

**Otterburn Parish Council – Parish Clerk's Report
(6 May – 30 June, 2026)**

6a: Bus stop outside Memorial Hall: You have agreed for NCC to attach the bus stop flag to the shelter replacing the faded existing sign. Meantime I am waiting for an update on the progress of the installation of a bus stop post with timetable for the westward direction service.

6c: NCC consultation of safety features at Otterburn Mill bridge (B6320): I have been advised NCC is making progress towards providing possible options to make the crossing of the Otterburn Mill bridge safer.

6d: Information board damage: I am pleased to report that Northumberland National Park Rangers have made the repair to the information board at Otterburn Mill.

6e: Ray Windfunds CIC Parish Council representative: You will be aware that Mr Kevin Appleby has volunteered to be the Parish Council representative on the CIC from the end of July, 2026.

9a: LTP feedback from NCC: I have shared the feedback from NCC advising that the safety improvements at Otterburn Mill bridge are included within the LTP and options are being identified. Regarding the requested safety features for pedestrians between Willow Green junction and the first Otterburn Hall entrance, NCC feedback is "*The current accident record does not justify intervention at this time. Due to the distance involved a foot-way is likely to be beyond the scope of the LTP programme*". You will be asked to consider what, if any, action, to take.

9b: Otterburn Memorial Hall generator fuel: Cllr Bloomer will provide details of a proposal for a contingency fund for fuel for the generator.

9c: Play Area inspection review: I have shared the report as well as a summary following the recent annual inspection and you will need to consider the work to be undertaken.

9d: Maintenance of the public seating: You have agreed to contract Mr Hartshorne to undertake maintenance review and required work of the public seating across the village.

9e: 682 bus service: I have spoken to Chris Curtis (NCC) who advises he should be able to provide details of the extended 682 service in the next day or so together the confirmed timetable.

9f: Damaged post box: The Royal Mail has provided an explanation of the process and timescale of the repair. The door has been sent away for repair and advise the post box should be operational again by end of September. I have highlighted that the protective plastic has largely disappeared and that the post box is open to the weather elements.

9g: Digital switchover update: NCC has provided a briefing session on the progress of the digital switchover schedule to happen in January 2027. I will provide an update at the meeting.

9h: Food bank proposal: Following discussion at the last meeting Ray Windfunds has been approached to determine whether there is a possibility for funding for a container for a possible food bank for non-perishable items. Possible locations are being considered including the car park at the Millennium Green and you will be asked how the Parish Council should proceed.