



Oundle Oracle
July 2012

Mayor's Report

What a fantastic first month. We had the highly anticipated official opening of the Talbot Hotel which was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. This long awaited opening was definitely worth the wait and I'm confident that this will be a real asset to the town for years to come. Well thought out, good flow and a very, very attractive social space which many people can and will enjoy.

Monday 4th June also saw our Party in the Park/Jubilee celebrations come to life. It was a huge success which saw hundreds of residents gather at the Rec/Pocket Park for food, drink and entertainment. The positive feedback we've received has been phenomenal and certainly made it all worth it.

Comments - 'What a great way of bringing the town together', 'Thank you for not charging for the activities', 'You really catered for everyone, well done!'

We also finally managed to give the Pocket Park the opening it deserved. With some lovely words from our Vicar Richard Ormston and little Lizzie cutting the ribbon, it really felt special.

On June 13th we had the honour of attending the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Picnic in the grounds of Burghley House. The crowd was on fine form as was Her Majesty. This was a great event to attend with many Oundilians enjoying crackers, cakes and wine. Fine form Oundle!

I would like to take this opportunity to announce that the Mayors charity this term will be the Nongoma friendship. I am very much looking forward to doing some fundraising events this term and I hope you will show your support for this very worthwhile cause. We can make a difference. For more information on this please visit - www.nongomafriendship.org

An all round cracking month and what a positive and exciting way to start the term.

Cllr George Higgins



Talbot Opening



Burghley House

Councillor News

Following the calling of an Election by East Northamptonshire Council to fill our three vacancies exactly three candidates came forward. This meant that you did not need to vote.

New Councillors

Born and raised in Sheffield we came to live in Oundle in 1982. Our children were educated here and whilst my wife worked in Peterborough and Kettering, my business life in senior commercial roles involved extensive travel throughout the UK and Europe. I feel that Oundle's biggest challenge is to grow whilst keeping its character and sense of history, the major reasons why people like living here. This is not an easy thing to achieve and many places have sadly failed, ending up neither ancient nor modern!



Cllr Terry Stagg

Whilst the powers of a Town Council are limited in the face of Government imposed targets, the objective is to find ways through influence and ingenuity to keep the good things of the past whilst embracing the reality of the future.

I believe that my experience in problem solving and working within financial constraints can complement the work that is already being done.



Cllr Val Chesser

I have been a long – serving member of the Council, having been Mayor in 2000, and looking forward to my return. I am a long –standing resident of the town, and involved as a volunteer in a number of charities, particularly Volunteer Action Community Car Scheme, CHAT Youth Counselling and Oundle Festival of Literature. I have been an active campaigner to save Fletton House an important local amenity which is still under threat and is home to the Oundle Pre School.

My other great interest is in matters related to Crime & Disorder and I chair the Community Safety Partnership Joint Action Group. I want Oundle to be a safe prosperous and exciting place in which to live.

I have lived in Oundle for the last 28 years and have seen the town develop greatly over this time. Having brought up two children and educated them locally, I have been involved in organisations such as parent-teacher associations, Church Parochial Council and local amateur dramatics. I have previously been a town councillor and a member of Oundle 2020 and since my partial retirement from full time employment, I have both the time and desire to devote myself to the people of the town.

I wish to ensure Oundle is a thriving town and that its heritage and attraction are preserved as it so greatly deserves. I very much look forward to working with my fellow town councillors in the forthcoming year.

Cllr Sue Oakes



Estate Management Update

Oundle Town Council has made significant progress in disposing of redundant assets. Cemetery Chapel has been granted change of use and will be sold as a residential property with plans granted for a four bedroom house. The Drill Hall is also now to be offered as a potential residential development after appropriate planning permission has been granted. Our agents are asking those interested to offer their final and best price by July 27th. The final disposal of these redundant buildings will facilitate our desire to build a new recreation hall in the town.



ClIr Paul King

Churchyard Green Space



As you may be aware, the churchyard at St Peter's is a large green space in the middle of the town, that has an abundance of wildlife, both flora and fauna in its area. Due to the ancient nature of churches, the land around them has developed over many centuries into great habitats, particularly as ancient meadows and pasturelands are being reduced due to agricultural pressures.

It has been recommended within the church communities that their green spaces should be developed to encourage the wildlife in their local areas. The Green Group of St. Peter's Church has volunteered to manage this aspect of the Churchyard for Oundle Town Council. This is most welcome as it should enable the Council's long standing policy to be more fully realised. This will have an impact on the look and feel of the churchyard in the future.

"This is an opportunity for the churchyard to have a positive impact on Oundle. We are keen to point out that the first principles of the management of the churchyard should ensure that the effects of our changes are pleasing and successful. Any implementation will be presented in the Oracle and discussed and agreed at regular meetings with the Town Council." You can express your views and opinions during these meetings. But watch this space!

Oundle 2020

A vision for our town



Many thanks to all of you who have sent us your views in relation to a plan for Oundle. Our work continues and we have now become fully incorporated into the Neighbour Plan Working Party of the council. We aim to distribute a draft plan of ideas during September 2012 to every household and we will be seeking your feedback. At some point in the future, when the neighbourhood plan is complete, you will be able to have your say via a town wide referendum on the plan.

The group looking at the plan is as follows:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Oundle Town Council | Cllr David Chapple Cllr Neil Fraser | Cllr Paul King Cllr Philip Rose |
| District Council | Cllr Philip Stearn | |
| Citizen Panel | Ann Chapple Lisa Ward Holmes David Smith David Webb VACANCY | Rachel Hatt Janet McMurdo Roger Sturman Stephen Webster |
| Technical & Administrative Input | Debra Raper – Design Statement Component Mark Benns – Design Statement & Planning Hanneke Soans – Administrative Support | |

Roger Sturman has been elected as Chair with Philip Rose Deputy. As you can see, there is a vacancy at the time of writing in the citizen panel. If you are interested please contact Debra Raper at the Courthouse.

We recently ran an online survey via the Oundle2020 website in relation to Waitrose coming to Oundle.

“Would you support a Waitrose store coming to Oundle?”

217 people responded to the question with 134 (62%) answering Yes.

Follow us via www.oundle2020.co.uk or on twitter @Oundle2020 **Cllr Paul King**

Waitrose have now made the formal application to East Northamptonshire Council.

The plans can be viewed on their website.

www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planning

Search for **12/01051/FUL**.

You will also be able to view the plans at the Courthouse.

The deadline for public comments is **August 1st**.

Visit www.oundle.gov.uk to see issues raised by Oundle Town Council at a recent meeting and the latest news.

ARK in Oundle

As many of you are already aware ARK provide a fantastic and much needed service in our town in the form of the ARK Pit Stop bus. Run by Tom and Naomi Brewer the bus pitches up at the town Rec most Friday evenings where they and a handful of willing and enthusiastic volunteers work with children and youth who frequent this area looking for something to do. As well as providing activities they also provide refreshments and a welcoming meeting space for kids and youth to socialise. It's quite a commitment when you consider that they are down there most Fridays. On behalf of Oundle I would like to thank them for their outstanding contribution and commitment to our community and in particular our youth.

In addition to the Pit Stop, ARK also run an annual bushcraft course which I (Mayor Grylls) had the pleasure of being part of this month (June). Parents, children and youth of varying ages attended the two day bushcraft course with many of us learning skills like fire lighting, shelter building, cooking rabbit and identifying edible plants and mushrooms. We also enjoyed games and music around the campfire. It was a great way for everyone to get back to nature and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. I highly recommend this course to any parent looking to get their kids or teenagers away from their Xboxes, PlayStations or TV's. After all, who doesn't like building dens and eating rabbit?? For more information on ARK visit - www.arkinoundle.com



Mayor Grylls (Cllr George Higgins)

Oundle Cinema



Oundle Cinema runs regular film showings in the 250-seat Stahl Theatre in West Street, Oundle. Tickets (£5 for adults, £3 for children) can be purchased in advance online through the Cinema website – www.oundlecinema.org.uk or by

telephoning or visiting the Oundle Festival Office in 4 New Street, Oundle (tel: 01832 274274).

If you decide to come at the last minute and to save a car journey or walk, you can check ticket availability from 6.45pm of the night of the screening, by telephoning 07840 732112. Come on and join us!



As you are aware there have been some huge changes in the way the NHS runs, this is an update so you can read about the effect these changes will have on our local healthcare in Oundle. At present Northants Primary Care Trust holds the cash and pays the bills. From

April 2013 Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) will take over. Oundle will be a member of the Borderline Group in which the twelve practices involved look to Peterborough (but not exclusively for services). This group of practices will not, on its own, be big enough to form an effective CCG, being responsible for only 110,000 patients. Therefore this group will be joined by others from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to form a very large CCG responsible for 860,000 patients and with a budget of £1bn. All the practices have similar problems with similar patients.

The thinking behind the creation of a large CCG is that commissioning services will be cheaper and more efficient. This is in contrast to Corby's proposed CCG with 50,000 patients and a budget of £50m. There will be a greater input by GPs who will not be managed but will be defining the agenda. They should therefore still be able to focus their attention on their primary function as GPs.

The overall aim is to improve efficiency and healthcare, although this is at a time when expenses are going up and funds are going down.

Oundle Patients Participant Group

New Building for Oundle Rifle & Pistol Club

Oundle Rifle & Pistol Club is the largest target shooting club in the county, with a membership which has more than doubled over the past 10 years. Its small bore team has consistently won County League competitions over recent years.



To provide facilities for this increased membership & the wide range of target disciplines practiced (*with air rifles & pistols, small bore rifles, gallery rifles, shotguns & high velocity full bore rifles*) the club recently erected at its Barnwell site an enlarged firing point building with full disabled access, parking & toilet facilities. We would like to encourage you to give us a try. This is something that everyone can join in.

P D Collier (Chairman, ORPC)

NAB – Mobile Visits to Oundle

The next visit by the Mobile Sight Centre will take place **on August 9th**

St. Osyth's Lane Car Park 10.00am – 1.00pm

also at

Thrapston, The Meadows Surgery 1.30pm – 2.30pm

Councillor Contacts

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| David CHAPPLE | 273877 | George HIGGINS | 275584 |
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| David FULLER | 274030 | Terry STAGG | 273774 |

Office Opening Hours

Council Office Open to Public
from **9am to 2pm**
until further notice

Council Meetings

Full Council: Sept 20th Oct 18th Nov 15th
Planning: Oct 4th Nov 1st Dec 6th



Your attendance at all Council meetings is most welcome.
Meetings are held at the Courthouse starting at 7.30pm.

A public participation spot is provided towards the beginning of each meeting for contributions relating to the agenda. If you wish to speak on a planning application please advise the Clerk to the Council, Debra Raper, at least 48 hours in advance.

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Printed by Inkwell Printing