

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs G.M. Harper
Clerk

51 Piper Road
Ovingham
Northumberland
NE42 6AZ

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 December 2009 at 7.00 p.m at Rosemount, the home of Councillor Jordon..

Present Councillors M Turnbull (Chair), D Jordon and J Jackson,

1. Apologies were received from Councillors P Holden, P Macdonald, M Morton and V Mennear
2. Declarations of interest - None
3. The Minutes of the last meeting, were taken as read and approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising

Interactive Speed Signs

The tree obscuring the pole on Castle View has not been cut back. The clerk had received lengthy correspondence from Mrs Stewart who had objections to where the pole on Castle View had been placed. The clerk had responded to her, pointing out that it had been placed at this position at the recommendation of Alan Bawn NCC. Councillor Holden had also received correspondence and had offered to reply to Mrs Stewart. Those councillors present saw no reason to install the monitoring equipment but this could be raised at another meeting when further information was available.

Wall opposite school Councillor Jackson will speak with the owner concerning the tree.

Purchase of Strimmer This has now been purchased and seemed to be very efficient.

Blocked culverts at packhorse bridge The culverts had been inspected and reported that no culverts were blocked. The clerk to write and ask if some of the gravel which was stopping the flow could be removed.

Hedges at Greengates Following an accident, Adrian Jackson had been unable to carry out the work but would do so when he was fully recovered.

5. Village Maintenance/Parish Plan

Trees North Meadow No work has yet been carried out. The clerk to contact NCC

The clerk will monitor all items on the list and pursue completion

6. Playing Field

Further input from the Middle School has been received and costings are being prepared. The final application has to be submitted by 8 January 2010. The Pavilion and Playing Field User Group has been offered £750 from NCC Community Chest and further grants will be sought.

7. Precept The proposed budget was accepted and it was agreed that the precept be submitted as the past three years at £15,000

8. Planning 1 Dukes Cottages – Provision of roof windows – approved

The Hermitage – Retrospective change from caravan to chalet – approved

9. Accounts to pay/paid All approved for payment

Strimmer for playing field - £120.00

Reading Room – Rent for November - £15.00

Clerk's Salary and expenses - £553.42

Mole Clearing - £80.00

10. Correspondence

Letter received from Mrs Kate Halford requesting that practice time be approved for the ringing of the Church bells between 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. on a Friday. The Council whilst approving of the ringing appreciated that some residents might complain. If the Council did receive complaints the timing would be reassessed. The clerk to write to Mrs Halford.

A letter had been received from David Milburn of North Meadow reporting that the fence had collapsed. Councillor Jordon reported that this was in hand and the work carried out when Adrian Jackson recovers.

Hexham Courant is offering all parish councils the opportunity to submit 200 words to publicize their area in the 2010 Tynedale Visitor magazine. Councillor Holden had undertaken this in the past and would be requested to do so again.

11. Committee Reports The Burial Board had met and Adrian Jackson has been given the grounds maintenance contract for a further year. An estimate of £1,903.86 to repair the North fence with post and rail fencing had been accepted. Following this, the donation of trees will be planted. Topple testing had been started and problems with rent for the lodge had been resolved.

Councillor Holden had submitted figures for visitors to the web site. Unique visitors for December were 53.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 January 2010 at 7.15 p.m. in the Reading Room

Councillor Jordon was thanked for her hospitality and there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

1st-31st DECEMBER 2009

EXPENDITURE

| | £ |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Reading Room – Rent October | 15.00 |
| T Bell – Strimmer and Harness | 120.00 |
| G Harper - Salary and expenses | 553.42 |
| Bug Off Pest Control (moles) | 80.00 |
| Northumberland Water | 16.16 |
| | ————— |
| | £ 784.58 |
| | ===== |

INCOME

| | NIL |
|-----------------|------------|
| Opening Balance | 26,210.41 |
| Expenditure | 784.58 |
| Closing Balance | £25,425.83 |
| Deposit Account | 14,956.29 |
| Grand Total | £40,382.12 |

No VAT to be claimed this month

Grand Total £41,166.70

VAT to be claimed this month £12.87