



Oundle Oracle

March
2011



Oundle Town Council Newsletter

Mayor's Message

Oundle is about to emerge into the Spring and thankfully the weather appears also to be picking up a little after the icy blast during December and early January. This time of year really does signal a fresh energy within our community starting with this year's Literature Festival which I know so many of you enjoy.

We also have council elections in May which enable the council to renew and refresh itself. Come and join us, it really is rewarding and it will give you the opportunity to contribute new ideas and fresh thinking into the work that we do. We live in interesting and challenging times but this environment also offers us opportunity.



Before a Council meeting in May 2009

I think the next four years look set to be very exciting for the council with so much going on and new input will be vital.

We are now making progress with the Oundle 2020 process. As you are aware, this aims to set out a development plan for the town and a Steering Group has formed to manage the work. We had an incredible response to our questionnaire with over 800 received forms which are enabling us to incorporate your views into the plan. I am hoping that the full results will be available for you all to read very soon and so thank you so very much for conveying your views to us. We are currently working on a Design Statement for the town but more importantly, redesigning how the town may look in 2020 in order to ensure that we retain our unique charm and identity whilst creating new facilities, car parking and protecting and enhancing our green spaces. It is my view that we need to develop a plan that is radical and transformational and we anticipate being able to share our thinking with you by the end of March. Your views will count the most and a full consultation will take place with you before any plan is actually implemented.

We have also had a few changes at the Courthouse. Volunteer Action now share office space with us and we welcome them warmly. The work that they do is so important and so valued by the community. They are a terrific example of why Oundle is such a special town where a community volunteering spirit really works so well.

Please do contact me if you want to contribute via 270370 or paulandrewking@btinternet.com. Follow the work of the council on

 at <http://twitter.com/OundleCouncil>

The Future in your Hands



Well actually noon on April 4th is the absolute deadline for putting yourself forward for election to Oundle Town Council. You can find out more about what is involved by logging on to www.stand-and-deliver.com.

This website provides all the essential information about the process and also features two Oundle Town Councillors.

Nomination papers can be collected from the Courthouse or East Northamptonshire Council in Thrapston.

Any current Town Councillor and the Administration team at the Courthouse will be pleased to guide you through the process. Recent history shows that not all Councillors will stand again - **you can!**

“Stand and Deliver.....*stand* for election for the Town Council and help to *deliver* local council services”. Cllr. Gwen Radcliffe

Oundle 2020 Website



Oundle 2020 now has its own website to keep you up to date with the progress of the Oundle 2020 project. This website has been created to enhance the awareness of Oundle 2020 and make it easier for people to get involved. Please log on and take a look. www.oundle2020.co.uk

**News Update: Creed Road - Phase 2 Development
ENC Development Control Committee gave approval on Feb. 23rd**

Courthouse News

Finance

On 6th January Oundle Town Council agreed its budget and submitted a precept to East Northamptonshire Council of £257,361.45, an increase of just under 11% on the previous precept of £232,000.



This budget includes the provision of £21,000 to cover the cost of operating the toilets in the St Osyth's car park following the decision of ENC to stop funding for these whilst also coping with the loss of £14,000 in income from ENC which is no longer supporting the provision of car parking in the town.

We will continue to have a grants budget of £12,000 per annum (excluding grants to the QVH Trust) and a tourism budget from which the cost of the town's Christmas lights will be met. Funding for CCTV is maintained as is expenditure on the Recreation Ground and on Snipe Meadow, the Cemetery and the Churchyard. Financial support for Oundle 2020 will continue as your Council is committed to developing a vision for the town.

Much time has been spent on trying to ensure value for money and on keeping expenditure in all areas under control and I am grateful for the support of my Working Party and also of the Accounts Officer, Paul Smith and Clerk, Debra Raper, on putting together a workable budget in very difficult circumstances given the general economic situation.

Cllr David Chapple

Looking for an office unit to rent?

The Courthouse Office Units may suit you.

**We have three first-floor units available
at very reasonable rents.**

Shared kitchen and toilet facilities on the ground floor.

Please contact us for further information.

Oundle Town Council,
The Courthouse
Mill Road,
Oundle
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What's new in Oundle?



QVH just gets better and better!

Oundle Festival of Literature have kindly donated Arts Council funding for the installation of a sound system, which can be used for all functions.



Matching entrance signs that mention both our Twin Towns



Milton Road

Further changes to improve child safety



Is this message working?

What's old in Oundle?

The **Talbot Hotel** planning application was discussed in December. The Town Council minute reads "Oundle Town Council welcomes the plans which will enhance the tourism aspects of the town.

No Objection : 6 Objection : 4

It should be noted that a long debate was held due to concerns raised about the installation of the glass doors which will impact on the free movement of people through the area. As a separate but related matter, an update has been requested on the status of the issues regarding Rights of Way and planning permissions at Drummingwell Lane/Turners Yard."

ENC granted permission for the changes in February.



400 years old and still serving Oundle

Land was purchased for **Parson Latham's Hospital** in North Street in 1610 with the actual deed for the foundation being signed on **May 15th 1611**. A service will be held in St Peters Church on Sunday May 16th to celebrate.

Clrs Chesser & Radcliffe

A Safe Community



Burglary of peoples homes is a serious crime and one which can have a major impact on the victim. Northamptonshire Police take any report of house burglary very seriously. I would like to take the opportunity here to explain in a little more detail the level of service that you can expect in the unfortunate event of you being a victim of such a crime.

Incidents reported as a burglary of your home, where the offence has occurred while you are out and the offender/s has left the area are graded as a prompt response, unless you would prefer to make an appointment. In either case, most burglary incidents are responded to by specialist investigators who form part of our Priority Crime Team.

In some instances, the initial response will come from the Incident Response Team. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a Scenes of Crime Officer will attend the scene of the crime to examine it for forensic evidence - fingerprints and DNA. Clearly any offence reported where it is suspected that the offender/s is still on scene will be treated as an Emergency Response and officers will be deployed immediately.

The East Northants North Safer Community Team will be working with our local community to address concerns about burglary, by patrolling in uniform, by speaking to residents and offering crime prevention advice, and by assisting in the investigation of any reported offences. We are fortunate to live and work in an area where this type of crime is an infrequent occurrence. However we are by no means complacent and I will do everything I can to ensure that your community remains a safe and pleasant place to be.

Sgt 348 Phil Holton |
East Northants North Safer
Community Team
Northamptonshire North |
Northamptonshire Police
☎ Telephone 03000 111 222 Ext 4624 |
✉ Email
phil.holton@northants.pnn.police.uk

Special Constables 

Our Special Constables play an important role towards the success of Northamptonshire Police Force, offering their valuable free time to help keep our communities safe.

To learn more about a day in the life of a Special Constable, please visit www.northern.co.uk

To learn how to join, visit www.northants.police.uk/careers

In an emergency dial 999
For non-emergencies call 101 or 0300 111 222
www.northern.police.uk



Festival Roundup

Oundle Festival of Literature March 12th to March 20th



When it comes to the Community Events at the Festival we really like to involve everyone we can, from kiddies to oldies, and we think we have done it again this year.



Ghosts and Grandees Virtue and Villainy on March 15th is a fascinating collection of visual and factual titbits about this area. Then on Sunday March 20th we have our very own star, **Katherine Jakeways**, visiting us and telling us about the fictional “Wadenbrook”.

How Green is our Oundle, in partnership with the Oundle Transition Town group, is on Sunday March 13th. There will be loads for children and adults to do and see and don't forget the 50 Mile Food Challenge.

This is just a taster of some of our events this year. Please go to www.oundlelitfest.org.uk to see them all. We would like to thank everyone in this community for your support.

Paula Prince



Oundle Festival of Music & Drama Wednesday to Saturday March 30th April 2nd

Once again the Festival has attracted competitors from a wide area, from Nottingham to Ely. You can join the audience for any session for the princely sum of £1, which supports the work of the Festival. School choirs are featured on Thursday morning with Bands and Orchestras on Friday. You could enjoy a feast of local talent at the Senior Speech classes on Wednesday evening or the competition for the Oundle Young Singer of the Year on Thursday evening. Whatever your taste, from Woodwind to Barbershop Chorus, you can find more detail in the Competition programmes available from

Oundle Bookshop and Oundle International Festival Box Office.

The Festival Concert on **Saturday April 2nd, 7pm** in the Great Hall will feature the Oundle Young Musician of the Year Competition, together with a selection of participants including the Oundle Young Singer of the Year and Prince William School Choir. Tickets £5 (children £2) are on sale at

O I Festival Box Office, New St. or online at www.oundlefestival.org.uk

Annual Town Meeting

Thursday April 28th ~ Queen Victoria Hall

Coffee from 7.00pm - Business 7.30pm - Wine & soft drinks at end

This is a meeting of the Town, organised by the Town Council, not a Council meeting. County, District and Town Councillors will be there to listen and answer questions you may have about Oundle issues.

If you want to get formal support from the residents present at the meeting, suggest an issue for discussion or simply table a question in advance please contact the Clerk at the Courthouse by April 11th. We can then organise the agenda and further publicity. Do put the date in your diary.

2010 Town Meeting Minutes can be seen at Oundle Library and at the Courthouse.

Council Meetings

April 7th April 21st May 19th

Meetings are held at the Courthouse starting at 7.30pm.

Your attendance at all Council meetings is most welcome. 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.

Councillor Contacts

Don CAMPBELL	272722	Neville OAKES	275818
David CHAPPLE	273877	Sue OAKES	275818
Val CHESSER	272217	Mark ORMROD	272175
Chris COX	273485	Lynda PURSER	274414
Chris ELLIOT	275333	Gwen RADCLIFFE	273191
Len JOHNSON	272323	Philip ROSE	272520
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Printed by Inkwell Printing