

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Overseal held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 5 May 2016.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr A W Cook, Mr R Cox, Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner, Mrs M Elton, Mrs S Jones, Mr M A Knight, Mrs R O'Brien and Mr S C Sharpe.

In attendance: Cllr P Murray (South Derbyshire District Council) and Cllr Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M S Patrick.

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 14 May 2015 were approved as a true record.

2 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman thanked all Parish Councillors for their help during the year, especially at challenging times, such as when the travellers took up residence on the football pitches, and when the football pitch contractors were undertaking the work. She also thanked the Clerk for his work during the year, the District Councillors - particularly Cllr P Murray who was always available when needed, and Cllr K Lauro.

The new Caretaker had made an good start in her work with the Council, liaising well with Village Hall user groups, and organising use of the facilities. The Litter Pickers had worked well and had now been joined by a local volunteer who acted during the regular staff's periods of absence. The Footpaths Group had also achieved a great deal during the year.

It had been a busy year, with the reconstruction of the top pitch, dealing with the travellers and expressing strong views on planning applications for large housing developments. Dog fouling continued to be a problem.

Members thanked the Chairman for her work and leadership during the year.

3 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr P Murray expressed his thanks for the help of the Parish Councillors during this first year of representing the area and for accepting him as part of the meetings. Planning control had been most difficult, but that had largely been because the government had changed the rules concerning the content of the Local Plan. However, the Plan had recently been approved and would provide a framework for future developments.

The defective wall in Moira Road was currently being repaired properly; potholes were an ongoing problem, but the County Council was dealing with them.

Cllr Murray had been in the background during the incursion by the travellers and he thanked Mr G S Knight, who had accompanied him in visiting problem areas.

4 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Mrs K Lauro had reported on local issues, but also on county-wide matters which could affect the Parish. The budget restrictions had produced consultations on libraries, transport and adult social care; the County Council had prioritised support for vulnerable people and the ring-fenced services.

Planning had affected villages as developers had taken advantage of the fact that the Local Plan had not been confirmed. The summer programme of

pothole repairs and surface dressing of roads, including Moira Road, had now started.

Cllr Mrs Lauro had visited many schools in the area and was aware of the concern about the increasing numbers of pupils and absence of places to accommodate them. The County Council was opposing the conversion of all schools into Academies.

She thanked the Council for their support during the year.

5 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer submitted the Receipts & Payments Account as at 31 March 2016, which showed a healthy balance. The largest expenditure had been on the reconstruction of the football pitch, and the corresponding grants which had funded much of the project.

The meeting ended at 7.20 pm

Chairman