

## OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs G.M. Harper  
Clerk

51 Piper Road  
Ovingham  
Northumberland  
NE42 6AZ

---

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 March 2011 at 7.15 p.m. in the Reading Room  
Present Councillors M Turnbull (Chair), D Jordon, V Mennear, P Holden, P Macdonald, I. Heslop,  
R Benjamin and J Jackson and 3 members of the public

1. Apologies Councillor Paul Kelly (NCC)
2. Declarations of interest - None
3. The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and accepted and signed
- 4.. Matters Arising

### Grazing Land .

The field had been ploughed and fenced . The clerk to write to Adrian Jackson complimenting him on the work carried out. The cost of the fencing was ?500 and approved for payment. The clerk to invoice the Allotment Association for half of the cost, i.e. £250.

### Fencing at village approach

The clerk had not received any response from Highways

### Postbox

The Councillors had no response as to the future of the post box.

### Clerk Vacancy

Two applicants had submitted CVs for the post

### Rights of Way

Tim Fish had contacted Tyne River Trust. The Council will keep an eye on the banking and raise the matter again when the weather improves.

### Blocked Gutter

Although the gutters had been cleared, nothing has been done to the drains. . The clerk will write again to NCC

### Auditor

Richard Gilbert had agreed to audit the accounts. The clerk to ask him what is his fee

## 5. Playbuilder

NCC has organized a RoSPA inspection When the equipment has been inspected the young people can use it.. The Middle School have planted bulbs, sown seeds and planted trees. The Hexham Courant who had agreed to come and take photographs had not done so. However Councillor Holden had some photographs which can be used. £13,000 from the Developers Fund Home Housing to be released. £730 to be transferred to the new account, leaving £20 in the old account. Apart from the provision of a tree trunk the work is almost complete and should be finished by the end of March.

## 6. Donations

Councillor Holden supplied a list of equipment etc. which needed replacing for the pavilion.

Replacement of two external PIR flood lights on the pavilion (approximately £10 each)

Provide and install two wire cages to cover these lights (£30 each)

Labour charges for this work

Repair/replace 2 Vent-Axia units in the changing rooms (£40 each)

Repair/replace emergency exit light in changing rooms (£20)

Replace fluorescent light fitting in kitchen (£25)

Labour charges.

Councillor Jackson proposed and Councillor Jordon seconded that these should be carried out and the hire of a cherry picker to replace faulty basketball court flood light unit should be funded next year.

This was carried unanimously

#### 7. Village Plan

Notices had been placed on the two notice boards but no response had been received

#### 9. Planning Applications

Greengates Horsley Road refused permission

4 The Hill construction of two storey side extension Appeal made against refused permission.

#### 11. Accounts to pay/paid

Approval was given to pay the following accounts

Grass Cutting £1,036.18 (refund of £21.59 to be received)

Adrian Jackson £45 for fencing Horsley Road and cutting back ivy

Northumbrian Landscaping £18,000 playbuilder project

Ovingham Reading Room £15.00 Rent for February

Northumbrian Estates Rent £250

G Harper Salary and expenses Jan March £556.00

#### 10. Tenancy Agreements

Rents for the two gardens and the grazing land are due 1<sup>st</sup> April. It was agreed that the tenancy agreements should retain the clause for the pruning back of trees being the responsibility of the person renting the gardens. It was agreed that the rent for the allotments should increase January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 to ?100 and that the Association would pay £50 for the remainder of this year. The grazing land rent would be increased to £100 from 1<sup>st</sup> April. 2012. When requesting the rent for this year the clerk will point out that the rent for the gardens is very low.

#### 11. Flooding Reports

Councillor Holden talked on the Strategic Land Assessment Policy which is due soon and which gives details of land which could be included for building, especially social housing. However Ken Rusby had pointed out that no consideration had been taken into account that the fields on the Castle View Estate had not been maintained properly to prevent flooding. Tynedale District Council had written to Northumbrian Estates pointing out that no land management had been carried out to prevent flooding. The clerk was asked to write to ask why this had not been done.. Councillor McDonald pointed out that residents had planted trees, the roots of which had penetrated the drainage system. These had been cleared at great expense

#### 12. Environmental Clean Up

The clerk had received the paperwork and posters etc. for the litter pick. Green Ovingham had originally agreed to carry out the litter pick but had subsequently decided not to do so. The Middle School in conjunction with Green Ovingham had agreed to do this. Councillor Jordon wished it minuted that she was not happy with this change of direction.

#### 13. Correspondence.

The clerk had received two surveys for completion. The first was. consultation concerning the licensing policy for sex establishments and the second taxi licensing. The Councillors thought that neither of these were applicable to Ovingham

#### 14. Committee Reports

Councillor Holden reported on the High School Governors' Meeting where three new Advance Practitioners had been appointed for youth work in the area. John Smith is preparing a package which will be circulated to parishes in order that they can budget for next year

Councillor Jordon reported on the Reading Room Committee where more repairs need to be done. A

crack in the lintel over the door into the Blackett Rroom was giving concern, as was the floor in the big hall. The drama group were concerned that it was not strong enough to take the weight of the stage.

The Raffle was going well, with tickets being sold £1 each or books of five for £5. The Committee had received £1,500 from the community chest towards the heating system and were putting together a request for lottery funding.

Councillor Benjamin reported that work on the new library was to commence 1<sup>st</sup> April, when the old building would be demolished with rebuilding to follow

The burial board had met and trees had been inspected. Two were diseased and had to be removed Other trees needed pruning. Damp at the lodge needed treatment and Adrian Jackson had retained the contract for grounds maintenance. Trees had been planted on the North Corner and a formal contract had been made for the superintendent.

#### 15. Any Other Business

The clerk had received a complaint regarding subsidence on Castle View. The Councillors agreed that the road was dangerous and the clerk was asked to write to Highways expressing the Council? concern.

An influx of moles is giving concern. The clerk to request the mole catcher to visit and clear at the playing field and the packhorse green.

Councillor Holden had looked at the two notice boards and agreed they were in poor state of repair. The clerk to write for quotations to supply new boards.

The next meeting will be at 7.15 on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011 in the Reading Room

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

### MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE MARCH 2011

#### EXPENDITURE

Northumbrian Estates - Rent for Playing Field	£250.00
Clerk - Salary and Expenses	556.00
Adrian Jackson Fencing at Grazing Land	500.00
Northumbrian Water	<u>29.13</u>
	£1,335.13

#### INCOME

G Harper - Reimbursement of cheque paid in error	21.59
Allotment Association - Rent	300.00
NCC - reimbursement of VAT - to be repaid	<u>21.59</u>
	£343.18
	=====

Opening Balance	£16,228.96
Expenditure	1,335.13.
Income	343.18
Closing Balance	£15,237.01
Deposit Account	14,069.21
Grand Total	£30,205.22

=====

No VAT to be reclaimed this month.

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2010/2011

<u>INCOME</u>	£
Pavilion Toddler's Group	46.00
Football Fees	450.00
Precept	15,000.00
Rents	435.00
Council Tax Rebate	111.62
Wayleave Payment	45.52
VAT Refund (including £43.18 NCC error)	88.70
Playbuilder Grants	56,000.00
Environmental Project	<u>600.00</u>

£73,141.46

Brought Forward from 2009/2010	22,770.36
Deposit account	<u>14,968.21</u>

Total	£110,880.03
-------	-------------

=====

### EXPENDITURE

General Administration	2,346.59
Clerk's Salary	2,085.00
OPFA	5,354.10
Grants	300.00
Environmental Project	417.87
Grass Cutting	863.48
Village Maintenance	731.21
Precept Burial Board	2,250.00
Playbuilder	54,797.93
VAT (to be reclaimed)	<u>11,528.63</u>

Total	£80,674.81
-------	------------

=====

Carried forward to 2011/12 (including deposit account)	£30,205.22
--	------------