

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. M. Davenport
Clerk

Jubilee Cottage
Ovington
Northumberland
NE42 6DH

Minutes of a remote meeting of Ovingham Parish Council held on 27th August 2020
at 7.15 p.m.

Present: Councillors Jordon, Gray and Cairns and the Clerk.

1. Leave of absence was unconditionally granted until May 2021 for Cllr Campbell. Apologies for absence was granted for Cllr Foster (holiday) and Cllrs Swinburn and Jackson.
2. No declarations of interest were received.
3. The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated were taken as read, agreed and to be signed in due course.
4. Accounts to be paid:

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| D Jordon (Garden competition prizes) | £105.00 |
| M Davenport (Salary May/June 2020) | £583.33 |
| West N'land Bldg Consortium (Covid 19 pack) | £9.50 |
| Firepoint Services (Fire Log Book) | £11.94 |
| T Bell (Grass cuts, path work & weeding) | £690.00 |
| A Jackson (playing field maintenance, removal of dangerous Posts on activity trail etc) | £320.00 |
5. Planning Applications:-
20/01897/FUL: Overdale, Dene View – replace existing shed with garage. Cllr Gray advised that he had no concerns with this application which was replacing an existing shed with a garage of similar size. He proposed that “No comment” be submitted to planning department. This was agreed.
6. Local Transport Plan 2021-2022: Cllr Jordon had circulated her ideas but emphasised that no decision had to be made at this meeting. She suggested improving visibility on the Ovingham to Ovington Road especially near the Bywell turnoff, re-positioning of telegraph poles on road to Wylam which should also improve visibility for road users and provision of parking on Horsley Road on the grassed areas. Cllr Gray was in agreement with the proposals but wondered if a path could be incorporated from Ovingham to Ovington inside the fields. Cllr Cairns agreed this was a good idea but Cllr Jordon pointed out that NCC have never supported the idea of a footpath despite it being suggested by both Ovingham & Ovington Councils over the years. She also confirmed that Ovington Parish Council will forward their agreed proposals before the next meeting of Ovingham scheduled in September. Cllr Jordon asked for other suggestions.
Cllr Gray remarked that his previous proposal of extending the 30mph at the eastern end of the village has consistently been knocked back. Cllr Cairns thought improving parking on Horsley Road was, in principal, a good idea but queried whether this would ultimately improve the issue even if additional lay by(s) were placed. Cllr Gray commented that NCC had

informed the Parish Council a few years ago that the proposal was too expensive. The Cllrs also noted that parking had been worse this year. A decision will be made at the September meeting.

7. Any other business as considered urgent by the chair: Cllr Jordon had circulated a request from a resident to hold a function, incorporating a mobile bar, on the playing field on a date to be determined. The Cllrs, including those not present, had expressed their concerns about such an event and the potential issues including controlling numbers and relevant licences which would be required. It was especially felt that it was not appropriate whilst Covid-19 was still very much a concern. It was agreed that the request be refused and the Chair will inform the resident accordingly.
8. Cllr Jordon advised that the reading room will be open in September. However, the Blakett Room will not be available as it is earmarked as an isolation room. Unfortunately, the Drama Group may be using the main hall on the 17th but there are other nights available that week including the 16th although the time of the meeting may need to be slightly later. Cllr Gray felt that the Reading Room was a better venue than the Pavilion being larger and therefore was more adaptable for social distancing etc. Cllr Jordon will confirm availability with the booking secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.35pm