

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 5 February 2015.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr R Cox, Mr A R Hart, 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) and Cllr Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council).

Apologies for absence were received from Mr D M Holloway and Cllr Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council).

82 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

83 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Representatives of Overseal Pre-school attended the meeting to discuss access arrangements when contractors were required to carry out work at the Village Hall. It was agreed that the Caretaker would be asked to liaise directly with the Organiser so that suitable arrangements could be made when necessary.

84 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2015, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

85 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

85.1 District Council. There was a large amount of rubbish throughout the village, notably along A.444 and Park Road. The Chairman pointed out that 21 March was National Cleanup Day and suggested that a voluntary litter pick be organised. This was agreed and the District Council would be asked whether they could lend appropriate equipment.

85.2 Police. Crime statistics for January were read and showed an increase in reported crimes.

85.3 County Council. Although the blocked drains in Moira Road had been cleared, it appeared that the problem remained. Water seepage had been noticed at the edge of the highway and further investigation was needed. Cllr Mrs Lauro kindly agreed to pursue this matter.

The potholes in Moira Road were now very bad and in some cases potentially dangerous, resulting in the need for the whole road between the junction with Hallcroft Avenue and near to no.60 to be resurfaced. Cllr Mrs Lauro advised that this was a capital scheme and that the programme for the coming year was to be discussed urgently. The Clerk was asked to draw this to the County Council's attention and to request pothole repairs as a temporary measure.

The A.444 had not been gritted during recent snowy weather and this would be drawn to the County Council's attention.

86 CLERK'S REPORT

- 86.1 Progress report.** A progress report on various matters previously raised was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).
- 86.2 Daisy Lane meadow.** The footpaths had now been installed and Members expressed appreciation for the result. It was suggested that bulbs and plug plants be planted in the open areas and that the 2 mowings per year which would be carried out by the District Council, be supplemented by provision of 'rides' - wide grass paths - by the Parish Council. This would be discussed with the District Council to arrange a suitable programme.
- 86.3 Land at Manor School View.** The developers' obligations in respect of this land had not been fulfilled despite considerable pressure from the District Council and the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to write in strong terms to the developers requiring the land to be open to public access by the removal of the fences and opening the gates. The District Council would also be asked to press for the financial obligations under the S.106 agreement to be met without further delay.
- 86.4 Right of Way, Barratt Mill, Shortheath.** It was reported that the path had been completely obstructed by parking of vehicles on it and commercial bins being sited along it. This was one of a series of such obstructions from time to time and the County Council would be asked to deal with it.
- 86.5 Data protection.** The Council's registration had been renewed.
- 86.6 Planning briefing.** All Members had been invited to the Planning Briefing at South Derbyshire District Council on Wednesday 18 February at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber at the Civic Offices and several Members had reserved places.
- 86.7 Summer Sports Programme.** The programme had now been revised to delete the Wheels Mobile from 3 September and substitute Sport & Play Combo, involving an increased cost of £80. The full programme, which was now confirmed was:

Date	Times	Event	Cost
Thursday 30 July	2 – 4 pm	Laser Games	175
Thursday 6 August	2 – 4 pm	Sport & Play Combo	265
Wednesday 12 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels Mobile	185
	6-8 pm	Climbing Wall	240
Thursday 20 August	2 – 4 pm	Laser Games	175
Thursday 27 August	2 – 4 pm	Sport & Play Combo	265
Thursday 3 September	2 – 4 pm	Sport & Play Combo	265
Total cost			1570

- 86.8 Safer Homes scheme.** This scheme was available for any elderly or vulnerable person or someone who had recently been the victim of crime. Free security measures, including door chains, window alarms and spy holes, could be fitted on behalf of the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership, and they would also offer crime prevention advice.

86.9 Fence, Hallcroft Avenue. At the last meeting it had been reported that the fence bordering the recreation ground on the Hallcroft Avenue frontage had some defective posts, in that the concrete was spalling from the metal internal supports. Quotations had been obtained from DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd and Express Fencing Ltd for (a) replacement of the posts which were in urgent need of replacement and (b) replacing all the concrete posts with metal. A budget cost of replacing the whole fence with iron railings had also been supplied.

RESOLVED: That the quotation of DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd for replacing the concrete posts with 80mm square section galvanised steel posts be accepted in the sum of £3610.00 plus VAT.

The Clerk was also asked to check the position of footpath 31 and the finger post, which needed a gap to be created if it was in the correct place.

86.10 National Forest Volunteers. Volunteers, with appropriate supervision and training, could undertake a wide range of environmental work and community development opportunities and the organisation was seeking new projects. They provided all tools and equipment and could identify funding for projects. The renovation of the Nature Area was mentioned but it was thought that subsequent maintenance would be unlikely to be carried out.

87.11 Sport England bid. The Consultant engaged by South Derbyshire District Council had submitted a draft master-plan for the future development of the Recreation Ground, following the Council's initial comments on the various layouts. Although these would form guidelines for the long term, the Parish Council's Consultant had been asked to concentrate on the improvement of the top pitch, which was the original intention.

The Clerk reported that the documents to constitute the bid to Sport England had now been completed and were ready for submission, the last date being Monday next 9 February. Supplementary grants from other organisations would be needed and applications for these would be made shortly. If the bid was successful, the Sports Development Plan required considerable time and relevant expertise and this would have to be addressed. The documentation was approved for submission.

87.12 Community Partnership Grant Scheme. The District Council had confirmed that it had renewed this scheme. Typical examples of projects were:

- Sports, arts, heritage, environmental and other community projects;
- Provision of new community buildings or refurbishment/improvement of existing buildings;
- Purchase of major items of equipment over £4000 cost;
- Purchase of land

The repair of the changing rooms floor was suggested as a project which might qualify and this would be explored.

87.13 Cultivation licence, Woodville Road. The County Council had refused to grant this licence as there were services in the verge and large trees in a narrow verge would outgrow their situation. Alternatives had been discussed with them and they would support low-growing shrubs. It was agreed to seek a licence for planting shrub roses in beds.

87.14 HGVs, Woodville Road. The Police had observed traffic for some time but no contraventions of the Weight Restriction Order had been seen. However,

Members had seen contraventions and had noted the destinations of several vehicles which were regularly travelling along the road. The relevant company would be contacted.

87 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications had been approved:

1080 Two storey extension, 364 Burton Road.

1156 Certificate of Lawfulness, 42 Woodlands Road

1000 Change of use to a holiday cottage, Hobbits Hall, GreenLane

Applications for decision:

0937 Extension, 344 Burton Road (amended plan). Supported after consultation with Members.

1195 Outline application, erection of 1 dwelling, land adjoining 253 Burton Road. The Parish Council would be disappointed if this extension to the ribbon development in Burrton Road were to lead to a reduction in the green area between the last property and the parish boundary, thereby merging with Castle Gresley.

0007 Removal of existing flue and installation of log burner with external chimney, The Coach House, 19 Squirrel Walk. No objection.

88 FORWARD PLANNING

Members had been asked to give consideration to ways in which this matter could be progressed. Projects thought worthy of support included extension of the recreation ground, ensuring sufficient supply of burial plots, fitness equipment for older children and adults, traffic on A.444, the overloading of the infrastructure, especially the Surgery and the school, and the need to determine how the village could cope with the inevitable further development.

89 ACCOUNTS

89.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
2123	L Baxter	Caretaker	436.08		436.08
2124	J Kirby	Cleaner	201.50		201.50
2125	J M Summerfield	Litter	78.10		78.10
2126	T Stewart	Litter	156.00		156.00
**2128	John Mills Curtains & Blinds	Curtains for Village Hall foyer	270.00	54.00	324.00
2129	Schoolgrounds	Materials for steps on recreation ground	102.67		102.67
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	18.50	3.70	22.20

** This account had been paid between meeting to avoid unnecessary delay

89.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	420.00
Various	Allotment rents	30.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	1064.38
Overseal Pre-school	Use of Village Hall	1830.00
Wreaths refunds	Various	65.00

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

90 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

90.1 Donation. The donor preferred the money to be used to provide suitable way-markers on Footpath no.1 and it was agreed to proceed with this. Mr Knight would make enquiries as to a source.

90.2 Old telephone exchange. Recent activity had been noticed at these premises; the situation would be monitored.

90.3 Litter, Slackey Lane. Clearance had not been undertaken and North West Leicestershire District Council would be asked to expedite this.

90.4 Dog fouling. The right of way to the sewage works was particularly badly fouled and the Dog Warden would be asked to investigate.

90.5 Post box, Burton Road. The Post box opposite 29 Burton Road had a notice stating that the collection time was 9.30 am, which was considered unhelpful. Also, the actual times of collections from post boxes generally were not adhered to. This would be taken up with the Post Office.

90.6 Access to public toilets. It was suggested that a path could be constructed across the grass verge to allow better access to the public toilets. The Clerk would ascertain the cost of this.

90.7 Steps on recreation ground. The Footpaths Group had completed installing the new steps and Members commented on the excellent result. The Clerk was asked to write to the Footpaths Group to commend them on the work. The Group had also completed work on Footpath no 43, Stanleigh Road, with way-marking.

90.8 Footpath near to the sewage works. Severn Trent water had reinstated the path following extensive works, but the stone surface needed topping up as a section of path filled with water. The Clerk was asked to request Schoolgrounds Severn Trent Water to carry out this work.

90.9 Speed camera sign, Woodville Road. The sign outside the Village Hall was obscured by branches of a tree; this would be referred to Derbyshire County Council.

90.10 Trees, Woodville Road. The County Council had previously agreed to trim the suckers from the base of the trees and to pollard them. They had dealt with the suckers but had not completed the other work. They would be asked to do so before the Spring prevented such work from being carried out.

90.11 Running Group. The Village Games Organiser of South Derbyshire District Council had started a very successful running group and appointed an Organiser. He requested that the Parish Council help pay for a second Organiser at a cost of £150. The Council agreed to do so and to request that this person be a local female.

90.12 Melbourne & Kings Newton Action Group. The Group had asked that exchange of information with the Overseal group be set up, including links on the website. The Parish Council acted in that capacity in Overseal and it was agreed to establish such links.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

Chairman