

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 9 January 2014.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr R Cox, 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) and Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A R Hart, and Cllr Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council).

82 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mr I Sheppard – Minute No. 89(d) (allotment rents, Lullington Road).

83 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Representatives of Overseal Thunder, the junior football teams, asked that they have exclusive use of the bottom pitch next season. The ages of their participants meant that they required a larger pitch than the small one established this season and this would overlap the bottom pitch. This was considered in the context of the budget and the fact that they had already been granted permission for one team to use the bottom pitch next season. It was therefore agreed that the request be granted and the charge be set in the context of the budget.

84 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2013, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

85 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

85.1 District Council.

Reference was made to the flooding near to the brook at the junction of Woodville Road and Spring Cottage, which appeared to be the result of a blocked gully on the Derbyshire side, despite that most of these gullies had already been cleared. This would be reported to the District Council for action.

Members commented that the refuse collection service had improved considerably, though many Christmas trees had been dumped at the recycling centre notwithstanding that there was a notice saying that collections were not taking place this year.

85.2 Police. Mr McMillan reported December crime statistics, which showed several crimes in the Overseal area. One arrest had already been made. Security of certain premises needed to be improved as an apparent attempt to remove property from the rear of the premises had been noticed.

85.3 County Council. Mrs Lauro confirmed that a policy on grants made directly by individual County Councillors for the benefit of their areas had been prepared, and warned that budget cuts were to be discussed shortly. Members referred to the continued use of Woodville Road by HGVs and Mrs Lauro had pressed for the height exemption notice to be removed. Urgent

attention was still needed to the road surface at the new traffic lights, which was deteriorating and members enquired when the pedestrian refuge for

Burton Road was to be installed. Mrs Lauro indicated that the plans had not yet been finalised but that the scheme was still on track. A further problem was water cascading across Moira Road, which would, of course, become icy in cold weather.

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). It was agreed to chase progress on the land at Manor School View.

86.2 Governance.

The report on the final group of items was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). The report was accepted.

86.3 HGVs, Woodville Road. The Police and Trading Standards had both been informed of the recent increase in numbers of HGVs using Woodville Road. Trading Standards had replied that:

If the [weight] exemption is still shown on the signs, drivers would be entitled to rely on what the signage says as they have no access to the Order itself.

In these times of limited resources, enforcement time can only be allocated to areas where there is a demonstrated problem. With this in mind, residents are encouraged to notify details of specific vehicles observed allegedly contravening the weight restriction and report them using our online reporting form on the DCC website – operators can then be contacted to determine whether the vehicle had a legitimate reason for using the route in question.

86.4 Hedge on footpath no. 1, Woodlands Road. The District Council had originally been reluctant to take action on this path in view of the expense involved and that it would not remove the blockage of the footpath entirely. However, they had now agreed to require severe cutting back and would monitor future growth and take any appropriate action.

86.5 Telephone kiosk, Shortheath. Schoolgrounds had been asked for a quotation for renovating the kiosk, to include repainting, replacing the missing pane of glass, tidying around the kiosk and possibly installing a simple notice-board. The quotation of £450 was accepted subject to clarifying that this included supplying the notice board as well as installing it.

86.6 Daisy Lane. The District Council had confirmed that the National Forest grant for development of the project had been secured and would be obtained early in 2014. The footpath works would be started then, subject to the ground conditions being suitable.

86.7 Land at the rear of the Village Hall. Members asked that the cause of the boggy area at the rear of the Village Hall be established and a drainage company had been asked to investigate. Initial thoughts included the possibility that drainage from the bowling green may contribute to the problem and authority was given for a trench to be excavated to find out whether this was so. Depending on the results, the company could then advise on the best way of dealing with the problem and the likely cost. However, ground conditions currently prevented this work from being carried out and it had been deferred until they were more suitable. The Council confirmed this

approach, but would wish to see the outcome before any further investigations or work was carried out.

- 86.8 CCTV for the Pavilion.** The Council had previously agreed to contribute towards the cost of this project, which had now been completed. In November, authority had been given for a cheque to be drawn up to £200 but the Club had now provided the copy invoice, which showed that the promised 50% contribution towards the shortfall would amount to £119.00. However, they had asked whether the Council could contribute more towards the shortfall. It was agreed that the promised contribution of 50% (£119) be paid.

87 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application for decision

0999 Single storey rear extension, 22 Woodlands Crescent.

A response of 'No objection' had been sent following consultation with Members.

88 ACCOUNTS

88.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
1991	South Derbyshire District Council	Refuse collection & dog bins	1280.23	179.06	1459.29
1992	L Baxter	Caretaker	417.23		417.23
1993	J M Summerfield	Litter	60.72		60.72
1994	T Stewart	Litter	189.30		189.30
1995	J E White	Salary & Expenses	1147.08		1147.08
1996	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE	654.00		654.00
1997	ESPO	3 tables for Village Hall paper & envelopes	297.90	59.58	357.48
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to Village Hall	179.42		179.42
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to old changing rooms	11.32		11.32
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	24.50	4.90	29.40
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	36.00		36.00
D/D	British Gas	Electricity to Village Hall	581.41	116.28	697.69

88.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	405.00
St Matthews FC	Pitch rental	50.00

- 88.3 Audit.** The Council's financial documents were inspected.

- 88.4 Quarterly budget report.** The Council considered the report on the position at the end of December 2013, together with the Receipts & Payments Account as at 31 December 2013 (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). The report was noted.

89 BUDGET FOR 2014/2015

The Council considered the report of the Clerk (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

RESOLVED:

(a) That hire charges for the Village Hall remain at £10 per hour for weekday bookings but be increased to £15 per hour for weekend bookings, subject to a maximum charge for a full day being £100;

(b) That the Bowls Club rent remain at £300 for this year, but that the Club be advised that the possibility of an increase would be considered next year as it had not been changed since 2005;

(c) That the charges for football clubs remain the same as the current season, but that the charge for Overseal Thunder's use of the bottom pitch be £650, equivalent to the total revenue from the bottom pitch and the small pitch this year;

(d) That the allotment rents be increased to £15 per plot for Burton Road allotments, which had not been increased since 2007, and the corresponding amount (£225) be charged for Lullington Road allotments;

(e) That the revised summer sports programme as set out below be agreed at an additional cost of £100;

Date	Times	Event	Cost
Thursday 24 July	2 – 4 pm	Xtreme (Combat, slack lining & sports equipment)	189
Thursday 31 July	2 – 4 pm	Play & Xtreme	252
Thursday 7 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels Mobile	178
Thursday 14 August	2 – 4 pm	Commonwealth (Sports kit & some new sports) & Xtreme	336
Thursday 14 August	6 – 8 pm	Climbing Wall	230
Wednesday 20 August	2 – 4 pm	Commonwealth & Play Combo	252
Wednesday 27 August	2 – 4 pm	Wheels Mobile	178
Total cost			1615

(f) That £2000 provision for land at Daisy Lane remain in the budget;

(g) That no action be taken in relation to the changing rooms floor in view of the cost and the probable responsibility of others;

(h) That provision for additional pages in the website for local organisations be approved at a cost of £120 p.a.;

(i) That provision be made for repainting & improving the Youth Shelter in the sum of £750;

(j) That £500 probable cost of initial excavations be approved for the current year;

(k) That provision be made for improvements to the Village Hall, including curtains and rails, crockery, cutlery, lighting in the foyer, internal repainting of the entire premises and sanding and varnishing the stage and stage front in the sum of £9450; and that £3500 of the cost of the internal painting and stage improvements and £2500 towards the £3000 cost of the curtains and rails be charged to the Repairs and Renewals Fund;

(l) That a Precept of £26,000 be levied for 2014/2015, representing an increase of 58 pence per year on a Band D property;

(m) That £5000 be added to the Repairs and Renewals Fund;

(n) That the draft budget be approved subject to the above amendments.

(Mr I Sheppard declared an interest in the allotments rents for Lullington Road as a plot holder and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon)

90 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

90.1 Village Hall gates. It was reported that the Village Hall gates were often left open and should be closed for security reasons unless the premises were in use.

90.2 Fire Service. A local petition in support of the Fire Officers' action had been handed in and much online support had also been evident.

90.3 Overgrown hedge, Moira Road. The Clerk was asked to press Derbyshire County Council to take action on this hedge, which was overhanging the footpath.

90.4 Grit bins. It was confirmed that the Council had agreed to leave the bins unlocked. The bin at Woodlands Road/Coronation Street corner needed refilling.

90.5 Grass verge at the Surgery. The verge was being turned to mud by people walking across it to go to the Surgery. The District Council would be asked whether a hard surface could be provided.

90.6 Lime trees. The suckers at the base of the trees in Hallcroft Avenue and Woodville Road needed trimming and the County Council would be pressed to deal with this.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

Chairman