

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Pavilion, Woodville Road, Overseal on Thursday 8 November 2018.

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

In attendance: Mr D McMillan, PCSO.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner, Mr J Howes and Mrs S M Ward .

MR IVAN NEALE

Members stood in silent memory of Mr Ivan Neale who had passed away recently. He had been a member of the Council from 1979 to 2007 and Vice-Chairman for several years.

80 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mrs M Elton declared an interest in minute no. 87 relating to application no. 0943 Erection of timber framed garage and workshop, Collie Croft, Green Lane.

81 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A member of the public thanked the Council for facilitating the opening of the community cafe at the Pavilion, which was proving very popular with people of all ages. As no charge was being made for a while, the organisation had accumulated a small surplus of funds and was proposing to provide baby-changing facilities in the disabled toilet, and possibly a high chair as well. Members asked that their thanks be passed on to those running the cafe for their initiative.

82 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record subject to correction of minute no. 82.2 (public right of way) to read:

'Footpath no.10 from the bend in Valley Road was in a poor condition, even though some stone had been put down in a section in the fields. It was agreed to monitor the situation, particularly during the winter months.'

83 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

83.1 District Council. The Clerk reported that he had obtained an update on the possible transfer of the public toilets in a discussion with the District Council. An Officer would be attending the premises with a contractor shortly to obtain a quotation for essential repairs and further progress was awaited.

Several grassed areas had not been cut for a long time, including Daisy Lane, where an agreement for maintenance by both the District Council and the Parish Council was in existence. The District Council would be pressed to undertake the work as soon as possible.

Repairs to a climbing frame at the play area had stalled; DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd would be asked to carry out the necessary repairs.

83.2 Police. The PCSO presented the monthly crime report, which showed a considerable reduction on the previous month, throughout the District as well as locally.

83.3 County Council. The County Council would be asked when the replacement street lighting would be completed.

Several Members expressed concern that nothing had been heard for some time from or about Cllr P Murray. While appreciating that he could be ill or otherwise prevented from carrying out his role, it left the Parish not being represented in several crucial matters, not least of which was the proposed development at Chilcote and its impact on traffic volume. The Clerk was asked to contact the Leader of the Conservative Group at the District Council to enquire of the position and, if it is likely to continue, to request a temporary replacement.

A recent press article concerning the state of repair at William Allitt school had highlighted the view that the school needed replacement as many of its buildings were unsuitable and not fit for purpose. The County Council would be asked to support the Chairman of Governors and the Head Teacher in their efforts to achieve this.

84 ALBION LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Council received the report of the recent meeting of the Committee, prepared by Mr G S Knight as the council's representative. The Council regarded it as essential that the underpass which had been used to allow vehicles to enter or leave the site without crossing existing roads be kept open for use as a footpath and bridleway.

85 CLERK'S REPORT

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

A large sign had been erected at the recycling centre requesting people to keep it in a good condition. It was regarded as wasted expenditure which could have been used to effect much-needed repairs.

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

85.3 Chairs at Village Hall. The suggestion was made at the last meeting that the padded chairs should be disposed of to release storage space for the organ. An inspection of the Village Hall was planned which might identify storage space for the organ, but it was agreed not to dispose of the chairs as they would be needed from time to time.

85.4 Designation as local green spaces. The District Council had consulted on a draft Local Green Spaces policy document, which would designate pieces of land which were special to the area as Local Green Spaces, which would then be protected from development. In the case of Overseal, only two such spaces were included in the list proposed and both had been excluded as they were protected by other policies. The two in question were:

- *Edward Street - Ruled out at Stage 1: Protected by Policy INF9 of the Adopted Local Plan. This relates to protecting of sites with bio-diversity relevance and the policy includes the following:
Where development is proposed that could have a significant impact on the environment, the Council will expect proposals to be accompanied by appropriate ecology surveys and/or geodiversity assessments. These will need to be undertaken by suitably qualified professionals, at the appropriate time of year and will include an assessment of the likely impacts of the proposal and any necessary mitigation or compensation measures, including where relevant improved public access and interpretation of findings.*
- *Daisy Lane - Ruled out at Stage 1: Protected by Policy BNE3 of the Adopted Local Plan. This relates to infrastructure in the context of recreation, sport and open spaces. It includes the following:
The Council will work with partners to provide sufficient high quality green space and recreation facilities including sports pitches and built facilities, allotments, woodland creation, cemeteries and publicly accessible natural green space to meet the needs of new residential development and, where possible, to meet the needs of the existing population.
The loss of open space, sport and recreational facilities will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where an assessment shows that existing open space and facilities exceed the required level of provision, the loss would be compensated for through equivalent or better provision or the development would involve the provision of alternative sport or recreation facilities for which there is a greater need.*

The recreation ground was not included as it was owned by the Parish Council and therefore protected. Noted.

- 85.5 Surfacing of Hallcroft Avenue.** The County Council had confirmed that the resurfacing was included in the programme for 2019/2020 and would be preceded by patching. It was suggested that the County Council be asked to include provision of a dropped kerb at the land in Hallcroft Avenue, at the Parish Council's expense.

It was also agreed to plant three pear trees on the council's land adjoining Hallcroft Avenue.

- 85.6 Bad behaviour on buses to Pingle Academy.** The Principal had outlined the steps already taken and those planned to deal with the bad behaviour and instructions to students generally and bullying. This included a short term ban on certain students from using the bus and supervision by senior staff.
- 85.7 May 2019 elections.** The election would take place on Thursday 2 May and councillors would retire 4 days after that, excluding bank holidays. Normally this would be Monday 6 May, but that would be a bank holiday and the Electoral Commission had therefore advised that they would retire on Tuesday 7 May. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman would remain in office until their successors were elected.
- 85.8 Use of Village Hall.** The Junior Football Club was holding a Christmas Fundraiser on 15 December and had requested a discounted price on the booking of the Village Hall. All proceeds would be going directly back into the club and to the children. A reduction of 50% was agreed.

85.9 Village Hall condition. The Chairman had suggested that a small group of councillors should inspect the Village Hall in detail to determine whether any work was required or improvements made. Preparation of the budget would be finalised during December so a visit in the next few weeks would be necessary in case there were any budgetary implications.

It was agreed arrange an inspection by three Members and the Clerk on the following Tuesday.

85.10 Daisy Lane open space. When the orchard was established, it was intended to install an Interpretation Board to explain the significance. It had been suggested that the council should provide this and an estimate had been obtained from a local supplier. It was agreed to proceed with this project.

The Clerk reported that the District Council were unable to install the proposed gate because of pressure of work, but that they had agreed to its installation by the Parish Council. It was agreed to proceed with this project.

85.11 Changing Rooms - S.106 funding. The Clerk reported that two S.106 agreements contained provision for contributions towards repairs to the changing rooms, which could not be spent on other projects and the District Council had asked whether any further repairs or alterations were planned as they would otherwise have to release the developers from those obligations. The inspection of the Village Hall referred to above would be extended to include the changing rooms to determine this matter.

86 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS

Minor repairs were identified.

Now that the hedge at the bowling green had been cut back, the holes were visible and it was agreed to install a wire fence to close them. A local contractor would be asked to do this.

87 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following application had been approved:

0947 Extensions and erection of a detached garage with accommodation above, 163 Burton Road.

Applications for decision:

0711 Reserved matters, land at Acresford Road.

0712 Variation of conditions 3, 6 and 29 of planning permission 9/2015/1063, up to 70 dwellings, Acresford Road

Because of a restricted timescale for comments, the following representations were made in respect of both applications:

The Parish Council is concerned about the designs of the buildings and of the development as a whole.

The National Forest issued guidelines for design of development and the relevant passage is given below:

Well-designed and sustainable development.

Developers are encouraged to create sustainable, design-led schemes that reflect local character and the site's location within The National Forest.

Assessments against the Code for Sustainable Homes, BREEAM and Building for Life are encouraged.

Buildings should incorporate sustainably-sourced timber prominently within their design, while wood-fuel heating systems should be considered where appropriate. These will help tie the built form to the natural environment and emphasise the development's setting within The National Forest.

Further details on sustainable development and high quality urban design are provided in Section 4 of the Guide and the National Forest Design Charter.

The Parish Council would like to see that the design reflects local vernacular architecture and uses locally sourced and sustainable materials as much as possible. They urge the District Council to seek appropriate changes to the application to achieve these objectives.

(Additional comments were submitted subsequently emphasising the need for a footpath along the A.444 frontage to the site because (a) the only pedestrian way for children to go to school is via a muddy and ill-lit footpath and (b) residents of the estate going to the village amenities must either use that footpath or walk or drive across the busy road.

0761 Change of use of agricultural land to a glamping site, lodges, shepherd huts & yurts, Swedish BBQ, change of use of a residential garage to an ancillary amenity shop, construction of associated wash & toilet facilities, car parking, footpaths & landscaping, land at Park Farm, Acresford Road. While supporting the general proposals, the Council was concerned that the proposed diversion of the footpath along the A.444 should be abandoned and that the route should be as close as practicable to the existing route.

1075 Extensions and re-rendering and associated works, 18 Moira Road. No objection.

1124 Reserved matters (scale and appearance), land adjacent to 62 Moira Road. No objection.

NWLDC 1443 Amendments and additional information relating mainly to drainage and environmental issues, Land at M42 junction 11, Stretton en le Field. While continuing to object to the principle of the development, no objection was raised to these matters.

0943 Erection of timber framed garage and workshop, Collie Croft, Green Lane. The Parish Council objects to this application. The siting of the building is well in front of the building line of adjoining properties and would look incongruous in the street scene. The building has the appearance of a dwelling and could be turned into a dwelling in the future, which would give rise to tandem development, acting as a precedent for other similar development locally. Additionally, there were concerns about the possibility of vehicles blocking this single lane track.

(Mrs M Elton declared an interest in this matter as a neighbour and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).

1165 Pruning of trees covered by TPO 185, The Ashes, Shorth Heath. No objection

88 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

None

89 WEBSITE

None

90 ACCOUNTS**90.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*2619	Fire Control UK	Replacement fire extinguisher for Village Hall	25.00	5.00	30.00
*2620	A & J Bartlett Ltd	Deposit for Pavilion heaters	2010.00		2010.00
*2621	C M Knight	Reimburse cost of keys & crockery for Pavilion	65.66		65.66
2622	S Ruddle	Caretaker	631.71		631.71
2623	E Evans	Litter	162.78		162.78
2624	J M Summerfield	Litter	101.79		101.79
2625	P Stone	Mowing bowling green & surrounds	350.00		350.00
2626	DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd	Fence panel near toilets	195.00	39.00	234.00
2627	Eden Tree Care	Trimming inside of hedge at bowling green	150.00	30.00	180.00
2628	South Derbyshire District Council	Refuse collection from Village Hall	572.00		572.00
2629	Ian Stone Gardening Services	Mowing pitch; refill planters	1269.70		1269.70
2630	Mrs C M Knight	Reimburse cost of mats for the Pavilion	22.00		22.00
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to Village Hall	433.67		433.67
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	19.00	3.80	22.80
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	31.16		31.16
D/D	SSE	Electricity to Village Hall	398.42	79.68	478.10

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

90.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	762.50
L Hardwidge	Pavilion lettings	85.00
Overseal Gala Committee	Donation for use of Village Hall	150.00
H M Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	3997.07

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

90.4 Quarterly accounts. The Council considered the report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. Noted.

91 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- 91.1 Overhanging Hedge, Valley Road.** The County Council would be pressed to deal with this urgently.
- 91.2 Drain cover, lower recreation ground.** A replacement cover which could be secured in place was required as bricks had been put into the drain, and the existing cover was misaligned.
- 91.3 Chair store.** The Gala Committee had expressed their thanks for permitting the use of a former mower store for their chairs. The other items had been removed and it would be used only for chairs.
- 91.4 Football pitch - debris.** Pieces of metal found on the pitch had been identified as staples used to secure the goal nets in place. The Club would be asked to ensure that these were removed at the end of each session as they could form a trip hazard and could also severely damage a mower.
- 91.5 Stile, Valley Road development.** It had been agreed at the previous meeting that no action to replace the stile would be taken until the developers left the site, but it was confirmed that the intention was that the ditch would be bridged and a barrier erected to replace the stile, of a design which would allow passage by pedestrians and mobility scooters but not motorcycles.
- 91.6 Old changing rooms - replacement doors.** One of the doors was now in a poor condition and part of the reason was that it was only an internal door with a metal sheet fixed to the outside. Quotations for a suitable replacement would be sought.
- 91.7 Fireworks display.** The Gala Committee were thanked for arranging this successful event.
- 91.8 Village diary.** It was suggested that a leaflet be printed and distributed to every household in the village detailing known events for the next year. All Members were asked to identify appropriate events and their dates and the suggestion was approved.
- 91.9 Long-distance footpath.** It was reported that a new long-distance footpath between Boston in Lincolnshire and Barmouth in Wales passed through the Parish.
- 91.10 Storage at the Pavilion.** Only two potential stores remained, namely the former changing rooms adjacent to the main building. One of these had been allocated to the pre-school breakfast club and it was agreed that the other should not be allocated to any individual person or organisation, but kept in case it was needed for a particular event.
- 91.11 WiFi for Pavilion.** The possibility of extending the WiFi from the Village Hall to the Pavilion would be explored.
- 91.12 Lost spade.** A spade used by a person removing the water container from the land adjoining the bowling green had not been returned and it was agreed to obtain a replacement as it was private property.

92 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.

93 CLERK'S REPORT

94 VILLAGE HALL FIRE ESCAPE DOORS

Quotations for replacing these doors were submitted but it was agreed to await the results of the Village Hall inspection before proceeding.

95 STAFF MATTERS

Certain matters relating to staff members were agreed.

96 ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT.

Quotations for this contract had been obtained and it was agreed to accept the lowest, from Southern and Scottish. The new contract would be aligned to end at the same time as the recently agreed gas supply contract.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm