



**Minutes of the Oving Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th January 2020  
in the Village Hall, Bowling Alley, Oving, HP22 4HD**

**Present:** Cllr McGinn (Chairman) Sue Severn (Clerk)  
Cllr Mark Cheetham Cllr Vanessa Wiggins  
Cllr Trish Perkins Laura Williams (Minutes)

**In Attendance:** Chris Palmer  
John and Trish Ireland

**Action**

**1 Apologies**  
Cllr Matt Winward (Oving), Cllr Janet Blake (BCC), Cllr Scott Raven (AVDC), Linda Nicholls

**2 Open Forum**  
Concern was raised about the overgrown hedge at the corner of New Road and Church Lane. **SS**  
Sue Severn will contact the property owner.

Concern was raised about the environmental impact of lighting at the Village Hall and possible future floodlighting at the tennis courts. There was concern about the lights on the path to the village hall being on all night. It was noted that the Village Hall lights had accidentally been left on all night on a couple of occasions, and that the lights on the path are on a timer to go off at midnight and then come on between 6 and 8 during the winter.

**3 Declarations of interest**  
There were no declarations of interest.

**4 Dispensations**  
Dispensation was granted to Councillors Perkins, Winward, and Cheetham in respect of setting the Parish Precept under Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011. Reference the Code of Conduct of Oving Parish Council with regard to setting of a Council Tax Precept by the Parish Council.

**4 Confirmation of Minutes**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th November 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**5 Planning**  
The following application was considered:

**19/03899/ADP Reserved matters approval** for details relating to the height, size, design and external appearance of 8 bungalows and 10 dwelling houses, together with associated parking, a cul-de-sac road and landscaping in accordance with outline consent AR/477/59 **Land Off Stone View Oving Buckinghamshire**

**OPC unanimously passed a resolution to object to the application [proposed by Cllr McGinn and seconded by Cllr Perkins]**

The following statement was prepared and submitted to AVDC:

*“Oving Parish Council strongly objects to this application and wishes to speak at any committee meeting where it is considered. The PC considers, taking account of its previous Legal Advice that this application is invalid, since the existing planning permission is extinct.*

*OPC awaits confirmation from the Planning Authority as to whether or not this application will be considered following legal advice on 17th January. Should the application proceed, the Parish Council will, once again, take QC's Advice and provide it to the Planning authority, as before.”*

It was noted that each planning application is considered of itself, meaning that if the application proceeds new legal advice will need to be sought.

On a separate matter, Sue Severn is to follow up regarding planning application at Hillhead Farm, Pitchcott. **SS**

## **6 Recreation Ground/Tennis Club**

Lighting has been repaired and will now operate on timers set by the PC providing safe access and egress to the hall and the car park during hours of darkness throughout the year.

It was confirmed that the Parish Clerk may make appropriate grant applications to cover the cost of resurfacing the tennis courts, as RFO of the Parish Council, because the Parish Council is the landlord. It was clarified that the Parish Council will incur no cost to itself by doing this. **SS**

Cllr Cheetham was nominated to join the Tennis Club Committee to represent the Parish Council (which is the landlord). **MC**

It was agreed that ‘permanent tenure’ can be used to describe the existing relationship between the Tennis Club and the Parish Council, to satisfy the requirements for grants. Sue Severn will send all necessary information to Cllr Cheetham. **SS/MC**

It was noted that the Tennis Club has applied for permission for floodlighting. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

## **7 Reading Room**

Work left to complete is: a new front door; carpet and decorating; and outside work. The Reading Room will have disabled access. David Barnett has kindly agreed to do garden tubs outside the Reading Room. RTM will cut the hedge. The Reading Room will be painted outside where it is treated for rust. Expected completion will be within a month. Sue Severn asked for thought to be given to toilet facilities, to be discussed at a future meeting. **SS**

## 8 Street Lighting

Further to the Council's decision to replace existing street lighting with new LED lanterns a decision was taken to seek a loan from the Public Works Loan Board, the cost of which will be met entirely from the savings of £1000 pa for the existing maintenance contract, and savings in monthly non-metered electricity charges. Repayments will be in the order of £760 pa for principal and interest.

It will cost £7464 for 24 lights, exclusive of 4 lights in The Pightle which may not be suitable for replacement (the continued cost of keeping these 4 lights, if necessary, was not considered prohibitive).

**A resolution was passed that OPC will borrow, at rates available to local councils, from the Public Works Loan Board, sufficient funds to meet the cost of replacement street lighting (£7000) over a ten year period [Proposed by Cllr McGinn and seconded by Cllr Wiggins, unanimously accepted].**

## 9 Village Hall

It was confirmed that the commercial waste service is now in operation. Extra collections can be requested if necessary. An extra brown bin was not allowed by AVDC.

The village hall bookings calendar on the website is not up to date. The new Hallmaster online booking system is in development. Cllr Winward will lead the switch on his return.

MW

The outstanding water bill due to leaks has been resolved with Wave Water and will not need to be paid. The rainwater harvest system leak has been fixed. It is not clear if there is also another leak elsewhere, but Jack Peeters will now check the water and electricity bills monthly to monitor usage.

Gigaclear Wi-Fi to replace BT service – no update, Sue Severn to follow up.

SS

## 10 Highways and Speeding

Cllr McGinn will circulate the speeding figures.

The police were engaged in discussion; there is nowhere safe to park a speed camera van. The alternative is Sentinel. It was agreed to wait until better weather to operate.

AM

Highways issues will be discussed when Cllr Winward returns. The large puddle at the top of Meadway is scheduled for repair but at an unknown date.

Bus Shelter repairs have been carried out.

## 11 Oxford-Cambridge Expressway

There was no update.

## 12 Finance

The payment run was agreed as circulated and payments made outside of the meeting were ratified. A further payment to Fowler Electric for repairs to hall outside lighting was approved for £983.49.

Mrs S J Severn	Net salary, expenses & office costs January 2020	£622.92				
Mrs Jo Bowden	Invoice 0020: cleaning					£216.00
Mrs Linda Nicholls	Bookings Secretary OVH					£286.00
Laura Williams	Book keeping & Hallmaster set up December				£96.00	£19.20
RTM Landscapes	Invoice 2054: Wildlife area preparation	£275.00	£55.00	£330.00		£115.20
RTM Landscapes	Invoice 1966: Grass cutting, hedges/football September	£922.50	£184.50	£1,107.00		
RTM Landscapes	Invoice 2023: Grass cutting, hedges/football October	£877.50	£175.50	£1,053.00		
Aqua Windows	Window cleaning December					£18.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,075.00</b>	<b>£415.00</b>	<b>£3,112.92</b>	<b>£96.00</b>	<b>£19.20</b>
						<b>£635.20</b>

### Budgeted payments made

AVDC	Invoice 446859: Commercial waste bins monthly January		£15.45	£0.00		15.45
Lock & Key Centre	Repair to crash bar fire door OVH.		£351.59	£70.32		£421.91
Fowler Electrical	Reading Room lighting & car park light reinstatement	£2,064.60				
Martin Fitzgerald	Reading Room foundations renovation Invoice 598	£720.00				
PPL PRS	Music Licence Village Hall (to be re-charged to OVH)	£170.05				
Anglian Water	Pavillion	£10.50				
Oving & Pitchcott News	2019 contribution	£450.00				
Mrs S J Severn	Net salary & expenses November	£533.57				
Mr L Nicholls	OPC Minutes Nov	£40.00				
AVDC	Dog bins	£379.62				
E-on	Street lighting November	£156.12				
BCC	Hall hire BALC meeting to be remitted to OVH	-£87.50				
Amazon	Tea towels for hall (to be re-charged to OVH)	£12.99				
D Lucas	Work to date December Reading Room	£2,500.00				
HMRC	PAYE	£87.00				
E-on	Electricity pavillion	£27.93				
	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£7,064.88</b>	<b>£367.04</b>	<b>£70.32</b>		<b>437.36</b>

The accounts to 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were agreed by Councillors.

The appointment of an accounts clerk was confirmed (Laura Williams).

The oil buying group is now being run by Alex Chatwin.

**The OPC budget for 2020-2021 was agreed. It was agreed to increase the precept to £28,000 which is an increase of 1.27%, which is in line with other Parish Councils [Proposed by Cllr McGinn and unanimously accepted].**

## 13 OPAG

The 2020-2021 precept includes funding for 3 more gates. There are some physical access difficulties for planned installations. Sue Severn will approach Travis Perkins for help with delivery of Type 1 materials to footpath on Marston Hill.

SS

## 14 Meetings

Cllr Perkins attended the Winslow District Local Area Forum (LAF) Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

At that meeting it was noted that Chairs and Vice Chairs of LAFs will be appointed not elected. The Winslow LAF will include representatives from 24 parishes but (contrary to views expressed during the Community Board Consultation) these representatives will not be allowed to vote. This was considered disappointing but it was felt that attending the LAF was still valuable.

**15 Hossil Pond**

Chris Palmer reported that he, Jack Peeters and John Palmer had done some clearing at the Hossil pond, but that it would likely be extremely expensive to make a substantial difference to the state of the pond and that it was not very clear what to do. The Hossil pond is fed by springs. Overhanging trees and runoff from higher surrounding ground risk eutrophication of the water. The current retaining walls are crumbling. Exploration of grant funding was suggested.

**SS/CP**

**16 Neighbourhood Plan**

The Whitchurch Neighbourhood Plan includes a Neighbourhood area encompassing three properties that are within the Oving Parish boundary. Councillors previously agreed to review this plan once it had been drafted for submission but had no objection at that time provided the actual Parish boundary remained as current.

Councillors felt that the owners of the three properties concerned should be communicated with, and that Whitchurch Parish Council, as the proposers of the plan, should be asked to do this by Sue Severn.

**SS**

**17 Parish Council Elections**

Papers for election of councillors are available 4-5 weeks prior to the election, which is in May. It was agreed for Sue Severn to circulate information about standing for election, for those interested in becoming councillors.

**SS**

**18 Invitation to Greg Smith**

It was agreed to extend an invitation to Greg Smith, MP for Buckingham, to the next meeting.

**SS/AM**

**19 Date of the next Parish Council Meetings**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 7.15pm in the Village Hall

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (TBC) Annual Parish Council Meeting and first meeting of the new council following elections.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.