



Laverstoke and Freefolk News&Views

March 2023

Welcome to Spring! Or is it? Did you know there are 3 ways of determining the season. Meteorologically - grouping of 3 months based on average monthly temperatures would indeed mean it starts 1 March. Astronomically - the marking of seasons centre around the equinoxes and solstices. Spring starts at the vernal equinox on 20 March when the day and night are of equal length. Phenologically though it can vary as it depends on weather and climate signs relating to plants and animals e.g. when the first daffodils appear or animals emerge from hibernation.

In this March edition we ask you to save the date of Sunday 7 May for village coronation celebrations, let you know what is likely to come up at our next PC meeting and put out a request for those who can sew. The Kingfisher Day Centre are having a fundraising jumble sale on 1 April (no joke), Bere Mill's first garden opening is coming up on 27 March and there are some lovely chalk stream walks you can take part in. For all this and more read on!

At the next PC meeting on Tues 7 March at 19.30 we are allowing plenty of time for discussion about the tennis club lights planning appeal. The tea urn will be on. Everyone

welcome!

Don't forget you can find a link to the monthly [Overton News&Views](#) here, a few days after the start of the new month. It includes the Overton library opening times. A twice yearly Whitchurch PC newsletter is available [here](#).



Discussion topics 7 Feb

As always, you are welcome to attend the 7 March PC meeting starting at 19.30 with public time, in Lady Rose Hall.

This month the main public time discussion will be the Planning Appeal made by Whitchurch Tennis Club for their refused retrospective lighting application. Come and have your say ahead of the representations deadline of 14 March. As you know the PC objected to the lights. Towards the end of the meeting the PC will be voting on their response to the appeal. It would be good to gauge opinion of our residents beforehand.

Other items will include:

Discussion on wild area of archery range
Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting
Planning applications:



Plastic Free Morsbag scheme

Can you sew, even at quite an entry level?

Would you like to help cut down on single use plastic?

Last year the Overton bag scheme was successfully launched across lots of shops in the village. The scheme aims to reduce the use of single use plastic bags. You simply borrow a FREE reusable bag for your shopping. This bag is then returned the next time you shop in any of the participating stores.

However, not everyone remembers to return them efficiently and we now need to make some more in order to continue with this more sustainable bag option! The bags are a simple design actually known as a Morsbag. See the [Morsbags website](#)

If you can help us make some more please

- **Planning appeal ref:**
APP/H1705/W/22/3311213 Tennis
Light appeal
- **Ref: 23/00275/FUL** Flint Cottage 12
Freefolk Priors: Replacement
agricultural field shelter
- **Ref: T/00070/23/TCA** Canterbury
Cottage, 17 Freefolk Priors: removal
15m silver birch within 10m of house
& 1m of greenhouse. Removal old
unproductive apple tree. Replace
with small tree more in keeping

Look out for news of the 4 yearly Parish Council elections early next month. The official notice of election will be posted on the noticeboards and website on 24 March.



Church Council Annual Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) will take place at Keepers Cottage, Laverstoke, on Thursday 23rd March at 19.30. The first 15 minutes will be for parishioners who are on the Church Electoral Roll, to vote for the two positions of Churchwarden. Nominations are welcome. Both Brenda Bond and Diana Goodwin are prepared to stand again. If you

email Lucy on plasticfreeoverton@gmail.com.

We have a plentiful supply of material, it is people with sewing machines that are needed!

We know many L&F residents shop in Overton and we encourage everyone to support this local plastic free initiative either as a bag user or a bag maker!

Thank you.



Archers' active fundraising!

Its been a busy and fun start to the year for the archers. We have hosted two successful field competitions at our Watership Down range. Archers from across the whole of the south competed in all weathers for a chance to be top field archer. Early in Feb, members competed in the indoor Hants. Champs and won a number of medals. Well done Richard Buckner, Steve Allam, Terry Edwards, Eric Dunlop and Dave Mahers.

Chairman, Steve Allam, completed a 500 mile run over the past 12 months to help raise funds for our supported charity – Time

are on the Church Electoral Roll and would like to attend, please let me know for logistical reasons.

Our Easter Day, Family Communion will be at 09.30 on Sun 9 April followed by an Easter Egg hunt. We'd love to see you all there!

Brenda Bond on bondb@btinternet.com



Kingfisher jumble sale

At 10 - 12 noon on 1 April, Kingfisher Day Centre, Laverstoke Lane are holding a jumble sale. All welcome £1 entry with tea/coffee and a biscuit. Pick up a bargain and enjoy a chat.

And if you have any good jumble then you can drop it off between 8.00 and 16.00 any

to Talk. This brings the club total raised to nearly £4000 and will help provide mental health and emotional well being services for young people.

Ollie Hicks continues to break world records. With an amazing score at an indoor competition in Jan, he now holds more than 75% of the worlds highest scores for the bow style he shoots!

In April we begin our next beginners course at Laverstoke - 20 new archers will attend. May brings a "Try the Sport" event - open to anyone interested in having a go! For more information follow us on on www.facebook.com/overttonblackarrows or have a look at our website overttonblackarrows.org.



Hardy's specialist plant nursery

Hello everyone! How many of you have seen the wonderful swathes of snowdrops on the track behind Batts Meadow towards Laverstoke Lane? What a fantastic show

weekday beforehand except Tues. Thank you.



Open Chalk Streams

It's that time again: **Open Chalk Streams** returns this April! These free in-person events are a great way to explore our local area. They tend to involve a short guided walk of 1 - 2km for 2 to 3 hours. On the roster this time we have a fishing beat, a riparian garden, and even an active watercress farm.

Most of the events are for small groups, and they always prove popular. So if you'd like to come along, don't wait to book your tickets. It's also worth joining the waiting list for any that take your fancy. We hope to see you there!

For more details of the walks/events that are part of the Watercress & Winterbourne project [BROWSE HERE](#)

we've had this year. You too can grow beautiful snowdrops (*Galanthus*) by popping up to see us at Hardy's Cottage Garden Plant's We have various varieties of them for sale. Alternatively, look on our [website](#) and order them via 'click & collect'. They are part of our Spring collection that will give you a flush of colour in these early days of the gardening year. Not only snowdrops, but Helleborus, Crocus, Ipheions and many more plants are available too.

For us Spring is here! We are now open 7 days a week, Mon to Sat 10.00 - 17.00 and Sun 10.00 - 15.00. We look forward to welcoming you.



Parish coronation planning

Save the date: Sunday 7 May!

More news to follow, we'll keep you posted.

Bluebell Walk

Saturday, 22nd April 2023



Ellisfield Village Hall,
Church Lane,
RG25 2QR

To book, please email:
hannahhoustonlancey@yahoo.co.uk
Cost £12.00 pp - Children under
10 free, 10 to 15 years at £5.00 pp
- full details to follow
Register from 10am - start 11am
Refreshments available
Dogs welcome, must be on a lead
Walkers walk at their own risk and
must be mindful of the countryside
code -

CPRE bluebell walk

Charity Campaign for the Protection of
Rural England have a fundraising walk at
Ellisfield on 22 April. Enjoy a beautiful
bluebell walk to help support their
fundraising to protect the Hampshire
countryside from the pressure of
development.



Parish Council

PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

7 March

4 April

16 May AGM

6 June

Laverstoke and Freefolk



L&F Contacts

[L&Freefolk Facebook](#)

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Newsletter:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Lady Rose Hall:

www.ladyrosehall.co.uk

Bombay Sapphire Help

Line: 01256 890078

or hello@bombaysapphire.com



National Garden Scheme at Bere Mill

This year's National Garden Scheme open
days are a great opportunity to see the
magnificent gardens at Bere Mill. The first
date is this month:

- 27th March

And don't forget all proceeds go to a range
of charities supported by the NGS scheme.
See the [NGS website](#) for more details.



Classes in Lady Rose Hall

Ladies Boxing: Mon 18:45 -
19.45

Contact: Brandon Elliott on
07402 366067

Yoga: Weds 19:30 - 20:30

Contact: Natalia on
natalia@thelittleyogacompany.com
07880 742817

PC meetings take place on 1st Tues of month in Lady Rose Hall starting at 7.30pm with up to 30 mins public time. Anyone is welcome to attend to ask questions, make suggestions or air views on local issues during the public time. Time will be split equally between the number of people wishing to speak. After public time parishioners are unable to interrupt the Council meeting.

Note: no meeting is held in August unless a planning or other time-dependent matter arises.

(monitored daily 10-16.00)

Neighbouring web-sites:

[Whitchurch Town Council](#)

[Official Whitchurch web site](#)

[Original Whitchurch web site](#)

[Overton Parish Council web site](#)

Our Local Sports Clubs:

[Whitchurch Tennis Club](#)

[Overton Black Arrows Archery Club](#)

[Overton Rugby Club](#)

Our church:

[St Marys Laverstoke](#)

Our Local Day Care Centre:

[Kingfisher Day Care Centre for](#)

[Elderly](#) or

kingfisherdaycentre@gmail.com

Millennium Green:

[landfreefolkmillenniumgreen](#)

**To Report problems with:
roads, footpaths & verge**
[Hantsweb](#)

trees on roads:

0300 555 1388

water:

[Southern Water](#)



Parish Council:

Clerk - Nicky Nicklin

07725 368012 or

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Parish Councillors:

David Ellis, Chair

Jo Probut, Deputy Chair

Andrew White

Diccon Harvey

Julia Chedghey

Jayne Hudson

Jim Marsh

on: laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Borough

Councillors:

Colin Phillimore 771127

cllr.colin.phillimore@basingstoke.gov.uk

Stephen Williams

cllr.stephen.williams@basingstoke.gov.uk

Chloe Ashfield

cllr.chloe.ashfield@basingstoke.gov.uk

County Cllr:

Juliet Henderson

juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk



Notice Your Neighbourhood

If you spot an issue, please let us know and we'll do our best to help.

What can I report?

You can report the following to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report or call 01256 844844

- Graffiti
- Discarded needles
- Fly-tipping
- Litter
- Broken glass
- Dog fouling
- Overflowing bins
- Abandoned vehicles
- Overhanging vegetation and hedges
- Damaged equipment in parks and open spaces
- Grass cutting
- Leaf clearing



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Our mailing address is:
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Council Newsletter
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Laverstoke Lane
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RG28 7NY