

OVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held at Ovington Social Club

Thursday 12 March 2026

Present: Councillors Anne Hudson (Chair), Lisa Leggett, Barbara Goodfellow and Geraldine Shaw.

Also present: County Councillor Anne Dale, David Newman (Clerk) and Tracey Wood (Interim Clerk)

2026/16 Questions from members of the public

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

2026/17 County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Anne Dale updated the members on:

- **Library Review** has been requested from Officers at Northumberland County Council.
- **Removal of damaged Ovington Sign**
- **Bus Service**
- **Post Box**
- **Enforcement**
- **Recycling**

Members thanked County Councillor Dale for her continued hard work and support.

Resolved that:

- i. Clerk to contact County Councillor regarding Karbon Homes to gain permission to erect a village sign in the flower border at the corner of Burnside and the main road through Ovington.

2026/18 Item 1 – Apologies for Absence

Councillor Fiona Maidwell.

2026/19 Item 2 – Declaration of Interest

Councillor Barbara Goodfellow declared that the village handyman is her husband. Councillor Anne Hudson declared she is the project manager for Ovington Trees.

2026/20 Item 3 - Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2026

Resolved that:

- i. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 January 2026 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2026/21 Item 4 - Finance

Members reviewed the receipts and payment and budget update to 28 February 2026 and the bank reconciliations up 28 February 2026.

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of Meeting

Members discussed the budget forecast outturn to 31 March 2026.
Members discussed donations to five charities - Talk Tynedale Newspaper, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Sport Tynedale, Great North Air Ambulance and Tynedale Hospice at Home.

Resolved that:

- i. The payments detailed in document A be approved.
- ii. The budget update to 28 February 2026 detailed in document B be approved.
- iii. The bank reconciliation to 28 February 2026 detailed in document D be approved.
- iv. Clerk to arrange payments to be made and invoices provided for village handyman's time and consumables.
- v. Clerk to arrange payment to be made to Ovington Club for the year's meeting hire.
- vi. A 3 year rolling contract to be discussed for the handyman role.
- vii. The budget outturn forecast be approved.
- viii. Donations of £50 each to be made to Talk Tynedale Newspaper, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Sport Tynedale, Great North Air Ambulance and Tynedale Hospice at Home
- ix. The carry forward of items totalling £1,700 into the 2026-27 budget be approved.
- x. Clerk to update 2026-27 budget and circulate to members

Resolved that:

- i. Chair and clerk to discuss handyman's contract and discuss at a future meeting.
- ii. Clerk to arrange donations to five charities above.

2026/22 Item 5 – Neighbourhood Plan

- Councillor Geraldine Shaw provided an update. As of 5 March Ovington has now been designated as a Neighbourhood Plan area. Consultation to be planned including the village fete.

Resolved that:

- iii. Clerk to publish designation on Facebook and the new website.
- iv. Clerk to be copied in on NHP correspondence from now on.
- v. Clerk to provide copy of Wylam's NHP questionnaire.

2026/23 Item 6 – IT Policy

- The clerk had previously circulated an adapted version of the NALC template for the IT policy (document D). The policy was reviewed and approved by members.

Resolved that:

- i. Clerk to publish the IT policy on website and circulate to all members.
- ii. Clerk to arrange gov.uk email addresses for all councillors.

2026/24 Item 7 – Community Governance Review

The Clerk had circulated the information (detailed in document E) in advance. Councillors unanimously agreed that OPC's view is:

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of Meeting

1. We remain ungrouped
2. The parish boundaries do not need altering
3. The parish should remain unwarded
4. The Parish Council has the right number of councillors

Resolved that:

- Clerk to complete Community Governance Review on behalf of OPC.

2026/25 Item 8 – NCC Library Consultation

The Clerk had circulated the information (detailed in document F) in advance, and was discussed during the County Councillor’s update.

Resolved that:

- Clerk share this information on Facebook and the Council’s website.
- Members to complete the Consultation questionnaire individually as well.

2026/26 Item 9 – To receive Committee reports and other groups’ updates

- **Ovingham Joint Burial Committee**– Councillor Anne Hudson provided an update.
- **East Tynedale Community Forum** – There is one possible replacement for the Chair, but the forum is likely to be wound up.
- **Ovington Community Group** – Councillor Lisa Leggett provided an update. The group has reviewed its and finance structure. A number of events are planned.

2026/27 Item 10 - Village Environment

- Councillor Barbara Goodfellow provided an update on the play park. Tidying up work has been carried out but some of the play equipment needs repairs. Playdale have not responded to our request for a quote but most of the repairs can be handled internally.

Resolved that:

- i. Clerk to chase up Playdale for quotes on repairs but to proceed with village handyman if there is not progress.
- ii. Councillor Goodfellow / handyman to order replacement swing seat and associated fittings.

2026/28 Item 11 - Correspondence

Communication from regarding silt (not sewerage) to be shared with schools, club, etc.

Resolved that:

- i. Clerk to share update on Facebook and website.

2026/29 Item 12 – Quotations Received

No quotations have been received.

2026/30 Item 13 – To discuss Annual Village Meeting

Agreed to hold the meeting on Sunday 31 May. Format of the meeting will include a formal part and community engagement opportunity.

Resolved that:

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of Meeting

- i. Chair and clerk to agree the agenda.

2026/31 Item 14 To discuss minor items and items for the agenda of a future meeting
Discussed throughout the meeting.

2026/32 Item 14 Dates of next meetings

- Ovington Parish Council Annual Meeting 15 May 2026

The meeting closed at 21.10pm

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of Meeting