

# OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Pavilion, Woodville Road, Overseal on Thursday 9 January 2020.

**Present:** Mrs C M Knight - Chairman  
Mr A W Cook, Mr R Cox, Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner, Mrs M Elton, Mr M A Knight, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr D E Patrick, Mr S C Sharpe and Mrs S M Ward.

**In attendance:** Cllr A Brady (South Derbyshire District Council), Cllr P Murray (Derbyshire County Council – 8.45/8.50 pm).

**Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Mrs A Wheelton (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D McMillan, PCSO .

## 121 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mr A Cook, Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner and Mrs M Elton declared interests in minute no 125.3 (discounted charge for the group raising funds for the church roof repair) and Mr Cook and Mrs Elton declared personal interests in minute no. 131(d) in the discussion on the salary of the Caretaker as relatives.

## 122 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

## 123 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

## 124 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

**124.1 District Council.** Cllr Brady referred to the Council's query about Key Service Village status; it was not solely dependent on the presence of Surgery and the existence of other services precluded removal of that status.

The landscaping of the new sub-station at Acresford Road had not yet been provided and the Enforcement Officer was checking on it.

**124.2 Police.** The crime statistics for the last month were provided and showed several crime reports. No comparison with other Parishes was, however, possible.

Members reported that HGVs were again using Woodville Road and were advised that anyone witnessing them should report the registration number and time details to the Trading Standards Department of the County Council.

**124.3 County Council.** S.106 funds were not available for speed cameras in the village. The suggestion that the 30mph limit be extended past the Acresford Road development was not being pursued. It was thought that this may have been part of the planning permission or S.106 agreement and this would be checked.

Resurfacing of Hallcroft Avenue was essential as the surface had deteriorated very badly, constituting a danger to cyclists. Potholes had been reported to the County Council, but a more comprehensive approach was necessary. County Councillor P Murray attended the meeting at a later stage and this matter was drawn to his attention. He agreed to press the matter with the County Council.

**125 CLERK'S REPORT**

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

It was agreed that the item concerning Overseal Manor Grounds could be removed as the Enforcement Notice had been complied with.

The District Council had been asked for an update on Overseale House; there was a leak in the roof of part of the rear of the building. Historic England were including the building in the At Risk Register, though this did not give access to grant aid as the premises were a commercial business (bed-and-breakfast accommodation). The District Council was considering formal action but there were some legal complications relating to ownership.

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

**125.3 Use of Village Hall – requests for discount.** The Junior Football Club had asked for a discount for their use of the Village Hall for a Christmas party and fund-raiser on 21 December.

The Pre-school had also requested a discount for their Christmas Fayre;

A village group had held an event on New Year's Eve aimed at raising funds towards the repair of the church roof and had also applied for a discount.

It was agreed to grant a 50% reduction in all three cases.

(Mr A Cook, Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner and Mrs M Elton declared an interest in the event on New Year's Eve as they had been present)

**125.4 Meetings 2020/21.**

RESOLVED: That the following Calendar of Meetings be approved:

2020	2021
May 7 (Annual Meeting)	January 7
June 4	February 4
July 2	March 4
August 6	April 1
September 3	May 6 (Annual Meeting)
October 1	
November 5	
December 10	

**125.5 Fire Service inspection of the Village Hall.** The Fire Service had inspected the Village Hall, Pavilion and changing rooms for fire safety purposes and found the buildings in good condition. Certain recommendations had been made and these would be complied with shortly.

Discussion ensued on the type of fire extinguishers to be provided in the kitchen of the Village Hall as it was considered that water-based extinguishers could be dangerous if an untrained person used them on an electrical fire or hot fat. While appropriate notices could be helpful, the advice of the fire extinguisher maintenance company would be sought.

**125.6 Edward Street Allotments.** The Clerk reported on actions taken in respect of overgrown plots. Notice to Quit had been issued in one case, several tenants had given up their plots and three offers had been made to people on the waiting list.

**125.7 Flood liaison meeting.** An invitation to attend the meeting at Swadlincote on 6 February had been received and Mr A Cook would attend.

## **126 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS**

It was agreed to add the public toilets to the list of premises to be inspected. Other than that the two pitches were very wet, the reports were satisfactory.

## **127 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**The following application had been approved:**

0841 Detached double garage and new access, 43 Woodville Road

**A Certificate of Lawfulness had been approved in respect of the following application:**

1349 Loft conversion with installation of pitched roof rear dormer window and rooflights, 11 Lullington Road

## **128 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS**

Low water pressure had again been experienced on New Year's Eve and it was thought that a larger feed pipe may be required; South Staffordshire Water would again be asked for assistance in diagnosing the problem and offering a solution.

It was agreed that steps across the sloping grass verge to serve the Pavilion should be provided and the Footpaths Group would be asked whether they could undertake the work.

A verbal estimate for re-aligning CCTV cameras on the Pavilion had been obtained from A & J Bartlett Ltd, at 'less than £300'. This had been accepted and the action was confirmed. Warning notices regarding the use of cameras would be attached to the public toilets as minor vandalism was being experienced

## **129 WEBSITE**

The date of the Wassail (25 February) would be included in the website.

## **130 ACCOUNTS**

### **130.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

<b>Cheque</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
2789/95	Total salaries & wages costs				*
**2786	DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd	Replace metal fence panel at Village Hall	220.00	44.00	264.00
**2787	Came & Co	Insurance premium for public toilets	87.06		87.06
2788	Eden Tree Care & Fencing	Trim hedge at Burton Road allotments	100.00	20.00	120.00
2794	Opus Energy Ltd	Electricity to public toilets	40.16	2.01	42.17
2795	D Walker	Christmas lights for the Village Hall and Pavilion	410.00		410.00

2796	C M Knight	Reimburse the cost of locks	56.00		56.00
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	18.00	3.60	21.60
D/D	Information Commissioner	Registration fee	40.00		40.00

\* Details of the salaries and wages costs were provided separately for Members.

\*\* These accounts had been paid between meetings to avoid unnecessary delay.

### 130.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	707.50
L Hardwidge	Pavilion lettings	646.00
Community Cafe	Use of Pavilion	269.34
V Barker	Use of Village Hall	660.00

**130.3 Audit.** The Council's financial documents were inspected. There was one query, which the Clerk would investigate and report.

(Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner left the meeting at 8.30 pm)

### 131 BUDGET FOR 2020/2021

The Council considered the report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).

A lengthy discussion took place on the possibility of replacing the Village Hall in the not too distant future, as the present building is requiring more repairs each year. In answer to a question about how other similar projects have been carried out elsewhere, the Clerk suggested that in most cases an independent planning and fund-raising group from within the Parish concerned was the vehicle employed. In such cases, although the council would be represented, it would not be a controlling influence. A possible strategy would be that the group would, over several years, raise significant funds and deal with planning and architecture, then the funds would be supplemented by a mortgage (possibly through the Public Works Loans Board) and the completed project would be transferred to the Parish Council to run for the benefit of the residents. This envisaged some financial provision to support a feasibility study and a start on allocating funds for the building.

RESOLVED:

- That the hire rate of the Village Hall be increased to £16 per hour from 1 April;
- That the charges to the Pre-school for use of the Village Hall be increased to £21 per session from 1 April;
- That no change be made to the charges to the Junior Football Club for the use of the pitches and changing rooms, or to allotment rents;
- That the salaries of the Caretaker and Litter Pickers be increased to reflect the increased National Living Wage (£8.72 per hour):

(Mr A Cook and Mrs M Elton declared personal interests in the discussion on the salary of the Caretaker as relatives)

(e) That provision be made for the following growth items:

1. Replacing the boiler in the changing rooms in the sum of £2550 (further quotations to be sought), as expensive repairs would otherwise be needed;
2. The provision for the Summer Sports Programme to be changed to £1615, a reduction from £1700 already included in the draft budget;
3. A possible grant of £2000 towards items requested by the Junior Football Club for the changing rooms and that a report be made to the council following discussions with the Club and the District Council regarding use of S.106 funds.
4. Construction of a car park at the Edward Street allotments £2000;
5. £15000 for a feasibility study and initial drawings for a replacement Village Hall and that the advice of DALC be sought regarding persons appropriate for this work;

(f) That a contribution to the Repairs and Renewals Fund of £4300 be made towards the previously identified items;

(g) That the Council levy a Precept for 2020/2021 of £31930, representing an increase of 3%.

## **132 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**132.1 Blocked footpath, Spring Cottage.** This had been reported to Leicestershire County Council some time ago and, as it was still blocked, they would be asked to expedite the matter.

**132.2 Overgrown hedge, Moira Road.** It was reported that a gentleman had suffered an injury to his head by walking into the hedge at night as the hedge obscured the street light as well as overgrowing the path. This was the most recent of several similar events. The owners would be contacted and the Chairman would meet them on site to explain the problems if necessary.

**132.3 Public footpath, Valley Road – Netherseal.** This footpath was now badly damaged and needed restoration, probably by installation of stone. The National Forest Company would be pressed to deal with this.

The meeting ended at 8.45 pm

**Chairman**