



**Minutes of Oving Parish Council meeting
Tuesday 12th January 2016 - Oving Village Hall**

Attendees

Cllr Ambrose McGinn (Chairman)
Cllr Kit Couper
Cllr Richard Devas
Cllr Kevin Hewson AVDC (part)

Cllr Jack Peeters
Cllr Vanessa Wiggins
Sue Severn (Clerk)
Linda Nicholls (Minutes Secretary)

1 Apologies for absence

Cllr Janet Blake.

2 Open Forum

No members of the public present.

3 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Cllr Peeters declared an interest in item 7b as Chairman of the Tennis Club.

4 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November and matters arising

4b] Defibrillator training: to be held in February.

4c] Five-s-side goal posts: Cllr Peeters to erect. **Action JP**

5b] Replace '*Councillors had no objections*' with '*The Council would maintain its objections*'.

5c] Completed.

8] Common land in Oving: Pending. To be completed by Cllr Couper by 8th March. **Action KC**

8a] Church clock: Cllr McGinn to find out about painting the clock face. **Action AM**

8c] Welcome letter: Cllr Peeters would be meeting the PCC on 18th January 2016. **Action JP**

10a] BCC would be devolving more services to parish councils. Potholes would continue to be filled. No action required by OPC at present.

5 Planning

15/04148/APP-OVING

Planning permission had been sought to build a three bedded house with garage behind The Kennels. Councillors had no objections.

(Item 8 inserted here).

8 Community

Cllr Hewson had meet with the new head of transport at BCC. He would find out how OPC could move to the Waddesdon Local Access Forum. AVDC must save £5m over the next three years and are proposing a 2% increase in rates for 2016-2017. Parish Councils would be asked for suggestions for saving money, e.g. privatising the brown bin collections.

Broadband: Cllr Hewson reported that Oving had to make a business case for broadband and to find out how many villagers would be interested. To satisfy the criteria, 20% of the village would need to be interested and pay £20 upfront. For outlying properties, the resident would have to pay for the cable connection. A lock up site would need to be provided for the equipment. If the parish council could forward the bid by the end of March, connection could be by the end of June. It would be a 12 month contract and would need to be marketed well to villagers. Cllrs McGinn and Devas would draft a proposal. **Action AM &RD**

(Cllr Hewson left the meeting)

Community Led Plan

Cllr Wiggins had drafted a plan for consideration. It was agreed that Pitchcott would be included, and that Cllr McGinn would print copies. The CLP was signed off. **Action AM**

SS would write to resident David Proctor regarding a historical complaint. **Action SS**

Allotments: changes to the allotment regulations would mean that three new plots would be available due to plots being halved. Tenants must either cultivate or grass the plot, or lose it.

The Gardening & Allotment Society had met, but needed more members.

The pond: Cllr Peeters remarked that the village pond needed expert advice and that the cost would be approximately £500.

6 Recreation Ground

- 1] The hedge had been trimmed and Terry Cleaver would cut the back hedge prior to the Queen's birthday celebrations and bonfire.
- 2] Section 106 monies approved for playground equipment, could now be ordered. **Action SS**
- 3] Cricket nets: Cllr Devas reported that Sport England had turned down the application for cricket nets. The sum of £3,450 would be needed and he would meet with SS to discuss the next step. The Community Chest, Luton Airport, Shanleigh Homes, and WREN had been suggested as potential supporters. If no grant available, funds could be made available from the 2017/18 budget. **Action SS & RD**

- 4] Reading Room: It was agreed to find out the cost of renovation and budget for survey, but not undertake the expenditure until 2017.
- 5] Car park: Cllr Peeters would work out what needs to be undertaken and prepare a specification for Clerk to use when obtaining quotes. Lighting, barrier reflectors, and the Yates Thompson gates would be included.

7 Village Hall

- 1] **Update:** Cllr Peeters reported that the light in the shed would be fitted within a week.
Events: The Curry and Darts evening had been a success, however the Christmas coffee morning would not be repeated. At least eight more tickets needed to be sold for the Burns' Night.
Future events: There would be another quiz in the spring. It is essential that more volunteers are found to help with events.
- 2] **Tennis Club:** Cllrs Couper and Devas had met with the booking secretary to discuss the tennis club. The hall cannot be partly let which would cause difficulties with accounting and VAT, therefore the tennis club would need to pay in full for hirings. It was agreed that the charge to the tennis club would be £10 per hour less 25%, plus £100 per annum for use of the lavatories during club sessions. The spring tournament would be free of charge. Cllrs Couper and Devas would meet with Richard Keightley and Jack Peeters. **Action KC & RD**

9 Finance

- a] The cheque run as presented was agreed and cheques ratified which had been issued outside of the meeting.

Payee	Chq. No	Detail	£
Linda Nicholls (hall)		Bookings sec. 12 hours Dec-Jan	£76.00
Linda Nicholls (minutes)		Minutes November	£38.00
Watermead PC		Councillor training x 3	£81.75
AVDC		Dog bin emptying 2015/16	£354.06
Herts Supplies (Hall cleaning)		Cleaning equipment	£84.60
Aqua Windows		Window cleaning	£18.00
			£652.41

- b] Balances at bank 31st December 2015:
 - Current account: £ 4,869.30
 - Fundraising deposit account: £ 429.63
 - Deposit account: £ 7,532.35
 - OVHT current account: £15,067.71

- c] The parish council approved the 2016 – 2017 budget, subject to the following amendments:
- street lighting and pavilion expenditure to be the same as last year (£1,500 and £250)
 - dog bins expenditure should be £400 not £1,000
 - the clerk would send out a revised budget
- The motion to agree the budget and set the Oving Parish Council Precept at £24,000 for 2016/17 was proposed by Cllr McGinn, seconded by Cllr Couper and agreed unanimously.
- e] Other:
- it was discussed that one year's expenditure for OVH Trust should be kept in reserve
 - Estimated that £5,000 would probably be carried forward on 31st March 2016
 - A budget provision of £500 to re-surface the footpath at Stone View was included in the budget.
 - Resurfacing of the car park would cost approximately £5,000, grants should be sought.
 - The Reading Room survey was budgeted at £500.
 - The Chairman reported that so far approximately £7,000 of the £35,000 Public Works Loan Board loan had been paid back
- f] It was agreed to reappoint Gus Orchard as the Parish Council's internal auditor. **Action SS**

10 Devolved services

The Clerk had met Terry Lynch to review last year's work and confirm ongoing contract. Both T Lynch and R Porter had confirmed their insurance details to the Clerk and held their prices for next financial year.

11 Any other business

- a] Blocked drains had been reported by the clerk, they will be inspected by 2nd February according to Tfb's online system.
- b] The clerk had contacted the two residents whose hedges were overhanging the footpath.
- c] The Local Area Technician would be checking the path in Church Lane.
- d] All streetlights would be repaired, usually within 10 days of being reported.
- e] The clerk would ask Barrie Mellors to add all email addresses to the OVH e-newsletter.
Action SS
- g] Horse riders had continued to use the public footpath in Stone View; the clerk would contact BCC for advice on stopping them. **Action SS**
- h] OVH management committee meetings would be held quarterly in future.

12 Date of future meetings

Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 1915 pm. (Apologies Cllr Jack Peeters).
Village Hall Trust meeting – Monday 15th February 2016 at 2000 in the Reading Room.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.