

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs G.M. Harper
Clerk

51 Piper Road
Ovingham
Northumberland
NE42 6AZ

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24 June 2010 at 7.15 p.m. in the Reading Room
Present Councillors M Turnbull (Chair), D Jordon, P Holden, V Mennear, J Jackson, R Benjamin
P Kelly (NCC) PC Charlie Cross and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies were received from Councillor Macdonald
2. Declarations of interest - Planning Application Councillor Mennear
3. The Minutes of the last meeting, were taken as read approved and signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

Flooding Culvert Inspection

Equipment had been brought in to clear the culverts and it had been reported that the culverts had been cleared. It was considered that increased water flow would clear the culvert. However Bob Klotz did not consider that they had been cleared sufficiently. There was still 60% of the middle culvert blocked and he will contact Mel Richardson at the same time as he reports a blockage to the water board.

Council Charter

Nothing to report as Councillor Macdonald was not present

Tree Clearance Bewick Lane

Councillor Jordon has arranged a meeting with Ian Brown

Parking at Rear of Church

No meeting had been held but PC Cross gave his considered opinion that in the event of any emergency the emergency vehicles would get through, even if it meant shunting any vehicles causing an obstruction. He pointed out that there was no data which would lead the police to take any action (no accidents) and he pointed out that the corner at the main road served as a good speed regulator. The clerk will write to Paul Jones, Waste Management asking whether they do have problems emptying the bins. When questioned whether there was anything which could be done for long term parking PC Cross pointed out that as there was no restrictions at the rear of the church, there was nothing which could be done though he was informed of the poor condition of a van parked at the rear and he will watch to see if it looked dangerous when being driven.

The clerk will write to Mel Richardson again asking if it would be possible to mark parking bays and whether a one-way system would be beneficial.

It was pointed out that the notice at the bottom of River View which said "Parking for Residents Only" was in fact without authority and had probably been put there to deter parking from the pub. There was nothing to stop parking at the area which had been reinstated by Councillor Kelly. It was agreed that nothing would be done about this for the time being.

Representative East Tynedale Forum

Councillor Benjamin Proposed by Councillor Jordon and seconded by Councillor Holden Agreed

Land at Rear of Irving Place

The clerk had written to Milecastle Housing suggesting that the derelict land be made over to allotments. Milecastle Housing are consulting with their assets manager.

Council Tax

The clerk had been informed by NCC that no Charity Discretionary Relief could be made as the Council was a precept charging authority. Councillor Kelly pointed out that the pavilion was run by the Ovingham Pavilion and Playing Field User Group and had a managing committee. This

committee had sought grants in the past and, therefore, should be eligible for the charity relief grant. The pavilion is properly managed by the body which runs the pavilion and is subsidized by the Parish Council. The clerk will write to Dale Kirk, the Business Rates Team Leader.

Tree Vandalism at Jordon's Well

Similar damage had been caused in Wylam and PC Cross reported that it was spreading throughout the area, especially at Whittle Dean. Councillor Jordon reported that there had been fires lit and venison barbecued. She asked that a regular patrol be made. PC Cross reported that although patrols were not being carried out at the moment they would be made in the near future as the summer progressed and the holidays commenced. He did urge that any problems be reported immediately to the police as they cannot act on just anecdotal problems.

Wall at Dene House

The clerk had had no reply to her letter to Planning requesting a visit to the unsightly wall but will write again. Councillor Jackson will speak to the owner.

5. Playbuilder

Councillor Holden was waiting for one further quotation and when this is completed will circulate them to all the Councillors. The quotations will have to go to Playbuilder as the main sponsor. The £100 had been sent to Planning Department but there has been no action from them. Councillor Holden will chase. Councillor Holden has prepared a powerpoint demonstration to be given to The Middle School.

6. Youth Service

Councillor Jordon had attended a meeting to discuss funding and future of the Youth Service in the Area. Since the retirement of George McCreedy, followed by staff vacancies for several reasons the provision of youth services in the area had become very poor. Councillor Kelly had written 16 June to the Leader of Northumberland County Council pointing out the problems and seeking his opinion and the hope that there will be support from Councils. It is hoped to provide a flexible mobile outreach service in the form of a caravan to provide attractive options to the young people.

Councillor Holden felt there were centres that were available to young people but they don't really like buildings and the main problem is management.

Councillor Kelly circulated a comprehensive report on finance, performance and budget. He also informed the meeting it is hoped that the Tyne Riverside Building will become once again an outdoor activity centre with equipment, such as bicycles, brought in from Blyth.

7. Accounts to pay/paid

Approval was given to pay the following accounts:

J Pringle & Son, via PL Holden transmission and hydraulic oil and diesel - £54.31

Clerk's Salary £521.00 and expenses £73.38

Ovingham Reading Room – Rent May £15.00

David Dixon Tri Head Cut Pavilion - £29.12

Doreen Jordon – Environmental Project £223.00

Aon Limited – Insurance £1033.10

Aon Pavilion Insurance £910.39

Tom Heppel – Internal Audit £50

8. Planning Applications

8 The Terrace Ovingham Construction replacement sun room – Granted permission

4 The Hill Construction two storey side extension – No objections

5 The Terrace Construct dining room extension – No objections

9. Correspondence

Dr Frizzell had written a letter to NCC complaining about the noise of the bridge plating and also the condition of the paintwork etc. Councillor Kelly pointed out that budget restrictions made any improvements to the bridge unlikely. It was pointed out that Councillor Macdonald had reported last meeting that a full inspection was to be made.

10. Committee Reports

Councillor Holden had attended the governors' meeting at Prudhoe High School where the youth work and caravan had been discussed.

Councillor Mennear reported that she had been re-elected as Chairman of the Burial Committee and Maureen Gillis from Wylam Vice Chairman. The Committee has changed their insurance company and the chapel had been cleared out.

Councillor Jordon reported that there is to be a public meeting in the Reading Room to discuss the provision of a new heating system. The Film Club meets on Friday. There will be a craft fair in December and a jumble sale in October. A quiz will also be held in October.

Councillor Kelly distributed a full report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

He reported that although Morpeth Planning had no problems the Hexham Planning Department was experiencing staffing problems.

Any Other Business

Councillor Holden requested a further litter bin on the pavilion in order that plastic bottles could be recycled, rather than going to land-fill. The Clerk will write to NCC

It was reported that there was a broken kerb at Burnside (next to the dropped kerb). It was thought that this had been caused by reversing heavy lorries who turned there when losing their way. The clerk to write to SCA, Salem Tubes and J Thompsons explaining that a lot of drivers lose their way because sat.navs do not take into consideration the width problem of the bridge.

It was reported that the packhorse bridge needs repointing and the footings seem to be moving

Councillor Holden reported that there had been 100 hits for the web site.

Councillor Jordon reported that there was glass missing in the telephone box and the telephone not working. She also reported that some of the flowers she had planted had been stolen soon after planting. Replacement plants had also been lifted.

PC Cross reported that crime was down this year by 400 cases though in the future these crimes were to be split into three types. He had problems with one 4-person gang but in general the young people in this area do not pose a problem.

The next meeting will be held in the Reading Room at 7.15 p.m. on Thursday 15 July

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

1ST-30TH JUNE 2010

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	£
Ovingham Reading Room – Rent May	15.00
David Dixon – Tri Head Cut	29.12
D Jordon – Environmental Project - Flowers	223.88
Aon Limited – Insurance	1,033.10
Aon Limited Pavilion Insurance	910.39
T Heppel	50.00
J Pringle & Son Trans and Hyd Oil	40.00
P Holden	14.31
G Harper Salary	521.00
Expenses	73.38
Northumberland Water	<u>25.87</u>
	2,936.05
<u>INCOME</u>	
Toddlers Group	20.00
Opening Balance	41,196.27
Expenditure	2,936.05
Income	20.00
Closing Balance	38280.22
Deposit Account	<u>14,956.29</u>
Closing Balance	<u>£53,236.56</u> =====

VAT to be reclaimed £8.54