

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 6 December 2012.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr R Cox, Mrs S Jones, Mr M A Knight, Mr M S Patrick, Mr S C Sharpe and Mr I Sheppard.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R J Forsyth, Mrs R O'Brien, Cllr Mrs M E Hall and Cllr S Frost (South Derbyshire District Council) and Cllr C Jones (Derbyshire County Council).

96 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

97 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A member of the public asked whether traffic lights could be erected at the junction of Burton Road and Woodville Road. He was informed of the recent inspection of the A.444 throughout South Derbyshire and the possibility that several improvements could be made in Overseal. It was not certain that lights would be provided at this site as there were criteria relating to such decisions, but some improvements such as a pedestrian refuge outside the supermarket did seem more likely.

A representative of the Gala Players asked whether the Council would agree in principle to improvements to the stage area at the Village Hall, such as disabled access, possible reconstruction of the stage to enable storage to be provided underneath etc.. It was their intention to seek grants for the project, but the Council's agreement was an essential prerequisite. The Council agreed in principle and pointed out that any works would have to take account of the bookings schedule.

98 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2012, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

99 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

99.1 District Council. None.

99.2 Police. The Chairman reported recent crime figures, which continued to be low. However, several instances of low-level anti-social behaviour were reported and would be referred to the PCSO. Two additional matters would also be reported to him – bad parking outside the school and children abusing adults when alighting from the bus near to the post Office.

99.3 County Council. None.

100 CLERK'S REPORT

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

100.2 Land at Daisy Lane. The Clerk reported that the land had now been transferred to the District Council and they had suggested a site meeting in January to discuss the future use of the land and its transfer to the Parish Council. It was agreed to suggest Friday 18 January in the afternoon and to include the matter in the next agenda to facilitate discussion about possible

uses of the land. The future of the adjoining land at Manor School View could also be considered at the same time.

100.3 Electronic payments. Because HMRC were to require payments of PAYE to be made to them at the time that wages etc were paid to employees, by electronic bank transfer, it was necessary to set up the relevant form of Internet banking. Two signatures were normally required on instruments, though this was to be repealed in the first half of 2013, and plainly two signatures could not apply to Internet banking transactions. Certain other Parish Councils had adopted a system of signing schedules of such payments at the meeting following the payments being made and it was agreed to adopt this.

RESOLVED: (a) That a banking relationship be maintained with National Westminster Bank Plc (the Bank) in accordance with this mandate and that:

- The individuals identified as authorised signatories may, in accordance with the signing rules, sign cheques and give instructions for standing orders, direct debits, electronic payments, banker's drafts and other payments on the accounts even if it causes an account to be overdrawn or exceed any limit;
 - Any authorised signatory may give other instructions or requests for information to the Bank in relation to the accounts; opening accounts with the same signing rules and authorised signatories; closing accounts; or other banking services or products;
 - The Bank may accept instructions that do not have an original written signature provided the Bank is satisfied that the instruction is genuine and subject to any other agreement the Bank may require for those instructions;
 - This mandate will continue until the Parish Council gives the Bank a replacement mandate or the Parish Council passes a resolution changing the signature rules and/or adding or removing and authorised signatory by completing and returning the Change of Signing Authority form in which case this mandate will continue as amended;
- (b) The Bank may act on the instructions, on behalf of the Parish Council, of two authorised signatories plus the Clerk for all matters set out above except for electronic transfers; for electronic transfers, the Bank may act on the instructions of the Clerk only.
- (c) The authorised signatories shall be Mrs C M Knight (Chairman), Mr M S Patrick (Vice-Chairman), Mr S C Sharpe (Member of the Council) and Mr J E White (Clerk).

100.4 NALC – Smaller Councils Committee. Nominations were invited to this body; it was agreed not to make a nomination.

100.5 Setting the Precept – dispensations to vote. DALC had advised that it was necessary to seek dispensations for all members to vote on the Precept, which was scheduled to take place at the January meeting; the Council had the authority to determine such applications. Applications on the necessary forms had been received from several members.

RESOLVED: (a) That dispensations to vote on the setting of the Precept be granted to Mr D Baldaro, Mr R H Cox, Mrs S Jones, Mrs C M Knight, Mr M A Knight, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr M S Patrick, Mr S C Sharpe and Mr I Sheppard.

(b) That such dispensations last until the next elections of Parish Councillors in May 2015.

100.6 Remembrance Sunday. The Clerk reported that donations to the Linton & District Poppy Appeal had now been received from several organisations and further donations were expected. It was agreed to include these in the Council's donation, to total £200.

The Chairman reported that donations made on the day had enabled grants of £144.36 to be made to both the Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes and that the collection had raised a further £20.67 which would also be passed on to the organisations.

100.7 Gorsey Lane road surface. Residents had asked through Cllr Frost for help in obtaining stone to repair the surface of this private road, which was now badly potholed. It was agreed that the Clerk make enquiries of Derbyshire County Council to ascertain whether any roadworks were planned in the near future which would produce surplus material such as scalplings which could be tipped at Gorsey Lees, and to open an account with Breedon Quarries in case purchase of roadstone from them was necessary.

100.8 Improving local government transparency. DALC had advised that the Government was consulting on proposals to extend the requirements which already applied to principal councils and large parish Councils to publish certain information, including information about items of expenditure above £500, details of property held, contracts, salaries of senior employees etc.. The code was currently voluntary, but the government was considering making it obligatory through regulations. NALC was minded to support the proposals, subject to retention of the exemption for smaller parish councils with a budget of less than £200,000. It was agreed to support NALC's views; should there be any suggestion to remove the exemption, the Council would object.

100.9 Summer sports programme. The District Council had invited participation in the programme, which had been changed somewhat from last year. It was agreed to make the following reservations.

Date	Times	Event	Cost
Thursday 25 July	2 – 4 pm	Combat Mobile	180
Friday 2 August	2 – 4 pm	Play & Wacky Sports Mobile	225
Friday 9 August	2 – 4 pm	Wacky sports & Combat Mobile Combo	275
Friday 16 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels Mobile	170
Friday 16 August	6 – 8 pm	Climbing Wall	220
Friday 23 August	2 – 4 pm	Wacky sports & Combat Mobile Combo	275
Thursday 29 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels Mobile	170
Total cost			1515

100.10 Council Tax Base. The Clerk reported that changes in the way the Council Tax base was to be calculated would have had an adverse effect on Parish Councils in that the reduced Tax Base would result in Council Tax payers having to pay more to achieve the same level of Precept. This had been recognised and the government was now to make a grant to Parish Councils roughly equivalent to the loss, with the object that a lower Precept could be levied which would be supplemented by the grant. Council Tax payers would, therefore, pay the same amount for any given level of Precept. However, there was also the possibility that future Precept increases could be capped, so the decision on the level of Precept to be set needed to be considered carefully.

101 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following application had been refused:

0751 Extension, 109 Shortheath (introduce a dominant feature to the rear roof, adversely affecting the character of the locality).

Applications for decision:

0959 Extension with roof terrace, 21 Moira Road. Supported.

0999 Extension (amended plans), 109 Shortheath. Supported.

102 ACCOUNTS

102.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
1875	Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre	Donation	25.00		25.00
1876	L Baxter	Caretaker	426.62		426.62
1877	J M Summerfield	Litter	74.25		74.25
1878	T Stewart	Litter	198.08		198.08
1879	Meon Marketing	Spray paint	55.20	11.04	66.24
1880	South Derbyshire District Council	Refuse collection & emptying dog bins	1241.76	173.68	1415.44
1881	Linton & District Poppy Appeal	Donation for wreaths	200.00		200.00
D/D	British Gas	Electricity to Village Hall	35.01	32.00	67.01
D/D	British Gas	Gas to Village Hall	143.54	7.17	150.71
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	24.50	4.90	29.40
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	35.00		35.00

102.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	410.00
Overseal Pre-school	Use of Village Hall	1665.00
Clubs Complete	Use of Village Hall	200.00
Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness	Use of Village Hall	135.00
Various	Donations re wreaths	95.00

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

103 DATES OF MEETINGS

The following dates for meetings were agreed:

January 10

February 7

March 7

April 4

May 2

104 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

104.1 Low water pressure. Several members reported that there was low water pressure, especially in the mornings. This would again be reported to South Staffordshire Water.

104.2 Flooding, Spring Cottage. The drains at the end of Spring Cottage allowed water to spread across the road, causing ice problems at this time of year. Ashby Woulds Town Council would be asked to make the necessary representations.

104.3 Changing rooms floor. It was suggested that an approach be made to the National Lottery, as it was understood that they had surplus funds available.

104.4 Blocked footpaths. Church Walk was severely blocked at one point and partially blocked at others. To be reported to Derbyshire County Council.

104.5 Drain, Woodville Road. A drain in Woodville Road was damaged and need to be replaced. To be reported to Derbyshire County Council.

104.6 Dog fouling. The Dog Warden was proposing to issue leaflets to every property in the village.

The meeting ended at 8.20 pm

Chairman