

# OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Pavilion, Woodville Road, Overseal on Thursday 2 August 2018.

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

**Apologies for absence** were received from Mrs M Elton, Mr J Howes, Mr M A Knight and Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

## 49 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mr R Cox declared an interest in minute no. 55, planning applications 0711 and 0712 relating to land at Acresford Road, as a neighbour of the site.

## 50 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A resident drew attention to the amount of litter, including food waste, which was accumulating in Coronation Street since the opening of a fast food premises. While the litter Pickers attended the area periodically, it was thought that even provision of a litter bin would not affect the situation materially.

Parking problems at the junctions of Woodlands Road/Coronation Street, and Valley Road/Lullington Road would be referred to the PCSO as in both cases parking at the junctions made visibility for emerging vehicles very poor and potentially dangerous.

There was some evidence of speeding in Woodlands Road and Coronation Street, including motorcycles doing 'wheelies' at high speed. The resident would report registration numbers to the PCSO.

## 51 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

## 52 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

**52.1 District Council.** No matters were raised.

**52.2 Police.** The crime statistics for July were reported. The Police had conducted informal speed checks in Lullington Road and Moira Road and 7 motorists travelling in Moira Road were to receive advisory letters. In addition, further speed checks were to be carried out shortly.

**52.3 County Council.** There was a pothole in the pavement in Main Street at the junction with the path to Bailey Avenue. This was considered to be a trip hazard and would be reported to the County Council for repair.

## 53 CLERK'S REPORT

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

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

**53.3 Community Involvement Scheme.** The County Council had invited a representative to attend a focus group later in the year, which would concentrate on how councils could take part in carrying out the following projects, or developing the ideas further.

- Identifying a Highway Warden to report defects to the County Council;
- Sharing information about planned highway works;
- Promoting resilience by assisting with flood risk management and snow;
- Undertaking low risk projects such as sign cleaning, litter picking, grass cutting and graffiti removal.

The Council had agreed to be represented at focus groups if they were to be held reasonably locally, but the venue was Matlock. The County Council had agreed to discuss the Council's views if they could be submitted soon and to provide an update after the meeting(s).

There was a general trend for principal councils to devolve functions to Parish Councils by agreement, largely because the reductions in Government support grants had resulted in budget cuts. The expectation was that Parishes would fund the new services through their precepts.

While the council preferred to wait until a formal approach was received rather than volunteering to undertake such services, it was thought that the Litter Pickers could potentially act as Highway Wardens and that low-risk services such as sign cleaning could be provided through a local contractor.

**53.4 Statement of Community Involvement.** The District Council had produced a draft Statement and invited views upon it. The main purpose of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was to set out how the community, businesses and other organisations with an interest in the development of the District could engage with the planning system. This document would replace the SCI that was adopted by the Council in March 2006.

A number of documents were required to be the subject of consultation e.g. Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans and District Councils had a duty to help with the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. They were also required to consult with a variety of 'specific consultation bodies' including other planning authorities, and intended to include voluntary bodies representing the interests of, for example, disabled people, ethnic minorities, business groups and those whose activities benefitted the District.

The process of involvement in planning applications would remain the same and therefore continued to include Parish Councils.

Noted.

**53.5 Action grants.** The County Council invited applications for small grants from voluntary groups, clubs and charities to apply for Action Grants to support projects or activities which would benefit local people. The themes were:

- Youth activity;
- Community safety;
- Community activity; and
- Physical activity and sport.

Grants of up to £500 would be available over the next two years, plus a few larger grants. This would be published on the Council's website and notice boards.

**53.6 Daisy Lane - entrance.** The District Council had been asked to install a gate to allow vehicular access for maintenance, but which would prevent access by travellers but had not yet done so. They had apparently taken the Parish Council's offer to contribute towards the cost as an indication that the Parish Council would carry out the work, and suggested that it would require planning permission. The Clerk would discuss the matter with the District Council and furnish further plans.

**53.7 Internal Auditor.** Ian Fraser, the Council's Internal Auditor, had relinquished the post because of ill health. Enquiries were being made to identify possible replacements.

**53.8 Proposed industrial development at Chilcote.** The County Council initially acknowledged receipt of the request for their support, but had now referred the matter to Officers to investigate further. Mrs Heather Wheeler MP supported the council in its concerns over the traffic implications and Cllr Murray was in talks with the developers to make it clear that there needed to be 'a robust and workable transport plan to take vehicles north and south without utilising already overwhelmed roads'.

Members emphasised the existing traffic levels on A.444, which meant that vehicles were at a standstill in both directions during peak times. Adding large quantities of other vehicles - suppliers, deliveries, workers etc., would make the situation intolerable. These views would be forwarded to Cllrs. P Murray and Mrs M E Hall together with North West Leicestershire District Council.

**53.9 Hooborough Brook - fence.** The potentially dangerous fence was reported to the relevant Officer at Derbyshire County Council with a request for information on the contacts at both Derbyshire and Leicestershire to ensure that the fence was repaired quickly. He had passed on the request and asked that 'it should be put to a higher priority than normal' because of the health and safety issues.

**53.10 Bowling green fence.** A quotation had been received from DSK Engineering for installation of chain link fencing to be attached to the existing concrete posts, after under-cutting the hedge. In view of the cost, other solutions would be explored. It was agreed to arrange for the hedges surrounding the green to be trimmed.

**53.11 Horse-riding, Bath Lane.** Leicestershire County Council had refused to install any warning signs. The Police had been asked to check the website of the British Horse Society regularly to identify problem areas.

**53.12 Valley Road development.** A reply from the Managing Director of the developers had been received as follows:

*I write in response to your email dated 07 July 2018, now that I have had the opportunity to discuss with my team and also visit site myself.*

*I would answer the points made in your email as follows:*

- 1. I would confirm that we have not submitted any invoices to residents to pay for upkeep of landscaped areas and are not collecting monthly fees. Once the estate landscaped areas are fully completed, Management charges will commence, in accordance with the estimated charges agreed by each purchaser at the time of their reservation.*

2. *Skips have been removed from site and the compound area has been consolidated into a smaller area, adjacent to Plot 1 on the development.*
3. *The stile at the exit of the development is the original stile that was in place prior to the development commencing. Having checked the planning permission granted, we cannot see any obligations to upgrade or amend the stile, and currently have no further proposals to upgrade at this time.*
4. *The play area installation has unfortunately stalled as additional tree and hedge removal is required, which will have to be undertaken after the nesting season. We have a meeting arranged with the planning officer to discuss completion of the play area.*
5. *Any blocked drains are reported to our Customer Care team and dealt with accordingly. Unfortunately, when residents flush items that they shouldn't, this can have a negative impact on the drainage network.*

*Finally, I can confirm that we have agreed terms with a contractor to carry out the adoption works to roads and footpaths, however we currently have a number of technical matters to resolve with the Highways Department before works commence, which we hope will be very soon.*

The Council was disappointed that the developers were not doing more to enable access to neighbouring rights of way and to complete outstanding work. The failure to bridge the ditch and to provide a suitable barrier at the edge of the site would be drawn to the attention of South Derbyshire District Council.

**53.13 Footpath diversions.** Notice had been received of two proposed diversions. Footpath 13 passed through the Valley Road estate and the diversion was to align the path with the new roads. Footpath 26 crossed the proposed development at Poplar Farm, Moira Road and the diverted route would run around the edges.

Both of these proposals had been considered before, but the new Orders were submitted because of 'technical issues'. In the case of footpath 26, the Council said that there was '*No objection, but the footpath at the top end of the site needed clearing, and the stile and marker post replaced.*' (minute no. 153.5 April 2018); in the case of footpath 13, the diversion was considered in April 2017 (minute 161.7) when no objection was raised but the request for the barrier etc. was made.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Council object to the proposed diversion of footpath 13 on the grounds that proper provision had not been made to link with other rights of way in the vicinity;

(b) That no objection be raised to the diversion of footpath 26, but that the developers be requested to install route marker posts.

**53.14 Bowls Club.** The Club was dealing with the final outstanding matters following its demise and intended to donate the money raised to the Air Ambulance. It had asked whether the Council would contribute the remaining 5 months' rent, amounting to £62.50, which would then enable the target of £5000 to be reached. This was declined as it was understood that the bank account of the club had been closed and final arrangements made.

**53.15 Request for grant.** Community Transport (Swadlincote) had requested a grant towards the cost of replacing aging computers and software. It was agreed to make a grant of £100.

**53.16 Car parking charges, Willington.** Willington Parish Council had asked for support for their objections to the proposed introduction of car parking charges at a picnic site, by the County Council. The Council supported the objection and would suggest that Willington promote the campaign through Facebook.

**54 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS**

The Inspection Reports were submitted and required repairs to the play equipment and the wire cover to a security light at the Village Hall.

**55 PLANNING APPLICATIONS****The following applications had been approved:**

0455 Listed building consent - replacement of existing garage doors with glazed doors, The Stableyard, Church Farm, Main Street

0578 Consent to top, lop or cut down trees protected by TPO 28, land adj. 68 Moira Road (subject to permission from the legal owner)

0518 First floor & rear extension and erection of detached garage with accommodation above, 163 Burton Road

0273 Further amendment - demolition of existing garage and erection of extensions, 354 Burton Road.

**Applications for decision:**

0273 Further amendment - demolition of existing garage and erection of extensions, 354 Burton Road. In view of the short timescale for a response, Members' comments were sought and a response of 'No objection' was submitted.

0711 Approval of reserved matters, land at Acresford Road

0712 Variation of condition 3 of permission 2015/1063, land at Acresford Road. The variation reflects the fact that part of the site cannot be built on because of ground conditions.

These applications were related and were considered together. The Clerk reported that the S.106 agreement would have to be renegotiated because of the changes to the proposed development and the District Council needed to know what projects they should consider for funding. This would be considered in detail at the next meeting.

(Mr R Cox declared an interest in these applications as a neighbour and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).

0663 Change of use from shop to residential dwelling and single storey extension, 28a Coronation Street. Supported.

**56 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS**

It was reported that the Darby & Joan Club had been wound up and therefore no longer used the Village Hall. The Club's officials would be asked to provide a copy of their final accounts and to return the keys to the cupboard which they had used for storage..

**57 WEBSITE**

Other than the matters referred to above, no further action was needed.

**58 ACCOUNTS****58.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

<b>Cheque</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
*2585	A Williamson	Deputising for Caretaker	60.00		60.00
2586	S Ruddle	Caretaker	572.22		572.22
2587	E Evans	Litter	134.54		134.54
2588	J M Summerfield	Litter	93.96		93.96
2589	Glasdon UK Ltd	Dog bin	215.11	43.02	258.13
2590	Peach Properties	Service boilers	210.00		210.00
2591	P Stone	Mowing around Pavilion	145.00		145.00
2592	S Fern	Painting railings	722.00		722.00
2593	Ian Stone Gardening Services	Install stone at entrance to play area	95.00		95.00
2594	K H Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Cleaning Materials	124.99	25.01	150.00
2595	A Cook	Reimburse cost of hinges & tool for dog bin	29.67	5.95	35.62
2596	Community Transport (Swadlincote)	Donation towards IT project	100.00		100.00
D/D	SSE	Electricity to Village Hall	553.66	110.73	664.39
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	21.95	4.39	26.34
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	31.16		31.16

**58.2 Receipts**

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	1105.00
L Hardwidge	Pavilion lettings	20.00

**58.3 Audit.** The Council's financial documents were inspected.

**58.4 Quarterly Budget Report.** The Council considered the report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes). Noted.

**58 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.

**59 CAR PARK AND NATURE AREA**

The County Council would retain the car park and permit its use by the public out of school hours; they were willing to discuss use of the Nature Area with the Council.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Council agree to take a lease of the woodland area to the rear of the car park;

(b) That as long a lease as possible be sought (up to 99 years), subject to the Parish Council having the right to terminate the lease on 12 months' notice after the initial five years;

(c) That Crane & Walton, Solicitors, be instructed to act for the Council in relation to the lease;

(d) That the County Council be requested to require the District Council to remove the recycling equipment from the car park.

**The meeting ended at 8.55 pm**

**Chairman**