

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

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

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 and Mr S C Sharpe.

In attendance: Cllr P Murray (South Derbyshire District Council) and Cllr Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council).

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Howes, Mrs T A Rogers, Cllr Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

145 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mrs R O'Brien declared an interest in minute no. 149.11 (request for free use of the Village Hall).

146 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

147 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2017, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

148 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

148.1 District Council. Cllr P Murray reported that the District Council had set the increase in their portion of Council Tax at 1.95%; however, the County Council, Police and Fire Services would all have separate increases. There was a consultation on the possible closure of Burton hospital A & E department, with emergency services only being available in life-threatening cases. The Council was most concerned about the possible closure as this would mean travelling to Derby, Tamworth or Leicester. Representations would be made to the Member of Parliament and to the Trust.

Cllr Murray was asked to press for remedial action on the car park, which had needed repair for a considerable time and was now in a deplorable state.

Litter from the development site at Valley Road continued to be a problem as did foul language and noise. The District Council had served an abatement notice in respect of these matters.

148.2 Police. Crime statistics for February showed a decrease in reported crimes in the area.

148.3 County Council. Cllr Mrs Lauro presented the Council with a cheque for £2000 to be used towards the repair of the changing rooms floor. Members expressed their appreciation for this, which should attract other funding to enable the project to proceed.

An Officer would be assessing the problems associated with the traffic lights sequence. The complaint about vehicles driving on the path and speeding in Lullington Road had been acknowledged but the County Council advised that these were Police matters.

Members reported:

- A lorry had taken off some branches from trees in Woodville Road, and one had narrowly missed a car which was following;
- Street lights out in Green Lane, Lullington Road, Forest View and Burton Road;
- A management plan for the Nature Area could be prepared by the National Forest and subsequent management would be carried out by the Footpaths Group. The permission of the County Council was required for this and had been sought but, despite many attempts over a protracted period, no response had been received; an Officer would be invited to a site meeting;
- A section of fence belonging to 17 Lullington Road had blown down and was in the right of way - it had several nails protruding and was dangerous. Also a slipped roof tile could fall into the road.

Cllr Mrs Lauro agreed to press for action on these matters.

149 CLERK'S REPORT

149.1 Progress report. A progress report on various matters previously raised was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). No further progress appeared possible at present regarding the smell in Stanleigh Road.

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

149.3 Football pitch allocation. An approach had been received from Albert Village under 13s team, which included several Overseal players, for use of one of the bottom pitches on Sundays next season. As Overseal Junior FC had exclusive use for football purposes of the bottom pitches this year, the Clerk had consulted them and they wished to continue the present arrangement and said that another team would lead to over-use of the pitch. As their teams grew, they would be likely to ask for shared use of the top pitch. The request from Albert Village under 13s was therefore refused and the present arrangements for Overseal Junior FC were approved for next season.

149.4 Village Hall booking conditions. Recent difficulties had occurred with car park control and an ambiguity was discovered in the recently-approved booking conditions. The aim was that, while users of the Village Hall would be able to use the car park and would ensure that it was used sensibly, that use would not be exclusive. However, the Hirer should only be responsible for the behaviour of the people in their group. The present condition was:

'The Hirer shall be responsible during the period of hire for:-

The behaviour of all persons using the Premises, whatever their capacity, including proper supervision of the car parking arrangements, so as to avoid obstruction of the highway or access road.'

A second condition (para 6) required parking to be in a reasonable manner, not blocking in vehicles and dealing with access for high vehicles. There was also a condition requiring clear access to emergency exits and, by extrapolation, the route from the Village Hall to the assembly point, which was the MUGA. These seemed to be satisfactory.

It was agreed to change the wording of the first condition as follows:

'The Hirer shall be responsible during the period of hire for:-

The behaviour of all persons using the Premises, whatever their capacity, including proper supervision of ~~the car parking arrangements~~ *by the persons attending their function*, so as to avoid obstruction of the highway or access road. *However, use of the car park is not restricted solely to Hirers and it may be used by others as well.'*

149.5 Keep Britain Tidy. Keep Britain Tidy was launching its biggest-ever litter campaign, the Great British Spring Clean, to encourage 500,000 people to get out there and make sure their neighbourhood was one of which they could be proud. Details were given of 'The Spring Clean'.

It was reported that some voluntary action was planned for when the weather improved. Members pointed out that the centre of the village was kept clean by the Council's litter pickers, who did a very good job, and therefore the volunteers should concentrate their efforts on the fringes of the village.

149.6 Drainage, Hallcroft Avenue. The Inspector from the County Council was fully aware of the problem and the reasons for it and was of the opinion that it only arises during periods of heavy rainfall. He said that the solution was a very expensive job which was unlikely to be funded by the County Council. It would appear therefore that no further progress could be made on this issue.

149.7 Changing rooms floor repairs. A grant of £2000 towards this project had been obtained from the County Council's Community Leadership Scheme as a result of an application by Cllr Mrs Lauro.

149.8 Police & Crime Commissioner's grants. Small grants were available from the Commissioner's Community Action grant throughout your networks to organisations that could support his Police and Crime Plan Priorities. These included keeping vulnerable people safe from harm, supporting victims, maintaining strong and effective partnership working, tackling drugs and alcohol, supporting those with mental health issues and working with young people to break the cycle of offending and repeat victimisation.

149.9 Strategy for Physical and Mental Well-being. The strategy had been prepared by the District Council, who were running a workshop on 28 March to explain the strategy and to obtain information on current and future aspirations from Parish Councils and others. Mrs C M Knight would attend.

149.10 Use of Village Hall. A request had been received for a wedding reception to be held at the Village Hall and for a marquee to be erected in the grounds. While the requested date was already booked for another function, an alternative could be offered. The serving of drinks should cease by 11.00 pm and the premises clean and clear by midnight, to avoid nuisance to neighbours. The hirer would also be advised of the presence of drains in the area to the rear of the Village Hall and would be required to indemnify the Council against damage.

149.11 Request for free use of the Village Hall. The school had asked that their use of the Village Hall for the annual show should be free of charge. The previously agreed policy on such matters would be checked.

(Mrs R O'Brien declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).

150 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS

Mr Cook agreed to complete installation of the remaining architrave at the Village Hall.

151 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**Application for decision:**

0327 Detached dwelling at 3 Acresford Road. Permission had previously been granted for a 2 bedroom dwelling on this site but the present application was for a 4 bedroom dwelling and four car parking spaces. A previous application for large house on the site had been refused. There was concern about the over-development of this small site proposed by this application and the problems of vehicles emerging from the site at the junction with the main road.

Appeal. An appeal against an Enforcement Notice served by South Derbyshire District Council concerning a change of use from housing land to residential caravan site at 137-149 Woodville Road was to be dealt with by written representations. The Council's objections would be forwarded to the inspector.

152 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

The Darby & Joan Club's access to their cupboard was impeded by materials stored by the Pre-school. The Pre-school would be asked to store their materials elsewhere.

The need for assistance when the Caretaker was not available would be advertised again and the possibility of a cleaning firm or agency would also be considered.

The Notice Board required attention; the possibility of a side opening door would be costed.

153 WEBSITE

None.

154 ACCOUNTS**154.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
2396	M A Knight	Reimburse cost of weed matting & fixings	107.96	21.59	129.55
2397	S Ruddle	Caretaker	593.67		593.67
2398	E Evans	Litter	111.40		111.40
2399	J M Summerfield	Litter	36.00		36.00
2400	Glasdon UK Ltd	Litter trolley	317.20	63.44	380.64
2401	South Derbyshire District Council	Service dog bins	1040.08	208.02	1248.10
2402	Moirá Replan	Printing	141.88		141.88
2403	Alpha Power Cleaners Ltd	Repair floor scrubber	70.00	14.00	84.00

2404	M Simons	Replace worktop in Pavilion	140.00		140.00
2405	J Kirby	Village Hall assistance	14.40		14.40
2406	Peach Properties	Balance of cost of installing new boilers	3000.00		3000.00
2407	Ian Stone Gardening Services	Repairs to recreation ground	146.80		146.80
2408	D Morson	Reimburse tree support posts	12.50		12.50
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	19.95	3.99	23.94
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	25.42		25.42

154.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	707.50
Various	Allotment rents	255.00
Sport England	Balance of grant re pitch improvement	6500.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	3181.26

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

155 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

155.1 Former towpath site. Concern was expressed about the poor state of the ground, installation of fences on both sides of rights of way and the canal edge. Public access had been intended to be available on most of the land but the rights of way were virtually impassable because of deep mud. The landowners would be contacted to ascertain what had been agreed with the Lessees and asking that the surface of the footpaths be improved as a matter of urgency. The Footpaths Officer of Derbyshire County Council would also be informed of the position.

155.2 Land at Daisy Lane. Eden Tree Care had previously quoted for removal of brambles and would be asked to do this urgently. They would also be asked to trim some cotoneasters adjoining the road, which were now overhanging the carriageway.

Mr Knight reported that a May-Day event was being organised at the Orchard and confirmed that volunteers would be covered by the Council's insurance.

155.3 Overseal Manor grounds. A caravan, a bath and some chairs had been brought onto the land at the rear of the Manor; this had been reported to the District Council's Enforcement Officer. A section of fence had been blown over and was adjoining footpath 18; the owners would be asked to reinstate it.

155.4 Village Games Organiser. The Council's thanks for his work would be passed to the Organiser, whose work was now being discontinued.

155.5 Vacant allotments. The 3 vacant allotments would be advertised on the Council's website and social media.

155.6 Conifers at the Residential Home. These were overgrown and brambles were among them, constituting a danger to children. The owners of the home would be asked to deal with them.

155.7 MUGA. There had recently been some dog fouling in the MUGA. A request by a dog show to be allowed to use the MUGA as part of their event was declined as alternative land was now available. A permanent sign banning dogs from the MUGA would be installed.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm

Chairman