

**Otterburn Parish Council – Parish Clerk's Report
(6 September – 27 September, 2023)**

6a: Ray Wind update: There is an open meeting on 4 October at the Gun Inn, Ridsdale for local residents in Redesdale to drop in between 4.00pm & 7.00pm to find out more about Ray Windfunds as well as provide thoughts on where priorities should perhaps focus in the coming grant year. One consideration is for improved community transport and the Ray Windfunds Directors would welcome your thoughts on this topic. Food and drink will be provided at the event. For details on the various grants available please view the Ray Windfunds website at <https://raywindfund.co.uk/> or alternatively contact Jo Willis, Community Development Officer, on either admin@raywindfund.co.uk or 07762 179579.

6b: Road safety in the Parish: I provided the update from Neil Snowdon (NCC) at the last meeting and have asked him again for timescales for the implementation of the work previously discussed and agreed.

6c: Electric power supply in the Millennium Green: I am still attempting to get a commitment and date from Mark Goddard for the work previously agreed and also a date from Northern Powergrid for the installation but hope to provide further update at the meeting.

6d: Northern Powergrid (NPG) energy resilience grant funding: I understand that the generator is ready to be delivered and a date should be agreed shortly. Richard Wilson will then be able to complete his work. Meantime an Emergency plan needs to be created coordinated between the Parish Council and the Memorial Hall committee. As yet there has been no reply regarding the additional grant application for the shortfall of £2915.

6e: EV charging points at the NCC salt depot: I have been advised today that the two 50Kw EV (rapid) chargers should be up and running from around mid October. Signage will be installed at the junction on the A696 highlighting this location.

6f: School flashing light and other roads signs: The new replacement signage should have been fitted within the last few days on both approaches to the school along the A696.

6g: Footpath towards Otterburn school: Both Alison Woodcock and I are still chasing NCC (David Hunt) for commitment to undertake the necessary work on this area with special attention of the path alongside Snaiths.

6h: Redevelopment of the Otterburn public toilets: I am waiting an update from Paul Jones (NCC) and progress in this matter.

6i: Proposed maintenance work at the Play Area: I am seeking quotes for the proposed fencing and new gates and will update when I have the information. In the meantime I am waiting from Karbon Homes for permission for the proposed new ramp to the Play Area to cross their land.

9a: Red squirrels along the main road through Otterburn: As you may be aware there has been a couple of red squirrels killed on the road in recent weeks. I have been approached by residents asking if there is anything the Parish Council can do to help the squirrels to cross the road more safely.

9b: Remembrance service and 'unknown Tommy' statues: You will be asked to consider who will be representing the Parish Council at the Remembrance Service and confirm the location of the statues. NCC has provided permission for these to be placed on the roadside providing it meets their criteria.