

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

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

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) and Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

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

91 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mrs C M Knight, Mr M A Knight and Mr I S Sheppard declared interests in planning application no. 0006 (Outline application, residential development of 6 dwellings, land at 69 Woodville Road) as neighbours of the site or relatives of neighbours.

92 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mrs C M Knight, Mr M A Knight and Mr I S Sheppard expressed concerns about planning application no 0006 and considered that the proposal would produce too many dwellings for this site and would result in vehicles exiting to Woodville Road opposite the car park and school.

93 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2015, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record subject to the correction of minute no. 90.8 (footpath near the sewage works) to show that Severn Trent Water would be asked to top up the surface of the path.

94 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

94.1 District Council. Cllr Frost was asked when the Valley Road planning application was likely to go to Planning Committee and indicated that the report had not yet been completed.

94.2 Police. Mr McMillan submitted the crime statistics for February, which showed only 1 recorded crime. The problem with HGVs using Woodville Road continued to be followed up, though several operators were involved.

94.3 County Council. Cllr Mrs Lauro reported that gritting of the A.444 had in fact been carried out on 29/30 January and further details about gritting were available on the County Council's website. The drains in Moira Road had been cleared but, as a problem remained, further efforts would be made to clear the system. The potholes in Moira Road were to be considered for reinstatement early in the new financial year; a Member reported that some patching had been done recently.

95 CLERK'S REPORT

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

95.2 Land at Manor School View. The Clerk reported that a site meeting had been held that day with the Developers and a representative of the District Council. Two points of access to the land had been agreed, with the point near to the junction of the two footpaths running through the Daisy Lane land being preferred. The path would then lead towards the gate at the end of Manor School View, though rights of access were restricted. The Developers were to determine whether a stone path or a path with timber edgings and surfaced with bark would be provided, and they would then complete any outstanding work and transfer the land to the District Council. It was noted that this matter had remained unresolved for around 7 years and it was hoped that at last some progress could now be made.

95.3 Fence, Hallcroft Avenue. It had been agreed at the last meeting to replace the fence with metal posts and use the existing rails. However, reservations were expressed and the contractor who would do the work had agreed to await further consideration. Members considered that the opportunity should be taken to provide iron railings similar to those surrounding the bowling green and Village Hall frontage, phased over two years.

RESOLVED: (a) That approximately half of the fence be replaced with iron railings, with 3 rails and hooped tops (for safety as the fence bordered the football pitch), at an approximate cost of £6250 plus VAT;

(b) That the access at the bowling green end be provided with matching metal posts;

(c) That a gap in the fence to allow access to the public right of way opposite the Surgery be provided, the posts to match the new fence, at an additional cost of approximately £220 plus VAT;

(d) That the work be carried out by DSK Engineering (Midlands) Ltd on the basis of their quotation.

95.4 School crossing patrols. The County Council was consulting on possible changes to school crossing patrols. While many were changing and some were to be withdrawn, Overseal Primary School reached the statutory criteria and was not affected.

95.5 B-Line changes. A further consultation related to these travel concessions. If approved, the changes would mean that:

- more young people would get cards;
- the under 16s travel discount would be withdrawn and
- the travel discount for over 16s would reduce from 33% to 25%.

The additional people who would get cards were:

People over 16 such as apprentices, those on other training courses and young people looking for work. At the moment only over 16s in full-time education received the discount.

95.6 Pension scheme. All employees would have the right - subject to certain exceptions - to opt into a pension scheme provided by their employers. The time when this would come into effect was the Staging Date, notified by the Pensions Regulator. This date had now been notified as 12 March 2016, and involved considerable preparatory work.

The criteria were:

- 'Entitled workers': those earning less than the National Insurance Lower Earnings Limit (£5824 per year for 2015/16): these must be offered a pension scheme but the employer does not have to contribute
- 'Non-eligible jobholders': those earning between the NI LEL and the PAYE threshold (£10,600 per year for 2015/16) and also employees earning over the PAYE threshold but aged under 22 or aged between the State Pension Age and 75: these must be offered a 'qualifying' pension scheme, i.e. one qualifying under the auto-enrolment rules
- 'Eligible jobholders': employees earning over the PAYE threshold and aged between 22 and State Pension Age: these must be auto-enrolled into a qualifying pension scheme
- Employees aged 75 or over were outside the scope of the scheme.

It would appear that the Council would have to offer a scheme to all employees. Further investigations would be undertaken and a further report made to a future meeting.

95.7 Planning briefing. Several Members attended the briefing on 18 February and reported that it was very useful. In particular, the flexibility in decision-making was very limited due to national frameworks.

95.8 Recreation Ground improvements. Bids had been submitted to Sport England and the District Council's Community Partnership Fund in early February for the necessary grants to allow improvements to the Recreation Ground, especially to the upper pitch area. A decision on the Sport England bid was expected in the summer, but the local application should be decided shortly.

95.9 Land at Daisy Lane. Discussions had taken place with the District Council regarding future maintenance of the land. The District Council proposed to undertake two cuts of the grass of the whole site per year, at the beginning and end of the growing season, and this would be supplemented by five cuts of pathways through the site, path edges to be trimmed and the areas surrounding the orchards to be kept accessible. A quotation had been obtained from Schoolgrounds for this work in the sum of £250 and the quotation was accepted.

It was also agreed that Schoolgrounds would be asked for a quotation for periodic spraying of the vegetation on the footpath bounding the rear of properties in Hallcroft Avenue.

95.10 Dog fouling. Members welcomed the fact that a £75.00 fixed penalty notice had been issued to a dog owner for failing to clear up after their dog.

96 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications had been approved:

LCC - 98/0569 Revised restoration scheme, New Albion site.

1106 Change of use to a mixed use for car sales and retail, 2 Woodville Road

The following applications had been refused:

1126 3 two-storey and 1 single-storey dwelling, land r/o Manor Stables, Hallcroft Avenue

1195 Erection of 1 dwelling, land adjoining 253 Burton Road.

Applications for decision:

1207 Reserved matters - erection of a dwelling between 10 & 16 Woodville Road. No objection, following consultation with Members.

0029 Erection of 10 dwellings and open space area, land at Moira Road. Representations sent after consultation with Members:

The Council has no objection to this application. The design of the development and the houses was considered to be attractive. However, it has concerns about the speed of traffic in Moira Road approaching from the Moira direction, notwithstanding the 30 mph speed limit. Visibility towards the new access will be restricted until vehicles clear the bend near to the junction with Hallcroft Avenue and some form of traffic calming on Moira Road would assist. In addition, the increased population will add to the traffic volumes on A.444 and the primary school is full - matters which should be addressed.

0050 Change of use of former telephone exchange to office use, Burton Road. The Parish Council strongly objects to this application. Notwithstanding that no vehicular access is proposed, the use will require parking provision. The applicant says that the user will use public car parking; the only public parking in the vicinity is the main road A.444. There were already problems arising from parking of HGVs and other vehicles in connection with the nearby supermarket, and the problem has been moved nearer to the site by the recent installation of the pedestrian refuge. During recent adaptation works, 4 or 5 cars and other contractors' vans had been parked on the site and on the road, giving an indication of what can occur.

0006 Outline application, residential development of 6 dwellings, land at 69 Woodville Road. The Parish Council objects to this application. Provision of 6 dwellings on such a narrow strip of land is over-development and will produce a cramped result. 16 cars, plus those of visitors, would potentially be accommodated within the site and 8 of those would exit onto Woodville Road opposite the public car park entrance and the primary school. Others would exit to Forest View. Additionally, the primary school is full and the addition of further family houses will increase the demand for nonexistent facilities.

97 ACCOUNTS**97.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

| Cheque | Supplier | Description | Net | VAT | Total |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|---|------------|------------|--------------|
| *2130 | MRC Community | Vetting & Barring fee | 62.00 | | 62.00 |
| *2131 | Marc Richmond | Trees for Daisy Lane | 287.00 | | 287.00 |
| *2132 | SK Plumbing Ltd | Central heating repairs | 800.00 | | 800.00 |
| 2133 | L Baxter | Caretaker | 415.88 | | 415.88 |
| 2134 | J M Summerfield | Litter | 62.40 | | 62.40 |
| 2135 | T Stewart | Litter | 156.00 | | 156.00 |
| 2136 | J Kirby | Cleaner | 182.00 | | 182.00 |
| 2137 | DDS Sleep Eazee Electrical | Electrical safety checks, inc fire alarm & emergency | 640.00 | | 640.00 |
| 2138 | A M Norris Ltd | Boiler repairs & safety | 210.14 | 42.03 | 252.17 |
| 2139 | K H Packaging & Disposables Ltd | Cleaning materials | 124.89 | 24.97 | 149.86 |
| 2140 | South Derbyshire District Council | Maintenance of football pitch | 300.00 | 60.00 | 360.00 |

| | | | | | |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| 2141 | Castele Consultancy | Balance of fees | 675.00 | | 675.00 |
| 2142 | J E White | Reimburse website hosting | 54.89 | 10.98 | 65.87 |
| 2143 | MACE | Service agreements, intruder alarms | 172.58 | 34.52 | 207.10 |
| 2144 | Moira Replan | Printing | 107.92 | | 107.92 |
| 2145 | DDS Sleep Eazee Electrical | Install plug socket | 80.00 | | 80.00 |
| D/D | TalkTalk | Internet charges | 18.50 | 3.70 | 22.20 |

* These accounts were paid between meetings as they were urgent

97.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

| Name | Description | Amount |
|----------|-----------------------|--------|
| L Baxter | Village Hall lettings | 380.00 |
| Various | Allotment rents | 120.00 |

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

98 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

98.1 Rubbish, Slackey Lane. Rubbish continued to accumulate in Slackey Lane, including in the hedge bottoms and near to the junction with Moira Road. This would be referred to North West Leicestershire District Council.

98.2 Trees, Woodville Road. The County Council had not replied to the query about lifting the crowns of trees in Woodville Road; they would be pressed for information.

98.3 Possible path to the public toilets. The contractor asked for a quotation had declined to provide one and an alternative would be sought.

98.4 Flower beds. The flower beds, especially those at the church corner, were providing an excellent display.

98.5 Village clean-up. This event, to mark National Clean-up Day, would take place on 21 March.

98.6 Water supply to Edward Street allotments. The owners of the strip of land at the end of Edward Street would be pressed for a response for an easement.

98.7 Metal detectors. Mr Knight reported that the club had surveyed the Parish Council's land at Lullington Road and this had resulted in some interesting finds. Access to the tenanted land had, however, been refused.

98.9 Heart of the Forest Heritage Link Group. This Group had now been formally constituted and membership was open to anyone. One aim was to digitise old maps of the area.

98.9 Trees, Hallcroft Avenue. It was thought that possibly two trees planted a short time ago had failed or been subject to storm damage. This would be checked with a view to bringing the number up to 19.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

Chairman