

Otterburn Parish Council – Parish Clerk's Report

(8 November – 29 November, 2023)

6a: Ray Wind update: I will provide a summary from the recent CIC meeting. People who wish to find out more about possible grants should 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 have emailed Neil Snowdon (NCC) for a progress report following a site visit by the Road Safety Audit earlier this month and hope to be able to provide an update at the meeting on the matter of the installation of bollards as well as safety features at the junction A696 / B6320.

6c: Electric power supply in the Millennium Green: I have had further conversations with Northern Powergrid and Richard Wilson regarding the requirements of the work needed to install a meter box on a plinth just inside the car park of the Millennium Green. I will provide an update at the meeting and you will be asked to consider how best to proceed.

6d: Northern Powergrid (NPG) energy resilience grant funding & Emergency Plan: I understand that Richard Wilson will be carrying out the connection in the first week of December. Meantime following a meeting with the Memorial Hall committee I have drafted a copy of the Emergency Plan with assistance from Cllr Bloomer and seeking comments from the committee. I hope to be able to provide an update at the meeting.

6e: Footpath towards Otterburn school, land behind Brierley Gardens and roadside gullies: There has been considerable work since the last meeting and the footpath to the school has been cleared to its original width. I understand there will be further work on the surface in the early summer. Additionally the gully in Brierley Gardens near the garages has been cleared by NCC although the weed clearing in Lonnis Lane still needs to be undertaken. I am also seeking confirmation when gully / drain clearer will be in Otterburn.

6f: Redevelopment of the Otterburn public toilets: Work on the redevelopment has begun and is due to take about three weeks. In the meantime portaloos have been placed next to the toilets for public use. I have received confirmation that new signage will be installed including at the lay-by near Bankfoot highlighting the location of the toilets to hopefully stop the lay-by being used as a toilet.

6g: Proposed maintenance work at the Play Area: I have shared the quote received for a new metal fence around three sides of the Play Area and you have agreed this is too expensive to proceed. Meantime I am seeking a quote for work on repair of the gate post as well as the possible work on improving the entrance to the Play Area from the road.

6h: Otterburn Welcome pack: Cllrs Corkin and Bloomer and I have spent time with the further development on the pack a copy of which should soon be ready to share.

6i: Community Transport in Redesdale: The topic of community transport was discussed at the recent Ray Windfund CIC meetings and I will share a summary of the outcome.

6j: Donated bike racks: Whilst I do not presently have an update on when the bike racks are likely to be delivered I have received a quote for a means to fix them at their agreed locations and you will be asked to consider how to proceed.

7e: Payment to Northern Powergrid for installation of work at the Millennium Green: You will be asked to agree to payment of £1,710.61 + VAT.

9b: Local preparation for winter weather: You will be asked to consider what the Parish Council is able to do to assist with assisting local residents during possible poor winter weather.