

## OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs G.M. Harper  
Clerk

51 Piper Road  
Ovingham  
Northumberland  
NE42 6AZ

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 December 2008 at 7.15 p.m at Rosemount, the home of Councillor Jordon.

Present Councillors M Turnbull (Chair), D Jordan, M Morton, V Mennear, P Holden and R Benjamin

1. Apologies were received from Councillors J Jackson and P Macdonald
2. Declarations of interest – Councillor Jordon declared an interest in the retrospective planning application
3. The Minutes of the last meeting, were taken as read and signed.

#### 4. Matters Arising

##### Interactive Speed Signs

The clerk had written to Solagen and informed them the poles were in place and installation could now take place.

##### Land Registry

Councillor Holden had received information from Ian Selby that it was likely that Northumberland County Council had mistakenly registered land owned by Ovingham Parish Council and would amend their records.

##### Cycling signs on Bridge

The signs have been ordered

##### Flooding

No information was available concerning the drainage problem which Councillor Macdonald had agreed to look into. Mr Ian Hodge of the Environment Agency had agreed to attend the meeting on 15 January. The meeting would be opened to the public

##### Pavilion Repair

Repairs have been carried out to the ceiling but the lighting was still to complete. Carpetting had not been done. Alianz have queried why the drains did not cope with the water. Councillor Holden will respond.

##### Award Grants Section 106

Councillor Holden was concerned that there was still no progress on procuring the money for this award and will follow it up.

#### 5. Village Action Plan 2008/9.

Two quotations had been received to prune back the trees at the Parish Gardens. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Tyne Valley Woodlands Consultancy in the sum of £400 + VAT. It was agreed that the lessees of the gardens would be informed that these trees were being pruned back as a goodwill gesture but that all future pruning should be carried out by themselves.

#### 6. Churchyard Wall

The clerk had received a letter and photographs concerning the poor state of the Churchyard wall. She had passed these on to Tynedale. The Councillors thought that some immediate action should be taken and the clerk was asked to write to the PCC to see if they, too, could write about the poor condition.

#### 7. Conservation Area Appraisal

The document had been circulated. The Councillors agreed to the extension of the conservation area. The Councillors thought that when commenting back some mention should be made back on the

dreadful state of the paths throughout the village.

#### 8. Precept

The precept was discussed and Councillor Mennear proposed and Councillor Holden seconded that the Precept should remain at £15,000

#### 9. Accounts to Pay/Paid

Tynedale Council – Emptying of Dog Waste Bin £299.23

G Harper – Salary and expenses September – December £522.78

#### 10. Donations

As Councillor Jackson was not at the meeting it was not known whether Age Concern was still active in the village. The request for a donation was held over to the next meeting.

11. Planning Applications Wellborn Cottage – Retrospective application for 6 lighting columns and two brick gateposts. The Council has registered their objection

#### 12. Freedom of Information Act

Documentation had been received concerning the Freedom of Information. Publicity concerning the release of information has to be made available by 1<sup>st</sup> January. It was thought that much of the information was already held on the village web site. Councillor Jordon will take all the literature and discuss with other Councils how they are proceeding..

#### 13. Dog Fouling

The clerk had reported to Tynedale the dreadful state of dog fouled pavements. A reply had been received from Mr Dowson. He would be willing to talk to a Parish Council, but the Councillors did not think this would be productive. He also suggested that he be accompanied by one of the Councillors when next in the village. He would be informed the whole village needed to be watched but the worst offenses seem to occur on the bridge.

#### 14. Correspondence

Tyne Valley Community Rail Partnership The Council was not happy with the idea of a 2 ft x 3 ft notice on the wall by the Reading Room. They were not certain as to what information would be contained in it.

Allocation of Beacon and LPSA Grants. Ovingham has been awarded £1,700

#### 15. Committee Reports

Councillor Mennear reported that the Burial Committee had met and awarded Adrian Jackson the grounds maintenance contract for a further year. The problem with the drains has been solved.

Much discussion had taken place at the Reading Room Committee Meeting concerning the cutting back of the vegetation to the bridge entrance. The Committee was not in agreement to doing any work to the vegetation. The clerk will write to Mel Richardson asking if he can help in any way.

#### Any Other Business

Councillor Holden reported that he had endeavored to get a new village map for the notice board. The cost will be approximately £80.

A progress report was requested concerning the damaged fencing at the Packhorse Bridge. No information was available though it was known that the police were handling the matter.

Councillor Kelly would be asked at the next meeting whether there was any progress on the double yellow lines on Horsley Road

Date and Venue for the Next Meeting 16 January 2009 at 7.15 p.m. in the Reading Room

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

1<sup>st</sup>-31st DECEMBER 2008

INCOME

Tynedale District Council 1,700.00

EXPENDITURE

G Harper – Expenses and Salary 522.78

Northumberland Water 26.31

Tynedale Council – Emptying Dog Waste 299.23

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848.32

Opening Balance 27,295.09

Income 1,700.00

Expenditure 848.32

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Closing Balance 28,146.77

Deposit Account 14,894.51

Interest Deposit Account 49.82

Grand Total 43,091.10

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VAT to be claimed this month £39.03