

# OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 6 November 2014.

**Present:** Mrs C M Knight - Chairman  
Mr R Cox, Mr A R Hart, Mrs S Jones, Mr M A Knight, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr M S Patrick, Mr S C Sharpe and Mr I Sheppard.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Mr D M Holloway and Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

## 53 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mr S C Sharpe declared an interest as a relative of a neighbour in Minute No 62.2 relating to the planning application for 64 dwellings at Valley Road.

## 54 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Three members of the public attended the meeting and asked whether the lower football pitch could be allocated to Overseal Junior FC for the 2015/6 season at the same cost as the current season i.e. £650, subject to a prompt payment discount of £100. The Council agreed to this request.

Mr S C Sharpe referred to the discussions which had taken place concerning the planning application for 64 dwellings at Valley Road and said that he did not approve of such discussions.

## 55 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2014, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record subject to correction of Minute No. 51 to state that the site visit related to the site at Valley Road.

## 56 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

**56.1 District Council.** Members had received many complaints about the amount of dog fouling of the recreation ground. This had been reported to South Derbyshire District Council with a request for further information, but no response had been received. It was also noted that the District Council had issued only 1 fine since 2012 in respect of dog fouling. The Clerk was asked to contact the District Council for further information.

Members expressed frustration that, when determining the Local Development Framework, more realistic provision was not made for relatively large-scale developments which were occurring, by precluding such development unless the local services and infrastructure were capable of accommodating them. The road network, especially A.444 was already overloaded but additional developments were being allowed, which would inevitably increase traffic still further. Schools were overcrowded and other services could not cope. There appeared to be no co-ordination among service providers before such developments were planned or permitted. Additionally, it had proved impossible to find out why Overseal had been declared a 'Key Service Village' - who had made the decision and why was there no prior consultation. Reference was made to grants which were

available for the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans; however, it was felt that this involved considerable work and expense for little reward as experience in other areas suggested that they carried little real weight in deciding planning applications.

An appropriate Officer of the District Council would be invited to attend a meeting of the Council to provide information on these points. Members' views would also be sent to the District Council, the County Council and the Member of Parliament.

Fly tipping on back roads was also becoming more prevalent and it was pointed out that civic amenity sites limited certain types of refuse to very small amounts, lest they be counted as trade waste. Also, the District Council's contractors had recently refused to collect black plastic unless it was in the non-recyclable items bin, even if it was marked as recyclable. The District Council was understood to be discussing this with the contractors.

**56.2 Police.** Crime statistics for October were reported, showing small numbers.

**56.3 County Council.** A public footpath at Shortheath had been blocked by stone blocks being dumped across the route, completely obstructing it. The County Council would be asked to take action. It had been noted that aircraft were arriving and leaving East Midlands Airport in the early hours of the morning, and it had been thought that there were restrictions on night flying. Enquiries would be made of North West Leicestershire District Council.

Members commented that the new road surface at the traffic lights was very good.

## **57 CLERK'S REPORT**

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

**57.2 Land at Daisy Lane.** The original contractor who was to construct the footpaths had withdrawn and another contractor had been appointed.

**57.3 Right of Way, Spring Cottage.** A start had been made on reinstating this path, but it was still substandard in both width and quality. The Council's disappointment would be expressed to North West Leicestershire District Council.

**57.4 Tree Preservation Orders.** Details of all Tree Preservation Orders were shown on the District Council's website on the interactive map. The Clerk had obtained details of the orders and copies of the maps and was asked to circulate copies to all members.

**57.5 Planning permissions queried.** The change of use concerned related to 9 Woodville Road. An access road was to have been constructed to allow off-road parking at 13 Woodville Road, but two paths had been constructed instead. A dropped kerb would required planning consent. The garage at 1 Woodlands Crescent had no permission but not all garages required permission. The District Council had been asked to determine whether or not it did, and to do the same for the conservatory at 'Cleebourne', next to the Church Centre.

**57.6 Air pollution at traffic lights.** The District Council said that they had a duty to review and assess air quality, the outcomes of which were published annually and could be found at [www.south-derbys.gov.uk/environment/pollution/pollution\\_control\\_air\\_quality/default.asp](http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/environment/pollution/pollution_control_air_quality/default.asp).

An assessment at the junction was carried out in 2010 which concluded that the EU air quality limit values were being met. However, as the traffic lights were not in operation at that time, they were asked whether it was possible to repeat it as conditions had changed. Air quality monitors had been in place at the junction continuously and showed that there was nothing within the monitoring data which suggested that air quality at the monitoring conditions had changed significantly this year and they had no concerns that anyone living in the proximity of the junction had any significant risk to their health from poor air quality.

They would undertake a thorough 'Updating and Screening Assessment' of air quality in March 2015 when they would go through a rigorous process of evaluating the data over the previous year.

- 57.7 Winter snow warden scheme.** The County Council required each volunteer to complete a form and state that they were fit and trained to undertake the work, and invited participation in a training event for organisers. Under the circumstances, the County Council had been informed that the Parish Council's Insurers provided cover for volunteers and that, as far as is known, the volunteers were fit and able to do the work of distributing grit onto pavements. If this was not acceptable, the Parish Council would be unable to continue with the scheme. The County Council had now said that operating in this way was acceptable.
- 57.8 Publication of agenda and supporting papers.** As Members were aware, it was now permissible for the Council to send agendas and supporting papers by electronic means rather than by post. It was agreed to do so.
- 57.9 Water supply to allotments.** As there was a strip of land between the end of the adopted highway and the allotments, the owners had been asked for permission to install a water supply pipe across it.
- 57.10 CCTV equipment.** The CCTV equipment had now been installed at the end of the Village Hall to cover the car park and MUGA and was satisfactory. A quotation from the installers for a further camera to be mounted in the foyer had been received. It was agreed to accept the quotation of B Winfieldale & Sons Ltd in the sum of £328.65 plus VAT.
- 57.11 Wall cupboards for the kitchen.** A quotation had been obtained from the contractor who had installed the new cupboard doors in the kitchen for supply and fitting 4 new wall cupboards, in the sum of £770 plus VAT. The quotation was accepted; the contractor had also been asked to install edging strips to the ends of the two worktops and this would involve a small additional charge.

## **58 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**The following applications had been approved:**

0448 Extensions, 60 Valley Road

0645 Extension, 1 Forest View

0797 Retrospective application for pumping station and discharge pipe, The Ashes, Shortheath

**Applications for decision:**

1000 Change of use of existing detached garage with room over to residential use for letting as a holiday cottage, Hobbits Hall, Green Lane. No objection.

1001 4 detached dwellings, land r/o 137-149 Woodville Road. The Parish Council remain concerned about the additional traffic using the access on to the already very busy road. Work on site has already started and problems are occurring with large lorries parking fully on the footpath, blocking it for pedestrian use, including at school arrival and leaving times.

**The following application had been withdrawn:**

0858 Change of use to the sale of carpets and furniture, 2 Woodville Road.

**59 ACCOUNTS****59.1 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>
**2092	Schoolgrounds	Cut hedge & vegetation, Burton Rd allotments	75.00		75.00
**2093	John Mills Curtains & Blinds	Stage curtains & kitchen blind	1555.00	311.00	1866.00
2094	L Baxter	Caretaker	441.08		441.08
2095	J Kirby	Cleaner	260.00		260.00
2096	J M Summerfield	Litter	62.40		62.40
2097	T Stewart	Litter	195.00		195.00
2098	R Baker	Reimburse locks & repairs to computer room doors	41.20	8.20	49.40
2099	Ian Stone Gardening Services	Re-planting of planters	833.24		833.24
2100	KH Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Cleaning materials	59.40	11.88	71.28
2101	South Derbyshire District Council	Summer sports programme	1436.00	287.20	1723.20
2102	B Winfieldale & Son Ltd	CCTV installation	1235.89	247.18	1483.07
2103	Castele Consultancy Ltd	Grant application for pitch improvement	225.00		225.00
2104	Hawkins Pest Control	Wasps' nest at Village Hall	40.00		40.00
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	25.50	5.10	30.60
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	37.00		37.00

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

**59.2 Receipts**

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	390.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	1165.11

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

**59.4 Quarterly budget report.** The Council considered the quarterly budget report (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes). It was agreed that the recent expenditure on the kitchen and the curtains at the Village Hall be charged to the Repairs and Renewals Fund to the limit of the existing provisions for those purposes in the Fund, and the balances to the General Fund.

## **60 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**60.1 Bonfire Night.** Mr Patrick thanked the Council for the use of the facilities on Bonfire Night, which had been very successful with over 2000 people attending. However, the public toilets' lights had not been on and the cause was suspected to be the time-switch settings. This would be checked.

**60.2 Donations.** The family of a local resident who had recently passed away had asked that some public facility be provided from the donations made. Further consideration would be given when the amount in question was known.

**60.3 Litter.** Lullington Road and Valley Road needed periodic clearing; the Clerk would ask the Lengthsmen to deal with it.

**60.4 Parking at the Church corner.** The Clerk was asked to find out the ownership of the land at the Church corner, as it was being used for parking and this caused difficulties for visitors to the church at times.

**60.5 Refuse bin.** The bin at the Village Hall was broken and would be replaced.

**60.6 Overgrown hedges.** The hedges at 21 and 23 Woodville Road were overgrown and partially blocking the footpath. The occupiers would be asked to trim them.

**60.7 Wall, Moira Road.** No response had been received from the County Council and they would be asked what action they proposed to take.

**60.8 Public rights of way.** The Footpaths Group had installed a kissing gate on the paths near to Stanleigh Road.

**60.9 Land at Lullington Road.** The permission of the tenant would be sought for metal detectors to investigate the land.

**60.10 Large developments.** Many parishes were suffering the effects of large developments and it was thought that co-operation between parishes might prove useful. Initial enquiries would be made of Netherseal.

**60.11 Rubbish, Lullington Road.** The District Council would be asked to remove rubbish from outside a property in Lullington Road.

**60.12 Almshouses.** A vacancy existed at the Almshouses and members were asked to advise any suitable resident to apply for the tenancy.

## **61 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

## **62 CLERK'S REPORT**

**62.1 Grant application for pitch improvement.** The Clerk reported that an initial meeting had been held with SDDC and the Consultant who had previously worked with them and a proposal had been offered. In essence, she would provide the expertise and prepare the application to Sport England for a grant to allow the top pitch to be drained and levelled, together with the supporting documents. The total fees were capped and a 25% payment was required initially.

RESOLVED: That the proposal be accepted and the 25% fee be paid.

**62.2 Proposed development at Valley Road, Persimmon Homes Ltd.** Persimmon had contacted the Clerk to discuss their planning application for 64 dwellings at Valley Road and whether, in the event of the application being approved, the Parish Council would have any views on the possible content of a S.106 Agreement. This had subsequently been discussed with officers of the District Council. There was no suggestion that the Council would amend its opposition to the application. Members endorsed the actions taken, as to do otherwise would have done a disservice to the village.

Following a site visit and consideration by the Planning Committee, the application had been deferred to a later meeting for a decision.

(Mr S C Sharpe declared an interest in this matter as a relative of a neighbour and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

**Chairman**