

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 2 February 2017.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr A W Cook, Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner, Mrs M Elton, Mr J Howes, Mr M A Knight, Mrs T A Rogers and Mr S C Sharpe.

In attendance: Cllr Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council).

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Cox, Mrs R O'Brien, Cllr Mrs M E Hall and Cllr P Murray (South Derbyshire District Council).

134 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

135 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A resident reported that vehicles using Lullington Road near to the junction with Valley Road frequently exceeded the speed limit and mounted the kerb because of vehicles parked on the other side of the road, thereby creating a danger to pedestrians. Currently, there were leaves on the path, which could result in a vehicle being unable to stop; a Member confirmed these reports and had witnessed a near accident. Installation of bollards on the footpath was suggested as a suitable way of overcoming the problems. Cllr Mrs Lauro agreed to report this to the County Council and the Clerk would write to them on similar lines.

The resident also referred to the traffic lights sequence, which did not allow sufficient time for vehicles from Lullington Road to exit if they were impeded by a bus or similar slow moving vehicle. The County Council would be asked to re-examine the sequence. However, a Member reported that at peak times very long queues - sometimes up to a mile long - occurred in Acresford Road on the approach to the lights.

136 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2017, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record subject to the second paragraph of minute no 126.12 (Land at Overseal Manor) being corrected to read: 'It was known that the owners of the part of Overseal Manor grounds adjoining footpath 18, namely Pinehouse, were responsible for maintenance of the hedges on both sides of the path.'

137 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

137.1 District Council.

No matters were raised.

137.2 Police.

Equipment apparently associated with drug-taking had been found near to the Youth Shelter and had been reported to the PCSO. The Clerk would write to the Police about this matter.

137.3 County Council.

Cllr Mrs Lauro reported that she had referred to the appropriate Officers the damaged barriers on the roundabout and in Park Road, and the presence of advertising signs on lamp posts etc., together with litter at the car park; she was awaiting replies to these queries. A consultation about ways in which waste disposal costs could be reduced or defrayed had concluded and a charge for disposal of non-household rubbish such as soil or rubble was to be introduced, along with restricting use of Derbyshire civic amenity sites to Derbyshire residents. She had also reported potholes in Lullington Road to the County Council and mud on the road to the District Council.

In answer to questions, Cllr Mrs Lauro confirmed that many street lights were now LEDs, which were much cheaper to operate. Members reported about 10 lights in a length of the bypass at Mount Pleasant were permanently out, and it was assumed that this was intentional. Cllr Mrs Lauro advised that grants from the Community Fund were still available and she was asked to consider help for the local Brownies and Guides groups and for the changing rooms floor repair.

138 CLERK'S REPORT

138.1 Progress report. A progress report on various matters previously raised was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). The Clerk was asked to press for action on:

- Transfer of the electricity sub-station to Western Power Distribution;
- Repairs to the tarmac in front of the sub-station;
- Removal of the yellow plastic from the passageway between the Village Hall and the changing rooms;
- Reinstatement of the verge in Hallcroft Avenue;
- The smell from the tip and renewed tipping of refuse at New Albion site;
- Repairs to the entrance to the play area, where the grass was worn.

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

138.3 External audit arrangements. At the last meeting, it was reported that Grant Thornton were to be replaced as external auditors. It had now been announced that they would continue for the accounts for the current year and that the new regime would come into effect for the audit of accounts for 2017/2018 and continue until 2021/2022. The new auditors for most of England, including Derbyshire, would be PKF Littlejohn LLP, a large, independent firm of chartered accountants based in London. Their charges would be lower at £300 as opposed to £400 by their predecessors.

138.4 Drains, Hallcroft Avenue and Moira Road. Derbyshire County Council had cleaned out the gullies in Hallcroft Avenue, but they were also informed that the problem appeared to be that some of the drains in Moira Road were not functioning properly. It was thought that there may be a misunderstanding in that the problems related to an inspection chamber outside 'The Orchard', Hallcroft Avenue, and not to gullies. The appropriate Officer would be invited to a site meeting to clarify the situation.

- 138.5 Use of the recycling facilities.** The District Council said that the waste collected from the site had been 10.11 tonnes in 2015/6 and 6.43 tonnes for the nine months April 2016 to December 2016.
- 138.6 Litter collection.** One of the Lengthsmen's trolleys had become unserviceable and required replacement. It was agreed to purchase one.
- 138.7 Use of the Pavilion.** The suggested wider use of the Pavilion for meetings and other events had been discussed with the Bowls Club and they were quite amenable to this. While the Council could meet there during the winter months, there were regular Thursday fixtures in the playing season (April - September) and as these were league-related, it would be difficult to change to another evening. The Club would be willing to offer drinks - alcoholic, soft drinks or tea and coffee - to other users as this would help their funds. The Caretaker could liaise with the club and control bookings as she did for the Village Hall. It was agreed to advertise the availability of the facilities at £7.50 per hour for meetings etc of up to 20 people, during daytime or evenings.
- 138.8 Land at Manor School View.** The resident concerned had asked that the Council reconsider this matter and write to the District Council to support the replacement of the gate. He said that his car had been vandalised and was convinced that the perpetrators gained access via the land. The District Council would be asked to clarify whether the land should be open to public use generally, and this would be favoured by the Parish Council.
- 138.9 Request for donation.** Community Transport (Swadlincote) Ltd had asked for a contribution towards provision of uniforms for their drivers and a contribution of £25.00 was approved.
- 138.10 Use of lower pitch.** The organisers had asked for permission to use the bottom pitch area for the 'Easy Peasy Festival' to be held in August. The pitch had been let exclusively to the Junior FC and Members were concerned about the possibility of damage as had occurred last year due to wet conditions. It was agreed to permit the event to take place subject to a number of strict conditions and an indemnity against damage, to include a security deposit of £100.
- 138.11 Sport England grant.** The Clerk reported that Sport England had agreed to pay in full the final instalment of grant for the pitch improvement project.
- 138.12 External painting quotations.** Quotations from S Fern for the external painting of the Village Hall, Pavilion and changing rooms totalling £1599 were accepted

139 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS

None.

140 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following application had been approved:

0680 Re-consultation: Variation of planning conditions concerning the access to the compound, which now crossed the public footpath. Accordingly, a revised Footpath Strategy was required.

141 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

An update on the replacement of the boiler was presented. In order to minimise inconvenience to users, final works would be delayed until half term week two weeks later. The Caretaker had spent several hours cleaning and painting the boiler-room prior to the works and it was agreed to pay an additional 10 hours in recognition of this.

142 WEBSITE

No matters were raised.

143 ACCOUNTS**143.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
2389	S Ruddle	Caretaker	565.78		565.78
2390	E Evans	Litter	137.40		137.40
2391	J M Summerfield	Litter	133.20		133.20
2392	K H Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Cleaning materials	73.37	14.66	88.03
2393	Linton & District Poppy Appeal	Donation	315.00		315.00
2394	J E White	Reimburse materials re boiler replacement	4153.43	830.69	4984.12
2395	Community Transport (Swadlincote) Ltd	Donation	25.00		25.00
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	19.45	3.89	23.34
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	25.42		25.42
D/D	SSE	Electricity to Village Hall	584.98	116.99	701.97

143.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	277.50
Overseal Pre-school	Use of Village Hall	2320.00
S Warner	Use of Village Hall	287.50
South Derbyshire District Council	S.136 grant	10577.00

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

144 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

144.1 Multi-use games area (MUGA). The approximate cost of enlarging the MUGA to accommodate other sports such as netball, or five-a-side football would be sought.

144.2 Parking at the Village Hall. Members reported on difficulties which had occurred involving parking at the Village Hall, where the areas available were insufficient to accommodate those wishing to use them. The Pre-school had marshalled some areas and this had resulted in some people being upset. The Clerk advised that the new booking conditions were intended to mean that Hirers hired the Village Hall and not the car park, though they were entitled to use it in common with others.

144.3 Damage to grass surfaces. Tyre damage had occurred at the recreation ground and at the land at Daisy Lane, when materials had been delivered. Arrangements for repairs would be made.

144.4 Defibrillator. The Clerk was asked to seek a response from the Co-op to the request that they allow a defibrillator to be installed on the outside of their premises.

144.5 Request for dog bin. A request for a dog bin on Spring Cottage near to the junction with Slackey Lane would be referred to Ashby Woulds Town Council as it was in their parish.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Chairman