



Minutes of the Oving Parish Council Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 30th May 2023 at 7.00pm at Oving Village Hall

Present: Cllr Ambrose McGinn Cllr Trish Perkins
Cllr Alistair Walker-Smith Sue Severn (Clerk)
Cllr Matt Winward

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

1. Election of Chair of the Council

Actions

Cllr McGinn was elected Chair of the Council (unanimous, proposed by Cllr Walker-Smith and seconded by Cllr Perkins).

The Chair signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office immediately after the meeting.

2. Election of Vice-Chair of the Council

Cllr Perkins was elected Vice-Chair of the Council (unanimous, proposed by Cllr Winward and seconded by Cllr Walker-Smith).

The Vice-Chair signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office immediately after the meeting.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cheetham.

4. Open Forum

The open forum and update from Phil Gomm were deferred to the Annual Parish Meeting that followed immediately after the Annual Parish Council meeting (see separate minutes).

5. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Oving Parish Council meeting held on 14th March 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chair.

7. Planning

There were no new planning applications.

8. Recreation Ground/Tennis Club

- Hand towels have been requested by the tennis club for the outdoor accessible toilet. The hall will provide the first supply and subsequent supplies are to be provided by the tennis club. **SS**
- The latch on the gate to the playground needs fixing. **SS**
- The ground under the pirate ship in the playground is deteriorating. A RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) report on the whole playground is expected imminently, and all playground equipment issued will be addressed when the report is received. **All**
- The small football goals will be concreted in on the training pitch. The large goals will be temporarily taken away to allow the ground to recover. **AWS**
- The reading room still needs Wi-Fi. Cllr Walker-Smith will lead this.
- The fence repairs and gravel next to the reading room have been finished. Thanks were given to the neighbours in the property adjacent to the reading room, who have helped with the gravel and have pruned the hedge.
- The replacement Silver Jubilee tree has been planted, and thanks were given to a parishioner who made an anonymous donation to pay for it.

9. Village Hall

The village hall is currently fully booked. Discussion of hall use was deferred to the Annual Parish Meeting that followed immediately after the Annual Parish Council meeting (see separate minutes).

- Smart meters have been installed.
- Solar panels are now working and the equipment serviced, together with the ground source heat pump. **SS**
- Blind repairs still need to be done.

10. Highways

No speeding updates.

The speed indicator equipment responsibility needs to be transferred as Cllr Winward is stepping down. Speeding was discussed in the Annual Parish Meeting that followed immediately after the Annual Parish Council meeting (see separate minutes).

11. Finance

- Payments made outside the meeting were ratified and the electronic payment run was approved, with the addition of £108 for the RoSPA inspection of play equipment.
- Oving Parish Council accounts to year end March 2023 were agreed as circulated. **SS**
- Mr Gus Orchard was appointed as internal auditor for Oving Parish Council. The internal audit has been conducted by Mr Orchard and can now go to PKF Littlejohn,

the external auditor.

- The Annual Governance Statement for the Financial Year 2022/2023 was agreed. This is the statement to certify that the Parish Council have met their obligations and discharged their duties as appropriate.
- The Accounting Statements for 2022/2023 were agreed. The carry forward is £13,723.
- The insurance renewal for 2022/2023 was agreed. It will be £4,222 this year. This covers all the property on the recreation ground and public insurance. The hall is insured for £825,000.
- The asset register was reviewed and is approximately £468,000, plus £8,000 for the new shed.
- The dates for the Exercise of Public Rights to view the Parish Council's accounts will be from 5th June to 14th July. It was noted that Parish Council accounts can also be viewed at any time during the year by contacting the Parish Council.
- The following policies were adopted:
 - Financial Regulations
 - Risk Assessment & Management Policy
 - Financial Risk Assessment
 - Standing Orders

It was noted that these are standard policies that are adopted annually.

12. Meetings

Zoom meeting for the Planning Office (Cllr Perkins attended)

- In 2022, 117 notices were issued for noncompliance with planning regulations, up from 47 in 2020. An example was part of a wood being used as a shooting range without permission, which was taken down.
- Burglaries are down from 191 in 2020 to 48 in 2022.
- The biggest volume of crime in the community is domestic abuse.
- The public are requested to report any nitrous oxide cannisters found in public areas as these are used for substance abuse.
- An interactive map of all sites for planning assessment is available on the YourBucks consultation page. A consultation survey was live at the time of the meeting, closing the following week.

Winslow and District Community Board (Cllr Perkins attended)

Contact details for the parish newsletter have been sent to the Community Board (requested by them), for Community Board updates to be published in the newsletter.

There is a new Buckinghamshire Chief Constable [Jason Hogg] and Deputy Chief Constable [Ben Snuggs].

At the present meeting, Cllr McGinn raised 3 possibilities for Community Board funding:

- Fence replacement for the butterfly field (horse-proof).
- Any work that could improve access to the Hossil Pond, balancing accessibility and safety. Previously, a large overhanging tree was felled and partially removed after consultation with BBOWT (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust). BBOWT did not recommend clearing the pond and recommended allowing the pond to maintain its own state. However, access to the pond could be cleared. The butterfly group will be asked to help with access.
- A village parent has requested youth facilities, particularly for mid-teens (ie, not the playground). Outdoor gym equipment has been discussed in previous meetings and some funding is being pursued. A survey of teenage villagers was proposed to see what facilities are wanted. It was noted that there needs to be a balance between providing facilities and encouraging responsible behaviour.

13. Meetings

Dates of Next Parish Council Meetings

11th July 2023; 12th September 2023; 14th November 2023, 9th January 2024; 12th March 2024.

14. Any Other Business

The Parish Council formally accepted Cllr Winward's resignation and recorded a vote of thanks for his work.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 1933h.