

The Ovington Oracle

August, 2026

Local Council Contacts:

Parish Councillors:

Karen Weir (Chair) 07735 205990
17 The Street

Tim Birt 01953 889208
Stone House Farm, The Street.

Pete Bate 01953 885204
8 The Street

David Welsted 07443 538969
3 Church Road

Krissy Marwood-Cross
Old Cart House, Dereham Road

Parish Clerk:

Laurie Shepard 07597 561478
clerk@ovingtonparish.gov.uk

District Councillors:

Pete Bate 01953 885204
Helen Crane 07500 823100

County Councillor:

Kabeer Kher 07802 479663

Solar News:

The Perseids are one of the brightest meteor showers of the year, they will peak 11-12 August.

Full moon is 28 Aug (at 05:18am). This is will also be a partial lunar eclipse where the Earth's umbra (darkest part of its shadow) will cut a slice into the top-right corner of the moon.



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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	9 C
10 VH	11 Y	12 B	13	14	15	16 AA, C
17 VH	18 Y	19	20	21	22	23 C
24 VH	25 Y	26 B	27	28 YC	29	30 C
31 VH						

VH=Village Hall Event, C=Church, AA=Allotment Association
Y=Yoga, YC=Youth Club, B=Bowls,

Parish Council: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Parish Clerk is: clerk@ovingtonparish.gov.uk

Oracle back copies (and more): ovington.org.uk

Welcome!

A warm village welcome to Sam and Phil who have moved to *The Street*. We hope you will enjoy our little corner of Norfolk and we invite you to join us at village events.



Allotment Association Produce Show and BBQ

Jill Burgess



Ovington Allotment Association invites you to our annual produce show and BBQ on Sunday 16 August at the village hall from 12-noon onwards. Come and have a walk around our allotments for inspiration for your own gardens and have a go at judging as well.

We will be serving burgers and hot-dogs along with ice creams. Tickets are £8 for adults and £4 for under 12's. Please feel free to bring your own tippie of choice to enjoy although we will be serving tea or coffee.

Phone: 07840 873928

Jill (18 The Street)

Parish Council (PC)

Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk

Present Cllrs: David Welsted (DW), Pete Bate (PB), Tim Birt (TB), Karen Weir (KW) and Krissy Marwood (KM)

In Attendance: The Clerk, DC Helen Crane

Apologies: CC Kabeer Kher

Freedom of Information Policy:

There was a discussion over editing the FOI policy to reflect accurate charges for the hourly rate for FOI requests (the first half hour is free). Unanimously approved.

Reports:

District and County reports are posted to the website. There was a brief discussion over the release of the Draft Local Plan including concerns about the development in Carbrooke and what that will mean for traffic going through Ovington.

Planning:

PL/2025/0531/FMIN (Retrospective application for the erection of a barn and conversion of barn to kennels and installation of dog runs).

The Clerk gave a brief update noting that the Planning Application had been withdrawn however, Ovington Parish Council's comments have been logged in the system.

Otterwood Farm – No update at the moment. The site still has to go to planning committee where DC Lynda Turner will be speaking against the application.

Accounts and Precept update:

<i>Payments Received</i>	<i>Payments to be made</i>	
None.	ICO Direct Debit	£47.00
	Bank Service Charge (May/June)	£8.50
	HMRC Taxes (May/June)	£101.40
	Clerk's expenses (June/July)	£18.25

After a brief discussion, agreed unanimously. KW signed the bank reconciliations.

To discuss and decide on Parish Online's free offer for a gov.uk site/email

The Clerk gave a report on the available options from Parish Online to move to a registered domain. After further discussion, Cllr. Agreed unanimously.

New email address for the Parish Clerk:

`clerk@ovingtonparish.gov.uk`

To consider the Solicitor cost to adopt land assets from Breckland District Council:

The Clerk informed the Council that out of three quotes requested from solicitors to carry out the works, one got back with a quote of £950 plus VAT for each Land Asset. After a brief discussion, it was agreed unanimously to pursue both land assets in Ovington.

Updates / Progress:

- Telephone box – Cllr. PB has put a metal plate across the bottom of the phone box to repair the gap. Chair KW has the red paint and will look into getting it painted shortly.
- Bus stop for 'North Ovington' – Cllr. KM informed the Clerk that the wrong location had been proposed. She gave the Clerk a map detailing the exact spot. Clerk to continue to speak with Highways on getting an unofficial bus stop marked there.

Highways or Village Issues:

Potholes continue to be an issue. Clerk to report if necessary. Cllr. PB repaired the broken dog waste bin.

Next Meeting(s):

16 September 2026 at 7:30pm in Village Hall, then: 25 November.

PC documents at:

ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Rainfall

Tim



June 2026 rainfall total remained at: 60.5mm ($2\frac{3}{8}$ ").

As of 25 July we have had no rain! The forecast is suggesting only one day with possible light showers before the end of the month.

A water *Temporary Use Ban* also known as a 'hosepipe ban' has been in place since 11 July. There are a complicated set of exceptions but for most of us it means no mains water can be put through a hosepipe for the foreseeable future.

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

Event Review:

Line Dancing and Barbecue on 11 July.

For the second time we welcomed *The Flying High Line Dancers* to our line dancing and barbecue afternoon.

The weather was perfect with sunny intervals and after our delicious barbecue we tried to show off our dancing skills.

Line dancing is a lot harder than you think and several times we were bumping into each other and completely confused.

However it was great fun and a very enjoyable time was had by all.

Forthcoming Events:

Car Boot Sale: Saturday 5 September – 9:00am–1:00pm

Have a good clear out!

We are holding a Car Boot Sale in the village hall grounds.

Parking is available.

£5 per pitch, book soon because there are limited numbers. As usual, to book please contact Kaz on 07880935765

An Evening of Mediumship with Jon Julian: 5 Oct 7:00 for 7:30pm

Book early so as to avoid disappointment.

£10 per person paid in advance, tickets from Kaz: 07880935765

Should be an interesting evening.

For further details of these events visit our Facebook page or web-site:
ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

Regular Events:

- Coffee mornings every Monday from 10:30am to noon. Tea, coffee and plenty of cake!
- Yoga classes every Tuesday, 7:00-8:00pm.
- Indoor carpet bowls alternate Wednesdays 7:00 for 7:30pm, come and try your skill.
- Youth Club last Friday of the month.

The Village Hall is available to hire, only £6 per hour for village residents or £12 if you live outside the village. Please ring Mike on 07733236689 (mike@snicket.uk).

If you wish to contact the committee with any ideas etc please e-mail
ovingtonvillagehall.ovington@gmail.com

St John the Evangelist Services

Jean Rockett-Woods



I have completed my ministry training for this year and my licence to take services in our lovely church of St John the Evangelist has been renewed. I pray that you are all keeping well and look forward to seeing you at our Sunday church services, which end with coffee, tea and cake/biscuits.

With love in Christ, Jean

Tel: 07749 870485

Sun	2 Aug – 10:30am	Holy Communion	PM
Sun	9 Aug – 10:30am	Morning Worship	JRW
Sun	16 Aug – 10:30am	Family Service	JRW
Sun	23 Aug – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	JRW
Sun	30 Aug – 10:30am	All Age Worship	JRW

PM = Revd. Patrick Morrow
JRW = Jean Rockett-Woods

A big thank you to all the helpers at our church; to those mowing the grass, strimming and keeping the path clear – to all the ladies who regularly clean the church – to those ladies who arrange the flowers within our church your work is very much appreciated, especially during this prolonged heatwave!!

Other notable services within the '*Ashill Group*':

Sun	23 Aug – 6:30pm	Hymns on a Summer's Evening *** St Nicholas, Ashill ***	PM
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Evolution ?

Revd Patrick Morrow

Because I have two jobs – as your rector and as a mental-health chaplain – I am guaranteed interesting conversations every week. One thing I have been asked to do, more than once, is defend the account of creation in Genesis, relative to the theory of evolution. So I have surprised people – or maybe disappointed them – by saying that I think the theory of evolution is correct. It is a coherent and adequate explanation of how all life develops and adapts over time – over vast amounts of time. It comes with a superabundance of fossil evidence.

Now, it is true that if you asked me to speak at length about evolution, I would soon be out of my depth. That said, if asked to talk about the first chapter of Genesis, I could, I think, babble on to the point of needing to be interrupted. I think Genesis 1 is beautiful. But it is not an explanation of the formation of the world, in competition with scientific explanations. It paints a picture of a flat earth, with the sky as a huge dome, holding back rain-waters. And famously, it also envisages the creation of light before the creation of the sun. This takes nothing away from its majesty. It simply shows that it has the quality of legend.

The verse and chapter numbers in the Bible were added many centuries after the Bible was compiled. The way we have things set out now, it seems that the climax of chapter one is the creation of human beings (male and female) on day six. But most scholars think that is wrong, and the real point comes at the beginning of chapter 2, with God's ceasing from activity, and resting, with, in other words, the creation of the Sabbath, or Shabbat. That is justified on linguistic grounds, but I will also dare to say that I find it a wonderful idea. It means that the human beings' first full day was a day of rest. We are not only in the image of God when we work, and strive, and serve; we are as much in the divine image when we cease from any goal-oriented behaviour, and simply enjoy, enjoy creation, and enjoy company, and claim our freedom to enjoy.

Here we are in August, a month of rest for many. My hope is that we will all get some rest, in some way, and some chance for recreation – “re-creation” – in the fullest sense.

Email: frpatrickmorrow@gmail.com

Revd Patrick Morrow,
Tel: 01760 330258

Youth Club

Kaz Mason

6:00 – 8:00pm last Friday of the month

For ages 6–16 years

FREE entry, squash & biscuits

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



Check our Facebook page: Ovington Youth Club, Norfolk

Please txt / call Kaz if you wish your child to attend: 07880935765

Ovington Youth Club earned the 'Welcomes Young Carers 2025' badge.

PCC Election Result

Tim

Our new Police and Crime Commissioner is Colin Sutton, previously a Detective Chief Inspector in the Metropolitan Police. He is the first PCC from the *Reform UK* party.

Candidate	Party	Votes
Christopher John Brown	Lib-Dem	10,499
Mark Rhoades Buckton	Restore	13,319
Beth Jones	Labour	14,192
Marcus Howard Pearcey	Independent	16,402
Martin Kenneth Albert Schmierer	Green	16,907
Colin Sutton	Reform UK	32,647
Matthew Patrick Taylor	Conservative	18,343

Turnout was a lowly 17%, which was probably to be expected and there were 429 spoilt ballot papers, which is a relatively high percentage compared to other elections.

Your Ovington Oracle

Editor



The Ovington Oracle is a booklet produced monthly and delivered to every house in the village, a few copies are also sent further afield.

The Oracle has no 'paid-for' advertising and is edited, printed and delivered by volunteers.

The Parish Council pays for paper and toner expenses, which is about £250 per year (12 issues).

Please share any news or interesting snippets from local life, it add greatly to *The Ovington Oracle*, just 150 words makes a half page story.

And Finally

Tim

These quotes may open your mind about mathematics and the last one is so true:

- >> Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas. ... Albert Einstein
- >> If people do not believe that mathematics is simple, it is only because they do not realize how complicated life is. ... John von Neumann
- >> It is impossible to be a mathematician without being a poet in soul. ... Sofia Kovalevskaya
- >> Mathematics compares the most diverse phenomena and discovers the secret analogies that unite them. ... Joseph Fourier
- >> Nature is written in mathematical language. ... Galileo Galilei
- >> 'Obvious' is the most dangerous word in mathematics. ... Eric Temple Bell
- >> Arithmetic is being able to count to twenty without taking off your shoes. ... Mickey Mouse !

Submission deadline for next issue: 24 August

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Please send contributions to above or email: oracle@ovington.org.uk