

# OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 8 March 2018.

**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 Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council).

**Apologies for absence** were received from Mr J Howes and Cllr P Murray (South Derbyshire District Council and Derbyshire County Council).

## 136 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

## 137 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

## 138 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record, subject to correction of minute no 123 (National Forest Co. Land) to read: The balancing pond for the new development had overflowed and vehicle ruts had churned up the ground near to footpath 13 - Valley Road to Netherseal, filling with water and making access along the right-of-way difficult.

## 139 RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that Mrs T-A Rogers had resigned on 19 February 2018. The relevant notices had been published.

## 140 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

**140.1 District Council.** Cllr Mrs M E Hall reported that she would shortly be moving to Buckinghamshire; however, she would continue to be a member of South Derbyshire District Council and would deal with local matters as far as possible electronically or by telephone until the election in 2019. Members thanked her for all the help she had provided and wished her well for the future.

She drew attention to the Community Partnership Fund, which amounted to £25000, which could make grants for community based projects. The support of the community was essential to applications. She also reported that the District Council's Leader was now Cllr Hilary Coyle.

Cllr Mrs Hall was informed about the car park, which was still in a deplorable condition. Despite reports to the contrary, the 3 recycling bins had not been returned to their correct position. Cllr Mrs Hall would report these matters.

**140.2 Police.** No report was available and no matters were raised.

**140.3 County Council.** Several potholes were reported, the worst being at the junction of Coronation Street with Burton Road, and a length of Hallcroft Avenue; this really needed resurfacing as the numbers of potholes made the road dangerous. They would be reported to the County Council.

The attention of the County Council would again be drawn to the condition of the car park and efforts made to determine responsibility for maintenance. The current position was that it was owned by the County Council but the

former lease to the District Council had expired. The County Council considered that the lease could be regarded as 'running on' and that the District Council were free to do repairs. However, the District Council appeared not to accept responsibility in the absence of a formal lease.

#### **141 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS**

The reports were submitted and required no action.

#### **142 CLERK'S REPORT**

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

There was no lock on the ladies' public toilets; to be reported to the District Council.

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

**142.3 Fitness equipment.** The Chairman had received a plan and quotation from Kompan for the supply and installation of several pieces of equipment aimed at creating a fitness trail to encourage a wide range of people who were not necessarily fitness oriented. The council were in favour of the proposal, subject to the omission of a bench, and the possibilities for funding the project were discussed. The most likely source of funding was from the S.106 Agreement relating to the Valley Road development and the Clerk would seek clarification from the District Council. The lead-in time for the project was 5 weeks and there would be a 4-day installation period; a suitable site was to the rear of the MUGA. Also, two further quotations for comparable equipment would be sought and a further report submitted to the next meeting.

It was agreed to publish an outline of the proposal on the Facebook page to inform residents that this was under consideration.

**142.4 William Allitt School.** The reply from Cllr A Dale of Derbyshire County Council, which had been deferred from the last meeting, was considered.

Members were disappointed with the reply and commented that the Councillor appeared to have missed the point of the original correspondence. The Parish Council wished to improve educational provision throughout South Derbyshire, and used the William Allitt school as an example. A suitable response would be formulated.

**142.5 Lullington Road allotments fence.** The Allotment Association had asked for a grant for repairing the front fence and had suggested £600 as an approximate cost. The lease from the District Council to the Parish Council included the requirement that the Parish Council maintain the fences at the front and left boundaries of the site, and this had been passed on to the Allotment Association in the sub-lease. The Clerk reported that the fence along the front boundary was generally sound, but some replacement wood was required in a few places.

It was agreed to point out to the Association that it was their responsibility to ensure that there was a stock-proof fence.

**142.6 Vehicle showrooms, Moira Road.** The District Council's Enforcement Officer had inspected the site and had said that he was unable to take action under health and safety legislation, which fell to the Health & Safety Executive. One of the defences against action concerning an untidy site was that the materials

related to lawful works, which in this case was the showroom development. However, he had offered informal advice to the planning agent acting for the owners and some clearance work had been carried out.

**142.7 Recycling centre, Woodville Road.** Following the consultation about the possible closure of the centre due to lack of maintenance, misuse and the fact that the bins blown across the car park were still not returned after 6 weeks, the District Council had now been asked to close it as soon as practicable and they had said that they had returned the bins to the correct place. Cllr Mrs Hall understood that a decision to close the recycling centre had been taken and would check this.

**142.8 Recreation ground.** Some evidence of subsidence had occurred between the top pitch and the Hallcroft Avenue fence, in that there were several shallow depressions which had appeared in the last few weeks. They were being monitored but did not appear to be dangerous, though some were now full of water. Advice would be sought from the company which had renovated the pitch.

**142.9 Land at Daisy Lane.** The Russian vine etc had now been removed and this left a gap large enough to allow vehicular access near to the entrance to Daisy Lane. It was suggested that a gate could be provided, but there was another entrance further along the road, so adding 2-3 more posts to prevent vehicular access would be more economical and would not require keys for access. The District Council had been asked to do this as soon as possible.

However, it was pointed out that there was no proper access to the land and that a gate was required, together with a dropped kerb. The District Council would be asked to provide this.

The District Council would also be reminded that they had agreed to undertake the first mowing of the land each April.

**142.10 Public open space, Valley Road development.** The Developers had invited the Council to adopt the open spaces on this development. They had been informed that this was usually done by the District Council, with appropriate arrangements for funding future maintenance and had approached the District Council accordingly. It was reported that the residents of the estate had an obligation under their purchase arrangements to contribute annual sums for maintenance of green areas, which presumably meant that the developers expected to arrange for their maintenance. However, they asked that the Parish Council consider the matter as well. It was agreed that this was the responsibility of the District Council and therefore the request that the Parish Council adopt the land was refused.

**142.11 Footpaths at Spring Cottage Fisheries.** Contractors acting for Western Power Distribution were to improve the footpaths and work would include:

- Spreading wood chips and forming a path away from tree stumps;
- A grassed area was to be flattened;
- Mud to be removed from chicane area and the ground flattened;
- The mud near the fishery entrance to be scraped off and used to fill nearby ruts;
- No action on the puddle areas near the main entrance as the company did not cause the damage.

The land was too wet to undertake the work at present but they would do so as soon as practicable.

**142.12 Maintenance of Rights of Way.** Details of work carried out by the footpaths Group throughout the last year were submitted and it was agreed to make a contribution of £134.50 towards their costs.

**142.13 Pavilion.** A quotation from Simon Fern for the internal painting of the Pavilion had been obtained in the sum of £1055. This was accepted.

**142.14 School crossing patrol.** The County Council were consulting on the possibility of Parish Councils agreeing to meet the costs of providing the patrols in their area as part of the County Council's budget difficulties. The annual cost would be around £4000 but the County Council would continue to employ them. Members were 'staggered' at the suggestion that County Council responsibilities should be funded by the Parish Council and would respond accordingly.

### **143 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**The following applications had been approved:**

Leics 2017/1781 Continuation of landfill operations until 31 December 2018 and restoration by 31 December 2019.

Members commented that the existing conditions were not being fully complied with in that the public footpath crossed by the haul road was under deep water and was dangerous, Park Road was extremely muddy (including the footpaths), and some lorries were not netted, all of which were required by the conditions.

0398 Dormer bungalow r/o 9 Coronation Street.

1020 Vehicular access and hardstanding, 36 Lullington Road.

**Applications for decision:**

1386 Rear extension and new front porch, 87 Lullington Road. No objection.

0193 Extensions, 49 Valley Road. No objection.

NWLDC 18/00324/EAS - Scoping Opinion development of warehousing at Hill Top Farm, Stretton en le Field. Chilcote Parish Meeting had drawn attention to this report, which essentially was seeking the opinion of the planning authority on the proposal prior to submitting an application. It amounted to some 90 acres of development comprising mainly warehousing, together with ancillary facilities, and Chilcote were suggesting a meeting of Parish Councils likely to be affected.

The council was disappointed that NWLDC had not consulted direct on such a major development close to Overseal boundaries and were concerned about the severe impact of traffic on A.444 which was already overloaded. It was agreed to be represented at the suggested meeting and to submit a holding objection to NWLDC as the closing date was 19 March.

### **144 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS**

None.

### **145 WEBSITE**

Details of use of the Pavilion would be included.

**146 ACCOUNTS****146.1 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>
*2525	Eden Tree Care	Trimming hedges at bowling green	450.00	90.00	540.00
*2526	P Bradford	Clearing gutters at changing rooms and Village Hall	60.00		60.00
2527	S Ruddle	Caretaker	537.92		537.92
2528	E Evans	Litter	155.15		155.15
2529	J Summerfield	Litter	90.00		90.00
2530	T H Heath	Clearing Russian vine from pipe wall, Daisy lane	670.00	134.00	804.00
2531	G & G Signs Ltd	Historic nameplates	186.40	37.28	223.68
2532	Yee Group Ltd	Intruder alarm maintenance for Village Hall & Pavilion	172.58	34.52	207.10
2533	Moira Replan	Printing & Photocopying	135.51		135.51
2534	R Cox	Reimburse website hosting	103.49	20.70	124.19
2535	Swadlincote Window Co Ltd	Balance of doors for Village Hall	956.25	191.25	1147.50
2536	A & J Bartlett Ltd	Electrical safety checks at Village Hall	446.75	89.35	536.10
2537	Overseal Footpaths Group	Clearing rights of way	134.50		134.50
2538	Fire Control UK	Service fire extinguishers	109.90	21.98	131.88
2539	MRC Community Action	DBS check for Caretaker	62.00		62.00
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	23.95	4.79	28.74
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	25.42		25.42

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

**146.2 Receipts**

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	647.50
Various	Allotment rents	165.00

**146.3 Audit.** The Council's financial documents were inspected.

**147 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**147.1 Overseale House.** This Listed Building appeared to be deteriorating further and enquiries would be made of the District Council as to what action was being considered.

**147.2 Archaeological survey.** The History Group was leading a walk around the village to identify artefacts or features of archaeological significance.

**147.3 Land at Hallcroft Avenue.** The cost of fruit trees, suggested at the last meeting for planting on the triangular piece of land near to the Recreation Ground had been obtained, together with the cost of walnut trees. It was agreed to plant one walnut tree initially.

**147.4 Changing rooms.** 'Home' and 'Away' signs were required for the team rooms. The Clerk would arrange these.

**147.5 Sale of caravans, Squirrel Walk.** This had been referred to the District Council for investigation and they would be asked for an update shortly.

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm

**Chairman**