

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 1 December 2011.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr D Baldaro, Mr R Cox, Mr R J Forsyth, Mr A R Hart, Mrs S Jones, Mr M A Knight, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr M S Patrick and Mr S C Sharpe.

In attendance: Cllr Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D McMillan , PCSO.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Frost (South Derbyshire District Council).

55 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

56 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

57 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2011, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

58 CLERK'S REPORT

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

58.2 Lullington Road allotments. The Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place of those persons expressing an interest in taking a plot at the proposed allotments, at which the level of demand had been quite clear. Accordingly, the Council agreed to enter into the lease with South Derbyshire District Council at to instruct the Solicitors to prepare a sub-lease from the Parish Council to the Overseal Allotments Association.

58.3 Land at Manor School View. The Clerk would press for action to secure the making up of the road, particularly at the entrance to Moira Road, which was uneven.

58.4 Christmas Tree recycling. Trees would be able to be recycled at the Woodville Road car park from 26th December 2011 to 8th January 2012.

58.5 NALC Consultations. The Council considered DALC Circular 56/2011, giving an outline of two consultations on which NALC invited responses (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

Neighbourhood Planning Regulations. The Council considered it essential that sensitive areas such as the Green Belt or rural areas should continue to be protected from inappropriate development and that the proposed relaxation of planning control would be a backward step. The concept of Neighbourhood Planning was likely to result in apathy except where an individual's interests were likely to be infringed.

Community Infrastructure Levy. This was considered to be a replacement of the existing S.106 powers to require contributions towards infrastructure projects and in principle was acceptable. However, where development took

place in a particular community, that community should benefit from the levy, rather than it be spent in other parts of the principal authority's area.

58.6 Wreaths for Armistice Day. Several organisations had presented the wreaths obtained by the Council and had made donations. It was agreed to make a donation of £150.00 to include those of the organisations concerned.

58.7 Floor cleaner for the Village Hall. The Caretaker had asked that the Council purchase a floor scrubber for the kitchen and toilets as the larger machine, while excellent for the main hall floor, did not adequately clean the floor coverings in these areas. It was agreed to purchase a suitable machine through ESPO at a cost of £708.00 plus VAT.

58.8 Broadband speeds. For about two years, South Derbyshire District Council had been trying to attract match funding to enable telephone exchanges to be upgraded so as to improve broadband speeds. A possibility now existed through an initiative of Derbyshire County Council and residents were invited to complete a survey of present and future needs. This could be accessed at <http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/broadbandsurvey> .

The Computer Club had enquired whether the Council would agree to change its Internet Service Provider to TalkTalk (from Plusnet) as it could produce considerably higher download speeds than at present. While the cost was competitive and would save the Council a small amount, it did involve the telephone line being switched from BT to TalkTalk. It was agreed to change to TalkTalk.

58.9 Toilets at the Village Hall. Following discussions at the last meeting, a number of contractors had been asked to submit outline schemes and budget prices for upgrading the ladies' toilets and possibly the adjoining disabled toilet/baby change area. A firmer proposal should be available for the next meeting.

58.10 Localism Act. The Localism Bill had now been given Royal Assent and an extract from a plain English guide was circulated. (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

58.11 Path at play area. It was agreed to accept the quotation of Hornsby Plant Hire Ltd in the sum of £730 plus VAT for widening the entrance to the path to the play area at Woodville Road.

58.12 Summer Sports Programme. South Derbyshire District Council were again offering the programme to run during the school summer holidays. It was agreed to make the following bookings:

Date	Times	Event	Cost
Thursday 26 July	2 – 4 pm	Wacky Sports Mobile with Inflatable Laser Games	190
Thursday 2 August	2 – 4 pm	Play & Sports Mobile Combo	200
Thursday 9 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels Mobile	160
Thursday 9 August	6 – 8 pm	Climbing Wall	210
Thursday 16 August	2 – 4 pm	Olympic Mobile	135
Thursday 23 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels mobile	160
Thursday 30 August	2 – 4 pm	Wacky Sports Mobile with Inflatable Laser Games	190
Total cost			1245

59 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application for decision:

0860 Replacement of an existing equipment shed at Barratt Mill, Shortheath. Object. The building would be extremely large and would encroach further into the woodland. The height in particular seemed excessive given that the machinery to be stored was for horticultural and silvicultural purposes. If, however, planning permission were to be granted, it was essential that a condition be attached restricting the use of the building to those purposes only and ancillary to the applicant's premises at Barratt Mill.

60 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

60.1 District Council. The street nameplate for Shortheath at its junction with Moira Road had been damaged and needed replacement. The brown bin collections were to be suspended for seven weeks over the festive season and this was considered to be excessive. The District Council would be asked to include an additional collection. There was also a problem with paper collections from the recycling centre in that it was collected on Friday and again on Sunday morning, causing the site to be untidy during the rest of the week.

60.2 Police. Mr McMillan presented crime statistics for the month, which were generally low. There had been some anti-social behaviour previously but letters had been sent to the parents of the young people concerned and there had been only one subsequent incident, which did not involve any of the recipients of the letters.

A new telephone number for non-urgent crime reports was now operating in Derbyshire – 101.

Asked about the action being taken against the youths who had broken the changing rooms windows, Mr McMillan reported that action was ongoing.

60.3 County Council. A sign indicating the route to the Village Hall from the entrance to Stanleigh Road had been promised but not yet provided. The Clerk would press for action.

61 Margaret Stanhope Mental Health Unit. The Trust were consulting on the possible closure of this building and the Burton Mail was running a campaign against this possibility. The reasons given for this action – which was one of five options – was that community care had resulted in excess capacity and that therefore the current level of provision was too great.

Members were opposed to the proposal. The building provided the only services available to South Derbyshire residents, with a maximum accommodation for 18 younger persons as well as 8 elderly patients. Alternatives would be either Tamworth or Stafford, both involving significant travelling problems for visitors. The facility was very busy and well-used. It was understood that, if the building were to be closed, Queens Hospital would use it for other medical purposes, so there would be no overall financial saving to the NHS.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That the Council support the petition and the Burton Mail's campaign against the proposed closure.

62 ACCOUNTS**62.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
1764	L Baxter	Caretaker	456.37		456.37
1765	J M Summerfield	Litter	58.36		58.36
1766	T Stewart	Litter	243.20		243.20
1767	ESPO	Equipment and supplies for Village Hall toilets	153.29	30.66	183.95
1768	M3C Sports Supplies	Goalposts	951.56	190.31	1141.87
1769	M Guest	Risk assessments	250.00		250.00
1770	Linton & District Poppy Appeal	Donation	150.00		150.00
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	42.00		42.00
D/D	Plusnet	Internet charges	16.00	3.20	19.20
D/D	British Gas	Supply to Village Hall	13.21	5.66	18.87

61.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	495.00
Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness Club	Use of Village Hall	480.00
Various	Wreaths refunds	85.00
Gresley Rovers FC	Pitch rent	250.00

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

63 ITEMS FOR FREE FOR ALL

Invitation to submit nominations for a Civic Award

64 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

64.1 Lights at the supermarket. Further complaints had been received about the new security lights, in that the lights at the front were shining into the bedrooms of premises opposite. The owners would be asked to adjust the lights so as to remove the nuisance, and enquiries would be made of South Derbyshire District Council as to whether they had any relevant powers.

64.2 Right of way, Alexandra Road. Complaints had been received that the owners of the premises were discouraging use of the right of way along their drive. The Clerk would write to them explaining their responsibilities.

64.3 Grit bins. The bins were now locked and the keys given to neighbouring residents who would unlock them when necessary. Details of the residents concerned would be made available to members.

64.4 Village Hall roof. Youths were again playing on the roof. The Clerk would obtain quotations for rollers at the roof edges.

- 64.5 MUGA lights.** A Member reported that there had been occasions when the lights were on for an extended period but the MUGA was not being used, and enquired whether any control could be applied. However, the lights took a period to come to full capacity and switching them on and off frequently would be difficult.
- 64.6 Bus stop near the church.** A request had been received for provision of a litter bin at the stop. The County Council would be asked to consider this.
- 64.7 Planters.** There had been a positive reaction to the planters having been replanted, though the one at Burton Road had been omitted. The Clerk would ask the suppliers to complete the work.
- 64.8 Dog fouling.** There was a particular problem in Coronation Street and the Clerk would ask the District Council to deal with it.
- 64.9 Car park extension.** Members suggested that the unmade section of the car park at the Village Hall should be tarmaced and a verbal estimate had been obtained. This matter would be considered in the context of the budget at the next meeting.
- 64.10 Chairs for the Village Hall.** Provision of more chairs would also be considered in the budget discussions.
- 64.11 Almshouses Committee.** The Chairman reported on a recent meeting of this body, which had included agreement to make gifts to some local residents.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm

Chairman