



Minutes of the Oving Parish Council Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 7.15pm at Oving Village Hall

Present: Cllr Ambrose McGinn (Chairman) Sue Severn (Clerk)
Cllr Trish Perkins (Vice-Chair) Cllr Mark Cheetham
Cllr Alistair Walker-Smith

In Attendance: Buckinghamshire Councillor Phil Gomm Laura Williams (Minutes)
Agnieszka Alborzpour (Oving Village Hall) Peter Docwra (Oving Tennis Club)
Karen Boulton Jessica Boulton

Note: The meeting began with updates from (in order) Peter Docwra, Jessica (and Karen) Boulton, Phil Gomm, and Agnieszka Alborzpour, who each left the meeting at the end of their update. Updates are incorporated into the relevant sections of the minutes.

Action

1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Winward

2 Open Forum

Additional update from Buckinghamshire Councillor Phil Gomm:

- Planning surgeries are being brought in for each ward to deal with planning applications.
- Ward boundaries are being decided, Buckinghamshire will reduce from 148 seats to 98.
- Rates are going up across the whole of the UK. Rates include adult social care funding.
- For the Jubilee, farmers are being asked if they can find space to plant 70 trees.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 09 Nov 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

5 Planning

The Parish Council had no objections to the following application:

21/04909/APP | Householder application for demolition of covered porch. Erection of porch and steps. Render external walls | **Birch House Whitchurch Lane Oving Buckinghamshire HP22 4EU**

Full details: [21/04909/APP | Householder application for demolition of covered porch. Erection of porch and steps. Render external walls | Birch House Whitchurch Lane Oving Buckinghamshire HP22 4EU \(aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk\)](https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/21/04909/APP)

6 Recreation Ground/Tennis Club

Old Pavilion

It was agreed to choose a windowless shed to replace the old pavilion. Colour and design to be confirmed by the Parish Council from the options researched by Sue Severn. The cost will be approximately £4k and a Community Board grant will be applied for to cover the cost once the design is finalised.

SS,
MW,
All

Playground

The playground is scheduled to be repainted before the next school holiday, weather dependent, and the basket swing will have a permanent repair made.

SS

Platinum Jubilee Tree

The result of the village poll chose the Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). It will be planted in time for the tree planting (see below).

SS
MW

Tree Planting

Jessica Boulton updated the parish council.

The trees will be supplied by the Woodland Trust between February and 18 March (a specific date can't be guaranteed). Therefore, a planting event date of Saturday 26th March was chosen.

All

The trees will be supplied as whips, the entire bundle weighing 1.5 kg.

The Parish Council decided to plant a "Jubilee wood" behind the orchard on the recreation ground. The Jubilee tree will be planted in the centre.

Jessica is working on posters to advertise the planting event. Jessica was offered support for advertising on the website (Cllr Walker-Smith) and in the village newsletter (Laura Williams).

Tennis Club

Peter Docwra was consulted about plans for improvement of tennis club facilities (which would be separate from the village hall, and grant-funded).

It was agreed that the most efficient solution was to create an outdoor-access-only toilet using an existing village hall toilet, by blocking up the internal door and adding an external door.

This is covered by building regulations rather than planning permission.

Leaving a locked internal door was discussed, but it was felt that leaving an openable door left the opportunity for confusion of use. The PC voted and the majority supported no internal door.

The outside door will have a digital lock.

- Quotes for the work showed it will cost around £2800 + VAT. SS
- The Tennis club will be responsible for buying toilet paper and for cleaning after use; cleaning as part of village hall cleaning will also still take place. It is anticipated that an outside toilet could be useful for village events. MC,
- Cllrs Cheetham and McGinn will check the hall booking arrangements with the tennis club for the interim period until the work is done. AM
- 7 Drain Cleaning**
- Buckinghamshire Councillor Phil Gomm provided an update. Pulpit Lane and Meadway are almost finished (target end of January), pipes are being replaced. Church Lane is next.
- 8 Street Lighting, Rights of Way and Verges, Devolved Services 2022**
- Street Lighting*
- The Meadway light is now working.
- Benches around the village are to be identified so that they can be cleaned and re-varnished, as well as any other woodwork that needs doing. All
- RTM Contact*
- RTM contract renewal for 2022 was discussed. It was decided to produce a definitive map of the footpaths/areas in Oving that need verge cutting, to define the scope of the RTM contract. Clarification on which footpaths have been cut in the past year will be sought. Sign cleaning has not been tendered for by RTM previously but is part of devolved services. This will be clarified. The Parish Council are planning to renew the RTM contract, subject to the clarifications. SS, AM, MC
- 9 Butterfly Field**
- Still awaiting the arrival date for the bench and liaising about the interpretation board. SS
- 10 Village Hall**
- Update from Agnieszka Alborzpour.
- Indoor toilets cannot be used by the Tennis Club when the hall is being hired. In advance of the toilet rearrangements, Cllr Cheetham will liaise with the Tennis Club for the period until March. MC
 - Birthday party cancellations – terms for hall hire will change so that after the February half term (assuming the Covid-19 situation stays the same), short notice cancellations/refunds of party bookings due to COVID-19 will not be allowed. This is in line with the policy for other village halls in the area.
 - Evening parties – a modest amount of feedback has been received about noise from people leaving evening parties, but no actual complaints. The feedback has been inconsistent – i.e., what seemed noisy to some was not heard by others at the same distance away. It was pointed out that compared to the usual village silence, a group of people leaving the carpark will be noticeable just by contrast, and a distinction needs to be made between noticing and nuisance. It was decided to continue allowing evening party bookings and continue to be open to feedback. Respecting neighbours will be reinforced to hirers. Agnieszka continues to screen party bookings and can (and has) refused bookings to groups with a high potential to create nuisance. It was noted that parties for mature guests are often noisier than those for young adults.

- The village hall is still financially viable even with the latest COVID-19 increase. Class bookings are cautious, but there are some new class providers coming up. AA
- Footsteps will renew the paint over some recent marks on the hall wall. SS
- Door latches are needed to prevent the external doors from swinging in the wind. SS
- The PC agreed that Footsteps Nursery could make a 'mud kitchen' outside.
- A lock will be obtained for the hall storeroom.

11 Highways and Speeding

The Parish Council recorded their sincere gratitude to Stuart Nichols for his tremendous contribution to the MVAS monitoring. AM

Cllr Winward will take over until a volunteer can be found. SN

12 Finance

Payments made outside the meeting were ratified and the electronic payment run was approved.

Oving Parish Council accounts to year end December 2021 were agreed, with an additional £2100 for additional RTM work.

The budget for the financial year 2022-23 was agreed.

It was agreed not to increase the parish precept for 2022-23.

A donation was sought for the local Scouts, the Parish Council agreed to donate £450.

12 HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

Jubilee tree – see item 6.

Budget for basics for the Jubilee - £2k

There will be a planning meeting in the week of 24th January with all interested parties.

Commemorative 'medals' are available, and it was agreed to provide one to every household in the parish.

Cllr Walker-Smith will liaise with Sue Severn over costs.

AWS

13 Meetings

None attended

14 Dates of Next Parish Council Meetings

8th March 2022. 7.15pm at the village hall.

15 There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 2048h.