

**Minutes of the Annual Oving Parish Meeting held at the Methodist Hall  
Bowling Alley, Oving on Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2003 at 08:00PM**

**Present:** Ambrose McGinn - Chair  
Chris George  
Roger Ball  
Mark Ryan  
Stuart Hillston (Clerk)

**In attendance:** 10 Oving residents

**Item**

**The meeting started at 08:00PM**

**1.1 The Chairman gave a summary of the preceding year:**

Key points:

- Thanks to the outgoing councillors – Stuart Nicholls, Jan Waldron, Sally Parrott and Kit Couper – for their commitment and involvement with the Council
- Thanks to Robert Day for his efforts as clerk to help the process of introducing new codes of conduct and legislation
- Thanks to Robin Ireland for acting as independent auditor
- In the last year, the introduction of new legislation has resulted in the Council adopting a range of financial and procedural codes of conduct, and adopting the Freedom of Information Act to ensure that the actions and decisions are visible to the public
- A risk assessment performed and a number of remedial actions either taken or planned
- The completion of resurfacing work in Stone View is planned for this summer
- An impressive Jubilee celebration brought the villagers together – some for the first time. Thanks to all involved and special thanks to David Smith for masterminding a memorable event and thanks to Harriet Cullen for kind contribution to the event.
- The jubilee acted as a catalyst in getting the benches around the village replaced
- Using 100% funding from the Rural Transport Council the bus stop has been renovated
- Dog fouling is a consistent issue and new facilities have been installed around the village
- Many planning applications have been considered. The most significant was in Stone View, which has been successfully stopped for the time being – thanks to Harriet Cullen for her generous support.
- Stuart Nicholls organized the traffic calming SID in Pitchcott Road with tangible success
- The electrical systems have been brought up to date in the Pavilion and Reading Room
- Roger Ball is looking at the constitution and frequency of the Recreation Ground Committee and will contact all parties in the near future
- Looking forward to the coming year, the new Parish Council aims to maintain the high standards of the past 12 months and continue to provide an attractive community within which to live. There is a concern about the increasing level of vandalism – the Council will aim to fix such damage as soon as reasonably possible. The ongoing maintenance of streetlights, verges, hedgerows and the Recreation Ground will continue. As a major

assess of the community, the Recreation Ground offers scope for a progressive policy of improving the facilities and suggestions would be very welcome. The children's play area will be returned to normal in the coming months by the original supplier.

**1.2 The Clerk gave a summary of the unaudited accounts for 2002/3**

**1.3 The Chairman introduced the new Council members:**

Chris George  
Mark Ryan  
Roger Ball

**1.4 Jack Peeters gave a summary of the year for the Tennis Club**

Key points:

- Trees have been subject to surgery which was very necessary
- There are now 300 members, however there is currently no pressure on court availability
- The coaching programme for adults & children has been a great success
- There is a place on the committee for an OPC representative (Roger Ball has been nominated by the Council)
- There will be a 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary event on June 14<sup>th</sup> to which the whole village is invited

**1.5 Richard Parrott gave a summary of the year for the Football Club**

Key points:

- Regular reports have been appearing monthly in the newsletter
- OFC were 4<sup>th</sup> in the league
- New floodlights have been installed by OFC
- OFC are looking forward to next season

**1.6 Mark Ryan gave a summary of the year for the Cricket Club**

Sadly, OCC is disbanding this year due to a lack of players and fixtures

**1.7 Comments, Questions & Answers**

Jack Peeters commented that the Churches Cycle Ride has been a great success with All Saints Oving raising the most in the Deanery. The 2003 ride will be on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Jack also reminded us that there is a Litter Pick on May 18<sup>th</sup> and that Robert Day, former Clerk to OPC has been nominated for a SAVE award.

Ricky Gershon, as Parish Paths Partnership representative for Oving, asked to be notified on any footpath issues.

Jack Peeters commented that many stiles are in need of footstep maintenance which he is undertaking. A discussion took place regarding the requirement for upgrading the footway from Stone View to Whitchurch.

Philip Corbett asked about progress on the cemetery extension. Ambrose McGinn replied that it had been on hold during the Stone View enquiry and discussions would continue based on the timescales of the requirement.

Ricky Gershon commented that she would prefer a 6 foot bench to a 5 foot bench on the Green – Stuart Nicholls replied that the previous bench had been 5 foot and hence so had the replacement.

Ricky commented that the bench on Baulk Road is getting overgrown.

Ricky Gershon commented that the dog bin on the Green is in the middle and unsightly. Jack Peeters commented that as a user he felt that it needed to be visible to encourage people to use it.

Philip Corbett asked if there are any plans to move the electric poles on Stone View. Ambrose McGinn replied that there are no such plans.

Ricky Gershon expressed concern about the bonfire at the back of the pub possibly endangering the notice board at the start of the footpath. Ambrose McGinn replied that he would discuss it with the landlord.

Jack Peeters commented that Broadband should be available to the village. There was general agreement. Stuart Hillston commented that it is demand driven and that by registering interest with British Telecom we could accelerate broadband enabling of the Whitchurch exchange. The URL to do this is:

<http://www.btopenworld.com/broadband/reg10/>

**1.8**

**Ambrose McGinn thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.**

*Meeting closed at 08:45PM*