

# Odiham Parish Council

## Annual Report



**April 2026**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION .....	3
2. THE COUNCIL.....	4
3. GOVERNANCE.....	5
4. FINANCE AND FINANCIAL CONTROLS .....	7
5. PERFORMANCE AGAINST STRATEGIC PRIORITIES .....	11

---

This Annual Report summarises the Council's activities and achievements covering the civic year May 2025 to April 2026.

The Report is a summary of the full presentation presented to the Annual Parish Assembly on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and will be published online after the meeting. Paper copies are available on request.

# I. CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

2025/6 has been another busy year for the Parish Council. The most visible activity was the inspiring march past by the personnel, past and present, of RAF Odiham to mark 100 years of flight from the base. The occasion was the presentation of the Freedom of the Parish to RAF Odiham. It was my profound honour to be invited, on behalf of the Parish Council, to inspect the parade with the Chinook Force Commander, The Station Commander, The Lord Lieutenant, and the Air Officer Commanding Number 2 Group. The whole event was supported by a large crowd of residents, children from our three schools and invited guests.

Improvements to The Bridewell, creating a vibrant hub for the community, have continued. These have been prioritised to improve facilities for users who hire space in the building and contribute to covering the costs of running and maintaining the building. Demand for the refurbished hotdesking and conference room continues to grow. Redecoration and upgrading of lighting across the building is nearing completion and we are now looking forward to further improvements in the coming year. The space vacated by the former MP is rented out to two local organisations. The Odiham Book Exchange continues to thrive and now has over 800 members.

Once again we have been successful in winning external funding to support local projects including restoration of the War Memorial, The Firs and the footpath through Bartley Heath. These last two projects will be completed in 2026.

A significant piece of work has been carried out to generate a plan for measures to mitigate the challenges of traffic speeding and parking across the Parish. These two concerns are the most frequently reported to the Parish Council and although we do not control or hold budgets to address either, we can lobby the authorities that do. That lobbying is most effective when it is supported by a robust evidence base and clear resident support. The current plan, as presented at the Annual Parish Assembly, lists immediate, medium and long term objectives. Discussions and planning with Hampshire Highways, as well as relevant resident representatives, are well underway and some early wins are already in place. The new design for parking in the Bury and the repainting of markings outside Robert May's School are two examples.

As we embark on our planned activities for 26/7 we will continue to strive to maintain and improve the unique setting we all enjoy in the Parish, and prioritise the issues that are of most concern to residents.

Cllr Dr Angela McFarlane  
Chair of Odiham Parish Council

## 2. THE COUNCIL

### Councillors

The Council started and finished the year with all councillor positions filled.

During the year, Cllr Chris Greensides resigned as councillor of the RAF Station ward then co-opted to the vacant North Warnborough ward, following the sad passing of David Sanger, and Cllr Alex Cooper was co-opted as RAF Station ward councillor.

Seats held at April 2026:

Odiham Ward - Cllr Leo Cornall, Cllr Caro Seabrook, Cllr Mike Tate, Cllr Helen Tyler, Cllr Pam Verdon and Cllr Henry Woods.

North Warnborough Ward – Cllr Steve Bell, Cllr Chris Greensides and Cllr Dr Angela McFarlane

RAF Station Ward – Cllr Alex Cooper.

### Staff

There were no staff changes.

Staff positions held at April 2026:

Parish Clerk – Andrea Mann, Deputy Clerk – Bridie Tate, and Amenities Officer – Shaun Hobbs.

### Recognitions

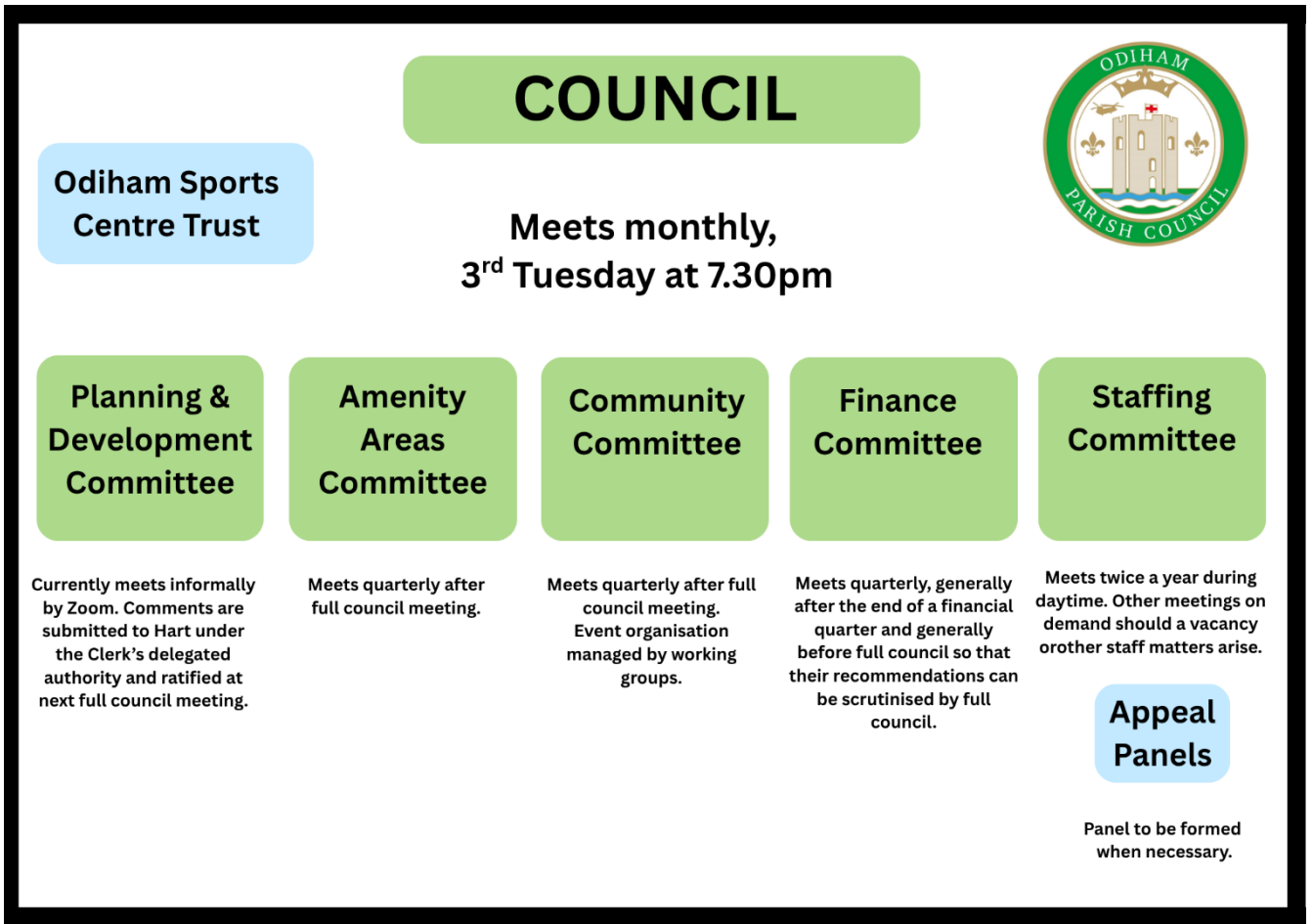
The National Association of Local Councils Council Quality Gold Award, awarded in 2024, is valid until September 2028. The Gold award is the highest award, which demonstrates the Council achieves excellence in governance, leadership and council development.

The Council is permitted to continue use of the General Power of Competence and is next required to make the General Power of Competence declaration in May 2027.

Odiham Parish Council was awarded runner up for excellence in community engagement in the Hampshire Association of Local Council Awards 2025.

### 3. GOVERNANCE

The governance and committee structure was reviewed at the Annual Council meeting in May:



Working groups were also reviewed at the Annual Council meeting with other reviews throughout the year:

- Capital Projects Steering Group – new in November 2025 and replaces The Bridewell Working Group.
- Community Award Sub-Committee – reviewed December 2025.
- Conservation Volunteers Working Group – reviewed May 2025.
- Health and Safety Working Group - reviewed May 2025.
- Pre-school Land to be Transferred Working Group – new July 2025.
- Tree Officer role – reviewed in May 2025 – position currently vacant.
- War Memorial Working Group – reviewed May 2025.
- Road Safety Working Group – revised August 2025.

OPC's policies were reviewed throughout the year and all essential reviews completed:

<b>Policy Name</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Importance</b>
<b>Governance</b>		
Code of Conduct	Sep-23	Essential
Publication Scheme	Sep-23	Essential
Standing Orders	Jan-26	Essential
Scheme of Delegation	Jan-25	Desirable
Business Continuity Plan	Feb-25	Desirable
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy	Dec-24	Advisable
Dignity at Work Policy	Dec-24	Advisable
Councillor Officer Protocol	Dec-24	Advisable
<b>Finance</b>		
Financial Regulations	Dec-25	Essential
Statement of Internal Controls	Nov-25	Desirable
Claiming expenses by Cllrs Policy	Nov-24	Optional
Report on the Independent Remuneration Panel for Hart Parish Councils		
Investment Policy	Nov-25	Essential
Reserves Policy	Nov-25	Optional
Grant Giving Policy	May-25	Essential
<b>Council Strategy</b>		
Strategic Plan/Business Plan	Apr-26	Desirable
Annual Action Plan	Apr-26	Desirable
Casual Vacancy and Co-option Policy	Sep-24	Optional
Complaints Procedure	Mar-25	Essential
<b>Data Protection</b>		
Data Protection Policy	Jul-23	Essential
Document Retention Policy	Aug'24	Desirable
Consent form for communication with OPC	Jul-23	Desirable
Privacy Notice - General	Jul-23	Essential
Privacy Notice - Staff, Cllrs and Role Holders	Jul-23	Essential
Subject Access Request Policy	Jul-23	Desirable
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>		
Health & Safety Policy	Dec-25	Essential
Safeguarding Policy	Dec-25	Desirable
<b>Environment</b>		
Environment & Climate Change Policy	Sep-24	Desirable
Biodiversity Action Plan	Aug-22	Essential
<b>Managing assets</b>		
Memorial Bench Policy	Apr-25	Optional
Hiring OPC's land and equipment	Sep-24	Optional
Tree Policy	Jul-25	Optional
<b>Communication</b>		
Communication Strategy	Aug-25	Desirable
IT Policy	Jan'26	Desirable
<b>Staffing</b>		
Disciplinary and Grievance Arrangements	Nov-25	Desirable
Training and Development Policy	Nov-25	Desirable
Staff Handbook	Nov-25	Optional
Sickness absence policy	Nov-25	Desirable
Flexible working policy	Nov-25	Desirable
Emergency dependants leave policy	Nov-25	Desirable
Lone working policy	Nov-25	Desirable
Pensions Discretionary Policy	Nov-25	Essential

## 4. FINANCE AND FINANCIAL CONTROLS

### Governance and reporting

All financial records were reported to the Finance Committee or full Council on a quarterly basis. Budgets, audits, payments listings and contracts are published at <https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-business/council/finance-transparency/audits/budgets-and-financial-reporting>.

### Audits

The annual internal and external audits for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 were successfully completed, reported to full Council on 23rd September and published online, in accordance with legislation and required timescales.

Do the Numbers Ltd was re-appointed as the Council's Internal Auditor for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026. An interim audit was carried out in November 2025 and the annual internal audit completed on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

A new audit assertion was added for the 2025/26 financial year which checks OPC's compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices relating to digital and data compliance. This required an accessibility assessment of OPC's website, a full data audit, and a new webpage to demonstrate robust compliance with The Transparency Code 2014 <https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-business/council/the-transparency-code>. In addition, several policies relating to GDPR and Freedom of Information were reviewed in April 2026.

### Grants and donations to external organisations

During the 2025-26 financial year, the following grants were awarded to external organisations:

1. £1,000 to Citizens Advice.
2. £1,000 to InOdiham for the Christmas Extravaganza event.
3. £2,500 to InOdiham for the Armed Forces Day Bands in The Bury event.
4. £1,000 to InOdiham for the Odiham Food Fayre event.
5. £580 to The Baker Hall towards new solar panels on Baker Hall.
6. £500 to the Hook & Odiham Lions for a PSA prostate cancer screening event.
7. £500 to Phoenix for their Project Open Door – a free advice, information and guidance, mentoring children with anxiety project for ages 16-19.
8. £500 to Zero Hunger for 6 foldable tables, an event shelter and polo shirts for volunteers.
9. £430 to RAF Odiham for Christmas gifts to personnel deployed over Christmas.

The Council also made the following donations to local groups who have supported the Parish Council's events and activities:

1. £150 each to Cove Brass Band and The Rotary Club of Odiham & Hook for supporting the Christmas tree lights switch on event.
2. £100 to the Poppy Appeal.
3. £250 to In Stiches to purchase wool for the Poppy displays.

### Grants and donations received

1. £5,000 from the Hart District Council environment fund for a project at The Firs woodland.
2. £2,500 from the Hart District Council environment fund to improve a pathway running through Bartley Heath.
3. £4,500 from the Hart climate change fund to upgrade to LED lighting at The Bridewell.

The end of year accounts were completed on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and the final VAT return for the year submitted to HMRC. The following accounts will be presented to Council at the May Annual Council meeting along with the Internal Audit Report before submission to the External Auditor:

## BALANCE SHEET

31/03/2026

<i>(Last) Year Ended</i> 31 Mar 2025		<i>(Current) Year Ended</i> 31 Mar 2026
£	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	£
	Stocks and stores	
	Work in progress	
	Debtors (Net of provision for doubtful debts)	
	Prepayments	
5,044.49	VAT Recoverable	6,284.53
	Temporary lendings (investments)	
	<b>BANK BALANCES</b>	
0.00	Lloyds Money Market	0.00
1.00	Lloyds Treasurer's Account	0.00
17,156.35	Unity Trust	38,823.64
0.00	Lloyds 30 days notice account	0.00
52,420.39	Hampshire Trust Bank	54,656.72
140,000.56	CCLA	135,862.88
0.00	Lloyds/Unity Multipay card	0.00
0.00	Petty Cash	0.00
209,578.30	<b>TOTAL BANKS</b>	229,343.24
214,622.79	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	235,627.77
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
	Creditors	
<u>214,622.79</u>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>235,627.77</u>
	<b>Represented by:</b>	
149,895.96	General fund Balance	154,857.07
	<b>Reserves:</b>	
1,633.50	Capital	1,573.50
63,093.33	Earmarked	79,197.20
	Adjustments	
<u>214,622.79</u>		<u>235,627.77</u>

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 Mar 2026

Signed ALMann  
Responsible Financial Officer

Date 09.04.26

**Odiham Parish Council**  
**Income & Expenditure Account**  
01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026

<i>(Last) Year Ended</i> 31 Mar 2025		<i>(Current) Year Ended</i> 31 Mar 2026
	<b><u>Income</u></b>	
231,988.18	1000 - General Account	251,887.52
38,936.68	2000 - Amenity Areas	44,148.55
40.00	3000 - Community	
19,830.00	8000 - Projects	
	7000 - Earmarked Reserves	12,000.00
<b><u>£290,794.86</u></b>		<b><u>£308,036.07</u></b>
	<b><u>Expense</u></b>	
126,282.46	1000 - General Account	145,790.61
84,763.08	2000 - Amenity Areas	92,992.09
9,291.69	5000 - Traffic and Transport	10,258.23
14,406.47	3000 - Community	15,498.97
8,671.67	4000 - Planning	
14,938.77	7000 - Earmarked Reserves	17,917.13
21,421.47	8000 - Projects	4,574.06
<b><u>£279,775.61</u></b>		<b><u>£287,031.09</u></b>
	<b><u>General Fund</u></b>	
<b>134,126.92</b>	Balance at 01 Apr 2025	<b>149,895.96</b>
290,794.86	ADD Total Income	308,036.07
<u>424,921.78</u>		<u>457,932.03</u>
279,775.61	DEDUCT Total Expenditure	287,031.09
<u>145,146.17</u>		<u>170,900.94</u>
-4,749.79	DEDUCT Reserves Balance	16,043.87
<b><u>£149,895.96</u></b>	Balance at 31 Mar 2026	<b><u>£154,857.07</u></b>

## Reserves:

Capital Reserve Balance £1573.50

Earmarked Reserve Balance £79197.20

## 2026/27 budget setting and precept

Following several review stages, the budget and precept for the following year were approved at the January Council meeting.

	Budget	Funded by			Band D	
Year	Budget	Income	Precept	Reserves	Price per Band D Property	Increase
2024/25	£279,580 +4.03%	£55,321 -4.13%	£224,259 +5.74%	0	£93.92	+£3.79 +4.2%
2025/26	£301,506 +7.84%	£57,940 +4.73%	£243,566 +8.61%	0	£101.78	+£7.86 +8.36%
2026/27	£298,506 -1%	£36,100 -37%	£262,406 £7.74%	0	£109.35	+£7.57 +7.43%

The agreed budget for the 2026/27 financial year can be viewed with all financial reporting documents at <https://odihamparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-business/council/finance-transparency/audits/budgets-and-financial-reporting>

## 5. PERFORMANCE AGAINST STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### I. Providing high quality community facilities

Project priority	By whom	Project outcome	Agreed action	By when	Reviewed by Council 21.04.26
<p><b>The Bridewell</b> To transform The Bridewell into a thriving community hub.</p>	Led by the office and overseen by the former Bridewell Working Group (now the Capital Projects Steering Group)	To improve facilities for all and increase income to a level where income supports running costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Improve marketing and continue promotion.</li> <li>ii) Research door entry and security systems to improve access for all building users whilst minimizing staff commitments.</li> <li>iii) Draw up action plan detailing Council's agreed change in direction and new priorities.</li> <li>iv) Source fee proposal to support areas in iii) which require professional support services.</li> <li>v) Source tenant for vacant ground floor office space.</li> <li>vi) Progress the actions identified in iii).</li> <li>vii) Continue watching brief on relevant funding opportunities and submit applications where possible.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>May '25 (new financial year)</p> <p>Jun '25</p> <p>Jun '25</p> <p>Jun '25</p> <p>From Apr'25</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Complete - New ILOQ door entry system installed.</p> <p>Refer to 2026/27.</p> <p>Complete – contract awarded Mar '26.</p> <p>Complete – office space split and 2 new tenants secured.</p> <p>Underway. Refer to 2026/27.</p> <p>Funding secured to upgrade to LED lighting.</p>
<p><b>The Firs</b> To improve accessibility and amenity value.</p>	Led by a working group and overseen by the Amenities Committee	To improve accessibility and amenity value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Arrange site visit with councillors and other interested community members.</li> <li>ii) Develop project proposal.</li> <li>iii) Secure funding to meet project costs.</li> </ul>	<p>Summer '25</p> <p>Autumn '25</p> <p>Winter '25</p>	<p>Project proposal completed by Cllr McFarlane, external funding secured (in addition to OPC's budget) and project commenced March '26, in partnership with Rotary and Hart District Council. Estimated completion end Summer '26.</p>

<b>Project priority</b>	<b>By whom</b>	<b>Project outcome</b>	<b>Agreed action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Reviewed by Council 21.04.26</b>
<b>Benches</b> To continuing improving bench provision and interpretation boards in the Parish.	Amenities Committee	To improve accessibility and amenity value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Review condition of current benches and authorise works.</li> <li>ii) Review map of benches and consider further provision.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Before '26 budget setting</p>	<p>Complete – repairs complete or works instructed where required.</p> <p>3 new benches to be delivered at The Firs, funded by Hart grant.</p> <p>Refer full review of bench provision and map to 2026/27.</p>
<b>War memorial</b> To improve the condition and protect the heritage.	War memorial working group overseen by the Amenities Committee	To improve the condition and protect the heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Secure funding to meet project costs.</li> <li>ii) Progress works identified in the working group's schedule of works.</li> <li>iii) Prepare war memorial in time for Remembrance 2025.</li> </ul>	<p>Asap – price will inhibit funding opportunities. Sep '24</p>	<p>Part complete – over 50% of works completed during 2025. Budget allocated for next two phases of works to take place during 2026.</p> <p>Working group set up to tidy, clean and oversee condition.</p>
<b>Future provision</b> Keeping all assets under review.	Amenities Committee	To ensure community assets are useful to the community and maintained in a safe condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Research Council decision to dispose of a property – Chapel Cottage.</li> <li>ii) Progress steps to dispose of property, subject to outcome of research.</li> <li>iii) Develop schedule of repairs &amp; maintenance for all properties, starting with The Bridewell.</li> <li>iv) Keep watching brief on re-organisation of local government in Hampshire and act quickly to agree OPC's strategy on ownership and management of local public assets.</li> <li>v) Review asset portfolio before '26-'27 budget setting process and identify highest priority projects.</li> </ul>	<p>By May '25</p> <p>After research</p> <p>Draft to Amenities Aug '25</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Oct '25</p>	<p>Complete – full report to Council.</p> <p>Complete – property marketed.</p> <p>Refer to 2026/27. Some work started at The Bridewell.</p> <p>Refer to 2026/27. Too early for parishes to be involved. HALC conference 11.06.26 when expected to find out more detail.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
	Council	To fulfil planning obligation and manage proper use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Draw up a plan of action to prepare OPC for taking on pre-school land within the Crownfields NP development site, west of Alton Rd.</li> </ul>	<p>Mar '26</p>	<p>Discussions with Leapfrogs in progress. Land expected to be transferred in 2027. Refer action plan to 2026/27.</p>

<b>Project priority</b>	<b>By whom</b>	<b>Project outcome</b>	<b>Agreed action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Reviewed by Council 21.04.26</b>
<b>Play Equipment</b> To maintain a rolling programme of maintenance and future replacement.	Amenities Committee	To ensure community assets are attractive and safe for community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Independent annual play inspections.</li> <li>ii) Complete actions from annual play inspections.</li> <li>i) Develop concept plans for refurbishment of Chapel Pond play area.</li> <li>ii) Consult on concept plans iii) once date of section 106 agreement is known.</li> <li>iii) Deliver project to upgrade Chapel Pond play area.</li> <li>iv) Present scaled down concept plan to upgrade Chamberlain Gardens play area, including pathways.</li> <li>v) Keep watching brief on funding to deliver vi).</li> <li>vi) Research feasibility and cost of providing 2<sup>nd</sup> goalpost at Rec.</li> <li>vii) Identify highest priority repairs and replacements before '25-26 budget setting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jun '25</li> <li>Sep '25</li> <li>Aug '25</li> <li>Unknown Subject to iii)</li> <li>Autumn '25</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Aug '25</li> <li>Oct '25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Some research in progress. Awaiting S106 payment.</li> <li>“ “</li> <li>“ “</li> <li>Research in progress. Council requested scaled down plans in line with affordability.</li> <li>Some budget available. Ongoing search for new funding opportunities.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete and ongoing.</li> </ul>
<b>The Parish Room</b>	Amenities Committee	To improve the condition and protect the heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Complete repairs to Parish Room roof.</li> <li>ii) Source quotes to repair and repaint the northern wall.</li> <li>iii) Secure funding for ii).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May' 25</li> <li>May '25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Quote currently unaffordable. Building dedicated earmarked reserve.</li> </ul>

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

Project priority	By whom	Project outcome	Agreed action	By when	Reviewed by Council 21.04.26
Promoting community cohesion	Full Council	Show regard to the valuable role community groups play in uniting the community.	i) Consider and award community Grants.	Jul '25 and Jan '26	Complete.
	Office and OPC rep		ii) Liaise with InOdiham and other event organisers before determining '2026/27 budget.	Oct '25	Complete – grants awarded and meeting held to discuss 2026/27 events and comms.
	Full Council	To assume a leading role in civic events.	iii) To arrange and host a civic event to celebrate the Freedom of the Parish award to RAF Odiham.	Jun '25	Complete.
			iv) To acknowledge and promote: a. 80 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE-Day. b. 80 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ-Day. c. 800 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Magna Carta (revised). d. Armed Forces Day.	May '25 Aug '25 Jun '25	Complete. Not actioned due to promotion of Freedom event. “ “
			v) To arrange and host OPC's own events: Remembrance	Jun '25	Complete.
	Community Committee		vi) To agree OPC's '26 events before setting '26-'27 process.	Nov '25	Complete.
	Partnership with HCC led by Cllr SB.	Keeping RoWs accessible.	i) Continue leading and supporting conservation volunteers group.	Ongoing	Complete.
			ii) Keeping RoWs accessible, through regular community volunteering events throughout the year.	Ongoing	Complete. Three sessions held.
			iii) Secure funding for improvements to route through Bartley Heath.	May '25	Complete. Funding secured. Project delivery in 2026.
			iv) Deliver improvements projects in ix) through the volunteers.	Summer '25	Ongoing. Refer to 2026/27.

Project priority	By whom	Project outcome	Agreed action	By when	Reviewed by Council 21.04.26
			v) Continue to advertise for more volunteers.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Refer to 2026/27.
			vi) Increase training of volunteers.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Refer to 2026/27.
	Led by Cllr SB.	To prepare for emergencies in the best	vii) Carry out annual review of Emergency Plan.	Nov '25	Refer review of Emergency Plan to 2026/27.
<b>Traffic and transport</b>	Road Safety Working Group	Speed reduction.	<p>i) Hold first 20mph on King Street working group.</p> <p>ii) Research feasibility and draw up project proposal.</p> <p>viii) Research funding.</p>	<p>Apr '25</p> <p>Summer '25</p> <p>Autumn '25</p>	<p>First meeting held. OPC now carrying out a Parish wide review of traffic calming.</p> <p>A community survey generated approx. 400 responses and resulted in analysis of problem areas and potential mitigations. Ongoing liaison with HCC to assess feasibility.</p> <p>Initial plan of road safety measures to be presented to full Council 21.04.26 and presented to Annual Parish Assembly 28.04.26.</p> <p>Budget for SIDs increased. New Speedwatch volunteers trained and second kit bag purchased. Anti-engine idling campaign completed.</p> <p>Technical assessment and feasibility to take place in 2026/27.</p> <p>Grant application to the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner's road safety grant was unsuccessful.</p>

Project priority	By whom	Project outcome	Agreed action	By when	Reviewed by Council 21.04.26
	Full Council	Speed reduction.	iv) Agree proposal for spending village gateway S106 contribution on Alton Rd.	Summer '25	Awaiting for development on site to progress. Refer to 2026/27
	Council	Safety.	v) Lobby other authorities for infrastructure improvements: a. RAF Odiham/B3349 junction. b. Pedestrian crossing points Dunley's Hill & Hook Rd. vi) Cycle/pedestrian route to M3 footbridge.	Ongoing, subject to opportunities	In progress through Parish wide review of road safety. To be continued in 2026/27.
	Partnership project with HCC	To support residents in using public transport.	vii) To continue lobbying HCC for bus services and shelters in the right places.	Ongoing	Support given to MP in their campaign. Ongoing. To be continued in 2026/27.
<b>Supporting the Village Centre</b>	Council	To support residents and the High St.	i) To lobby for a Parish wide review of parking.	Ongoing, as opportunities arise	In progress as part of the Parish wide review of road safety. To be continued in 2026/27.
			ii) To lobby Hart to keep parking charges to a minimum.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Keep watching brief on next Hart budget increases.
			iii) To work with HCC in influencing an improved parking bay layout in The Bury.	Ongoing	Complete. New layout delivered and working well.
	Council	To support economic sustainability.	iv) Use High St WhatsApp group.	Ongoing, as opportunities arise.	Complete and ongoing.
			v) Respond to new opportunities & threats.		Complete and ongoing.
			vi) Liaise with High St businesses to include them in the civic/RAF event on 27 <sup>th</sup> June.	Apr '25	Complete
			vii) Hold business forum meeting.	Autumn '25	To be considered during 2026/27.
	Amenities Committee	Economic sustainability & accessibility	viii) Maintaining King St public toilets. ix) Add signage to promote accessible cubicle at The Bridewell.	Ongoing 'Apr '25	Complete. Complete. Research completed for providing accessible cubicle in King St public toilets which was not feasible due to available space and was not supported in a community survey.

<b>Project priority</b>	<b>By whom</b>	<b>Project outcome</b>	<b>Agreed action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Reviewed by Council 21.04.26</b>
<b>Planning matters</b>	Planning & Development Committee	To support local people in finding local homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.</li> <li>ii) Respond to further Government's NPPF consultation.</li> <li>iii) NP Monitoring Report.</li> <li>iv) Seek to identify sites for housing development (eg rural exception sites for affordable homes).</li> <li>v) Listen and respond to local opinion for large developments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mar '25</li> <li>As required</li> <li>Apr '25</li> <li>Ongoing as opportunities arise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete. Adopted by Hart 24.04.25.</li> <li>Complete. Supported by S Neate. Training also undertaken.</li> <li>Complete. 2025-26 report also complete.</li> <li>Ongoing.</li> <li>Complete and ongoing.</li> </ul>

## 3. Action against Climate Change to protect our environment and the planet

Project priority	By whom	Project outcome	Agreed action	By when	Reviewed by Council 21.04.26
<p><b>Controlling the Council's carbon footprint</b> To follow the Council's adopted Environment and Climate Change Policy in all decisions.</p>	<p>Cllrs AMc and PV</p> <p>Cllr MT</p> <p>Amenities Committee</p>	<p>To reduce OPC's carbon footprint in support of OPC's Environment and Climate Action Plan.</p>	<p>i) Cllrs McFarlane &amp; Sanger to attend Hart's Climate Action Group and report to Council.</p> <p>ii) Progress smaller items identified on energy audit.</p> <p>iii) Draw up wish list for larger works identified on energy audit and apply for external funding.</p> <p>iv) Develop an action plan to reduce carbon emissions when carrying out Council activities.</p> <p>v) Research other projects before 2026-27 budget setting.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Aug '25</p> <p>Sep '25</p> <p>Sep '25</p> <p>Nov '25</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Some progress. To be continued after redecoration of corridors.</p> <p>Funding secured to upgrade to LED lighting. Heat loss from Bridewell corridors to be considered as part of upgrade.</p> <p>Environmental policies considered when agreeing contract awards and reviewed annually.</p> <p>Defer to 2026/27.</p>
<p><b>Raising community awareness</b> To support OPC's Environment and Climate Change Policy</p>	<p>Cllr AMc to lead</p> <p>“ “</p> <p>Office/All</p>	<p>To raise awareness and encourage the community to make changes to slow climate change.</p>	<p>i) Continue supporting The Greening Campaign through regular promotion of related projects and initiatives.</p> <p>ii) Promote National Allotment Week.</p> <p>iii) Include climate change articles in all newsletters.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Aug '25</p> <p>Jul '25, Oct '25, Mar '26.</p>	<p>Complete and ongoing. Promotion of My Homes Made Better and other initiatives.</p> <p>Complete.</p> <p>Where possible. Included in Mar '26 edition.</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity gain</b> To follow the Council's adopted Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>	<p>Office</p> <p>Contractor</p> <p>Amenities Committee</p>	<p>To encourage biodiversity gain in support of OPC's Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>	<p>i) Meet with OPC's grounds contractors to discuss further biodiversity areas.</p> <p>ii) Install bird and bat boxes.</p> <p>iii) Consider repeating habitat checks.</p>	<p>Apr '25</p> <p>Apr '25</p> <p>Jul '25</p>	<p>As part of contract awards and ongoing review.</p> <p>Complete.</p> <p>To be considered in 2026/27 (5 years since biodiversity report).</p>

<b>Project priority</b>	<b>By whom</b>	<b>Project outcome</b>	<b>Agreed action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Reviewed by Council 21.04.26</b>
	Amenities Committee  P&D Committee  Amenities Committee		i) Annual review of OPC's Biodiversity Action Plan.  ii) Support sustainable development and biodiversity net gain when considering planning applications.  iii) Participate in wider HCC initiatives as opportunities arise eg HCC's Pollinator Pledge.  iv) Consider and promote further tree planting schemes.	Oct '25  Ongoing Ongoing and as part of 26-27 budget setting.	To be considered in 2026/27 (5 years since biodiversity report).  Ongoing.  Watching brief for 2026/27 under Amenities Committee when resources allow.  Considered for rec and agreed to defer due to logistics of watering.
<b>Supporting responsible and sustainable development</b>	Planning & Development Committee	To support OPC's Climate Change declaration.	i) To support small developments for renewable energies and consider support for larger development, subject to the scale being appropriate for the area.  ii) To campaign for national joined up policies.	Ongoing, as opportunities arise.	Ongoing.  Ongoing.
<b>Sustainable transport</b>	Council		i) Campaign for EVCPs.	Ongoing, as opportunities arise	Ongoing as opportunities arise.
<b>Other transport matters</b>	All	To support Climate Change declaration.	i) Ongoing support for public transport provision.  ii) Consider delivery of projects in HDC/HCC's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (Z7 – Odiham core walking zone and cycling route 200 – Hook to Odiham).	Ongoing  Oct '25	Support given to MP in their campaign. Ongoing. To be continued in 2026/27.  To be considered as part of the Parish wide review of road safety.

## 4. Aspiring for excellence in the sector

Project priority	By whom	Project outcome	Agreed action	By when	Reviewed by Council 21.04.26
<p><b>Providing value for money</b> Managing budgets to provide value for money whilst allowing improvements and growth to support the future community.</p>	All	Supporting the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Budget workshop for all councillors which includes review of half year position.</li> <li>ii) Review of draft budget by the Finance Committee.</li> <li>iii) Agree annual budget.</li> <li>iv) Review new Financial Regs.</li> <li>v) Apply for external funding for projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oct '25</li> <li>Dec '25</li> <li>Jan '26</li> <li>Nov '25.</li> <li>Ongoing. As opportunities arise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Included with annual review of strategic projects.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete Dec '25.</li> <li>Complete and ongoing. £12,000 received for 3 projects. Other applications to the War Memorials Trust and the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner were unsuccessful.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Communication</b> Demonstrating transparency, community engagement and inclusivity through the development of plans based on community feedback and a comms strategy which strives to reach everyone in our community.</p>	Council	To aide community engagement which guides OPC's work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Set up Mailchimp/or other to support OPC's activities and comms.</li> <li>ii) Review of new comms strategy.</li> <li>iii) Publish Summer, Autumn and Spring newsletters.</li> <li>iv) Consult community on large project and spending opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apr '25.</li> <li>Nov '25</li> <li>Jul &amp; Oct '25 and Apr '26</li> <li>Ongoing, as opportunities arise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete using MailPoet.</li> <li>Complete Aug '25.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Consultations complete for traffic calming Nov '25 which generated 400 responses. Requests for feedback included in every newsletter.</li> </ul>

<b>Project priority</b>	<b>By whom</b>	<b>Project outcome</b>	<b>Agreed action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Reviewed by Council 21.04.26</b>
<b>People</b> Setting high standards to retain and attract the best people to represent the interests of residents.	Clerk and Staffing Committee	Continued professional development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Review of staff and councillor training by Staffing Committee.</li> <li>ii) Annual staff appraisals.</li> <li>iii) Promote training opportunities for all.</li> <li>iv) Review and provide training budget before '26-27 budget setting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oct '25</li> <li>Oct '25</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Jan '26</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete.</li> <li>Complete and ongoing.</li> <li>Complete.</li> </ul>
<b>Civility and respect</b> Conducting all activities with civility and respect.	Council	Demonstrating commitment to ongoing civility and respect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Follow related work in the sector.</li> <li>ii) Adopt new Complaints Policy as suggested by Internal Auditor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Mar '25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing.</li> <li>Complete.</li> </ul>
<b>Supporting the sector</b> Respecting and supporting the work of NALC, HALC and other sector support organisations	Clerk Clerk/Chair  All	Supporting and promoting the sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Attend HALC annual conference.</li> <li>ii) Attend HALC AGM.</li> <li>iii) Responding to consultations and projects.</li> <li>iv) Keep informed and engage with consultations on Devolution in Hampshire and re-organisation of local Government.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22.10.25</li> <li>22.10.25</li> <li>As opportunities arise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete. Clerk and Deputy Clerk attended.</li> <li>“ “</li> <li>Complete and ongoing.</li> <li>Chair and Clerk attended updates from principal authorities. This will be a key focus for 2026/27.</li> <li>Chair also attended various meetings of the Hart Association of Parish and Town Council meetings and Hart Voluntary Action.</li> </ul>
Working towards accreditations & awards which confirm best practice and commitment to continued development.	Clerk, agreed by Council	Evidence of best practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Review suggestions made by NALC Quality Council award panel.</li> <li>v) Consider submitting nominations for sector awards, where appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summer '25</li> <li>Ongoing. HALC AGM.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defer to 2026/27.</li> <li>Compete. Two nominations made. HALC runner up for “Excellence in Community Engagement” award.</li> </ul>