

**Otterburn Parish Council – Parish Clerk's Report
(2 July, 2025 – 27 August, 2025)**

- 6a: Road safety in the Parish:** The average speed cameras have been installed and I am seeking an update from Neil Snowdon (NCC) as to whether they operational and if not when will they be. Road surface markers have been painted on the A696 at the junction of the B6320 as part of the project for planters to be installed at the junction and I hope to have an update on when this work will be finished.
- 6b: Access to the Play Area:** This work was scheduled to be carried out at the same time as the planters work referred above. I am looking to receive a progress report from NCC.
- 6c: Bus stop outside Memorial Hall:** I have requested an update from Neil Easton (NCC) as to when the post with timetable will be installed on the south side of the A696 near the Memorial Hall. Additionally Mr Easton has confirmed he will arranged a new bus stop sign to be installed at the bus shelter, replacing the faded sign.
- 6d: Parish Council vacancies:** You will be asked to consider how the two remaining vacancies can be filled..
- 6e: 682 bus service West Woodburn to Hexham (to include Otterburn):** I have been advised by Chris Curtis (NCC) that he is working with Go North East who operate the 682 service to extend the route to include Otterburn and it is hoped this may be in place by late October to include the three Monday to Friday and two Saturday journeys. Details of the timetable will be shared nearer the time.
- 6e: Weeds in the roadside gullies:** I have made a request to NCC for the weeds in the roadside gullies to be removed and waiting for confirmation when this will be undertaken.
- 6e: Cornhole at the Memorial Hall** The equipment including the cornhole boards have been received at the Memorial Hall and it is hoped to arrange an 'open' evening and set up a regular event for people to play with a plan to potentially participate in a local league.
- 9a: Local Transport Programme 2026-29:** I am advised that the LTP programme is due to change to become a three year programme. You will be asked to consider the three priorities you wish to be presented to NCC.
- 9b: Remembrance wreath:** You will be asked to consider how many Remembrance wreaths should be ordered this year and who will be representing the Parish Council at the service.
- 9c: Repair of local roads signs:** I am advised by NCC that replacement signs have been ordered but the timescale for installation is currently unknown.
- 9d: Dementia training for parish residents and village halls:** The Church & Community Programme (CCP) will be holding a free interactive information session to learn how dementia affects a person and what can be done to make a difference. This will be held at Elsdon Village Hall on Monday 27 October with refreshments from 5.15pm and due to finish about 7.00pm. All are welcome.
- 9e: Play Area inspection recommendations:** Following the annual inspection I have shared the report with the recommendations. Those high priority tasks requiring attention have been shared with Mr Hartshorne to assess and provide a quote for the work.
- 9f: Broken boards at footbridge near weir:** A NCC Countryside Officer has visited the bridge and advises that it is programmed for all the boards to be replaced although no timescale has as yet been provided.
- 9g: Proposal to relocate the bottle bank:** A request has been received from Le Petit Château for the bottle bank behind the Memorial Hall to be relocated. A request was received three years ago when it was proposed to have it moved to the RTC. The RTC Trustees have considered the request and declined to have it relocated there.
- 9h: Overnight parking at Percy Cross:** The matter of over-night parking at Percy Cross with some leaving rubbish, including human waste has been escalated to NCC and I am waiting for a response and confirmation what action will be taken.
- 9i: Recycle of blister packs:** The Terracycle box is now full and I am making arrangements for the blister packs to be collected. You will be asked to consider what action should now be taken.
- 9j: Mobile library in Redesdale:** I have learnt that the mobile library van will be off the road for a considerable time. This will impact the frequency of the mobile van service visiting Redesdale. Details will be posted on the Parish Council website and Facebook when it is known what dates it will be visiting. Additionally I learn there will be consultancy on the future of the library service within Northumberland and again details will be shared when known.
- 9k: Community transport scheme:** I have been advised there are currently five, soon to be six drivers, signed up for the scheme. Whilst the Church & Community Partnership (CCP) are still looking for further drivers to help

with the scheme the local community is now being encouraged to highlight the transport scheme for local residents who do not have their or unable to use their own transport.

9l: Christmas Eve event in Millennium Green: You will be asked to consider whether to hold an event on the Millennium Green on Christmas Eve and if so what aspects should be included.