

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OTTERBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
OTTERBOURNE VILLAGE HALL – 20 SEPTEMBER 2011 7.30 PM**

1975

Present: Cllrs Oldham (Chairman); Doherty; Morrison; Barton-Briddon; Jones; Acton

In attendance: District Cllr J Warwick; County Cllr C Bailey (from 9 pm) Mr R Emery;
PCSO Gavin Cooper; PCSO 14117 Amey Stevens; Clerk

1. Declaration of Interest: None received.

2. Correspondence: Folder passed to members for circulation during the month.

3. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Hudson; Kelly; Tabor

4. Minutes of the Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 19 July 2011

Minutes previously distributed to Councillors. Proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Barton-Briddon, seconded Cllr Jones approved and signed.

5. Action Points and Matters arising on the Minutes and not discussed elsewhere

All points had been actioned or would be reported on during the meeting except for:

11c) To instruct Handyman re refuse bin ‘Slow Down’ stickers. The Handyman had received the stickers and the work was in progress.

11e) To obtain quotation for repair of bund on Chapel Lane Common top corner. Serco was not taking on further work as the WCC contract was changing to Biffa. The Clerk had spoken to the resident and parking had ceased.

To obtain quotation from Biffa for the work in due course	Clerk	18 Oct
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6. Police Report

PCSO Amey Stevens was taking over from PCSO Gavin Cooper who was being moved to the Stanmore area. Six items reported between 20/7 – 20/9: theft of motor vehicle from Main Rd, stolen house nameplate from Poles Lane, fences cut on land at Kiln Lane, theft of lead from property on Main Rd, attempted burglary to property on Waterworks Rd, report of illegal fishing off Kiln Lane.

7. Open Session for Parishioners

No items received.

8. County Councillor’s Report

As attached.

9. District Councillor’s Report

As attached.

10. Report of the Planning and Highways Committee

a) Applications and Decisions

As attached. A meeting would take place to discuss the five outstanding applications.

b) Village Signs

i) Kiln Lane – update on provision of new ‘Otterbourne’ sign

A position for this had been agreed and a quotation was being progressed as part of ii) below.

ii) ‘*Please Drive Carefully through our village*’ – additions to boundary signs

Hampshire Highways had been requested to provide fixed costs for the installation of four signs for: Otterbourne Road, Poles Lane, Kiln Lane and Otterbourne Hill. A reply was awaited.

c) Vehicle Speeds – Speed Restriction Sign, Community Speedwatch, movement of 30 mph limit

A request to the Police for speed check figures through the village had been made and installation of one of four units in Hampshire to capture speed data was awaited. Data from Highways relating to Otterbourne Road had been received which did not show excessive speeds.

The Speed Limit Restriction sign sited on Poles Lane for w/c 5 and 12 August recorded ‘hit’ figures (speed in excess of 30 mph) of 5059 and 3287 respectively. The next siting on Main Road would be 22 October pending completion of the gas pipe work. A review of costs for the sign had been made and reported as fixed costs £536 per annum plus any unforeseen maintenance. This represented approximately £50/week for each of the 5 visits made to the Parish.

The availability of a 2nd hand SLR sign at £1325 was discussed. It was agreed not to pursue this due to the existing contract with the other four Parishes, that the sign had optimum impact if used for limited periods, ongoing maintenance costs would be high.

The option of taking part in Community Speedwatch and purchasing a speed gun was discussed. The Committee felt that the use of volunteers from the village would not be sustainable. It was agreed to review this in March 2012 when better understanding of its usefulness from neighbouring Parishes was known.

A number of requests had been made to HCC Traffic Management East and responses received from Mandy Ware, Assistant Manager as follows:

To add visual or physical speed prompts to the arterial roads on their entrance to the village.

Advised that 30 mph roundels on Otterbourne and Main Road might be possible if the proposed speed reduction of 30 mph up to Shawford was implemented. A request for the roundels to be added to all arterial roads had been made. A request for Rumble strips was not considered appropriate due to the noise generated which could prove disturbing to nearby residents.

To reposition the 30 mph speed limit on Kiln Lane to the railway bridge or river bridge.

This would be a reasonable distance before the entrance to the new Waste Management Head Office. Advised that the 30mph point had been set in accordance with D for T guidance. The road was rural bounded by fields behind a hedge and tree line and not built up enough for it to be moved.

To reposition the 30 mph limit on Poles Lane to a point prior to the Four Dell Farm entrance.

Advised there were a number of property entrances beyond the current position and there could be scope to move it further towards the bend at Dean Copse. A lower level speed limit on the remainder of Poles Lane would not be possible as it became rural. Further investigation into moving the 30 mph sign would be needed by the Traffic Management Team before consideration in its future programme. No time limit was given.

To follow-up with Highways re quotation for b) ii) in readiness for the Finance meeting to set the next Precept	Cllr Jones	18 Oct
To request 40 mph speed limit along Kiln Lane	Cllr Jones	18 Oct
To request SLR sign on Main Rd has record of ‘hits’ made	Clerk	22 Oct
To c/f Speedwatch project to March 2012 Agenda		

d) Development next to Wood Sorrell, Main Road – reconsideration and approval of street name
The developer had requested reconsideration of the Parish Council's proposed name, Misselbrook Close. The two alternatives put forward by the developer: Charlottes Farm and New Farm Place were unacceptable in that it was inaccurate to call the site a farm. After a number of other proposed names from Councillors, Cllr Acton had telephoned the developer to enquire about his preference which was Charlotte Mede. Councillors had been asked to make 1st and 2nd choice vote on all proposed names prior to the meeting. Charlotte Mede was most preferred first choice and approved.

To inform (email) WCC new street name	Clerk	27 Sept
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e) Old church Yard, Kiln Lane – report on works occurring at entrance

Following planning permission for the neighbouring barn to be developed to B1 office use, works had taken place on site, including bunds at the entrance, a change in direction of the Right of Way and fencing. A number of visits had been made and contact with the new owner, Mr A Blake. The offices were being developed as the HQ of his company Hazardous Waste Management Ltd. No breach in planning conditions had been made and the Right of Way followed the correct route. The black entrance gates had since been replaced with wooden gates and the bunds replaced with low walling. CCTV had been installed to prevent previous occurrences of theft and fly tipping. Parking was still a problem for walkers: it was hoped another area might be found and long standing Highway rights over the layby were being investigated.

To monitor and examine parking matters further	Cllr Jones	
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f) Pedestrian Safety – plans for crossing point at Poles Lane, child barriers to footpaths

A site meeting had taken place on 9 June with Peter Eade, Highways Manager for Winchester to discuss the relocation of the crossing point on Main Road near the Poles Lane bus shelter. Plans had been drawn up to stagger the inlet/outlet onto the island to give pedestrians a longer view before they crossed the road. The plans were considered acceptable by Councillors involved in the meeting and were approved. The crossing point at Williams Garage was still outstanding (see item g).

To advise Peter Eade	Clerk	asap
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A Parishioner had requested if the second footpath from Sparrowgrove – Main Road could have a child barrier at the Main Road exit point. A barrier existed at the other footpath from Sparrowgrove. The Meadowcroft Close – Main Road footpath opposite Williams Garage also did not have one. It was agreed that a request would be put in.

To put in request to HCC	Clerk	18 Oct
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g) Southern House – proposal for expansion (new item)

Concern was raised that the application would considerably increase traffic along Sparrowgrove and through the village. A robust green travel plan would be requested and contributions under a Section 278 Agreement to be used towards traffic calming measures such as pinch points and parking restrictions along Sparrowgrove plus progression of the crossing point at Williams Garage

To write response to Jeremy Heppell, YWG	Cllr Jones	asap
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11. Report of the Recreation and Amenities Committee

a) Oakwood Park Recreation Ground

i) Play Park – works report and equipment repairs

Lappset had undertaken underpinning of the edges and were returning soon for the over-banding of tarmac areas and repairs to wetpour. Both junior swings had been removed due to failure of the bearings and had been replaced with improved bearings. The grab rail fixing had been tightened. Lappset would be requested to replace missing plastic caps on underside of equipment bolts, and to look at improving the grab rail. Following a report of one of the gates closing too quickly it had been checked, but considered to be functioning properly. A subsequent incident had occurred and a child had required medical attention for a cut to the forehead. Lappset had been asked to readjust and investigate adaptations. Warning signs would be considered following report after the visit.

ii) Play Park Sign – Proposal for expenditure of £110 plus VAT for new sign at eastern gate

A quotation as requested in July had been obtained from same company as before. Proposed by Cllr Oldham, seconded Cllr Jones and approved by Council.

To place order in due course	Clerk	
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iii) Wasps' nest – ratification of expenditure of £45.66 plus VAT for removal from Pavilion eaves Reported by a Parishioner and actioned by the Clerk. Proposed Cllr Oldham, seconded Cllr Jones.

iv) Rabbit Cull – discussion and approval

The rabbits had been causing damage to the playing field area. Cllr Acton and the Clerk had met with Mr Greenough, a licensed shooter and had walked the boundary. A combination of night-time shooting with 0.22 silent air gun and ferreting was suggested. SOCCT and Southern Water had been approached to undertake culling measures also. Southern Water had agreed to ferreting and had met with Mr Greenough. SOCCT had agreed to ferreting, but required indemnity from the Parish Council which could not be given. A copy of Mr Greenough's insurance had been received. Council was presented with draft letter to residents of adjoining properties, email to the Police, and a Permission to Shoot for Mr Greenough. A Risk Assessment had been made and was discussed. It was agreed Councillors would undertake taping off access points to the ground at dusk on shoot nights. Dates for shoot: October 17th, 19th, 24th, 26th; November 14th, 16th, 21st, 23rd. Time 10pm to midnight. Approval was given by Council for the shoot to proceed at Oakwood Park.

To follow-up with SOCCT again regarding ferreting	Cllr Oldham	27 Sept
To liaise with Southern Water re dates for shoot	Clerk	10 Oct
To provide/instate laminated notices and tape	Clerk/Cllrs	10 Oct
To issue letters to residents bordering the area	Clerk	10 Oct
To notify Police of intention to shoot and dates involved	Clerk	10 Oct

b) Sports Club – report on hard standing and training pitch

The hard standing has been completed and the barriers painted white. A further request for the rear of container to be painted green had been made. The training pitch grass repairs had been completed and did not need further work this year. Alternative positions for the goal posts had been put to the Club in order to rest the grass. A response was awaited. A quote for painting lines around the ramps of the pavilion was in progress.

To progress quotation	Clerk	18 Oct
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c) Elderfield Cricket Pitch – progress on leases and planning permission

There had been a setback to the Club's plans for the access planning application. As it spanned a culvert the Highways Agency and Environment Agency were involved. The technical drawings to satisfy requirements for drainage, pollutants, etc, needed to be more detailed and it was significantly more expensive than estimated. The Club was progressing with the application and sourcing new funding. Cllr Warwick suggested Fieldfare as a funding source. A meeting with the Club to discuss the Underlease was required. Council agreed to request interim account from the Solicitors in order to apply for the Open Space funds.

To refer fund source to Club and arrange meeting	Cllr Acton	18 Oct
To obtain interim account and apply for Open Space funds	Clerk	18 Oct

d) Open Spacesi) Kickabout

A letter from the Chamberlayne Estates advised it did not want any play facilities, goals or additional fencing on the Kickabout area. Reports had been received that some residents believed this area to be private land. It was agreed to place a notice on the fence to say it was a play area. The village hall had been considered as an alternative site for play equipment, but found to be unsuitable. Picnic tables would not qualify unless installed with play equipment.

To obtain quotation for sign	Clerk	18 Oct
To consider alternative use for Play Fund	R&A Cttee	

ii) Allotments – Proposal to notify Allotment Association of rent review in April 2012 from £1.20/rod to £2.10/rod and in April 2013 from £2.10/rod to £2.40/rod.

The last rent increases took place in 1992 from 50p to 80p per rod and in 1995 from 80p to £1.20 per rod. Rods were rented in 5, 6, 8 and 10 amounts. Charges for over 65's were reduced by 50%. The Allotments should be non-profit making, but had to be self-financing as many were rented by non-Parishioners. Income was steady at average of £430/year. Whilst greater overheads were incurred in some years than others, there was not significant expenditure incurred in any one year, except for the provision of a toilet in 2006/07. Expenditure was low due to lesser facilities and the excellent management of the site by the Allotments Association and volunteer helpers.

Comparison with local area: WCC had recently put up its charge to £4.40 per rod; EBC charged £8 per rod; Allbrook and North Boyatt Parish Council charged £5 per rod and about 11 of the allotment holders at Boyatt Lane were in Allbrook & NB Parish so paid this amount (although it was due to be reduced). A balance of outgoings v income suggested that a fund should be built up to cover not just management costs but anticipated major works for the standpipe replacement. Proposed by Cllr Barton-Bridson, seconded by Cllr Jones and approved by Council.

To write to Allotments Association to put up notices and to take to the AGM in April.	Clerk	asap
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iii) Common Chapel Lane – Proposal for expenditure up to £1500 to reduce trees bordering Allotments. A hedge was initially planted, but it had received little maintenance and now extended some 8 metres high into the overhead power and BT lines. The lines were not high voltage and the work was not the responsibility of Southern Electric. The hedge/trees acted as a screen for neighbouring properties and provided security for the allotments. A proposal of shared costs would be put forward. Ron Emery and Philippa Wrightson had been consulted and agreed that a reduction to about 3 metres would be acceptable as the mix of Hawthorn, Sycamore and Ash would regrow strongly. Three quotations had been received to reduce and box up to form hedge again. One Ash tree was too high to reduce and would have side branches extending over the highway removed. Christopher Hoare Tree Services was proposed for the works as lowest quotation price received. Proposed Cllr Barton-Briddon, seconded Cllr Jones and approved by Council.

To instruct Christopher Hoare Tree Services and Southern Electric re interruption of electricity supply	Clerk	18 Oct
To write to Allotments Association with notice of works and proposal for shared costs for work	Clerk	asap

iii) Old Church Yard, Kiln Lane – ratification of expenditure for £50 to Conservation Group towards the increase in maintenance sot for 2010/11.

The Conservation Group had advised the cost for maintenance had increased from £100 to £150 per annum commencing 2010/11. The Parish Council had already made payment of £100 in January 2010. The contribution for the current 2011/12 year of £150 had been approved and made following the 17 July Parish Council meeting. Proposed by Cllr Oldham, seconded Cllr Acton and approved.

iv) St Matthew's Recreation and Social Committee Event (new item)

A request had been received for a village family-day event during the afternoon of Sunday 10 June 2012. It was to replace the Cranbury May Day event and also be part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The event would consist of a parade of children's carts starting at the Church and proceeding via Cranbourne Drive to Oakwood Park. Games for the children would be organized, plus a hog roast and refreshments. Council approved in principle, provided the Sports Club was approached for agreement and the event complied with the rules and regulations for use of the recreation ground. Further details would be received in due course.

12. Report of the Finance and Administration Committee

a) Parish Accounts and cheques for payment

As attached.

b) Requests for Proposals for Consideration in the 2012/13 Budget

Requests were sought for expenditure on new projects and set aside requirement for maintenance of assets from Committee Chairs by 18 October in readiness for the Finance Meeting. Items for the Jubilee Project should be noted. The Clerk would place notices on the boards for suggestions from Parishioners. The Finance Meeting to set the Precept would be on Monday 7 November 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Cllr Acton requested a second newsletter during the year, in addition to the Annual Assembly, to be distributed to all households. Councillors agreed to the idea in principle. Cllr Oldham requested information from Chairs asap to create draft if it was to proceed this year.

To c/f for Finance Meeting	Clerk	asap
To provide information to Chairman for inclusion	Cttee Chairs	asap

13. Report of Representatives to Various Bodies

Conservation Group

The Chairman, Michael Warne, had announced his retirement from the Chair at the AGM. The Parish Council thanked him for his outstanding 26 years of service as Chairman. Cllr Suzanne Hudson and Mrs Valerie Etteridge had been approved in a role as joint Chair.

To write letter of thanks to Michael Warne	Cllr Oldham	18 Oct
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14. Risk Assessment

Pavilion ramps – A quotation for painting the yellow lines around the edges was being progressed.
 Play Park – The swings and new fixings had been replaced, the grab rails to the tower had been tightened, a meeting to adjust the gates and realign the tower approach boards had been arranged. A longer term solution to the gates and grab rails would be investigated.
 Rabbit Cull – A risk assessment had been made and Council had approved comprehensive measures.

15. Any Other Business from Councillors

HCC had prepared the draft Minerals and Waste Plan. A meeting on 13 October had been arranged and HCC had requested notification of representatives who wished to attend. Cllr Doherty who had submitted the responses to the draft Plan was appointed on behalf of the Council.

To advise Representative to HCC Minerals and Waste	Clerk	28 Sept
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Cllr Acton advised that Ideal Leisure had issued a long lease for the White Horse Public House. An offer from the landlord had been made to attend a meeting to explain proposed changes.

16. Date of next meeting

18 October 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Bianchi Room of the village hall.

Applications and Closing Dates for Comment

Case No. 11/01650/TPO 30 August	43 Cranbourne Drive, Otterbourne 2 no Oak trees 20% crown thin and 5 m crown lift. No comment
Case No. 11/01843/TPO 30 August	Drove House, Main Road, Otterbourne 1 no Pine and 1 no Ash fell. No comment
Case No. 11/01925/TPO 30 August	Saxons, Poles Lane, Otterbourne 8 no Lime trees cut back to boundary. 2 no Firs fell. No comment
Case No. 11/01611/FUL 30 August	Midanbury, Park Lane, Otterbourne Single storey rear extension. No comment
Case No. 11/01700/FUL 5 September	Nairana, Main Road, Otterbourne 1 no two bedroom bungalow with detached garage Objection: Overdevelopment of plot; wrong density for gateway position into the village; not in character for this part of the village; important to retain green boundary between Otterbourne & Shawford; request boundary hedge restored.

Decisions

Case No. 11/00616/FUL/LIS	Moat Cottage, Kiln Lane, Otterbourne Demolition of existing barn. Replacement barn/stables in same location. Application permitted
Case No. 11/00881/FUL/LIS	Moat Cottage, Kiln Lane, Otterbourne Amendment to permitted permission 10/00712/FUL for one window into french door and amendment to planning permission 06/01852/FUL for conversion of garage into annexe accommodation. Application permitted
Case No. 11/01201/FUL	Willow House, Norlands Drive, Otterbourne Demolition of existing conservatory/dining room and erection of two storey rear extension containing entrance hall with level access, play room, accessible bedroom and wet room, ensuite new deck and patio areas externally. Application permitted
Case No. 11/01170/FUL	Herridge, Norlands Drive, Otterbourne Demolition of existing garage and erection of single and two storey extensions to side and rear of dwelling. Application permitted
Case No. 11/01197/FUL Case No. 11/01198/LIS	The White Horse, Main Road, Otterbourne Single storey extension for new access lobby and full external decoration; erection of fencing, pergolas and raised timber planters with new patio areas; internal alterations. Application permitted

Planning Matters for Consideration at the Parish Council meeting 20 September 2011

Applications and Closing Dates for Comment

Case No. 11/02015/TPO 21 September	Oakwood House, Oakwood Close, Otterbourne 1 no Sycamore crown lift to 6m and crown thin by 15% No comment
Case No. 11/01961/TPO 22 September	Old Deeds, Main Road, Otterbourne 1 no Oak cut back broken limb and remove L shaped branch No comment
Case No. 11/01801/FUL 27 September	35 Coles Mede, Otterbourne New Fence (further towards highway edge)
Case No. 11/01967/AVC 3 October	The White Horse, Main Road, Otterbourne New signage to a public house (Retrospective)
Case No. 11/01932/FUL 4 October	The Barn, Poles Copse, Poles Lane, Otterbourne Change of use of part of the first floor to B1 (a) office use
Case No. 11/02023/FUL 7 October	Churston House, Poles Lane, Otterbourne Replacement of existing timber constructed garden store with brick outbuilding
Case No. 11/02013/FUL 10 October	34 Oakwood Avenue, Otterbourne Two storey front extension

Decisions

Case No. 11/00781/FUL	10 Oakwood Avenue, Otterbourne Single storey extension to the south side and rear and first floor extension to the rear of the existing dwelling (Amended plans). Application permitted
Case No. 11/01450/FUL	5 Park View, Otterbourne Loft conversion with dormer to front elevation. Application permitted
Case No. 11/01611/FUL	Midanbury, Park Lane, Otterbourne Single storey rear extension. Application permitted
Case No. 11/01843/TPO	Drove House, Main Road, Otterbourne 1 no Pine and 1 no Ash fell. Not required

Case No. 11/01700/FUL

Nairana, Main Road, Otterbourne
1 no two bedroom bungalow with detached garage
Application refused

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Report of the Finance Committee 20 September 2011

a) **Parish Accounts stand as follows**

	£ Current Statement Balance	£ Last Statement Balance
Lloyds TSB Treasurers	4,604.41*	5,660.52
Lloyds TSB Guaranteed Investment Account	Closed	Closed
Co-operative Bank Current Account	1,967.23	1,965.05
Co-operative Guaranteed Investment Account	35,000.00	35,000.00
3 months @ 1.34%		
Total Balance	41,571.64	42,625.57

* VAT Refund from Southern Water £250 is included.

2nd half Precept £14,613.50 credited on 14/9/11 not included in balance.

Cheques for interim payment on 16 August 2011 from Lloyds TSB Treasurer's Account

2497	Mrs M Gaines – bus shelter cleaning July	106.98
2498	Mrs J Ayre – salary July	691.51
2499	Mrs J Ayre - office and travel expenses reimbursement	96.20
2500	Cannon – maintenance recreation ground June and July	912.85
2501	WCC – May election fee costs	85.10
2502	OVHC – Hall hire July, Sept, Oct	60.00
2503	Otterbourne Conservation Group – maintenance increase 2010/11	50.00
		<u>£2002.64</u>

Cheques for payment on 20 September 2011 from Lloyds TSB Treasurer's Account

2504	Mrs M Gaines – bus shelter cleaning August	106.98
2505	Mrs J Ayre – salary August	691.51
2506	Mrs J Ayre – office, travel expenses, telephone/broadband 12/9-11/12	152.80
2507	HMRC – tax and NI for employer and employee July-Sept	164.79
2508	HCC – wasp's nest removal	54.79
2509	Taurus Garden Services – Cranbourne Drive open spaces maintenance	560.00
2510	Blunt Construction – movement of SLR sign	96.00
2511	WCC – directional signs for Village Hall and Recreation Ground	264.00
2512	Cannon – recreation ground maintenance August	242.09
2513	WCC – dog bin emptying April-June	295.00
2514	Petty Cash	<u>100.00</u>

**Otterbourne Parish Council
District Councillor Report 20th September 2011**

1. Barton Farm Inquiry Appeal

The decision on the above by Eric Pickles is imminent (original decision date was 18th August). Members will be up-dated as soon as there is a decision. This information will be publicised on the Council's website, in the local paper and local residents will be notified.

2. Plans for Places (after Blueprint)

Plans for Places allowed comments by interested parties on WCC's response to the Blueprint Consultation. The opportunity to feedback has now closed and the results will be reported on the WCC website shortly. In addition to Blueprint, various technical studies have been updated, including an assessment of the housing and population requirements of the District to 2031; these are all set out in a Housing Technical Paper, forming part of the Council's evidence base. In summary, there is a need to provide 11,000 new homes across the District over the next 20 years

3. Southampton International Airport

Air traffic controllers are keen to apply for a permanent change in airspace to the north of the airport shortly after the Olympic Games. The present Winchester loop over St Giles Hill/Twyford/Shawford is less safe, noisy and burns too much fuel so the controlled straight descent would seem preferable for both environmental and safety reasons. It will be important to monitor the flight paths and subsequent complaints during the Olympic fortnight if possible.

4. Silver Hill

On Thursday 8 September members were given an update and a chance to ask questions on the next stages of the Silver Hill Development project, including a briefing by senior members of the Henderson team.

5. Bishop of Winchester

It has been announced that Canon Tim Dakin has been appointed as the Bishop of Winchester.

Cllr Jan Warwick
jwarwick@winchester.gov.uk

**Report to Otterbourne Parish Council
from County Councillor Charlotte Bailey 2011-09-20**

1986

Highways

I have been told that the Gas Main works should be finished in the next week or two and that the County is keen to plan for resurfacing as soon as they can. Whichever date is fixed, the residents will be informed by letter two weeks before the work starts. I have asked for all residents in the side roads to be included as there are no alternative routes for them. The works will take about 4-5 days and the suggested times are for between 9.00 and 16.30. The road will be closed but residents, visitors and deliveries will be allowed through to reach homes, businesses and shops. I have asked for officers to talk with the school to discuss any possible problems for parents. At all times emergency vehicles will be let through.

Officers are discussing if the road in front of St Matthews Church can be resurfaced at the same time as Main Road.

Cllr Warwick highlighted the flooding at the school entrance and I took a Highway's officer to look. It is already on the drainage list but I wanted to show them the effects of water running down the hill.

Road Safety/Speeds

Cllr Jones has kept me informed in his attempts to improve the safety of the village. The Poles Lane extension to the 30mph limit is a good project and I will give it support when works are prioritised by the County.

Materials have been ordered for the improvements to the crossing to the bus stop near the Poles lane roundabout and I have reminded officers of the agreed cutback of vegetation and new sign at that junction.

It may be possible to buy another flashing sign with your partnership Parishes. This would double the number of times it came to the village.

County Councillor's Grant

Please advertise amongst community groups that there is some money available for local use for any community projects. Details can be found on HCC's website.

HCC Budget

At the Council meeting last week we were looking at the medium term Financial Strategy. For 2012/13 we will be making further cuts of 8% whilst still maintaining a 0% (or very low) Council Tax increase. The down side of that is that services, like highways maintenance, will be even more stretched.

Ofsted report on Safeguarding Children

The County can be pleased that they received Good and Outstanding for their services which protect and nurture children in difficult circumstances. As always we continue to monitor closely to make improvements.

National Planning Policy Framework

The Government proposals for planning which has a presumption for development is creating concerns. In all Government policy since the 1940s there has been this presumption provided it does not contravene any Local policies. This highlights the need for Winchester's Local Development Framework to be robust and quickly produced to give local protection.

Barton Farm

The decision on Barton Farm has still not been made public although promised for August 18th.