

Oulton Broad parishPRESS

Welcome to the Parish Press October issue. Delivering the latest news, updates and announcements from within the Oulton Broad Parish.

A message from Councillor Sandra Keller Chair of Oulton Broad Parish Council

Welcome to our first newsletter which I hope you will find interesting and informative. We aim to have two newsletters each year, in the Spring and Autumn.

I am very proud to have been elected as chair of Oulton Broad Parish Council earlier this year and I am equally proud of the amount of work OBPC has been able to achieve since its formation back in April 2017. Some of our achievements so far are detailed in this newsletter and we hope you have been able to enjoy the benefits of these.

We have lots more projects, both large and small, under way and are working hard to make Oulton Broad an even nicer place to live, work and relax. At the centre of our parish we have the beautiful Nicholas Everitt Park.

The park is a charitable trust which OBPC operates, taking a lot of hard work and money to maintain and improve, but this has paid off with the Green Flag award having just been won for the ninth consecutive year.

We hope everyone will take advantage of having such a wonderful area on our doorsteps. We have already arranged several new events in Oulton Broad and are working on more exciting new events in the future.

I remind you that OBPC is your parish council and is here for you, so please do feel free to contact us if there is anything we can assist with.

Sandra Keller, Councillor.



Nicholas Everitt Park New Play Equipment

In July we opened the new play frame in NEP, after some 40 years the old equipment had come to the end of its life and has been replaced with a large new play frame. Its been fantastic to see so many children having so much fun on the new play frame all over the summer.

So pop down and let your children take full advantage. We are planning further improvements to this play area for 2020.



Keep updated and follow us



Oulton Broad Parish Council



www.obpc.uk



Nicholas Everitt Park

Park Avenue Lighting



New lighting has been installed along the main avenue in Nicholas Everitt Park which has made a big difference making the area safer to use at night, for dog walkers and everyone using the park.

Festoon Lighting



When we took over running the park the decorative lighting along the broads edge was in very poor condition with many bulbs broken. We have replaced all of the string of lights with new energy saving LED lights which make the park look much nicer for both locals and tourists to enjoy.

New Tannoy System



Nicholas Everitt Park now has a new tannoy system which we installed in 2018. The old system was in very bad condition and the new modern tannoy has been used at many of the events over the last year giving a much clearer sound.

Nicholas Everitt Park Pavilion Refurb



At the centre of NEP is the Pavilion, we have undertaken a complete refurbishment of the venue, with the second and final phase being finished this winter. The pavilion is available for hire, and is an ideal venue for community groups, exercise classes, exhibitions and small parties. Please contact the parish clerk if you would like to hire the Pavilion.

Annual Event Carol Concert & Craft Fair



- Annual Carols Around The Christmas Tree, on The Boulevard, Sunday 1st Dec.
- Craft Fair open from 12.30pm
- Tombola, Lucky Dip, Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and Hot Chestnuts
- Meet Santa and his real reindeer from 2pm
- Carols start at 3.30pm
- Bring a torch to help read the song sheet!

Kesgrave Drive

Play Area Refurb



Following the results of our survey we responded by refurbishing the play frame at Kesgrave Drive. The frame was cleaned, painted and stained and a new bench and bin installed. In addition we had a new fence put around the play frame so children can now enjoy playing without dogs getting too close.

Kesgrave Drive (Woods Loke)

Slaters Pit Cleaned Up



Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteers from The Ashley School are undertaking a big clean up of Slaters Pit. The pond is now looking much nicer and cleaner, improving the area and making a lovely place to sit and also to fish.

Projects Underway



We are currently working on two major projects:

- 1 Refurbishment of 'Broad House', the park museum building and old flat.
- 2 Working with the leisure centre tenants on how to improve the whole leisure area.

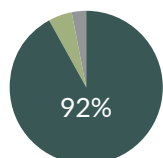
Both projects require a huge amount of work and money, so there is much to be done behind the scenes before we can see any changes on the ground...but we are working hard on both of these to push the projects forward.

Oulton Broad Parish Survey Summer 2018 – Survey Results



Thank you to all those who responded to our survey during last summer – your answers and comments have helped us form our priorities and plan for 2019, and beyond. Here is a very brief summary of the results and some of our actions from this.

1. Do you like the park in its current layout?

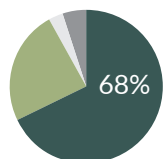


Suggestions included:

- Sort out the pool
- Improve the toilets
- Fix play equipment
- More litter bins & picnic benches
- Clean the landspring drain

Answer: We are working on these for you.

2. Major projects – extra funding via a loan – in principle, would you be happy with this?



Suggestions included:

- Public consultation before-hand
- Spend money on the pool
- Free quay • CCTV
- Various renovations

Answer: We don't have any loans, and won't get a loan when we don't have to, but we appreciate the answers here to help us plan for the longer term goals.

3. What to do with the old flat above the Museum?

Suggestions included:

- Give to the Museum • Residential let
- Park keeper accommodation
- Holiday let • Community use suggestions

Answer: We plan to give half of the space to the Museum, so they can expand. The rest of the space will be renovated to create a community room available for hire. This is a big project which is now being worked on.

4. Making better use of the Park Pavilion.

Suggestions included:

- Exercise classes • Youth clubs
- All types of Community/Social groups, Children's parties and more

Answer: Work has begun on the required improvements to the building, improving its condition, making it warmer so we can offer it for more community use. Phase 2 should complete this winter.

5. Should we develop a picnic area with brick barbeque stations?



Comments included:

- More picnic tables are desired, but there is concern over the safety and litter from barbeque stations

Answer: We will pursue installing more picnic tables but will undertake further research on the barbeque stations.

6. New Facilities in the Park. Would you like a...

Zip Wire



Adult Gym Equipment



Suggestions included:

- Splash park • Skate park • Nature trail
- Basketball nets and many more

Answer: We are taking all these suggestions into consideration as we plan future ideas in and around the park. The new Love Exploring app will include more nature trails as it is developed.

7. The 5 Oulton Broad Play Areas. Do you use...



Bonds Meadow



Kesgrave Drive



Smiths Walk



Sunnyfield

Suggestions included:

- Improve fencing • Clean equipment
- Modernise & upgrade equipment

Answer: We are making improvements to play areas and will focus our spending on the top 3 most used sites.

8. Do you have any issues around your street?

Comments covered specific issues in individual areas across the parish

Answer: These results have been collated and where appropriate passed over to Suffolk Highways who have responsibility for the streets, or other bodies who can action responses to the issues raised.

9. What other events would you like to see?

Many suggestions received here including more music concerts, craft fairs, food & drink fairs, open air cinema and many others

Answer: We have lots of events being planned and more people are contacting us wanting to use Oulton Broad for their events too. We are pleased with the new events that happened in 2019. If you, or someone you know, might like to hold an event in Oulton Broad, please get in touch with us.

10. Any other comments and suggestions.

Suggestions included:

- Getting a better bus service • Sorting out the pool • Closure of Spar • Antisocial behaviour issues • Traffic problems, plus many more

Answer: Thank you for all your comments here, there were many good and important suggestions for us to work on over the coming months and years.



Advertise in the next Parish Press Newsletter

Would you like to advertise your Oulton Broad business in the next edition of this newsletter? Contact the clerk for more information and pricing.

What's Coming Up 2020 Dates



There are many events coming up in 2020, you can check our events calendar on our website and keep up to date on our Facebook page. More details will be added as events are confirmed.

 www.oultonbroadparishcouncil.gov.uk/events

 [Oulton Broad Parish Council](#)

We also look forward to the unveiling of further projects and improvements as the year unfolds.

Love Exploring App



We are pleased to help part fund this project - look out for further updates to the app with new games and things to discover coming soon!



Download and explore
Nicholas Everitt Park.
Can you find the
Dinosaurs?



Winter Craft Fair

Saturday 26th October, at
The Pavilion, Opens 10am.



2019/2020 WINNERS

Many thanks to our wonderful gardener Marie, and Friends of Nicholas Everitt Park, on this great achievement!

**This award makes it
9 years in a row!**



Noticeboards

For news, updates & meeting info

- Beccles Road (opposite Tesco Express)
- The Boulevard Car Park, Bridge Road →
- Hall Road (opposite Broad Road)
- Gresham Avenue - **Being installed soon!**



Nicholas Everitt Park Vandalism



Unfortunately we've seen more vandalism and anti-social behaviour in Nicholas Everitt Park this year, with the shelter in the sunken garden burnt down, damage to property and drink and drug taking.

We have been working with the Police with more patrols taking place, and also looking to employ the service of liaison officers who could regularly visit and engage with those causing problems.

With support from the College and local businesses, **we are getting the shelter rebuilt.** We remind everyone that **if you see or hear problems, particularly those after dark, please report every incident to the Police on 101 or 999.** The Police work on the information they receive from these reports, and respond based on the numbers of reports they get, so please do report every incident as it helps us get the extra Police presence.

Meet your Councillors



Back row left to right:

Ben Falat, Andy Penman, Brian Keller, Paul Carver, Lee Pullen, Andrew Page.

Front row left to right:

Lesley Lavery, Sandra Keller, Christine Ashdown.
(Not pictured: Steve Wilson, Russell Cooper).



Next Issue

Spring Edition, March 2020



Get in touch with Tina, your Clerk.

Tel: 01502 564289 | **Email:** clerk@obpc.uk | **Office Hours:** Mon-Thurs 11am-4pm

Post: Clerk's Office, The Pavilion, Nicholas Everitt Park, Oulton Broad, NR33 9JR

