



Minutes of the Oving Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th January 2023 at 7.15pm at the Village Hall, Oving

Present: Cllr Ambrose McGinn (Chair) Cllr Trish Perkins (Vice-Chair)
Sue Severn (Clerk) Cllr Mark Cheetham
Cllr Ben Glover

In attendance: Phil Gomm (Buckinghamshire Councillor)
Sharon Matheou (Hall Manager)
Laura Williams (Minutes)
17 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Walker-Smith.

2. Open Forum

Football club consultation

A village consultation period is currently open, seeking views on the proposal by Oving Football Club to hold ladies' league matches on a Sunday on the recreation ground. Sunday football has been proposed and rejected several times over the past 50 years. Parishioners attending the Open Forum expressed the following views (summarised):

- They do not want organised football on a Sunday, regardless of who is playing.
- They consider it will be detrimental to nearby residents.
- They consider that extra use would incur costs to the parish.
- Some were supportive of extra games on other days, and some were worried that extra use would damage the pitch. The pitch is considered to be one of the best in the area and there was concern that it should be looked after.

Cllr McGinn thanked everyone for their views and noted that there have been many responses in writing in response to the consultation, which are being reviewed. No decision will be taken until the consultation period finishes at the end of the month. The decision will be made openly, with further meetings if necessary.

Parking

Concerns were raised from parishioners about obstruction caused by parking for the recreation ground. Although bollards are used to restrict parking, concerns were raised that

Actions

this is pushing the parking (and obstruction) further along the road. Cllr McGinn said that the Parish Council have a constant dialogue with the football club about parking, to resolve concerns. A parishioner noted that North Marston is displaying posters about considerate parking. A copy of a poster will be sent to Oving Parish Council to consider using.

AM

Silver Jubilee Tree Plaque

All

A parishioner requested the plaque for the Silver Jubilee tree be moved from the old location to the replacement tree.

Defibrillator

AM

A parishioner suggested a second defibrillator for the village, to be located near the Black Boy pub. This might be possible with community board funding. It was suggested that the church porch might be a possible location. Cllr McGinn will approach Rev Steve Flashman. It was noted that defibrillators need to be maintained with replacement pads and batteries, and need a power source.

Potholes

A parishioner expressed concern about the pothole/uneven road/large dip in the road on the corner of Church Lane by the church. It had been reported on Fix My Street but had not been resolved. Phil Gomm advised that it should be reported again, and if the report was closed without action, he should be contacted to follow it up.

Update from Buckinghamshire Councillor Phil Gomm

- There are plans to coordinate village speeding monitoring, and to ask the police for more enforcement. Cllr McGinn noted that Oving Parish Council has budgeted for another MVAS machine in 2024/2025.
- Some highway repairs have been made. There still needs to be a drain cover put over the drain on the narrow Bowling Alley pavement near the Reading Room.
- Grants are available for communal warm space events.
- Oving was encouraged to apply for a Community Board grant for any projects.
- Pitchcott Hill farm is looking to run a shop/café at the farm.
- The Rural Crime Commissioner has released funds for villages to have ANPR cameras or CCTV cameras, if required.
- Buckinghamshire council is not bankrupt (some county councils are).

At the end of the Open Forum there was a short break while the attending members of the public left the meeting. Items 9 and 10 were discussed immediately following the break. Phil Gomm left the meeting during item 9 and Cllr Cheetham left at the end of item 10.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Oving Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chair.

5. Planning

There were no applications to consider.

6. Recreation Ground

Football club – see Open Forum.

SS

Play equipment – a company separate from RoSPA are being consulted for advice on safe repairs.

7. Village Hall

The village hall manager's report had been circulated to councillors. Sharon has been managing the hall for a year. There has been an increase in bookings, mainly for children's parties. Sharon will keep nearby residents informed about upcoming events.

A fire safety inspection has been carried out.

Councillors requested a budget to be prepared for 2024/2025 for the village hall. Accounts will be completed to the year end of 31 March 2024 and the next year's budget will be prepared based on these accounts. It was noted that there have been some significant repairs in 2023/2024. The 2024/2025 year is anticipated to be monitoring/maintenance rather than major work.

SM/SS

8. Highways & Speeding

See Open Forum for speeding.

- A Fix My Street request has been made for the drain at the top of Church Lane not draining well.
- Cllr Glover will provide a proposal/quote for repair of the bus shelter on North Marston Hill.
- Cllr McGinn noted that the main road path from Baulk road into Whitchurch was narrow for parents and children walking to school at Whitchurch. The footpath running from the end of Stone View is used as an alternative route. Cllr McGinn will approach the owner of the land the footpath runs through to see if the footpath could be improved. Cllr Glover may be able to help with work/materials if agreed.

BG

BG

AM/BG

9. Finance

- The electronic payment run was approved.
- The accounts to the end of December 2023 were agreed as circulated.
- The 2024/2025 budget was agreed; Sue Severn will circulate the final budget. There will be a carry forward of approximately £10k. The total budget will be £41,196, including £1,378 from reserves to make up a shortfall.
- It was unanimously agreed to increase the precept by 4.92%, to £30,950. This will result in a Band D property paying £131.91 to the parish in 2024/2025.

SS

10. Devolved Services and Ground Maintenance 2024

There have been 2 tenders from companies with the capacity to meet the contract, including RTM who have been the provider for approximately 5 years. Sue Severn recommended the RTM tender to councillors. After a short discussion it was agreed to postpone a decision on which company to use, to allow more time to discuss the particulars of each tender. A decision is needed by the end of January.

All

11. Meetings

Nothing new to report.

12. Dates of the next Parish Council Meetings

Tuesday 19th March 2024

There being no further business, the Chair ended the meeting at 2035h