

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Pavilion, Woodville Road, Overseal on Thursday 4 April 2019.

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

In attendance: Cllr MJ Grant (South Derbyshire District Council)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

149 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mr A W Cook and Mrs M Elton declared an interest in minute no 155 (Planning applications, application no 0190) as relatives of the applicants.

150 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A resident of Lullington Road expressed concerns about traffic speeds in Lullington Road and the fact that HGVs exceeding the permitted weight level of 7.5 tons regularly approached the village using that road. He suggested that installation of speed bumps or bollards preventing vehicles from mounting the footpath may help. The Chairman explained that these concerns had been sent to the County Council and the Police several times but that they did not consider that such measures were warranted. He was advised to make his concerns known directly to the County Council and Police, with support from neighbours if possible.

151 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

152 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

152.1 District Council. Cllr Grant reported responses which Cllr Ford had received concerning the flooding problems at the end of Woodville Road. Further details are included in the Clerk's Report.

An assessment of all play areas in the District had been carried out on behalf of the District Council and this had determined that many Parish Councils did not have a regular inspection system, but relied on the annual inspection by the District Council's Insurers. Those that did varied between weekly, monthly and longer inspection periods and he was pressing for a standard system to be introduced across the District.

Cllr Grant was asked whether there was any progress towards a decision on the Council's request to have the recycling bins removed from the car park and he agreed to look into this matter.

152.2 Police. The crime statistics for March showed a considerable increase, including several ABH/Common Assault crimes, which were of concern. Members queried what benefit the Parish was obtaining from the recent significant increase in the Police precept.

152.3 County Council. The damaged sign at the traffic lights junction had been removed, but a replacement was required.

153 CLERK'S REPORT

153.1 Progress report. A progress report on various matters previously raised was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

153.2 Forward Planning. The Council received the report on Forward Planning issues (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).

153.3 Use of the Pavilion. Dancey's Daycare had commenced their use of the Pavilion on 25 March for childcare during term time between 7.30-8.45 am and 3.30-6.00 pm. The original decision about charges was made in August last year when it was anticipated that the use would start in January; however, because of the various formalities, it did not commence until March. It was therefore agreed that the concessionary charge of £5 per hour would operate until 30 June and be £8 per hour thereafter. The action taken was confirmed.

153.4 Civic Council meeting. An invitation had been received to attend the Civic Council meeting of South Derbyshire District Council, when the new Chairman of the Council would be installed. It was to be held on 23 May at 6.45. Noted.

153.5 Request for donation. West Leicestershire CFR Group had requested a donation towards their work following the successful training event in the use of defibrillators and the Group said that it cost £6000 per year to keep it going. A donation of £100 was agreed.

153.6 Internal Audit. The Clerk had previously obtained the contact details from DALC of an auditor to replace the previous Internal Auditor. The person concerned was based in Chesterfield and was proposing to carry out an electronic audit only. He had provisionally agreed with Mr J Fargher, Town Clerk of Ashby de la Zouch that he would carry out the audit under the auspices of Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Councils.

RESOLVED: That the Council appoint the Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Councils as Internal Auditor.

153.7 Street naming.

153.7.1 Moira Road development. The District Council had invited the Council to advise whether any of the following suggested street names were acceptable:

- Ash Close/Gardens;
- Poplar Close/Gardens;
- Seale Close/Gardens; or
- Magnolia Close/Gardens.

Preference was expressed for Ashby Leys (the historic name of an adjoining field), with Poplar Close second choice and Farm Close as third choice.

153.7.2 Acresford Road development. The District Council had invited the Council to advise whether any of the following suggested street names were acceptable:

- Emmanuel Close/Lane/Drive
- Appleby Lane/Drive
- Knights Lane/Drive
- St Peters Close/Lane/Drive
- St Laurence Close/Lane/Drive
- Stapenhill Close/Lane.

As none of these had any local significance, the Council's preferences would be Tithebarn Close/Drive (the historic name of a field opposite the site), Lambersitch Close/Drive (being a small enclosure where lambs were kept), Cross Close, Ferny Close or Home Close (all having local connections). It was noted that all of these names derived from records in the Stafford Record Office.

153.8 Footpath 13 – bridge. The County Council had confirmed that bridging a man-made watercourse such as a ditch was the responsibility of the landowner, not the County Council and as such the cost could not be included in the Minor Maintenance grant scheme. The cost involved was £125.20; the cost of a barrier would also fall outside the scheme; however, the County Council had now approved the reimbursement.

153.9 Standards in Public Life. Following a review by the Committee which advised the Prime Minister on ethical standards, DALC had produced a summary of their report (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).

There was a clear need for workable sanctions to be applied in appropriate cases and this aspect was covered in the draft. The Council especially welcomed item 1.c: *A new presumption that councillors are acting in their official capacity, including when on social media.* It would be necessary to make it clear when doing so whether they were expressing personal views only.

153.10 Use of the Village Hall. The Running Group requested a reduction in the charge for using the Village Hall on 30 March for their AGM and, following consultation, a 50% reduction was agreed. This was confirmed.

153.11 SDDC consultation on Private Hire Licensing. The District Council invited comments on the proposed updating of the Private Hire Policy and Conditions (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).

The Council supported the proposed changes.

153.12 Banners on the Village Hall fence. The Pre-school had requested permission to display a banner indicating that the Pre-school was based in the Village Hall; they pointed out that other organisations using the Pavilion were doing so.

Members considered that the practice was undesirable unless it was of short duration such as advertising an event about to take place, or a new facility starting up. The latter applied to the Banners currently displayed outside the Pavilion. In the case of the Pre-school, it was plain that this would be long term.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Pre-school be informed that a small plaque could be displayed at the Village Hall, and to seek planning advice before doing so;

(b) That, as a matter of policy, banners be permitted for two weeks only before and two weeks after an event, and that banners helping new initiatives to get established be allowed but that they be not expected to be displayed on a permanent basis.

153.13 Temporary footpath closure. The County Council had given notice that they were to make an order to divert Footpath 26 temporarily for safety reasons during the installation of sewers. However, Members noted that the Footpaths Officer had visited the site and that several obstructions had been removed from the original route. However, others remained, including Heras

fencing panels and general rubbish. Also, a diversion had been created at one end of the path. The County Council would be asked to insist on the materials being removed and asked to consider a temporary diversion rather than a closure.

153.14 Flooding problems, Woodville Road. The County Council had agreed to clear gullies in Woodville Road which contributed to the flooding and to repair sections of fence.

154 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS

The reports were received; it was noted that a small instruction board was missing from one of the pieces of gym equipment.

155 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications for decision:

0187 Two storey rear extension, 223 Burton Road. As the consultation time expired prior to the meeting, and after consulting Members, the following response was sent: No objection.

0189 Certificate of Lawfulness, proposed extension, Collie Croft, Green Lane. Following consultation with Members the response submitted was that the Council has no objection to the Certificate being issued.

0150 Replacement rear single-storey extension, 175 Shortheath. No objection.

0190 Single storey extension, 227 Burton Road. No objection.

(Mr A W Cook and Mrs M Elton declared an interest in minute no 155 (Planning applications, application no 0190) as relatives of the applicants and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon)

0240 Removal of existing carport and replacement with wood-framed carport, 1 Lullington Road. No objection.

0256 Rear extensions, 47 Coronation Street. No objection.

156 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

Mr Cox had purchased BT Mesh equipment to extend the wifi signal from the Village Hall to the Pavilion.

157 WEBSITE

None.

158 ACCOUNTS

158.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*2672	John Mason Ltd	Hedge cutting & strim bank at recreation ground	200.00	40.00	240.00
*2673	Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre	Donation	75.00		75.00
**2674	Moirs Replan	Printing & photocopying	147.04		147.04
2675	DALC	Subscription	653.31		653.31
2676	S Ruddle	Caretaker	575.37		575.37
2677	E Evans	Litter	134.54		134.54

2678	J M Summerfield	Litter	74.39		74.39
2679	J E White	Salary & expenses	1199.48	21.80	1221.28
2680	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE	670.20		670.20
2682	P Stone	Mowing bowling green and Pavilion surrounds	145.00		145.00
2683	Ian Stone Gardening Services	Pitch maintenance	760.00		760.00
2684	V Barker	Deputising for Caretaker	108.94		108.94
2685	KH Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Cleaning materials	96.93	19.37	116.30
2686	Yee Group Ltd	Replace key pad for intruder alarm at Village Hall	181.09	36.22	217.31
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	19.00	3.80	22.80
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	37.67		37.67
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to old changing rooms	18.05		18.05
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to Village Hall	493.99		493.99
D/D	British Gas	Supply to Village Hall	2643.50	371.19	3014.69

* These invoices were paid between meetings to avoid unnecessary delay.

158.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	807.50
L Hardwidge	Pavilion Lettings	137.00
Various	Allotment rents	45.00
Community Cafe	Donation	1000.00
R Leedham	Rent of land at Lullington Road	1117.00
South Derbyshire District Council	Toilets refund	1204.12
SSE	Part refund of gas bill	86.05

158.3 Audit. The Council's financial documents were inspected.

159 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

159.1 Car displaying advertisements. It was reported that a car was being used to display advertisements on premises in Burton Road; this would be referred to the District Council to check whether planning permission was required or had been obtained.

159.2 Vehicles at the car park. At least two vehicles appeared to have been stored at the car park and it was believed that they were not taxed. This would be checked and, if confirmed, referred to the County Council as landowners to have the vehicles removed.

159.3 Cars on the verge, Hallcroft Avenue. Several cars were parked regularly on the verge in Hallcroft Avenue and it appeared that they may be related to the nearby development at Moira Road. The developers would be asked to make alternative arrangements to prevent damage to the verges.

159.4 Dog bins. A request had been received for a dog/litter bin to be provided at Ashwood Park estate; another request had been received for a larger bin to be provided at Valley Road as it was necessary for it to be emptied twice a week. It was agreed to provide a larger bin at Valley Road and transfer the existing bin to Ashwood Park estate near to the bridge on footpath 13, but not too close to the children's play area.

159.5 Bowling green. A request had been received from a small group of people wishing to use the bowling green. While there was no intention to establish a club, it was agreed that they could use the green in its present condition.

159.6 Proposed wall surrounding the Village Hall car park. Enquiries would be made of Burton College as to whether they could assist in providing a dwarf wall to replace the sleeper wall which was deteriorating.

160 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items in pursuance of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

161 CLERK'S REPORT

161.1 Water and gas bills. The Clerk reported fully on discussions with Water-Plus and British Gas respectively concerning invoices which were inaccurate or addressed to the wrong organisation. Further efforts to rectify the situation were ongoing.

161.2 Electrical repairs. The quotations of A & J Bartlett Ltd for repairs needed after the recent safety inspections had been carried out, together with a further quotation for installation of a emergency lighting system in the Pavilion, were noted but the Clerk was asked to obtain a further quotation for comparison purposes.

162.3 Public toilets. A letter from the District Council was submitted setting out draft terms for the transfer of the toilets to the Parish Council, subject to committee approval. Noted.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm

Chairman