

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs G.M. Harper
Clerk

51 Piper Road
Ovingham
Northumberland
NE42 6AZ

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 May 2009 at 7.15 p.m in the Reading Room.

Present Councillors M Turnbull (Chair), D Jordan, P Macdonald, P Holden, J Jackson, V Mennear and two members of the public

1. Apologies were received from Councillor M Morton

2. Declarations of interest - None

3. The Minutes of the last meeting, were taken as read and signed.

It was agreed that item 3 on the agenda would be held over until after the Annual Parish Meeting had been held. At 8.00 the ordinary meeting was adjourned in order to hold the Annual Parish Meeting

4. Matters Arising

Interactive Speed Signs

James Halewood of Solagen had inspected the two remaining poles and thought the one on Castle View could be obstructed by the low hanging tree branch. That on Horsley Road seemed to be O.K. and the clerk will write to Solagen requesting they move the light.

Village Map

The map was complete and waiting for the joiner to return from holiday in order that the board could be made. The Council approved a varnished finish.

Ovingham/Wylam road – Provision of Safety Barrier

The clerk had received a letter from Alan Bawn in which he said any feasibility study to provide more footpaths would have to come out of the finance budget. Councillor Macdonald reported that a tree had come down before the entry to Wylam and this would cause the pathway to be lessened still more.

Parking Horsley Road

Mel Richardson had written that it was indeed illegal to park on the verges but there was little that could be done. It was the police that had to enforce the law. Councillor Macdonald will arrange a meeting with Mr Richardson on site

Graffiti.

Councillor Jackson gave the name of the person responsible for the removal of graffiti to the Clerk who will contact him. Councillor Holden requested that graffiti be removed from the pavilion.

Electoral Boundary

The clerk had written to the Chief Executive expressing the Council's disagreement with the new boundary division. She had received no reply. Councillor Macdonald was disappointed that our Northumberland County Councillor had supported the new division. The clerk was asked to write to Councillor Kelly.

Tenancy Agreements

The clerk had requested help from David Francis with the updating of the agreements. She has had no reply and will write again

5. Wall at the Old Vicarage..

Dr Atkinson had attended the meeting to express concern at a large crack which had appeared in his wall at the right of way footpath from Main Road to the Village Green. He was concerned because of the people using it at the Goose Fair. Councillors Macdonald and Jordan had met with the County Building Officer, Ian Mason, who had inspected the crack and whilst agreeing it was a large crack thought it offered no danger to the public. The Chairman had visited the site and did not think there was a problem. Providing Dr Atkinson received Ian Mason's assurance that the wall was safe he was

happy that the lane would not need to be closed.. It was pointed out that the Parish Council had no power to stop the use of the lane. The Chairman thanked Dr Atkinson for his concern and attendance at the meeting.

6. Village Action Plan 2008/9.

Councillor Jordon had met again with Ian Brown and reported that a contractor from Durham will cut back the hedges and remove the litter. The work will commence in about three weeks.

Councillor Jordon had removed the dead ivy and had met with Paul Hindmarsh who had inspected the trees in the churchyard. Branches of the yew tree and the sycamore will be removed. Other trees will be cut back later. The laurel bushes have been trimmed back and weed killing had been done. The road sweeper has been in the village.

It was noted that a tree had been cut down at the bottom of Horsley Road and a stump remained.

7. Risk Assessment

The risk assessment was accepted unchanged Proposed by Councillor Jackson and seconded by Councillor Macdonald and agreed unanimously

8. Planning.

The clerk had received a planning application for the removal of a cherry tree at Forge House. The Council had no objections. This had been received via Councillor Kelly and the Council expressed their concern that this was the way that in future planning applications would be considered.

9. Accounts to pay/paid

Approval to pay the following accounts was given.

Hexham Courant – Insertion for Annual Meeting - £37.66

Northumberland Association of Local Councils – Annual Subscription - £160.62

Allianz Insurance – Insurance - £927.34

Aon Limited – Pavilion Insurance - £866.89

Ovingham Reading Room – Rent April - £15.00

Npower – electricity pavilion - £187.15S

Society of Local Council Clerks – Book - £9.40

D Jordon – Environmental Project £40.00

D Jordon – expenses - £26.99

P Holden – Diesel - £22.20

10 Finance

The Accounts for 2009/2010 were approved and signed by The Chairman and the Responsible Finance Officer. Mr Hepple having agreed to undertake the internal audit, the relevant documentation had been reviewed and complied with audit requirements.

11. Correspondence

Letter from Paul Jones, Head of Waste concerning the implementation of changes to the garden waste collection service. The Council was disappointed that the charge of £20 was to be made. It was pointed out that that more notice should have been given as the decision to make a charge was accepted February 2009.

Northumberland County Council Area Committees – details of meetings. Meeting dates were circulated .

CE Electric UK will provide emergency telephones for those in need of treatment. The clerk will write for copies of the forms and publicize the service in the Church Magazine – also on the notice boards

The mobile library timing is changing. Notices are on the notice boards

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Loss of Amenity land on Piper Road Estate. Northumberland County Council are continuing their enforcement appeal and had written as the Council is a concerned party

East Tynedale Community Forum details of data base and web site – Councillor Benjamin agreed to

take the documents and pass to the clerk necessary information.

12. Committee Reports

East Tynedale Community Forum – Councillor Benjamin had attended the meeting which had been mainly concerned with management, publicity, the web site, the boundary and a data base . Councillor Macdonald expressed concern that funding would only be for the management of the forum and there would not be funding to do anything constructive.

All other committee reports were presented as part of the Annual Meeting

14. Any Other Business

The clerk was asked to contact Milecastle Housing requesting they cut back the hawthorn bush at Bewick Lane (Tyne Gardens end). A conifer in the garden of the last house on Tyne Gardens also needs cutting.

The wall on the path on the opposite side to the school is again giving cause for concern. The clerk to contact the owner of the land. Councillor Jackson will ask Adrian Jackson to speak to the owner. Councillor Jordon requested that the Village Action Plan be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

The ordinary meeting resumed at 8.35 with Item 3 on the agenda – Election of Officers.

Election of Chairman: Councillor Turnbull Proposed by Councillor Holden

Seconded by Councillor Menear

There being no other nominations Councillor Turnbull was elected unanimously

Election of Vice Chairman Councillor Jordon Proposed by Councillor Menear

Seconded by Councillor Macdonald

There being no other nominations Councillor Jordon was elected unanimously

Committee Representatives were approved

Reading Room – Councillor Jordon

Burial Committee – Councillor Menear

Councillor Macdonald

Prudhoe Community High School Governor – Councillor Holden

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The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 16 July at 7.15 p.m. in the Reading Room.

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

MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

OVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

1ST – 31ST MAY 2009

EXPENDITURE

Hexham Courant – Insertion Annual General Meeting	37.66	
NALC – Annual Membership		160.62
Allianz Insurance		927.34
Aon Limited – Pavilion Insurance		866.89
Reading Room – Rent April		15.00
nPower Electricity Pavilion		187.15
SLCC – Clerk’s Instruction Book		9.40
D Jordon (village maintenance, phone calls and Environmental project		66.99
P Holden – Diesel		22.20
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		£2,293.25

INCOME

J Hooley – Field Rent		55.00
A Armstrong – Field Rent		55.00
J Robson - Garden Rent		20.00
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		£130.00

Opening Balance		£23,941.70
Expenditure		2,293.25
Income		130.00
Closing Balance		£21,778.45
Deposit Account		14,944.33
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Grand Total		£36,722.78

VAT to be claimed this month £13.82