

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Pavilion, Woodville Road, Overseal on Thursday 7 March 2019.

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

In attendance: Cllr M Ford (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Elton and Mr J Howes,

136 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

137 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Organisers of the Community Cafe gave a donation to the Council in lieu of rent and including an additional amount for the Council to use as necessary. The facility was becoming more popular and was well used. Members thanked the Organisers for their efforts.

138 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

139 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

139.1 District Council. Cllr Ford reported that the District Council element of Council Tax would increase by 1.95% from April 2019 but that there were higher increases from the County Council and the Police. However, the Police may be deploying more Officers in South Derbyshire.

Cllr Ford sought the Council's current view on their previous request that the recycling bins be removed from the car park and he was advised that the Council wished to have them removed. They occupied several parking spaces and the domestic recycling arrangements introduced some time ago made the centre redundant, though it was misused by commercial businesses disposing of their rubbish. This included rubbish being dumped in the adjoining woodland. However, the practice of the District Council in providing bins for excess refuse during the Christmas period would be welcome. The Clerk would write to the Director of Strategic Services accordingly.

Reference was made to the obstruction of Footpath no 1, Woodlands Road – Forest View by the overgrown hedge which had been planted by a former tenant of a council property in Woodlands Road. This had been reported several times to the District Council but no action appeared to have been taken. Cllr Ford would request appropriate action.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Ford for his attendance and his assistance.

139.2 Police. The PCSO submitted the February crime statistics, which continued to be high. In answer to a question, he confirmed that most of the vehicle thefts were from cars with keyless entry.

Members reported several instances of vehicles being parked at junctions in such a way as to constitute obstructions or limiting vision for drivers leaving side roads. However, the PCSO advised that there was little which could be done.

Monitoring of traffic speeds in Bath Lane had identified that there were many contraventions of the speed limit. The Police were therefore going to arrange traffic enforcement shortly. Mrs Ward also reported that horses were to be ridden in the area in the near future.

On several occasions, a small child had been seen riding an electric scooter on the lower football pitch and that this had been under adult supervision and had resulted in surface damage. The Clerk would write to the adult concerned.

139.3 County Council. The flooding at the bottom of Woodville Road had been reported to both Derbyshire and Leicestershire County Councils and the latter had advised that the flooding took place on the Derbyshire side of the boundary; they had therefore referred the matter to Derbyshire County Council. However, they had also scheduled clearance of the gullies in Spring Cottage, which contributed to the problem.

Members also referred to the County Council's assessment of the likely impact on traffic volumes if the industrial development at Stretton en le Field were to be approved, which was considered to be unrealistically low.

140 CLERK'S REPORT

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

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

140.3 East Midlands Ambulance Service. The reply from the Service following a request for information stated that EMAS had recently secured additional funding to enable it to increase the numbers of staff and to purchase two additional vehicles. It gave detailed information about response targets and actual times (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).

140.4 Defibrillator training. A training session had been arranged at the Pavilion on Wednesday 13 March at 7pm. The Brownies had asked to take part, but in view of their numbers, it was agreed to seek a separate session.

140.5 Flooding, Woodville Road/Spring Cottage. The difficulties had been explained to both Derbyshire and Leicestershire County Councils and the Environment Agency and Leicestershire County Council had agreed to deal with the blocked gullies – the Highways Officer had been made aware of the falls due to ice accumulation, so hopefully, urgent work would be carried out. They would also inspect the fence and schedule whatever work the Highways Officer considered appropriate. As yet, no response had been received from Derbyshire County Council other than an acknowledgment and the Environment Agency would inspect the culvert and determine what actions were required.

140.6 2019 Gala. A road closure order had been made in order to accommodate the parade. It would be advertised during the four weeks immediately before the Gala Day.

140.7 Repairs & improvements to the Village Hall and Pavilion. The following works had been carried out at the **Village Hall** recently:

- Installation of kitchen furniture and appliances;
- Installation of replacement cupboards for the Pre-school;
- Installation of new front door;
- Minor repairs following the full inspection in December
- Electrical and gas safety inspections and repairs where necessary, including fire alarms and emergency lighting systems and gas boiler servicing
- Fire extinguishers safety inspection and replacement where necessary

Pavilion

- Electrical safety inspection – the new security light timer control has been adjusted
- A fire risk assessment has been carried out in co-operation with the Pre-school staff by Mr Howes. If any actions are required, they will be reported to the council or implemented immediately, depending on financial implications
- Fire extinguisher safety inspection.

There had also been safety inspections in the changing rooms for both electricity and gas and the gas boiler had been serviced.

140.8 Water bills. The Clerk reported on discussions with Water-Plus and South Staffordshire Water about invoices for the supply of water and drainage facilities affecting the Village Hall.

140.9 Policing in Overseal. A reply on behalf of the Police & Crime Commissioner was received (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).

140.10 Request for donation. Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre had requested a donation towards its work. The number of children helped had increased from 399 in 2016 to 608 in 2018. It was agreed to make a donation of £75.00.

140.11 Elections timetable. The Clerk informed Members of the initial stages of the timetable for the forthcoming Parish and District Council elections.

141 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS

It was reported that a small area of the bottom pitch had been damaged, apparently by burning. There had previously been signs prohibiting golf, horses, vehicles and motorbikes and replacement signs would be installed.

142 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications for decision:

1297 Change of use of land to provide holiday let accommodation (caravans), formation of a lake, associate parking & landscaping, The Conifers, Park Road.

The Parish Council objects to this application.

The site is outside the village envelope where development is not permitted. There are inconsistencies in the supporting documents e.g. the brochure refers to high quality mobile homes, whereas the application form refers to caravans.

There has been consistent nuisance to the immediate neighbours for many years ever since the original site was established.

If, despite these objections, permission is granted, the Council request that conditions define the types of dwellings permitted, so as to provide a good quality site.

0130 Extension and alterations to roof to facilitate a first floor and a detached garage, Windy Ridge, Alexandra Road, Overseal. No objection.

0187 Two storey extension, 223 Burton Road. No objection.

143 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

No matters were raised.

144 WEBSITE

It had been suggested that the best way of providing WiFi facilities in the Pavilion would be to extend the capability of the Village Hall system by means of a Mesh arrangement and a new router. This was agreed at an estimated cost of £169.

145 ACCOUNTS

145.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

| Cheque | Supplier | Description | Net | VAT | Total |
|--------|---------------------------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 2662 | S Ruddle | Caretaker | 666.71 | | 666.71 |
| 2663 | E Evans | Litter | 134.54 | | 134.54 |
| 2664 | J M Summerfield | Litter | 74.39 | | 74.39 |
| 2665 | Yee Group Ltd | Faulty CCTV system in Pavilion + 2 maintenance services | 192.58 | 38.52 | 231.10 |
| 2666 | Glasdon UK Ltd | Grit bin, Green Lane | 188.17 | 37.63 | 225.80 |
| 2667 | Richfields Interiors | Balance of kitchen installation | 6276.67 | 1255.33 | 7532.00 |
| 2668 | Swadlincote Window Co Ltd | Front door to Village Hall | 804.17 | 160.83 | 965.00 |
| 2669 | M Veckungs | Repairs to Village Hall, old changing rooms & new changing rooms | 961.16 | | 961.16 |
| 2670 | Christopher Winterton | Servicing boilers in Village Hall & changing rooms | 180.00 | | 180.00 |
| 2671 | Fire Control UK | Servicing extinguishers | 108.70 | 21.74 | 130.44 |
| D/D | TalkTalk | Internet charges | 19.00 | 3.80 | 22.80 |
| D/D | NEST | Pension contributions | 39.55 | | 39.55 |

145.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

| Name | Description | Amount |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------|
| S Ruddle | Village Hall lettings | 751.25 |
| Various | Allotment rents | 180.00 |
| L Hardwidge | Pavilion lettings | 117.50 |

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

146 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- 146.1 Pantomime.** The Group had expressed their thanks for the use of the facilities for their recent production they hoped to achieve full charitable status this year.
- 146.2 Street lights, Valley Road.** Several lights were not working properly and it was thought that the columns may need replacing. The County Council would be informed.
- 146.3 Footpath 26 – Moira Road-Acresford Road.** The path had been unofficially diverted and fenced off, and soil had been dumped on part of the route. This had been reported to the Footpaths Officer.
- 146.4 Forest View.** The District Council had cut the hedge and had also removed the branches which had been left on the site for an extended period.
- 146.5 Untidy site.** The District Council would be asked to intervene in the case of a development at Moira Road where rubbish from the site had spread to the other side of the road.
- 146.6 Footpath 13, Valley Road estate. The** Footpaths Group had completed the new bridge, which was an excellent job. They would also be asked to provide a wicket gate, and it was agreed that the Council would bear the cost of the materials.
- 146.7 New Albion site – smell nuisance.** Although the site was now being covered, intermittent smells still occurred and it was anticipated that these would increase during warmer weather. Residents should be encouraged to report direct to the Environment Agency on such occasions.
- 146.8 Gully, Lullington Road.** One gully had not been cleaned during the recent operations, despite the householder offering to remove his car. The District Council would be asked to complete the work.
- 146.9 Hallcroft Avenue resurfacing. The** County Council would be asked to include the unofficial layby near to Daisy Lane entrance when the work was carried out.
- 146.10 Public seats.** There had been several requests for simple bench seats to be provided. It was agreed to ask the Footpaths Group to do so at Daisy Lane and the lower football pitch, the Council meeting the cost of the materials.
- 146.11 Dog fouling signs.** Several signs had faded and the District Council would be asked to replace them.
- 146.12 Childcare group.** The group had now received Ofsted approval and would begin operations shortly.

147 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items in pursuance of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

148 CLERK'S REPORT

148.1 Woodland area, Woodville Road. The County Council had offered to lease the land to the Parish Council but only by including the car park as well. The Council examined the financial and other implications.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to lease the whole site from the County Council on the nominal terms offered.

148.2 Public toilets.

RESOLVED: That, if the District Council offer to pass ownership of the public toilets to the Parish Council on terms discussed, such offer be accepted, as it was regarded as a village necessity and the risk of closure otherwise was considered significant.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm

Chairman