



**Minutes of the Oving Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 21 November 2023 at 7.15pm at the Reading Room, Oving**

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

In attendance: Phil Gomm (Buckinghamshire Councillor)
James Hann (Oving Football Club)
Dennis Atkinson (Speeding monitoring)
Laura Williams (Minutes)

1. Apologies for Absence

Actions

Apologies were received from Cllr Ben Glover.

2. Open Forum

Football Club

James Hann reported that Oving's 2 teams are doing well. The First team are at the top of their table and the Second team are 4th in theirs.

James confirmed that Oving Football club have ratified the new charge rates proposed to them.

James is seeking local opinion on a women's team as the next logical progression for the club. Oving Football Club has connections to Long Crendon football. A team could be raised from interested women in the Long Crendon and Oving/Aylesbury areas. They would play under the name of Oving. There are only 3 other women's teams in a 10-mile radius; the league has about 10 women's teams. Games would be played on a Sunday, adding approximately 12 Sundays at the Recreation Ground between September and April/May. It would be at least March 2024 before games started. There would be no cost to the Parish, the team would be self-sustaining, and the pitch fees paid to the Parish Council would increase due to the increased use.

Councillors were supportive of the idea in principle but advised that residents' opinions must be sought. Opinions will be invited online on social media and as a leaflet in the parish newsletter to make sure there is a broad spectrum of responses.

AWS

James Hann asked if there was to be a villager’s Christmas football match and volunteered Oving Football Club to run this if it is not going to be run by anyone else. Cllr McGinn will follow up with Kevin Ludlow to see if any arrangements have already been made.

AM

Speeding update from Dennis Atkinson

Dennis circulated figures from further monitoring. The highest prevalence of speeding was for vehicles coming up North Marston Hill to Oving. On Friday 27th October 2023 (1404h to 1754h), the camera was placed on the old MVAS post at the junction of Bowling Alley/North Marston/Whitchurch Lane, facing North Martson. The highest recorded speed was 45 mph. 54/180 vehicles travelling towards the camera and 9/43 vehicles travelling away from the camera were speeding.

There is a pole the MVAS could be fixed to at the top of North Marston Hill in the layby before the first houses. The location would need to be authorised by the Local Area Technician (LAT) – Phil Gomm will ask for this. A tripod camera can be used for monitoring while waiting for the MVAS.

There is a base for the MVAS at the top of Bunshill but is still being searched for due to an increase in vegetation.

The Parish Council’s current MVAS has a fault – although it is recording the speed it does not show the driver their speed. The MVAS can be repaired via SWARCO. A new MVAS would cost around £2k – funding can be obtained for half of this through the Community Board.

Phil Gomm noted that MVAS such as those in Whitchurch are being sent for reprogramming, as the driver feedback messages other than displaying speed are not in line with Highway policy.

Councillors decided to:

- Apply for the 50/50 funding for a new (additional) MVAS. **SS**
- Fix the existing MVAS and then make arrangements to locate it on the post at the top of North Marston Hill. **SS/PG**
- Locate the base at the top of Bunshill. **DA**
- Use the existing Sentinel camera in the meantime (Cllrs Cheetham and Perkins volunteered to help Dennis Atkinson). **DA, MC, TP**

Update from Buckinghamshire Councillor Phil Gomm

- Highways work is continuing.
- The next Community Board meeting is on the 29th November at Mursley.
- There is 6 weeks until the last deadline for Community Board funding submissions for this year. Phil Gomm strongly encouraged submissions. **SS**
- Dementia awareness training is being run on Monday 4th December at Winslow library. Oving could consider becoming a “dementia friendly” place.
- Council tax is expected to be raised (the cost of adult social care was cited as a reason). A 5% increase is possible without referendum.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th September 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record by the Vice-Chair.

5. Planning

There were no applications to consider.

6. Recreation Ground

- The zip wire repair is in progress at a cost of around £2.5k (from Oving Parish Council reserves). **SS**
- Another play inspection company have been asked to inspect the playground to see what repairs are possible. This follows the ROSPA inspection. **SS/AM**
- Estimates are being sought for additional play equipment. Sue Severn will submit a community grant. **SS**
- The steps to the pirate ship have been repaired.

7. Village Hall

The Hall Manager's report from Sharon Matheou is in Appendix A.

- The public works loan has been paid in full for this year by the village hall. The village hall income exceeds costs.
- The water bill has been unusually high. James Hann reported that a toilet in the Club house has been continually flushing and this has been reported to Sharon. Sharon will be asked to follow up. **SM**
- The rainwater harvesting system had a problem earlier in the year when a dry period caused an airlock. Councillors agreed to ask Sharon to get a quote for an additional or larger storage tank. The storage tanks are in the loft of the village hall. **SM/SS**
- Quotes have been obtained for an electrical cutoff device for noise limitation. They are around £400. Recently there have been no noise complaints – this could be because there are fewer bookings or because of the increased management of hirers.
- The village hall has been approached for a possible Friday Youth Club, run as a limited company, for up to 30 children up to 11 years old. Further details of the proposal are awaited.
- Councillors agreed that Sharon could advertise hire of her stock of tablecloths etc, to hirers of the hall.
- Councillors delegated a bin request from Footsteps nursery to Sharon.
- A year end overall summary of the hall income and costs was requested by councillors. **SM**

SM/SS

8. Highways & Speeding

See Open Forum.

Phil Gomm would like to ask the police to help with speeding in North Marston, Granborough, Quainton, and Oving as a group. Gathering data will help to put forward an argument for this. Phil will liaise with Dennis Atkinson.

Phil Gomm suggested ANPR at the routes into/out of the village. Cameras would also function as usual CCTV – essentially CCTV with added numberplate recognition. There would be a cost. Councillors were willing to hear a proposal.

9. Finance

- The electronic payment run was approved.
- The accounts to the end of October 2023 were agreed as circulated.

Accounts are approximately on budget. The village hall water bill (see item 7.) and electricity bill were higher than expected. **SS/SM**

A draft budget is needed for the next financial year. It is anticipated that reserves will become depleted from repair work and the precept will likely need increasing from £29.5k to £32K. It was noted that the precept was not increased last year. Items to be included in next year's budget are village hall noise reduction (£1000), traffic (£5k) Bowling Alley hedge/fence repair on the recreation ground (£1000).

Councillors are to send any other items for consideration in the budget to Sue Severn. **All**

Sue will work up a draft budget. **SS**

The devolved services (grass cutting etc) contract is being reviewed and redrawn by Cllr McGinn and will be put out for tender. A suitable paragraph will be included to ensure work meets the Buckinghamshire Council standards. Flexibility will be built in for the football pitch with a price per cut and the aim is to cut the pitch fortnightly. **AM**

10. Meetings

Nothing new to report.

11. Dates of the next Parish Council Meetings

9th January 2024; 12th March 2024.

12. Exclusion of the Press and Public due to the confidential nature of matters to be discussed

Cllr Phil Gomm, James Hann, and Dennis Atkinson left the meeting at 2041h.

13. Local Government Pay award 2023/24

It was agreed to comply with LGA pay award for financial year 2023/24 with effect from 1st April 2023.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 2108h.