



THE VILLAGE VOICE

SPECIAL EDITION

Autumn 2023

ISSUE No 74

**THIS ONSLOW VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SPECIAL NEWSLETTER
IS A VILLAGE WIDE DISTRIBUTION ANNOUNCING OUR**

EGM TUESDAY 10th October 2023 at 7:30 pm

Background

OVRA was formed in 1956 “to safeguard the amenities of Onslow Village ... and to promote the welfare, interests and well-being of the residents”. It has championed village issues, compensating for the lack of Parish Council level administration. It organises regular meetings and special events, the most recent being the Coronation Street-Party. Its funding is based on households, the membership paying a nominal annual subscription. This membership base is the ‘authority’ on which OVRA rests. Recently, membership has declined, despite efforts to reverse the trend.

The Problem

This EGM is arranged to address an issue of membership and leadership. It is not a financial matter. The level of representation that OVRA can claim for the Village is now critical as the household membership has reduced.

Despite the very large attendance at the Village Square events organised by OVRA in the past few years, very few new households have joined the Association.

All households in the Village or those outside with an affinity to Onslow Village are eligible to join which provides OVRA with great potential. But over recent years the support base for OVRA has decreased. An ever-diminishing proportion of the Village is now represented by OVRA and attends its regular activities.

This also impacts OVRA’s leadership as it become increasingly difficult to find replacements for retiring committee members from this low level of membership.

How You Can Help

The possibility of OVRA being reduced to a minimum or being wound up entirely could be avoided if a number of people could offer time and ideas to help re-energise OVRA for the benefit of the whole Village community.

The EGM on 10 October 2023 will consider our options. This OVRA issue affects the the whole Village so EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS WELCOME, not just members.

This could be your last chance! Don’t miss it if you’d like to do something for your community. If you would like to help or want more information please call or WhatsApp Andy Halliday (07708 391656) or Alan Robins (07955 383048) before the meeting or talk to a committee member before the EGM proposal is considered.

EGM TUESDAY 10th October 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Onslow Village Hall, The Square, GU2 7QR

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The Proposal

The OVRA Committee proposes the running down of the Association's activities, either whilst the issues described above persist or permanently. We put forward the following options:

- i. Restrict output to the production of the Village Voice, plus the website (free for OVRA), running on a minimum budget.
- ii. As i.above, but with the ability to reform around any important issues that might affect the Village.
- iii. Wind-up the Association (after all debts and liabilities were met, the remaining financial and other assets would made over to such charities as agreed by the membership†)).
- iv. Other options as notified to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

Note:†, paraphrased from OVRA rules.

Facilities

The event will be in the Main Hall.
Refreshments (wine, tea, coffee) will be provided.
The Hall has disabled access and facilities and a hearing loop.

OVRA membership eligibility

MEMBERSHIP is per household and principally limited to those residing within the boundaries of Onslow Village but Households with close geographical or historical connections with Onslow Village may apply to become Members.

How to Join OVRA

Membership forms will be available in the hall at the EGM. Forms are also available on the OVRA website - see below

Search OVRA Guildford for our
website on <https://e-voice.org.uk/ovra-guildford/>



You can join the Onslow
Village community Facebook
page here
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/455804498174020/>

