



Laverstoke and Freefolk News&Views

October 2024

It's well and truly Autumn now with colder mornings and leaves on our beautiful local trees looking tired and over their bright summer green glow. It's also a reminder that Halloween and Pumpkin season is around the corner!

This month we've had some fantastic news from the Watership Down Nursery that is run in Lady Rose Hall, we have a vacancy of the Parish council and some exciting events coming up. For all this and more read on....

The PC meeting is back to its usual first Tuesday of the month slot on 1 Oct. You are very welcome to join from 19.30 for Public Time.

Find a link to the [Overton News&Views](#), available a few days after the start of each new month. Also the latest Whitchurch Town Council newsletter [here](#)



Tues 1 Oct PC meeting

At this month's meeting we'll start with public time at 19.30 and then move straight on into the PC element of the meeting. Items for discussion and decisions are mainly around planning this month and include:

Planning

Ref: 24/02108/FUL Location: Laverstoke Mill, Bombay Sapphire Distillery Proposal: to provide additional use on site (as indicated on drawings) for wedding events and supplement the existing uses of the site.

Ref: T/00462/24/TCA Location: Private Garages, Off Florence Portal Close, Laverstoke. Proposal: Trees identified on Plan, to be cut to ground level. Mix of Ash, Sycamore, Hawthorn, Goat willow.



Support your green space

The Millennium Green quiz of the year is on Saturday 16th November 19.30 for 20.00

LAVERSTOKE & FREEFOLK PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor vacancy

We were sad to say goodbye to Jim Marsh who has resigned from the PC last month. Work commitments mean he can no longer be a member. He was formally thanked for all his hard work for the parish by our PC Chairman David Ellis at the September PC meeting. This was Jim's second stint as a councillor so we say 'never say never' to him returning in the future!

This means that we now have a vacancy on the council which is temporarily down to 6 members. A formal notification of vacancy has been sent to B&D borough council and if no more than 10 people have come forward (which would mean an election is called) then the PC can co-opt.

You don't need any particular skill other than a can do attitude, constructive ideas and willingness to get stuck in. You do need to attend monthly PC meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at Lady Rose Hall from 19.30 - 21.30. The criteria for membership are available on the [B&D website](#).

For further information please don't hesitate to contact Nicky Nicklin the PC clerk on laverstokeclerk@gmail.com.

start. £10 pp or £11pp if doing Heads n Tails! Chilli / Veggie food included and cash/card bar available. Don't miss out on one of the highlights of the L&F year and support the green space in the parish at the same time. Contact

landffundraising@gmail.com for more info.

Parish Maintenance Day - volunteers required on Saturday 12 October at 13.30. Meet in the playground at Laverstoke. Please bring secateurs, loppers and hedge cutters. Families welcome. This is a great way to meet your community



A hardy bunch!

It may be pouring down as we write but we still know how to have some fun at Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants. Here we all are working through a day of rain in our 'stylish' wet weather gear. Behind us are the plants



Bombay Sapphire 10 year celebrations

Hopefully all residents have seen their invitation to the Bombay Sapphire operational tour and celebration drink event on 1st October. See you there!

However, that's not the only event to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Bombay Sapphire Distillery at Laverstoke Mill. The archive Team are holding a Heritage Day at the distillery on Tuesday 22nd October @ 14.00 - 16.00.

This is for people that used to work on the site or have relatives that used to work at the Mill with Portals.

Spaces are limited and are on a first come first serve basis. If you would like to attend then please email the archivist team on globalarchives@bacardi.com.

being put together ready to go to the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) Plant Fair at Malvern. Now's the perfect time to be out planting perennials and Spring flowering bulbs, which we have in stock.

This month we've been busy with the major RHS show at Wisley taking place, and if you were at the Newbury Show you may have seen Rosy and Rob at our stand, or heard Clare or Sally Ann giving talks there. We had an APHA (Animal and Plant Health Agency) inspection and received a clean bill of health. This is to ensure our nursery is clean and our plants are healthy.

Rosy will be giving her last talk of the year on 9 Oct on Late Autumn Flowering Perennials. We have a couple of spaces available. We are looking forward to welcoming David Hurrion on 29 Oct for a talk 'How to be water savvy and drought proof your garden'. A familiar face to those who watch BBC Gardeners' World, David is a gardener, horticulturist, lecturer, journalist, writer, presenter and travel courier. If you are interested in either of these, please visit our website at www.hardysplants.co.uk to book your space.

Whatever the weather we are still open Mon - Sat so, if you are out for a stroll even with your dog, you'll be welcome here. We have a riot of Autumn colour for you to enjoy!



18 new archers in the making

This month we started our latest beginners Archery course. We have 18 new archers learning how to shoot and they will be at Laverstoke for the next couple of Saturday mornings.

We have been carrying out some maintenance including protecting our benches and we have a couple of new members on the mowing team. It was great to see a wedding reception take place on the range. We hope the happy couple had a fantastic evening and enjoyed their day!

In September we also hosted the Hampshire and Southern Counties 3D championships and it was terrific to see our members win medals. Well done Ed Pockett, Rob Aldridge, Dave Mahers, Richard Buckner, Steve Allam and Angus Relf. Finally one of our members, Ollie Hicks is competing in the world field archery championships for Team GB. At the time of writing he was due to shoot in the Gold medal match. If you are interested in our



Anti-social behaviour

Members of the PC recently met with one of our Community Safety Patrol Officers. Their focus is on reducing anti-social behaviour affecting people and places to help improve the wellbeing of local residents and make people feel safer. If you have issues to report please use the following contact details:

All criminal matters **MUST** be reported to the police. For emergencies dial 999, for non-urgent crime and Antisocial Behaviour it's 101. For your local B&D Antisocial Behaviour Officers: Tel: 01256 845245 or email: community.safety@basingstoke.gov.uk

One of the safety concerns that has come to the PC's attention recently is excessive speeding and noise pollution from cars and motorcycles revving noisily along the lanes of the Parish and on Rotten Hill, especially in the early morning. A polite request to give consideration to those living close to our roads as noise travels further when it is otherwise quiet.

club or Archery please check our [facebook page](#) or website overtonblackarrows.org.



B&D consult on draft EV Charging Strategy

From now until Mon 4 Nov, the Borough Council is asking local people to give views and comments on their draft Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy. It sets out how they'll help to make public chargers more widely available locally to support drivers of electric and hybrid vehicles.

Taking into account where chargers already exist, the draft strategy sets out B&Ds' role, areas of focus and how they'll work with partners to help create more charging points. This includes proposals around how more chargers are brought forward on their land, at community centres and near their commercial properties. It also looks at how they could help to increase the number of charging points near people's homes and how they use their influence to make sure all new vehicle chargers created in the future are accessible, well located and easy to use.

To take a look at the emerging plans and have your say, get involved in B&D's [Electric](#)



Pavement safety reminder

One of the issues that the PC is often asked about is vegetation on or overhanging pavements - in particular hedges blocking sight lines at our dangerous road junctions. Hedges and vegetation should be cut right back by the householders so there is no overlap with the pavement. An example is cutting grass so that it butts up to the pavement rather than over it as per the 2 sides to our photo shown above.

Please take a look at your road frontage and ensure that the pavement is completely clear at both ground level and overhanging.



Watership Down Nursery - outstanding

The Watership Down Nursery has recently had an Ofsted inspection. In the

[Vehicle Charging Strategy consultation.](#)

Hampshire County Council, as Highway's Authority, has responsibility for the majority of all roads and pavements in the borough, as well as streetlights. They are in the early stages of working up a programme for delivery of charging infrastructure to support residents who do not have access to a driveway or garage. They are offering the opportunity for residents to let them know of particular locations that would benefit from a charging point in their local area by completing an on-line survey on the HCC [website](#).



Church news

Sadly, we have missed out on our annual Harvest Festival this year, due to various reasons. This does mean that Kingfisher Day Centre is missing out on fresh produce that is usually donated to them for their lunch club. If anyone does have spare fruit or vegetables, I am sure they would be gratefully received. Brenda Bond – Churchwarden.

report it was described as exceptional, has a curriculum that is unique and inspiring, the staff are innovative and the leadership have an ambitious vision! And the good news is that they received an Ofsted rating of Outstanding. This is a phenomenal achievement by all those working at the nursery and the management. Well done to the whole nursery team!



New entrant starter farm opportunities
available in Hampshire

We invite applications for the following equipped farm units:

 Dairy farm, c.128 acres near Winchester	 Mixed farm, c.18 acres near Fareham
 Livestock farm, c.129 acres near Winchester	 Livestock farm, c.85 acres near Hook
 Arable farm, c.104 acres near Fareham	 Dairy/livestock farm c.100 acres near Hook

County Farms - Hampshire County Council provide start up opportunities for young people hoping to make farming their career.

HCC are not unique as a county in offering this, but have one of the most extensive county farm projects in the country, of which Hampshire is rightly proud. There are new farming opportunities coming up. For info see our [Facebook page](#)



Parish Council

PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

1 Oct
5 Nov
3 Dec
7 Jan



L&F Contacts

[L&Freefolk Facebook](#)

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Newsletter:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Lady Rose Hall:

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk/lady-rose-hall/



Classes in Lady Rose Hall

Ladies Boxing: Mon 18:45 - 19.45

Contact: Brandon Elliott on 07402 366067

Yoga: Tues 19:30 - 20:30 (except 1st Tues of month)

Contact: Natalia on

Laverstoke and Freefolk PC meetings usually take place on 1st Tues of month in Lady Rose Hall starting at 19.30 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.**

County Councillor:

Juliet Henderson

juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk

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laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Newsletter
Lady Rose Hall
Laverstoke Lane
RG28 7NY

Bombay Sapphire Help

Line: 01256 890078

or hello@bombaysapphire.com

(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](#)

natalia@thelittleyogacompany.com

07880 742817



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 Chedgey

Jayne Hudson

on: laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Borough

Councillors:

Colin Phillimore 771127

cllr.colin.phillimore@basingstoke.gov.uk

Karen Watts

cllr.karen.watts@basingstoke.gov.uk

Chloe Ashfield

cllr.chloe.ashfield@basingstoke.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

