



# Odiham Parish Council

Issue 23  
October 2018

Serving the People of  
Odiham & North Warnborough

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### Odiham Parish Council

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

### Hart District Council

Harlington Way  
Fleet  
GU51 4AE  
01252 622122

### Hart Planning Department

01252 774419

### Hampshire County Council

The Castle, Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 8UJ  
0845 603 5638

### Neighbourhood Watch

01256 701805

### Odiham Library

0845 6035631

### Odiham Volunteers Care Group / Transport

Mon to Fri: 9am to 5pm  
07551 587862

### Odiham Health Centre

01256 702371

### Odiham Police Office

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



## ODIHAM REMEMBERS

It was brilliant to see the spirit with which the village celebrated and marked RAF 100. From OPC's perspective our community celebration through the boxcart race and street party were only possible thanks to a whole range of helpers, not least the RAF itself. More details inside.

On 11 November we will be marking another significant centenary. This is when the United Kingdom and its friends overseas will mark the day 100 years ago when the guns fell silent at the end of World War I.

The national event, called 'Battle's Over' will include a unique series of events in the morning and evening. It will involve organisations and communities such as ours, from the length and breadth of the nation and in many countries abroad. The events will remember the sacrifice of millions of men and women during World War I. Odiham will be playing its part.

In the build up to the centenary we hope that clusters of metal poppies will appear around the village; each cluster of 70 poppies to represent one of the fallen from our Parish. Should you wish to contribute a poppy please visit <http://www.odihampoppies.co.uk/>. We will also be displaying poppy flags along the High Street.

However, on 11 November itself, the day will be marked with the following events:

- There will be a parade and service at the War Memorial at 10.10am, concluding with a fly past.
- This will be followed by a service of remembrance at 10.50am at All Saints Church.
- At 6.30pm we are planning a candle-light procession from the church to the village beacon with 70 candles carried by members of youth organisations to represent the fallen from our Parish.
- At 7pm Odiham will join hundreds of other communities around the country by lighting its beacon. We hope you will consider attending.

Following the lighting of the beacon the community is invited to All Saints Church where there will be an exhibition of the fallen.

**Cllr Jon Hale - Chairman of Odiham Parish Council**

## THANK YOU



I would like to thank all the people who helped organise what must have been the Parish's biggest ever community event marking the centenary of RAF 100.

The event raised thousands of pounds for the RAF Benevolent Fund - but just as importantly gave us the opportunity to show the serving men and woman (as well as their families) just how much we value and respect the service they provide.

An event of this size was only possible due to the immense efforts of all involved. I would like to personally thank Becky and Rob Friend, Mark and Jenny Kellie, Russ Haines, Cllr Faulkner, Cllr Harris, Sqd Ldr David and Flt Lt Clark who all joined the working party to plan and organise

the day's celebration over 9 months of meetings.

We were of course helped by our Parish Clerk Sarah Weir as well as a small army of community volunteers and RAF personnel and cadets on the day. Whilst we also enjoyed the support of our local businesses, schools, PTA's and Hart DC, on top of all the teams who made the stunning carts and people who attended the party.

Without this collective effort, bringing so many of the community together to mark this special occasion would not have been possible. So thank you all.

**Cllr Jon Hale - Chairman of Odiham Parish Council**



## RAF ODIHAM

As a serving officer at RAF Odiham and Parish Cllr, I know first-hand just how much the continued support of the community means to everyone on the Station. The Chinook Force is poised 24/7, ready for global deployment and it could not do so without your invaluable support. It was superb to see the community come out in such force this summer to celebrate RAF 100; the Station Commander, my colleagues and I were genuinely humbled and delighted with the level of goodwill and warmth displayed by the thousands of residents who attended the numerous events.

The Chinook Force is acutely aware of the noise that our flying training can cause, especially during the late summer nights. Following the Prime Minister's Sandhurst Summit announcement in January 2018, the Chinook Force has recently deployed to Mali on Op NEWCOMBE. Those of you who attended the community briefing at All Saints Church on 20 September 2018 will have heard Wing Commander Bell, The Chinook Force's Chief of Staff, outline the purpose of the Mali operation: to offer non-combat, logistic support to French forces on counter-terrorism operations preventing extremists from planning and launching attacks on Europe.

The Mali commitment has however increased the number of Chinook crews that need to be trained in the flying techniques required for flying in the desert environment. This in turn has intensified the requirement for low-level pairs formation flying around RAF Odiham airfield and Northern Hampshire. The ability of the aircrafts' crews to operate effectively and safely in hostile environments also demands regular and rigorous flying training at night; the consequence of this increased activity has been a surge in low-altitude, repetitive flight profiles, with often late finishes during the hours of darkness. It is fully appreciated that this increased activity is disruptive and often unwelcome, especially during the short summer nights. To reduce this disturbance to an absolute minimum, the Chinook Force routinely deploys its aircraft to other locations in the UK, and even abroad, whenever it is compatible with available resource and the training meets the exacting requirements of military operations. We also try to export as much of our training into the simulator as possible, however, this recent period coincided with an upgrade programme to our simulators, which reduced their availability. As the Mali deployment matures, a reduction in the intensity of circuit flying is anticipated.

*Continued*

## RAF ODIHAM CONTINUED

By the time this newsletter arrives, the second tranche of personnel from 18(B) Squadron, including myself, will be deployed to Mali, so I can personally vouch for how important this training has been to ensure that the crews are fully prepared for this challenging mission. Your enduring support and considerable understanding during this period of intensified training has been, as always, greatly appreciated.

**Squadron Leader (and Cllr) JM David**

## RECREATION PROJECTS

It was this time last year that OPC ran our survey asking where and what sort of recreation equipment the community would like us to plan and implement for the children and teens within our community.

12 months later I am delighted to report that we have not only secured the required funding, but implemented almost £200k of recreational equipment, with the projects now completed and open for use.

This has seen a brand new 'junior' play park at Recreation Road, placing a great mix of challenging equipment next to the toddler park that will challenge and entertain older children, designed with input from our Mayhill students. We even included a shelter for their parents! This was ready in time for the summer holidays and it has been fantastic to see the park so well used.



Following the research undertaken with local teens we also have a fitness trail and Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) up and running (no pun intended).

The feedback has been brilliant and thank you to all the people who have contacted us - it makes the effort all worth while to hear how positively these new amenities have been received. We have also been very grateful for the suggestions and input from the community.

We are aware that the fence at the end of the slide needs moving back. Although the whole park was independently safety checked and approved, as a parent myself, I can see that this needs tweaking to mitigate some of the more enthusiastic users! We have also planned for extra bins and benches that by now should already be in place.

Getting the project started and finished in under a year has involved a lot of work from some of my Cllr colleagues and our office - I would like to thank them for their efforts.

**Cllr Worboys - Chair of Amenity Committee**

## KING STREET TOILETS

Now that the play equipment and allotment projects have concluded, the Amenity Committee have started looking at how we can improve the King Street toilets. We know from previous research, our NH Plan and the survey we conducted last November that the improvements are needed and wanted.

We have recently submitted an open tender for a full refurbishment and hope that over the coming months we will be able to pull together a plan for how this can be achieved.

**Cllr Jon Hale - Chairman of Odiham Parish Council**

## ALLOTMENTS



Ahhhh the allotment project! This project certainly feels almost as old as I am.

It was initiated well before this Council formed, probably even the last Council! Having inherited it when I took on the role of Chair of the Amenity Committee a couple of years ago, I thought with some bravado that we would be able to finish it relatively quickly.

Sadly that wasn't the case, as it has been plagued by set backs and contractor issues. However, at last the final phase is being implemented. Hopefully by the time this newsletter is published the whole project will be finished.

At our August meeting we undertook a ballot for the allotment sites from those people who had registered for one and we look forward to seeing these allotment plots flourish.

**Cllr Craig Worboys - Chair of Amenity Committee**

## FIRST RESPONDER EQUIPMENT

The village calendar idea started two years ago as a collaboration between OPC and All Saints Church. As well as being designed to promote the village and events, the hope was it could help raise money for local causes.

We are delighted to say that last year's calendar managed to fund the equipment needed to support this essential kit, which has already been deployed in our community on several occasions.

Thank you to the hundreds of residents who have purchased the calendar and helped fund this life saving kit. Of course thank you also to our first responder volunteers who are using the equipment to save lives and help people in our community,

The village calendar will be back again this year with details included in this newsletter.



**Cllr Jon Hale - Chairman of Odiham Parish Council**

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

As you may be aware, Odiham Parish Council has been working with HARAH for several years to bring forward a Rural Exception Scheme in the Parish.

A site has now been secured on land adjacent to Rough's Cottage, North Warnborough and the current proposal is for 12 units. A public consultation was held in North Warnborough on 11 July which was well attended. Further site surveys and reports are underway as well as more work on the design and site layout. Following these, a further public consultation is planned for early December.

Further information is available on OPC's website and this will be updated as the scheme progresses towards a formal planning application.

**Cllr James Robinson-Giannasi**

## VILLAGE CALENDAR 2019

Now in its third year, our village calendar, a collaboration with All Saints Church is going from strength to strength. Mainly, we have to say, due to the superhuman efforts of Steve Brown (which he will not be happy with us highlighting). The calendar does a superb job of promoting our village, its events, businesses and as you will have already read, raises money for local life-saving good causes, such as the village first responder equipment.

The calendars will be on sale at the Christmas Extravaganza and if they haven't all sold out at Carols in the Bury!

However, the calendar isn't just a calendar, it's a monthly prize draw too. This is your invitation to participate and help to further build our sense of community spirit.

With this in mind, are you able to provide a homemade cake, pot of jam, garden apples, take someone for a pint of beer or offer a gift of any service to another village member, very possibly with someone you have yet to meet? Offers so far include ironing, football, escorted factory visit, baking and children's books. However large or small, your gift adds to the number of prizes available in the village draw each month and from there we have more surprised winners in our community, happy faces and the building of new relationships.

This is how it works. The village calendar, provides images from Odiham and North Warnborough, community event dates, a photography competition and monthly and Christmas prize draws supported by our local creative groups, the Council and brilliant local businesses and we would like those that feel that they can, to also offer something to become part of it.

Please take part. Enter your photographs into the photography competition or offer your community gift idea. The gift can be anything and given once, twice or more times a year. Your name will not be published but the prize winner will be put in touch with you to either meet or arrange collection.



Send to: All Saints Church (Village Calendar), Ostlers Place, Deer Park View, Odiham, Hants. RG29 1JL.

Photographs to be a minimum of 2MPixel digital capture resolution for print quality.

Email to [admin@allsaintsodiham.org.uk](mailto:admin@allsaintsodiham.org.uk).

The photography competition will be judged by representatives of the villages and the RAF photography unit in late September. Proceeds from the village calendar are used to support the work of All Saints Church. Last year funds were used to purchase First Responder equipment, which is now used by Iain Tunstell and Nick Marsh who are on call and in regular demand being dispatched by an ambulance control centre to attend medical emergencies in our area.

## FOOTPATH 21

Whilst the maintenance of footpaths is the remit of our County Council, over the last few months OPC's Traffic and Transport Committee have been actively looking at options to improve a key section of Footpath 21, the path between London Road and Farnham Road, running alongside Montfort Place.

This footpath has been in a dreadful state and in need of improvement for some time.

Hampshire County Council have confirmed that the required works can be funded from S106 developer contributions from Montfort Place for highways improvements and the process of obtaining quotes for the work is now underway. We are actively progressing this project and will keep you up to date via our website and Facebook page.

## FOOTPATH ADJACENT TO MILD MAY COURT

We have previously reported that residents of Mildmay Court have gated a section of a well-used footpath adjacent to Mildmay, that runs from Archery Field to King Street, with the intention of preventing public access.

Cllrs and the office have had extensive correspondence from upset residents as well as concerns raised about the safe passage of school children.

OPC Cllrs have spent some time looking into this issue and researching planning documentation. Unfortunately, it appears that at the time of Mildmay being built, while there was the written intention for Hart District Council to register the footpath as part of the conditions of the development, this does not seem to have happened, resulting in the Mildmay Court Management company believing that there should not be a public right of way.

Given the high and historic level of usage of this pathway, OPC is working with local residents to have this pathway formally registered as a right of way. This process may take some time, however it has been agreed by the Council as the best course of action before public funds are spent trying to establish an alternative route, given that the path adjacent to Mildmay has been used for decades.

As a related matter, as part of the work undertaken to look into this issue, we also believe that the fence and gate erected by the Mildmay Court Association is positioned on community land. OPC is now having this investigated by an independent land surveyor and will need to consider the best course of action if the fence preventing access is positioned on community owned land.

## PLANNING UPDATE

Odiham Parish Council's Planning Committee has had a relatively quiet time since I last wrote in the April newsletter. The same pattern was true last year over the summer, perhaps holidays are more attractive than submitting planning applications over the summer months....?

The Planning Committee has reviewed 64 applications in total since April. Fifty eight percent (37 applications) were regular householder applications, in the main seeking permission for extensions and alterations to existing properties. Twenty one (33%) were Listed Building Consent applications, in most cases accompanying householder applications and once more underscoring how much of the property stock in Odiham is listed. The balance of 6 applications was split between change of use and amendments to existing granted applications.

During the period April to September, Hart decided on 30 applications, granting approval in 27 cases, with OPC's Planning Committee offering a No Objection or Support comment in 26 of those decisions. OPC offered a differing opinion from Hart's final decision on four applications, in three cases not raising an Objection comment when Hart refused applications and on one occasion raising an Objection to an application that Hart subsequently approved.

Significant applications that have been decided since April include application 17/03029, change of use and development of part of the Deer Park, which was determined under delegated powers by Hart's planning team. A substantial number of Listed Building Consent applications have been submitted for Danetree House on the High Street and it is reassuring to see that both this property and the one almost directly opposite, White House are being substantially renovated to ensure that they remain landmarks on the High Street.

Observers will note that the Planning Committee is now including the comment "OPC wishes to draw the case officer's attention to the planning policies in the Odiham and North Warnborough Neighbourhood Plan" on all relevant applications to ensure that the planning decision makers at Hart DC (the case officers) are aware of the Odiham and North Warnborough NH Plan and refer to its policies when making decisions on applications submitted in the Parish.

It is also worth reiterating that OPC is tasked by the Local Planning Authority, Hart DC, to offer, in its role as a consultee to planning applications, local guidance on what it considers local nuance and vernacular design on applications in the village. Through the Planning Committee it also aims to offer input where proposals would have unexpected or second order impacts on the way the village functions. This may not always be clear to Hart DC's case officers who have a broader brief to consider applications from a range of localities and may not immediately recognise the sensitivity to local features.

**Cllr Mark Faulkner - Chair of Planning Committee**

## CITIZENS ADVICE

Last year OPC agreed to contribute to the Citizens Advice for an outreach service clinic in our community to ensure that our residents have access to help and advice when they really need it.

We were delighted to receive a report back from Citizens Advice recently that has shown the initiative to be a complete success and has proved a model for other local communities to follow.

Over the last year, over 200 people have been helped from Odiham by the CAB on a range of topics including Council Tax arrears, debt, relationships and housing. The service has been accessed by a broad range of ages and from all corners of our community.

As central services are cut back further, we see a need for communities such as ours to continue to help provide this sort of assistance, which we hope to be able to do.

The Citizens Advice Outreach Surgery is held at the Odiham Cottage Hospital between 9.30am and 1pm on the first Tuesday of every month. No appointment is needed.

**Cllr Jon Hale - Chairman of Odiham Parish Council**

## COMMUNITY AWARDS

Our RAF 100 street party was also the perfect occasion to present our 2018 community awards.

We received a superb variety of nominations, however the committee, formed of representatives from a range of community organisations, decided to put forward Katie Bleathman and Mick Paull who were then unanimously approved by the OPC Community Committee to receive awards.



Katie was nominated for her outstanding services to our local schools - particularly her tenure as Chair of Buryfields PTA, where she has led a team of volunteers who have raised tens of thousands of pounds for the school.

Mick's son and son-in-law received a posthumous award on his behalf for the 44+ years of service Mick gave to our community as a member (later Watch Manager) of Odiham Fire Station, as well as all he did for our Parish.

The aim of the community award is to establish a programme to cultivate a sense of gratitude, encouragement, inspiration, social cohesion and partnership across our villages - something Katie and Mick absolutely encompass.

Details of 2019's community award process will be published in the new year.

**Cllr Jon Hale - Chairman of Odiham Parish Council**



## SPOOKTACULA

**SPOOKTACULA - Halloween & Fireworks**

**Beacon Field, Odiham (RG29 1NE)**  
**5.00pm - Sat 27th October**



[www.facebook.com/odihamparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/odihamparishcouncil)  
[www.hookandodihamlions.co.uk](http://www.hookandodihamlions.co.uk)

This year's Spooktacula will include our first ever pumpkin carving competition, organised by the marvellous Mayhill Schools PTA. Bring along your carved pumpkins on the night for the glory of being crowned "Odiham's Champion Pumpkin Carver" and win a prize!

## CHRISTMAS IN ODIHAM



OPC is delighted to support the Christmas Extravaganza and Carols in the Bury, two superb events brilliantly organised by InOdiham and All Saints Church respectively.

The Christmas season starts with the Extravaganza on Saturday 24 November, from 4pm to 8pm. As usual there will be a superb seasonal fair, scores of food vendors and street entertainment. OPC's Community Committee will also have our village Christmas tree in place for the annual lights switch on, while InOdiham do a superb job decorating the High Street.

All Saints Church will also be treating us to another stunning Carols in the Bury and Christmas Tree Festival on the 15 December. Check out our Facebook page or website for more details.

## CONTACT US

The Parish office is usually open to the public between 9am and 2pm on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. We would however recommend phoning in advance to ensure the office is attended.

If you would like to keep up to date with Parish Council matters and community events please visit our website at [www.odiham.org.uk](http://www.odiham.org.uk) or for those of you with a penchant for social media, visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/odihamparishcouncil/>.

A calendar of Council meetings can be found on the website. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Council meetings. Agendas are published on the website giving 3 clear days' notice prior to the meeting along with draft minutes of the previous meeting and meeting papers.