



Email: info@ottershawforum.com Website: www.ottershawforum.com

ONF SC Meeting 15th January 2026 – Ottershaw VH 7.00pm

MINUTES

THOSE PRESENT: Bob Oliver (BO), Julie Last (JL), Nigel Eastment (NE)., Duncan Greig (DG); Thomas Gundacker (GP); Brian Williams (BW) [late arrival].

Apologies: Gemma Pickett, (GP), Jane Tilley (JT)

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING- CHAIR/SEC - N/a, The SC meeting focussed upon a review of the draft plan. No minutes were therefore produced.

A320 Works: A long discussion ensued on the start of the roundabout works and the continuing complete lack of notice or engagement from from SCC.

COUNCILLOR UPDATE (when in attendance) : n/a

NEIGHBOURHOOD CIL –

NCIL Project Status:

- **Murray House Play Area:**

JL – currently awaiting senior level approval to proceed. We are waiting for info from Naomi (RBC Open Spaces). They intend to consult with local residents and run a consultation scheme over the Spring half term. They are expecting to implement quickly after that. ONF role will be to critique the consultation documents and circulate over social media. The intent to engage the schools that will reduce our role (although the SC agreed this was positive).

BO They have to renew the fencing as it is non-compliant and after review cannot upgrade existing equipment either so a complete replacement.

ACTION: JL to respond to Naomi and offer our social media support. Ask about age limit for Palmer's Crescent play area and which schools will be contacted?

BO – The project will take c£62k out of our NCIL allocation and should draw approx. £20k from RBC allocations.

- **Highways**

BO - Consultation for A320 speed limit reductions finished end-December. No results have been published to this date.

Village speed limits, planned and SCC funded for 2026/7. Awaiting SCC design team assessments.

Speed limits in other areas for follow-up later including; Foxhills Rd, Chobham Road and Murray Road. Other parts of the Highways plan will also be considered at this time eg restricted access, chicanes etc.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – BO

Draft Plan – Continuity checks only required.

WG meeting Tues 27th to finalise. Needs to be got in ASAP, 12-14 months period for approval. Objective to get RBC approval before the council is dissolved May 27.

Need for the SC to agree when it is distributed to local residents. We will get it on the website ASAP.

Proposed inclusion of Green Corridor & Nature Recovery Strategy/policy. Distributed by BO for SC to read and comment.

BO presented Blue/Green study maps – total of 6 areas. A map showing regional ‘feeding’ corridors. Buffers to be preserved, demonstrate the threat to all areas.

Study area was larger than our Neighbourhood Area. Following BO’s logical barriers.

JL – need to modify view 7 across the nursery.

SC approved with minor mods to SANGS on the maps. The SC praised the work involved and wanted to get it out to RBC asap. All were happy.

ACTION: BO to issues draft justification and policy statement for SC approval and incorporation into plan.

AFTERNOTE: Actioned 19 Jan.

Design Code . – Update - BO

DC now reduced significantly from original.

The total NP will be approx 100 pages.

SC to be circulated after the WG meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLICITY/SOCIAL MEDIA – JL/GP

Revised website review from Michael – looks a lot more modern and a good basis for our later development.

Have not yet worked out how the site will be kept updated.

PLANNING APPS – JL

BO - Merryn Copse on Chobham Road. Discussion ensued regarding the nature of the development and planning history. View was the development proposed was non-contentious.

BO ONF gets information as a consultee on every application within the neighbourhood area.

BO-The application on Green Lane for 150 houses is making progress.

BO confirmed there was no specific update info on Brockhurst.

WEB/IT – BO

Julie to update.

FINANCE – BO

Nothing to report.

AOB –

Ancient Tree Inventory: BO has started plotting individual trees, ATI database via Woodland Trust. He drew attention to the Ancient tree in Homewood Park (larger than Crouch Oak). SC area naming would be a good idea and The Homewood Oak was agreed.

ACTION: BO to contact RBC with proposed name.

A320 – BO reported on a recent meeting with Cllr Hulley.. JH had an email from SCC, and met on Sunday 11th to get a collective strategy. BO was tasked to contact GRAHAM, and also email to the case officer on not approving the conditions, 5 landscaping and 6 trees. Also to be followed up by JH.

ACTION: BO to write to SCC & GRAHAM.

AFTERNOTE: Actioned 19 Jan.

BO not clear what else we can do, as we are all being totally ignored by SCC. GRAHAM'S reports confirm the oak trees in Murray Rd are at great 'risk of loss'.

A320 - Period of works 14 – 16 months; so probably 2 years.

Meeting Closed 20:40 hrs.

Meeting dates booked for R Room VH :

Jan 29th

Feb 12th

Feb 26th