



Overton News & Views

SEPTEMBER 2026

Editor: Amanda Hepburn | onv@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Copy deadlines: Oct edition – 9 Sept | Nov edition – 14 Oct



Overton Parish Council Diary

Our meetings are held at Overton Community Centre. They are open to residents and are recorded.

| Full Parish Council Meeting
Tues 8 Sept | 7.30pm

| Planning Meeting
Tues 22 Sept | 7.30pm

Meet us at the

| Saturday Market in St Mary's Hall
Sat 5 Sept & 3 Oct | 10am–noon

Your local safety team

| Community Safety Patrol Officer
CSPO Drew Mechen
drew.mechen@basingstoke.gov.uk

| Police Community Support Officer
PCSO Andy Jones
andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Eclipse 2026 brings people together

On 12 Aug people around Overton stepped outside to view the eclipse. There were picnics and smiles galore and friendship was in the air. Here are just some of the people we met. *Thank you for sharing your glasses!*



The CIL fund survey results are in

Overton Parish Council Communications Lead Diane Jackson shares what the you voted for and explains what it means.



Thank you to everyone who took part in our Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) survey this March. We asked residents to rank the possible areas for CIL spending and were pleased to receive a statistically relevant 173–177 responses, enough to give us robust insight.

Your community priorities at a glance

PRIORITY	PROJECT AREA
1	Sports facilities
2	Play areas & green spaces
3	Village infrastructure
4	Community halls
5	Community transport

YOUR
TOP PRIORITY
**SPORTS
FACILITIES**

How the results were calculated

Each project area was given a score based on the rankings submitted by residents. The average score was then calculated for each area.

What you told us

The survey gives us a useful snapshot of what residents would like to see prioritised when considering how CIL funding could be spent. Sports facilities came out as the highest priority, followed closely by play areas and green spaces. Village infrastructure was ranked third followed by community halls, with community transport ranked fifth.

The Parish Council will take these views into account when considering future CIL spending alongside the availability of funds, eligibility of projects and the Parish's strategic objectives, which you can view on our website.



Thank you to everyone who completed the survey and helped to shape our priorities.

Congratulations to our Parish Clerk



Congratulations to Shelly on achieving her **Level 3 Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA)** – a nationally recognised qualification and a significant achievement. CILCA strengthens Shelly's ability to support the Parish Council with knowledge and skills to help us operate effectively, lawfully and in the best interests of our community. We're very grateful for Shelly's dedication in this, and all she does for the Parish. *Thank you – and well done!*





New plastic recycling at Overton Hill car park

Mixed plastic recycling banks are now available at Overton Hill car park thanks to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council.

In these large bins you can deposit **CLEAN** and **EMPTY**:

- Plastic pots, including yoghurt pots, cosmetics containers, and plant pots.
- Plastic tubs used for ice cream, butter, margarine and other spreads.
- Plastic trays, including fruit/veg punnets and trays from meat/fish/microwave meals.
- Food/drink cartons, including Tetra Pak.
- Plastic tubes used for toothpaste, cosmetics, make-up or hair conditioner.



Rail fare evasion crackdown

South Western Railway has cut fare evasion by 11% across its network over the past year, with a new crackdown at Waterloo already recovering £45,000 in its first four weeks – including one Hampshire commuter caught owing over £11,000 after four years of short-faring on the London route.

A reminder for Overton commuters to always buy the correct ticket for their full journey.

COMING UP NEXT MONTH ...

Sustainable Overton **want your views** to help shape their future priorities.



GREEN SPACES



Annual apple-pressing afternoon

Everyone's invited to get together at Overton Community Orchard for an afternoon of apple pressing, homemade treats and community spirit. Bring your own apples to press into fresh juice, or something you've baked with orchard fruit – if you fancy sharing.

Watch the pressing in action and sample the juice on **Sat 12 Sept, 2–4pm**, Overton Community Orchard, Overton Hill. Whether you bring apples, something home-baked, or just yourself, everyone's welcome.

A big thank you to our tree guardians

Thank you to all the kind-hearted volunteers – including Jane and Ken MacKenzie, Jane Beckmann, Deb Heath and Laura Harrison – who have been watering the new trees at Sapley Lane and Kerchers Playing Field.

These young trees need lots of care during dry spells while they get established. Your help is making a real difference and is a lovely example of residents coming together to look after the spaces we share.



Would you like to help?

Please contact Shelly by email at clerk@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk – she will be very pleased to hear from you.

Funding boost for ORC

Overton Recreation Centre would like to thank Dennis and Marion Rowles for their £10,000 pop-up shop donation; Lauren and Danielle Gibbons for their collection in memory of their dad, ORC stalwart Adrian Gibbons; and the Overton Scarecrow Festival (Denise pictured) for their £10,000 donation. These funds are earmarked for securing extra grounds to meet community needs due to the growing population of the village. Find out more at <https://orc.org.uk/>



CHARITY

Isabel is stepping out for Ovarian Cancer Action



Overtonian Isabel Gerenstein is walking 100,000 steps (45 miles) from Hayling Island to Basingstoke on **3 Oct**, dressed as a pair of ovaries! She's raising funds and awareness for Ovarian Cancer Action, having discovered she carries both BRCA 1 & 2 genetic mutations, which put her at a higher risk of ovarian cancer.

As there is no current screening available for ovarian cancer, Isabel is contributing all funds raised to aid research. If you'd like to support her mission, please scan the QR code or go to <https://2027tcs londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/isabel-gerenstein>



Overton charity supports those in need

The Overton Benefice Fund is a charity supporting people in need across Overton, Laverstoke, North Waltham, Steventon, Ashe and Deane. Formerly the Overton & Laverstoke Relief in Sickness Fund, it offers grants to individuals or organisations, considered case-by-case.

If you or a neighbour could benefit from support, contact Revd James Russell on 01256 589614 or at revjames.overton@gmail.com.

WEEKLY DATES

Overton Walking Group
Mon 9.45–11.30am | Meet at ORC Bridge Street for a choice of short (c. 2.5 miles) or longer (c. 5 miles) walk.
overtonwalkinggroup@gmail.com

Short Mat Bowls Club
Mon & Thurs 7:30–9.30pm
St Luke's Hall – Trevor 01256 770409

Overton Taekwondo
Tue, Fri & Sat | St Luke's Hall
– overtontkd.org.uk

Overton Art Group
Tues, 2–4pm | ORC Bridge Street
– 07743 776290

LiveWell Longer Social Group
Tues, 2–4pm | Community Centre
– Margaret 01256 771710

Welcome Hub
Thurs, 10am–noon | St Mary's Hall
– Denise 07787 530677

Coffee and Chat
Thurs, 10:30–11.45am | The White Hart
– Alison P. 07745 327049

TWICE MONTHLY

LiveWell Longer Drop-ins | **5 Sept & 3 Oct 10am–noon** at the **Saturday Market**
| **Tues 15 Sept** at the Community Centre, Palmer Room – Janet 07341 983305
(For PIP help call David 07551 956095)

Rosemary Portals Social Group
1st/3rd Weds, 10am–noon | The Stute
– Alison H. 07919 418551

MONTHLY

1st Weds | Overton Folk Club **8pm**
Community Centre

2nd Weds | Village Tidy Group **2pm**
meeting at St Luke's Hall

1st Thurs | The Cocktail Choir **7:45pm**
St Mary's Church Rooms | £6

3rd Fri | Platinum Players **2:30–3:45pm**
St Mary's Church Rooms
– Ann 01256 771199

1st Sat | Ladies Golf, Coffee & Chat, Town Meadow – Sue – peartsue@yahoo.co.uk

1st Sat | 10am–noon
Repair Café at the Community Centre
Bring items in before 11:30am.

1st Sat | 10am–noon
Saturday Market at St Mary's Hall

SEE & DO



Love photos? Join the club!

Overton Photographic Club's new season starts on **4 Sept** with a review of members' images in the company of judge Andrew Mills and continues on **15 Sept** with visiting speaker, Richard Ellis, who will show how to best capture water in photography.

To become a member or enquire about visiting, go to the website at www.overtonphoto.club or email secretary@overtonphoto.club.



Charity Fun Dog Show and Fete

Head to T&T Pet Field and Café on **Sat 5 Sept from 11am** for this year's event in support of Suz's Fund. As well as a dog show with eight classes, you'll find food vans and stalls, and a children's area with lots of activities. Free entry. Contact Maggs on 07780 606078.



Calling former pupils of the old school

On **Sun 13 Sept, between 11am and 5pm**, Overton Community Association is launching a new oral history project to capture your memories thanks to a grant from the Hampshire Archives Trust. Drop in to Overton Community Centre, book a time to tell your story and become part of Overton's history for generations to come.



Discover the story behind crosswords with u3a

Crosswords aren't just about fun and killing time! Compiler and editor Susan Purcell talks about their history, tricks to solving them, and why intelligence services take such an interest.

This light-hearted talk will entertain you whether you're a crossword fan or not. **Weds 16 Sept, 10am**, St Mary's Hall. Non-members £3 on the door.



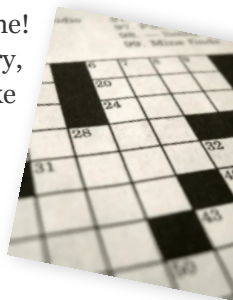
Enter the JoyZone

JoyZone is a fun Bible-based family club run by Overton Churches Together. The next meet-up is on **Sat 19 Sept, 3–5pm** in St Luke's Hall.



Enjoy an evening of books, conversation and wine

A new book and wine club is meeting **every third Weds** of the month at **8pm** in the Red Lion. There's no set reading list – just bring along something you've read and tell the group about it!



Join Overton's autumn community litter pick

The Overton Village Tidy Group invite you to join in their next community litter pick on **Sun 27 Sept, 2–4pm** meeting at St Luke's Hall forecourt.

Litter pickers will be provided, but please bring your own if you have them, and remember to wear suitable clothing and gloves.

If you have any questions please email Shelly at clerk@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Watership Down Health's September Update



Autumn vaccination clinics are running across Watership Down Health. If you are eligible for a flu vaccination, you will receive an invitation by text, via the NHS App or by email over the coming weeks. If you receive nothing by mid-Sept, call the surgery after 2pm.

Flu vaccinations: • Children (2–3yrs) and pregnant women: **Sat 19 Sept, 8.30am** at Overton and Kingsclere • Adults 65+ and at-risk 18–64: **Sat 3** and **10 Oct** at Overton and Kingsclere • Additional flu clinics at Oakley from mid-Oct.

COVID-19 and flu vaccinations for those aged 75+: **Sat 3** and **10 Oct** at Overton and Kingsclere.

GP Triage opens **from 7am** weekdays at watershipdownhealth.com; reception is on hand **8am–6.30pm** for everything else.

Health Kiosk – Oakley now has its own Health Kiosk, offering checks like height, weight and blood pressure, plus questionnaires on issues such as asthma and mental health – no booking needed, and results go straight into your patient record for the clinical team to review.

Need urgent mental health support?

Call 111

Select Mental Health Option 2

NHS We're here for you 24/7

Patient Participation Group AGM is on **Weds 30 Sept, 5.30pm**, at Overton Surgery – all patients welcome.

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

On **Mon 3 Aug**, the surgery received 639 calls. Just one small insight in to a day at the Surgery.

KEEP UP TO DATE AT: www.watershipdownhealth.com

ON&V is published monthly by Overton Parish Council (OPC) and distributed by volunteers to every property in Overton, Ashe, Laverstoke and Freefolk. Would you like to deliver to your street/area? Please contact the Clerk.

Your Overton Parish Council Contacts

Our Parish Clerk is ...

Shelly Webb

01256 771919 or 07342 639872

clerk@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Office:

Overton Parish Council
c/o Overton Community Centre
High Street
Overton
Hampshire
RG25 3HB

Open for public visits:

Every Weds 9.30am–1.30pm

Anne Phillips (Chair) Anne.Phillips@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk 770350
Colin Fowles (Vice Chair) Colin.Fowles@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk 771090
Jane Dooley Jane.Dooley@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Richard Cook Richard.Cook@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Rodney Hunter Rodney.Hunter@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk 770099
Richard Oram Richard.Oram@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
John Raw John.Raw@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Bob Dennay Bob.Dennay@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Ian Elkins Ian.Elkins@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Diane Jackson Diane.Jackson@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Gary Beecham Gary.Beecham@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Theresa Smith Theresa.Smith@overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Colin Phillimore (Borough Cllr.) Cllr.Colin.Phillimore@basingstoke.gov.uk
Karen Watts (Borough Cllr.) Cllr.Karen.Watts@basingstoke.gov.uk 07901 821075
Chloe Ashfield (Borough Cllr.) Cllr.Chloe.Ashfield@basingstoke.gov.uk
Juliet Henderson (Hampshire County Cllr.) Juliet.Henderson@hants.gov.uk



Ready, steady, GO!

The Overton 5 – a 5-mile running race on rural roads around Quidhampton and Ashe – starts at **10.30am** on **Sun 6 Sept**. Runners aged 15 and over welcome to enter at evententry.co.uk/overton-5-2026. Expect road closures along the route until around **11.45am**.

Event begins at **9.30am** with free-to-enter children's races at the ORC's Bridge St field. Refreshments and ice cream van on site.

Marshals always needed – contact Helen at floss.560@btinternet.com

CELEBRATING OVERTON



Overton's Heritage Open Days

Come to Overton Community Centre on **Sat 12 (10am–5pm)** and **Sun 13 Sept (11am–5pm)** for a weekend of FREE and fun activities, focusing on 200 years of 'Everyday Lives' – the 2026 nationwide Heritage Open Days theme.

Wander the exhibitions, join a guided tour, marvel at the nature table, play old-fashioned school games or join in the Regency 'Letter to Jane' post-office activity. Lashings of tea, coffee and cake will be available for purchase from the wonderful WI.

ENTRY FREE, but donations always welcome.

Find the full programme at:

www.facebook.com/overtoncommunitycentre

For Laverstoke

& Freefolk, email:

clerk@laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Printed on sustainable paper by Bulpitt Print Ltd: Unit P, Hunting Gate, East Portway, Andover SP10 3SJ 01264 363600 sales@bulpittprint.co.uk

www.overtonparishcouncil.gov.uk