

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. M. Davenport
Clerk

Jubilee Cottage
Ovington
Northumberland
NE42 6DH

Minutes of the meeting of Ovingham Parish Council held on 19th July 2018 at 7.15 p.m. in the Reading Room, Ovingham

Present: Councillors Jordon, Gray, MacDonald, Campbell, Foster, Jackson and Kirkland and 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence was received from County Cllr Quinn.
2. No declarations of interest were received.
3. The minutes of the last meeting on 21st June, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed.
4. County Councillors' Report: County Cllr Quinn was not able to attend the meeting, but she noted discussions were ongoing with regards to parking outside the schools and quotes were awaited for siting bollards; she had met with NCC regarding a few queries concerning Horsley Road which will be attended to when the road is closed for repairs.
5. Community Orchard: Since the last meeting, the group had queried why, after two years of a "peppercorn" rent, they would need to pay £100 a year. Their research had shown other councils usually charge a nominal rent as the community was managing land on their behalf. However, the Cllrs again agreed that as the orchard should be profitable, a rent will be levied. A management agreement needed to be approved and the Clerk admitted that she had found it difficult to find examples which could be adapted. She was awaiting a copy of the agreement set up for Wylam Community Orchard which the Cllrs hoped will be suitable but, in the meantime, she had found a copy of an agreement set up by a borough council for an orchard on land that they (Borough Council) owned. Although it was quite lengthy, much was relevant and should be included in the agreement which had to be drafted. Cllr Jordon asked that one of the Cllrs look at this and Cllr Foster offered to. The Clerk will inform the Orchard Group.
6. Matters arising: -
 - i) **Traffic issues:** Cllr Jordon was waiting for quotes for bollards which may be placed on the grass verges opposite the schools. The Clerk confirmed that Ovington Parish Council would contribute, depending on the cost, as they felt it was ultimately a safety issue which had to be addressed. Although the middle school car park can be used by the first school, the Cllrs acknowledged that many will always choose to ignore this option and a solution had to be found to prevent parking on the verges.
 - ii) **Allotment Association Tenancy agreement (amended):** The Allotment Association had not met recently so unfortunately the tenancy agreement still had to be approved.
7. **Accounts to pay/be paid:**

M. Davenport (Salary & expenses June)	£295.14
Ovingham Reading Room (meeting in June)	£15.00
Ovingham Joint Burial Committee (Precept)	£2565.00
P Hind (garden maintenance)	£120.00
Play Inspection Co Ltd (Annual inspection)	£78.00
D Jordon (Village env. – planters etc.)	£109.97
T Bell (Grass cuts)	£280.00
Best electricians (work at Pavilion)	£1008.00
A Jackson (hedge trimming – various)	£155.00

8. **Planning Application:**

18/00732/FUL – Wellburn Care Home – building to house bio mass boiler - **granted**

18/02012/TPO – 4 Nunnykirk - crown lift sycamore etc. – **no objections**

18/01739/FUL - 7 Welburn Close – single storey extension to front extending kitchen, creating new wc & shower, utility & store – **Granted**

Cllr Gray also advised that a resident had complained about the type of tiles used on the alterations at Glebe Barns which had recently received planning permission. The application had stated slate tiles would be used but ones visible do not appear to be slate. Cllr Gray had spoken to the planning department and had been asked to forward photographs and further enquiries will be made. Cllr MacDonald remarked that slate tiles should be used as the property was within the conservation area.

9. **Local Transport Plan 2019-2020:** Each year, Town and Parish Councils were asked to make submissions which will be considered for the Local Transport Plan. Last year Ovingham had submitted requests for 20mph limits in the village and although it had not been included, Cllr Jordon had previously been informed it will automatically be put forward again. For this request, Cllr Jordon suggested two areas; dropped kerb in area of 38 Castle View to enable easier access to the footpath on the opposite side of the road; and an extended dropped kerb in Windsor Crescent by the playing field entrance specifically by the gate to the fields; car parking at this point was blocking the current dropped kerb. The Cllrs agreed to submit both the dropped kerb requests on the 2019-2020 Local Transport Plan.

10. **Annual Play Inspection report:** Cllr Jordon had summarised the lengthy report which had been circulated. There were two areas of moderate risk – activity trail and disabled access but the majority were low or very low risk although it was agreed that these should still be monitored on a regular basis. Some issues had already been attended to and Cllr Jackson confirmed that Adrian Jackson will give a quote for the removal of the rubber tiles on the original climbing frame area. Cllr Jordon asked if any Cllr could spare a few hours on the following Tuesday to carry out some maintenance jobs – Cllrs Campbell, Gray and Kirkland agreed – and she will also ask the handyman, Peter Hind, to deal with some jobs. Looking ahead to the PC diary, an inspection by the PC was due in August – Cllr Foster offered to carry out weekly inspections of the playing field with the possibility of help from an OPPFUG Committee member in future months.

11. **Ovingham Pavilion/Playing Field:** Cllr Jordon updated the meeting on work at the Pavilion – the kitchen units will be finished this weekend; first fix plumbing and electrical work was completed; decorating had started.

There were some extra issues but nothing unsurmountable. The two settees had been collected by a charity. Cllr Jordon also advised that a football team from Prudhoe will be staging 4 matches in August. She also understood that OviFun had received £500 funding and assumed this was for the OviFun day. OviFun had forwarded a copy of the event notification application (**Safety Advisory Group**) which had been received by NCC. They had reported no issues subject to any Police observations. OviFun had previously notified the Police who had not raised any issues. An event safety plan had also been circulated although a copy of the Insurance had not recently been received.

12. **Parish Council Surgery/Village plan updates:** Cllr Jordon informed the meeting that a “no through sign” had been put in place at Piper Road and a new chevron sign on Horsley Road bend by the chalets. The tree root damaging the footpath bordering the green on Wheatfield Close will be removed and tarmac surface repaired in the next two weeks. Cllr Gray noted that the wall on the left, as you enter the village from the North, was unstable – some stones had been dislodged – and the Clerk was asked to raise this with Northumberland Estates.
13. **Village environment:** The Surface water scheme is scheduled for August; Cllr Campbell had repaired a damaged bin by the playing field; Cllr Gray will summarise and forward comments with regards the draft local plan (NCC). He thought that the Parish Council should make some comment with regards the proposed housing developments for Prudhoe which will have a knock-on effect for Ovingham as far as traffic was concerned, and in particular for Horsley Road.
Cllr MacDonald left the meeting at 8.25pm
Cllr Jordon noted that the mower was due a service shortly – she will check to see if it is still contracted to Lloyd Ltd; the zip wire should be checked every 2 years, and this was due in September as were trimming of hedges and willows.
14. **Committee Reports:** There had not been a recent meeting of the Burial Committee. Cllr Jackson had attended a recent Forum – they were considering a request from their chair who wished to remain involved with the Forum although he was no longer a Councillor. Prudhoe Town Council were looking for support in employing a dog warden (to be shared with other Councils). Cllr Jackson advised that Wylam Parish Council give out dog bags and the Cllrs agreed it was something to be considered as dog fouling continued to be a problem and currently this was especially so on the Playing Field.
15. **Correspondence:**
 - a) Consultation of NCC “Statement of Principles”: Comments were invited for this but to date, the online link was not available.
 - b) Jubilate Choir – since the last meeting the organiser had asked to inspect the pavilion to see if it will be suitable. The Clerk had arranged to meet on 23rd July at 5pm.
16. **Distribution:** This was still in circulation.
17. **Any other business as considered urgent by the chair:** The Clerk had circulated a draft copy of GDPR for approval which was approved. Cllr Gray commented it was similar to that which he had prepared for the

Reading Room Committee and he also forwarded a “master list” which can be used to determine what data the Parish Council hold.

Cllr Jackson commented that she was not getting updates with regards road works so could not highlight them on Facebook. The Cllrs felt that more use could be made of the website. Cllr Campbell queried if householders must declare they are in a flood plain when applying for Insurance bearing in mind that many insurers are refusing to provide quotes. Cllr Gray replied that when the surface water scheme is finished, the environment agency may well remove houses from the flood risk area so suggested that the issue be looked at later.

18. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 20th September.
19. There being no other business as considered urgent by the Chair, the open meeting closed at 8.55pm.