration but would probably be reviewed after 2011.

In response to a claim that strategic gaps could now be developed, Mr Mason was to raise the matter with the planning officer.

The reported three dead or dangerous trees in the Cranbourne Drive area and the spillage from unemptied litter bins had been reported to the appropriate authorities. The authenticated minutes from the Annual Assembly are to be deposited at the Post Office, Williams Garage, for collection by interested parishioners. On waste recycling issues, it was reported that planning permission had been granted for a materials recycling facility at Nursling, and that the liaison group was to meet at HWS, Poles Lane, On Sept 14th, when later figures of vehicle movements would be available for discussion.

Works of extension to the play area had been completed and additional play equipment installed at a cost of £10,342 which would be met in full by way of a grant from the WCC Open Space Funding Scheme.

An application has been received from Hiltlingbury Otters to use parish council facilities for the under 13s football team, with a supportive letter from the Chairman of Otterbourne Sports Club, which was to be considered by the Amenities and Recreation Sub-Committee. It was reported that the team manager was investigating the possible alternative of using pitches in Colden Common.

The Council has decided to circulate households in the recreation ground area asking that no bags/sacks containing refuse of any kind are left on the site of the original bin at the Oakwood Ave entrance to the recreation ground, which was removed by WCC because of misuse.

The Council also decided to circulate a leaflet to all households within the parish advising that a proposal has been made to HCC that heavy commercial vehicles should be banned from Hiltlingbury and Hocombe Roads, Chandlers Ford, which, if accepted, would result in more lorry movements through Otterbourne.

Following a police recommendation, an application has been made for the provision of two street lights at the end of the old main road cul-de-sac outside the Old Parsonage and on the path adjoining which leads to the footway on Main Road. The estimated cost is £3,000 of which 50% will be met by HCC if the scheme is approved. On planning matters, it was decided to object to the felling of one poplar and one eucalyptus tree at Yeomans Drove, Main Road.

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- Report of Parish Council Meeting held 18th May 1999

Mr P. Briggs was elected Chairman and Mr M. Warne Vice-Chairman.

Members stood in silent tribute to former City Councillor, Audrey Hobbs. The Chairman welcomed the newly elected City Councillor, Peter Mason, who represents the Parishes of Otterbourne and Hursley.

County Councillor, Ann Bailey, had submitted a written report asking if it would be possible to consider the provision of a zig-zag gate at the end of the footpath from Cranbourne Drive to Coles Mede. She also reported that a number of householders had written to the County Surveyor, objecting to the possible diversion of lorries from Hiltingbury.

PC Clive Barham reported that an arrest had been made in relation to a number of indecent exposure incidents in the vicinity of the Parish. He also submitted a report of vehicle crime in his beat in the past year which showed that of 67 thefts from vehicles, 28 occurred in Otterbourne, 26 in Compton & Shawford and 13 in Hursley.

Cllr P. Cole reported on the meeting of the Otterbourne Conservation Group. A contract had been placed to renew boundary posts on Otterbourne Common. The Woodland Trust is to be contacted regarding horse riding in Otterbourne Wood after complaints about riders going too fast. The report concluded with advice that a letter had been received from Boxhill Consultants warning about change of roads used as public paths to byways open to four-wheel drive vehicles and cross country motorbikes.

Following a wide-ranging discussion, it was agreed that the Hiltingbury Otters under 12 football team be allowed continued use of the facilities on Sunday mornings for another year and that occasional matches are acceptable on Sunday afternoons if the opposing team refuses to play in the morning..

Work is almost complete on the extension to the play area and additional play equipment at the Recreation Ground.

A planning application received from Bass Taverns Ltd for various kinds of signs at Old Forge Inn, Main Road, is to be carefully considered and nearby residents alerted.

As continuing 50% grants are available for providing approved schemes of street lighting, community lighting requirements in the parish are to be considered.

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- Report of Parish Council Meeting and Annual Assembly held 20th April 1999

Both the monthly meeting of the Parish Council and of the poorly attended Annual Assembly were held in the School Hall at Otterbourne Primary School with Cllr P.D Briggs in the Chair.

The summarised reports were as follows:

Replies had been received from all local organisations offering assistance with the Beacon Millennium, should the Parish Council decide to proceed, but in view of shared reservations regarding the matter it was decided not to proceed with the purchase and lighting of a beacon.

HCC had advised that they have no objection to the use of their land on Otterbourne Hill for the proposed Rest and be Thankful Viewing Area, which is one of the two parish Millennium projects, the other being the provision of a carved wooden village name sign.

PC Clive Barham submitted posters for display regarding security of cars, which were acceptable to the Council and which will be passed to the Headmaster of Otterbourne Primary School for information and comments.

The Chairman reported on last year's events which included reference to the loss of a valuable councillor, Don Lee, due to his other commitments and thanks were expressed for his valuable work with the Sports Club and Children's Playground..

The Millennium projects are well advanced.

Following a request from Hiltingbury Otters, a football club comprising members not exceeding 11 years of age, permission was given, after local consultations, for football to be played on the Recreation Ground on Sunday mornings for one year, following which the position will be reviewed.

As a result of indecent exposures in the Stoney Chute area, a radical reduction in scrub land and trees was made, with the cooperation of The Woodland Trust, to afford less cover for loiterers.

Following an approach by the Twyford Medical Practice to facilitate establishment of a service for the delivery of medicines to patients in Otterbourne who were incapable of collection from the surgery, a system is now up and running thanks to the efforts of Cllr Mary Davis.

The Chairman took this opportunity to express the Council's sorrow on learning of the death of Mr Gaines, who with his wife have performed a great service to the Parish over many years in looking after the cleanliness and appearance of our bus shelters. Mrs Gaines is fortunately continuing the task assisted by members of her family.

On planning and transportation matters, Cllr Peter Walford reported that the Winchester District Local Plan has been approved, but we subsequently received a letter from the Chief Planning Officer, WCC, seeking to involve the Parish Council in the process of identifying appropriate housing sites.

Your Council considered the planning application for the Old Forge Restaurant very carefully and came to the conclusion that the current licence if used to its maximum permitted potential could be at least as disruptive to the village as the planned changes requested by Bass, who amended their original plans to meet most of the objections raised by parishioners. Approval of the planning application was granted on April 1st.

The nuisance from heavy lorries through the village, many to and from the Materials Recycling Facility, Poles Lane is still a source of complaint and is of much importance. The nuisance of traffic flow formed a major part of the representations made by parishioners.

Cllr Warne reported on matters of the Recreation and Amenities Committee and Cllr Graham on Finance and presented the Accounts which were adopted without comment.

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- Report of Parish Council Meeting held 16th March 1999

Mr P.D Briggs, (Chairman), presided at the March meeting of the Parish Council held in the Bianchi Room at Otterbourne Village Hall.

City Cllr Mr P. Halliwell reported that the current planning application for the Old Forge Restaurant will be a matter for the Site-Viewing Sub-Committee on 19th March, also that there has been a major change in HCC's road funding policy. Other matters reported on included the Bushfield Camp Project proposed by WCC, the Park and Ride scheme at Bar End, funding of alterations to the Theatre Royal, re-commencement of a farmers' market in Winchester on 22nd March, that WCC rates have been held at the same level as last year and concluded by reporting that the millennium budget had been scaled down to about one third. Following this report it was agreed that Cllrs Briggs and Walford attend the site viewing meeting at the Old Forge restaurant on 19th March. Also that a letter be written to HCC asking that, in view of their changes in road funding policy, they consider building two roads, one on and one off the M3 northbound carriageway, to and from the waste recycling facility at Poles Lane, to reduce heavy traffic on roads in Otterbourne.

Following replacement of damaged wooden fence boundary markers at the War Memorial, a letter has been sent to WCC asking that the Serco drivers of refuse vehicles take due care when traversing the section of roadway adjoining the site of the memorial to avoid further expensive damage.

The post box outside the old Post Office Stores, Main Road, has been re-positioned a short distance away to the lay-by near Solent Office Supplies.

Parish Council representatives to various bodies reported that Mr G. Hutchinson of 'Elderfield' does not think that the premises will be registered as a care home, and that a small Action Committee is to be set up to deal with problems as they arise within 'Elderfield'. The Otterbourne Village Hall Committee had circulated neighbours regarding the proposed extension to the hall and that advice is to be sought of a Quantity Surveyor, and regarding VAT queries. It was also reported that the production of the pantomime had been a success and had also proved a financial success.

Cllr Warne has written to the Otterbourne Allotments Association advising of the enquiries that have been made of Agencies regarding damage caused by deer and indicating that the problem seems incapable of remedy as a cull by shooting is clearly impossible where there are dwellings in the vicinity and the fencing of individual plots too costly. The Parish Council expressed regret at having to write in such disappointing terms.

It was also agreed that the parish project for 1999/2000 would be the provision of a double sided carved wooden village name sign at an estimated cost of £3,500 and that we apply to the Winchester District Association of Parish Councils for a grant.

A litter pick throughout the parish is to be undertaken on Sunday 18th April 1999, from the Village Hall car park at 10:00am to 12 noon with Cllr Miss J. Ellaby supervising the event and distributing plastic sacks to volunteers.

Work of extension to the play area and play equipment was due to commence on 16th March, but will be delayed for a short while owing to ground conditions. An amendment to the proposed scheme has been agreed by the removal of the proposed sand pit, due to hygiene reasons, by the replacement with a 'Small Spring Mobile' at an additional cost of approximately £200 which we believe will be met by increased grant from Winchester City Council.