

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. M. Davenport
Clerk

Jubilee Cottage
Ovington
Northumberland
NE42 6DH

Minutes of the Meeting of Ovingham Parish Council held on 18th July 2019 at 7.15 p.m. in the Pavilion, Ovingham Playing Field, Ovingham

Present: Councillors Jordon, Gray, Jackson, Foster and Kirkland, County Cllr Quinn and 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence was received from Cllr Campbell (Polling station duty) and Cllr MacDonald who had tendered his resignation.
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. The minutes of the last meeting on 20th June 2019, having previously been circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed.
4. County Councillors' Report: County Cllr Quinn noted Cllr Jordon was due to meet NCC on Monday regarding outstanding traffic issues. She also noted that the PC had been informed that the request to put "Stop/Give way" notice on the road from the cemetery (by Windsor Crescent) had been refused as it was on a private highway. This was opposite to what Cllr Jordon had previously been informed and County Cllr Quinn will make enquiries. She confirmed money was available for Ovingham from her small schemes funding – only Ovington PC had asked for funding and she will confirm how much. Cllr Jordon was concerned about the length of time taken to complete the path down from the chalets, implement 20mph outside the schools and follow up the issues with parking. Cllr Jordon also advised that work will commence shortly to replace the footbridge decking. The vehicular bridge will close but will be open for pedestrians and cyclists (who must dismount) to enable them to maintain access to each side.

Cllr Jordon thanked County Cllr Quinn who left the meeting at 7.30pm

5. Matters arising: -
 - i) **Traffic issues:** Cllr Jordon had planned to meet Neil Snowdon, NCC on 22nd July but unfortunately had to cancel. County Cllr Quinn will follow up issues raised above. There were no further updates (see above).
 - ii) **Tree Survey:** Cllr Jordon had been advised that the work will be carried out in the next few days.
 - iii) **Small Schemes Fund:** Cllr Foster advised she needed help and input as to ideas for new play equipment. Cllr Jordon offered to meet up during the school holidays and Cllr Jackson advised she can forward photos/details of different play areas she passes on a regular basis which may help in formulating ideas.
6. **Accounts to pay/be paid:**

M. Davenport (Salary & expenses June)	£293.50
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Ovingham Reading Room (Room Hire June)	£15.00
D Jordon (refreshments for drop in session)	£13.65
S Electric (quarterly charge)	£48.84
P Hind (village maintenance)	£120.00
A Jackson (playing field work & on Castle View)	£240.00

7. **Planning Application:**
No current applications and Cllr Gray also advised he had no further updates to report.
8. **To consider installing CCTV at Pavilion:** Following a couple of recent incidents of vandalism on the toilet doors and reports of some girls climbing on to the roof, the Cllrs agreed to look at options available to install CCTV. Cllr Gray had received a quote from a local company. Their proposal was for a pole mounted double camera covering 2 directions. Cllr Gray advised the quote came to £3500 approximately but excluded the cost of a concrete base for the pole which the Parish Council would be responsible for. The Cllrs agreed that a second quote was essential, and the Clerk suggested CSN Services who had installed CCTV at a neighbours property. She will forward details to Cllr Gray who will contact them.
9. **Cycling on Footbridge:** Cllr Jordon had received a complaint from a resident who had unfortunately been knocked by a cyclist which caused her to fall to the ground – she had also experienced abuse from cyclists whilst using the footbridge on other occasions. The Cllrs noted it was a regular issue and although signs were in place some cyclists will always continue to ignore them. A site meeting was arranged with Parish Council reps and NCC to discuss possible solutions. Extra “no cyclist” signs are to be put in place at intervals across the bridge – the same as those in place at both entrances. This will be done once the new decking on the footbridge has been completed in August.
10. **Ovingham Community Picnic in the Park – 27th July:** A proposal had been received from Ovifun to hold a picnic on the playing field and they hoped the Parish Council would participate. A member of Ovifun had attended the parish council surgery and spoken to the Cllrs. Cllr Jordon had agreed that the Parish Council will provide light refreshments and organise a raffle. It is hoped that funds can be raised towards new play equipment. The event is to be a low-key affair advertised in “What’s on in Ovingham” Facebook page. Cllr Jordon asked for help from the Cllrs.
11. **To agree terms and conditions for hiring Ovingham Pavilion:** The Clerk had circulated a draft copy based on the terms and conditions for hiring the Reading Room and it was agreed that this was a good example to use. Some amendments were agreed, including limiting the number permitted in the pavilion at any one time to 30 and the Clerk will also circulate a booking form. Cllr Gray suggested she contact the Reading Room as they had a form for regular users and another for a one-off event.
12. **Local Transport Plan 2020-2021:** The Clerk had circulated the latest request from NCC, and submissions had to be made by the end of September. Cllr Jordon asked the Cllrs to look at options so a decision can be made at the September meeting.
13. **Parish Council Surgery/Village plan updates:** Cllr Jordon had again circulated updated action plans. A tree trunk lying across the burn at Dene House/Bleach Green since the floods of 2014/2015 is being followed up

and will hopefully be removed in the next week. Resident will keep Cllr Jordon informed. Cllr Jordon had still not received a response with regards completing the path from the chalets on Horsley Road and no response about the dropped kerb on Piper Road. The hedge on Castle View bordering the footpath has been trimmed back. Surface work on Gallowhill Lane was now complete (apart from small area which NCC could not access due to parked vehicle). A fitted cover for the mower was required but the only option to buy was from a company in America which the Cllrs were reluctant to do. Cllr Jackson had a contact who makes covers and Cllr Jordon will forward dimensions to her. Some checks/maintenance was needed on some play equipment and the Clerk needed to issue a notice advising users of contact details. It was unclear how much information was required but Cllr Jackson offered to look at other play areas for examples.

14. **Village environment:** Cllr Gray reported on the drop-in session on 11th July arranged by Environment Agency & NWL. A new model has been developed for the Tyne area which now shows the effect of rising water levels on “at risk” properties. Any household will be able to get in touch with the EA if they want information about the flood risks for their property. The surface water scheme on the playing field is virtually complete. Some issues raised by residents have not been fully accepted by NCC/NWL – there has not been the weather to “test” the arrangements. The issues in Dene Garth area remain – a proposal to put a basin to trap water higher up is to be discussed/agreed with the landowner. Information is now available with regards to Whittle Burn and the effects of flooding. Cllr Gray remarked that originally the budget was to do the 2 schemes together but unfortunately that is now not the case – nevertheless NCC/NWL are proceeding with the project. Cllr Jordon advised that the path along the river has been cleared by NCC; a section of the wooden planks on a path in Whittle Dene which were rotten will be replaced. Village drains have been cleaned. Police have carried out some patrols and checks following recent vandalism at the pavilion. Cllr Jordon noted that the mower was shortly due a service but asked that this be delayed until the autumn as it was generally cheaper to do then. Some mattresses had been dumped in Tyne Gardens and reported and removed.
15. **Committee Reports:** Cllr Gray advised the AGM of the Reading Room Committee will be held on 29th July. Feedback from the Goose Fair had been positive. Cllr Jordon advised that a football team had booked the playing field for some matches in the summer – they would need use of the toilets and changing rooms. A mat was needed for the entrance to the pavilion.
16. **Correspondence:**
- a) Review of Polling Districts in Northumberland (NCC): This would not include the parish boundaries.
 - b) Love Northumberland Awards (NCC): An annual request for nominations to be considered but the Cllrs agreed that Ovingham did not have any organisations to fit the criteria.
 - c) Vacancy on NALC County Committee: A Cllr from Prudhoe had put his name forward to represent the area and the Cllrs agreed that this will be supported.
17. **Distribution:** This was still in circulation.

18. **Any other business as considered urgent by the Chair:** The Clerk advised that following the resignation of Cllr MacDonald, NCC must be immediately notified and correct procedure followed. Official notice will be placed on the village boards (and website) informing electors of this and their rights. Until this has been carried out, the Cllrs cannot consider co-option for this vacancy.
21. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 19th September 2019 at 7.15pm in the Reading Room.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm