

# OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 5 December 2013.

**Present:** Mrs C M Knight - Chairman  
Mr R Cox, Mr A R Hart, Mr D M Holloway, Mrs S Jones, Mr M A Knight, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr M S Patrick, Mr S C Sharpe and Mr I Sheppard.

**In attendance:** Cllr S Frost (South Derbyshire District Council), Cllr Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council).

**Apologies for absence** were received from Mr D McMillan (PCSO).

## 72 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

## 73 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Several members of the public attended the meeting in connection with the request for assistance in patching the road between 106 and 110 Woodville Road. The track provided rear access to several properties on Woodville Road and was also used for deliveries, skips etc. and it was now full of potholes and irregularities. Residents were prepared to carry out work themselves and to contribute towards the costs of repairs, but they considered that simply putting road-stone in the potholes would only be a temporary solution. Part of the track was a public right of way. The Council noted their concerns and would take them into consideration later in the meeting.

A further resident referred to traffic problems at the supermarket car park, because there was no recognised entrance and exit. This could lead to vehicles standing in the middle of the busy A.444 waiting to turn into the car park. Although approaches had been made previously without success, it was agreed to write to both the owners of the business and the Co-operative Society as owners of the property to seek their help.

(Mr M S Patrick arrived at 7.20 pm).

## 74 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2013, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

## 75 DERBYSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Mr R Barber, a serving Fire Fighter, gave a short presentation on the reorganisation of the Service and its likely impact on South Derbyshire. The Swadlincote fire station had been upgraded about four years ago because of additional development in South Derbyshire, but was now proposed to be downgraded to a retained station, which would be part-time, dependent on staff who had other employment and with fewer appliances. The total of 41 fire engines was to be reduced to 25, Melbourne station was to be closed and a new one (part time) opened at Hilton, which was further away. Normally, at least two engines were required to attend a house fire, with an extra one if people were inside the building; the new target was to provide one engine within 10 minutes 25% of the time. Additionally, the South Derbyshire area was to be worst hit in service reductions and members were concerned about the potential danger to life. Fire Officers considered that budget reductions could be made in other ways, such as changing shift patterns.

It was agreed to write to the Chair of the Derbyshire Fire Authority to express concerns.

## **76 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS**

**76.1 District Council.** Cllr Frost referred to the cuts which the District Council were required to make and considered that it was inevitable that these would affect services. He referred to the recent consultation on HS2 and the alternative route locally, which would go through Netherseal rather than bypassing Ashby de la Zouch. If planning permission was granted, the proposed houses in Lullington Road should be started in May 2014. He also explained the new system of flexible tenancies, which meant that properties were let only for five years, and that there were several ways in which they could be determined within that period.

Members referred to the hedge adjoining Footpath no 1 in Woodlands Road, which was in the garden of a Council house, and which the Parish Council had requested that it be removed and replaced with a fence. The Director of Housing and Environmental Services would be contacted directly with this matter.

**76.2 Police.** One crime affecting Overseal was recorded in November.

**76.3 County Council.** Cllr Mrs Lauro had been contacted by a resident of Burton Road about an overgrown hedge, and this had now been dealt with. As regards the presentation about the reductions proposed in the Fire Service, she pointed out that the cuts were required by the Government, not at the direction of the County Council. There was also a consultation about reductions in the Mobile Library Service.

Members referred to the ongoing problem of HGVs using Woodville Road, which had increased recently. The sign giving the exemption from the weight restriction had not yet been removed and she would press for this to be done. Complaints about this matter should be made to Trading Standards. She was also informed that the road surface at the new traffic lights had been damaged during construction, and she would report this.

## **77 TELEPHONE KIOSK, SHORHEATH**

Members considered potential future uses of the kiosk. Residents who had been consulted wished to retain it at the present site and the favoured option was to use it as an information point – a parish notice-board could be included. However, the priority was to improve its appearance and the cost of doing so would be obtained.

## **78 CLERK'S REPORT**

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

**78.2 Governance.**

Reports were submitted on:

- *The council assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these;*
- *The annual precept requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate;*

Reports on each of these items were approved (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). It was agreed that the Caretaker would be required to carry out simple checks on the building periodically and to report any matters of concern or potential danger promptly.

**78.3 Traffic lights.** The County Council were continuing to monitor the sequence at the traffic lights, which had improved recently.

**78.4 Requests for donations.**

**78.4.1 Roadstone.** A request had been received for assistance by providing stone for patching the road between 106 and 110 Woodville Road. It was agreed to offer to provide 20 tons of road-stone for initial repairs to the right of way section if the residents would undertake the necessary work.

**78.4.2 Lullington Road allotments.** The Allotment Association had requested help with stone and weed membrane for the car park, timber for fence repairs and legal fees for registration of the sub-lease. This amounted to £1000, but any assistance would be welcome. It was agreed to contribute towards the construction of the car park and the legal fees at a total of £650.

**78.4.3 Daisy Lane – footpaths.** The District Council had requested confirmation that the Parish Council would match fund the construction of footpaths totalling £1350. It was also reported that this would be reimbursed by the National Forest grant in due course. The assurance was given.

**78.5 Derbyshire Children’s Holiday Centre.** The organisation had expressed thanks for the donation towards their work. Noted.

**78.6 Christmas Tree Recycling.** The District Council would not be providing the centralised recycling service this year as the trees could be disposed of in the new brown bins. Noted.

**78.7 National Forest Long Distance Footpath.** Notification had been received of a change to the route where it went through Overseal. Instead of using the section of Main Street from Woodville Road to Valley Road, the route would now cross A.444 at Woodville Road and proceed via Lullington Road and Valley Road to rejoin the original route across the fields.

## **79 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**The following application had been approved:**

0618 Extension of gypsy caravan site, The Conifers, Park Road. Members expressed considerable disappointment at this decision because of its impact on local residents in particular.

**The following applications had been refused:**

0439 Change of use of part of 10/14 Acresford Road to a single dwelling

0440 The associated Listed Building application.

**Applications for decision:**

0953 Erection of 12 houses at Lullington Road. While the details of the development as outlined at the last meeting and set out in the application were satisfactory, the site was outside the boundaries of the village where development by persons other than the District Council would not normally be permitted; this should not set a precedent for any other such developments

elsewhere. Other concerns were centred around the fact that the school was already full, and traffic would increase putting further pressure on the junction with A.444 and the main routes to M.42 and Burton on Trent. As indicated previously, priority for the tenancies should be for residents of Overseal, and then Netherseal and Lullington.

0950 Retention of garage, 33 Moira Road. Supported.

## 80 ACCOUNTS

### 80.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*1978	A & J Bartlett Ltd	Install floodlights at MUGA	600.00	120.00	720.00
*1979	C M Knight	Reimburse cost of flag	54.80	10.96	65.76
1980	L Baxter	Caretaker	429.85		429.85
1981	J M Summerfield	Litter	60.52		60.52
1982	T Stewart	Litter	151.44		151.44
1983	Linton & District Poppy Appeal	Donation	285.00		285.00
**1984	M Guest	Clearing footpaths 18/19 and strimming around Village Hall	400.00		400.00
1985	Hewitsons LLP	Legal fees, land at Lullington Road	150.00	30.00	180.00
1986	Staunton Harold Nurseries & Garden Centre	Trees for Daisy Lane	422.69	2.37	425.06
1987	D Langley Electrical Services	Safety check and repairs to Pavilion	190.00	38.00	228.00
1988	R F Gardening	Winter planting of planters	620.00		620.00
1989	KH Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Toilet supplies	49.86	9.97	59.83
1990	Schoolgrounds	Posts etc for Daisy Lane, stone for Footpath, cut hedge at allotments	522.85	11.34	534.19
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	24.50	4.90	29.40
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	36.00		36.00

\* These accounts had been paid between meetings as they were urgent.

\*\* Replacement for cheque nos 1945 and 1947, which had been stopped.

### 80.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	800.00
Various	Wreaths	115.00
Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness	Use of Village Hall	120.00
Overseal Pre-school	Use of Village Hall	1845.00
Clubs Complete	Use of Village Hall	200.00
Leedham Farms Ltd	Rent of land at Lullington Road	750.00

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

**81 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

- 81.1 Dog fouling signs.** Several metal signs had been obtained from the National Forest and Mr Knight invited views on where they should be sited. Reports on their impact needed to be submitted to the National Forest in due course.
- 81.2 Memorial stone for Croft Orchard, Daisy Lane.** The Gala Committee had decided to provide the stone.
- 81.3 Damage to property in the Village Hall.** The Pre-school had enquired about damage to their property within the Village Hall, apparently caused by a previous hirer, and sought information. The Clerk would obtain details and forward them to the Pre-school.
- 81.4 Footpaths Group.** The Group had expressed thanks for the Council's assistance in providing stone for the footpath at Forest View. They had enquired whether a page could be made available on the Council's website to publicise their activities. While the pages currently available were all being used, the cost of expansion would be obtained.
- 81.5 Telephone exchange.** The external appearance of the building and its grounds was scruffy; this would be referred to the owners for attention.
- 81.6 Flag.** It was agreed to purchase a good quality St George's flag to replace the present one, which was worn out.
- 81.7 HGVs, Woodville Road.** It was reported that there was an increase in the number of vehicles using Woodville Road, contrary to the weight restrictions in place. The Police and Trading Standards would be asked to take action.
- 81.8 Lighting at the supermarket.** Inconvenience was still being experienced by a property opposite the supermarket from the security lighting being kept on all night. The assistance of the owners and the operators would be sought.
- 81.9 Hedge, Lullington Road.** While part of the overgrown hedge had been cut back, part remained to be done and the owners would be asked to complete the work.
- 81.10 Plastic bottles on football pitch.** Teams would be asked to clear up after matches.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

**Chairman**