

DRAFT



Minutes of the Ovingham Parish Council Meeting


Held on 19th January 2023

The Pavillion, Ovingham Playing Field, Ovingham

Attendance	
Representatives	Councillors: Doreen Jordan (Chair), Neville Gray (Vice Chair), Charlie Downing, Joanna Jackson, County Councillor Holly Waddell
Officers	Paul Smith (Clerk & Notetaker)
Public	0 Members of the public were in attendance.

	Welcome & Questions from members of the Public
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no members of the public present at the Meeting.
	County Councillors Report: County Councillor Waddell reported that Northumberland County Council's proposed submission re the Electoral Review had been approved by the main Council. There was likely to be no impact on Ovingham or the immediate areas. The Challenge Board Report has been delivered and early actions are being delivered. Councillor Jordan raised the issue of speeding through the village. OPC has very recently received some advice from NCC re a petition etc but the advice needs to be properly understood and will be discussed at the March OPC meeting. Councillor Jordan stated that there is an ongoing issue re cars on the verge of the Chalet Path. OPC had recently received correspondence from Guy Opperman's office, as a resident had contacted them to raise a complaint making reference to the completion of the path. Councillor Jordan has provided the background to the issue to Guy Opperman's office and stated that to complete the necessary works, extra funding is required. She asked County Councillor Waddell whether this could be met from her Small Schemes Budget. County Councillor Waddell stated that this may be possible but she needed to consider it further. A meeting with all parties involved is to be organised by Councillor Jordan Action County Councillor Waddell and Councillor Jordan Councillor Jordan asked about the new process for receiving Section 106 funding. County Councillor Waddell agreed that the new process was far from clear and asked Councillor Jordan to put her concerns in writing. Action Councillor Jordan
1.	Apologies for Absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Ford, Swinburn and Neal.
2.	Declaration of Interest There were no Declaration of Interests.
3.	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2022 The minutes were signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.
4.	Matters Arising Update on Information / Story Board Cllr Gray advised that there had been no progress, however the Contractor has agreed to produce a 'mock up' for approval by the end of March 2023.

	<p>Dog Notices The Notices have been received and the invoice paid. The notices will be erected shortly.</p> <p>Waste Bins The Clerk (as agreed) has emailed Geoff Cairns of NCC to place the order.</p> <p>Climate Change Update Cllr Gray reported that the combined Ovingham and Ovington Climate Change Group will be attending a Climate Change event in Hexham and will hold another meeting shortly afterwards.</p> <p>Village Appraisal Cllr Jordon advised that the Clerk will be writing a summary report on the Short and Long Term Plans achieved so far following analysis of the Village Appraisal. Action Plans have been updated</p> <p>Action The Clerk /Councillor Jordon</p>
5.	<p>Accounts to pay/paid since previous meeting - The following were all agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● P Smith - Clerk Net Salary November 22 - £324.56 (Paid via Cheque) ● P Smith - Clerk Net Salary December 22 - £324.56 (Paid via Cheque) ● D Jordon - Expenses re plants for village - £94.96 (Paid via Cheque) ● D Cuthbert - Petrol Receipts for cutting playing field - £168.87 (Paid via Cheque) ● D Cuthbert - Christmas Gratuity for volunteer grass cutter - £50.00 (Paid via Cheque) ● Tyne Community Learning Trust - Grant for ECO project - £100.00 (Paid via Cheque) ● T Bell - Hedge Cutting - £75.00 (Paid via BACS) ● T Bell - Oct & Nov - £340.00 (Paid via BACS) ● Tynedale Hospice at Home - Grant - £100.00 (Paid via BACS) ● Royal British Legion - Donation re Wreath - £50.00 (Paid via BACS) ● Ovingham & District Choir - Section 137 Grant - £100.00 (Paid via BACS) ● HAGS - Zip Wire Inspection - £540.00 (Paid via BACS)
6.	<p>Budget The Clerk gave brief details of the Parish Council Budget position.</p>
7.	<p>Final Precept After discussion it was unanimously agreed to keep the Precept for 23/24 at £15,300 pa and use reserves to fund any additional expenditure required.</p>
8.	<p>Planning Applications Cllr Gray advised that with regard to the two Northumbrian Water applications listed below, he had recently attended a site meeting with Northumbrian Water and didn't envisage any issues with the applications, therefore OPC will not be providing a comment.</p> <p>Installation of 2 kiosks - Pump House Ovingham Northumberland NE42 6HL Ref. No: 22/03997/FUL Received: Thu 27 Oct 2022 Validated: Tue 15 Nov 2022 Status: Registered</p> <p>Erection of construction compounds and associated works  Land South West And East Of Pump House Ovingham Northumberland NE42 6HL Ref. No: 22/03641/FUL Received: Tue 04 Oct 2022 Validated: Wed 09 Nov 2022 Status: Registered</p> <p>OPC propose 'No comment' to the application at 1 Wheatfield Close</p> <p>Demolition of existing brick single garage and erection of new timber double garage.  1 Wheatfield Close Ovingham Northumberland NE42 6BA Ref. No: 22/03374/FUL Received: Thu 15 Sep 2022 Validated: Thu 06 Oct 2022 Status: Registered</p>

	<p>Cllr Gray also reviewed the following application and followed up a complaint from a resident related to trees and hedges being cut back on the Highways verge.</p> <p>Siting of additional 14no. holiday units in existing caravan park (Amended description 10/05/2022). </p> <p>Land North Of The Hermitage Main Road Ovingham Northumberland Ref. No: 21/05006/FUL Received: Fri 24 Dec 2021 Validated: Fri 24 Dec 2021 Status: Registered</p> <p>Cllr Gray also mentioned an additional (recent) application OPC had received regarding No.3 Nunnykirk. This application needed further consideration and review before OPC can comment.</p>
9.	<p>Standing Orders and Finance Policy</p> <p>OPC Standing Orders and Finance Policy documents were reviewed and some minor alterations agreed. The Clerk agreed to amend the Policies and circulate the revised documents.</p> <p>Action The Clerk</p>
10.	<p>Village Environment and Action Plan Update</p> <p>Cllr Jordon reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phase 2 Water Scheme – work to install a new culvert and trash screen in Cooks field has been delayed until early February ● Blocked Gullies had been reported to NCC ● Grit Bins - Salt has been ordered and delivered by NCC ● The NCC road sweeper is currently out of Action. ● Various pot holes have been reported to NCC ● There are problems with the Pavilion door, which will need to be replaced. Cllr Jordon has approached Bentleys to ask if they will fund this. ● Unsightly concrete barriers at - Cllr Jordon has asked Bentleys if they will provide some trees to improve the appearance of the area. ● Tree planting –The planting of 22 trees on the middle of the north bank of the playing field to form a copse, originally planned for November 2021, was put on hold but is now planned for early February. NCC workforce and volunteers will be involved in the planting ● Moles in the playing field - Cllr Jordon has contacted two contractors for a quote to remove the moles ● Fire Extinguishers at the Pavilion - will be checked later in January ● Road closure due to removal of Portacabin - a posting will be made nearer the time, to remind residents.
11.	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>Reading Room</p> <p>Cllr Jackson was unable to attend the latest meeting, however she reported that she had been appointed Chair of the Goose Fair Committee and is looking forward to working with volunteers to organise the popular event</p> <p>Essity</p> <p>The next meeting is in May.</p> <p>Ovingham Joint Burial Committee</p> <p>Cllr Jordon reported hedges and shrubs on the cemetery drive are to be reduced in height and width to improve vehicle access. Further repairs are to be carried out in the lodge including installing a larger loft hatch. A new tenancy agreement has been agreed for the lodge.</p>

	<p>East Tynedale Community Forum The next meeting is 31st January 2023</p> <p>Orchard Group No update.</p> <p>Allotments Association The Allotments Association intends to apply to the Woodland Trust for funding of a new hedge. OPC agreed that the hedge could be planted, on the understanding it is maintained by the Allotments Association.</p> <p>Playing Fields No update had been received re the proposed OPFA. Cllr Jordon pointed out the OPFA Constitution had been slightly amended, Cllr. Ford is organising a meeting to discuss this further. During Cllr Fords absence inspections of pavilion and field will be carried out by Cllr.Gray.</p>
12.	<p>Correspondence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Email from Guy Opperman's Office was discussed during the County Councillors Report. 2. The Clerk reported that OPC had received an email from a resident regarding a concrete fire hydrant post that had been damaged. The resident had reported it to NCC and copied OPC in for information. This was noted as being welcome and the correct procedure. 3. The Clerk reported that OPC had received an email regarding the proposed appointment of a 'Bicycle Mayor' for the area. The email has been circulated to OPC Councillors for consideration.
13.	<p>Tenders for the Playing Fields and Parish Council The completed tenders were discussed by OPC and decisions made as to who to award the new contracts to. The decisions remain 'Commercial In Confidence' until the Clerk has written to the tenderers to advise them of the decisions. Action The Clerk</p>
14.	<p>Any other business as considered urgent by the Chair The Chair advised that at the next OPC meeting in March Rental Agreements will be reviewed. The Chair also proposed that at the next meeting OPC discuss reducing the number of meetings to 8 (instead of the current 9) with no meeting being held in June.</p>
15.	<p>To confirm the date of the next meeting as 16th March 2023 - Agreed.</p>

Chair

Signature