

ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the people of Odiham & North Warnborough

Chair's Message, Cllr Dr Angela McFarlane

As I write we are embroiled in yet another war in the Middle East. Clearly this is a tragedy for all directly affected by conflict on the ground. The RAF family, especially those in the heart of our community, are particularly in our thoughts and prayers at this time. Once again we thank them for their service.

As a direct result of the war, we are all facing yet another energy crisis. Prices at the pumps were affected immediately and knock on effects on gas and electricity are on the horizon. The AA and RAC are already urging motorists to forego all but essential trips. It seems timely to remind everyone of the actions we agreed as a community to reduce our energy consumption as part of the Greening Campaign. These are easy to take and can save a household hundreds of pounds a year as well as reducing your carbon footprint.

Action

Turn off lights when leaving a room (non-LED)	25
Replace all bulbs with LEDs	65
Turn off all standbys	60
Line dry clothes in the summer	65
Boil only the amount of water needed in your kettle	12
Turn the thermostat down by 1°C	325
Reduce each normal shower time by 1 minute (4 people)	35
Go vegetarian an extra day a week	563

Estimated annual saving CO₂ eKg

In this edition

Chair's welcome	Cover
Community matters	Page 2
Council priorities	Page 3
Planning and development	Page 4
Amenity sites	Page 5
Traffic calming	Pages 6-7
The Bridewell	Pages 8-9
Volunteering	Page 10
Your Council	Page 11
What's on	Page 12

This last one is obviously not a direct energy saver but was popular as an action to reduce carbon emissions. The largest energy expenditure in most local households goes on heating. As the weather warms up this is less of a problem, but the nights are still chilly and it is worth checking insulation including things like a curtain over a drafty door and drawing curtains at night even in rooms that are unoccupied. When we looked at local housing stock with thermal cameras back in 2023 we discovered that many houses don't have insulated loft hatches – that makes a measurable difference to heat loss. These may seem like trivial changes, but taken together and as a community, they make a significant difference.

It can be particularly challenging to find energy efficiencies in older properties. The My Home Made Better campaign has recognised this and provides specific advice. <https://myhomemadebetter.org/> The "Q&A with the experts: Thermal efficiency in older buildings" is of particular relevance for local properties. Meanwhile OPC continues to look for ways to save energy and reduce bills at The Bridewell. We have been lucky with competitive grants from Hart District Council to help with this. The work to change all lighting to energy saver fittings will be completed this Spring.

Hart District Council has awarded £4,500 from their Climate Action Fund which will fund the cost of updating the lighting to LED lights in the communal spaces of The Bridewell.

The upgrade is expected to take place in the Spring.



£5,000 was awarded from Hart District Council's Environment Fund which will fund a project to improve accessibility and the biodiversity value of a small woodland at The Firs.

The project will be delivered by the Council in partnership with the Rotary Club with ecology advice from Hart District Council.



£2,500 has been secured from the Hart District Council Environment Fund which will cover the cost of laying scalings on a popular walking route running through Bartley Heath.

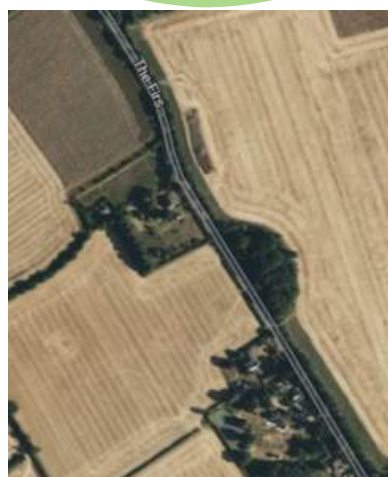
The works aim to improve ground conditions and will be carried out by the Conservation Volunteers work group with support from Hampshire County Council.

Please contact the Council if you are interested in taking part.

A further defibrillator has been added to the Council's provision thanks to a 50% grant from London Hearts. This latest unit is installed at The Bridewell and is available 24/7.

All Parish Council units are logged with <https://thecircuit.uk/>, a national database of public defibrillators.

We are proud to work in partnership with the Hook & Odiham Lions in maximising defib coverage across the Parish.



A Kings Award for Voluntary Service to inOdiham

As a key sponsor of inOdiham, Odiham Parish Council is delighted to see all the hard working InOdiham volunteers recognised at the highest level.

Well done and thank you for all you do for our community.

Forthcoming 2026 event dates:

Saturday 27th June - Bands in The Bury
Monday 31st August - Odiham Food Fayre

<https://inodiam.co.uk/>

Saving The Bell Public House

A huge congratulations to our wonderful community for coming together to save this cherished local pub from being converted into housing. This milestone was made possible through your hard work and dedication, with the support of external funding.

Congratulations to all those who worked so hard to make this day happen. Cllr McFarlane and Cllr Dorn enjoying a drop of Odiham Drizzle at the opening of The Bell.

Further details on the project and information on how to buy a share can be found at <https://www.thebellinthebury.com/home.shtml>



Council Priorities

In December 2025, the Council reviewed and finalised its priority projects, detailed below. This exercise was informed by consultations with the wider community. These medium and high-priority initiatives will guide the allocation of our limited resources, influence future budgeting and enable us to pursue external funding opportunities (see p2 for recent successes). Given the diverse workload of our small local authority, many of these projects rely on voluntary support, including from councillors at all levels. We sincerely thank everyone who contributes to our vision of improving the local area.

Providing high quality community facilities

The Bridewell:

- General improvements including possible reconfiguration of the corridors surrounding the courtyard. **High priority**
- Upgrading broadband. **High priority**
- Extinguishing highways rights on the block paving area at the front of the building, taking ownership and considering bollards or new line markings to better manage parking. **High priority**
- Additional toilet provision. **Medium priority**
- Upgrading ground floor kitchen. **Medium priority**
- Repairing building fabric including removal of render on external walls. **Medium priority**

Play areas:

- Upgrading Chamberlain Gardens play area and fencing. **High priority**
- Extending tarmac path between tennis/bowls club as far as Chamberlain Gardens play area and linking up to All Saints grounds. **Medium priority**

Other areas:

- The Firs woodland - improve accessibility, seating and interpretation boards. **High priority**
- War Memorial - stage 2 works required. **High priority**
- Crownfields pre-school land (new) - infrastructure improvements to manage parking. **High priority**
- Parish Room - render repairs and re-decoration. **High priority**
- Further bench provision. **Medium priority**

Supporting the Parish as a pleasant, safe and enjoyable place to live and work

- Traffic calming/road safety in agreed locations. **High priority.**
- Rights of way - improvements to paths running through Bartley Heath. **Medium priority.**

Action against Climate Change to protect our environment and the planet

The Bridewell:

- Upgrading to energy efficient lighting in the Parish Office and corridors. **High priority**
- Upgrading to energy efficient lighting in the Library Room. **High priority**
- Upgrading fan heaters to radiators in some areas. **High priority**
- Secondary glazing. **Medium priority**

Other:

- Project to support cycling eg securing cycles on High St. **Medium priority**

Planning & Development - Cllr Pam Verdon

Since the summer the number of applications submitted to Hart District Council has decreased, possibly because of the expected changes to planning policy?

Longwood, West Street, Odiham

25/01981/FUL Construction of part two, part three storey building comprising retirement living apartments with associated communal lounge, house managers office refuse/recycling area, electric buggy store, car parking, landscaped grounds and vehicular access onto West Street (following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding).

Part of this site is in the reviewed Neighbourhood Plan for the development of 9 houses, including social housing. This new application is for the demolition of the existing house and use of the land behind. New plans have been submitted and the decision date is now due in March.

Call for Sites and Warehouses for Hart Local Plan

The Call has been extended as insufficient sites throughout Hart were put forward. It is not expected that there will be information on sites now until early summer.

Striving to get the best out of developments for local people

Odiham Parish Council plays a crucial role in ensuring local development aligns with the needs and interests of the community. In addition to investing in the recent Neighbourhood Plan update, which gives preference for development in certain areas, the Council strives to secure the best possible outcomes for residents when an application for development comes forward. We must remember, as in any area, the Neighbourhood Plan can only go so far and the Parish is open to speculative planning applications too.

One significant way the Council achieves this is by putting forward requests for Parish Leisure requirements. This must be done at the planning application stage and the Council will often put forward schemes, even if it is opposed to the overall development. The consequence of not responding at this stage of an application may result in an application being granted planning consent without any developer's contribution which is necessary to make the development acceptable.

A project must evidence it is necessary to make a development acceptable and can't be used to meet an existing need. Once agreed by the Hart District Council (the local planning authority), projects are included in a Section 106 agreement, a legally binding contract which commits developers to contributing towards infrastructure and community amenities as part of their development.

Recent successes include funding for The Bridewell and a village gateway from the Alton Rd site (currently under construction) and will include the transfer of land for pre-school use.

Another in the pipeline includes £88,000 from the two Hook Rd developments which will fund a new play area in Chapel Pond (the closest play area site).

The February Council meeting reviewed current leisure provision against future needs, should the population increase in certain areas. The response shown in the February Council agenda papers was submitted to the Local Planning Authority and will be considered for inclusion in the next Hart Local Plan.

(See p10-15 of the February Council papers:

https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/260217-Full-Council-Agenda-FINAL-MERGED_compressed.pdf)



By advocating for community interests, Odiham Parish Council aims to continue provision and enhancement of recreational opportunities whilst demonstrating a balanced approach to new development.

Significant changes to English planning rules are on the way

The English Planning Reforms aim to modernise the planning system and facilitate residential and commercial development while promoting sustainable practices. Central to these reforms is the objective to simplify the planning application process, making it more efficient and transparent.

The reforms also emphasise local input and community engagement, ensuring that residents have a say in developments impacting their neighbourhoods. Enhanced support for affordable housing initiatives is a significant focus, seeking to address the housing crisis through streamlined approval processes. There is also an increase in emphasis on environmental sustainability, with measures to integrate green infrastructure and promote renewable energy solutions in planning policies.

Overall, early indication from the planning sector supports these reforms in seeking to create a more responsive and adaptive planning framework that meets the needs of the economy while being mindful of community values and environmental concerns. The anticipated changes are expected to drive growth and innovation in the housing sector while ensuring responsible development practices.

We work hard to keep up-to-date with the changes and will always respond to consultations where possible.

Amenity Sites

Management of the council's open spaces is more streamlined and efficient, largely due to two new grounds contracts. Additionally, our Amenity Officer conducts weekly inspections, which helps monitor conditions and identify any necessary improvements.

The new contracts, awarded last year, provide for increased grass cutting with discretion granted to the contractors to carry out works in line with climatic growing conditions. As we approach the second year of these three-year contracts, the positive impact on local parks and Odiham cemetery is becoming increasingly evident.

Here's a few snippets of some of the additional work over and above routine maintenance regimes which reflect our commitment to maintaining safe and welcoming open spaces for everyone to enjoy.



Cemetery works

At the start of the year our cemetery contractor undertook some extra works to respond to some longstanding vegetation overgrowth.

The trees towards the bottom of the cemetery (North Ridge) had become entangled with ivy, which was causing the trees to lean and become very unstable. And, some of the older burial plots, were completely hidden and inaccessible.

Additional maintenance has taken place for a couple of years now to tackle a backlog and this will continue.



New goalposts at the Recreation Ground

A new pair of goalposts were installed at the Recreation Ground in response to local demand. They are intended to support informal play.

The goals are sited to reduce wear and tear on one location and will be relocated again once the grass has re-established.

Chapel Cottage

New fencing and hedging was installed to the boundary of Chapel Cottage as part of the Council preparations to market the property for sale.

The decision to dispose of this property followed over a year of research and financial evaluation which concluded any net income from rental was far lower than originally estimated. With rising maintenance costs, The Renters' Rights Act 2025 taking effect in England in May 2026, and changes to the Tenancy Act, the Council reached the decision on the basis that disposal removes liability and risk of rising costs. The property will be marketed with Mackenzie Smith estate agents from mid-March.



Work to identify suitable investments and/or potential spending of any of sale income is in progress.

Local Government Re-organisation

A decision is likely to be taken by Government in March 2026 on the make up of unitary authorities from the existing borough councils. Elections for new councils should take place in 2027 and future elections will be for all members of councils, not in thirds as at present. This will mean that the make up of councils could change quite a lot every 4 years.

Assets owned by Hart – no parish or town councils will be forced to take on any assets belonging to Hart. If the assets produce income they will move to the new unitary authority as they are classed as strategic.

Update on road safety - Cllr Angela McFarlane

From time to time, the Parish Council asks the community what they would like to see prioritised in the Parish. Without fail, parking and speeding are in the top three things that are listed as problems that adversely affect their peace, safety and enjoyment of their neighbourhood. In the latest data collected in autumn 2025, over 80% of respondents reported that speeding concerns them. However, in the same dataset, 60% did not want the precept (portion of council tax passed to Odiham Parish Council) to increase to support traffic calming. So any action taken by OPC must be funded from available resources or external funding.

Management of the highways sits firmly at County level, with some responsibilities sub-contracted to District level. For example, at the time of writing, paid car parks are managed by Hart District Council, but in 2022 Hampshire took back responsibility for on-street parking. When it comes to speeding, the Police have powers to enforce speed limits and must sanction volunteer activities such as where Speedwatch volunteers can safely monitor traffic.

Given that OPC has no direct powers over traffic movements or parking, why have we invested the resource to compile this report? What can we actually achieve within current budgets? Parish Councils play a key role in informing District and County what is needed at Parish level and lobby for resources to be used to make improvements. This lobbying is most effective when it is backed by evidence of need and community support. With the proposed changes to Unitary Authorities across what is now Hampshire, this role at the Town and Parish level is likely to be even more important. Even now, there are opportunities to bid for resource from time to time. These can be against a short deadline, with little notice. OPC has been successful in a range of areas, winning funds from local and national pots with well-informed bids, backed by evidence of residents' support.



There are things that can be done at Parish level as well. The Speedwatch volunteers are an important part of the struggle to reduce speeding in key hot spots. Speed indicator devices are known to slow traffic and OPC operates two which are moved around to the key sites regularly. However, the current devices are unreliable and cumbersome so we are looking for a better way to provide wider and more consistent coverage.

The current report is a result of a Parish-wide survey which attracted some 400 responses, desk research by staff and Councillors, input from residents in key areas, Robert May's School, Mayhill Junior School, Buryfields Infant School and RAF Odiham. We have also had expert input from Hampshire County Council and the Police on what is most likely to result in improved traffic management. As ever there is a balance to be struck between what is desirable and what is possible. There are inevitably tensions between easing traffic flow, providing parking, and controlling speed.

Whilst we cannot solve all the 21st Century challenges of an historic setting, with narrow streets, no pavements and no off-street parking, we believe there are some affordable changes that can make life easier for the majority. Recent changes to the parking layout in The Bury are one such example.

We thank everyone who contributed to the survey and this report.

We are now ready with a number of suggestions that are practical and viable, some of which we can implement and many of which we are now discussing and will continue to lobby for, with the next tiers of local government.

Join the Annual Parish Assembly on 28th April at All Saints Church from 6.30pm and follow <https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-business/council/projects-and-activities/road-safety>

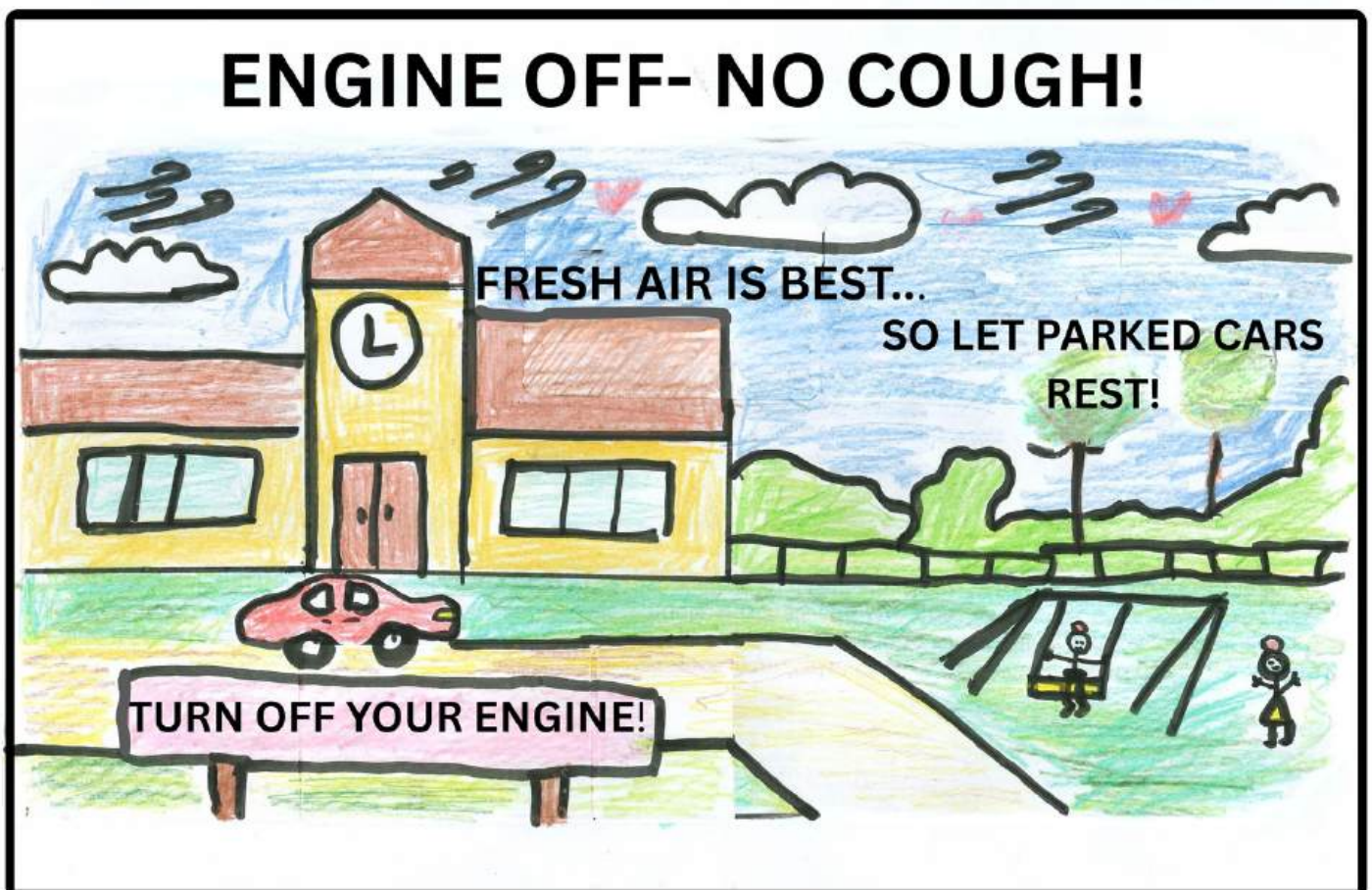
Anti-engine idling campaign

Following frequent reports of engine idling in The Bury, the Council set about replicating other schemes across the county to remind drivers to switch off their engines when stationary.

Pupils at Mayhill School were asked to design a poster to discourage engine idling around the school drop-off and pick-up periods. The winning design by Evelyn Hayes, year 3 will be displayed around Mayhill and Buryfields schools.

Idling engines seriously harm people's health.
Leaving engines running while stationary is simply an unnecessary source of air pollution.

It is also illegal.
Combating this is particularly important in locations where there are high numbers of idling vehicle engines, such as outside schools and hospitals and by bus stops.



The Bridewell - history provided by the Odiham Society

The Bridewell in the Bury, Odiham

The name 'Bridewell' derives from 1552 when Edward VI gave a royal lodging house near St Brides Well in London for use as a hospital. This was subsequently converted into a House of Correction and Bridewell became a general name for prisons or jails. During the 17th century there was only one house of correction in Hampshire - in Winchester. By 1700 there was pressure on space, and an Act was passed enabling local rates to be levied to build and maintain additional jails.

In the early 1700s the new Lord of the Manor, Paulet St John prepared a scheme for building a Bridewell in Odiham serving N.E. Hampshire. The Justices of the Peace approved this at the Quarter Sessions. The building was completed by July 1743 when building payments totalling £350 were made.



Management

Prior to the Howard reforms in 1777, keepers were unpaid and had an alternative occupation. They did receive expenses. However, the initial scheme in Odiham showed that a keeper was to receive a salary of £10 a year. By 1806 this had increased to £26 per annum. In 1811 the keeper was paid £50 a year at a time when an agricultural labourer would earn less than half this amount. By comparison the Winchester jail keeper was paid £250 to include three assistants, and the larger Gosport Bridewell 50 guineas plus an assistant.

Committees of Inquiry

A report on Hampshire's jails in 1788 showed that Odiham was not keeping up with best practice at that time. The prison had not been whitewashed for five years, there was no employment, no fuel or bedding was provided by the county, there were no separate day rooms for men and women, and a large room was kept as a brew house although alcoholic drink was discouraged. The bread ration was 1½ d worth of fine bread.

A Committee was appointed by the County Magistrates in 1817 to 'examine the state of Hampshire Gaols and Bridewells.' They congratulated Odiham's keeper, Mr William Hoare on his conduct and that the Prison was clean and appeared to be well conducted. They did, however suggest improvements which would increase the prisoners' security, particularly when the keeper was absent travelling with prisoners to Winchester, and that religious worship should be the subject of future regulation perhaps by appointing a 'minister to attend on the Sabbath'. They also recommended that 'female prisoners be kept distinct from the males' and that clothing be provided 'in order to preserve the health and cleanliness of the prisoners, and to prevent the probability of infection' and that 'soap etc should also be provided for the employment of the females in washing their own linen and that of the male prisoners'.

Subsequently in 1824 the Hampshire Quarter Sessions reviewed the functions of the jail provision and decided that 'The Bridewell or House of Correction at Odiham be discontinued as a county prison and that for the future no person be committed thereto'. This took a long time to come into effect for accounts show a keeper and expenses were last paid in 1842.

Notable Prisoners

Perhaps the most famous known prisoner was 'Jack the Painter' who in 1776 during the American War of Independence, attempted to fire HM Dockyard at Portsmouth, causing £60,000 of damage. In 1777 he attempted to fire both the shipping at Bristol and the city itself. On the run he was reputedly arrested at The Raven in Hook. A letter in the National Maritime Museum confirms James Aitken alias 'Jack the Painter' was brought to Odiham Jail. He was tried at Winchester and hung in chains at the mouth of Portsmouth Harbour on 10th March 1777.

Another prisoner went on to have famous connections. Ann Willis was brought to the Bridewell in 1789, having stolen a bundle of clothes in Alton. She was given a seven-year sentence in Winchester and transportation to Australia. There she married, became a midwife and delivered a son of the wife of Governor Macquarie, who became known as the 'Father of Australia'.



The Bridewell

The County Constabulary

Until Victoria's reign, law and order depended on the Constable of the Manor who was responsible for keeping the peace. They were answerable to the magistrates and carried out their warrants. In 1839 Hampshire County Constabulary was formed and Police stations were built or acquired over the next few years, and it was logical that Odiham's Bridewell should become a police station and the Divisional Headquarters of the largest division, NE Hants. In 1847 Superintendent John Callingham was resident and in charge of fourteen constables covering an area reaching to the county boundary at Aldershot and Farnborough. Each Division was provided with a horse for the Superintendent, and this was stabled at the Bridewell (the flying squad of its time). Initially, Metropolitan Police policed the army camp at Aldershot but after they were withdrawn and replaced by Hampshire men, the Superintendent moved to Aldershot and Odiham was left with a Sergeant in charge. It ceased to be a full-time police station in 1972.

Magistrates Courtroom

Magistrates typically met in a large room of a local inn and The George in the High Street was the venue in Odiham for centuries. By the 1880s this use of licensed premises was questioned. The solution in Odiham was to add an additional building to the Bridewell site. The Magistrate's Court was built into the southeast corner using the 14ft high southern boundary wall and taking in the prisoners' day room and part of the brew house areas shown on the 1817 plan. The entranceway was also modified. It was built in 1881 and came into full use in 1882.

The 1890 Court Book shows that the Magistrates Court met fortnightly. The magistrates, all men, were headed by Lord Dorchester (Lord of the Manor of Greywell) and Sir Henry Mildmay Bart (Lord of the Manor of Odiham). One hundred and fifty-two cases were heard during the year, an average of six per session. 25% concerned breaches of the Rabies Act, which required dogs to be muzzled, 16% concerned parents not sending children to school and 14% were drunk and disorderly cases. Two were for the traffic offence of being drunk in charge of a horse and cart and another two were for Furious Driving!

For years the Odiham Division ran courts at Odiham and Aldershot, but in 1970 magistrates' courts ceased to be held in Odiham.

In recent years

Hampshire County Council owned the building and it was used for a variety of purposes - including leased offices, a children's centre and home to Odiham Library. The building was listed as an Asset of Community Value and, following notification in 2021 that the Library would close, the building was gifted to Odiham Parish Council for £1 in 2022, who still manage it today for community and business use.

The Parish Office is generally open Monday-Thursday if anyone would like to look around! Please call the Parish Office on 01256 702716 to arrange a convenient time.



The Bridewell Community Hub has a range of spaces for hire!



The Library room £26 per 3 hour session



Hot desks £10 per day



small meeting room for 6 people £24 for 2 hours



All prices include FREE Wi-Fi and refreshments. To book or for more information please scan the QR code



Bookings

Q. Who are you and where do you live?

I'm Simon O'Brien but known as 'OB' due to the nickname given through many years of Service life! I live on the outskirts of Hook but have deep roots nested in Odiham Village and Royal Air Force Odiham itself.

Q. Can you tell us a bit about your background and what inspired you to start volunteering with the team that maintain the Odiham War Memorial?

I have served in a little over 40 years combined service with the British Army and for the majority part, The Royal Air Force, and was stationed at RAF Odiham for many years. I was married at the Odiham Parish Church and for a time, served alongside my wife's father, himself a former RAF Serviceman stationed at Odiham. I am now a proud Veteran and connections to the Service and my local community could not be stronger since volunteering to help with the maintenance of Odiham's fabulous War Memorial. My desire to help with the Memorial was rooted in a lifetime of service and a deep respect for those who came before us. Memorials are more than just stone and inscription, they are quiet, respectful witnesses to sacrifice, duty and community loss. Ensuring they are maintained is my part in helping to safeguard that memory. It's a chance to give back and to pay respects.



Q. How has volunteering impacted your perspective on community issues?

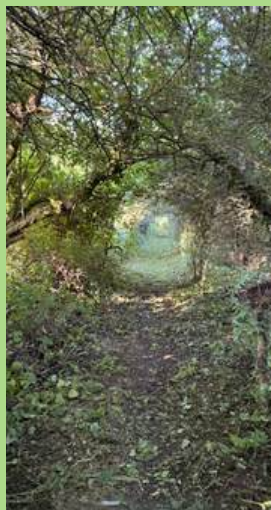
Working alongside Odiham residents and fellow volunteers has highlighted that community spirit and wellbeing is sustained not by our wonderful Service personnel alone, but by individuals who quietly give freely of their time and effort. It's rewarding to see how small acts of stewardship – maintaining shared spaces, preserving local heritage and maintaining the Memorial for reflection, strengthen community spirit and pride. Since volunteering with this activity, it has reminded me that remembrance is not solely about the past, it is about our duty to keep the sacrifices that were made visible in the present. Standing at the Memorial, I'm often reminded that the names could have come from streets nearby, families remembered and lives lost. For me, it has reaffirmed that service does not end when the uniform comes off – it simply takes on a new shape...

Q. What is the most rewarding aspect of your volunteering work?

What I find most rewarding is preserving a place where remembrance remains visible and meaningful. Each time I help to scrub, sweep, clean or tidy the leaves or tend the surrounding area, it reminds me that those who served and sacrificed, are not forgotten. In some strange way it helps to keep the connection between past and present deeply fulfilling. Equally rewarding are the conversations I've had with local residents that comes from the work! In many ways it is an extension of my own family, knowing that at some point, I may have served with those within the Odiham community; its these moments that bridge generations and keep the history books open! I would also say it is the satisfaction in the simplicity of the task and the tremendous sense of achieving a small result with a deep sense of duty. And volunteering here affirms that service continues beyond military life and the strengthening of community bonds to ensure that remembrance remains an active, living commitment.

Q. What advice would you give someone who is interested in volunteering but unsure where to start?

I would say communication is key and to connect with the local community. The Parish notice board is often a good place to start but volunteering is as much about relationships as it is about tasks. Try and connect with the local Parish councillors, existing volunteer groups, or the Church community. Your most valuable currency is the time you have to commit with helping; once you make that first connection, the rest will follow! Start small and depending on how much time you have, build and increase your volunteering to where you are most comfortable. Come and join the team and be a part of maintenance of our wonderful War Memorial!



Conservation Volunteer Group – Call to Arms

After what seems like the longest, wettest, winter in history, it's good to know that spring is coming! On that positive note then, the OPC-led volunteer group will soon be donning hi-viz vests, clutching tools, and setting out to maintain our wonderful rights of way in the Parish. So, this is a call out – to our fab existing volunteers, and to anyone else who wants to give up a few hours of their time, to again make a positive difference in the community.

Provisional dates are as follows:

11 April
16 May
13 June

Further details will be forthcoming as we approach these dates. In the meantime, we are hoping to elicit your opinions: where in the Parish would you like us to have a look at maintaining? Is there a particular right of way that you think is a bit overgrown, or in need of some TLC? If so, please let us know and we will give it consideration!

For this, or to explore volunteering opportunities, please get in touch through the Clerk at: clerk@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Odiham Ward

Cllr Leo Cornall
cllrcornall@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Caro Seabrook
cllrseabrook@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Mike Tate
cllrtate@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Helen Tyler
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Cllr Pam Verdon (vice chair)
cllrverdon@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Henry Woods
cllrwoods@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk

North Warnborough Ward

Cllr Steve Bell
cllrbell@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Chris Greensides
cllrgreensides@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Cllr Angela McFarlane (chair)
cllrmcfarlane@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk

RAF Station Ward

Cllr Alex Cooper
cllrcooper@odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Welcome to Cllr Alex Cooper, RAF Odiham Ward

"I hope to support those living in the parish, particularly service personnel and their families who face unique challenges associated with military life. There is already a strong bond between RAF Odiham and the local community, and I intend to continue supporting that relationship. RAF Odiham's critical defence role is strengthened by its close links with the parish.

I believe we are very fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of the country, and I hope to support the community in whatever way I can."



Finance

The Parish Precept for the year ending 31st March 2027 is set at £262,406, which equates to £109.35 per Band D average, an increase of £7.57 from 2025-26.

The precept and annual budget of £298,506 were both agreed by full Council in January following careful consideration of providing value for money whilst meeting direct increased costs, managing the Council's assets effectively and supporting ongoing investment.

The increase also allows for continued grant funding through: the community grant fund, event grants to InOdiham, Citizens Advice, and to the management of Odiham and Broad Oak Commons and The Basingstoke Canal.

DON'T DO SOCIAL MEDIA BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS?

If you would like to subscribe to Odiham Parish Council's e-newsletter to be kept informed of important news, consultations or possible future projects, please visit

<https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

You are cordially invited to:

Odiham and North Warnborough Annual Parish Assembly

To be held on **Tuesday 28th April 2026**
at **All Saints Church**

Doors open for refreshments and community stands from 6.30pm

Meeting 7-8.30pm

Presentations will include:

An annual report from Odiham Parish Council, an update from RAF Odiham and local, voluntary community groups.



All parishioners are invited to attend (no need to book)

Your
Odiham



My home made better offers free and impartial advice to Hampshire residents on how to make improvements to their homes to make them greener and more efficient.

A representative from the "My Home Made Better" project will be joining the Annual Parish Assembly if you missed the opportunity to speak to them recently at The Bridewell.



Upcoming Council Meetings

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (ZOOM)

Tuesday 7th April
7.30pm
Monday 27th April
7.30pm

FULL COUNCIL

Tuesday 21st April
7.30pm- The
Bridewell

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tuesday 21st April
The Bridewell
(After Full Council)

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 19th May
7.30pm- The
Bridewell

Flag Raising Ceremony

to commemorate Armed Forces Week

Monday 22nd June, 11-11.30am
Beacon Field

Please join us as we pause for a moment and pay our respect to our Armed Forces



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