

# The Ovington Oracle

June, 2024



## General Election 4 July!

The electoral commission has a campaign to remind voters that they need photo-ID to vote in person, however their sticky-note advertisements don't make it clear you need approved photo-ID, which is quite limited – especially for younger people, so I've made my own sticky-note.

The list of approved ID is available at the electoral commission:

[www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

If you are not sure if you have valid ID, you can apply for a *Voter Authentication Certificate* (VAC) for free, via the web-site, deadline is 26 June. Alternatively you can apply for a postal vote (deadline 19 June) at:

[www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote](http://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote)

Many people are expecting the election campaign to be vicious, with dirty tricks, manipulation, AI and social media fakes including fake fact checking sites. So beware!

By law, all printed election literature must include an imprint to show who is responsible for publishing the material. The Elections Act 2022 extends the imprint requirement to most electronic material which is paid for, however there are some exceptions, and not everyone obeys the law! So doubly beware.

The official statement of candidates nominated will be published Friday 7 June at 5:00pm, I'll include it in next month's Oracle.



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### Village events this month:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2 C
3 VH	4 Y	5	6	7	8 VH	9 C
10 VH	11 Y	12	13	14	15	16 C
17 VH	18 Y	19	20	21	22	23 C
24 VH	25 Y	26	27	28 YC	29	30 C

VH=Village Hall, C=Church, Y=Yoga, YC=Youth Club

Parish Council: [ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home](http://ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home)

Oracle back copies (and more): [ovington.org.uk](http://ovington.org.uk)

Village Hall: [ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk)

Village Information: [ovington-village.org.uk](http://ovington-village.org.uk)

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# Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

## **Committee Meeting**

It has been requested by several villagers that they would like to see the minutes of Village Hall Committee meetings. Unfortunately this would take up the whole edition of the Oracle. I have produced a précis of the minutes for the Oracle, for a full copy please visit:

[www.ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk)

## **Minutes of Meeting 17 April 2024 at 7:00pm**

***Present:*** Kaz Mason, Richard Moss, Lyndia Lewis, Dave Welsted, Mike Howes and Rosemary Jones.

***Committee members:*** (Up to 8 trustees with a maximum of 3 co-opted)

Chair – Dave

Hall bookings – Lyndia

Vice Chair – Mike

Publicity and Safeguarding – Kaz

Treasurer – Richard

Maintenance – Stuart

Secretary – Rosemary

## ***Forthcoming Dates and Events:***

19 May, afternoon tea – Richard to supply the menu and this will be included in the advert in the Oracle.

8 June, D Day – To have a 1940's theme dress and music. Fish & Chips and a hog roast were suggested. Richard to ask Sue and The Railway Tavern in Dereham and obtain quotes. Numbers are required for ordering the food and it was agreed that we would go around the village inviting everyone and people would have to let us know if they wanted to book food. Table tennis and other activities for children were discussed and Kaz to research bouncy castles.

13 September – 80's night, Kaz advised that the cost is £220 cash.

19 October – quiz / games night.

1 November – Pot of Gold Shanty Crew.

30 November – festive fair.

15 December – festive afternoon tea.

Indoor bowls evenings – to ask everyone who attends whether this should carry on throughout the summer or resume again in the autumn.

### ***Any other business:***

The Committee discussed whether the general public could attend Committee Meetings. It was agreed that the public would be invited to attend the first part of all Committee Meetings.

An agenda would be published for everyone to see before the meeting and this would include a point when the public should leave the meeting.

***Date of next meeting:*** Wednesday 29 May at 7:00 pm. All welcome to attend.

### ***Agenda:***

#### Public section

1. Events
2. Training
3. Maintenance
4. Any other business

#### Trustees only section

5. Apologies
6. Minutes of previous meeting
7. Matters arising
8. Treasurer's report
9. Items from the public section
10. Any other business
11. Date of next meeting

The meeting ended at 8:55pm



### **Building Update**

The damp in the Committee Room has now been removed and now needs repainting.

### **Events Review**

On Sunday 19 May we held our Afternoon Tea. It was well supported. Everybody was treated to lovely sandwiches, marvellous cakes and sumptuous sweets.

Everybody enjoyed the food and cannot wait until the next. Many thanks go to our ladies for all their work and especially Christine for all her skills organising the day.

### **Forthcoming events**

As always a Coffee Morning is held in the village hall every Monday morning from 10:30am
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## D-Day Celebrations

Can I once again remind you of the forthcoming D-Day celebrations on Saturday 8 June. This will be held at the village hall. Flyers are to be distributed around the village in the next few days. Everybody from the village will be welcome.

Please check events on Facebook or the village hall web-site.

[ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk)

The VH Trustees

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## Annual Parish Meeting

*Heidi Frary (Clerk to the Council)*

Disappointingly low attendance at the Annual Parish Meeting, which may mean everything is ticking along nicely?

### **Reports from Village representatives and organisations:**

- Parish Council
- Village Hall
- Fuel Trust
- Ovington Church
- Allotment Association
- Ovington Oracle
- District Councillor
- County Councillor
- Ovington Navy

Copies are available on the Parish Council website:

[ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home](http://ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home)

### **Any Other Business:**

The telephone box is in need of restoration and repainting.

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## Parish Council (PC)

*Heidi Frary (Clerk to the Council)*

**Present:** Cllrs Karen Weir (KW), P Bate (PB), T Birt (TB) and Jeremy Woods (JW).

**Apologies:** Cllr Dave Welsted (DW)

**In attendance:** The Clerk, DC Crane and 3 members of the public.

### **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

PB proposed Karen Weir as Chair, this was seconded by TB. There were no other nominations and KW accepted. She completed her declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

DW proposed Pete Bate as Vice-chair, this was seconded by JW. There were no other nominations and PB accepted. He completed his declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

### **Matters Arising:**

- There has been no reply from Highways Engineer and therefore the Clerk will contact County Cllr Bowes for assistance.
- Website update. TB explained that there have been concerns over the cookie policy with WIX. Laurie Shepherd reported that she has investigated and there will be no mandatory requirement to update to .gov.uk email addresses. She is content to carry on with WIX as the Parish Council host unless an alternative is available.

### **End of Year Financial Matters:**

- To review the Statement of Internal Control, General Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations.
- To receive the internal auditors report, asset register and Financial Summary for 2023/24
- To sign and agree the Certificate of Exemption and Annual Statement of Governance 2023/24
- To agree the Annual Accounting Statement 2023/24

All unanimously agreed. They will be submitted to PKF Littlejohn LLP and displayed on the website.

**Correspondence:** None

**Planning:** None

## Payment of Accounts and precept update:

### Payments Received

- Breckland Council (precept) £2,845.00

### Payments to be made

- Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance £625.00
- Clerks reimbursements £34.01
- ICO registration (d/d) £35.00
- A Baker (Internal Audit) £50.00
- Insurance £342.59

## Consideration of adopting the General Power of Competence:

It was unanimously agreed not to adopt the General Power of Competence at this time.

## Date of Meetings:

Next meeting: 17 July in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

## Future meetings:

18 September and 20 November 2024

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## Rainfall

*Tim*



According to weather station "Icarus":

Total rainfall for April was 66.8mm (2 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>").

As of 20 May the monthly running total stood at 86mm, including an extreme 24 hour periods where over 50mm fell.

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## Youth Club

Kaz Mason



Meets last Friday of the month  
at the Village Hall

For ages 8–14 years  
6:00 – 8:00pm

FREE entry, squash & biscuits

Tuck-shop selling: Milkshakes, Fizzy  
Drinks, Crisps, Chocolate Bars, Sweets  
and Home-made Goodies.

Check our Facebook page for updates:  
Ovington Youth Club, Norfolk

To book your child's space go to our  
Facebook page or contact 07880935765

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## PCC Election Result

Editor

It was a low turnout (likely because there were no other elections on the same day) and a fairly close result with Sarah Taylor elected to serve as Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the next 4 years.

### Full Result:

CROFTS, John Peter (Lib-Dem).....	22525
ORPEN-SMELLIE, Giles Rackley (Con).....	50567
SCHMIERER, Martin Kenneth Albert (Grn).....	23628
TAYLOR, Sarah (Lab).....	52445
Spoilt / Rejected Ballots.....	1974
Turnout.....	21.3%

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# Funeral Celebrant

*Karen Weir*

The next instalment of my celebrant journey.

My mentor is amazing! She is full of wise words and great tips and ideas.

This part of my course is to construct a script for a service. I had a video to watch of an interview with a bereaved family. Then write the service using the information from the video. It's amazing how much info you can get from an hour's gentle conversation, asking the right questions.

I've submitted the script and await my feedback. Fingers crossed!

After that's been marked I have to construct another one. This one doesn't have so much information. You have to 'fill in the gaps'. He was a fisherman and I've enjoyed researching some lovely poems dedicated just to fishermen. The internet is a wonderful thing!

I would like to share one with you now.

It's called 'The Fisherman's Prayer'

Our fisherman  
Who art on the riverbanks  
Angler be thy name  
Thy fishing season comes  
They casting will be done  
The weather will be heavenly.  
Give us this day lots of bites  
And forgive us our laughter  
As we forgive you, your  
Lies about the one that got away  
Lead us to a school of fish  
And deliver us a big catch  
For thine is the carp  
The Pike and the Trout  
Forever and ever  
Amen

Till next time, when I'll update on my script creations!

(Soon to be qualified, Funeral Celebrant)

Karen (07778 374781)

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## Church News

*Jean Rockett-Woods (JR-W)*

### Services:

2 June – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Adrian Bell)
9 June – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(JR-W)
16 June – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(JR-W)
23 June – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	(JR-W)
30 June – 10:30am	Morning Worship	(Jessica Rockett)



We had some lovely warm weather last month and some very heavy showers, nay downpours, of rain. The ladybirds (Bishybarnabees) have now left our village church with a little encouragement from our lovely ladies who clean our church, and also from Jeremy our Churchwarden. The lawn

mowers have been busy cutting down the grass, but an area in front of the church has been left for our insect pollinators.

Last month we had a Baptism service for an adorable little girl called Scarlett. I think that she enjoyed the service and did not complain too much when the baptismal waters were poured onto her head. I made sure that the water was warm as we did not want her to get cold.

Also last month we celebrated Rogation Sunday, although it was a week late. We started our service in the church and then went outside, visiting and blessing the allotment areas, and praying for a good crop. We thanked the Lord for the water which helps the crops grow, and I am sure that there will be a bumper crop this year. The service finished back inside the church where we enjoyed coffee, cakes and biscuits. Please feel free to join in any of our weekly services. You will be made to feel very welcome.

There will be a Benefice service on the fifth Sunday of June, and this will be held at Saham Toney church. We will continue to have a service at our village church, and our leader will be Jessica Rockett. I look forward to seeing as many of you who can join with us at our weekly services.

With love in Christ,

Jean (07749 870485)

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## Village Messages

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### **DIGGING:**

Beth Baker

Apologies to all the villagers for any disruption due to the work we're undergoing on our front garden. Our septic tank was faulty and by law we had to be connected to mains.

Special thanks to Nicky, Rod, Julie and Helen for letting us use your driveways.

And extra special thanks to Abby and Daniel for allowing this to happen in the first place by agreeing to dig through to your garden!!!!..

If anything, it's slowed the general traffic through the village! Every cloud ...

Dave and Beth

### **MUSICIAN WANTED:**

Jean Rockett-Woods

If any of our villagers, or maybe someone that you know, is available to play the organ, or any other musical instrument, for our Sunday services then please let me know.

Jean (07749 870485)

### **TRESPASS AND CRIMINAL DAMAGE:**

Editor

The field next to the allotments is rented to a local farmer, there is no right of access for dog-walking or anything else. A previous very generous offer to allow dog-walkers around the edge was seriously abused by a small minority so signs were erected restricting access, these have been torn down and dogs seen on the field.

It may now be necessary to erect a fence which will inconvenience the allotment holders. So another example of where an entitled antisocial thug spoiling it for everyone else.

If anyone can identify the culprit please let the Parish Council know so they can take the necessary action.

## And Finally ...

Tim

I've been on my best beehive-iour and hive been given some bee jokes which bee-long here...

- >> Which singers do bees love?  
Sting, Bee-yonce and the Bee-Gees.
- >> Why do bees have sticky hairs?  
Because they use honey combs.
- >> What do you call a bee, born in May, that can't make it's mind up?  
A may-bee.
- >> What do you call a bee that lives in the United States of America?  
A USB
- >> What would bears be without bees?  
Just \_ears.

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Edit and Production: Timothy Birt (01953-889208) (on recycled paper using an Ecosys printer) Stone House Farm, The Street. IP25 6RT
Proof reader: Christine Reilly (885848)
Please send contributions to above or email: <a href="mailto:oracle@ovington.org.uk">oracle@ovington.org.uk</a>