

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 3 October 2013.

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

In attendance: Cllr Mrs M E Hall and Cllr S Frost (South Derbyshire District Council) and Cllr Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council).

53 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

54 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

55 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2013, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

56 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

56.1 District Council. Cllr Frost was asked about reports of possible housing development at Lullington Road. He had hoped that Bob Ledger, Director of Housing and Environmental Services, could have attended the meeting as he knew the details of the matter. The District Council was considering the possibility of developing some of its land at Lullington Road with 10-14 Council houses, which would be rented to people on the waiting list, and the District Council would be seeking the Parish Council's views. It was pointed out that the site was outside the village boundary, and that the school was absolutely full at present and the children who would occupy the houses needed school facilities. It was also stressed that the newly established allotments, which were very successful, should be omitted from the area to be developed.

It was agreed to invite Mr Ledger to the next meeting so that the matter could be explored further.

56.2 Police. Recent crime statistics were reported. Mr Holloway reported that a new Neighbourhood Watch group was being formed and sought information about registering it formally with the Police.

56.3 County Council. Cllr Mrs Lauro reported that the County Council had held its budget discussions on the preceding day and that significant reductions in spending would have to be made. Details were still be worked out. She had received a number of local complaints, ranging from theft of manhole covers (which was a Police matter) to speeding traffic. It was difficult to see what else could be done to tackle this; asked whether there was a start date for the pedestrian refuge near to the supermarket, she would make enquiries.

Problems with the lights sequence at the new traffic lights were explained, and Mrs Lauro agreed to ask the officers to examine it and to make any necessary adjustments. There was also a problem of vehicles being parked outside the Post Office in Lullington Road, and close to the junction with

A.444. This could result in traffic turning off the main road and being unable to proceed because of vehicles waiting for the lights to change.

Mrs Lauro also agreed to make enquiries as to when fibre-optic broadband services were likely to be available.

57 CAR PARKING, LULLINGTON ROAD ALLOTMENTS.

The Council had deferred consideration of a request for financial assistance towards provision of car parking at the allotment site, pending clarification of the Allotment Association's needs. Deferred for further information.

58 EXTERNAL AUDIT.

The audit of the accounts for 2012/2013 had been completed by the external auditors with no matters requiring action. Noted.

59 CLERK'S REPORT

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

59.2 Lights at recreation ground. Following consultations, the original quotation of A&J Bartlett Ltd for the installation of 2 lights to allow part of the recreation ground at the rear of the MUGA to be used for football training at the rear of the MUGA had been accepted in the sum of £600. This was confirmed.

59.3 Request for donation. The Rosliston & District Community First Responders scheme had requested a donation towards their work as co-ordinators. This would be used to purchase their own equipment – first aid equipment bag, defibrillator, satnav, uniform etc.). It was agreed to make a donation of £100.

59.4 Telephone box, Shortheath. The contract for the adoption of the telephone box had been sent to BT Payphones and a signed copy returned. They would now disconnect the payphone equipment and had sent a completion notice and information pack. The kiosk would become the Council's property on 5 October 2013.

59.5 Use of Village Hall as Polling Station. The Village Hall had been reserved as a Polling Station for the European elections on 22 May 2014. The Pre-school would be informed of the date.

59.6 Footpath 25, Shortheath. The County Council Footpaths Officer had cleared some obstructions from the path and would be clearing the nettles. The horse manure was not dumped on the line of the path and the owner had been advised to ensure that the route is kept clear. Mr Knight agreed to report this to the Footpaths Group as it was considered that further clearance work was needed. Reference was also made to Footpath 1 (Woodlands Road – Forest View). The overhanging hedge at the rear of properties in Alexandra Road had been referred to the County Council; at the Woodlands Road end, the hedge had been cut back but the gap was still very narrow. To avoid this recurring each year, the District Council would be asked to require the tenant to remove the hedge and to replace it with a fence.

59.7 Burton Road allotments. The occupiers of 14 of the 21 plots at these allotments had all been given three weeks to clear their plots of weeds, expiring on 13 October. The Council authorised service of Notice to Quit if this was not carried out and the plot-holders did not offer a valid reason for not doing so.

59.8 Draft Local Plan. The District Council was consulting on Part 1 of the Draft Local Plan, dealing with housing, employment and strategic and development management policies, together with supporting documents. Further consideration was deferred to the next meeting.

59.9 Proposed community orchard, Daisy Lane. Mr Knight had discussed the proposals with the District Council and had made the following suggestions for developing the land:

- Planting 18-20 heritage trees this season, selecting midlands varieties where possible;
- Planting them in a double row along the ridge rather than as a copse and leaving adequate mowing space between them;
- Ask Leicestershire Heritage Apples to graft the required species for next year;
- Setting up a small team of volunteers to maintain the grass around the trees until they become established;
- Agreeing in principle to contribute towards the cost of the footpaths.

He had now identified the varieties needed and it was agreed that the District Council would be supplied with the list, so that they could obtain the necessary grant from the National Forest for the purchase of the trees for planting this year and ordering the grafted trees for next year.

59.10 Safer Neighbourhoods Area Forum. The next meeting was to be held at Overseal Village Hall on 24 October.

59.11 Neighbourhood Plans Workshop. This event was to be held at the Civic Offices on 12 November. Mr I Sheppard was appointed to attend.

59.12 South Derbyshire District Council Civic Service. An invitation had been received to attend this service. Noted.

59.13 Request for donation. St Giles Hospice had asked for a donation towards its work. The Council had made a donation last year. It was agreed to donate £25.00.

59.14 Use of Village Hall. The Village Games Co-ordinator had asked whether the Village Hall could be made available during the sessions he was organising and whether there would be a charge. It was agreed to make no charge and to refer him to the Caretaker as to availability. The availability of the recreation ground should also be checked as it was used at weekends by several organisations.

60 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application for decision:

0694 Conservatory, 7 Jackson Close, Moira Road. Supported.

(Mr S Sharpe left the meeting at 8.10 pm)

61 ACCOUNTS

61.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
1962	L Baxter	Caretaker	446.87		446.87
1963	J M Summerfield	Litter	59.48		59.48
1964	T Stewart	Litter	189.30		189.30

1965	J E White	Salary & expenses	1018.41		1018.41
1966	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE	659.00		659.00
1967	Broker Network Ltd	Renewal of insurances	1882.14		1882.14
1968	KH Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Cleaning materials	48.41	9.68	58.09
1969	South Derbyshire District Council	Summer Sports Programme	1515.00	303.00	1818.00
1970	St Giles Hospice	Donation	25.00		25.00
1971	Rosliston & District Community First Responders	Donation	100.00		100.00
**D/D	British Gas	Supply of gas to Village Hall	1580.09	312.23	1892.32
D/D	British Gas	Supply of electricity to Village Hall	397.32	79.46	476.78
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	24.50	4.90	29.40
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	36.00		36.00
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to Village Hall	167.08		167.08
D/D	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to old changing rooms	9.92		9.92

** British Gas would be making a contribution of £200 towards this account by way of compensation for the problems which had occurred since the installation of the new gas meter.

61.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
L Baxter	Village Hall lettings	205.00
Gresley Rovers Junior FC	Pitch rental (bottom pitch)	250.00
Clubs Complete	Use of Village Hall	200.00
Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness	Use of Village Hall	120.00

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

62 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

62.1 Garage, Moira Road. A complaint had been received that a garage had been erected and it was thought that it did not have planning permission. While it was accepted that permission was not always required, the facts would be established.

62.2 Planters. The winter planting had still not been carried out and the Clerk would press the contractors to expedite it.

62.3 Listed buildings. As it had been established that differing objects could be listed, in addition to buildings, the procedure for listing had been ascertained. This involved an approach to English Heritage and the pipe wall at Daisy Lane was mentioned for possible listing.

62.4 Overhanging tree. A willow tree in Alice Gardens was overhanging the footpath and causing a nuisance. This would be referred to the County Footpaths Officer for attention.

- 62.5 Footpaths Group.** Mr Knight reported on recent work carried out by the group, including provision of gates and stiles and clearance work. More gates were planned to be installed when the landowners' permission had been obtained.
- 62.6 Archaeology group.** Volunteers were needed and two public events were to be held shortly.
- 62.7 Possible closure of Snibston Discovery Centre, Coalville.** The possibility of closure of the building and development of the site for housing was under consideration by Leicestershire County Council and reference was made to an online petition against the closure on Leicestershire County Council's website.
- 62.8 Parking problems.** Parking at the junction of Valley Road and Squirrel Walk were reported and would be reported to the PCSO.
- 62.9 Council minutes.** A complaint had been received that the Council's minutes were not published on the website. The problem appeared to be that the former website could still be accessed, whereas the Council now had its own website at [www. overseal.org](http://www.overseal.org) which was kept up to date.
- 62.10 Sports changing rooms.** Cllr Frost advised that he had asked Mr Steve Batchelor, Head of Planning, to look into the documentation surrounding the Building Control inspections during its construction. He was thanked for his support in this matter and further information was awaited.

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm

Chairman